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FIRST MONDAY

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR BRICE W. HARRIS

Memorandum

DATE: July, 7 2014

TO: California Community College CEOs

FROM: Brice W. Harris, State Chancellor

SUBJECT: First Monday -- July 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. **Sexual Assault on College Campuses:** I have just returned from the board meeting of the American Council on Education (ACE), and one of the prevalent topics of discussion was the appropriately increasing focus on dealing with campus sexual assaults. Although I know many of you have had recent discussions on this topic, I would encourage all of you to make this discussion a priority with your leadership and your Boards of Trustees. In addition to the ACE meeting, on June 30th the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee held a joint oversight hearing on this issue. Dr. Kimberly Perry, Superintendent/President of the Butte-Glenn Community College District represented our system and spoke to the policies, procedures and best practices our colleges are employing to deal with sexual assaults when they occur and to enhance our awareness and prevention efforts.
2. **Tremendous Reappointments and Additions to the Board of Governors:** The last few months have been extremely active ones for our Board of Governors. In March, Member Geoffrey Baum was reappointed to the Board, and we gained a new member, Cecilia Estolano. Within a few weeks, Manuel Baca and Joseph Bielanski were reappointed, and Arnoldo Avalos, Thomas Epstein, Nancy Sumner and student member, Colin van Loon were added. Finally, in the last two weeks, Member Danny Hawkins was reappointed and Scott Budnick was added. The Board is now at nearly full strength (15 of the available 17 members), and the new and reappointed talent makes the Board of Governors stronger than ever. For further background, I have enclosed a brief bio on each of the reappointed and new members and as you will see from their backgrounds, we are extremely fortunate to have such a strong group of leaders for our system. I encourage all of you to take any opportunity to interact with our Board and you will experience first-hand the depth of commitment and intellect of this group.
3. **Corinthian Colleges:** You may be aware of the ongoing issues related to Corinthian Colleges (known as Heald and WyoTech career schools in California). I have been asked by several people in recent days if we will be involved should these colleges be forced to reduce their programs or close. My response has been, as it would be in the case of any students disadvantaged by a challenge of this sort, that we will do anything we can to help students who might be negatively impacted by conditions beyond their control. The US Department of Education has told us that they plan to develop a listing of potentially impacted colleges and their program



mix. Once this list is received, we may be reaching out to those of you who have similar programs in locations in close proximity to the impacted colleges to see if you can provide support to any students that may be displaced. At this point I do not have a great deal of detail on this situation, but wanted to warn you that we may need to respond quickly if the need arises.

4. **Chancellor's Office Additions and Changes:** As all of you know, I have been working for several months on identifying a new Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and making some other organizational changes and staff additions to the Chancellor's Office. I am pleased to report that the Governor's Office has approved several title changes and appointments in the last few weeks. First, is the change in title and duties of Vice Chancellor Patrick Perry who will now serve as Executive Vice Chancellor overseeing not only Technology, Research and Information Systems, but also Human Resources and our new Technical Assistance Unit. Dr. Pamela Walker, who most recently served as Interim President of American River College, will begin in August as the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs after many years of leadership experience in both Academic and Student Affairs. In the next two weeks I will also announce the appointment of the new Vice Chancellor of Institutional Effectiveness and Technical Assistance and the new Director of the Kresge Student Success Center. These four appointments along with nine additional positions provided in the recently approved Budget Act will finally allow the Chancellor's Office to provide additional support and leadership in the critical areas of academic affairs, student success, and institutional effectiveness. The reorganization and added positions will help us remain even more focused on our dual opportunities of restoring access and improving student success. Thank you all for your patience over the past several months.
5. **Updated Associate Degree for Transfer Report:** Enclosed is the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) report as of last week. As you will see we are now at 84 percent of goal with many colleges now meeting or exceeding their goal – thank you! I would remind you that we added two columns that detail which of the ADTs are in our office awaiting review (Chancellor's Office column), and those that have been previously submitted and returned to the college for revisions (College column). As always, I ask that if you believe there are errors in this report, or if you feel your college submissions are not being responded to in a timely manner, I encourage you to contact me directly. Although I have only had three presidents contact me, in one of the cases there was a significant error that was corrected as a result of the contact. I know you are all diligently working to complete your goals, please remember that the Board of Governors expects us to all be at 100 percent by year's end.
6. **Community College Baccalaureate & Concurrent Enrollment:** Two important pieces of legislation have both made progress in recent weeks. SB 850 by Senator Block, to pilot the community college baccalaureate. The bill was heard on June 24th in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was approved on a 12-0 vote. Testifying in support was Dr. Constance Carroll, Chancellor of the San Diego Community College District and Vice Chancellor Stewart. With clarifying amendments to expedite development of implementing regulations, require additional reporting and documentation of need, and ensure non-duplication of existing baccalaureate programs, the California State University now supports the bill. This bill holds tremendous promise for our system to address critical workforce needs in regions of the state that are currently underserved, and provide access to those seeking baccalaureates that don't have any other educational option. The next stop for this bill is the Assembly Appropriations Committee, which will be in August. The second piece, AB 1451 (Holden), sponsored by the Board of Governors to expand concurrent enrollment, was heard on June 18th in the Senate Education Committee. The bill was revised slightly to require an additional meeting of the governing boards to approve concurrent enrollment partnership agreements, ensure that concurrent enrollment is consistent with the core mission of the community colleges, ensure otherwise eligible community college students will not be displaced, and to sunset the provisions of the bill in 2020. The bill passed out of committee on a 7-0 vote. The next stop for this bill is the Senate Appropriations Committee.
7. **Central Valley Tour:** This past week I had the opportunity to tour several of our colleges and centers in the Central Valley. On Thursday I toured College of the Sequoias in Visalia as well as their centers in Hanford and Tulare. On Friday I started the morning at Porterville College and concluded with a Chancellor's Circle event at Bakersfield College. At each location I had the opportunity to tour some state-of-the-art programs, meet and talk with students and faculty, and see first-hand the impact our colleges are having on students and communities. In my first twenty months on the job, I have had the pleasure of visiting more than 30 of our colleges, and several of those more than once. I remain overwhelmed by the great work you are all doing on a daily basis with our students.