



Student Advocacy Committee
 2019-2020

Student Advocacy Committee Minutes 20-06

Friday, May 1st, 2020 2:30PM – 4:00PM

Meeting URL: <https://zoom.us/j/3333043024>

Posted on April 28th, 2020

Members

Michelle Tran
 Vice President of Student & University

Affairs
 Chair

Tim Pelayo
 CoBA Representative

Emily Borgeson
 CoBA Representative

Inique Wilson
 CHABSS Representative

Rylee Spencer
 CHABSS Representative

Shovan Vatandoust
 CHABSS Representative

Devon Kimbrough
 CHABSS Representative

Nick Lavelly
 CSM Representative

Arianna Camino
 CSM Representative

Keith Lin
 CEHHS Representative

Genesis Quezada
 CEHHS Representative

Eliese Holt
 Sustainability Representative

Gabby Garcia
 Diversity & Inclusion Representative

Vacant
 Diversity & Inclusion Representative

Vacant
 Veterans Representative

Advisors

Jason Schreiber
 Dean of Students

Ashley Fennell
 Assoc.. Director, Government Affairs &
 Initiatives

Standing Invitees

Dr. Annie Macias
 Executive Director

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
01	Call to Order This meeting was called to order at 2:42 P.M.	Michelle Tran Chair
02	Roll Call Present: Michelle, Tim, Emily, Rylee, Shovan, Devon, Nick, Eliese, Gabby, Genesis, Absent: Inique, Arianna, Advisors: Jason, Ashley, Annie	Michelle Tran Chair
03	Recognition of Guests Registration List will be used	Michelle Tran Chair
04 Action	Approval of Agenda Chair moved approval by consent vote None opposed Motion carried	Michelle Tran Chair
05 Action	Approval of Minutes Chair moved for approval by consent vote None opposed Motion carried	Michelle Tran Chair
06 Information	Open Forum Salma: talked about her concerns on a petition regarding student funds.	Michelle Tran Chair
07 Presentation	CARES Act Implications & Advocacy at CSUSM Description: Committee will receive a presentation on the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and its tentative implementation process at CSUSM Fiscal Impact: None Michelle reviews the 3 different funding opportunities. She also explains what the CARES act is. The CARE Act stands for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security. She then explained the CSU Care Program. Michelle discussed the total allocation within the CSU's campus. Michelle then talked about the CSUSM and CARES Act Proposal. She then explains into detail the different phases that go into the proposal. She goes into detail on the CSUSM funding opportunities and the guidelines that follow those procedures.	Michelle Tran VP Student & University Affairs
08 Discussion	COVID-19 Impact to Academic Experience & Advocacy Description: Committee members will discuss student-classroom barriers during virtual instruction and plan of outreach to faculty members Fiscal Impact: None Michelle explained to the board why this agenda item is on the agenda. She decides to open up the floor to the board to help with further conversations and discussions anyone might have. Gabby talked about her personal experiences within classes and trouble focusing in class. She also explains that the students that she has talked to as well are having a hard time. She then explains	Michelle Tran VP Student & University Affairs Jaelyn Freeman Chair & Chief of Staff

