

Minutes

Action Item

Approval of minutes of April 7-8, 2016

DRAFT

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

April 7-8, 2016

A meeting of the California Student Aid Commission was held on Thursday, April 7, 2016 and Friday, April 8, 2016 at the University of Redlands, Building 221, Armacost Library, 2nd Floor, Redlands Room, 1200 E. Colton Avenue, Redlands, California.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016

Chair Hal Geiogoue called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present:

Hal Geiogoue, Chair
Lande Ajose, Vice Chair
Nancy Anton
Glen Becerra
Jessica Foresti
Devon Graves
Harry Le Grande
Debra Maxie
Jamillah Moore
Wm. Gregory Sawyer
Jack Scott
David Valladolid

The following Commissioner was absent:

Jose Solorio

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chair Geiogoue called for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

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WELCOME AND PRESENTATION BY THE UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS (INFORMATION)

Mr. Ken Hall, Board Trustee, welcomed the Commission and its staff to the University of Redlands and introduced Dr. Ralph Kuncl, University President. Dr. Kuncl also welcomed the Commission and shared his background. He then presented a Power Point that included an overview of the institution, its student body and Cal Grant recipients, as well as its revenue sources, costs and graduation rates in comparison to the public institution segment. Mr. Kevin Dyerly, Vice President of Enrollment, also provided a Power Point that included data on the institution's outreach programs, campus diversity, the Cal Grant program, and comparisons between the University of California, California State University and independent California colleges systems on enrollment and graduation rates. There was some discussion about building partnerships to promote successful community college transfers. Additional discussion ensued about the University of Redlands' graduating students' outcomes, as well as their opportunities for student engagement in college life and development of their leadership skills.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2016 AND FEBRUARY 4-5, 2016 (ACTION)

MOVED (Le Grande), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the minutes of the January 14, 2016 and February 4-5, 2016 meetings.

In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Maxie, Moore, Sawyer, Scott and Geiogoue
Abstained from voting on January 14, 2016 minutes: Commissioners Becerra, Foresti and Valladolid
Abstained from voting on February 4-5, 2016 minutes: Commissioners Becerra, Le Grande and Valladolid
Absent: Commissioner Solorio

CHAIR'S REPORT (INFORMATION)

Chair Geiogoue acknowledged the departure of former Commissioners John McDowell, Jr., Ana Beltran and Jacqueline Doud, and shared copies of the Commission Resolutions that were sent to them. He also welcomed the newest Commissioners, Glen Becerra and David Valladolid. Additionally, Chair Geiogoue announced the following new Committee appointments, effective April 7, 2016:

- Commissioner Le Grande as Chair of the Personnel, Evaluation & Nominations (PEN) Committee;
- Commissioner Ajose as Vice Chair of the PEN Committee;
- Commissioner Valladolid as member of the Student Impact and PEN Committees; and
- Commissioner Becerra as member of the Legislative, Audit & Budget (LAB) and PEN Committees.

He also reported on recent activities, including the Steps to College Feria, KCRA 3 Cash for College Event, AICCU Student Day and the upcoming meeting with segmental representatives to discuss the California State University's proposed concept of "One Stop Grant Delivery."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (INFORMATION)

Executive Director Lupita Cortez Alcalá provided an update on FAFSA season statistics, including customer service phone calls, emails, and application processing. She also reported on her recent activities, including the March 15, 2016 Assembly Budget Committee hearing, meetings with Finance and legislative staff, *Meet & Greets* with Commissioners, and the California Community Colleges All Directors Meeting in San Diego. Executive Director Alcalá indicated that she is working

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to reestablish the Grant Advisory and Cal-SOAP Committees. Lastly, Executive Director Alcalá reported that Mr. Brandon Biegert will be heading up the Legislative Office.

CALIFORNIA STUDENT OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS PROGRAM (CAL-SOAP) PROJECT DIRECTORS REPORT (INFORMATION)

Ms. Nicole Korgie Jackson, Long Beach Cal-SOAP Director and Lead Project Director, presented her written report, which included an update on the Los Angeles areas being served by the Long Beach Cal-SOAP consortium. She also reported on the national distinctions bestowed upon two Cal-SOAP project directors.

Ms. Catalina Mistler, Chief of the Program Administration & Services Division, reported that the additional funds were distributed to the other consortia and their contracts were amended to reflect that. She also reported that Commission staff will be monitoring the Los Angeles Cal-SOAP very closely to ensure that it can fulfill the requirements of its proposed Annual Program Plan (APP) for the 2016-17 academic year. Ms. Keri Tippins, General Counsel and Chief of the Legal & Audit Services Division, reported that the Los Angeles Cal-SOAP's response to the surprise audit is due April 8, 2016. Some discussion ensued about the Los Angeles area high schools that are still not being served.

The following members of the public commented in support of continuing the Los Angeles Cal-SOAP services:

- Ms. Patricia Perez-Filimaua, Chair of the Los Angeles Cal-SOAP;
- Mr. George Reyes, Career Guidance Coordinator, El Monte Union High School District; and
- Ms. Margina Berg, Career Guidance Coordinator, El Monte Union High School District.

ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICER – SECRETARY (ACTION)

MOVED (Scott), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Commission **APPROVED** the election of Commissioner Sawyer to the office of Secretary.

In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Maxie, Moore, Sawyer, Scott, Valladolid and Geiogue

Absent: Commissioner Solorio

DISCUSSION OF THE CAL GRANT PROGRAM'S ALIGNMENT WITH THE FOUR PRINCIPLES OF FINANCIAL AID REDESIGN IDENTIFIED IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES REPORT *REDESIGNING STATE FINANCIAL AID: PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE STATE AID POLICYMAKING* (INFORMATION)

Ms. Catalina Mistler presented an analysis of the four guiding principles of state financial aid redesign identified by the Education Commission of the States (ECS) and how well the Cal Grant Program is structured to meet those principles. She provided an overview of the Cal Grant Program, including outreach and communication, the application process, and award packaging. She also presented a number of ways in which the Cal Grant Program could be more aligned with the four principles. It was noted that some proposed changes could be made administratively and others would require legislative changes.

Some discussion followed about enhancing student communication through texting or other means. Ms. Keri Tippins provided an update on the Commission's partnership with Get Schooled to

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promote the FAFSA Text campaign, through which students can request help with the FAFSA and Dream Act application. There was also discussion about incentivizing program completion in four years, Common Course numbering, and financial aid portability.

Commission staff was directed to bring their recommendations back to the Commission at its June Strategic Planning Workshop, and include whether they would require administrative or legislative changes, and provide the fiscal impact.

Mr. Chris Carter, Director of Student Financial Support at the University of California, commented on partnership and the role that campuses play in the financial aid process. Mr. Bryan Dickason, Student Financial Assistance Programs Coordinator for the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, commented on the need for the Grant Advisory Committee to help the Commission make informed decisions.

RECESS FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Chair Geiogoue announced that the Commission meeting would recess for the following:

- ❖ *Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee Meeting;*
- ❖ *Student Impact Committee Meeting;*
- ❖ *Strategic Policy and Planning Committee Meeting; and*
- ❖ *Personnel, Evaluation and Nominations Committee Meeting.*

Chair Geiogoue recessed the Commission meeting at 11:21 a.m.

RECONVENE COMMISSION MEETING

Chair Geiogoue reconvened the Commission meeting at 4:36 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

❖ PERSONNEL MATTERS

Ms. Keri Tippins, General Counsel and Chief of the Legal and Audit Services Division, announced that the Commission would meet in Closed Session pursuant to California Government Code Section 11126(a)(1) to discuss a personnel matter.

Chair Geiogoue announced that the Commission would recess for Closed Session and then reconvene the Open Session Friday morning, April 8, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

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RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016

Chair Hal Geiogoue reconvened the Commission meeting at 9:00 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present:

Hal Geiogoue, Chair

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Lande Ajose, Vice Chair
Wm. Gregory Sawyer, Secretary
Nancy Anton
Glen Becerra
Jessica Foresti
Devon Graves
Harry Le Grande
Debra Maxie
Jack Scott
Jose Solorio
David Valladolid

The following Commissioners were absent:

Jamillah Moore

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chair Geiogoue called for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

PRESENTATION BY THE CALIFORNIA COLLEGE GUIDANCE INITIATIVE (INFORMATION)

Dr. Tessa Carmen De Roy, Executive Director of the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI), provided an overview of her organization, including its mission, goals, strategies for reaching students, tools for capturing matriculation data, and its partnership with the California State University. Dr. De Roy also discussed possible ways in which CCGI could partner with the Commission.

