

Exhibit 1

Information Item

Executive Director's report



Executive Director's Report February, 2015

Dear Commissioners,

It is application season and the Commission staff is busy conducting trainings, providing assistance by phone and email to thousands of high school and college students as they complete the FAFSA, Cal Grant and Dream Act application processes. The Commission staff is also working on legislation and preparation for the budget hearing process which begins in earnest with the publication of the Legislative Analyst's report on the budget expected in February. The good news for 2015 is that the Commission's proposed budget for 2015-16 is a good one. As we look ahead, we are in the midst of planning for the replacement of the (Cal Grant) Grant Delivery System and for the new Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA) for 2016-2020. Both of these processes will require significant time and effort this year. Planning funds for the Grant Delivery System are proposed in the Governor's 2015-16 Budget. The Commission and staff will need to convince the Legislature that a new system is necessary and required this year to ensure continued effective delivery of the Cal Grant Program. The Grant Delivery replacement project will also include the integration of some of our other financial aid programs as well. The replacement of the Grant Delivery System will include significant consultation with the users of our system (the students and the institutions) as well as the external federal and state agencies such as the U.S. Department of Education, the State of California's Information Technology Agency and the Department of Finance. The plan will also require consultation with the Legislative Analyst and Members of the Legislature before funding for the system will be approved. Commission staff will be updating you on our progress throughout the year as we make our way through the budget process and, hopefully, begin the official planning process in July, 2015.

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Also a major effort in 2015 will be the development of an Institutional Participation Agreement for all participating Cal Grant institutions. Our current IPA is a singular document that is required of all participating institutions. Commission staff will be bringing to you at our February meeting, consideration of a new approach that will focus on restructuring our IPA process. Consultation for the new IPA will be overseen by the Commission and will be a subject of discussion at each of our Commission meetings during the coming year.

Below you will find an update of the work of each of the Commission's divisions. It has been a great start of a New Year. I am grateful for the work of the Commission staff who each day work on behalf of California's students.

COMMISSION PROGRAMS UPDATE

Here below are updates from each of the divisions.

❖ Program Administration & Services Division (PASD) Update

2015-16 Cal Grant Award and Application Processing

- High schools and colleges continue to upload and submit Grade Point Averages (GPA) in preparation for Cal Grant award processing. Staff continue to work with High School Districts to streamline GPA submission by opting to use the electronic upload process.
- CSAC received the GPA data from Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). LAUSD launched a new student information system in the fall of 2014, but experienced setbacks that caused delays in the transfer of GPA data to CSAC.
- The initial 2015-16 Cal Grant selection process for the High School Entitlement (E1) cycle ran on Thursday, January 29, 2015, earlier than in prior years.
- The 2015-16 online California Dream Act application opened to the public on January 1, 2015, the same day as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). CSAC staff was able to accomplish the January 1st release date for the first time by completing the 2013-14 reconciliation process earlier in December, working over the holidays to prepare for the year end operational activities. Although the 2015-16 online application enhancements included improvements to the parent signature process, help-text and the logic for selecting the correct application. The Selective Service question for males and the Dream Loan question were also incorporated into the 2015-16 application.

Cal Grants and Specialized Programs Training and Outreach

- The 2015 training webinar schedule was released in December 2014. The schedule includes webinar sessions through June of 2015 on various topics from Cal Grant 101, Middle Class Scholarship and the California Dream Act.
- CSAC staff posted recorded sessions of past webinars for high schools and institutions to access on an on-demand basis. Additional recorded sessions will be added throughout the year, as well as short training modules.

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- Staff continues to present Cal Grant and Specialized Programs local training and outreach events at middle schools, high schools and colleges.
- Staff made site visits at local colleges including American River Community College and Sierra College to better understand the financial aid process from an institutional perspective.
- Tae Kang, Senior Manager, Kirby Jones, Institutional Support Manager and Christine Draa, Lead Trainer, participated in “Cal Grant Day” for the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) on Friday, January 16. Financial aid staff from all nine campuses attended the all-day training event held at Los Angeles City College to learn the Cal Grant basics, Dream Act and the payment process. CSAC staff had the opportunity to learn more about the processes involved at the district level to disburse and reconcile Cal Grant accounts. CSAC thanks LACCD and Los Angeles City College staff for organizing and hosting a well-attended event.
- CSAC staff attended the 2015 California Community College Student Financial Aid Administrators Association (CCCSFAA) conference held in Monterey from February 17-19. Staff provided Cal Grant and Dream Act training, and facilitated a session on the GDS modernization project.