	<p>that there are just too many distractions on academic barriers. She then goes into that Professors have acknowledged empathizing with students and knowing that students are getting distracted, but professors are still giving workloads thinking it is helping solve the solution but it isn't.</p> <p>Rylee comments on the credit no credit. She then explains that students are still confused and she feels the board and CSUSM are just posting about the information and not giving further information. She then asked what can the board do to help.</p> <p>Eliese commented that she feels it is really important to still have conversations and on social media. She then stated that she feels it is their job to talk to their professors and try to find a mid-ground with them.</p> <p>Jaelyn commented they can try to talk to professors to help ease problems but there's only so much the board and students can do because, in the end, they have academic freedom.</p> <p>Gabby also comments on what Eliese said and agrees that information should try to shorten information for students. She then stated that professors are also feeling uneasy as well but she hasn't heard a lot about the grading system from her professors.</p> <p>Eliese asked if professors in the math or science department have taking precautions or have announced anything grading wise.</p> <p>Nick answers Eliese by stating that professors are being empathetic to students, having workload be less, and tests not being so heavy on students.</p> <p>Keith answers that he has not heard anything from any other students. He said that professors seem to still have the same expectations when it comes to classwork.</p> <p>Michelle then goes into stating the purpose of the action item and explaining students' concerns with the credit no credit. She then states that professors have academic freedom and they have the choice to either maintain or change their expectations.</p> <p>Rylee also mentions that the CHABBS Reps with the dean of their college and how they are encouraging students to do the credit no credit. She then stated that she had a coffee hour with her heads of the departments and that they have been reaching out to students, but students have not been getting feedback from students.</p> <p>Eliese also mentions that they should keep the faculty in mind and try to reach out with any concerns or questions to professors.</p>	
<p>09 Information</p>	<p>Standing Item: CSSA Report Description: Committee will receive a report on the April CSSA plenary Fiscal Impact: None</p> <p>Kenny announces that Ashley will be sending out a link to the meeting in the zoom chat for the board to watch.</p> <p>Kenny goes into detail on the bills and acts that were reviewed or approved during the meeting. He then explains that any of the acts that were approved goes to the board for further discussions.</p>	<p>Michelle Tran VP Student & University Affairs</p> <p>Kenny Tran President</p>

	Michelle adds that since the meetings are virtual that anyone is welcome to join the CSSA meetings.	
10 Information	<p>Announcements</p> <p>Michelle announces that this is her last SAC meeting since being on the board for 2 or 3 years. She explains that she extends her gratitude to the board for being on top of everything.</p> <p>Jason announced that he was able to get a grant and encourages students to contact the Cougar Care Network for additional help with any needs.</p> <p>Rylee announces that she is thankful for Michelle's time as being chair for the board.</p>	Michelle Tran Chair
11 Action	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>This meeting is adjourned at 3:38 P.M at the will of the Chair.</p>	Michelle Tran Chair



Financial Relief due to COVID-19

Funding Opportunities

1. **CARES Act and CSU Cares Program**
2. **CSUSM Student Relief Fund**
3. **ASI Student Emergency Fund**



CARES Act

What is the CARES Act?

- On March 27th HR 748 the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
- Included \$30.75 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund to go to K-12 and higher education
- \$13.95 billion goes directly to institutions of higher education
- At least 50% of their allocation must go to emergency grants for students which can be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance
- Department of Education established a funding formula such that 75% is based on Pell recipient FTE and 25% on non-pell recipient FTE



CSU Cares Program

- **Through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) granted by the CARES Act, all CSU campuses were allocated \$525 million, with \$262 million directly distributed to student emergency grants**
- **Grant awards provided by HEERF dollars will not count against student's future financial aid award**
- **All currently enrolled CSU undergraduate, graduate and professional students who are eligible to receive federal aid and were not enrolled in a completely online program as of March 13, 2020 may qualify for funding**
- **CARES Act funding does NOT apply to international students and DACA students at the federal level**



**The California
State University**

Campus	Total Allocation	Minimum Allocation for Emergency Grants
Bakersfield	\$13,588,942	\$6,794,471
Channel Islands	\$8,580,009	\$4,290,005
Chico	\$19,959,391	\$9,979,696
Dominguez Hills	\$18,481,277	\$9,240,639
East Bay	\$14,617,347	\$7,308,674
Fresno	\$32,802,107	\$16,401,054
Fullerton	\$41,021,512	\$20,510,756
Humboldt	\$10,302,998	\$5,151,499
Long Beach	\$41,729,439	\$20,864,720
Los Angeles	\$37,914,166	\$18,957,083
Maritime	\$977,757	\$488,879
Monterey Bay	\$8,459,727	\$4,229,864
Northridge	\$44,652,328	\$22,326,164
Pomona	\$30,904,089	\$15,452,045
Sacramento	\$35,734,362	\$17,867,181
San Bernardino	\$26,243,781	\$13,121,891
San Diego	\$29,394,934	\$14,697,467
San Francisco	\$28,725,948	\$14,362,974
San Jose	\$28,769,546	\$14,384,773
San Luis Obispo	\$14,095,976	\$7,047,988
San Marcos	\$15,963,036	\$7,981,518
Sonoma	\$9,093,447	\$4,546,724
Stanislaus	\$13,314,715	\$6,657,358
Total:	\$525,326,834	\$262,663,417

