Update on Bills

Needless to say, with Friday, May 1st being the last day that policy committees can hear and report fiscal bills to appropriations committees, there was a lot of action on bills of interest to UC over the course of the last month. Below is a summary of the action taken on key bills along with a link to all the bills we are tracking.

**AB 176 (Bonta)** passed out of the Assembly Health Committee. The bill would require UC, if it adopts a resolution, and requires CSU and CCC to, upon collection of demographic data on the ancestry/ethnic origin of students for a report that includes student admission, enrollment, completion, or graduation rates, to use specified collection and tabulation categories for Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander groups. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 206 (Stone)** was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would create the California DREAM Work-Study Program under the administration of the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) to provide financial aid for students meeting its requirements, and would require UC and CSU to match 100% of the work-study grant cost for student work accomplished on a campus of the respective university, and 50% of cost for work completed elsewhere. The University has a Neutral position on the bill.

**AB 229 (Chang)** passed out of the Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee. The bill would request and encourage the University of California (UC) to adopt travel reimbursement policies that prohibit it from forbidding the use of, or denying reimbursement for, necessary and actual expenses of employees traveling on official business for transportation provided by a transportation network company or lodging in a short-term rental. The University has no position on the bill.

**AB 340 (Weber)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would encourage UC and require CSU to generate a report once every biennium of the legislative session that includes
specified information related to the segment's campus climate, post the report on its Website, and submit the report to specified state bodies. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 351 (Jones-Sawyer)** passed out of the Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee. The bill would require state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to establish and achieve an annual goal of 25% small business participation in state procurements and contracts and require UC, California State University (CSU) and California Community Colleges (CCC), in calculating the total amount of contracting covered by this bill only be required to meet the 25% goal for state funding used in contracting. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 458 (O’Donnell)** was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would request UC to conduct a feasibility study to determine the appropriate grade level and subject area and potential costs for a pilot program to develop standards-aligned content and instructional software for use on portable electronic devices. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 653 (Levine)** passed off of the Assembly Floor. The bill would require California Community Colleges and California State University, and request UC to coordinate the efforts of their respective segments when procuring systemwide information technology and software for the purpose of enhancing student achievement. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 677 (Dodd)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would provide that, when construction or modernization projects are undertaken at a campus or facility within its jurisdiction, CCC and CSU shall, and UC is requested to, equip classrooms, offices, or other rooms where students and school staff gather with locking mechanisms, commonly known as classroom function locks, that allow the doors to be locked from the inside or equip these doors with the best alternative technology that accomplishes the same result. The University has no position on the bill.

**AB 721 (Medina)** was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would require a public, private, or independent postsecondary educational institution, except California Community Colleges (CCC), to make available on its Website specified student loan debt statistics on graduates, to provide students information concerning unused federal student loan moneys available to them before certifying their eligibility for private student loans, and, if the institution does not participate in federal student loan programs, to inform students that they may be eligible for federal student loans at participating institutions and provide them information regarding Cal Grants and federal student aid. The University has a Neutral position on the bill.

**AB 798 (Bonilla)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would establish the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 to reduce costs for college students by encouraging faculty to accelerate the adoption of lower cost, high-quality open educational resources. SGR Legislative Director Nadia Leal-Carrillo testified that the University does not have a position on the bill, but appreciate the work of the author and will continue to work with the author’s office.

**AB 801 (Bloom)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would enact the Success for Homeless Youth in Higher Education Act. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 819 (Irwin)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee on consent. The bill, sponsored by UC, would allow the University to continue offering affinity programs to its alumni.
**AB 837 (Hernandez)** was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would state that as a condition of the receipt of state funding in the annual Budget Act, UC shall not pay any of its employees or officers a salary that exceeds $500,000 in any fiscal year. The University has an Oppose position on the bill.

**AB 913 (Santiago)** passed out of the Assembly Public Safety Committee. The bill would require California Community Colleges (CCC), California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) written agreements with local law enforcement agencies that clarify operational responsibilities for investigations of Part 1 violent crimes include sexual assaults and hate crimes. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 967 (Williams)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with amendments. The bill would require, in order to receive state funds for student financial assistance, CCC, CSU UC, and independent postsecondary institutions to adopt and carry out a uniform process, applicable to each campus of the institution, for disciplinary proceedings relating to any claims of sexual assault. The University does not currently have a position on the bill but has been working closely with the author and will continue to do so.