Division and Personnel Updates

- Senior Manager, Bryan Dickason, accepted a position with the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) after 24 years of service at CSAC. Bryan has made considerable contributions in the areas of customer service, outreach and training, management and development of the Cal Grant and various Specialized programs. CSAC looks forward to working with him and the rest of the CCCCCO team for future partnership projects.
- In an effort to streamline the workload and improve the customer service experience for external callers, PASD has reorganized and moved to a traditional tiered phone service model. All customer service calls including student, school and other stakeholders will be directed to the Tier 1 support line. Any unresolved or escalated calls will be transferred to the Tier 2 line which is comprised of the most experienced PASD staff. During the months of December and January, staff received training in various areas including customer service, financial aid methodology and call transfers. Management is hopeful that the tiered model will provide staff a broader expertise in financial aid, customer satisfaction and measurable data in call volume.

❖ **Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) Update**

Cal SOAP

On track for release of security enhancements to production for Cal SOAP by January 23, 2015. Modules are currently in test. Testing goal is to complete by Tuesday 01/20/2015. Next phase is system enhancements from external stakeholders.

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Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) Program

MCS initial project completed. Currently gathering requirements for new functionality (Phase4) of project.

Grant Delivery System (GDS) Modernization

FSR has been approved. Internal CSAC team is working with OTech to complete the following steps:

1. Focus on the solution identified in the FSR
2. Make sure the process we want to use is real
3. Create and implement an Organizational Change Management (OCM) process
4. Train the team to use the OCM plan
5. Complete and review Project Plans
6. Identify key resources from each unit and add to Project Plan
7. Complete State 2 Business Analysis and validate with score card
8. Create a Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM)
9. Develop a requirements depository
10. Plan Joint Application Development (JAD) sessions

Success Dashboard

In test with PASD Business Analysts.

Dream Act

Implemented for 2015-16, currently monitored for anomalies

Fresno – District Student Summary Data Request/Report

Development phase of creating requested reports.

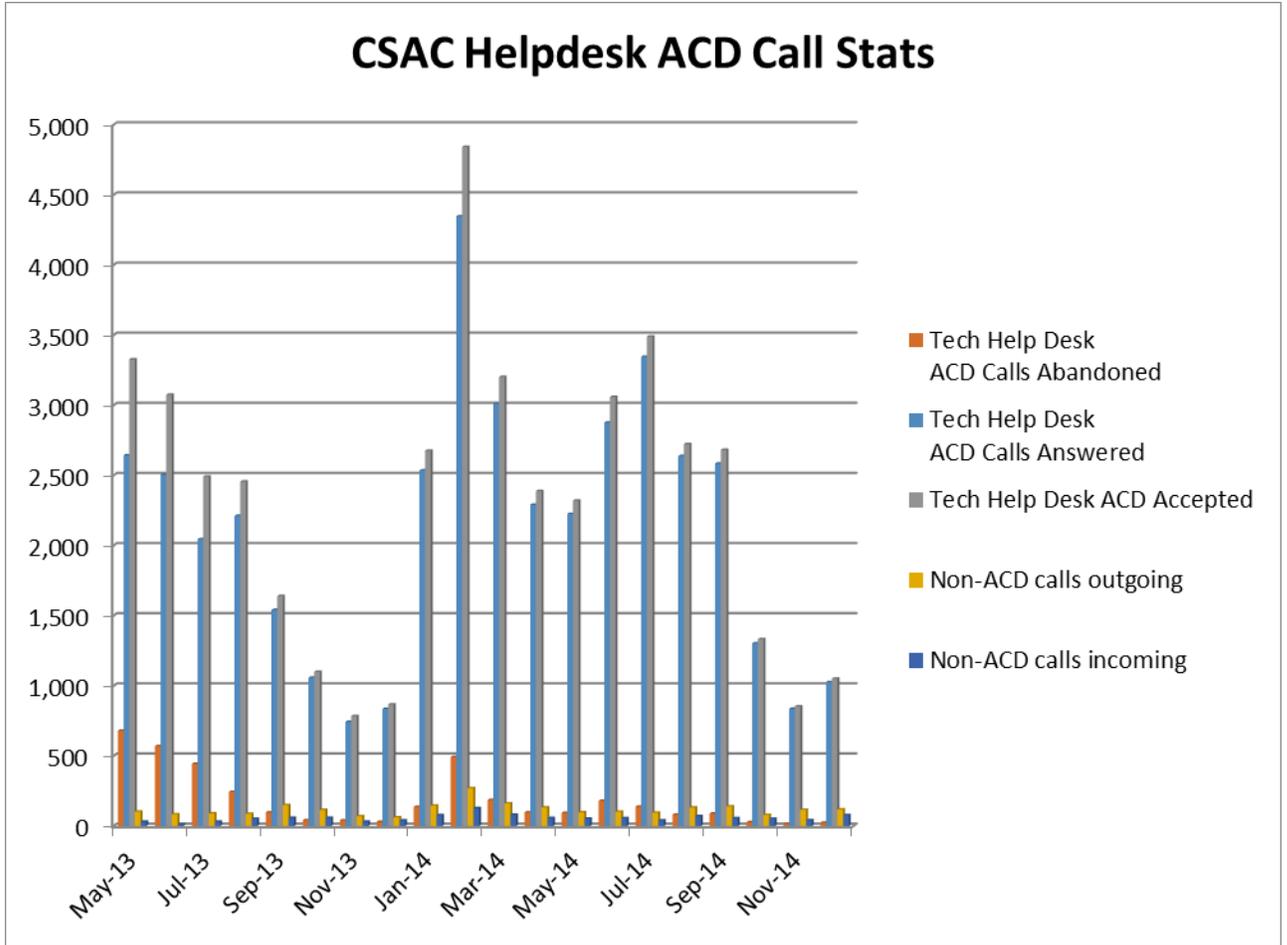
Cal Grant Award Cycles (C1/C2)