Ms. Catalina Cifuentes, College and Career Coordinator for Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE), provided an overview of the Office's FAFSA-Dream Act initiative called "Race to Submit," noting that FAFSA, Dream Act application and GPA submission data is provided through its partnership with the Commission. In addition, their collaboration with CCGI and the use of their tools allows the tracking of more data.

Some discussion ensued about the involvement of other districts, the process of training and implementing the initiatives, and the level of support that is provided.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Chair Geiogoue reported that the Commission met in Closed Session on Thursday, April 7, 2016 and there is nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORT ITEMS

LEGISLATIVE, AUDIT AND BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

- ❖ **Update on State and Federal Legislative and Issues affecting Commission Programs, including Consideration of Positions on Legislation (Action)**

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Committee Vice Chair Scott reported that the Committee discussed several legislative bills and made some recommended changes for the Full Commission's consideration.

Mr. Brandon Biegert, Senior Policy Analyst, presented the recommendations from the Legislative, Audit & Budget Committee.

MOVED (Graves), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Commission **APPROVED** the following recommendations from the Committee, with the addition of a position of **SUPPORT** and **SPONSOR** for AB 2056 (Garcia).

- **SUPPORT Assembly Bill (AB) 1449 (Lopez):** Removes High School Graduation Requirement for Transfer Entitlement, **WITH AMENDMENT** to include an appropriation for administrative costs;
- **SUPPORT AB 1721 (Medina):** Cal Grant B Access Award, Transfer Entitlement, and Competitive Cal Grant Modifications, **WITH AMENDMENT** to allow a one-year gap, instead of a three-year gap, between attending community college and a four-year institution, and include an appropriation for administrative costs;
- **SUPPORT AB 1747 (Weber):** Fee-Free Cal Fresh Access as Requirement of Institutional Participation Agreement, **WITH AMENDMENT** to include an appropriation for administrative costs;
- **WATCH AB 1888 (Low):** Anti-Discrimination Requirement in Institutional Participation Agreement;
- **AB 1892 (Medina):** Cal Grant C Augmentation, will be brought back to the Commission after further analysis of the bill amendments is completed;
- **SUPPORT AB 2506 (Thurmond):** Chafee Entitlement, **WITH AMENDMENTS** to 1) include an appropriation for administrative costs; 2) include a "grandfather" clause for current recipients at institutions which may become ineligible for participation due to new requirements; and 3) clarify that CSAC does not need to evaluate quality of out-of-state schools'
- **SUPPORT AB 2154 (Medina):** California Student Aid Commission: Student Commissioners;
- **SUPPORT AB 2581 (Medina):** Urgency: Restoration of Heald Colleges Students' Cal Grant Eligibility;
- **WATCH AB 2766 (Lopez):** Adds two student members to the California Student Aid Commission,
- **SUPPORT AB 2787 (Chavez):** Expands Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) to Non-Profit Schools, **WITH AMENDMENTS** to 1) remove exemption for students at Private Non-Profit schools from Ed. Code Section 70023; 2) language ensuring that institutions meet Cal Grant eligibility requirements; 3) align the MCS award calculation at non-profit schools with tuition at the University of California; and 4) include an appropriation for administrative costs.
- **SUPPORT AND SPONSOR SB 1314 (Block):** Cal Grant A for Community College Baccalaureate Degree Programs, **WITH AMENDMENTS** to 1) include an appropriation for administrative costs; and 2) technical amendment to ensure CSAC has legislative authority to pay awards to Community College students;
- **SUPPORT Senate Bill (SB) 62 (Pavley):** Reinstates APLE Program; and
- **SUPPORT AND SPONSOR AB 2056 (Garcia):** Implement a deadline for high schools to report graduation status, which will provide more clarity to the process.

