

# Minutes

## Action Item

Approval of minutes of February 19, 2015

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**CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION  
LEGISLATIVE, AUDIT & BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**February 19, 2015**

**DRAFT**

A meeting of the California Student Aid Commission's Legislative, Audit & Budget (LAB) Committee was held on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at the Commission's Board Room located at 11040 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova, California.

Committee Chair Jamillah Moore called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

The following Committee Members were present:

Jamillah Moore, Chair  
Jack Scott, Vice Chair  
Lande Ajose  
Brian Conley  
Jacqueline Doud  
Jessica Foresti  
John McDowell, Jr.  
Hal Geiogoue, Ex Officio

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Committee Chair Moore asked for public comment and, hearing none, proceeded to the next agenda item.

### **CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO COMMITTEE CHARTER**

Mr. Keith Yamanaka, Chief Deputy Director, presented the proposed Committee Charter and discussed the new Standing Committee structure. Some discussion followed regarding the balance of workload among the Committees.

**MOVED** (McDowell), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** the recommendation for the Full Commission to adopt the proposed charter, as presented.

# California Student Aid Commission

*In Favor: Committee Members Ajose, Conley, Doud, Foresti, McDowell, Scott and Moore*

## **CONSIDERATION OF A LEGISLATIVE PLAN AND BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR 2015 WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE 2013 STRATEGIC POLICY FRAMEWORK AND THE 2014 STATEMENT OF POLICY PRIORITIES AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS**

Mr. Ed Emerson, Chief of the Strategic Policy, Media & Communications Division, presented a draft for discussion of the proposed 2015-16 Legislative Agenda. Discussion ensued about the policy priorities and associated priority items.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ajose to adopt the proposed priority items preceded by an asterisk (except the asterisked item under policy priority #2), the fifth priority item under policy priority #1, and the first priority item under policy priority #4.

On **AMENDED MOTION** (Moore), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** moving forward with the following legislative and budget priority items for 2015 and the accompanying actions, as amended:

*(Amendments are in bold and underlined text.)*

Under Policy Priority #1:

- \* Full Funding for all Cal Grant Programs;
- \* Maintain Current Cal Grant Funding level for private non-profit and for-profit four year academic institutions accredited by WASC;
- \* Increase Number of Competitive Grant Awards;
- \* Make Cal Grants More Accessible for Veterans; and
- \* Increase the Cal Grant B award amount for living expenses.

Under Policy Priority #3:

- \* Fund and Expand Cal Grant Outreach to Underserved Students throughout California.

Under Policy Priority #4:

- \* Support legislation, regulations to streamline the FAFSA application.

Under Policy Priority #5:

- \* 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cal Grant Delivery and Student Outreach System; *Action:* Secure funding for, **and ensure effectiveness of,** the technological upgrade of the Cal Grant Delivery System (GDS).

*In Favor: Committee Members Ajose, Conley, Doud, Foresti, McDowell, Scott and Moore*

## **UPDATE ON STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION AFFECTING COMMISSION PROGRAMS**

Mr. Emerson presented a list of current state legislative bills related to student financial aid. He also provided an overview of Senate Bill (SB) 15 (Block) Postsecondary education: financial aid. Questions arose about the fiscal impact of the bill and concerns were raised about the issue of taking money from potential students and giving it to the systems. Further discussion ensued and it was decided that the Committee would meet again before its April meeting to receive an update and discuss further details of the legislative bills.

# California Student Aid Commission

## UPDATE ON THE 2015 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET

Mr. Brandon Biegert, Senior Policy Analyst, provided an update on the schedule of hearings and pre-hearings for the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance, and the Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Education. There was some discussion about the draft evaluation reports on the Cash for College Program and the California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP).

## PRESENTATION ON COMMISSION AUDIT FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Ms. Keri Tippins, General Counsel, provided an overview of the Program Compliance Office and the Commission's audit functions. She also highlighted some program compliance findings for the 2013-14 academic year, including those resulting in significant Cal Grant funds being returned to the Commission. Some discussion followed.

## CONSIDERATION OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN AND RISK ASSESSMENT FOR THE 2014-15 AND 2015-16 FISCAL YEARS

Ms. Tippins presented a proposed two-year internal audit plan and risk assessment, and discussed the high risk areas that would be audited during the 2014-15 and 2015-16 cycle. There was further discussion about prioritization of the audit areas and extending the two-year cycle to three years.

**MOVED** (Doud), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** to recommend to the Full Commission the following:

- A. Prioritize the high risk areas to be audited as follows:
  1. Departmental Succession Planning
  2. Personally Identifiable Information (PII) Protection (*which includes Network Security*)
  3. Cal Grant Program – Dream Act New Applicant Eligibility
  4. Information Technology Modernization
  5. Information Security Program
- B. Lengthen the Internal Audit Plan's cycle from two years to three years (2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-14); and
- C. Provide status reports to the Full Commission as progress is made.

*In Favor: Committee Members Ajose, Conley, Doud, Foresti, McDowell, Scott and Moore*

## NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee had no new business.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the Strategic Policy and Planning Committee was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

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JAMILLAH MOORE  
COMMITTEE CHAIR