

Below are the meeting highlights from the Consultation Council Meeting on October 17, 2013.

1. **August 15, 2013 Meeting Summary:** The notes from the last Consultation Council meeting were reviewed and approved with only a couple of corrections.
2. **Student Senate Update:** Student Senate President Rich Copenhagen and his Vice President Aaron Bielenberg announced that the Fall General Assembly is coming up in a couple of weeks; they will provide a report at the next Consultation Council meeting. They have begun work on the annual March-on-March with the hope that the event will evolve over the next few years to include “teach-out” sessions and opportunities to have informational tables from a variety of groups. They also hope to pull legislators out of their offices to speak directly to the students. Copenhagen also reported that the Student Senate has been working on a bill to provide a more stable environment for CalWORKS students whom they view as the most disenfranchised students in the community college system. He also announced that there will be a student leadership training opportunity this weekend. Finally, Copenhagen offered thanks to CTA, CFT and FACCC for getting AB 1358 through the legislature which the Governor signed last week. He also thanked the Chancellor’s Office staff and CCLC for their “input” into the bill which authorizes the associated students at each college to approve an increase in the voluntary representation fee to support a more robust administrative structure at the state level on behalf of the statewide Student Senate.
3. **Follow Up to the Consultation Council Orientation/Retreat:** The Consultation Council digest summarized the comments and concerns that arose at the August orientation. Chancellor Harris thanked the Council for the candid comments and indicated that while he understood the group’s frustration that he was not present at the orientation or subsequent meeting, he also felt that his absence might have allowed for an open discussion of the Council’s concerns. He then addressed each of the issues. First, he doesn’t believe that our large system contributes to easily “nailing down our work.” He expressed shock that the Council wanted longer meetings, but was not surprised that the Council desired more meeting content. Harris confirmed that he wants the Council’s advice, but he also wants to make the experience meaningful. To that end, Chancellor Harris indicated that he will “find the balance” between the “meat of the meeting and the length.” Regarding the issue of timely posting and distribution of Consultation Council meeting agenda and digest items, Chancellor Harris said there was no excuse for not providing information ahead of time. He and his staff are looking at future schedules of the BOG to better align Council meetings with BOG meetings. He indicated that they may need to adjust the meeting schedule to get the appropriate lead time or we need to change how we do things so that all information is out on a timely basis and to hear Consultation Council’s advice before the subsequent Board of Governor’s meeting. In response to the third concern regarding the

Chancellor's Office taking a more active role in the legislative process, Chancellor Harris cited the vacancy in the Vice Chancellor of Governmental Affairs position that was only recently filled as a significant challenge. He also indicated that the Chancellor's Office learned the hard way how important their role is in the process through the unfortunate passage of AB 955. Specifically, the Chancellor's Office should have taken a strong stance against AB 955, and he realized too late how much he should have weighed in. Fourth, and related to earlier issues, Chancellor Harris wants the Council to have sufficient input on potentially controversial new directions, such as his taskforce on the viability of the California Community College's starting to offer bachelor's degrees; that taskforce report should be coming soon. However, Chancellor Harris is acutely aware that going in that direction begs the broader question of the Mission of this system. The legislature has focused our colleges on Transfer, CTE and Adult ~~of~~ Basic Education, and some have even indicated that they intend to put a bill forward on the BA whether the system does our due diligence first, which is troubling. To this end, the Chancellor indicated that there will be times when he has to have conversations with the Board of Governors on issues that we may have wanted to weigh in, but he did promise that no recommendations/decisions would be finalized before vetting them through the Consultation Council. Lastly, Chancellor Harris said that while he understood the Council's impetus to have all Vice Chancellors in the room for every Consultation Council meeting, he said that it simply may not be financially prudent to have them all present for the entire meeting unless needed. He said that he would make certain that, the extent to which it is possible, ~~that~~ he would insist that his Vice Chancellors make every effort to be in the building on every Consultation Council meeting day, even if they only come into the room for their item, but they may not be in the room, depending upon the topics on the agenda. He also clarified that the best way to get an item onto the Consultation Council agenda was to work with the relevant Vice Chancellor, but he also said that if a member could not find a Vice Chancellor to carry an item, they were welcome to go directly to him.

4. **Full-Time Faculty Obligation Number:** Vice Chancellor Dan Troy discussed the recommendation going forward to the Board of Governors to increase the Faculty Obligation Number (FON) for the first time in several years due to the passage of Prop 30 and the growth and COLA funds allocated across the system. Vice Chancellor Troy's major caveat is that the community college's system-wide budget seems to be less stable than in previous years due to the continuing saga of basing too much of the system's budget on RDA funds and tax estimates and too little of the budget on a solid apportionment amount and process. He is currently in discussions with the Department of Finance regarding the RDA estimates because it is entirely possible that our system could end this fiscal year with as much as 2.2% of our budget missing. A spirited and lengthy debate ensued about the FON, its history, the flaws in how it's calculated and the resulting inequity across the state, and what the best way might be to fix it. While acknowledging the veracity of opinions expressed, Vice Chancellor Troy also indicated that changing the FON will be a complicated process with many issues to consider.

