
**CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION
GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Teleconference

**MINUTES
March 12, 2009**

A teleconference meeting of the Grant Advisory Committee (GAC) was held on Thursday, March 12, 2009.

The following GAC Members were present:

Susan Gutierrez, Chair, CSU
Mary Lindsey, Vice Chair, PI
Kate Jeffery, UC
Chris Shultz, UC
Andrew Grant, UC
Dean Kulju, CSU
Jammie Jelks, CSU
Tim Bonnel, CCC
Karen Micalizio, CCC (Alternate)
Darlene Wilson, AICCU (Alternate)
Barbara Bonardi, AICCU
Frederick Holland, PI
Sally Pace, K-12
Sharon Bowles, HS
Coletta McElroy, CASFAA

The following Commission Staff were present:

Catalina Mistler, Chief, PASD
John Bays, Chief, Information Technology
Janet McDuffie, Chief, Governmental and
Public Affairs
Steve Caldwell, Manager, PASD
Bryan Dickason, Manager, Grant
Operations
Gloria Falcon, Manager, PPD
Debi Jackson, Manager, Information
Technology
Thea Pot-Van Atta, Manager, Student
Support Services
Charles Wood, Program Compliance
Suzan Donald, PPD
Tae Kang, PPD
Kathy Spencer, PPD
Kristen Trimarche, PPD

Enrique Murillo, Commission Liaison

The following GAC Members were absent:

Rick Diffenderfer, CCC
Lisa Douglass, AICCU
Catherine Graham, AICCU
Judi Sveen, PI

AICCU	Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities ¹
CASFAA	California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
CCC	California Community College
CPEC	California Postsecondary Education Commission
CSU	California State University
HS	High School
K-12	Kindergarten – 12 th grade
PASD	Program Administration and Services Division
PI	Proprietary Institution
PPD	Program Policy and Development Branch
UC	University of California

Roll Call was taken, a quorum was recognized, and Chair Gutierrez called the meeting to order.

TAB – 1 COMMITTEE CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Gutierrez attended the February Commission Meeting and reported out on the following:

- Commissioner Arciniega was not reappointed. Commission has one less appointed member.
- The recommendation regarding excluding Veteran’s Education Benefits, was not accepted by the Commission due to the fact that it would require a change to State statute. A change in State statute would be required for any recommendation(s) for the 2010-11 academic year.
- At the upcoming meeting Commissioners will be discussing the other proposal regarding changing criteria so that students who went into the military service out of high school would still be eligible for a Cal Grant Entitlement award.

TAB – 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Janet McDuffie presented the Executive Director’s report, which included the following items:

- Executive Director Michel will be returning to work next week, she has been out-of-the-office due to surgery.
- Cal Grant Program payments will be going out soon.
- The Commission is in discussion with State Controller’s office to determine if the EFT process can be reestablished.
- Commission has experienced an increase of 20% of online applications and online GPA processing is up 14%. Paper GPA forms are currently being processed.
- Cash for College – over 530 workshops were offered from January through Mar 2, 2009. Staff are now processing the site exit evaluation forms.

- The Commission has partnered with NDRC in LA region and far north region to do an additional scholarship study, which provides an additional scholarship opportunity for students.
- The 2009-10 State Budget was signed in February. The Commission programs fared well, including avoiding elimination of the Competitive program, maintaining the maximum award at private institutions of \$9708; full payment of fees at UC and CSU; and income levels are set at 2009-10 allocation levels.

TAB – 3 COMMISSION LIAISON COMMENTS

Catalina Mistler presented the Commission Liaison comments, which included the following items:

- State Controller's Office has processed the Cal Grant Payments that were on hold for February.
- Staff is processing paper GPAs and will continue to do so until all are entered in preparation for running the March Transfer Entitlement and Competitive award cycles.
- The Commission will start processing the 2009-10 Cal Grant Entitlement Awards this week. Award letters will begin going out next week.
- The September 2nd Cal Grant GPA application and information is posted on the CSAC website and an Operations Memo has been released to schools.
- Commission staff are working on the report identifying Cal Grant students who indicate they are receiving Veterans Benefits. This report will be available to help schools identify and verify the amount of veterans benefits to determine Cal Grant eligibility. The Commission will release an Operations Memo when this report becomes available.

TAB – 4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

4.a JANUARY 15, 2009

On **MOTION** by Member Holland, **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the GAC APPROVED the minutes WITH CHANGES BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

Member Bonnel and Alternate Wilson ABSTAINED.

4.b FEBRUARY 2, 2009

On **MOTION** by Member Kulju, **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the GAC APPROVED the minutes WITH CHANGES BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

Member Bonnel, and Alternates Micalizio and Wilson ABSTAINED.

TAB – 5 REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS FROM JANUARY 15, 2009 MEETING

Kristen Trimarche presented the action items and recorded the updates.

TAB – 6 WORKGROUP UPDATES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.a CAL GRANT C AWARD SCORING AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Mary Lindsey, workgroup chair announced that most of the time allotted for updates will be focused on the Cal Grant C workgroup and presented the update, which included the following potential recommendations:

- Not do anything with the points for 2009-10 academic year, but look to change how those points might be distributed for 2010-11 academic year.
- Replace reference section with “need” category and take some of the 35 points and redistribute between work and education and then place the balance of points in need category.
- Replace reference with need category and redistribute all 35 points to need.

On **MOTION** by Member Lindsey, **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the GAC APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE the recommendation for 2009-10 academic year to use 65 point scale with the same current points by category, and for 2010-11 academic year to continue the workgroup with the request for more data to review and incorporate a new, need category.

Member Bonnel, Alternate Micalizio and Member Bonardi OPPOSED.

Alternate Wilson ABSTAINED.

6.b REVIEW OF CAL GRANT FOR POTENTIAL DUPLICATION OF EFFORT

This item was not discussed and will be presented at a future meeting.

TAB – 7 UPDATE ON GRANT DELIVERY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – PHASE II

This item was not discussed and will be presented at May 7, 2009 meeting.

TAB – 8 CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE TOPICS

Kristen Trimarche made the request for future topics, none were provided.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Grant Advisory Committee was adjourned at 11:59 A.M.

SUSAN GUTIERREZ
GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR