



UC Davis State Government Relations Update March 31, 2014

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Update on Bills of Interest

SB 967 (De Leon) – On Wednesday, March 19, SB 967 passed out of the Senate Education Committee with amendments. The bill would require UC, CSU, and CCC to;

- 1) Adopt policies on campus sexual/domestic/dating violence and stalking, including an affirmative consent standard in the determination of whether consent was given by a complainant;
- 2) Adopt specified sexual assault policies and protocols;
- 3) If feasible, enter into MOUs/agreements/partnerships with campus/community-based organizations to make services available to victims; and
- 4) Implement related comprehensive prevention programs.

SGR Legislative Director Jason Murphy testified that the University currently does not have a position on the bill and will continue to work with the author. UC Davis' Title IX officer Wendi Delmendo was also in attendance at the hearing at the request of SGR to answer any technical questions.

AB 1838 (Bonilla) – On Tuesday, March 25, AB 1838 passed out of the Assembly Business, Professions and Consumer Protection Committee. Co-sponsored by the University, the bill makes a pathway in licensure for accelerated medical education programs. UC Associate Vice President of Health Sciences and Services Cathryn Nation, M.D., testified in support of the bill.

AB 1953 (Skinner) – On Tuesday, March 25, the University issued a "Support" position letter on AB 1953. This bill would create the Higher Education Energy Efficiency Fund in the State Treasury and allow

the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (California Energy Commission), to make grants to the University of California and California State University (CSU) campuses for building retrofits to reduce the demand for energy. AB 1953 is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Higher Education Committee on April 1, 2014.

SB 1210 (Lara) – On Wednesday, March 26, the University issued a “Support” position letter on SB 1220. This bill, which is sponsored by UC, establishes a campus-based State Education Access Loan Program (SEAL) to serve UC and CSU students who qualify for a nonresident tuition exemption under AB 540, but who lack access to federal student loans. SB 1210 is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Education Committee on April 9, 2014.

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>

Bay Area Council’s Annual Sacramento Day

On Monday, March 10, the Bay Area Council hosted its annual Sacramento Day. Participants, including UC Davis’ State Government Relations Director, met in the Governor’s Council Room with top legislative leaders and a number of the Governor’s cabinet secretaries, including Secretary of Transportation Brian Kelly, Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird, Assembly Majority Leader Toni Atkins (incoming Speaker of the Assembly), Senator Kevin de León (incoming Senate President pro Tem), Senate President pro Tem Darrel Steinberg, Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and Governor Jerry Brown. Topics of discussion included the current legislative session, the budget, the drought, high speed rail, education, health, affordable housing, etc.

Graduate Research Advocacy Day

President Janet Napolitano, Graduate Research Deans from all ten UC campuses, 22 graduate research students, and UC Berkeley Nobel Laureate Randy Schekman were in Sacramento on March 12 to meet with legislators and the Governor to discuss the importance of graduate research at the University of California. The aim of their visit: to have graduate students show legislators the value of graduate research first-hand by sharing examples of the vital work they do. As California's only public research university, UC's graduate programs stand apart both in California and in the nation. UC's 10 campuses educate 26,000 doctoral students annually — more than any other university system in the country — and bestow 8 percent of the nation's Ph.Ds.

Those attending the graduate research day ranged from a student investigating how traffic jams affect heart health to a student looking at how aging cells contribute to cancer. Their common purpose was presenting work that can inform better policies, create stronger and more resource-efficient societies and lead to innovations that will power the economy and save lives.

UC Davis graduate students who attended the advocacy day were:

1. Susan Perez, a Ph.D. student in the Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership Graduate Group. Perez is studying how people use the Internet to make health decisions. Perez’s work looks at how those with limited access to health care, including low literacy populations, currently access health information online and how it could be better used to connect them with information and empower them to make decisions about their health.; and
2. Eliot Crafton, a Ph.D. student in the Ecology Graduate Group. Crafton is creating a tool that identifies where new invasive marine species are most likely to be introduced and threaten coastal ecosystems. Coming in as stowaways on container ships or escaping from controlled aquaculture environments, non-native species can quickly cover hundreds of miles coast. Crafton’s tool, which could also be adapted to other environments, produces a map of hotspots that officials can use in order to prevent the threat – and potentially save billions of dollars in trying to eradicate a species once it has gained hold.

UC Davis Graduate Studies Dean Jeff Gibeling joined the students on their legislative visits with Assemblymembers Pan and Yamada and with the offices of Senators Gaines and Steinberg, along with the offices of Assemblymembers Cooley, Dickinson, Gaines and Frazier.



Controller Releases February Cash Update

On March 10, State Controller John Chiang released his monthly report of the state's cash balance, receipts and disbursements made for February 2014. "Revenues for the month totaled \$5.6 billion, surpassing estimates in the 2014-15 Governor's Budget by \$968.9 million, or 20.9 percent." The report is available at http://sco.ca.gov/Files-ARD/CASH/fy1314_march.pdf.

Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates

- April 5-7: UCSA Day(s)
- April 25: UC Drought Summit
- April 29: Joint Higher Education Advocacy Day (JHEAD)
- May 13: Student Leadership Forum
- May 13-15: Regents'-UCSA Advocacy Days

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.