



THE LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

APRIL 9, 2007

ON THE WEB: WWW.CCLEAGUE.ORG/LEGINFO/LEGUPDATE/

IN THIS UPDATE:

Legislature Begins to Hear Bills	1
Community College Initiative	2
CPEC Advisory Committee on Rural Access to Meet April 27	2
Master Plan for K-University	2
Secretary of Education Appointed	2
CPEC Appointment	3
Board of Governors' Appointment	3
Reports Published This Month	3
Staffing Changes	4

Legislature Begins to Hear Bills

The Assembly Committee on Higher Education passed AB 1409 (Portantino) which would expand authorization for community colleges to offer concurrent enrollment classes to high school students for advanced scholastic, career-technical, vocational, or summer school classes, remediation, English as a second language, basic skills remediation, or dropout intervention and delete the 5% limit on summer school classes (except for physical education.) (Position: Support)

The Senate Education and Assembly Higher Education Committees are holding hearings in April on several bills of importance to community colleges including:

- AB 591 (Dymally) would require comparable pay and benefits to non-tenure track temporary faculty, and require that a district hire at least 50% of its full-time tenure-track faculty from the pool of temporary non-tenure track faculty. (Position: Oppose.) Hearing: ACHE, 4/17

- AB 906 (Eng) would require the COCCC to conduct random audits of 5 community college districts annually to “encourage” compliance with the 50% Law. (Position: Oppose) Hearing: ACHE, 4/17

- AB 1168 (Jones) would require colleges to truncate social security numbers so no more than the last four digits are displayed and requires reimbursement of costs. (Position: Support if amended to allow time for changing computer systems.) Hearing: ACHE, 4/10

- AB 1305 (Chas Calderon) would require each community college district to allocate reserve funds above 5% of the proposed expenditures for the current FY toward the employment of FT faculty require that, by 12/31/2012, each district must have at least 75% of its hours of credit instruction taught by FT instructors and would prohibit the BOG from waiving this requirement. (Position: Oppose) Hearing: ACHE, 4/17

- SB 268 (McClintock) would repeal the “AB 540” provisions. (Position: Oppose) Hearing: Senate Ed, 4/11

- SB 325 (Scott) would establish an accountability framework for all segments of higher education. (Position: Oppose unless amended to delete CPEC and limit community college requirements to the current AB 1417 framework.) Senate Ed, 4/11

- SB 413 (Scott) would waive open course requirements for classes in correctional facilities and allow ccs to receive credit apportionment at the marginal rate for those students. (Position: Support) Senate Ed, 4/11

- SB 614 (Simitian) would expand the “design/build” authority for facilities over \$2M to all community college districts and repeal the sunset date of January 2010. (Position: Support) Senate Ed, 4/11

Community College Initiative

The qualification of the community college ballot initiative for the February 2008 primary election will require a "full count" of signatures gathered. It was hoped the initiative would qualify based on a statistical sample, but a number of duplicate signatures in Los Angeles County has made a full count necessary. The Californians for Improving Community Colleges (CICC) are confident that, once the full count is completed, the initiative will garner roughly 644,000 of the 598,000 signatures needed to qualify. It is anticipated the initiative will qualify between April 20th and May 1st 2007.

In conjunction with CICC, the League is working with Robert Turnage, consultant for MGT, to compare “out-year” Proposition 98 projections under existing law and the proposed ballot initiative. This information will first be shared with the CICC and then with other community college district stakeholders once the initiative qualifies.

CPEC Advisory Committee on Rural Access to Meet April 27

The Advisory Committee on Rural Access established by CPEC is scheduled to meet April 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at CPEC’s offices in Sacramento. The discussion will center around the draft report that staff compiled for the Commission’s last meeting. The two proposals which staff is placing before the Committee are: 1) Reduce the student threshold for off-campus operations in rural and remote areas and/or reduce the threshold standard for community colleges to that of UC and CSU which must prepare detailed enrollment projections validating that any proposed center would likely enroll 500 FTE students during the first fall term of operation, with the projection approved by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance; and 2) Recommend that the Board of Governors encourage districts to: (a) establish lower course enrollment thresholds for capstone courses offered at off-campus centers; and outreach operations in rural and remote areas.

