



Office of Government Relations

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA

April 2014 Newsletter

Upcoming Events:

**Assembly Budget
Subcommittee No. 2
Hearing - CCC**
Wednesday, April 2, 2014
State Capitol Room 124
4:00 PM

**Assembly Budget
Subcommittee No. 2
Hearing – Adult Ed**
Tuesday, April 8, 2014
State Capitol Room 444
9:00 AM

AACC Annual Convention
April 5-8, 2014
<http://www.aacc.nche.edu/convention>

CCPRO Annual Conference
April 10-11, 2014
www.ccprocalifornia.org

Academic Senate Plenary
April 10-12, 2014
<http://www.asccc.org>

**Senate Budget and Fiscal
Review Sub 1 – CCC**
April 24, 2014
State Capitol Room 3191
9:30 AM

CCLC Trustees Conference
May 2-4, 2014
www.ccleague.org

Follow Bills Tracked at:
www.ccleague.org/bills

League Happenings

Equity2014 – Revisiting the Vision for Success, Equity, Access



In 2010, the CCCT and CEOCCC boards adopted the Commission on the Future report *A 2020 Vision for Student Success*, which set forth the following three goals:

- **Success:** California's community colleges will increase completions by 1 million by 2020.
- **Equity:** California's community colleges will eliminate the achievement gap.
- **Access:** California's community colleges will close participation rate gaps.

On March 14, the League hosted Equity2014: A Conversation; an event to bring together college leaders from administration, faculty, and student services to discuss the tools and strategies available to achieve the goal of eliminating the achievement gap. Representatives from 60 colleges attended, as did Assembly Member Rob Bonta, legislative staff, and representatives from nonprofit associations working on higher education equity issues. Community college leaders and advocates gathered to build new momentum on issues of socioeconomic equity in our colleges, and our state. While these issues are nothing new and have been discussed for decades, the policy and funding proposals in the Governor's proposed budget present an opportunity for historic change after the Great Recession.

Between now and the release of May Revise, League staff will work to convince legislators and legislative staff of the merits of the proposal laid out by the Administration. Our goal is to detail the research and scalable programs which would have an immediate impact on course completion and success rates if the \$100 million were included in the community college budget.

Materials from Equity2014 are available [here](#).

CCLC REVISED 2015-16 Budget Priorities

In anticipation of upcoming CCC Budget Hearings and a need to proactively outline positions BEFORE the release of the 2014-15 May Revise on Wednesday, May 14th, CCLC has UPDATED budget priorities to share. League staff will share these budget priorities with legislators, legislative staff, control agencies, and our member districts. Please note, the legislative budget hearing dates (April 2nd in the Assembly and April 24th in the Senate) and consider either coming to Sacramento for a hearing or visit with your local legislator in their respective districts and support CCLCs budget priorities.

[Download the updated 2015-16 Budget Priorities.](#)

Capitol Context

The second year of the 2013-14 legislative session is well underway and community colleges are a hot topic. The advocacy efforts of the League Government Relations team have two key focuses – policy and budget. In the policy realm, the League is currently tracking over 140 bills that affect California Community Colleges ranging from early childhood education, instructional programs, to fees, and financial aid. The following is an update on some of the bills of interest that are currently moving through policy committees in both houses:

AB 1451 (Holden) – Concurrent Enrollment: Allows districts to create concurrent enrollment partnerships with local high schools. This bill has been significantly amended to allow for: an expansion of course offerings beyond just advanced placement; high school and college credit; add exemptions to the 5% summer school cap; and lift the 11- unit cap. The League continues to work with the Chancellor's Office to craft a funding policy that can be approved by the legislature and administration. **League Position: Support (CEOCCC)**

AB 1976 (Quirk-Silva) - Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards: This bill would more than double the amount of competitive Cal Grant Awards from 22,500 to 50,000. Additionally it would provide more flexibility to the California Student Aid Commission when it comes to awarding Cal Grants to ensure that more Cal Grants are utilized. **League Position: Support (CEOCCC)**

SB 845 (Correa) – Electronic Disbursement of Financial Aid: Would require the Board of Governors to adopt a model contract regarding financial aid disbursements. The bill passed out of the Senate Education Committee last week on a unanimous vote. It was broadly supported by stakeholders such as the League, student organizations, Higher One, and the California Bankers Association. **League Position: Support (CEOCCC)**

SB 897 (Steinberg) - Competitive Grant Programs and Adult Education: This bill requires for any competitive grant program administered by CDE to include specific social studies standards. For adult education, amendments were taken in the Senate Education Committee to require courses to include basic “information” rather than “instruction” in American government and civics. **League Position: Watch**

