



Office of Government Relations

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA

October 2014 Newsletter

Upcoming Events:

Legislature adjourned for
fall recess – returns
December 3rd.

Strengthening Student
Success Conference
Costa Mesa, CA
October 8-10, 2014
www.rpgroup.org

ACBO Fall Conference
Temecula, CA
Oct. 27-29, 2014
www.acbo.org

CASFAA Conference
Anaheim, CA
November 2-4, 2014
www.casfaa.org

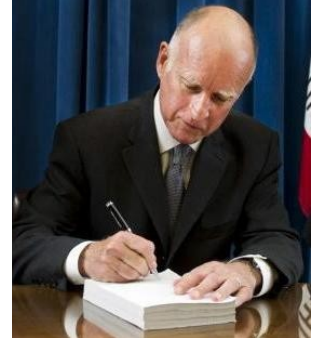
League Annual Convention
West Mission Hills
Rancho Mirage, CA
November 20-22, 2014
www.ccleague.org

Follow bills tracked at:
www.ccleague.org/bills

Have an event you would
like to highlight? Send
event info to:
lizette@ccleague.org.

Governor Signs Community College Legislation

After two years of legislative session, in which nearly 5,000 bills were introduced, the fate of more than 800 of those bills was determined by Governor Jerry Brown in the last few weeks of September. The League tracked and engaged almost 150 of the bills in the second year of the legislative session.



Beyond the changes of the recently enacted bills, the 2013-15 session had many important implications for community colleges. During this session particular attention was placed on new funding formulas, outcomes and goals, restructuring noncredit/adult education, equity, accreditation, and increasing baccalaureate degree offerings, among others. While the changes ahead are numerous, the opportunities are far greater for colleges to increase success and reduce longstanding achievement gaps.

The League Government Relations team would like to thank community college supporters for their strong commitment to advocacy as evidenced by the overwhelming number of letters, faxes, and visits to legislators.

During the Governor's signing period, which ended September 30, the following action was taken on these priority bills:

AB 13 Conway - Veterans Nonresident Tuition Exemption: This bill conforms with new federal regulations requiring public colleges to provide in-state tuition to veterans and eligible dependents in order for the school to remain eligible to receive G.I. Bill education payments.
Governor's Action: Signed

AB 1550 (Rendon) - School Employees: Collective Bargaining: This bill would have increased the amount of time the Public Employee Relations Board has to appoint a mediator from 5 to 10 days during a labor dispute and prevent a college from implementing its last, best and final offer until that offer has been in writing for 30 days.
Governor's Action: Vetoed

SB 173 (Liu) - Adult Education Funding: This bill requires greater collaboration between the Chancellor's Office and the California Department of Education (CDE) for the purposes of accountability in adult education. SB 173 requires the Chancellor's Office and the CDE to issue assessment policy guidelines to be used by school districts and community college districts for purposes of placement in adult education; authorizes fee policy guidelines for the adult education consortium program; and requires a report on the number and types of courses being taught and the number of students served with related funding. **Governor's Action: Signed**

SB 174 & SB 798 (De Leon) - Cal Grant Program & Income Tax Contributions to Education Funds: SB 798 permits Californians to donate funds to increase the access portion of Cal Grant B. In return, they would receive both federal and state income tax credits. As a companion, SB 174 expends the funds raised by SB 798 by increasing the access portion of the Cal Grant B award. To the extent money is available, it would appropriate an amount between \$1,943 and \$5,000. **Governor's Action: Signed**

SB 850 (Block) - Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program: This bill authorizes the Chancellor's Office to establish a baccalaureate degree pilot program. Specifically, the bill: 1) excludes degrees already offered by UC and CSU; 2) limits participation in the pilot program to 15 campuses from 15 different districts; 3) authorize the pilot for 8 years beginning January 1, 2015, and sunsets on July 1, 2023; 4) prohibit fees for lower division coursework in a BA program from exceeding fees for other lower division coursework; and 5) would require the Board of Governors to develop a funding model by March 2015. **Governor's Action: Signed**

SB 967 (de Leon) - Student Safety: Sexual Assault: Among other things, this bill requires colleges to adopt an affirmative consent standard to its sexual violence or harassment policies. It also requires colleges to adopt victim-centered policies that protects the confidentiality of the victim and providing them with support services they may need. **Governor Action: Signed**

SB 1391 (Hancock) - Inmate Education Programs, Apportionment Computation: This bill requires the open course provisions in statute for community college classes to be waived for any governing board of a community college district that provides those classes for inmates, including inmates of state correctional facilities. It also authorizes the local board to receive apportionment for these students and requires an interagency agreement to expand community college courses for inmates that do not duplicate or supplant any adult education course opportunities. **Governor's Action: Signed**

[Click here](#) for more information on bills tracked by the League.

