UC Davis State Government Relations Update
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In this Update:
● Chancellor’s Legislative Visits (Page 1)
● Update on Bills (Pages 1-2)
● Budget Update (Pages 2-3)
● Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates (Page 3)
● Questions or Need Assistance? (Page 3)

Chancellor’s Legislative Visits

Chancellor Linda Katehi was in Sacramento on May 5th for legislative visits. She met with Senator Marty Block, D-San Diego, Senator Lois Wolk, D-Davis, and Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, D-Sacramento. Key items discussed included the upcoming release of the May Revise and UC’s budgetary needs, legislative priorities and campus climate at UC Davis.

Update on Bills

AB 798 (Bonilla) passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee with amendments. 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. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

AB 837 (Hernandez) was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill stated that as a condition of the receipt of state funding in the annual Budget Act, the University of California 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 967 (Williams) passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee with amendments. The bill would require, in order to receive state funds for student financial assistance, CCC, CSU UC, and independent postsecondary institution 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's position on the bill is pending.
AB 1307 (McCarty) passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee with amendments. The bill would prohibit a fee increase for a California resident student from the fees established for the 2014-15 academic year at the CSU and UC if the Legislative Analyst determines that the respective segment has not complied with specified requirements. The University has a Concern position on the bill.

AB 1317 (Salas) passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee with amendments. The bill would request UC to refrain using public funds to increase 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 immediately preceding 2 years. The University has an Oppose position on the bill.

SB 707 (Wolk) passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee. 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.

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


Budget Update

On Thursday, May 14, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. released his May Revise for the 2015-16 fiscal year. The revised budget proposal provides UC with a four percent base budget increase for each of the next four years, a one-time infusion of $436 million over three years for UC’s pension in exchange for the University adopting specific changes, allocations in 2015-16 of $25 million for deferred maintenance and $25 million in funds from the state’s cap-and-trade program to support energy efficiency, and allows the Regents to authorize the university to increase nonresident supplemental tuition up to 8 percent in 2015-16 and 2016-17. UC will seek to pursue additional funding for enrollment growth from the Legislature. The Governor’s proposed budget and the May Revision are available at http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/.

In the following week the budget subcommittees on education finance approved the May Revise proposal and made some movement on our request for an additional $50 million for enrollment growth.

Specifically, Assembly Sub 2 put forth a proposal requesting that UC grow enrollment by 8,000 over the next 2 years and in turn would provide $35 million to the University in GF dollars to do this. However, in order to grow enrollment by 8,000 the University would need $80 million to do so. The expectation from the Assembly is that the University pay for the rest via the non-resident tuition increase.

Alternatively, Senate Sub 1 put forth a proposal for UC to grow enrollment by 2,400 this year, funded entirely with the proposed non-resident tuition increase.

The Full Assembly and Senate Budget Committees left these proposals unchanged and thus it is now up to the Conference Committee to work out the differences.
On Thursday, May 28, the Senate and the Assembly announced budget conferees. Senator Mark Leno, D-San Francisco, Senator Jim Nielsen, R-Gerber, and Senator Ricardo Lara, D-Bell Gardens, will be the Senate’s members on the Budget Conference Committee. Assemblymember Shirley Weber, D-San Diego, Assemblymember Rich Bloom, D-Santa Monica, and Assemblymember Melissa Melendez, R-Lake Elsinore, will be the members representing the Assembly. Senator Leno will chair the Conference Committee. The two-house, bipartisan conference committee reconciles differences between Senate and Assembly versions of the Budget Bill.

**Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates**

- **June 1-5 Floor Session only.** No committee meetings may meet for any purpose.
- **June 5 Last day to pass bills** out of house of origin.
- **June 8 Committee meetings may resume.**
- **June 15 Budget Bill must be passed by midnight.**

**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.