



# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY BAKERSFIELD

Report from ASCSU to CSUB  
Senate Meeting (11/13/2024 – 11/15/24)

## I. Resolutions

ASCSU passed the following resolutions

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.

#### ASCSU First Readings

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.

## II. Upcoming ASCSU Meetings

1. Next Interim Committee Meeting (12/13/24)
2. Next ASCSU Committee (and Plenary) meeting (1/15/25 – 1/17/25)

III. Senator 2024-2025 Appointments

1. Charles Lam: Member of Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee, Liaison to Math Council
2. Nyakundi Michieka: Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs Committee

IV. Prepared by CSUB Representatives to the ASCSU

1. Charles Lam, Professor of Mathematics
2. Nyakundi Michieka, Associate Professor of Economics