



UC Davis State Government Relations Update June 30, 2014

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In this Update:

- *Update on Bills of Interest (Pages 1-2)*
- *Budget Update (Pages 2-3)*
- *Assembly Select Committee on Campus Climate Holds Hearing at King Hall (Page 3)*
- *Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates (Pages 3-4)*
- *Questions or Need Assistance? (Page 4)*

Update on Bills of Interest

On Monday, June 30, **AB 1989 (Chesbro)** passed out of the Senate Floor and is now headed to the Governor's desk. Sponsored by UC, the bill would allow certain students enrolled in enology or brewmaster degree programs at UC, CSU, and CCC to be exempt from current state age restrictions in order to fully participate in bona fide classes and programs where tasting of wine or beer is a necessary aspect of the class or program.

On Monday, June 30, the Assembly concurred in Senate amendments on **AB 1838 (Bonilla)**. The bill is headed to the Governor's desk. Co-sponsored by the University, the bill makes a pathway in licensure for accelerated medical education programs.

On Wednesday, June 25, **AB 1348 (Perez)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee as amended. The bill would establish a new California Higher Education Authority (Authority) to replace the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC). The University has concerns with the bill and will continue to work with the author.

On Tuesday, June 24, **SB 1210 (Lara)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with amendments. The bill, sponsored by UC, would establish a campus-based California DREAM Loan Program to serve UC and CSU students who qualify for a nonresident tuition exemption under AB 540 but who lack access to federal student loans.

On Tuesday, June 24, **AB 609 (Nestande)** passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill would enact the CA Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act. The University has a Support position on the bill.

On Tuesday, June 24, **SB 1022 (Huff)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would request UC and require CSU to publicly provide information on employment of graduates, including data on salary and distribution of employers, classified by industry. The University does not have a formal position on the bill and is working with the author.

On Tuesday, June 24, **AB 2726 (Daly)** passed out of the Senate Governmental Organization Committee. Sponsored by UC, the bill would reduce administrative costs associated with the sale or other disposition of University-owned property.

On Tuesday, June 24, **SB 850 (Block)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would authorize CCC, in consultation with CSU and UC, to establish baccalaureate degree pilot programs at up to 15 community college districts, as specified, to be determined by the CCC Chancellor. The University's position on the bill is pending.

On Tuesday, June 24, **SB 967 (de León)** passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee. The bill would require colleges and universities in California, in order to receive state funds for student financial assistance, to adopt certain policies and implement programs to address sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The University does not have a formal position on the bill but looks forward to continuing to work with the author

On Monday, June 23, **AB 1834 (Williams)** passed out of the Senate Public Employment and Retirement Committee. The bill would amend the Higher Education Employer Employee Relations Act (HEERA) to create collective bargaining rights for UC graduate student researchers (GSRs). UC is opposed to the bill.

On Monday, June 23, **AB 1953 (Skinner)** passed out of the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee. The bill would create the Higher Education Energy Efficiency Fund to award grants to UC and CSU campuses for building retrofits to reduce the demand for energy. The University supports the bill.

For other bills of interest to UC and UC Davis, please go to the following link, or contact Adrian Lopez (adnlopez@ucdavis.edu);

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

Budget Update

The Governor signed the budget bill, SB 852 (Senate Budget and Fiscal Review), on the morning of June 20th. The Governor's 2014-15 Budget Summary for higher education can be found here;

<http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/2014-15/pdf/Enacted/BudgetSummary/HigherEducation.pdf>

The final budget that was approved and signed by the Governor was almost identical to the Governor's January budget proposal with some additional augmentations for designated priorities and a significant increase in one-time funding. The final budget had the following items for UC:

- \$142 million augmentation for UC, representing a 5 percent State General Fund base budget increase over the 2013-14 budget.
- UC and CSU are to develop a three-year financial sustainability plan as originally proposed in his January budget.
- Innovation Awards of \$50 million in one-time funding to be used for proposals that will help improve graduation rates, decrease time to degree, and promote transfer from the Community Colleges.
- \$2 million each (above the \$142 million) in one-time funding for the Labor Centers and the Cal-Brain initiative.
- Approved a budget augmentation of \$5 million each year for 3 years (for a total of \$15 million) to be funded from Proposition 63 mental health revenue for the Behavior Health Centers at UCLA and UC Davis.
- A budget trigger is being established that will provide up to \$50 million in one-time monies for deferred maintenance.

Assembly Select Committee on Campus Climate Holds Hearing at King Hall

Assemblymember Shirley N. Weber (D-San Diego) chaired the third of four hearings of the Assembly Select Committee on Campus Climate on Thursday, June 5th at the University of California Davis School Of Law, Kalmanovitz Appellate Courtroom. The committee examined system-wide and campus-wide policies at California colleges and universities with the goal of gaining insight to changes needed to prevent student harassment and hate crimes at California's higher education institutions. The hearing also examined best practices of existing campus initiatives that are successfully addressing these issues.

Provost Hexter provided welcoming remarks at the hearing, while Sarah Ng from the Cross Cultural Center provided her perspective on the student experience on campus and Associate Executive Vice Chancellor Reed spoke to best practices regarding enriching the staff/faculty's experience at UC Davis. Other witnesses in attendance included representatives from the UC Office of the President, UC Berkeley, UC Merced, CSU Fresno, Yuba College, Sacramento State, CSU Stanislaus, Consumnes River College, the National Coalition of Hispanic Organizations, Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs, the NAACP and Loyola Law School.

The full hearing can be watched here;

<http://mediasite.ucdavis.edu/Mediasite6/Play/25b284944b5146cbbbe4d419eeaccd491d>

Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates

- **July 3** – The Legislature adjourns for summer recess upon adjournment of floor sessions.
- **August 4** – The Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.
- **August 15** – Is the last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills to the floor.

- **August 18 – 31** – Floor session only.
- **August 31** – Last day for each house to pass bills. Final recess begins upon adjournment.
- **September 30** – Is the last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills.

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.