In analysis phase of C1/C2 Throttle project.

Network, Desktop and Helpdesk

- New internal firewalls were installed at both CSAC HQ and CSAC's data center. These firewalls protect our network from hackers and blocks those that do not meet the specified security criteria
- Staff continue to update servers, desktops and mobile devices with security patches.
- ITSD is in the process of configuring 30+ laptops and 20 Surface Pro devices for use at the upcoming Feria event on February 7th. ITSD staff will setup devices at the event and attend the event for technical support.
- Helpdesk (HD) – We are approaching our busy season for our Helpdesk call volume (see chart). We also opened up an internal HD line for CSAC staff to reach our technical HD between 7am-5pm.

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Change and Configuration Management:

- Continuing to support the managements of defects, as they move from development to UAT testing.
- Continuing to help with tracking of versions of software in the Star Team system.

❖ **Legal & Audit Services Division Update**

Program Compliance

The program compliance auditors have been performing fiscal audits of all institutions that were determined to be ineligible to participate in the Cal Grant Program as a result of failing to meet the cohort default rate and/or graduation rate thresholds found in Education Code section 9432.7(l). For the 2013-14 fiscal year, 23 institutions were audited resulting in \$35,299.77 being returned to the Commission. An additional \$8,869.00 in institutional liability resulted from two institutions that failed to appropriately reconcile Cal Grant funds. For the 2014-15 fiscal year, there are 65 audits in process. Of these, there are 37 closed audits that have resulted in \$149,541.15 being returned to the Commission and an additional \$9,842.00 in institutional liability resulted from two institutions that failed to appropriately reconcile Cal Grant funds.

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The auditors are also performing regular fiscal audits of eligible Cal Grant Program institutions; of these, 11 audits are either in process or completed. The most common findings for the fiscal audits have been the failure by the institution to return interest owed on state funds; failure to maintain state funds in an interest bearing account; the institution not calculating the interest correctly; and the institution failing to reconcile its Cal Grant funds. These audits have resulted in the return of \$3,444.89 to the Commission.

The program compliance auditors are also performing full field audits of Cal Grant participating institutions. For the 2013-14 fiscal year, 10 institutions were audited resulting in \$241,675.40 being returned to the Commission. An additional \$78,030.50 in institutional liability resulted from five institutions that failed to appropriately reconcile Cal Grant funds. For the 2014-15 fiscal year, there are 23 audits in process. Of these, there are 10 closed audits that have resulted in \$12,606.23 being returned to the Commission and an additional \$3,029.00 in institutional liability resulted from three institutions that failed to appropriately reconcile Cal Grant funds.