**AB 968 (Williams)** was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would require CCC, CSU, UC, independent institutions of higher education, private postsecondary educational institutions to indicate on a student’s transcript when the student is ineligible to reenroll due to suspension or expulsion for the period of time the student is ineligible to reenroll. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1088 (O’Donnell)** passed out of the Assembly Education Committee. The bill would enact a Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act to authorize an unspecified amount of state general obligation bonds to provide aid to school districts, county superintendents of schools, county boards of education, charter schools, CCC, UC, Hastings College of the Law, and CSU to construct and modernize education facilities. The University has a Support position on the bill.

**AB 1150 (Levine)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee on consent. The bill, sponsored by UC, the bill would allow the University to expand its successful statewide institutional partnership with Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs), creating an integrated and flexible energy efficiency program across all UC facilities and reducing the University’s emission of greenhouse gases.

**AB 1212 (Grove)** failed to pass out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would require, as a condition of receiving state funds for student financial assistance, CCC, CSU and UC adopt a policy prohibiting their respective campuses from discriminating against a student organization for imposing certain requirements on its leaders or voting members. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1228 (Gipson)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would request CCC and requires CSU and UC, subject to its agreement by resolution, to (1) provide housing in housing facilities that are open for uninterrupted year-round occupation to current and former homeless youth and current and former foster youth at no extra cost during academic or campus breaks, and (2) develop a plan to ensure that current and former homeless youth and current and former foster youth can access housing resources during and between academic terms, including during academic and campus breaks. The University’s position on the bill is pending.
AB 1307 (McCarty) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with amendments. The bill would prohibit UC from raising tuition above the current level of $12,192 as a condition of state funding. The University had a Concern position on the bill before it was amended and will need time to review the amendments.

AB 1317 (Salas) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with amendments. The bill would request UC refrain from increasing the compensation of any executive officer when the amount of mandatory systemwide student fees and tuition of the University has been increased at any time in the prior four years. The University has an Oppose position on the bill.

AB 1349 (Weber) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would establish the California First Act, which would require CSU and requests UC to guarantee undergraduate admission at a campus, though not necessarily at a campus or in a major of the applicant's choice, to all eligible California residents who submit timely applications for undergraduate admission. The University has no position on the bill.

AB 1361 (Burke) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would make the requirement that a student not be aged 28 or older by December 31st of the award year inapplicable to a current or former U.S. Armed Forces member seeking a Cal Grant A/B award, unless he/she is a former member who was dishonorably discharged. The University's position on the bill is pending.

AB 1370 (Medina) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would seek to (1) implement a methodology for calculating nonresident supplemental tuition (NRST) at UC and the California State University based, at a minimum, on the total nonresident charges imposed by each of their comparison institutions; (2) limit the number of nonresident students enrolled at any UC campus to 10% of total student enrollment; (3) establish NRST revenue sharing equally among the campuses; (4) require an unspecified percent of NRST revenue be directed to financial aid programs for resident students, and (5) report annually on the revenue amount generated at each campus. SGR Legislative Director Nadia Leal-Carrillo testified that the University has a Concern position on the bill and will continue to work with the author.

AB 1366 (Lopez) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would require CCC and CSU and requests UC to create Dream Resource Centers on each campus to assist certain students by streamlining access to all available financial aid and academic opportunities for those students. The University has no position on the bill.

AB 1433 (Gray) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would enact the Recommitment to Higher Education Bond Act of 2016 to authorize an unspecified amount of state general obligation bonds to provide aid to CCC, CSU, UC and Hastings College of the Law to construct and modernize education facilities. SGR Associate Director of Legislative Affairs Sandy Fried testified in Support of the bill.

AB 1483 (Gatto) passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would require the LAO to conduct a study of, and report to the Legislature on, the feasibility of establishing a UC campus devoted to science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. The University has no position on the bill.
**SB 125 (Hernandez)** passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee. The bill would reauthorize CHBRP. It would expand UC CHBRP analyses to include essential health benefits and the impact on the California Health Benefit Exchange, and assessments of legislation impacting health insurance benefit design, cost sharing, premiums, and other related topics. The University has a Neutral position on the bill.

