

To: ASI Board of Directors  
From: Kathryn Webb, CSSA Liaison  
Subject: September CSSA Plenary

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Fall 2021 Office Hours:

Monday: 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Wednesday: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Thursday: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM / 5:30 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM

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### **September California State Student Association (CSSA) Plenary**

The September CSSA Plenary was held for one day on Saturday, September 11. Our main discussions surrounded where legislation that CSSA supported is currently in the legislature, how campus repopulation efforts are going, and developing the CSSA policy agenda. Below you can find a synopsis of each committee, and all CSSA reports can be found [here](#). Please review this report, and if you have any questions feel free to contact me with the information provided above.

#### **Finance Committee**

This committee reviewed the September financial statement for CSSA, and are currently working on budget adjustments for mid-year. We will be able to see a summary of Student Involvement and Representation Fees (SIRF) at the next plenary, which will help us better understand student opt-out rates. The committee also discussed how CSUnity cost \$5,263 to operate for a weekend in August due to the software and backhand help they used to ensure the conference weekend went smoothly.

#### **Student Trustee Committee**

The application for Student Trustee has been posted, and a presentation on the timeline of the search for the new Student Trustee will be presented to CSSA in October. The Student Trustee position is an opportunity to ensure that the student voice is heard at the Board of Trustees, who make policy decisions for the CSU. This is a voting position and the student who is chosen will serve for two years. The committee also presented the 2022-2024 social media

advocacy toolkit that will be used to help promote this position to CSU students. This kit includes a Zoom background, Instagram story post, and a twitter post that ASI can use to promote this wonderful opportunity to the student body. If you are interested in applying, or know someone who would be great in this position, you can fill out the application [here](#).

### **Internal Affairs Committee**

This committee built off of the discussions held in August, mainly surrounding the roles and responsibilities of the CSSA special officers and Civic Engagement Officers. Since there were spaces left vacant in these roles, the committee further discussed defining what exactly each role would accomplish if elected, and how they could work cohesively with the rest of CSSA. There were no action items on reforming the CSSA constitution this month, as this is a year long process.

### **Systemwide Affairs Committee**

The Systemwide Affairs committee listened to a presentation from the Ed Trust West Brief, who presented on how to keep equity as our main focus in our shift back to in person instruction. It was a wonderful presentation with great ideas on how to help students, and the whole presentation can be found [here](#). The presentation outlines a holistic approach to ensuring equity, with key areas such as keeping racial equity front & center, addressing the digital divide, and retaining and reengaging students.

After the presentation, the VP of Systemwide Affairs updated the committee on available spots in other CSSA Systemwide committees, and encouraged governing members to sign up for these spots so that we can be well informed on what students think about issues systemwide.

The last discussion of this committee was on campus repopulation efforts. I updated the committee on what Sacramento State has been doing, including our vaccination rate, how we are ensuring students are vaccinated, and other safety measures we are taking on campus and in the residence halls. Overall I emphasized we are following county guidelines in all of our decisions about safety guidelines on campus. If you would like to discuss your experience on your return to campus, please feel free to send me an email and I would be happy to discuss it with you.

### **Legislative Affairs Committee**

The first year of the legislative cycle has closed, so CSSA took this time to review where the legislation we supported last year currently stands. The bill CSSA co-authored, AB 928 as

introduced by Assemblymember Berman, which seeks to help transfer students is now at the governor's desk. Another major bill we advocated on last year, AB 1456, introduced by Assemblymember Medina and McCarty is headed to the governor's desk as well. One last major bill we advocated for is AB 367, introduced by Assemblymember Garcia which seeks to help provide menstrual products on campus, and will also be headed to the governor's desk. 3 of the bills we supported died in committee, but overall it was a successful year in terms of legislative advocacy. Now, the governor has until October 10 to sign these into law, and CSSA will focus advocacy efforts on the governor's office to ensure the bills we supported become law. The next legislative session will begin on January 3rd, and CSSA will start reviewing new bills and continue advocacy efforts on the 2-year bills we supported in spring 2021.

### **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors discussed the development of the CSSA policy agenda, which has been subject to a new developmental process. In August, CSSA held breakout rooms to discuss the major topics on our campus, and compiled the notes we took when we met with representatives from the Chancellor's Office and Board of Trustees at CSUnity. They then sent out a policy agenda idea form to all campuses, which the ASI President and myself filled out to get even more data on the topics that are important to students. At the September plenary, directors were asked to review the draft and discuss possible changes to it to better clarify what will be in the agenda. As of right now, the four priorities are ensuring students have access to baseline services, prioritizing student health and safety on campuses, ensuring the academic success of students, and ensuring there are systemwide sustainable policies and practices. You can find the agenda, with an outline of all policies and goals, [here](#). If you have any additional comments, questions, or concerns on the current draft please email me so I can take your ideas into consideration. A final draft of the policy agenda will be approved in October, and this document will then guide CSSA in their advocacy efforts for the rest of the year.

The Board of Directors also got an update on the written public comment system. CSSA has been working with their legal team to ensure that once this new practice is implemented, it will adhere to legal guidelines. This system is intended to expand the accessibility of CSSA to all CSU students and ensure they have an opportunity to make their voice heard. The system is scheduled to be in place by the October plenary.

The last thing the Board of Directors discussed was the modality of plenaries in the spring. The CSSA staff were clear that any travel would be dependent on health guidelines and local case numbers, as well as each campus's ability to fund travel and the willingness of CSSA members to travel. No final decisions have been made, as they want to hear feedback from each campus before making a decision on the future of CSSA plenaries.

Should you have any questions about anything in this plenary report, or anything related to CSSA, feel free to reach out and ask me.

Best regards,

**Kathryn Webb** | **CSSA Liaison**  
*She/Her/Hers*  
**Associated Students, Inc.**