

Minutes

Action Item

Approval of minutes of September 18, 2014

**CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION
STUDENT IMPACT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

September 18, 2014

A meeting of the California Student Aid Commission's Student Impact Committee was held on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at the California Student Aid Commission, Boardroom, located at 11040 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova, California.

Committee Chair Devon Graves called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

The following Committee Members were present:

Devon Graves, Chair
Jacqueline Doud
Jamillah Moore
Wm. Gregory Sawyer
John R. McDowell, Jr., Ex Officio

The following Committee Member was absent:

Michele Siqueiros

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2014

MOVED (Sawyer), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** the minutes of the April 10, 2014 meeting, as presented.

In Favor: Committee Members Moore, Sawyer and Graves

Absent: Committee Members Doud and Siqueiros

California Student Aid Commission

CHAIR'S REPORT

Committee Chair Graves reported that he is excited to share with the Committee and the Commission his proposal for student engagement.

PROPOSAL FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMISSION

Committee Chair Graves presented the proposal for student engagement with the Commission which is a result of consultation with the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), the California State Student Association (CSSA), the University of California Student Association (UCSA), and Students First Alliance from the Association of Independent California Colleges & Universities (AICCU).

Mr. Anthony Gibson, Vice President of University Affairs at the California State Student Association (CSSA), reported on CSSA's legislative efforts, including work on their 2014-15 policy agenda, greater focus on Federal advocacy, and advocacy for AB 540 students.

Mr. Kevin Sabo, Board Chair for the University of California Student Association (UCSA), provided an update on UCSA's campaigns and other legislative efforts, including:

- Invest in Graduation, Not Incarceration, and Transform Education (IGNITE);
- Proposition 47 (Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act);
- You Consent, which addresses sexual assaults on campus;
- Fund the UC;
- Proposition 13 Reform;
- Senate Bill 1210 (Dream Loan Program); and
- Streamlining Cal Grant bills and adjusting Cal Grant awards amounts for inflation.

MOVED (Doud), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** the following proposal for student engagement:

The Commission staff and Chair of the Student Impact Committee shall:

- Keep an updated contact list for student organizations that have similar policy goals to those of the Commission;
- Engage student organizations in periods of transition and encourage the invitation of student leaders to attend a Commission meeting for introductions and to discuss organizational goals for the year;
- Keep an updated list of the student organizations' legislative priorities and positions on legislation; and
- Interact with student organizations on advocacy and take an active role in orienting the organizations on financial aid bills that are in common interest to both the Commission and students.

***In Favor:** Committee Members Doud, Moore, Sawyer and Graves*

***Absent:** Committee Member Siqueiros*

California Student Aid Commission

UPDATE ON DREAM ACT

Ms. Catalina Mistler, Chief of the Program Administration & Services Division, provided an update on the Dream Act, including the efforts to assist campuses with low payment data and resolve pending Dream Act applications. She also reported on application and paid award numbers, and clarified that the statistical chart on page four of exhibit 10 contains 2014-15 data. Discussion followed.

Mr. Tae Kang, Senior Programs Manager, discussed the California Community College Transfer Entitlement Program. He also explained the Commission's non-Social Security Number (SSN) - Grade Point Average (GPA) matching process. Further discussion ensued and Executive Director Diana Fuentes-Michel suggested that the Committee continue to examine best practices as well as the community college portion of the transfer process. She also provided a brief status update on the Grant Delivery System (GDS).

Mr. Bryan Dickason, Senior Programs Manager, reported that the U.S. Department has been advising undocumented students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). However, Commission staff is in communication with the Department about changing its advice with regard to California students who must complete the California Dream Application.

Executive Director Michel recommended that the Committee consider whether the Full Commission should address this issue to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. She also suggested the Committee consider writing to the Secretary Duncan and Undersecretary Ted Mitchell about the issues confronting these students.

There was discussion about how the Commission differentiates between correspondence related to daily operations and that related to Commission policy and actions.

UPDATE ON MIDDLE CLASS SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. Mistler provided an update on the award eligibility and payment process for the Middle Class Scholarship Program, including the number of current awards and, pending resolution of verification issues, the estimated number of additional awards.

Committee Chair Graves asked that the Commission begin the outreach campaigns for the 2015-16 academic year. Executive Director Michel discussed the ongoing efforts of the Commission and the Cal-SOAP consortia, and the upcoming KCRA Channel 3 Cal Grant Call-In event and financial aid series.

Mr. Jose Rivas, Lead Cal-SOAP Project Director, commented on consortia's outreach efforts in conjunction with Cash for College. Mr. Chris Carter, Director of Student Financial Support at the University of California Office of the President (UCOP), commented that the UCOP recently conducted a series of counselor conferences across the state and have been sharing information about the Middle Class Scholarship with the participants.

California Student Aid Commission

NEW BUSINESS BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee may discuss the following items at future meetings:

- Advocacy and the Commission's process of disseminating letters and information to external entities; and
- Financial literacy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the Student Impact Committee was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

DEVON GRAVES
COMMITTEE CHAIR