In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Maxie, Sawyer, Scott, Solorio, Valladolid and Geigoue

Absent: Commissioner Moore

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Committee Vice Chair Scott also reported that the Committee received updates on the following items:

- ❖ **Update on the Governor's 2016 Budget (Information)**
- ❖ **Update on Grant Delivery System Modernization Project (Information)**
- ❖ **Update on Audits (Information)**

STUDENT IMPACT COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Graves reported that the Committee received updates on the following information items. In addition, he brought attention to the FAFSA/Prior-Prior Year Impact Timeline, and the outreach and communication efforts made by the Commission's staff and its partners during the FAFSA Season.

- ❖ **Update on the 2017-18 FAFSA Release on October 1, 2016 (Information)**
- ❖ **Update on Outreach and Communication Plans for 2016-17 (Information)**
- ❖ **Update on Dream Act (Information)**
- ❖ **Update on Middle Class Scholarship (Information)**

STRATEGIC POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

- ❖ **Update on Competitive Cal Grant Program (Information)**

Committee Chair Anton highlighted the Commission staff's hard work in achieving a higher Competitive Cal Grant utilization rate.

- ❖ **Update on the Cohort Default Rate and Graduation Rate Requirements for Institutional Eligibility to Participate in the Cal Grant Program (Information)**

Committee Chair Anton reported that staff is pursuing a partnership with Harvard University to conduct research on the outcomes of students who attended or are attending the affected institutions. Some discussion followed approaching interested graduate and students to conduct research studies for the Commission.

PERSONNEL, EVALUATION & NOMINATIONS (PEN) COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Geiogoue reported that the PEN Committee met in Closed Session and there was nothing to report.

PRESENTATION OF RECENT COMMISSION REPORTS AND OTHER DATA (INFORMATION)

Chair Geiogoue presented item 19.1, a data chart entitled, "Cal Grant Program – Offered Awardees, Paid Recipients, and Disbursements by Segment – 2005-06 through 2014-15."

REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEES (INFORMATION)

Chair Geiogoue reported that there are no ad hoc committee reports at this time.

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PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Michael Sekera, Freemason with the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of California, presented a proposal for the Commission's consideration to sponsor the Masonic License Plate Program, which would help raise money for the state student financial aid scholarships.

Ms. Keri Tippins noted that all license plate programs require a state agency sponsor. Mr. Sekera added that the scholarships are funded by the license plate fee and renewal fees. For every 5,000 people who sign up, approximately \$2 million is raised; and there are about 100,000 Masons who could be interested. Ms. Tippins indicated that the state agency sponsor can set the parameters for the use of the funds and the scholarship eligibility. Some discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS (INFORMATION/ACTION)

The Commission may discuss the following items at the June Meeting:

- Research Projects;
- Masonic License Plate Program and the out-of-pocket and long-term costs to implement and administer the program;
- Cost to transition from hard copy agendas to software that could push agenda information to tablets;
- Budget Change Proposals for the coming year; and
- Follow-up Discussion on the CCGI Presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the California Student Aid Commission was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

WM. GREGORY SAWYER
SECRETARY

Minutes

Action Item

Approval of minutes of May 6, 2016

DRAFT

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2016

A teleconference meeting of the California Student Aid Commission was held on Friday, May 6, 2016 at the Commission's Board Room located at 11040 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova, California and the various locations listed on the meeting notice dated April 26, 2016.

Chair Hal Geiogoue called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present:

Hal Geiogoue, Chair
Lande Ajose, Vice Chair
Wm. Gregory Sawyer, Secretary
Nancy Anton
Glen Becerra
Jessica Foresti
Devon Graves
Harry Le Grande
Jamillah Moore
Maria Salinas
Jose Solorio

The following Commissioners were absent:

Debra Maxie
David Valladolid

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chair Geiogoue called for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

CHAIR'S REPORT (INFORMATION)

Chair Geiogoue announced that the Commission will serve as a Committee of the Whole and any

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items not on the agenda cannot be discussed during this meeting, but will be brought to the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (INFORMATION)

Executive Director Lupita Cortez Alcalá provided an update on her continuing discussions with Legislative and Finance staff, as well as her recent participation in the Get Schooled "Mission: Admission" Challenge Winner's Celebration at Mare Island Technology Institute, a charter school in Vallejo, California.