Internal Audits

The Internal Auditor is drafting an Internal Audit Plan and Risk Assessment to be presented at the Commission’s February 2015 Legislation, Audit & Budget Committee meeting. The Internal Audit Plan and Risk Assessment will be based upon a risk-based approach specific to CSAC operations. The plan will focus on high risk areas and a limited amount of special projects, as available resources permit.

Legal

The following is an update on the MOUs that the Commission has entered into with its partners on various Cal Grant research projects:

PARTNER	PROJECT DETAILS	TIMELINE	FISCAL
Stanford University	<p>The study will focus on workforce outcomes, Cal Grant targeting, and student mobility, and Cal Grant’s role in providing a pathway from poverty. The bulk of the study will focus on CSAC data for cohorts ranging from 1998-99 through 2002-03, though limited records from more recent cohorts will be used as well.</p> <p>This project includes data matching with external entities. CSAC will be submitting student records to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) to obtain certain data not currently possessed by CSAC needed to measure the impact of Cal Grants. Stanford will be providing the funds used by CSAC to purchase the</p>	<p>CSAC submitted data to the Treasury in October 2014.</p> <p>The Commission has submitted Stanford’s data set to NSC and has received the matched records.</p> <p>Initial, limited results will be available within several months of obtaining the required data. Additional findings will take up to 18 months.</p> <p>The MOU runs through December 2015.</p>	<p>CSAC will receive funds from Stanford to purchase the NSC records. Initially, approximately \$25,000 will be made available, with additional funding possible, depending on Stanford’s ability to obtain additional grant funding. CSAC will maintain ownership of the records.</p> <p>CSAC is not being reimbursed by Stanford for the project, although Stanford has agreed to assist or undertake projects on behalf of the Commission.</p>

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PARTNER	PROJECT DETAILS	TIMELINE	FISCAL
	<p>additional data.</p> <p>CSAC will also be submitting data to the U.S. Department of the Treasury to match Cal Grant recipient records against wage data.</p>		
College Access Foundation	In order to ascertain the number of their served students who receive Cal Grants, College Access Foundation (CAF) has requested Cal Grant data from CSAC. CSAC will receive lists of students from CAF, and match those students to records in the Grant Delivery System. This project will cover the 12-13 to 14-15 cohorts.	This project will run through January 2016.	CAF will reimburse CSAC for staff time for a total of \$39,000. As of July 1, 2014, CSAC received legal authority to accept reimbursement for its data activities. CSAC will be issuing its invoice to CAF in the near future.
Ed Trust West	Ed Trust West requested several pieces of data for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 cohorts in order to assist them in researching the efficacy of college access programs throughout the state. Several of their reports, including “The Cost of Opportunity” and “Doorways to College Aid” focus on investment and outcomes of programs designed to increase access to college for California Students.	The MOU runs through January 2015, when the 2014-15 cohort data will be delivered.	There is no financial reimbursement in this project because, at the time the MOU was executed, there was no legal mechanism for CSAC to collect reimbursements from a third party for research.
Harvard University	Harvard requested data from CSAC in order to study the impact of California’s CDR and graduation rate eligibility requirements on the for-profit sector. This project is in the initial planning phase.	A draft MOU is being negotiated for this research.	TBD
The Institute for College Access & Success	<i>The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS) and the Commission</i> are partnering to evaluate the Commission’s Competitive Cal Grant Program, including, among other things, whether changing the scoring criteria would increase the number of awards that may be paid in each academic year and whether the current scoring criteria ensures that the disadvantage factors are sufficiently prominent elements of	A draft MOU is being negotiated for this research. It is anticipated that this will be completed and the data will be shared by December 31, 2014.	There is no financial reimbursement in this project.

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PARTNER	PROJECT DETAILS	TIMELINE	FISCAL
	the award selection process.		
National Student Clearinghouse	The Commission entered into the MOU with the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) to support the Stanford research project. The Commission also submitted some additional records	The MOU with NSC was completed on December 23, 2014. On January 6, 2015, CSAC staff submitted the Stanford records and some additional CSAC records to NSC. NSC has received the records and returned the requested data. Both Stanford and the Commission are analyzing the data.	Stanford will be reimbursing the Commission for the costs associated with its NSC data submission.

