

Dear CSSOs and CIOs:

Here are the notes from the Consultation Council meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2014.

Deputy Chancellor Erik Skinner ran the meeting as Steve Bruckman has left the Chancellor's Office to serve as General Counsel at City College of San Francisco.

Student Senate Update: Aaron Bielenberg and Angel Jimenez reported that the "March on March" Committee has been working on the event that is scheduled for early March. They are also working on a transition plan as part of the AB 1358 implementation.

Budget Update: Vice Chancellor Dan Troy reported that not much has happened regarding the budget since Consultation last met. Yesterday, the CCC, UC and CSU leaders all presented to the State Assembly. UC and CSU feel they are underfunded for what is expected of them. Most of the questions for the community colleges related to whether the Governor's proposal for 3% growth funding is too high. The LAO is skeptical about this number and feels the system can't handle it. However, the Department of Finance (DOF) appears open to reviewing the data to determine if this number should be adjusted for the May revise. The system generated close to 1.86% FTES growth target but an unknown number of colleges may have included two summer sessions in their totals for this fiscal year.

Vice Chancellor Troy also reported that the \$100 million dollar Student Equity Plan funding currently in the budget is a great goal, but it will be a challenge to implement. DOF's approach is that Districts know best how to meet the needs of the community, so some money should be allocated to make it a priority. While there was agreement that "closing the achievement gaps" has been a goal for a long time, colleges will need to provide the link between the plan and the money. The funding will be distributed based on FTES but with

greater weight accorded to districts with higher proportions of impacted students. According to Chancellor Harris, DOF and the Governor are trying to use the same weighted student formula on the community colleges as is in place on K-12. This is difficult because community colleges are open access and K-12 is compulsory. The Chancellor's Office may advocate pushing the Student Equity funding off by a year because districts will not have enough time to plan what to do with their allocation if they do not know the allocation until June, possibly July. The intent of DOF is to break down the silos, not create them. The Governor's plan also proposes bringing Basic Skills into the same category as EOPS and CalWORKS and proposes "categorical flexibility" which would allow 25% of funds to be shifted among these three programs according to local needs. Vice Chancellor Troy stressed the fact that this is the Governor's proposal and not only does the Chancellor's Office not support it, they have also advised the Governor's office against going down this path. The president of the statewide EOPS Organization, Will Bruce, did speak to this issue, specifically questioning the wisdom in allowing such flexibility in EOPS funds when EOPS services are the cornerstone of student success for so many students.

Vice Chancellor also responded to a question about a "restorative COLA" to increase districts' purchasing power that has been eroded after so many years without a COLA. Vice Chancellor Troy indicated that it's too early in the process to know how likely this is, although he did advise against using the term "SuperCOLA" because that sounds like free money to the legislature.

State and Federal Legislative Update: Government Relations Vice Chancellor Vince Stewart updated the Consultation Council on current state and federal bills, although the list is not exhaustive for the state bills because the filing deadline is Friday, February 20th. For an excellent summary of the bills, please click [here](#).

Significant discussion occurred regarding SB 965 (Leno) San Francisco

Community College District: Funding which would provide stabilization funding to CCSF due to their recent loss of revenues in the wake the ACCJC threat to close the college. While CCLC supports the bill in the interest of saving CCSF for the citizens of San Francisco, Scott Lay also believes that there should be a three-year restoration for all districts that have been hurt by accreditation sanctions, natural disasters and other unforeseen circumstances.

Regarding federal legislation, Vice Chancellor Stewart reported that the recent Chancellor's Office visit to Washington, D.C. was very productive. Chancellor Harris and he were accompanied by BOG Chair Manual Baca and two other BOG members. The trip included two days of meetings with topics that included increasing Pell Grants, funding needs for Veteran's Centers, and the WIA Reauthorization. The Chancellor also met with House Representative Nancy Pelosi, and Senators Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer to discuss City College of San Francisco.

Faculty Obligation Number: This item will be on March agenda instead.

CCC Baccalaureate Degree Study Group Report: Senator Block has filed legislation to authorize the California Community Colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees. The Board of Governors has postponed their retreat from March to May, because they are awaiting new BOG member appointments from the Governor. CEO President Helen Benjamin reported that the CEOs favor the prospect of community colleges offering the baccalaureate degree, but Academic Senate President Beth Smith reported that the Academic Senate has some concerns and an official "oppose" position that dates back to 2010. This issue will be raised at the Spring 2014 Senate Plenary. CCCCIO President Meridith Randall reported that members are split on the issue and have a number of concerns. Of note is the fact that because the CSU and the California Nursing Association both oppose this bill, if it makes it to the Governor's desk, it will not include

nursing as a potential baccalaureate degree area, which was the driving force behind this discussion and pilot project. There are also numerous unanswered questions about how feasible these degrees would be in terms of local need, and more importantly, in terms of cost.

Student Success Initiative Update: The Student Success Task Force Recommendations included establishing statewide metrics as indicators of the four primary goals of the Board of Governors. Vice Chancellor of Technology Patrick Perry discussed each of the four goals and the metrics for each goal. Click [here](#) for the digest summary and his PowerPoint presentation.

Quality Education: This issue was brought forward by Academic Senate President Beth Smith and ACCBO President Bonnie Dowd as a way to prompt dialogue about how the Consultation Council can keep focused on providing “quality education” to students within our existing structure and with existing policies in place. It’s easy to reduce the discussion down to one of limited budgets, but according to Bonnie, “budgets are choices.” Therefore, it’s incumbent upon the constituent members of Consultation Council to keep the group focused on how to ensure quality education throughout the state, especially with the on-going and rising costs of ever-greater technology and financially maintaining "sustainable" buildings. Beth and Bonnie will be presenting at their QE²: Quality Education Experience at the ACCCA conference in San Diego at the end of February. Members asked how this is different from the Student Success Initiative that is on the agenda each meeting, and it was decided that the Council would revisit the suggestion to have it as a standing item on the agenda after Beth and Bonnie receive feedback on their ACCCA conference presentation. Rather than having a standing item, Chancellor Harris prefers to ensure that the Council has deep conversation about specific issues we are facing and that are specifically enumerated on each agenda.

Joint Credit and Community Education Classes: The Chancellor's Office has agreed to provide guidelines to colleges about how to address the need for courses where students have exceeded the repeatability limits to include both FTES-generating students and community services students. Music and theatre classes often face this challenge, especially those in support of community orchestras. The Chancellor's Office staff hasn't been able to address this topic due to workload issues. However, the Consultation Council was promised that guidelines will come to the Council no later than the September 2014 meeting. Chancellor Harris also acknowledged the need to increase the Audit fee, which will also require legislative action. Scott Lay recommended an Education Omnibus bill that covers several issues rather than a stand-alone bill.

Part-time Faculty Retirement Credit: Part-time faculty need a way to take retirement credit from one district to another. FACCC is working on a bill, as are CFT and CCCI. Chancellor Harris indicated that the Chancellor's Office cannot take the lead on this issue because it's really about employment concerns, but they can attend meetings between STRS and CFT to lend support. ACCCA is also working to help STRS understand the nature of community college faculty work and how it is not the same as faculty work in K-12.

Respectfully submitted,

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