

ASI State of Affairs Report May 9, 2019

ASI has made great efforts to support student equity and student empowerment. We have amplified our platforms for student voice and found extensive growth in areas such as student engagement, advocacy and programming. While this is powerful, ASI also recognizes the ways in which we can continue to improve. Nonetheless, ASI has grown tremendously, and we are proud to have served the campus community as student leaders.

Major events, programs, projects and activities planned by our organization include De-stress Study Fest, Womxn of Color Make History, Cal State Student Association April Plenary meeting, Beach Clean-Up Day, Grad-Chill-A, Spirit Week, Go Green 2019, Academic Advisement checklist, the Resolution of No Confidence and the most recent Expanding your Horizons program. Through these efforts, ASI has effectively increased communication with the campus community, promoted civic engagement, established transparency and empowered student voices. Some of these initiatives, such as the Resolution of No Confidence demonstrate our administration's efforts to collaborate with students at large and community organizers. Other projects such as the Academic Advisement checklist reflect our administration's effort to collaborate with advisors to support academic success.

We hope to leave the next administration with all the necessary tools to further communication with the campus community and advocate for student voices. We have laid the foundation for a Robert's Rules/Parliamentary Procedure training designed to assist students running for elected positions and students at large in clubs and organizations. This has the potential to be the first ASI specialized training offered to emerging and seasoned student leaders across campus, regardless of their affiliation and we look forward to seeing how next year's administration utilizes this resource.

While we continue to develop, there are still areas where we can improve. We have several staff positions that remain vacant and this affects the work flow and dynamic of the ASI office. Additionally, we must continue to increase student representation on committees. Our organization has seen increased engagement with our Board of Directors meetings, and in the future, we would like to see a similar impact with other committee meetings as well. There is also a desire to apply targeted focus to areas that have been under supported with policy review due to the management transitions that took place last semester.

We hope that ASI continues to address member retention, internal communication and low event turnout. We have explored dynamic ways of collaborating with faculty and staff. It is our intention to build and foster relationships across the University and increase campus unity. With the onboarding of new ASI staff and administration, we hope to see enhancements made to the leadership development curriculum and member orientation/training program. Because the student government election now happens earlier in spring semester, there are more opportunities for the newly elected administration to engage in training exercises, leader shadowing, and relationship building with support staff. However, we must ensure that we are consistently promoting and advertising these opportunities to further establish equal opportunity among student leaders interested in participating in ASI.

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In regards to our finances, ASI has addressed the \$75,000 deficit related to the post-retirement benefit obligations and have made necessary adjustments to accommodate. Recommendations were heard and action was approved at both the ASI Finance Committee and ASI Board of Directors meetings. We have adjusted in several areas, including staff travel, without affecting programs or services offered to students. Additionally, we dispersed a total of \$54,729.00 for club funding and have discussed ways to enhance club funding policies to better support the needs of our growing student population.

It remains our firm belief that we have succeeded in accomplishing various short-term goals. However, ASI continues to work toward achieving the long-term goals defined by our strategic plan. Additionally, we have met our goal of being a more advocacy-focused organization and we remain on track with our commitment to advocacy and representation. Overall, it has been a very productive semester and we look forward to transitioning in the next ASI administration.

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