

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION POLICY

Student Participation in Policy Development

Presentation By

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Executive Vice Chancellor
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Summary

In 1998, the California State Student Association (CSSA) began discussion of the need for the California State University (CSU) to clarify the role of CSU students in the development of campus and systemwide policy affecting students. In 2001, CSSA passed a resolution calling on the CSU Chancellor and the Board of Trustees to adopt a policy ensuring student participation in policy development.

In response to this proposal, Chancellor Charles B. Reed appointed an advisory committee to develop recommendations regarding the participation of students in the development of campus and system policy. The Advisory Committee on Student Participation in Policy Development, chaired by Dr. David S. Spence, was composed of the following members:

Mr. Samuel Aborne, CSSA
Dr. Warren J. Baker, President, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Ms. Emily Foster, CSSA
Dr. Donald R. Gerth, President, CSU Sacramento
Dr. George Hibbard, Vice President for Student Affairs, CSU Bakersfield
Mr. Shaun Lumachi, CSSA Chair
Ms. Tamera Murphy, CSSA
Mr. Luis Portillo, CSSA, alternate
Mr. Douglas W. Robinson, Vice President for Student Affairs, CSU Long Beach
Dr. David S. Spence, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer
Mr. Todd Stephens, CSSA
Ms. Christy Zamani, Student Relations Liaison, Office of the Chancellor

The advisory committee met four times. Draft proposals were shared with the Executive Council and the CSSA Board of Directors for comments and feedback. Recommendations offered by these constituent groups are reflected in the following statement submitted for adoption by the CSU Board of Trustees.

The following proposed statement on Student Participation in Policy Development is supported by the presidents and the California State Student Association.

Policy Recommendation

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Recommendation

The Board of Trustees adopts the following proposal that emphasizes the role of student participation in policy development.

Rationale

The Cornerstones Report calls on students to demonstrate greater involvement in academic program development and assessment through regular surveying, identification of priorities and assessment of needs.

This document calls on the CSU system to make greater strides toward student participation in policy development in order to enhance institutional effectiveness and responsiveness to student needs.

Introduction

The opportunity for students to have an impact on the development of university policies and procedures that have or will have an effect on current and future students is vital to the well being and life of a university. This opportunity includes participation by students in developing recommendations to the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor, and/or the Campus Presidents.

Recommendations and positions developed by the campus representative student bodies will be given reasonable consideration by campus presidents.

Recommendations and positions developed by the systemwide representative student bodies will be given reasonable consideration by the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees.

Local Responsibility

Associated student body organizations established at each university, as provided by Education Code Section 89300, shall serve as the official representative body of the students of that campus. The presidents will provide these officially recognized associated student body organizations an opportunity to offer opinions and make

recommendations about campus policy and procedures that have or will have an effect upon students.

Nominations of student representatives to serve on campuswide governance committees, campuswide task forces, or other campuswide advisory groups will be made by the appropriate officially recognized associated student body organization. Appointments are made by the University President. Campus Associated Students boards of directors and their subcommittees will continue their selection procedure under their current process as directed by their bylaws. This is not meant to supersede any current power delegated to the officially recognized student body organization granted either by executive order or university policy.

Systemwide Responsibility

The California State Student Association (CSSA) has been established by the campus associated student body organizations so that students may have a formal and effective means for participating in the formulation of systemwide, state and national policies that have or may have an effect on students.

The California State Student Association, or its successor, is recognized as the official representative of the students of the California State University before the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office.

The Board of Trustees and the Chancellor will provide CSSA an opportunity to offer opinions and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor and/or the Campus Presidents with regard to university policies and procedures that have or will have an effect on students at the systemwide level.

Nominations of student representatives to serve on systemwide governance committees, systemwide task forces, or other systemwide advisory groups shall be made by the California State Student Association or its successor. The Chancellor makes appointments.

Action

The following resolution is presented for approval:

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the California State University, that the Student Participation in Policy Development statement developed by the California State University Advisory Committee on Student Participation in Policy Development be approved.