

IV. Communications and Questions –

A. From the Chair of the Senate:

Acting Chair Sasikumar announced the meeting would be recorded for the purpose of preparing the minutes. Only the Senate Chair and Senate Administrator will have access. Please keep yourself muted unless speaking. Only Senators may speak and vote in the Senate meetings. Roll call will be taken by the Senate Administrator using the participant list, so be sure your full name shows. Please type “SL” to speak to a resolution in the chat. If you wish to speak to an amendment please type, ”SL Amendment” into the chat. If you have a longer amendment, please type it into the chat and send to AVC Massey. Remember that the chat is visible to all and even the direct chat is visible to the Chair and Senate Administrator in the saved version of the meeting, so be cautious.

Acting Chair Sasikumar welcomed guests to the Senate meeting and asked them to remember they cannot vote in the polls.

Acting Chair Sasikumar welcomed our newest Senator from the College of Science, Senator William Andreopoulos.

Acting Chair Sasikumar thanked Senators Frazier, Mathur, and Schultz-Krohn as well as the Senate Administrator Eva Joice for all their help with the quick departure of Chair McKee and with Vice Chair Sasikumar’s transition into the role of Acting Senate Chair. Senators Mathur and Schultz-Krohn will share some of the responsibilities of the Senate Chair this semester.

Acting Chair Sasikumar announced that Senator Sullivan-Green would be on sabbatical this semester and that the Executive Committee had voted to approve appointing Senator Frazier as the Chair of the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA) during the break. Senator Frazier was a past Chair of the I&SA Committee and has also been Vice Chair and Chair of the Senate. We are very grateful to have him step into the role as Chair of I&SA.

B. From the President:

President Perez commented on the great job that Acting Chair Sasikumar has been doing since she took over for Chair McKee. The president recognized all the faculty and staff at SJSU and said what a great campus it is to work for and that he is looking forward to working with everyone. President Perez commented that this university should be proud of the environment we’ve created for our faculty, staff, and students. The president feels very lucky to be working on our campus.

The president gave a brief history of the positions he has held. Interim President Perez has been a professor since 1994. He went to graduate school at UC Davis. He grew up in California and various positions around

the country before accepting a position at CSU Sacramento State in 2001. His very first year at Sacramento State he was on the Senate. He was affiliated or working with the Senate at Sacramento State for the next 20 years. He served on the Executive Committee his second year. He was Vice Chair twice, but never Chair of the Senate.

The president sees the value of bringing people from each department and different places across the university together to talk about what we are doing, what we should be doing, and how we should do it. Often times that is really good conversation, sometimes it results in heated debates. Almost every time there is some difference of opinion, but it is something we can work out as long as we keep our ideas about what we are here for and what we are trying to accomplish in front of us. The president is sure we can do that here. The structure of our Senate is different from the one the president had grown accustomed to at Sacramento State, but it is a structure he likes. It looks very inclusive of different areas of the university where everyone can come share, talk, and work out what we need to do and he is very excited to be here working with the Senate.

Interim President Perez commented that It is hard to work at a place that does so many positive things and then read in the paper when something negative happens, which in this case involved some of our student athletes being harmed. That is not what we are here for and it took us too long to respond to that. We are here to support our students. That is our responsibility. We are going to acknowledge and look at what happened and then we are going to od

to that information and hold those

information about what is happening with the reports that are referenced. It just lists the reports.

B. Consent Calendar:

There was no dissent to the Consent Calendar of February 7, 2022.

C. Executive Committee Action Items:

Senate Endorsement of **SM**

reading. Senator Riley seconded the motion. **The Senate voted on the Frazier motion and it passed (39-0-5). The Senate voted and AS 1827 passed as written (37-0-4).**

D. University Library Board (ULB): No report.

E. Instruction and Student Affairs Committee (I&SA):

Senator Frazier presented ***AS 1826, Policy Recommendation, Student Excused Absence Policy (First Reading)***.

We are here to get as much feedback as we can from the Academic Senate. Feel free to send Senator Frazier any additional feedback via email. We did not fill in the Workload section at the end of the policy as we are still determining that. One person is also listed as being both present and absent and we will correct that.

Questions:

Q: [I&SA Chair Frazier] In an Executive Committee Meeting, Provost Del Casino noted that it is not permitted to ask a student for a doctor's note. Can you clarify this Provost Del Casino?

A: [Provost Del Casino] You can ask for a doctor's note as a faculty member, but you cannot ask for details to be included in the note. It can state the student had a medical reason to be out on such and such date, but the

included Senators Khan and Wilson. I'm thinking they might be able to answer whether that was discussed last semester?

A: [Senator Sen] I wanted to respond to Senator White's question about research conferences. We do have a bullet that says, "University-sanctioned leadership or academic conferences." I wonder if that would

Q: [Senator Peter] Could the committee be a little more specific about the reasons for the policy. I think it is well known that we don't have an attendance policy here. Is the problem that there are faculty that are refusing to let students make up the assignments they have missed due to an absence?

A: [Senator Sen] Thank you for this question. This is something we really discussed in the committee. Our student leaders were great advocates for the requirement of a policy, because there were faculty members that were not being as "kind" and students need something concrete they can take with them to talk to the faculty member.

