



Legislation & Advocacy Committee

October 12, 2020

5:00 - 6:00 pm

Present: Debbie Klein, Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, Bob Stockwell, Joseph Bielanski, Ruby Christian-Brougham, Oranit Limmaneeprasert, Mary Erin-Crook, Kathy Holland, Joshua Wentz, Sarah Thompson, Masahiro Omae

Notes

1. Welcome

Stephanie had her baby! She'll be back on January 4, 2021.

2. Changes to staffing committee

Debbie will be staff for next few months. Probably will not meet in December. Next meeting will be on November 9. We hope to be celebrating by then!

3. Update on Prop 15 advocacy efforts

- We're the Legislative & Advocacy Committee. The "A" is back!
- Oranit's report
 - 3 FACCTS pieces are out.
 - Props 15 & 16 advocacy has been going well.
 - Rally at Capitol on Prop 16 today, Oranit was quoted.
- Bob's report
 - We should unnest the advocacy pieces in FACCTS.
 - Student interns have done over 50 classroom presentations.
 - Over 300 recruits through phone and text banking.
 - Bob's students do 12 hours of Civic Engagement work during this election cycle.
 - Voter registration and national election work: invites this group to help.
 - FACCC is supporting student interns at De Anza College & LA CCD.
 - Post carding is also happening!
- Wendy posted FACCC volunteers form in chat to encourage committee to join:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSduSixMabretivweCUbz3GlzPpR-WVDcwqMQOVxh62Z9SM78A/viewform>.

4. Review 2021 priorities

a. On-going priorities

- Revenue

1. Billionaire and millionaire tax increases
2. Tax credit reform
 - a. From 1980s, 90s that should no longer be there
3. Defund Calbright
- AB 897/SB 777 Reboot
 - a. CFT will sponsor AB 897 and FACCC will co-sponsor.
 - b. CTA lawyers are arguing against it. CCA/CTA members should assert themselves.

Bill rankings approved by the FACCC Board

Statewide healthcare pool for part-time faculty

- This idea would have to be realized through the state budget process as opposed to the legislative process

AB 1725 Reboot – Strengthening shared governance and academic freedom

- The FACCC Leg Committee needs to identify specific bill ideas

Student housing and basic needs coordinator for each campus

- Identify the author and possible co-sponsors

Defining/clarifying public participation in virtual meetings under the Brown Act or Bagley Keene Act

- The FACCC Leg Committee needs to identify specific bill ideas

Social Security as an option for retirement for part-time faculty at all districts

- Identify the author and possible co-sponsors: Stephanie or Evan will do this.

5. Discussion: from idea to realization

- a. Staff bandwidth
 - We're a small organization, so we can only do a few bills per year.
 - We can find co-sponsors for bills.
- b. Tough budget year
 - Bills costing tons of money will probably not make it through.
- c. Discussion of specific legislative ideas

AB 1725 Reboot

- Could be difficult on the shared governance side.
- Should we reprioritize given the conditions?
- Putting non-voting faculty member on Boards of Trustees could be great. Could they have an advisory vote?
- Not all colleges have the senate/union leadership on board agendas with rights to speak each time. This could be identified as a best practice.
- SSCCC pursued a bill getting student on boards last year and might again.
- Part-time tenure, we could do something for part-time faculty that's important.
- Certain things in the original law could be brought back.
- We should partner with ASCCC.

Coordinator position for student housing & basic needs

- Could a coordinator position become an unfunded mandate? Chabot Las Positas is laying off lots of part-time faculty and classified professionals, for example.
- SSCCC might support the coordinator idea.
- Wouldn't have to be an additional person. Some campuses already have this position.

Public Participation in Public Meetings

- It's a democratic right to participate. Could we define what is appropriate for public comment in the zoom world?
- BOG example: staff reading public comments has been ineffective. Epstein violates Bagley Keene by asking staff to summarize and silencing faculty who are speaking on the same issue.
- Fix: allowing public commenters to zoom in with their face and voice?
- Does this need to be legislated? Are these groups breaking the law? How could we hold these groups to account?
- The public comment process should mirror real life. We shouldn't have to provide a written comment in advance.
- Ex. Chancellor's Office legal council intervened in public comments well ahead of the BOG meeting and successfully persuaded groups to change their comments.
- There's a need to standardize the rules for public comments across the colleges and organizations.
- Our faculty rights are being trampled upon by groups with big-money interests. Ex. STRS folks trying to figure out how FACCC board members voted in order to blame individuals.

Next Steps

Research group volunteers: Wendy, Debbie, Masa
Charge: Look at which of these ideas are doable.