

March 9, 2018

# Dear Campus Community,

Hello from Sacramento! As I mentioned in my opening remarks at yesterday's Flex Day, I am a member of the California Student Aid Commission and am in Rancho Cordova attending our quarterly meeting. On the topic of Flex Day, I hope everyone had a productive day of learning yesterday. Much time and preparation has been dedicated to planning the day's events and I'd like to thank the team who helped execute, as well as present, during the day's activities.

### First Annual Awareness Summit on March 22

Seats are still available! In an effort to address and aid important issues that affect our students (San Mateo County residents), Cañada College is launching its 1st Annual <u>Awareness Summit</u> themed around Housing, Transportation and Food Insecurity -- all issues that many of our students struggle with on a daily basis. The free event will include a medley of informative panels, keynote speakers, interactive activities and thought sharing. The flyer is attached and you can RSVP <u>here.</u>

## LAO Releases Higher Education Budget Analysis and Recommendations

In February the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released its 2018-19 Budget Higher Education Analysis. In addition to the California Community College-related information included in the Proposition 98 Education Analysis, this publication goes into a deep dive of all higher education segments including the California Community College (CCC) system.

Overall, the LAO notes that CCCs would realize a 6.4% funding gain in 2018-19 over revised 2017-18 levels including \$175 million for transition to a new funding formula, \$161 million for an apportionment cost of living adjustment (2.51%), \$120 million (\$100 million one-time and \$20 million ongoing) to establish the California Online Community College (COCC), \$46 million to fund the California College Promise, and \$275 million for deferred maintenance and instructional equipment. The most significant new proposals included in the 2018-19 Budget for CCC is the proposal to create the COCC and the proposal to create a new student-centered funding formula for CCC apportionments.

## California Online Community College

The LAO cites several concerns with the COCC proposal in its report. More specifically, the LAO is concerned that the Governor's problem statement and proposed solution are not well defined, are unclear if providing online offerings will solve key barriers for targeted student group, are unclear if targeted student group is well suited for online approach, are unclear how statewide industry partnerships would be developed, and that creating a new college has significant drawbacks compared to working within existing systems as eventually a new college would have its own

constraints. Despite its concerns, the LAO does not reject the Governor's proposal and instead recommends the following:

- Consider various ways to improve online education within the existing CCC system including:
- Adopting alternative funding models to encourage competency-based instructional approaches
- Running a competitive grant program for colleges to develop specific online courses that currently are unavailable
- Funding more training for faculty and staff willing to teach and support students in online programs
- Take time to consider whether to authorize a new online community college by:
- Gathering information about what underlying problems exist
- Identifying the root causes of those problems
- Figuring out how a new online college could be designed to respond to those issues and how a it could be funded and held accountable for meeting its objectives

### Student-Centered Funding Formula

The LAO is generally supportive of the direction of the proposed student-centered funding formula since the current enrollment-based funding approach has certain drawbacks and performance-based funding would support the Legislature's goals for the system. Additionally, the LAO notes that many states have some type of performance-based funding formula, and nationwide research finds performance-based formulas can change institutional behavior.

However, the LAO is concerned that the proposed formula has several key incentive problems including providing a hold harmless provision that may dampen the effect of shifting to a performance-based formula and that the Supplemental Grant serves of the same purposes as several categorical programs. To remedy these concerns, the LAO recommends the following:

- Allocate less funding based on enrollment than the existing funding model
- Allocate some funding based on performance
- Consider supplemental funding and categorical programs together
- Recommend coupling planning with flexibility in serving low-income students
- Monitor implementation to determine if negative outcomes emerge

The LAO's findings and recommendations will inform the Legislature's Budget hearings on the Administration's Budget proposals over the course of the next several months.

Have a wonderful weekend! Jamillah Moore, Ed.D.



FIRST ANNUAL AWARENESS SUMMIT

# Housing, Food Insecurity & Transportation



Cañada College Building 6, Room 101/102 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Visit: tiny.cc/AwarenessSummit18