**SB 376 (Lara)** passed out of Senate Education Committee. The bill would modify the Public Contract Code to effectively prohibit UC from entering into a contract for goods and services valued at more than $100,000 if the compensation a bidder pays its employees undercuts the average per-employee compensation, including benefits, for UC employees who perform comparable work. UC is opposed to the bill.

**SB 424 (Pan)** passed out of the Senate Public Safety Committee. The bill would provide that provisions prohibiting eavesdropping and recording or intercepting certain communications do not prohibit any POST-certified police officer of a university or college campus acting within their scope of authority, from overhearing or recording any communication that he/she could lawfully overhear or record prior to January 1, 1968, in any criminal investigation related to sexual assault or other sexual offenses. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**SB 574 (Pan)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill would require UC to obtain certain detailed information, as described in the California Public Records Act (PRA), about alternative investments. UC is opposed to the bill.

**SB 665 (Block)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill would require CCC, CSU, UC, and the governing board of each independent postsecondary educational institution to enter into a contract with a local rape crisis center in order to designate an advocate, who is independent from the campus or university, to assist student victims following incidents of rape or sexual assault. The University does not currently have a position on the bill and will continue to work with the author.

**SB 686 (Pan)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would provide that the general provisions of the Higher Education Employer-Employee Relations Act (HEERA) apply, instead of the specified rights, provisions, and definitions for supervisory employees, to supervisory employees who are employed as sworn peace officers by University of California (UC) or Hastings College of the Law. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

**SB 707 (Wolk)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would delete the exemption that allows a person holding a valid license to carry a concealed firearm, and a retired peace officer authorized to carry a concealed or loaded firearm, to possess a firearm on the campus of a university or college. The University has a Support if Amended position on the bill. Chief Carmichael testified in support of the bill at an earlier policy committee hearing.

**SB 773 (Allen)** passed out of the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee. The bill would request UC to conduct a study on motor vehicle registration fraud and failure to register a motor vehicle, and to post a report of the study on its Website. The bill would also require the Department of Motor Vehicles and California Highway Patrol to provide specified information to UC researchers who are conducting the study. The University’s position on the bill is pending.
SB 789 (Wieckowski) passed out of the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee. The bill would restrict rather than suspend driving privileges of a person who fails to furnish proof of financial responsibility at the time of an accident, in order to allow the person to drive to school at a UC, CSU, CCC or private postsecondary educational institution. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

SCR 25 (Block) was adopted by the Senate. The resolution states the Legislature's support for a memorandum of understanding to establish strategic partnerships for joint innovation, exchanges, public-private partnerships, and cooperation between California and Israel involving collaboration with universities to facilitate joint industrial research and development, educational opportunities, and other economic development objectives. The University has a Support position on the resolution.

SCR 35 (Stone) passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The resolution would urge each UC campus to adopt a resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and racism, and would condemn any act of anti-Semitism augmenting education programs at all publicly funded schools in California. The University’s position on the resolution is pending.

Below is a list of all the bills we are tracking;


Grad Research Advocacy Day

Over 20 graduate research students, accompanied by the Deans of Graduate Research from the ten UC campuses, visited the state Capitol to share their research with members of the Legislature. They also discussed the importance of graduate research and research universities, and the stellar contributions that UC Research makes to the state, nation and the world.

UC Davis’ team for Grad Research Day included Dean Gibeling, Albert Aguilera (Ph.D. Candidate in Nutritional Biology), Jeni Lee (Ph.D. Candidate in Biomedical Engineering) and myself. We met with the offices of Assembly Members Gaines, McCarty and Wood along with Senators Gaines and Wolk.
Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates

- May 1 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills to fiscal committees.
- May 5 – Chancellor Katehi in Sacramento for legislative visits.
- May 15 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the Floor nonfiscal bills. GSA legislative visits to district offices.
- May 18 – Bay Area Council’s Annual Sacramento Day.
- May 22 – Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 8.
- May 25 – Memorial Day observed.
- May 29 – Last day for fiscal committee to hear and report bills to the Floor. Last day for fiscal committee to meet prior to June 8.

Questions or Need Assistance?

If you have any questions regarding the aforementioned items or would like assistance in connecting with state legislators and/or their staff, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Lopez, Director, State Government Relations. He can be reached at adnlopez@ucdavis.edu or by phone at (530) 752-9795.