CSUSM & CARES Act Proposal

- **Phase 1: automatic awards to students with an EFC of \$0-\$4000 & received aid this year. \$1,000 for FTE and \$500 for PT**
 - # of FTE students: 5,288
 - # of PT students: 806
 - Total expenditure: \$5,692,000
- **Phase 2: automatic awards to students with an EFC of \$4,001+ & received aid this year. \$500 for FTE and \$250 for PT**
 - # of FTE students: 2,402
 - # of PT students: 462
 - Total expenditure: \$1,316,500
- **Phase 3: remaining fund balance will be open to students who are FAFSA eligible. Depending on the number of applications, FT students could be eligible for \$300 while part time \$200**
 - Remaining balance: \$973,018
 - # of total students: 3,250



CSUSM Funding Opportunities

- **With the given CARES Act guidelines, the Student Relief Fund will mainly target financial assistance for students who are ineligible**
 - **DACA/undocumented students**
 - **International students**
 - **Students who don't have a FAFSA on file**
- **ASI Student Emergency Fund**
 - **# of students served due to COVID-19: 320**
 - **Areas in ASI Budget that have been reallocated to SEF**
 - **Programming, Over-enrollment funds, leftover balances from the Board of Directors and Campus Activities Board**



Questions?



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
CAL STATE SAN MARCOS

1 **ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE - APRIL 8, 2020 – PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

2
3 **RATIONALE:** *The COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to remote instruction at CSUSM have presented*
4 *students, faculty, student services administrators, and staff with unprecedented challenges and*
5 *questions regarding the mentoring of our students, the delivery of course content, the assignment of*
6 *course grades, and the fulfillment of graduation requirements. The resolution presents a temporary*
7 *humane approach to modifying key university policies that takes into account the sudden and broad*
8 *disruptions caused by the pandemic.*

9
10 *The CSU Office of the Chancellor responded to the COVID-19 disruptions by offering system-wide*
11 *guidance on the revision of grading policies (“California State University Grading Policy Considerations,*
12 *Response to COVID-19 Disruptions, March 25, 2020”) and grading and admission standards for incoming*
13 *transfer students from community colleges (“COVID-19 Interim Impacts on CSU Undergraduate*
14 *Admissions Policies and Practices,” March 31, 2020). In particular, community college students have*
15 *already been informed that they may apply courses taken in winter, spring, and summer 2020 for which*
16 *a grade of CR was earned to any and all General Education and major prerequisite requirements. To*
17 *maintain an equitable application of grading standards, currently enrolled students at CSUSM will also*
18 *be allowed to apply lower-division courses taken this semester at CSUSM for which a grade of CR is*
19 *earned to these requirements.*

20
21 *In order to provide campus-specific guidance on CSU and CSUSM grading policies, the Academic Policy*
22 *Committee (APC) of the CSUSM Academic Senate consulted with students, faculty, staff, administrators,*
23 *and Academic Senate committee chairs and prepared this Resolution to temporarily modify the following*
24 *university policies:*

- 25
26 *APC 160-99 “Grading Symbols”*
27 *GEC 743-90 “Credit/No Credit Grade Option for General Education Courses”*
28 *APC 336-08 “Withdrawal”*
29 *APC 309-06 “Course Repeat and GPA Adjustment”*
30 *APC 236-02 “Undergraduate Probation, Disqualification, and Reinstatement Policies”*
31 *APC 237-02 “Graduate Probation, Disqualification, and Reinstatement Policies”*
32 *APC 381-11 “Independent Study, Research, and Internship Courses”*
33 *APC 245-02 “Service Learning”*
34 *SAC 714-15 “Student Internships”*

