

FIRST MONDAY

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR BRICE W. HARRIS

Memorandum

DATE: December 2, 2014
TO: California Community College CEOs
FROM: Brice W. Harris, State Chancellor
SUBJECT: First Monday – December 2014

Colleagues,

The following are items of interest and importance for our system, and are provided for your information. If you have comments or concerns on any of these items, feel free to email me at bharris@cccco.edu, or telephone me at (916) 322-4005.

1. **California Community College Baccalaureate Pilots:** By now you should all have received the Request for Proposals for the community college Bachelor's pilot project. As you may have noticed, the deadline is a short one (December 19), but the process is not overly complicated. Even though the RFP form is relatively simple, I want to encourage you to make a very strong case in the document you ultimately submit. We provided the scoring rubric in an attempt to be as transparent as possible with this process. As the rubric details, there will be other considerations including geography, program diversity and institutional diversity that we will need to take into consideration in making the final recommendations to the Board of Governors (BOG) in January. I am very pleased that half the districts in the state have indicated an interest in making application for one of the pilot projects, but would remind everyone that we will only recommend programs to the BOG we feel have a very high likelihood of success. If fewer than 15 colleges are approved in January, we would likely make another round of recommendations to the BOG at a later meeting.
2. **Taskforce on Workforce Job Creation and a Strong Economy:** At the November meeting, the Board of Governors approved the creation of the *Task Force on Workforce Job Creation and a Strong Economy*. I have enclosed background information that was presented at the Board meeting. I want to especially call your attention to the Regional College Conversations (<http://bit.ly/1zSZmow>), which are designed to gather input from our college practitioners. Fifty-six attended the first one in San Diego last week (including 20 percent faculty participation) and successfully prioritized five ideas to forward to the CCCCO. I encourage you to attend, and see that your faculty senate leaders and staff leadership are represented as well. Although this Task Force will be on a tight timeline, input from all our colleges will be important. Following those Regional College Conversations will be a series of Strong Workforce-Town Halls designed to garner input from the broader workforce and employer community, which I also recommend that you attend. The Board of Governors is very focused on this initiative and committed to take a hard look at, not only our role in the workforce and economic development of the state, but in how our CTE programs are funded.
3. **League Conference in Rancho Mirage:** It was good to see so many of you at the recent Community College League of California conference in southern California. I especially appreciated the opportunity to discuss various issues at the statewide CEO meeting on Thursday afternoon. For those of you unable to attend, in addition to the items I discussed, which are covered in this update, I also provided information on accreditation, and the Democracy Commitment (information enclosed), and the Vice Chancellors updated the CEOs on the funding formula, the new Technical Assistance Unit, our new statewide technology projects, and adult education. At my state-of-the-system address on Thursday evening I underscored how much we have on our collective plate at this



time, and how much I appreciate the hard work all of you are investing in restoring access to our system, while focusing so much energy on student success. It is a great time to be involved in California community colleges, due in large part to the work being done at all your colleges.

4. **Almost Final ADT Report:** I have enclosed the next-to-the-last report on the Associate Degree for Transfer Program. The final report will be at year-end and will be the one that is taken to the Board of Governors (BOG) for their review at their January 2015 meeting. As you can see, we are now at 98% of goal statewide and many of your colleges have met, or exceeded your goal. I cannot thank you enough for all the work represented by this report. It is frankly remarkable that you have developed nearly 1,600 new transfer degrees in less than three years. You will also find of interest, the two charts below. The first shows the dramatic upswing in the number of students utilizing the degrees, and the second shows the wonderful diversity of the same group of students. This has been an extremely successful undertaking and will be a tremendous benefit to students in the future. Please be sure to do everything possible to get any final degrees approved before the end of the year and thank you again for all the tremendous work.

	Annual 11-12	Annual 12-13	Annual 13-14
State of California Total	807	5,367	11,839
Associate in Science for Transfer (A.S.-T) Degree	72	1,742	4,815
Associate in Arts for Transfer (A.A.-T) Degree	735	3,625	6,858

ETHNICITY	AWARDS
ASIAN	1308
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	344
FILIPINO	385
HISPANIC	5040
AMERICAN INDIAN	38
PACIFIC ISLANDER	54
MULTI-ETHNICITY	436
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	3811
UNKNOWN	423

5. **Fiscal Outlook:** By now I am sure most of you are aware of the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) outlook for the current and coming year regarding revenues. Without going into too much detail, they suggest that Proposition 98 will do well this year and next, and that, assuming we see our normal split, our system's share in the current year could be as much as \$275 million, and in the budget year, upwards of \$700 million. The first call on the current year dollars would likely be the remainder of the payoff of the deferrals (\$94M) and the balance would be one-time-only dollars. The LAO also looked out to the sunset of Prop 30 and suggested that the economy may well replace that revenue as planned when the proposition was passed. However, if Prop 30 is not renewed, our revenue growth would obviously slow considerably. It is very important for all of you to note in planning for the remainder of this year and next, that the Governor is likely to be much more conservative than the LAO in his proposals in January. Governor Brown has repeatedly made conservative projections in an attempt to manage the state's revenues and keep from seeing the state plan to spend money that later does not materialize. I obviously recommend you take a similar approach to your budget planning. We will say more about the system budget priorities in the weeks to come.
6. **Osher Foundation Scholarships:** In the past few weeks some of you have received letters from the Foundation for California Community Colleges regarding your participation in the Osher Scholarship program, and specifically, some of our colleges who have not allocated all their scholarships. In total, as of June 30, 2013, colleges accumulated almost \$1 million in undistributed scholarships. This represents about 1,000 available student scholarships (\$500 per semester) that were left unused. In an effort to ensure college presidents are informed of this issue, and hopefully jumpstart action to help problem-solve and increase scholarship distributions, the letters I mentioned were sent to college presidents and foundation executive directors at the colleges with more than \$5,000 of undistributed scholarships. The purpose of the letter was to ensure college presidents are aware of the problem, remind them of the corrective actions to be taken, encourage them to ensure increased scholarship distributions for the upcoming spring semester, and to offer assistance to colleges to help develop a plan of action if needed. I know some of you were surprised by the letters, but if any of you have additional questions, or need more support and assistance, please feel free to contact me directly and we will do anything we can to support your attempts to help solve this problem. Our top priority is obviously to ensure that every dollar of student scholarship money is awarded.