Master Plan for K-University

The Office of the Education Master Plan (OEMP), a privately-funded organization, indicates in its April newsletter that “A joint legislative committee potentially chaired by Senator Joe Simitian will be formed in 2008 to conduct the first review of the state’s pre-K through University Master Plan for Education, if the legislature continues its tradition of 10-year education plan reviews.” Staff of the OEMP, who served as staff for the last Master Plan review, also expressed their “hope that the review process will add momentum to implementation efforts.”

Secretary of Education appointed

Governor Schwarzenegger has appointed David Long, superintendent of schools for Riverside County, as the new Secretary of Education. Dr. Long has served as superintendent since 1999, and previously held positions as athletic director, coach, principal, and superintendent at various districts in Iowa and southern California. He has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in physical education and a Ph.D. in educational administration.

CPEC Appointment

H.E. (Erik) Schockman, president of the non-profit public foundation, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, since 2000, has been appointed to CPEC by Governor Schwarzenegger. Mr. Schockman previously served as associate dean and associate professor in the political science department at the University of Southern California and prior to that as executive director of the Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute for Public Affairs.

Board of Governors' Appointment

➤ J. Alfred Smith Sr., Senior Pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, 75, has been appointed to the CCC Board of Governors by Governor Schwarzenegger. Smith is registered as "decline to state."

➤ Kay Albiani, a Democrat whose term had expired, has been re-appointed to the Board of Governors for another four-year term.

Reports Published This Month:

Strategies for Improving Student Success in Postsecondary Education, Arthur M. Hauptman. WICHE, January 2007.

This study considers two issues: 1) Why the US has done so much better at achieving high levels of access than in promoting student readiness and success; and 2) Why equity gaps throughout postsecondary education have proven so difficult to close over a prolonged period of time. In response, the paper suggests that: funding and policy priorities favor access over readiness and success; federal and state policies are not well-targeted toward low-income students; and there is a disconnect between policy design, implementation, and effect.

As a consequence, this paper then suggests that state policymakers should: increase funding of early intervention program for at-risk students; include more stringent preparation requirements as part of eligibility for state need-based student aid programs; target student aid funds more toward students from low-income families and other traditionally underrepresented groups of students; and pay institutions for the number of Pell Grant recipients who finish a year of study, transfer, or complete a degree.

➤ *The Effect of Student Goals on Community College Performance Measures*, Thomas Bailey, Davis Jenkins, and D. Timothy Leinbach. Community College. Community College Research Center, Number 33, March 2007.

This study analyzed the extent to which community college students' reasons for enrolling and their educational goals and expectations influenced their outcomes. Among the findings are that student expectations and goals are not stable, but are the product of social processes that interact with the factors that determine college outcomes. Thus, student expectations change as they solidify their understanding of their interests and capabilities or as the colleges provide counseling, career planning or good teaching that inspires students to gain confidence and change their goals. The analysis also revealed gaps in student attainment even after accounting for different students' reasons for enrolling: Black students and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds were less likely than white or higher income students to complete degrees. They found that student goals were quite fluid and that colleges and researchers should consider this when examining the relationship between student goals and outcomes

➤ *California Community Colleges: Making Them Stronger and More Affordable*, William Zumeta and Deborah Frankle. National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, March 2007.

This report notes that non-fee costs, including books, housing and health care, comprise 95% of the cost of attending a community college, and have grown much more rapidly than the state's general cost of living in recent years; therefore, the assumption that "keeping community college

fees low will, in itself, provide student access is incorrect.” The report suggests that increasing financial aid (both through Pell Grants and Cal Grants) is the “only effective way to deal with the non-fee costs that are the primary cause of affordability problems for California community college students, more of whom have very low incomes than is generally true in other states.”

This report then suggests that community college fees be adjusted by a cost-of-living factor to avoid sudden increases.

Staffing Changes:

- Ed Valeau, superintendent/president of Hartnell College since 1995, has announced that he will retire at the end of the fiscal year.
- Judy Minor, vice president of instruction at DeAnza College, has been appointed president of Foothill College, beginning July 2007.