35 *In drafting this Resolution, APC has sought every means possible of promoting our students' academic*
36 *achievement and their progress to graduation. We hope that these policy changes alleviate some of*
37 *their uncertainties and expand their academic options in the current crisis.*

38 -----
39 **PROPOSED RESOLUTION: ACADEMIC SENATE - CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS**

40
41 **Temporary Modification of Academic Policies due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

42
43 **RESOLVED,** that the following changes shall be implemented regarding graded classes at
44 California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) for the Spring 2020 semester:
45

46 1. Through May 1, 2020, undergraduate and graduate students can change the grading basis
47 of any graded lower-division course to Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) grading. A student who
48 chooses to elect CR/NC through May 1, 2020 cannot normally revert to a letter grade at a
49 later date;

50
51 2. After grades have been posted in late May 2020 (the Office of the Registrar will announce
52 the posting date on its website), undergraduate students can petition to the Registrar to
53 request a graded upper-division course be changed to CR/NC grading. For undergraduate
54 students graduating after December 31, 2020, the deadline to file this petition is December
55 31, 2020. For undergraduate students graduating before December 31, 2020, the deadlines
56 will be posted by the Office of the Registrar;

57
58 3. After grades have been posted in late May 2020 (the Office of the Registrar will
59 announce the posting date on its website), the Registrar will adjust the effective grading
60 basis from a letter grade to A-C/NC for undergraduate students who it is believed would
61 benefit from a change to a grade of NC while allowing students whose grade was converted
62 to an NC the opportunity until December 31, 2020 to petition for restoration of the original
63 grade;

64
65 4. After the Office of the Registrar has posted grades in late May 2020, undergraduate and
66 graduate students can petition to the Registrar for a grade change from the time their grade
67 is posted through December 31, 2020 to convert a posted letter grade to CR/NC; and be it
68 further

69
70 **RESOLVED**, that courses taken under the CR/NC option in Spring 2020 will not be counted
71 toward either the current 9-unit limit or (upon administration acceptance of the APC 160-99
72 revision passed by the Academic Senate on November 20, 2019) the 15-unit limit on courses
73 taken under the CR/NC option and applied toward an undergraduate degree; and be it further

74
75 **RESOLVED**, that the Academic Senate endorse the suspension of GEC 743-90 for the Spring
76 2020 semester, which prohibits the assignment of CR/NC grades in GE courses; and be it further

77 **RESOLVED**, that departments and programs accept CR grades for all lower division major and
78 minor prerequisite courses taken during the Spring 2020 semester; and be it further

79
80 **RESOLVED**, that departments and programs be asked to consider whether CR grades in upper-
81 division and graduate courses taken during the Spring 2020 semester will be allowed to meet
82 requirements for majors, minors and graduate programs and that, by Friday, May 8, 2020
83 departments and programs provide a list of such courses for each major, minor, and graduate
84 program to Academic Programs, which will compile and post these lists on its website by
85 Monday, May 18, 2020; and be it further.

86

87 **RESOLVED**, that a blanket exception be granted to all students enrolled in the Spring 2020
88 semester to exceed the 18-unit limit on withdrawals (for withdrawals taken after census
89 [February 17, 2020]) ; and be it further

90
91 **RESOLVED**, that all faculty, University College Deans (or their designees), the Dean of
92 Undergraduate Studies (or designee), the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designee), and
93 Department Chairs are urged to adopt the broadest possible interpretation of the “serious and
94 compelling reasons” described by APC 336-08 in the issuance of regular withdrawals
95 (withdrawals after the Add/Drop deadline); and be it further

96
97 **RESOLVED**, that Section I. B. of APC 336-08, instructing that Retroactive Withdrawals
98 (withdrawals after the twelfth week of the semester) be “seldom granted,” be suspended; and
99 be it further

100
101 **RESOLVED**, that all faculty, University College Deans (or their designees), the Dean of
102 Undergraduate Studies (or designee), the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designee), and
103 Department Chairs are urged to be as flexible and accommodating as possible in considering
104 requests for Retroactive Withdrawals, adopting the broadest possible interpretation of the
105 criteria for granting such; and be it further