❖ Strategic Policy, Media and Communications Division Update

Executive Office

- The California Student Aid Commission launched its “Commission News Clips” emails and companion website RSS Feed.
- The Commission participated in the NextEd: Career GPS conference at Cal Expo. The largest college and career expo in Sacramento with over 6,000 high school students.
- The Commission met with California State Fair External Affairs Division and has been invited to participate as a partner in the California State Fair’s new education module and assist in promoting the availability of the CSF scholarship for low income students.
- Working with the joint Senate Rules and Assembly Rules Committee 2015 CSAC Legislative Briefing that will be live-streamed for the first time statewide to all interested legislative offices.
- The Commission is invited by Assembly member Shirley Weber (Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee) to participate in the Day of Action sponsored by the California Endowment and the California African American Educators and the United Black Student Unions of California.
- The Commission participate in Congressman John Garamendi’s Women’s Initiative Network roundtable in Marysville, CA bringing together women leaders from the region to discuss women’s empowerment issues.
- The Commission met with Apple Computer’s North American K-12 digital education representative to discuss the importance of factoring technology as an issue for college access and competitiveness.

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- The Commission participated in the Assembly Budget Sub-Committee #2 Hearing and Press Conference regarding the Middle Class Scholarship in Huntington Beach, CA.
- The Commission provided keynote presentations to over 500 students as part of the Travis Federal Credit Union Cal Grants Day college fair at Solano Community College in Fairfield, CA.
- The Commission has completed the production and distribution of the digital magazine and hard copy version of Fund Your Future. This publication is now available in a downloadable app and website www.fundyourfuture.org.
- The Commission has completed the Middle Class Scholarship video production in compliance with the legislative outreach mandate.

Community Outreach

- The Commission is working closely with the Mexican Consulate on the annual Steps to College Feria schedule for February 7, 2015. This year's event anticipates over 3,400 students throughout Northern California to participate.
- Working with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Workforce and Investment, Stakeholder Partnerships, Education and Communication division to make Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers cross-trained in FAFSA completion to enhance submission outcomes in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Attended the "Making College Possible for Low-Income Students" presentation by the Public Policy Institute of California.
- Met with the Young Invincibles to discuss student engagement and social media.
- Met with the National Basketball Association's Sacramento Kings to discuss the 2015 Project Assist project.
- The Commission participated in the Los Angeles Cash for College event that brings together low-income students from the Los Angeles Unified School District to learn about financial aid and college admission. Commission Chair John McDowell presented at the scholarship awards presentation during this event.
- The Commission was represented at the "World's Largest Financial Literacy Fair" with the University of Southern California (USA) and the Banc of California bringing more than 7,000 low-income students together for presentations about financial literacy featuring President Bill Clinton.
- The Commission provided a presentation to the Green Tech Academy at Cosumnes River College in collaboration with the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity learning academy that works to build a college going culture for African American middle and high school aged young men.
- The Commission participated in the Campaign for College Opportunity's 10th Anniversary Celebration.

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- The Commission is participating in the Black College Expo in Oakland, CA and in Los Angeles, CA and is providing a Cash for College Workshops at the events.
- The Commission organized in the KCRA-TV Cash for College day activities with the NBC affiliate. Over 50 staff and volunteers participated. The Commission fielded over 1,450 telephone calls, over 200 emails and online messages and 107 Tweets resulting in over 376,000 impressions.
- Mayor's Cal Grant Challenge with Get Schooled the Commission is encouraging California Mayor's to encourage FAFSA/Cal Grant application completion.
- The Commission participated in the Native American Day activities at the State Capitol.
- SAFE Credit Union High School Business Academy Financial Literacy Project

State Agency Collaborations

- The Commission partnered with the California Department of Information Technology to complete the development and enhancement of the Student Aid Commission Mobile App that is now fully implemented and operational.
- The Commission participated in the California Board of Equalization Conference in Inglewood, CA to increase public awareness of the Cal Grant B Access Award and the California College Access Tax Credit.
- The Commission participated in meeting with the Department of Information Technology, Apple, and K to College to discuss improving access to technology for low-income students in California.

