



THE LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Legislation

The end of May concluded with action by the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees on their respective “suspense file,” where bills with estimated price tags over \$100,000 were held for prioritization. May 28th was the deadline for fiscal committees to hear and move bills introduced in their house of origin to the respective floors.

The following bills were not released from the respective “suspense file” of their “house of origin.”

- Senate bills: SB 1126 (Liu) Early childhood education, transfer courses;
- SB 1376 (Romero) CTE: pre-apprenticeship aerospace machining program; and
- Assembly: AB 1761 (Fong) Cal Grant B awards: Award amount;
- AB 1807 (Fong) Part-time faculty rehire and preference rights;
- AB 1903 (Fong) Workforce and economic development;
- AB 2159 (Anderson) National Guard, residency classification;
- AB 2447 (Furutani) Cal Grant program, inflation adjustments.

SB 1143 (Liu) - Community College Funding: completion rates - As proposed, this legislation would virtually rewrite the landmark community college funding formula reform created by SB 361 (Scott) and approved by the Governor in 2006. SB 361 reformed the CC funding formula to ensure the baseline apportionment funding for each district would be equalized, rather than continue with historical disparities. SB 1143 proposed to dismantle SB 361, resulting in “winners and losers” with some districts losing millions when funds are shifted to other districts. SB 1143, opposed by virtually every community college organization and Chancellor Scott, received no “No” votes in the Senate Education and Appropriations Committee. However, following intense action on the part of community college advocates and local districts, the bill

failed on the Senate Floor (19-8) before reconsideration was granted for the following legislative day. With momentum on the side of community colleges, leverage was gained to force concessions from Senator Liu to work with community college representatives to change the direction of the bill. The following day, the bill finally passed the Senate (22-10), but only after intense negotiations among several senators who insisted Senator Liu works with the community colleges to address the opposition and concerns. Chancellor Scott and League representatives made it clear that SB 1143 could be implemented without new resources.

SB 1440 (Padilla) – the student transfer bill – passed the Senate unanimously because of all the hard work that colleges provided with writing letters to the Legislature voicing their support of this bill.

The following bills were dropped for this year:

- **AB 2109 (Ruskin)** which would have made all legislation regarding state agencies inapplicable to the Chancellor’s Office unless the legislation expressly provided that it applied to the community colleges and would have authorized the BOG to appoint a person without permanent civil service status to a career executive assignment if the individual has 5 years experience at a cc or similar occupation. (The purpose was to open the vice chancellor positions to local cc administrators and to prevent the COCCC from taking cuts when “state agencies” are cut.) The bill was dropped due to strong opposition from SEIU.
- **AB 2400 (Block)** which would have allowed three community college districts to enter into a pilot program to award the BA degree in fields of unmet workforce needs when there is no space available at nearby public postsecondary educational institutions. This bill was held in committee.

Joint Committee to Review the Master Plan for Higher Education (MPHE)

The MPHE Committee held two brief public discussions on May 4th and May 26th. On May 4th, the Committee reviewed a brief (3-1/2 page) paper and discussed “next steps.” During the meeting, half (10 out of 20) the members appeared at some time, and each was asked to discuss his/her reaction to the paper. Since there was relatively little overlap in the times that members were in the room, there was a limited amount of dialogue; it was more common for each member to state his/her interests in order of his/her appearance at the meeting.

Members were informed that they were not allowed a private meeting, nor could a joint committee introduce bills. However, they agreed that each would consider supporting or co-sponsoring the bills of other members (SB 1440/Padilla on transfer; AB 218 on accountability) and Member Ruskin indicated that he intended to insert the contents of the brief report into intent language in his AB 1901, which was approved by the Assembly last week.

At the May 26th meeting, Chair Ruskin indicated that the meeting’s goal would be to establish work groups to meet over the next 3 -4 weeks to consider and recommend possible options in each of three areas. The committees and members are as follows:

- Transfer including statewide transfer degree, articulation, and common course numbering -- (Nielsen);
- Accountability, coordination, and statewide goals – Liu (Chair) and Block;

- Workforce development and jobs (including workforce strategic plan, adult basic skills, articulation and partnership with business and higher education) – Negrete-McLeod and Conway.