106
107 **RESOLVED**, that all faculty, University College Deans (or their designees), the Dean of
108 Undergraduate Studies (or designee), the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designee), and
109 Department Chairs are urged to meet with students seeking withdrawals in a remote, yet
110 synchronous, format (i.e. – Zoom, MS Teams, Skype, or cell phone, among others); and that in
111 conducting these conversations, faculty and administrators will serve an advisory role by
112 confidentially reviewing students’ reasons for pursuing a withdrawal(s), and urging students to
113 meet with the Dean of Undergraduate Studies (or designee), Dean of Graduate Studies (or
114 designee), Veterans Services, International Student Services, the Financial Aid Office, Office of
115 the Registrar, and other relevant administrative resources at CSUSM to ensure that any
116 withdrawals do not jeopardize their academic and financial aid status; and that the Cougar Care
117 Network should be contacted if students indicate that personal, academic, financial, or other
118 challenges are adversely affecting their academic progress; and be it further

119 **RESOLVED**, that faculty are urged to submit WU grades only for those students who stopped
120 attending prior to census, and that the last date of attendance be updated for any WU grades
121 submitted in order to prevent financial harm to students who did attend classes; and be it
122 further,

123
124 **RESOLVED**, that students of any academic standing at the end of the Spring 2020 semester
125 (except in cases where there has been a finding of a violation of the Student Code of Conduct)
126 may petition to exceed the 16-unit limit for Course Repeats for Grade Forgiveness, to exceed
127 the 12-unit limit on Course Repeats for Grade Averaging, and to bypass the prohibition against

128 the repetition of lower-division courses for a third repeat and/or beyond the 12-units repeated
129 for Grade Averaging; and be it further

130 **RESOLVED**, that Sections VIII and X of APC 236-02 shall be suspended for the Spring 2020
131 Semester and that students who are currently on academic probation this Spring 2020
132 semester be allowed to continue on probation for an additional semester; and be it further,

133 **RESOLVED**, that Section IIC of APC 236-07 shall be suspended for the Spring 2020 semester; and
134 that graduate program coordinators and the Dean of Graduate Studies exercise flexibility and
135 accommodation in evaluating graduate students on probation during the Spring 2020 semester
136 or in danger of disqualification due to poor academic performance during the Spring 2020
137 semester; and be it further,

138 **RESOLVED**, that the individual contracts and Learning Agreements in place for the Spring 2020
139 semester be modified at the discretion of the signatories; and be it further

140 **RESOLVED**, that instructors document changes to and restrictions of individual contracts and
141 Learning Agreements to students and community partners in writing via e-mail; and be it
142 further

143 **RESOLVED**, that students fulfill the terms of their modified individual contracts and Learning
144 Agreements for Independent Study, Internships, and Service Learning courses, to the greatest
145 extent possible, via remote delivery formats; and be it further

146 **RESOLVED**, that instructors give strong consideration for students scheduled to graduate in
147 May 2020 to receive a grade or credit, rather than an *Incomplete* or *I*, for any and all courses,
148 including Independent Study, Internships, and Service Learning courses, for which an “I” grade
149 would prevent their graduation in Spring 2020; and be it further

150 **RESOLVED**, that the Academic Senate request that the Office of the Registrar create a transcript
151 note indicating that grades reported for the Spring 2020 may reflect the impact of the COVID-
152 19 pandemic and the abrupt, mid-semester transition to remote learning on the student
153 learning experience and academic performance; and be it further

154
155 **RESOLVED**, that faculty, students, staff, and administrators recognize that these changes to
156 campus grading policies will substantially increase the workload of student services offices and
157 may create delays in the provision of student services; and be it further

158
159 **RESOLVED**, that changes to campus grading policies resulting from the COVID-19 crisis be
160 communicated to the entire campus community via e-mail and published on the webpages of
161 the Office of the Registrar, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dean of Graduate Studies,
162 Associated Students, Inc., and the CSUSM Coronavirus (COVID-19) webpage.

163