

2015-16 ASI LEADERSHIP PARADIGM

Marcus Rodriguez, Director of Programs & Leadership, ASI Approved by the ASI Board of Directors – June 4, 2015

The purpose of Associated Students, Inc. is to ensure student input into the governance of the campus by providing an official voice through which student opinion may be expressed. Through the collective involvement of student government, the administrative, and faculty, authentic shared governance can be realized.

A New Vision

ASI will understand Shared Governance as a professional practice model. Leadership trainings will focus on the principles of partnership, equity, accountability, and ownership. Students will discuss a culturally sensitive and empowering framework to support what Dr. Tim Porter-O'Grady describes as a model that enables sustainable and accountability-based decision making. From the moment members are integrated into the ASI program, the growth from positional to influential leadership, and the understanding of such, will be our target outcome.

The ASI Leadership Development Curriculum will affect development in three key areas:

Head Heart Hands

Cognitive | Intellectual Development Reflection | Meaning Making Physical Act - Civic Engagement

Key components of our development series will focus on life planning and professional practices. By developing eagerness tools and turning fear into focus, we will be transitioning from discussions about career enhancement to those about opportunity development. Our goal is to prepare students for the job market by supporting the emergence of a collaborative, innovative, creative, and flexible character. Important leadership training collaborations will be forged with the Center for Engagement, Service, and the Public Good, The Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute for Public Affairs, University-Student Union, Housing Services, and The Career Center.

Shared Governance

Currently, College Profiles are being developed with a list of departments, contacts, committees, and associated clubs and college councils. It is the intention of ASI to advise all college leadership of the shared governance apparatus on campus and the student committee member recruitment/appointment process. ASI will subsequently work closely with the Deans and Department Chairs to assist in the identification of emerging student leaders and the incorporation of those into the ASI leadership curriculum.

Committee membership and the expression of student voice will be the focal point of college representatives' service to ASI. Still, learning outcome based programming will remain an option if indicators of success can be articulated in relation to the ASI vision and strategic goals. These would include:

- Co-Curricular Initiatives
- Club/College Council Collaborations
- Networking | Mixers | College Services Intro Events

Service to the college should also consider the enlistment of (2) unpaid deputy positions (to the college representatives) to assist with the management of two key areas.

College affiliated clubs/organizations and councils – Funding, initiative support, and representation

• Student committee membership – Recruitment, appointment, and tracking

These positions, because they have clear expectations and job requirements, would be provided support training conducive to the reinforcement of an apprentice relationship. Unpaid deputies to the representatives will not displace those elected by the student body, but rather work closely under the supervision of that official and be counseled by the ASI professional staff. Though these persons are not necessarily entitled to an elected position at the conclusion of their service, they are offered exclusive access to the inner workings of ASI and provided unique development opportunities.

Programming Support

Elected and appointed officials will work with clubs and organizations to ensure that information pertaining to club funding, management and representation is disseminated accordingly. Opportunities to support by means of ASI representative presence or resources will be commonplace and means for the promotion of these events will also be standardized as part of our constituency outreach efforts. Likewise, ASI officials should identify collaborations with campus service and resource providers (e.g. Career Development Center, University Writing Center, Library, Student Health Center)

Focus Groups | Surveys | Student Data Collection

ASI will now integrate research basics and focus groups into our representation efforts. Training on how to facilitate, including how to plan for, and conduct focus groups will be supported by discussions about best practices and data assessment report design.

Social Justice and Civic Participation Initiatives

ASI intends to develop venues for deliberative dialogue where social justice concepts are studied through the lens of the Social Change Model. Student leaders will engage in discussions about social impact and the relation between oppression and tension. Civic participation and service learning projects will exemplify our commitment to experiential learning and the holistic development of our students. With structured preparation, supervision and reflection, students will contemplate the true nature of service while building character and leadership skills. Professional staff will be looking for a correlation between enhanced academic learning and identity formation.

Alternative Spring Break

ASI will plan an annual program focused on a particular social issue (e.g. poverty, education reform, the environment). Students will study and dialogue about the complex factors affecting these issues and the conflicting opinions about current societal solutions. The goal is to have students critically think about problem solving with an emphasis on group and individual reflection. Using an immersion technique, students should be left with a new sense and understanding about themselves, service, and avenues for community engagement.

Co-curricular Cooperation

As civic learning and/or community engagement shall be a 6-unit requirement for all entering freshmen at Cal State L.A. (3 units at the lower division level in the Introduction to Higher Education course and 3 units in an upper division course), the ASI Leadership Curriculum will be introduced as a viable option for campus

involvement. Additionally, ASI recruitment efforts will incorporate meaningful information and training sessions specifically targeting potential candidates with the added effect of maximizing interest in ASI generally.

Job Descriptions and Management Skills

Position summaries, skills and abilities, essential duties and responsibilities, will be built out for every leadership and support position in ASI with continuity in format and clear articulation of expectations and skillset development. In addition, student leaders will learn that exemplary management extends beyond the support of personnel, and broadens to the creation and maintenance of meaningful on and off campus relationships. Beyond the importance of understanding organizational structure, students will gain a greater understanding of interpersonal communication and will be prepared to perform even in the absence of formal management oversight. Students in ASI will be introduced to a high-performance culture that instills trust and enthusiasm while providing the skills, authority and support systems needed to succeed.

Dynamic Organization Chart

An all-encompassing organization chart will be developed as a diagram that graphically shows the relation of one student leadership or staff position to another. This will display the relationship of one unit to another and highlight the support functions of each area. This chart will be a display, and provide a visual, of the complete ASI working order.