Presumably, additional members will be added to each, but the assigned members were some of those present at the hearing. Members Hancock and Portantino believed that the committee should support the bills already before the Legislature and Hancock sought a subgroup on financial aid and affordability including fees, while Portantino requested that the topics of concurrent enrollment and articulation between K-12 and higher education be added; Ruskin asked Portantino to draft a paragraph on that issue.

Master Plan Website

Upon his retirement from the legislators, John Vasconcellos sponsored a program called “The Politics of Trust” to keep alive many of the ideas which were prominent during his time in the Legislature. That group has provided a link to an excellent website that reflects the history and future of California's higher education system, as created by the Center for Studies in Higher Education:

http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/uchistory/archives_exhibits/masterplan/mpat50.

This website focuses on the past and future of the Master Plan on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, including access to historical documents (including the original 1960 Master Plan), legislation and constitutional amendments, links to current policy reports, blogs, and opinion pieces on the future of California's Higher Education system. This material is available for scholars and other interested parties to review and join in on the dialogue around the future of higher education in California.

Conference Committee on the State Budget

On June 4th, the Conference Committee on the State Budget, charged with reconciling the differences between the Assembly and Senate spending plans, began to meet. The Conference Committee members this year include:

- Assembly Members Bob Blumenfield (D-Van Nuys), Felipe Fuentes (D-Los Angeles), Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley), Connie Conway (R-Visalia), and Jim Nielsen (R-Biggs);
- Senators Denise Moreno Ducheny (Chair) (D-San Diego), Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach), Bob Dutton (R-Rancho Cucamonga), Bob Huff (R-Diamond Bar).

The League sent a letter (<http://www.ccleague.net/updates/conferencecommittee-201011.doc>) to the members of the Conference Committee. The letter thanks them for their leadership and willingness to serve on the 2010-11 Conference Committee and indicates that we look forward to working with the committee to ensure that our community colleges are positioned to support economic recovery and job retraining so that California's best days lie ahead.

Capitol Days

The League is bringing back the popular Capitol Days lobbying effort for this year's budget fight. We encourage each college to send a team to Sacramento for either of the two days. An ideal team includes, at minimum, a trustee, college president, a faculty member, a classified staff member and a student. If you can't assemble a team, we welcome individual participants as well, and will assign you to a team.

Each day, we will convene at a Capitol-area hotel or meeting room, provide morning coffee and a briefing, and then send you to the Capitol. We will provide you with an orientation and materials and assist you in scheduling appointments with your own legislators, key budget legislators and staff members.

Capitol Days Dates:

- Tuesday, June 22, 2010
- Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Register at:

<http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/forms/form.cfm?id=27>

Two California Community College Administrators named to New Committee on Measures of Student Success

US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has appointed 15 members (including Patrick Perry, vice chancellor for technology, research and information systems, CCC Chancellor's Office and Linda Thor, chancellor of Foothill/DeAnza CCD) to serve on the Committee on Measures of Student Success (CMSS). This is a committee created by the Higher Education Opportunity Act which will develop recommendations for two-year degree-granting institutions of higher education to comply with the law's graduation and completion rate disclosure requirements. The committee will also develop recommendations regarding additional or alternate measures of student success that are comparable alternatives to completion or graduation rates, given the missions and roles of two-year colleges.

Among the other members appointed by the Secretary of Education in consultation with the Commissioner of Education Statistics are the following:

- Thomas Bailey (chair), director of Teachers' College's Community Research Center
- Margarita Benitez, director of Higher Education, Ed Trust, Washington, D.C.
- Wayne Burton, of Durham, N.H.; president, North Shore Community College, Danvers, Mass.
- Kevin Carey, policy director, Education Sector, Washington, D.C.
- Alisa Federico Cunningham, vice president, Institute for Higher Education Policy, Washington, D.C.
- Jacob Fraire, assistant vice president, Educational Alliances, Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, Austin, Texas
- Isabel Friedman, student, University of Pennsylvania, Phila., Pa.
- Millie Garcia, president, California State University at Dominguez, Calif.
- Sharon Kristovich, higher education consultant, Champaign, Ill.
- Harold Levy, managing director, Palm Ventures, New York, N.Y., and former chancellor of New York City Public Schools

- Geri Palast, executive director, Campaign for Fiscal Equity, New York, N.Y.
- Lashawn Richburg-Hayes, deputy director, MDRC, New York, N.Y.
- Belle Wheelan, president, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' Commission on Colleges, Decatur, Ga.