UPDATE ON STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND ISSUES AFFECTING COMMISSION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF POSITIONS ON LEGISLATION (ACTION)

Mr. Brandon Biegert, Senior Policy Analyst, presented a number of pending legislative bills currently before the State Legislature.

MOVED (Anton), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the staff recommendation to **SUPPORT Assembly Bill (AB) 1892 (Medina)**: Cal Grant Award Increase and Entitlement.

In Favor: Commissioners Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Sawyer, Solorio and Geiogoue

Abstained: Commissioners Ajose and Salinas

Absent: Commissioners Maxie and Valladolid

MOVED (Moore), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the staff recommendation to **SUPPORT AB 1961 (Baker)**: \$10,000 Cal Grant at Private Non-Profits, **AND SEEK AN AMENDMENT** to expand the bill to include WASC-accredited for-profit institutions.

In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Salinas, Sawyer, Solorio and Geiogoue

Absent: Commissioners Maxie and Valladolid

MOVED (Anton), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the staff recommendation to **SUPPORT AB 2520 (Rodriguez)**: CSAC Report on FAFSA Completion Strategies, **WITH AMENDMENT** to include appropriation for personnel costs.

In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Le Grande, Moore, Salinas, Sawyer, Solorio and Geiogoue

Abstained: Commissioner Graves

Absent: Commissioners Maxie and Valladolid

Mr. Biegert presented AB 2726 (McCarty), and Chair Geiogoue reported that he is the Commission Representative on the ScholarShare Investment Board and the Board supports this bill.

MOVED (Anton), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the staff recommendation to **SUPPORT AB 2726 (McCarty)**: College Savings Tax Credit.

In Favor: Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Salinas, Sawyer, Solorio and Geiogoue

Absent: Commissioners Maxie and Valladolid

MOVED (Becerra), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the staff recommendation to **WATCH Senate Bill (SB) 1146 (Lara)**: Narrows Exemption for Religious Institutions in the Equity in Higher Education Act.

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***In Favor:** Commissioners Ajose, Anton, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Le Grande, Moore, Salinas, Sawyer, Solorio and Geiogoue*

***Absent:** Commissioners Maxie and Valladolid*

Mr. Biegert presented SB 1357 (Block): \$1,500 Cal Grant B Access Augmentation, and some discussion ensued. Concerns were raised about the bill providing the same amount of access award for both half-time students and full-time students.

MOVED (Becerra), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Commission **APPROVED** the motion to **SUPPORT SB 1357 (Block):** \$1,500 Cal Grant B Access Augmentation, **IF AMENDED** to align the bill with the Commission's Cal Grant policies and reflect an appropriate access award amount for half-time and full-time students.

***In Favor:** Commissioners Ajose, Becerra, Foresti, Graves, Moore, Salinas and Geiogoue*

***Abstained:** Commissioners Anton, Le Grande and Sawyer*

***Absent:** Commissioners Maxie, Solorio and Valladolid*

Chair Geiogoue announced that Mr. Biegert will be writing letters to the bill authors informing them of the Commission's positions.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Commission had no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the teleconference meeting of the California Student Aid Commission was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

WM. GREGORY SAWYER
SECRETARY

Minutes

Action Item

Approval of minutes of May 20, 2016

DRAFT

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

May 20, 2016

A teleconference meeting of the California Student Aid Commission was held on Friday, May 6, 2016 at the Commission's Board Room located at 11040 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova, California and the various locations listed on the meeting notice dated May 10, 2016.