A: [Senator Day] I think this is a great start to the policy. However, what I can tell you is that Student Health Centers (

us on the 18th. The CDO will be working with President Perez on meet and
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CSU has other funding needs. It is only the governor's proposal and will be followed by the May revise. Having come to an agreement on the contract will allow the CFA and the CSU Administration to jointly go to Sacramento to lobby for salary increases. Now, we come to the ugly. The ugly is our one-time allocations. We asked for \$1 billion to cover our deferred maintenance costs and so far the governor has only promised \$100 million. This sounds like so much money, but keep in mind the CSU has an identified need of \$23 billion in deferred maintenance costs. SJSU has deferred maintenance costs that total \$600 million for our campus alone. This is what I call the ugly part of the budget. Hopefully with lobbying we can convince the governor and the legislators to give us additional funding.

Questions

Q: [Senator Peter] You mentioned that the search committee for the new SJSU president has been formed and you are on it, I trust you mean that is the BOT's search committee and not the advisory committee for the selection of the president that has SJSU faculty on it?

A: [Trustee Sabalius] I mean the trustees that will be on the search committee were identified two weeks ago. The search committee will include a lot more than these four trustees. Typically, the search committee for a president includes the Chair of the Academic Senate and usually another faculty representative.

C: [Senator Peter] We have our own campus policy for selecting representatives. I hadn't heard that the committee was forming already.

A: [Trustee Sabalius] I stand corrected. Only the four trustees who will serve on the committee have been identified. We are still in the very early stages of forming the committee. SJSU will follow its own policy for the selection of members.

C: Trustee Sabalius welcomed the Interim President Steve Perez and said it was a good sign that Interim President Perez was still in the meeting until the very end.

A: Interim President Steve Perez thanked Senator Sabalius, but said he would have to leave a few minutes early to take another meeting.

C. CSU Statewide Academic Senators:

[Senator Curry] The ASCSU held its plenary on January 20-21, 2022 following the policy committee meetings on January 19, 2022. The highlight of this plenary was the theme of consideration of faculty roles and recognition of shared governance; decisions over teaching modalities from a pedagogical standpoint; the process of reprimands and letters of recommendation; and finally, the active support of faculty supervision of Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (RSCA) as assigned time and not a service based on the CBA.

D. Provost:

[Provost Del Casino] We have our accreditation review this spring. That includes a main campus visit plus two preliminary visits to two off-site locations; and for us this year that will be the Reid-Hillview Airport where we have our Aviation program, and Moss Landing Marine Labs. The two preliminary visits will be before the main campus visit during the first week of April 2022.

We have the campus master planning process going on

so we will be putting out a call for next year's group. We are talking about the N.Y. Times, the Washington Post, the L.A. Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, Latino Rebel, Ms. Magazine, Newsweek etc. It just spans the gamut. It is an absolutely incredible representation of our faculty and staff's work. It is a really exciting thing to report out on. VP Barerra put a link to all the publications you can go to so far. I was particularly tickled to see us tie Yale. We have amazing, brilliant people at SJSU and it is exciting to see them recognized with this work.

E. Associated Students President (AS):

[AS President Anoop Kaur] Happy Monday everyone. I want to take my time today as AS President to air out student concerns about the recent news across the system, and at SJSU in particular, regarding Title IX issues. It is a big concern to me that the student community often hears updates, like the one yesterday, from news and various media outlets rather than directly from the campus. The last campus-wide message was sent in September. There is a lot coming to light and as a student, not as AS President, my concern is the frequent turnover of administration and information coming to light after their departure to be inherited by the new administration. A big question on my mind is how do we know these issues are being prioritized with that changeover? In the past, communication about Title IX has been infrequent and the resource was and is not highlighted to the degree that I've seen at other campuses. On top of that, the information continues to put the campus in a negative light, which I'm sure we all do not want. It highlights the past in which the campus community as a whole had a complete mistrust of the Title IX Office and administrative oversight of Title IX cases. Based on this information of how the Title IX Office

A: [VP Faas] Of course it would. It impacts any of our statewide bonds. All of the projects that we have currently under construction are set. Those interest rates are 2+% so if you do some averaging we are okay, but it will be an issue coming up. We have greater than 2% built into all of our financial models when it comes to Ahlquist. The Ahlquist project will be a hard project to pull off, but it is happening on my watch. We are going to get this thing done. We will figure that out. I don't believe there will be a massive spike in interest rates, but we will see where that goes.

G. Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA):

We have a new director for our Asian Pacific Islander Desi-American (APID/A) Center. We are very excited about welcoming Jini Pradhan from the University of San Francisco. I think you had the opportunity to see her bio. We are very pleased and excited about what she has to bring to the table. Special shout out to Senator Yang. I cannot tell you how much Senator Yang has stepped up in the interim.

Under COVID compliance, we remain relatively safe. We have had some increase in cases due to Omicron, but that should not come as a surprise to anyone. We are still having some compliance issues. Of course, there are a few folks that we have had to have conversations with, but it is in the low three digits. This is an everyday process. It just happens behind the scenes.

A quick update about enrollment. We are up in almost all categories. It is a good place to be. I will tell you that for Fall 2022, we are up by 4,000 Frosh applications. However, the thing we remain concerned about is that we are down about 1,800 in our transfer applications. This is an ongoing concern. I can tell you that some of our partner colleges like De Anza, Evergreen, and San José City are facing double-digit declines in enrollment. This is where we are really going to have to work with our community colleges to get those transfer students.

There are concerning things happening across the state when it comes to financial aid. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applications are down by 200,000 across the state of California. This is a concerning

regard to Graduation Initiative (GI) 2025. I know it gets people nervous when we talk about that, but that is something we will be addressing. Specifically, they want us to address the gaps in opportunity across demographics. It will take a lot of work. I wanted to point this out because they are linked.

Also, please pay attention to upcoming legislation that is currently being redrafted on Cal Grant reform. It sounds great and it is great, but we should pay real attention to that in terms of actual implementation. We have to really try and work together to address this. res.