

# UC Davis State Government Relations Update November 30, 2013

# Adrian Lopez Director, State Government Relations

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## LAO's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiscal Outlook

The California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released its 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiscal Outlook on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The Outlook is a forecast of California's General Fund revenues and expenditures over the next six years. The outlook reflects continued improvement in the state's finances with the LAO stating that the budget situation for the 2014-15 fiscal year appears to be promising, although the LAO stresses that caution is needed as the estimated surpluses are based on various assumptions. The full report can be seen here:

http://lao.ca.gov/reports/2013/bud/fiscal-outlook/fiscal-outlook-112013.pdf

## Oil-Extraction Tax Proposal Doesn't Get on Ballot<sup>1</sup>

A student-led campaign to put an oil-extraction tax on the 2014 ballot to benefit education, among other things, recently failed due to a lack of signatures. The proponents of the measure will now turn to the legislative process again to pursue their proposal and will change their name from Californians for Responsible Economic Development to Students' Voice Now. SB 241 (Evans), which sought to create an oil-extraction tax in 2013, was held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

### UC Davis California Lighting Technology Center – Celebrating a Decade of Innovation

On Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup> the UC Davis California Lighting Technology Center (CLTC) celebrated its 10 year anniversary with a multitude of events culminating with a reception and dinner that evening. State Senator Kevin de Leon gave remarks during the dinner program, along with Michael Peevey of the CA Public Utilities Commission and Karen Douglas of the CA Energy Commission. Also attending the event

were Assemblywoman Mariko Yamada, who presented the CLTC with a resolution of recognition, and Will Arnold from Senator Wolk's office.

### President Janet Napolitano Proposes Tuition Freeze and New Systemwide Initiatives

On November 13<sup>th</sup> University of California President Janet Napolitano proposed an undergraduate tuition freeze for the third consecutive year, and said she would pursue a policy to avoid pricing uncertainty. She also pledged immediate action to increase transfers to UC from California community colleges, speed technology transfer to benefit both the university and researchers, and make the University of California a zero net energy user by 2025. Ultimately, this vision laid out by the President, specifically as it relates to tuition and transfers, aligns very well with a large portion of the higher education agenda that the Governor and state policy makers have had for several years now.

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

- January 1 Statutes passed in 2013 take effect.
- January 6 Legislature reconvenes.
- January 10 Budget must be submitted by Governor.
- January 17 Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house in 2013.
- January 24 Last day for any committee to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in their house in 2013. Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel.
- January 31 Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in 2013 in their house.

### **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 <a href="mailto:adnlopez@ucdavis.edu">adnlopez@ucdavis.edu</a> or by phone at (530) 752-9795.

http://www.ibabuzz.com/politics/2013/11/27/students-to-push-legislature-for-oil-extraction-tax/