

## **2015-16 Budget Workgroup**

### **June 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting Notes**

The 2015-16 Budget Workgroup met on June 12<sup>th</sup> to begin planning for the CCC system's 2015-16 budget request. The Budget Workgroup is comprised of various CCC stakeholders, approximating the diversity of the Consultation Council.

The initial discussion allowed participants to present their priorities and highlight those areas in need of attention and/or additional funding. The workgroup assumed some working parameters, such as the request will be in the range of \$400M to \$600M, reflecting likely growth in the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee. The group discussed both perennial areas of budget concern, such as COLA, access, and funding for traditional categorical programs, as well as some new funding ideas. There was broad discussion concerning the implications of recent budget agreements, and what, if any, impact that should have on the system's request.

The workgroup discussed the priorities of the Governor and the Legislature as evidenced by recent budget agreements, and the extent to which the request should align with those priorities.

Some key areas discussed by the workgroup include the following

- Professional development – Several participants voiced support for funding professional development, noting major changes that are occurring in the system, such as distance education, adult education, student success activities, and SB 1440 degrees.
- COLA –Participants voiced support for funding above the statutory COLA, so that districts can make progress toward restoring the purchasing power lost in recent years. COLAs allow district to maintain pace with increasing operating costs. Further, many participants noted that COLAs give districts maximum flexibility, allowing them to backfill categorical and other programs as decided at the local level. Additionally, providing COLA for certain categoricals was also mentioned, some have historically received categoricals.
- Categorical programs – This area generated the most discussion. Some cited the need to restore traditional categorical programs that were reduced in the 2009-10 budget (EOPS, CalWORKs, etc.). Others noted that the Governor has been clear that he does not want to restore traditional categoricals to prior levels, preferring instead to allow districts to address the needs of disadvantaged students through more flexible support items (e.g., SSSP, Student Equity Plans). Regardless of the overall approach, continuing support for the SSSP was voiced, particularly given the need to hire more counselors.
- Access – Restoring access to higher education for those who need it remains a major system priority. As the 14-15 budget features a high growth percentage (2.75%), we should examine the data during the fiscal year and adjust as needed. Some noted that certain areas of the state are not growing and do not benefit from funding provided in this area. While improving efficiency and the quality of instruction is also crucial, we do want to offer access where it is needed.
- Physical Plant/Instructional Equipment – Members discussed the importance of continued funding for physical plant/instructional equipment. After years of neglect, these items have

received funding in both the 13-14 (\$30M) and 14-15 budgets (\$148M). The funds support important resources for colleges and are good areas of funding during the Prop 30 years, as they can be moved up or down without negative impact on staffing.

- Faculty support – Several participants mentioned the need to hire and support additional faculty. This can take several forms, such as supporting existing categorical programs for part-time faculty or supporting targeted funds for hiring full-time faculty hiring, as was approved by the budget subcommittees (though it was not approved in the final budget). A broader faculty support item that was discussed during the time of the Davis Administration was mentioned by the FACCC representative. There appear to be several options available to address this concern. Additionally, support for augmenting funding for the Academic Senate was also voiced.
- Workforce/CTE/Adult Education – This area has received significant attention in budget subcommittees and has been targeted for increases in the two most recent budgets. One suggestion was to augment funding for apprenticeship. It was further noted that 2015-16 is the planned year to fund adult education programs through the Governor's reform (AB 86). We need to make a substantial request in that area and show that it is a strong CCC priority.
- Student Senate – The student representative requested \$100k for the Student Senate in 2015-16. The system usually requests \$200k annually to fund shared governance activities for the student senate. In 2013-14, AB 1358 passed, which allows the Student Senate to be funded out of student fees, however, it will take some time to transition to having student fees fully fund the Student Senate.
- I Can Afford College Campaign – The CCCCCO communications team proposed an augmentation for the I Can Afford College Campaign, citing the erosion in purchasing power over the 10 years in which the program funding has not been increased. An increase of \$1.5M would increase ad buying reach by about 35% and allow for Spanish language outreach and more community outreach.
- Campus safety/mental health – Several participants mentioned the issue of campus safety. There have been many shootings on college campuses in recent years. Additionally, many women do not feel safe due to threats and assaults. Are there ways in which we can get ahead of the curve with a plan to address campus safety and/or the mental health issues that underlie much of the problem? This may or may not be a budget issue. Perhaps it's an area requiring a coordinated policy approach among the segments?

Other issues to keep in mind as we plan a request include the STRS and PERS rate increases which eat away at district general funds, the continuing lack of automatic backfills for property taxes and fees which create deficits and uncertainty in our funding, and the temporary nature of Proposition 30 support.

## **Attendees at the June 12<sup>th</sup> Budget Workgroup Meeting**

- LeBaron Woodyard, Chancellor's Office, Academic Affairs
- Theresa Tena, Community College League of California
- Linda Michalowski, Chancellor's Office, Student Services
- Dan Troy, Chancellor's Office, Finance and Facilities Planning
- Diane Brady Chancellor's Office, Finance and Facilities Planning
- Rich Hanson, California Community College Independents (CCCI)
- Natalie Wagner, Chancellor's Office, Finance and Facilities Planning
- Jonathon Lightman, Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC)
- Von Ton Quinlivan, Chancellor's Office, Workforce and Economic Development
- Debra Jones, Chancellor's Office, Workforce and Economic Development
- Cris McCullough, Chancellor's Office, Academic Affairs

### **On the Phone:**

- Chuck Stevens, Student Senate
- David Morse, Academic Senate
- Ron Travenick, Chief Student Services Officers (CSSO)
- Kathy Blackwood, Association of Chief Business Officers (ACBO)
- Vinh Nguyen, ACBO
- Beth Smith, Academic Senate
- Louise Jaffe, California Community College Trustees (CCCT)
- Paige Marlatt Dorr, Chancellor's Office, Communications
- Mary Kay Rudolph, California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers (CCCIO)
- Bonnie Dowd, ACBO
- Lindsay Pangburn, Program Manager I Can Afford College, Associate Degree for Transfer
- Dean Murakami, President of FACCC
- Ralph Black, California Association on Postsecondary Education and Disability (CAPED)