

Minutes

Action Item

Approval of minutes of November 5, 2015

DRAFT

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION STUDENT IMPACT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 5, 2015

A meeting of the California Student Aid Commission's Student Impact Committee was held on Thursday, November 5, 2015 at the Commission Boardroom located at 11040 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova, California.

Committee Chair Devon Graves called the meeting to order at 3:16 p.m.

The following Committee Members were present:

Devon Graves, Chair
Wm. Gregory Sawyer, Vice Chair
Nancy Anton
Jessica Foresti
Debra Maxie
Jose Solorio
Hal Geiogue, Ex Officio

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Hearing no public comment, Committee Chair Graves proceeded to the next item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

MOVED (Sawyer), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** the minutes of the September 17, 2015 meeting, as presented:

In Favor: Committee Members Anton, Foresti, Maxie, Sawyer, Solorio and Graves

CHAIR'S REPORT

Committee Chair Graves welcomed the newest appointment and member to the Student Impact Committee, Commissioner Debra Maxie. He also highlighted the update on the Commission's

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outreach plans for 2016-17, noting that the changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will impact the Commission's operations.

ACTION ITEM

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT ON THE COMMISSION'S PUBLIC HEARING IN NOVEMBER 2014: A SYMPOSIUM ON STUDENT DEBT IN CALIFORNIA

Mr. Brandon Biegert, Senior Policy Analyst with the Strategic Policy, Media & Communications Division, presented the final version of the Commission report on the Symposium on Student Debt in California. He informed the Committee that, upon approval, the report would be posted to the Commission's website, which will include the hearing presentations and links to references.

Committee Member Anton expressed thanks to Mr. Biegert and Ms. Kathy Beasley, Consultant, for their efforts in preparing the report. Some discussion followed about the next steps and Commission Chair Geigou indicated that this report will be used to develop a federal agenda.

MOVED (Anton), **SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously, the Committee **APPROVED** the report on the Commission's public hearing in November 2014: A Symposium on Student Debt in California.

In Favor: Committee Members Anton, Foresti, Maxie, Sawyer, Solorio and Graves

INFORMATION ITEMS

UPDATE ON MIDDLE CLASS SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. Catalina Mistler, Chief of the Program Administration & Services Division, presented a report on the Middle Class Scholarship (MCS), including data on applicants and awards for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 academic years. Some discussion ensued about the average awards for the University of California and the California State University. Mr. Tae Kang, Senior Programs Manager, discussed the changes between the 2014-15 and 2015-16 years.

Further discussion followed about the Governor's legislative goals and the 40 percent tuition reduction. Mr. Kang indicated that staff can provide a table that shows the award amounts when the MCS was fully implemented, and chart out the numbers when the 40 percent tuition reduction is in effect in the 2017-18 academic year.

UPDATE ON CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT

Ms. Mistler presented a report on the California Dream Act, including updates on the application process, award offers and payments by segment for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16. She reported that staff is in communication with the students and campuses to ensure that all eligible students are paid.

Some concerns were raised about the use of leave of absence (LOA) and whether the same LOA policy used for the Competitive program might also be applied to the Entitlement program. Ms. Mistler indicated that the issue can be discussed with the stakeholder group and an update can be presented at the February meeting.

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Ms. Mistler also provided an update on her recent visit to Washington, D.C. for the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs Conference, where she shared the Commission's work on the Dream Act application. She noted that several states are interested in learning more about California's implementation of the Dream Act.

UPDATE ON OUTREACH PLANS FOR 2016-17

Ms. Mistler presented a report on the new federal changes to the student financial aid process and the potential effects on the Commission's 2016-17 outreach plans and other Commission operations, including award processing and notification, Grant Delivery System (GDS) programming, Dream Act application, and day-to-day processes. Ms. Mistler and Mr. Kang provided further information on how staff is communicating the federal changes to students, and that an additional stakeholder work group is being established.

Mr. Kang provided an update on the outreach and training events. There was some discussion about the level of participation by seasoned counselors. Lastly, Committee Chair encouraged the Commissioners to attend the outreach events if possible to help promote financial aid.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee will discuss the following item at a future meeting:

- Update on the Commission's website and its readiness for the 2016-17 FAFSA and Cal Grant application processes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the Student Impact Committee was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

DEVON GRAVES
COMMITTEE CHAIR