Campus-based Collaborations

- The Commission is collaborating with U.C. Merced and the Fresno Unified School District to transition the federal FAFSA Initiative pilot into a continuing project that is enhanced to include California Dream Act students.
- The Commission is participating in the federal "First in the World" digital innovation research grant with the University of Southern California (USC) through its Cal-SOAP program to increase low-income students' access to college and financial aid using digital technology and role-playing games (RPGs).

Federal Collaborations

- The Commission is participating in the U.S. Department of Education's FAFSA Completion Initiative that focuses on improving individual student level FAFSA completion (Fresno Unified School District).
- Working with the U.S. Department of Ed Student Aid division in Region IX to provide California specific background information for their presentations to students and families in San Jose.

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- Continuing outreach with the U.S. Selective Service.

Nonprofit Partnerships

- The Get Schooled Foundation
- The Get Schooled Foundation and Univision Initiative
- K to College
- National College Resources Foundation
- California Association of African American Educators
- United Black Student Unions of California
- NextEd

Media Interviews

- Marin Independent Journal, Pell Runners
- Sacramento Observer, Cal Grant Program Overview
- LA Times, Middle Class Scholarship
- Golden Gate Express, San Francisco State University Newspaper, Middle Class Scholarship
- Wall Street Journal, Graduation Rates/CDR
- KGO Radio News, Middle Class Scholarship
- KCRA-TV News, College Knowledge
- San Francisco Chronicle, Middle Class Scholarship
- San Francisco Chronicle, College Access Tax Credit Fund
- University of California, Los Angeles Daily Bruin, Potential UC Tuition Hikes
- KGO Radio News, Student Loan Debt
- Univision, California Dream Act
- PBS Newshour, Washington, DC, California Dream Act Application Rates
- Bay Area News Group, Potential UC Tuition Hikes
- LA Times, Middle Class Scholarship
- San Francisco Chronicle, Middle Class Scholarship
- University of California, Los Angeles Daily Bruin, Middle Class Scholarship

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- Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News, Middle Class Scholarship
- Inside Higher Education, Student Wages
- Associated Press, San Francisco, California Dream Act
- Capitol News Service, Proposed UC Tuition Increases
- Chico State University Orion, Middle Class Scholarship
- Sacramento Bee, Institutional Eligibility
- Orange County Register, Financial aid Application Season
- Hechinger Report, Cal Grant Competitive Awards
- Inside Higher Ed, US Department of Education's FAFSA Completion Initiative
- LA Times, FAFSA Time
- LA Times, FAFSA on a Postcard federal proposal
- San Francisco Chronicle, Community Colleges and Cal Grants
- University of California, Los Angeles Daily Bruin, Response to Governor's Higher Ed Budget

Social Media

- Posted Commission Meeting Excerpts on CAstudentaid YouTube and Vimeo Channels
- Joint #Cash4College Campaign with Young Invincibles

Twitter Follower Analytics

- 1,149 Twitter followers
- Highest Impressions: "GetSchooled.com" featuring Text "FAFSA" to 335577 (2,382)

Top Cities

28% Los Angeles
14% Sacramento-Stockton-Modesto
14% San Francisco
5% Washington, DC
5% San Diego

Unique Interests

25% Financial aid and scholarships
21% College students
20% College life

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Facebook Follower Analytics

- 1,279 Facebook likes
- Best Reach: “Why You Should Fill Out the FAFSA”
- Best Engagement: “Why You Should Fill Out the FAFSA”
- Most Likes/Comments/Shares: “Why You Should Fill Out the FAFSA”

Top Cities

Los Angeles (143)

Sacramento (116)

San Diego (41)

San Jose (32)

San Francisco (26)

Fresno (22)

Top Ages

15% 18-24

16% 25-34

14% 35-44

13% 45-54

Both social media platforms include both national and international followers.

❖ Administration & External Affairs Division Update

Administration

Ethics Training has been completed by all commissioners and CSAC designated staff.

We continue to send staff to the Fi\$Cal business transformation system training in anticipation of the technology transfer to the new statewide system which will technologically integrate all state departments accounting, budgets, cash management and procurement processes.

Budgets

Upon publication of the 2015-16 Governor’s Proposed Budget, Supplementary Schedules (spending plan) are required for Operating Expense, Federal Funds/Reimbursements, and Equipment conforming to the final Governor’s budget. Staff has submitted this information to the Department of Finance (DOF). DOF will transmit these documents to the Legislative Analyst’s Office and the legislative fiscal committees.

