



**Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU)**  
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<http://www.calstate.edu/cs-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate>

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November 18, 2024

Dr. Mildred García  
CSU Chancellor  
The California State University  
Office of the Chancellor  
401 Golden Shore, Room 641  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

Dear Chancellor García:

Enclosed are the resolutions approved by the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) at the November 14-15, 2024, meeting. The documents are sent to you for response and action.

We draw your attention to two resolutions with specific requests of the CSU administration: [AS-3710-24/AA](#), *Ensuring Academic Freedom in Systemwide Time, Place, and Manner Policies*, which reflects our continued concerns over this policy and recommends three types of changes to it, and [AS-3724-24/AA](#), *Student Success Survey for the Year of Engagement*, which supports the important work on student success with sound evidence, as discussed at the Graduation Initiative 2025 gathering.

We express gratitude in [AS-3712-24/APEP](#), *CSU's Proactive Response to Delays in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Process: Supporting Students Amid Financial Aid Challenges*.

Lastly, we share [AS-3719-24/Exec](#), *In Memoriam of Dr. Boris Ricks*, our Black/African American colleague who served as CSUN Senator at the time of his death. Dr. Ricks brought important representation and made significant contributions during his tenure, continuing the essential work that led to the permanent establishment of the ASCSU Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) policy standing committee. He was a member of the founding ad-hoc group established by former ASCSU Chair Dr. Catherine Nelson.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Boyd  
Chair, Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU)

#### Attachments

##### Distribution list:

CSU Board of Trustees  
CSU Chancellor's Office Representatives  
CSU Presidents  
CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs  
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California State Student Association  
CSU Alumni Council  
California Faculty Association  
Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU)

**Executive Summaries of Resolutions  
Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU)  
November 14-15, 2024, Plenary meeting**

The ASCSU approved the following resolutions. Copies of these resolutions can be found at <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate/Pages/Resolutions.aspx> and via the links included below.

**1. [AS-3710-24/AA](#) Ensuring Academic Freedom in Systemwide Time, Place, and Manner Policies**

The ASCSU recognizes that the expression and debate of diverse viewpoints lies at the heart of the university. The Interim Systemwide Time, Place, and Manner Policy published by the Chancellor's Office is not necessarily conducive to academic freedom, healthy debate, campus safety, nor delivery of instruction. The ASCSU recommends three types of changes to the policy: the creation of Campus Safety Committees with equal representation from campus constituencies; the replacement of vague and abstract language with language that allows consistency in enforcement; and the replacement of subjective terms with language that is clear and specific and can be operationalized.

**2. [AS-3724-24/AA](#) Student Success Survey for the Year of Engagement**

The CSU CO Student Success Survey for the Year of Engagement relied on a narrow definition of student success and asked questions that focused entirely on student support services and their role in student success. This definition and these questions were not based on consultation with faculty and did not address the role of classroom instruction in student success. A second survey should be conducted that gathers information on academic practices in classroom instruction that lead to student success more broadly defined. Subsequently, support for these practices should be integrated into any new initiative to improve student success in the CSU.

**3. [AS-3712-24/APEP](#) CSU's Proactive Response to Delays in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Process: Supporting Students Amid Financial Aid Challenges**

The CSU has acted to effectively support our students despite delays in FAFSA processing. This resolution acknowledges current and continuing efforts and encourages sharing of best practices in responding to the FAFSA crisis.

**4. [AS-3719-24/Exec](#) In Memoriam of Dr. Boris Ricks**

This resolution is a tribute to Senator Boris Ricks, Professor of Political Science at CSUN, who served on the Ad-Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and made important contributions elevating representation of Black/African American faculty in the CSU.

**5. [AS-3713-24/JEDI](#) Revision to the Special Rule of Order on the Faculty Trustee Nomination and Selection Criteria and Process**

This resolution revises the criteria and process used to nominate and select Faculty Trustee nominees, the composition of the Faculty Trustee Nominating Committee, and the number of nominees put forward to the governor.

**First Reading**

The following resolutions were presented for feedback from Senators and communication to campuses. The sponsoring committee(s) will revise these resolutions, and we anticipate these will return to the plenary agenda as action (second reading) items at the November 2024 plenary.

**1. AS-3720-24/APEP Endorsing CSU Math Council**

This resolution seeks to address concerns that the legislative mandate questioning preparation sequences may have produced unintended consequences for students majoring in STEM fields. The resolution asks ICAS to establish an intersegmental task force to guide a formal response and possible request for future action.

**2. AS-3721-24/FA Resolution on CSU-Wide Budget Transparency**

This resolution seeks transparency in all matters dealing with the budget at the Chancellor's Office and at each campus. Moreover, the resolution asks that transparent and publicly available web portals be made available by campus to enhance public trust and decision-making.

**3. AS-3722-24/JEDI Commendation for State Designation of California Black-Serving Institutions and Requests to CSU and State for Related Resource Allocations**

This resolution addresses Senate Bill 1348 and its creation of California Black-Serving Institution (BSI) status. The resolutions thanks and commends the State Legislature and the Governor for this legislative work. It also notes the uniqueness of the CA BSI designation compared to parallel federal designations and urges allocation of CSU and state resources for campuses poised to qualify for BSI status.

**4. AS-3723-24/AA/JEDI First-Year Seminars**

The ASCSU asks that the Chancellor’s Office promote the creation of a required three-unit, first-year, seminar-style course—or first-year seminar (FYS)—on each CSU campus. As extensive research documents, this kind of FYS significantly improves retention rates—especially for students of color, first-generation students, students with conditional admission, and students with undeclared major—and it often introduces students to life-long learning. The FYS should be academically rigorous, offered with small class sizes, and taught by well-trained faculty. The FYS might be discipline-based, but different versions for first-time first-year students who have not yet declared their majors and for transfer students should be developed.

#### **5. AS-3725-24/APEP CSU GE vs. Cal-GETC in CSU Policy**

This resolution seeks to establish a workgroup to provide guidance to the Office of the Chancellor on resolving ambiguities and inconsistencies in general education language. The resolution calls for the establishment of a workgroup to resolve inconsistencies in General Education policy language.