



## Vice President for Academic Governance Committee Report

### **Academic Senate:**

There was a concern raised at the Academic Senate as to why Finals dates were not scheduled by the start of the semester rather than weeks after the semester. The university is working to address an issue of plagiarism; specifically associated to CourseHero: a website promoting plagiarism by allowing students to post assignments with class title, university name, and the professor name online. The Senate was provided with a few data sets:

- In 2017, Cal State LA had 111 DACA renewals
- 106 faculty and staff members participated in VetNet Ally
- Calfresh applications: 300 applications processed, 50% were approved
- Food pantry- 3,045 students served by the food pantry in 2017
- Parent academy: 192 parents attended in 2017

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/cabinet-academic-senators>

### **Educational Policy Committee (EPC) :**

Within EPC, there were conversations regarding the Graduate Learning Outcomes. The learning outcomes have been completed, and EPC will disseminate the outcomes to the various Graduate Programs in order to get appropriate feedback. The committee is also looking into the General Education subcommittee and how it can better assess GE courses and possibly offer workshops to new faculty regarding the process of course creation.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/educational-policy-committee>

### **Faculty Policy Committee (FPC) :**

The committee discussed the benefit of “Free faculty parking” for Emeritus status faculty; however, the university does not have the exact number of Emeritus faculty at Cal State LA. Yet, there was discussion as to how the university plans on furthering the discussion on this benefit; whether this benefit will be problematic for other faculty members to find parking. Another benefit provided to Emeritus status faculty is office space, and the committee also discussed how this might take away office space for current teaching faculty.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/faculty-policy-committee>

### **Fiscal Policy Committee (FiPC) :**

There was an array of pertinent topics in FiPC; which included the improvement of advisement and student support, more funds for tenure and research and an improved investment in technology infrastructure. Furthermore, there was a heavy discussion about the Food Pantry hours and the need for them to be expanded through more days and times. A possible idea of students’ ability to nominate tenure track faculty was brought to the floor of the committee. A concern of parking citations and the increase of expenses were brought to question, because the cost of fines should be broken down and revised according to student median income.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/fiscal-policy-committee>

### **Student Policy Committee (SPC) :**

There has been an ongoing conversation about the lack of note takers for students with disabilities due to registration status change; that is, note takers for students with disabilities use to get priority registration. However, in the past couple of years, their priority registration privileges were changed to early registration and the committee associates the change in registration status with the decrease in students signing up to be note takers for those in need. SPC also planned on inviting individuals (faculty, staff, etc.) who work with former foster students on campus to inform the committee about this group’s needs. According to the statistics provided to the committee, former foster students



were granted priority registration for fall 2018, yet, they were the only group who did not take advantage of the opportunity (lowest number on the chart; 17%). Cal State LA is one of the three CSU campuses that requires students to pay for classes before the term begins. When students are provided with priority registration and do not fully take an advantage of their registration status, it may be due to the reason that many students could be suffering from the university policy of paying in advance for classes (graduate students).

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/student-policy-committee>

#### **Academic Information Resource Subcommittee (AIRS) :**

AIRS discussed about potentially adding Adobe Captivate to campus wide tools as it provides a screen recording on sites such as Canvas; which, would help capture any grades and/or answers students receives on a quiz or assignment. The committee then transitioned into a discussion of online courses and how they could be formatted to the most beneficial for students, yet easily teachable for faculty members. An update was provided as to how many courses are using Canvas and it reflects only 35% of courses are using Canvas. One of the main reasons as to why the transition from Moodle to Canvas was to provide an easier transition for Transfer students, considering many junior colleges are using Canvas.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/academic-information-resources-subcommittee>

#### **Library Subcommittee**

The main topics of discussion at the Library Subcommittee revolved around outreach to students and faculty and how to inform them about library resources. The committee is continuing their search for more funding opportunities for the library to purchase scholarly resources. The library will be working to train staff better on organizing bookshelves for better access. Significantly enough, last year, the library subcommittee was able to receive an additional 40 thousand dollars added to their budget; however, those funds were not sufficient to purchase an adequate amount of scholarly resources.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/library-subcommittee>

#### **Graduate Studies Subcommittee:**

Within the Graduate Subcommittee, there was a discussion about hosting workshops for mini-grants and how mini-grants are supplemental funding for the faculty. The main discussion points covered the basis of student success, student success for DACA recipients and general wellbeing, the issue of diversity not being reflected in staff and faculty and a lack of data being used to make decisions.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/graduate-studies-subcommittee>

#### **OSD Presidential Advisory Committee OSD PAC :**

Major updates were mentioned in OSD PAC, such as: the identification of ways to streamline communication between faculty and OSD, New Policy related to Academic Coach (for students who need an assistant in class, i.e individuals with autism). As for campus maintenance, there will be a rail installation on stairs from Circle Drive to housing, and facilities are in the process of repairing broken braille labels and updating the labels to make it more cohesive in their locations. ITS is working to resolve time allocation on OSD computers to meet the needs of students who need more time to do their exams, because students are currently being logged off for taking longer than allowed by the computer system. Students with disabilities have struggled with transportation on campus and from housing. Now, there is a shuttle stop in housing and an access point which provides two additional routes to campus and there is an App which will provide up-to-date information on shuttle.

<https://asicalstatela.org/committee/osd-presidential-advisory-committee>