5. State and Federal Update: Vice Chancellor Vince Stewart provided the Consultation Council with a state and federal legislative update http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/ExecutiveOffice/Consultation/2013_agendas/October/digest_%20State_Fed_update.pdf . Specifically, he spoke about the passage of AB955 and indicated that only Long Beach City College has plans to take part in the pilot beginning in January. He then noted the passage of SB 440, which is considered “Part II” of 1440 and rightfully said that many groups have concerns about the bill and indicated that an informational hearing will be held on November 12th. Vice Chancellor Stewart said that he hopes the legislature can now turn its attention to the UC. There are a number of two-year bills that will come back in the next session related to Adult Ed and CalGrants. Vice Chancellor Stewart then discussed a few federal issues, namely that the federal government is open but that the debt ceiling will have to be revisited in January and February. He predicts that the federal bills that might get traction in the Spring are related to veterans, namely the expansion of G.I. benefits, campus safety issues, the Workforce Investment Act and the Higher Ed Reauthorization Act. Stewart will be traveling to DC in February to address many of the system’s issues directly.

6. State Legislative Program Task Force Update: The Legislative Task Force met on October 16th to discuss legislative changes that should be addressed in the coming year. The Task Force reached some consensus on what should move forward, although not all suggestions will be included this year. With Consultation Council’s concurrence, the following items will be presented to the Board of Governors for their consideration in November:

Dual Enrollment: This proposal was brought forward by the CIOs and CCCCCO. It seeks to expand the general parameters for Dual Enrollment, including revisions to the Ed Code to address operational issues, and specifically, to no longer require that high school campuses need to be “open” in order for dual credit to be earned for these classes.

Professional Development Proposal: Based on the statewide Professional Development Committee recommendations regarding the Student Success Taskforce Recommendations, revise the Ed Code to rename the CCC Flexible Calendar Program to the CCC Professional Development Program, expand the definition of professional development to include all employees – faculty, staff and administrators and, finally, revise the system budget to include a separate line item of .5 to 1% of the system budget dedicated directly to supporting Professional Development activities.

Continuous Appropriation: This has been a primary goal of the Chancellor’s Office and various representative groups to Consultation Council to provide the same budget stability to the

community college system as currently exists for K-12. The recent uncertainty about RDA funds has pushed this issue to the top of the agenda. There also was discussion of the need to look at Stabilization Funding.

Proposals regarding changes to the Audit Fee and the CalGrant program will be put together in a single fiscal package with great support from CCLC.

Finally, the CFT presented several issues, ranging from modifying the 50% law, the 75/25 full-time/part-time faculty ratio, a “career path” for part-time faculty, leave back-fill for full-time faculty on leave, non-classroom/student ratio, and fraud in online education. The Task Force recommended off-line conversation and inquiry into all of these issues because they are complicated and changing any of them may have unintended consequences.

- 7. Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity Committee:** Committee is reorganizing and asking for representation on the committee. Each group should let

Executive Vice Chancellor Steve Bruckman know if they intend to send a representative to this committee.

- 8. The Interactive Resource Map: Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy Framework:** Vice Chancellor Van Ton-Quinlivan presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Doing What Matters program in Economic Development.

http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/ExecutiveOffice/Consultation/2013_agendas/October/Doing_What_Matters.pdf

- 9. Board of Governor’s Fee Waiver:** Vice Chancellor Linda Michalowski and Student Financial Assistance Programs Specialist Rhonda Mohr reviewed the proposed regulations language to align the BOGFW and Enrollment Priorities requirements to simplify the appeals process for students. The Consultation Council had first reading on this item in August after the Foster Youth had been exempted from the loss of BOGFW and Enrollment Priorities due to lack of satisfactory academic process. In the intervening months, advocates for EOPS, DSPS, Veterans, and CalWORKS successfully argued for the same exemption from loss of priority and fee waiver eligibility, albeit through an appeals process that takes into account a permissive definition of “extenuating circumstances.” Specifically, all first priority enrollment groups are now covered in

Extenuating Circumstances by virtue of their status in this priority group. Due to the challenges inherent in implementing this appeals process at the district and college level, it will not go into effect until Fall 2016 if the BOG approves the language at its January 2014 meeting. Vice Chancellor Michalowski indicated that they designed this policy to provide a “safety net” for students who have lost their federal aid due to lack of satisfactory academic progress. Chancellor Harris justified the Chancellor’s Office position as the “most sound approach for the greatest number of students.”

10. Status of Accreditation Task Force: Executive Vice Chancellor Steve Bruckman said that a report from last year’s Accreditation Task Force is in draft form. Once it has been finalized, Chancellor Harris will speak directly to some ACCJC Commissioners prior to its formal release to lay the foundation for the report so that it gets better traction.

11. Update on ScoreCard Counselor Ratio: New calculations will be out in a couple of weeks for how the Counselor:Student ratio will be calculated for inclusion in the January ScoreCard. There will be clean up to some of the MIS data elements prior to the numbers being released.

12. Chancellor Harris ended the meeting by announcing that his fabulous assistant, Njeri Griffin has been promoted into a position in Van Ton-Quinlivan’s office and that Vice Chancellor Barry Russell has been named the new President of Las Positas College. He indicated that it will be tough to find Barry’s replacement! Both Njeri and Barry will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Meridith Randall, CIO President