Staff are currently reconciling the following budget spreadsheets to the 2015-16 Governor’s Proposed Budget.

- Local Assistance and State Operations
- Budget Act Appropriation
- Baseline Budget
- Galley

A loan request was submitted to the Department of Finance (DOF) for \$258,000 from the General Fund to support the Cash for College program (state operations) in the current fiscal year because funding from the Federal College Access Challenge Grant funding will not

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become available until the new fiscal year. DOF approved the loan, and staff is currently working with DOF on the payment process.

The annual Local Assistance cash flow drill has been submitted to DOF for processing.

Business Services

Business services staff are fulfilling Cash for College (CFC) and CSAC orders for materials for the workshops. Fund Your Future Magazines, Cash for College Folders, T-Shirts, Cal Grant Post Cards and the Chafee Flyers in English and Spanish have all been received for Financial Aid workshops.

Business Services began processing the new American Express Company Billed/Company Paid (CB/CP) credit cards for CSAC employees who travel. Training on the use of the new cards will commence the last week of January.

We continue to work with IT to update our electronic publications inventory.

We have completed and received approval for the CSAC State Purchasing Manual and it is now posted on our intranet.

Accounting

Accounting and PASD completed the closure of the Paul Douglas program and have entered into an agreement with Franchise Tax Board to recover outstanding receivables. We are beginning the reconciliation process for the Cal Grant-T program.

Accounting staff continue to assist Program Compliance staff to initiate recovery of overpayments made to institutions in prior years.

Accounting staff have transmitted all 1099 forms to the Franchise Tax Board for current and past year for EdFund accounts that have STD-204 or W-9 on file.

Accounting staff continue to providing training on CalATERS and are developing our Travel Intranet Book Tools with rules and regulations and will begin training staff on usage in the near future.

The Accounting Unit hired a new employee (part time) to help with deposits, check logging and tables clean-up for the Fi\$Cal integration.

Personnel

The Affordable Care Act database through the State Controller's Office (SCO) is up and running effective 1/12/15. The CSAC Personnel office is responsible for keying all new employee benefit enrollment information into the system. Additionally, all changes to benefits and open enrollment information will be required. Documentation will be maintained by Personnel to provide substantiation to CalHR and SCO at the end of the 2015 calendar year.

Open enrollment changes requested during September and October became effective January 1, 2015.

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CSAC will be taking part in the February Delegation Authority wave through CalHR. This will require training by all Personnel staff, taking place in February or March. A report will be required by CalHR monthly, documenting any information related to CEAs, illegal appointments and Classification Change Request Form 625s.

New hires and separations from December 1 through the present are as noted below:

Division	New Hires	Separations
Information Technology Services	0	2
Program Administration & Services	2	4
Administration & External Affairs	0	0
Legal & Audit Services	0	0
Strategic Policy, Media & Communications	0	0
Executive	0	0
Total	2	6

Research

- We continue to provide data and other information to the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Legislature on bill cost and population estimates.
- We are developing a standard "request" form for all internal and external data requests being made of the Program and Research units.
- We prepared and posted the 2015-16 Cal Grant School list on December 19, 2014.

Date Released	Number of Schools		
	Eligible*	Ineligible	Total
12/19/2014	324	21	345

*Eligible includes 23 schools pending receipt and approval of updated documents.

COMMISSION ACTIONS UPDATE

Below is an update of the actions taken by the Commission at its most recent meetings.

	ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION	STATUS UPDATE
1	<p>Commission Meeting Minutes</p> <p>At its November 13-14, 2014 meeting, the Commission approved the Consent Calendar which included the minutes of the September 18-19, 2014 meeting.</p> <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Anton, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Geiogoue, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i></p> <p><i>Abstained: Commissioners AJose and Foresti</i> <i>Absent: Commissioners Doud and Marion</i></p>	<p>The Commission Secretary has signed the minutes.</p>

