



## UC Davis State Government Relations Update October 31, 2013

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### **The 2013 Legislative Year is in the Books**

The Legislature wrapped up the first year of its 2013-2014 legislative session on September 12<sup>th</sup> with the Governor signing and vetoing legislation through October 13<sup>th</sup>. Below are some pieces of legislation that impact UC and UC Davis, along with updated information as to the status of these bills:

#### ***Bills Adopted by the Legislature and/or Signed by the Governor***

- **SB 250 (Wolk)** – Creates the Olive Oil Commission of California to conduct research for specified purposes and makes recommendations accordingly, and authorizes it to charge producers and annual assessment not exceeding a specified amount or the reasonable costs of implementation, and to expend those funds for purposes of implementing the bill.
- **SCR 62 (Jackson)** – This measure would encourage equitable and diverse gender representation on corporate boards, and urge that, within a 3-year period from January 2014 to December 2016, inclusive, every publicly held corporation in California with 9 or more director seats have a minimum of 3 women on its board, every publicly held corporation in California with 5 to 8 director seats have a minimum of 2 women on its board, and every publicly held corporation in California with fewer than 5 director seats have a minimum of one woman on its board. The 2012–2013 University of California, Davis study of California Women Business Leaders was a key component of this resolution.
- **SCR 70 (Galgiani)** – Honors the University of California, Davis’ great achievement in earning the number one ranking in the world for teaching and research in the areas of agriculture and forestry.
- **SB 195 (Liu)** – This bill would establish three broad goals for higher education and state legislative intent that appropriate metrics be identified, defined, and formally adopted to monitor progress toward achievement of the goals. The University took a support position after our requested amendments were accepted by the author.

- **SB 630 (Pavley)** – This bill would covers the implementation of the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact that was jointly announced by the governors of CA and NV on May 14, 2013. UC Davis Government and Community Relations worked closely with our colleagues at the Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) to develop acceptable language on the creation of a bi-state science-based advisory council. Specifically, SB 630 states that the CA Natural Resources Secretary may enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to establish and operate a bi-state science-based advisory council in the Tahoe basin whose purpose is to promote and enhance the use of the best available scientific information on matters of interest to both states. The organization shall be non-regulatory, and shall focus on activities that will advance attainment of environmental thresholds, as provided in the compact. A majority of the governing body of that organization shall be comprised of scientists with expertise in disciplines pertinent to achieving and maintaining the goals of the compact. The Governor signed the bill on October 12, 2013.

### ***Two-Year Bills***

- **AB 609 (Nestande)** – AB 609 would enact the California Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act. Specifically, it would establish public access publication requirements for UC faculty and other researchers who receive state agency-funded research grants. UC supports this bill and UC Davis’ Librarian, MacKenzie Smith, testified in support of AB 609 earlier this year. AB 609 is Senate Governmental Organization Committee, where it has been granted reconsideration.
- **AB 881 (Chesbro)** – This bill would, on and after January 1, 2015, increase the maximum annual assessment to \$0.07 per barrel of crude oil or petroleum products. The bill would also allow the assessment to cover the annual costs incurred by the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN), which UC Davis operates under the provisions of earlier legislation. The bill is intended to provide an immediate funding stream for mandated activities of the OWCN and to provide clarity regarding funding through January 2016. This bill is currently in the Senate’s inactive file.
- **AB 1154 (Gray)** – This bill would establish that the term for the Equine Medical Director is 2 years, and, for a person who is appointed as EMD on or after January 1, 2014, would limit the number of terms that a person may serve consecutively to 2 consecutive terms. The bill would state various legislative findings and declarations relating to the Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at UC Davis. SVM and SGR have been monitoring this bill and will continue to do so. AB 1154 is currently held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 8 (Yee)** – SB 8 seeks to prohibit the UC and CSU from increasing monetary compensation or approving payment of a bonus for any executive officer within two years of a fiscal year in which a) the amount of General Fund moneys appropriated to the segment is less than or equal to the amount appropriated in the preceding fiscal year, or b) the systemwide fees were increased from the previous year. This bill also places an arbitrary limit on compensation to an incoming executive officer in comparison to the compensation provided to the person that they are replacing. This bill is opposed by UC and is currently in Senate Education Committee.
- **SB 259 (Hancock)** – This bill would amend the Higher Education Employer Employee Relations Act (HEERA) to create collective bargaining rights for new classes of working students, including

UC graduate student researchers (GSRs). This bill is being held in Senate Appropriations Committee with UC opposing it.

- **SB 502 (Block)** – SB 502 would authorize the University to employ informal competitive bidding for projects costing less than \$1 million. This is UC's only sponsored legislation for 2013 and is currently in the Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee.
- **SB 520 (Steinberg)** – This bill would establish the California Online Student Access Incentive Grant programs as three separate programs under the administration of UC, CSU and CCC, for each segment respectively, in consultation with their respective statewide academic senates. SB 520 is in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and as currently written is opposed by UC.
- **SCA 15 (Yee)** – SCA 15 would amend the CA State Constitution to require UC's retirement plan to be subject to the requirements of the CA Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPPRA) for all new employees. The bill is currently in Senate Public Employment and Retirement Committee with UC opposing.

For status updates on other bills of interest to UC and UC Davis, please go to the following link, or contact Adrian Lopez ([adnlopez@ucdavis.edu](mailto:adnlopez@ucdavis.edu))

<http://www.ucop.edu/state/legislation/search.php?results=1&q=&t=all&s=&p=5&l=5>

#### **Key Meetings/Events Held in October**

- **October 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting with Senator Lara** – On October 3<sup>rd</sup> the UC Davis Office of State Government Relations participated in a meeting between Senator Ricardo Lara's Office and UCOP representatives from MESA and Upward Bound along with UC Davis's Director of Recruitment & Marketing for Undergraduate Admissions. The meeting focused on the SAPEP programs, specifically how they are funded, what their demographics are, success metrics, etc. Senator Lara is a product of these programs and has a keen interest in helping them to have continued success. We agreed to continue the dialogue once the legislature reconvenes.
- **October 17<sup>th</sup> UC Davis Energy Hub Celebration** – On October 17<sup>th</sup> UC Davis celebrated the consolidating of the campus' leading energy units at West Village. This consolidation will lead to new opportunities for interdisciplinary research, will provide for living laboratory space, will facilitate outreach and will increase interaction with the Sacramento City College campus located at West Village. Senator Wolk was part of the formal ribbon cutting program and gave remarks.



- **October 23<sup>rd</sup> K-9 Memorial Celebration** – On October 23<sup>rd</sup> the California “Faithful Partner” Law Enforcement K-9 Memorial was held at the UC Davis Veterinary School. The ceremony honors the brave and loyal K-9s who have fallen in the line of duty. This year K-9 Max from the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and Urko from the Hawthorne PD were honored. Multiple law enforcement agencies attended the event along with field representatives from Assemblywoman Yamada’s and Senator Wolk’s offices.

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

- January 1 – Statutes take effect
- January 6 – Legislature reconvenes

#### **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](mailto:adnlopez@ucdavis.edu) or by phone at (530) 752-9795.