SB 850 (Block) - Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program: SB 850 authorizes districts to seek approval to offer baccalaureate degree programs. The bill received significant amendments since its introduction. These include: clarification that fees for baccalaureate degree pilot programs shall be set and approved by the legislature; limiting districts to one degree per campus; assigning the task of defining “unnecessary duplication” to the State Chancellor in consultation with the CSU; and limits the pilot to 20 districts. The bill will be heard in Senate Education on April 23.
League Position: Support (CEOCCC)

Stay informed about legislation tracked by the League: <http://www.ccleague.org/bills>

Board of Governors Update

By Rita Mize, Director of State Policy & Research

Joint Appearance of Three Leaders of California’s Public Higher Education Systems

Janet Napolitano, President of the University of California and Timothy White, Chancellor of the California State University, were joined by Chancellor Harris to discuss their efforts to work together, and meet with all three public higher education boards and legislators to improve higher education in California. President Napolitano cited the critical importance of community colleges within the “constellation” of California higher education, noting that 30% of UC graduates enter UC from a community college. UC did not reduce transfer enrollment during the lean budget years, but increased them, and wants to further ease transfer for our students so that they can move more quickly through higher education. They are developing a web portal for tracking classes, seeking increased curriculum alignment, and will try to provide more outreach on community college campuses so that community college students will feel like UC students at the beginning of their community college career. Napolitano also noted that she is giving the commencement speech at Laney this spring.

Chancellor White noted that over 50% of their graduates are community college transfers; community college students graduate at a higher rate at some of their campuses if 6 – 8 year timelines are considered. They are working hard at SB 1440, and are grateful to the ASCCC for their hard work. They are working in collaboration with UC for shared services and invite community colleges to join them for various purchases including software licenses and other items needed by all campuses.

New Board of Governors Fee Waiver Regulations Impact

Last month, the BOG approved a new policy for BOG fee waivers which would provide that a student on probation for two consecutive quarters would no longer be eligible for a BOG waiver. There is an appeals process which would be locally administered. The Chancellor’s Office staff provided a general estimate of the impact, which did show differential impact and that an estimated 31,342 students of the original cohort of 603,000 students would have been denied the BOG fee waiver, had it been in effect this year.

Staff noted that they believe that the 31,000 was an overestimate because the simulations did not take into account the appeals process for all students and the specific appeal considerations afforded to CalWORKs, DSPS, EOPS and veteran students. In addition, they believe that the

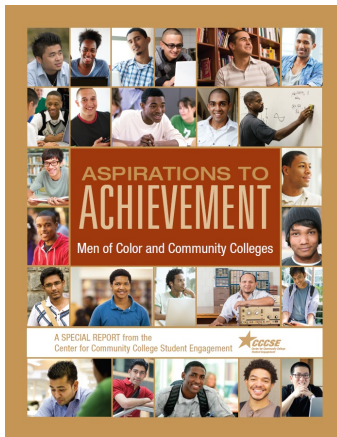
additional resources and interventions which would be available prior to imposition of the new provisions would further reduce the number of students who actually lose the waiver.

Board members asked how this compares with the provisions for loss of Pell Grants and other financial aid. They were informed that these provisions have also been tightened up; consequently, the measures imposed on BOG waivers make them most consistent with other financial aid programs. In addition, Chancellor's Office staff indicated that if there was significant negative impact, they would re-examine their policies and bring recommendations to the BOG for further changes.

Must Read

Aspirations to Achievement: Men of Color and Community Colleges. Community College Center for Student Engagement (CCCSE), University of Texas Austin. 2014.

By Rita Mize, Director of State Policy & Research



In this study, the CCCSE reviewed the responses of 145,000 male community college students and used thirty focus groups with black, Latino and white male students at community colleges to learn more about the relative engagement of each group. Their findings were that, although Black men at all levels of self-reported GPAs are more likely to use high-impact practices including skill labs, tutoring, and orientation sessions than either Latino or White males, only five percent of black Men and Latinos attending community colleges earn degrees or certificates within three years, compared with 32 percent of white men.

In attempting to determine the reasons, the researchers cited three factors that educators must grapple with:

- Substantially different levels of college readiness across racial and ethnic groups.
- The demonstrated effects of stereotype threat on performance in higher education.
- Continuing impacts of structural racism evident in systems throughout American society.

Read the full report at: http://www.ccsse.org/docs/MoC_Special_Report.pdf

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