Colleges and Legislators Address Assault on Campus

Colleges across the country are seeking a way to address one of the most important issues facing higher education today — how to better prevent sexual assaults on campuses and respond in a compassionate, effective and equitable manner when these cases do occur. Heightened attention to this critical issue has also prompted federal interest. As a result, the U.S. Senate has introduced S. 2692, the Campus Accountability and Safety Act (CASA).

CASA would amend provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965, known as the "Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act," to require institutions of

higher education (IHE) that participate in Title IV programs to include in their annual campus security reports the campus MOUs with local law enforcement agencies that clearly delineate responsibilities to share information about certain serious crimes.

Additionally, CASA would require IHEs to provide new students and employees with a statement that identifies domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as crimes which will be reported and, based on the victim's wishes, the campus' assurance to cooperate with local law enforcement.

The act would require each IHE that receives federal funding to:

- Establish a campus security policy that, among other things, includes information on the campus' website indicating where victims can seek medical assistance.
- Designate confidential trained advisors to whom victims of crime can report anonymously or directly.
- Establish and conduct a uniform process for disciplinary proceedings relating to claims of sexual violence to affect all students equally.

In June, the California Assembly held a joint oversight hearing of the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. The purpose was to identify whether institutions were meeting their obligations to protect students. Legislators focused specifically on recommendations outlined in a June 2014 California State Auditor report, "Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence - California Universities Must Better Protect Students by Doing More to Prevent, Respond to, and Resolve Incidents." The report concluded, "The universities do not ensure that all faculty and staff are sufficiently trained on responding to and reporting student incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence. Although staff involved in key roles of the incident-reporting process receive adequate training, certain other employees who are likely to be the first point of contact, such as resident advisors and athletic coaches, do not." At the hearing, representatives from UC, CSU and California Community Colleges expressed their commitment to students and plans to promote their well-being.

In the next legislative session, it is likely that state and federal officials will continue to review the policies and practices of colleges and universities to ensure that all students can pursue their higher education in a safe environment.

League Happenings

The League's premier event of the year is rapidly approaching. Join us at the Westin Mission Hills in Rancho Mirage, November 20-22 for an "Oasis of Opportunity." This year's Annual Convention will once again impress with:

- High-impact and thought-provoking breakouts, focus sessions and workshops;
- An Educational Marketplace featuring the latest in services and products;
- Vibrant, energetic opportunities to network with peers and colleagues; and
- Entertainment highlighting local college student talent.

This year's dynamic keynote speakers include:

- Walter G. Bumphus, President & CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges;
- Janet Napolitano, President of the University of California;
- Kim Bateman Executive Dean, Tahoe-Truckee Campus, Sierra College; and,

- Brice Harris, Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

Don't miss out! Register today at: <http://leagueconvention.wordpress.com>.

Must Read

By Rita Mize, Director of State Policy & Research

***California's Health Workforce Needs: Training Allied Workers.* Shannon McConville, Sarah Bohn, Laurel Beck. Public Policy Institute of California. September 2014.**

New PPIC data indicate that California's health workforce is expected to require almost 450,000 new workers due to population growth, aging and the expansion services under the Affordable Care Act; and that the majority of these new health-care workers will be in technical and support positions (a.k.a. the allied health workforce) that require associate degrees or vocational certificates.

The authors express concern that recent growth in allied health fields has been driven largely by for-profit institutions which serve a high number of students from underrepresented groups but at a higher cost and with a focus on short-term certificates that may not provide labor market returns. They believe that the state's community colleges are better-suited to provide the training needed for the majority of these positions. However, they also note that community colleges must concentrate on providing training opportunities that reflect local and regional needs, and would benefit from more information about the specific needs across the many occupational areas in health care.

Read the full report at: http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_914SMR.pdf

***A Matter of Degrees: Practices to Pathways.* Center for Community College Student Engagement. September 2014.**

This is the third report and part of a multi-year Center initiative that focuses on three student outcomes:

- Completion of at least one development course.
- Completion of at least one gatekeeper course (freshman-level English or math) by development students.
- Fall-to-spring or fall-to-fall persistence.

Among the practices affecting these outcomes are:

- Instructors who clearly explain a class attendance policy.
- Students who participate in a student success course.
- Non-developmental students who register for all courses before the first class session(s).

Further, this report indicates that more "engaging practices" that students participate in, the more likely they are to reach the key academic milestones listed above.

Read the full report at: http://www.ccsse.org/docs/Matter_of_Degrees_3.pdf

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