Meetings of the Committee will be announced in the Federal Register and open to the public. The Committee will submit its recommendations to the Secretary no later than 18 months from the date of its first meeting; all members have been appointed for terms ending Dec. 31, 2011. A notice will be posted in the Federal Register about the first CMSS meeting, which is expected to be scheduled in the fall.

Evaluation of Student Success Efforts

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is funding a new study of Washington State's Student Achievement Initiative (SAI). The study, which will be conducted by the Community College Research Center (CCRC) at Columbia University and the Institute for Higher Education Leadership and Policy at CSU Sacramento will evaluate this Initiative, which is a performance funding policy that draws on intermediate measures of student progress, and is intended to determine the lessons which can be drawn for those in other states (including California) who are considering adopting performance incentive policies for community colleges. The study will include data analysis and extensive interviews with faculty and staff at 17 of Washington State's 34 community and technical colleges to determine SAI's impact on efforts to improve student outcomes. IHELP researchers will also interview policymakers in Washington and three other states that are interested in adopting a performance incentive policy similar to Washington's. This study is of particular interest to California because elements within the SAI are being considered for inclusion in a pilot of incentives for improving student outcomes.

CCLC Centennial Dinner Celebration

2010 marks both the 20th anniversary of the Community College League of California and, more importantly, the 100th anniversary of our California community colleges.

The League has connected our community colleges for the most recent twenty years of our colleges' history, carrying on the work of predecessor organizations and leaders. And in recognition of these two momentous anniversaries, the League will be hosting a very special **Sustaining the Legacy Centennial Dinner** honoring the growth and achievements of our colleges over the last 100 years.

The dinner will be held on Friday, June 18, 2010 at the Radisson Hotel Sacramento. The cost is \$125 per person or \$1,250 for a table sponsorship. For more details about the event, please click [here](#) or go to our website at www.ccleague.org.

CCCCO Changes

▪ Dr. Morgan Lynn, executive vice chancellor of programs in the Chancellor's Office, will retire from her position effective July 1, 2010. Erik Skinner, currently vice chancellor of fiscal policy, will assume the position of executive vice-chancellor; an appointment to Skinner's vice chancellor position will be forthcoming.

CEO Changes

- Wise Allen, retired administrator who has been serving as interim vice chancellor at Peralta CCD, has been appointed interim chancellor effective July 1, succeeding Elihu Harris.
- Deborah Blue, vice chancellor at Contra Costa CCD, has been selected chancellor at State Center CCD to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Tom Crow who will leave his position on June 30.
- Harriett Robles, president of Mission College since 2006, will retire in June.
- Edna V. Baehre, president of Harrisburg Area Community College (PA.) has been appointed the new president of Napa Valley College, effective late summer.
- DeRionne Pollard, president of Las Positas College since 2008, will be leaving in July to become president of Montgomery College (MD).
- Marvin Martinez, former vice chancellor of economic and workforce development for LACCD, is the new president of LA Harbor College, effective July. He replaces Linda Spink who is retiring, after holding that position since 2000.
- Loretta Adrian, vice president of student services at Skyline College, has been appointed president of Coastline College, effective July 2010.
- Paul Tracy Killpatrick, superintendent/president of Lake Tahoe CCD since 2008, has accepted the position of president of Seattle Central Community College.
- The College of Marin board of trustees has announced that vice president of college operations Al Harrison will serve as interim-superintendent/president when Dr. Frances White retires in June after serving in that position for six years.
- Rita Cepeda, president of San Diego Mesa College since 2005, has been appointed chancellor of San Jose/Evergreen CCD, effective July 15.
- Rajen Vurdien, vice president of instruction at Saddleback College since 2004, has been appointed president of Fullerton College, effective July 19.
- Kathleen Burke-Kelly, vice president of academic affairs at LA Trade Tech College, has been selected to be the next president of Pierce College, effective August 1.
- Riverside City College president Jan Muto has resigned, effective June 1; Tom Harris has been named the interim president.
- Raul Rodriguez, superintendent/president of San Joaquin Delta College since 2002, has been named chancellor of the Rancho Santiago CCD, effective August 9.