



San Jose/January Plenary Updates

President Tolteca and Vice President Garnica

For Review: What is CSSA?

The Cal State Student Association (CSSA) is a student-led organization that strives to improve the lives of California State University (CSU) students by advocating for student needs and engaging students in systemwide, state, and federal higher education policymaking.

The California State Student Association, also known as the Cal State Student Association, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit student organization founded by CSU student body presidents in 1959. CSSA is led by, funded by, and represents the over 482,000 students of the CSU.

For Review: What is CSSA?

All California State University (CSU) students are represented by the Cal State Student Association (CSSA) on issues related to higher education policy making and on issues that affect students at a systemwide level.

CSSA's governing members are representatives from the 23 campus Associated Students (Inc.) organizations. CSSA relies on campus ASI's to appoint their campus representatives.

What are **Plenaries**?

CSSA plenaries are meetings of the board of directors and committees. Plenary meetings are open to the public in accordance with Gloria Romero Open Meetings Act of 2000.

Meetings take place monthly (with the exception December and June) at a location decided by the governing board each July. **This year CSSA meets hybrid, one month virtually, the next in person.**

San Jose Plenary Recap

Campus Connections

- Each plenary meeting commences with campus connections where a handful of CSU's are paired up with a CSSA executive member to discuss on going concerns/efforts on their campuses
- We have been paired up with CSUN, Fresno State and CSU Stanislaus
- Primary conversation was on student support from faculty and administrators in a post online environment and how cssa can help advocate for more support

Systemwide Committee

- **DISCUSSION ON DINING SERVICES:** Vice President Samaniego (of CSSA) led a discussion regarding student experiences with campus dining. Each campus provided their perspectives, concern and needs on campus dining options (varied).
- **INFORMATION CSU POLICIES:** Vice President Samaniego presented information on the Committee's review of the CSU's Student Participation in Policy Development policy.
- **Will vote on it at this weekends plenary!**

Policy ensures recognizing ASI leaders as official student voice as campus and whom Campus President goes to, ASI can select any student to serve as rep

(Policy is available to view under Jan plenary minutes for syst. committee)

Systemwide Committee cont.

ITEMS TABLED FOR FEBRUARY PLENARY

- **BUDGET AND TUITION PRESENTATION:** President Malhotra and Vice President Samaniego will present information on the 2023/2024 CSU Budget and Tuition Proposal.
- **PRESENTATION JANUARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Vice President Samaniego will provide a January 2023 Board of Trustees update.

Executive Committee

- Back at CSUnity in september, there was a mention of an opportunity for a group of CSSA members and students from their campuses to participate in the **Higher Education Student Coalition** attended by the three statewide student associations are - Cal State Student Association (**CSSA**), Student Senate for California Community Colleges (**SSCCC**), and University of California Student Association (**UCSA**).
- **The Higher Education Student Coalition is** a robust joint campaign to Fix Financial Aid. The success of this endeavor has encouraged the student groups to continue their collective advocacy efforts and identify additional issues impacting college students and their ability to succeed that they would like to focus on fixing together

Executive Committee cont.

- On October 27 and 28, 2022, the three statewide student associations held a Higher Education Student Coalition (Coalition) Convening in Sacramento, California.
- **The Convening focused on three policy areas that statewide student association leadership believes impact many students across the three segments: (1) College Affordability, (2) Transfer, and (3) Resource Accessibility & Equity.**
- It concluded with participants recommending specific policies across these areas for the Coalition to pursue over the next two to three years, with details to be determined after the statewide student association boards have approved the policy agenda. **(full policy available in public agenda)**

Finance Committee

- Specific budget numbers/charts, agenda, minutes etc. are **available to public** at CSSA website under documents section -> **Budget and Finance and/or Plenary finance committee agendas minutes!**
- Update on spending statements from November and December
- **Conversation of impact of Budget cuts on Organization occurred here**, CSSA is funded by a student fee called the **STUDENT INVOLVEMENT & REPRESENTATION FEE (SIRF)**

Finance Committee

- SIRF is a \$2 fee assessed twice a year to all California State University (CSU) students in order to fund the Cal State Student Association.
- Initiated and developed by CSSA, SIRF creates a more independent and effective statewide student association with the main objective of expanding CSSA's efforts to serve all CSU students. The fee creates direct accountability of CSSA to the students it serves by giving students a choice to participate (or not) in SIRF and supports the organization that represents their body.
- Enrollment drop -> Budget cut -> less SIRF funding available for CSSA
- Discussion on reallocation of internal fees and investments occurred

Student Trustee Committee

- Updates on promotion offers for student trustee application (during the plenary only one individual had fully applied, 13 had begun application).
- Chair Alvarez had been working on outreach of the individuals who had begun to ensure applications were turned in by deadline
- **Application closed on January 30th at 5:00 pm**
- **Presidents are being asked to serve on interview panel that will occur February the 25th (a Saturday).**

Internal affairs Committee

COMMITTEE MEETING POSTPONED FOR FEB PLENARY

- BRIEF RECAP: There was a discussion item regarding amendments to the 'Accountability and Attendance Policy' for CSSA back in October, developed in November and was going to be voted in San Jose plenary but chair of committee wasn't able to be present at this plenary. We will be reviewing drafted policy this weekend and voting on it!

Legislative affairs Committee

**CHESS 2023 (where applicants of Lobby corps will attend):
Vice President Murphy presented information regarding CHESS
(California Higher Education Student Summit) 2023.**

- This will be our first CHESS in person since 2019! Team is very excited.

This years CHESS timeline:

March 4th - Plenary and Welcome Reception at Sac State

March 5th - CHESS Conference at State State March (prep for Advocacy day!)

March 6th - Advocacy Day in the Capitol

Legislative affairs Committee

Recap: What are Civic Challenges?

CIVIC stands for **C**ollege **I**nvolvement and **V**alues **I**mpacting **C**ommunities, campuses compete with other campuses in order to demonstrate student participation and measure student engagement.

This occurs via Civic challenges, activities that get campuses points at the end of year, campus with most points is acknowledged at the May plenary, the grand prize winners' campus names will be engraved on a trophy housed in CSSA's Sacramento office and will receive a special recognition from their elected officia

Legislative affairs Committee

2023 SPRING CIVIC CHALLENGES:

Plenary Debriefs: create a video or publication that debriefs a CSSA plenary meeting and share on social media and/or with the student body and tag @csustudents.

Social Media Advocacy: post on social media about CSSA positions, events, or campaigns, and tag @csustudents.

CSSA Outreach: post on social media or have an information item at your board meeting about CSSA.

(More challenges can be found at CSSA website, will submit points on behalf of SG)

Board of Directors

- **HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT COALITION CONVENING REPORT:** The Board considered the recommendation of the Executive Committee to The motion was unanimously approved.
- **DISCUSSION: CSU CHANCELLOR'S SEARCH:** Alberto Pimental, Managing Partner of SP&A Executive Search, led a discussion regarding the CSU Chancellor's Search and the qualities and attributes for the next CSU Chancellor.
- **CSSA 2022/2023 MID-YEAR UPDATE:** President Malhotra presented a mid-year update on the work that CSSA has undertaken.

Civic Challenge: Open forum for Chancellor Search

Student feedback is being requested during these open forums/for overall search, were scheduled from Monday Feb 6th - Today the 8th. Last one will occur today from 12:00-2:00 pm, will be occurring in Sacramento State but can also be attended virtually on zoom. You can also just leave some general feedback on interest/opinions for the search on the form (will count!).



Thank you for your time!