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ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION	STATUS UPDATE
<p>2 Consideration of Designating Commissioner(s) as Director(s) on the EdFund Board</p> <p>At its November meeting, the Commission approved the Consent Calendar, which included the consideration of designating Commissioner(s) as Director(s) on the EdFund Board.</p> <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Anton, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Geiogue, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i> Abstained: Commissioners AJose and Foresti Absent: Commissioners Doud and Marion</p>	<p>No further action is required.</p>
<p>3 2014-15 California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) Contracts</p> <p>On November 13th, the Commission approved its Consent Calendar which included the consideration of redistribution of the \$206,643 in 2014-15 Cal-SOAP funding for continued development of the new database.</p> <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Anton, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Geiogue, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i> Abstained: Commissioners AJose and Foresti Absent: Commissioners Doud and Marion</p>	<p>The contract has been executed.</p>
<p>4 Consideration of Scoring Criteria for Awarding Competitive Cal Grants</p> <p>On November 13, 2014 the Commission approved the following:</p> <p>In an effort to pay 100 percent of the Competitive award offers, staff recommends that the Commission authorize staff to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Withdraw awards for unpaid students only (those that do not have any code posted for fall) on December 10, 2014. 2) Offer additional awards to the next cohort(s) of eligible students. 3) Continue to review and analyze the data on disadvantaged students to provide comprehensive recommendations concerning changing the Competitive scoring matrix and review options of giving the withdrawn students a priority status if they apply the following academic year. 4) Continue to identify options for collecting enrollment files or other data exchanges with campuses that could increase the paid rate for the Competitive award offers. 	<p>Exhibit 17 provides an update on the Competitive Cal Grant program.</p>

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	ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION	STATUS UPDATE
	<p>5) Report back at the February Commission meeting any recommendations to changing the Competitive scoring matrix.</p> <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Doud, Foresti, Geiogue, Graves, Le Grande, Marion, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i></p>	
5	<p>Consideration of Paid Rates for Cal Grant Entitlement Awards</p> <p>On November 13th, the Commission voted to direct Commission staff to report to the Commission at its February 2015 meeting with a recommendation.</p> <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Doud, Foresti, Geiogue, Graves, Le Grande, Marion, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i></p>	<p>Exhibit 18 provides an update of the Cal Grant Entitlement Award Offers.</p>
6	<p>Election of Commission Officers</p> <p>At the November meeting, the Commission elected its new slate of officers, effective January 1, 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Hal Geiogue was voted Chair (9-6) <p><i>In Favor of Commissioner Geiogue: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Geiogue, Graves, Le Grande, Marion, Moore, Sawyer and Scott</i></p> <p><i>In Favor of Commissioner Beltran: Commissioners Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Doud, Foresti and McDowell</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Ana Beltran was re-elected Vice Chair (9-6) <p><i>In Favor of Commissioner Beltran: Commissioners Ajose, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Marion, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i></p> <p><i>In Favor of Commissioner Graves: Commissioners Anton, Doud, Foresti, Geiogue, Graves and Le Grande</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Brian Conley was unanimously elected Secretary (unopposed) <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Arzate, Beltran, Conley, Doud, Foresti, Geiogue, Graves, Le Grande, Marion, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and McDowell</i></p>	<p>No further action is required.</p>
7	<p>The Commission’s Committee Structure for 2015</p> <p>On January 16, 2015, the Commission approved the following recommendations:</p>	<p>The Standing Committees will be considering proposed changes to their respective charters at the February 19-20, 2015 Commission meeting.</p>

California Student Aid Commission

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION	STATUS UPDATE
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transfer the legislative and budget duties from the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee (SPPC) to the Audit Committee and rename it the Legislative, Audit and Budget (LAB) Committee. 2. Adopt the following four committees for 2015 : the Personnel, Evaluations, and Nominations (PEN) Committee, the Student Impact (SI) Committee, the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee (SPPC), and the Legislative, Audit and Budget (LAB) Committee. 3. Request that each committee review its Charter and recommend any changes to the full Commission at the February 19-20 Commission meeting. <p><i>In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Beltran, Conley, Foresti, Graves, Marion, McDowell, Moore, Sawyer, Scott, Solorio and Geiogue Absent: Commissioners Doud and Le Grande</i></p>	

And finally, the Commission and its staff look forward to welcoming our newest appointee, Jose Solorio, to the Commission. We are planning to hold an orientation session for Commissioner Solorio before his first Commission meeting on February 19th.

Sincerely,

Diana Fuentes-Michel

Executive Director

1975-1979 Cal Grant B recipient

1979 graduate of Loyola Marymount University, Alpha Sigma Nu (The National Jesuit Honorary Society) member