Chair Hal Geiogoue called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present:

Hal Geiogoue, Chair
Lande Ajose, Vice Chair
Wm. Gregory Sawyer, Secretary
Nancy Anton
Catalina Cifuentes
Jessica Foresti
Devon Graves
Harry Le Grande
Debra Maxie
Jamillah Moore
Maria Salinas
Jose Solorio
David Valladolid

The following Commissioner was absent:

Glen Becerra

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chair Geiogoue called for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

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CHAIR'S REPORT (INFORMATION)

Chair Geiogue welcomed Commissioner Cifuentes to the Commission and congratulated Commissioner Graves on his recent Senate confirmation. He announced that he would report on new Committee assignments before the June meeting. Lastly, he clarified the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act rules, stating that teleconference meetings of the Commission require a roll call vote and the opportunity for public comment before each item.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (INFORMATION)

Executive Director Lupita Cortez Alcalá provided an update on the May Revise, noting that it provides the Commission with \$396,000 for the Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) Project and \$1.9 million for Security Enhancements. She added that the Commission still needs \$300,000 for Stage 2 market research and \$350,000 for preparation of the Request for Proposal procurement document required in Stage 3, as well as \$971,000 for Data Governance to reconcile the Commission's 50 million records.

Executive Director Alcalá announced that she has hired Mr. Gurinder Bains as the new Division Chief of Information Technology Services, effective June 1, 2016. In addition, three summer interns will be joining the Commission during July and August. Executive Director Alcalá also reported on recent activities, including the strategic planning facilitation, the 20th anniversary of the Sacramento Cal-SOAP, and the continued work on the early Grade Point Average (GPA) submission and the October 1st FAFSA Release.

UPDATE ON THE 2016-17 STATE BUDGET ISSUES, INCLUDING THE MAY REVISION AND ITEMS RELATING TO THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

Mr. Brandon Biegert, Senior Policy Analyst, presented his written report on the 2016-17 State Budget, remarking that in addition to the items highlighted by Executive Director Alcalá, the Commission's funding was the status quo. There was some discussion about how the remaining funds for the Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) would be treated. Mr. Biegert reported that there are some proposals that direct the funds to the University of California and California State University to promote graduation rates, while another proposal directs the money to Cal Grant competitive awards.

Mr. Biegert reported that at the recent hearing of the Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1 on Education, there was a proposal to restore the Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE). Commissioner Anton expressed her opposition to the proposal, commenting on the program's ineffectiveness and costliness. Chair Geiogue clarified that the Commission, as an official body, has supported the APLE program and staff is working under that direction. He also noted that this item occurred in the Senate very quickly and the outcome is uncertain.

Some discussion ensued about the May Revise augmentation to the Commission's reimbursement authority for the partnership with the College Futures Foundation, which will assist with communicating the early October 1 FAFSA release, streamlining financial aid programs in California so that they are more student-centered, and developing strategies to increase the take and paid rates in California.

There was also some discussion about the Member's Request presented in the Senate to consider the proposal to establish an Inland Empire Cal-SOAP, which would include an allocation of \$340,000.

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Some discussion followed about the May Revise funding related to the GDSM Project. Ms. Tracy Howard, Chief Information Officer, explained the breakdown of funding for a Project Manager, Independent Verification and Validation, and Independent Project Oversight Consultants. She reported that funding was not approved for a vendor to complete Stage 2 and begin Stage 3, and noted that funding would need to be identified to complete Stage 2.

Executive Director Alcalá indicated that staff will send letters to the Assembly and Senate Budget Committees, and will share them with the Commission.

Chair Geiogue called for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

UPDATE ON THE CALIFORNIA STUDENT OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS PROGRAM (CAL-SOAP) LOS ANGELES CONSORTIUM

Ms. Catalina Mistler, Chief of the Program Administration & Services Division, presented her written report on the Cal-SOAP Los Angeles Consortium, reporting that the Los Angeles consortium has been approved for participation for the 2016-17 year, with a number of additional conditions to ensure appropriate administration of Cal-SOAP services.

Ms. Mistler reported that the Los Angeles Cal-SOAP's Governing Board met recently and identified Rio Hondo College as its fiscal agent. Mr. Steve Caldwell, Senior Program Manager, reported that the Commission is awaiting documentation from the Governing Board on the justification for its decision, which will be reviewed by Commission staff who will determine the approval. Mr. Caldwell clarified that the consortium is responsible for making sure the funding match is met and the funds are spent in accordance with the law and with the Commission's policies. Services are anticipated to begin on July 1, 2016 when the Budget passes.

Chair Geiogue called for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Commission had no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the teleconference meeting of the California Student Aid Commission was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

WM. GREGORY SAWYER
SECRETARY