COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA
2017 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 444-8641
(916) 444-2954 fax
Website: www.ccleague.org

AFFORDABILITY, FOOD & HOUSING ACCESS TASKFORCE

Real Solutions to Real Challenges

Friday, February 25, 2022
7:30AM – 9:00AM

MEETING SUMMARY

In Attendance: Dorothy Battenfeld, Tom Burke, Keith Curry, Colleen Ganley, Martha Garcia, Tammeil Gilkerson, Adrienne Grey, John Hernandez, Andra Hoffman, Pam Luster, Diana Rodriguez, Erik Skinner, Paula Umana. **League Staff:** Lisa Mealoy, Ryan McElhinney, Nune Garipian, Sadie Brown.

1. **AGENDA**

   a. **#RealCollegeCalifornia Update**

      i. Paula shared the Hope Center's Spring Curriculum with the committee (https://hope4college.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/RCCA-Y3-Spring-Curriculum.pdf). She mentioned that the Hope Center has been in conversation with Santa Monica College about their basic needs development plans, how they build relationships, and how they get funding to highlight in upcoming publications/newsletters.

      ii. Paula reported that there are 6 colleges who have not paid their membership dues for the 2021-2022. She requested that the taskforce and CCLC reach out to the CEOs of the unpaid colleges. It was determined that Lisa Mealoy, Sadie Brown, and Deborah Adkins will follow up with unpaid colleges and report back at the next meeting.

   b. **Basic Needs Summit Review**

      i. Summit Overview and Evaluation Responses

         1. Sadie Brown reported that approx. 450 people registered for the summit and between 260-300 participated the day of the conference.

         2. Pam Luster reported that the evaluation response was overwhelmingly positive and that the Student Voices Panel in particular received much praise. Tammeil mentioned that the students gave impactful testimonies as well as great recommendations for how to support students' basic needs. She suggested that the committee incorporate the student panelist's recommendations into the Affordability Taskforce's goals.

         3. Pam mentioned that the timing of the conference (early February) was challenging from a host college perspective due to the Legislative Conference preceding the summit as well as the beginning of the Spring term.

         4. The committee identified student parents as an important focus in terms of basic needs outreach and data collection.

         5. Tammeil Gilkerson commented that the program schedule for the summit (keynote session, spotlight sessions, coaching sessions) was well received in terms of format and should be continued for future summits.

    ii. Student Scholarships

        1. Sadie reported that 9 students received a scholarship from the sponsorship funds. All 5 students on the Student Voices Panel received a $1,000 scholarship for their participation and 4 student attendees who entered the Student Scholarship Opportunity drawing received a $500 scholarship. CCLC mailed out checks to each student scholarship recipient.

    iii. Sponsorships

        1. Ellucian committed to a 5-year $50,000 Title Sponsorship for the Basic Needs Summit.

    iv. 2023 Basic Needs Summit

        1. Host College

            a. Keith Curry commented that the summit has been hosted by colleges in Southern California as well as the Bay Area. He recommended that the next host be from the Central Valley in order to show other colleges throughout the state.

            b. Lisa Mealoy recommended that the committee select a host college that has an in-house studio/broadcasting capabilities in order to facilitate a virtual or hybrid conference. Los Rios CCD, San Bernardino CCD, and Los Angeles CCD were all listed as having broadcasting capabilities.

        2. Format & Timeline

            a. The committee discussed keeping the conference virtual in order to allow more practitioners, faculty, and students to attend. They also discussed the option of having a hybrid conference where the panelists/presenters meet in person and the attendees meet virtually.

               i. Virtual summits reach 400-500 registrants versus in-person summits reach 200-300 registrants. Virtual conferences eliminate travel needs as well as space capacity issues.

c. Continued DSA Discussion

    i. Tammeil reported that Rebekah Cearley met with Medina's staff about AB 1764 which would exempt Community College Districts from their student housing projects going under DSA review. The issue is that if districts do an exemption, the projects would face local review which oftentimes is an arduous process.

    ii. Nune Garipian reported that there are two parts to the above bill. 1) it requires colleges to collect data about housing and 2) exempts colleges from DSA oversight. Ryan McElhinney cautioned that data collection has the potential to be expensive and not useful. The League will be investigating how cost effective and how critical the data elements are that are required within the bill in order to formulate a position.

    iii. Tammeil and others identified the following bills as being a focus for the taskforce to consider:

        1. AB 102

        2. AB 295

        3. AB 1232

        4. AB 1602

     5. AB 1746
     6. SB 886

  iv. Nune provided the following information regarding several affordability-related bills:

     1. AB 1602 would establish the student housing revolving loans fund and would provide zero percent interest loans to UCs, CSUs, and CCCs to construct affordable housing as well as faculty and staff housing. There is a $5 billion appropriation attached to this bill.

     2. AB 1719 would expand the Teacher Housing Act of 2016, which is a program that would authorize school districts to build district and employee housing. This program would expand to community colleges.

     3. AB 1764 (see above information on DSA exemption and data collection)

     4. SB 886 would exempt student, staff, and faculty housing from CEQA review.

     5. AB 1919 is a reintroduction of AB 2222 which would create three transit passes for students.

     6. AB 1456 expands GalGrant eligibility to all students who are eligible for receiving the Pell Grant.

  v. Ryan provided additional information to the committee on the following affordability-related bills:

     1. AB 1746 would reform the financial aid system to better serve CCC students but would also create a significant amount of cost pressures on the state's financial aid system.

     2. AB 102 would make the CCAP partnership programs permanent.

     3. AB 1232 would waive tuition for students in ESL courses who are attending college on special immigrant visas. It is very limited and specific in scope.

d. CalFresh Discussion

  i. CalFresh discussion tabled for the next meeting

e. Food Insecurity Brief

  i. Tom Burke reported that all edits from contributors have been incorporated into the draft. Pictures and logos as well as a student testimonial from the Basic Needs Summit were also incorporated into the brief. Tammeil provided a summary of each section in the brief to the committee.

  ii. Committee members provided Tammeil with the following edits to the Policy Recommendation section:

     1. Dedicate ***permanent*** and additional state funding towards addressing students' basic needs.

     2. Prioritize the bullet point "Expand financial aid resources to support the total cost of attendance for students."

     3. Potentially add a recommendation to expand free and reduced lunch to K-14. Colleen Ganley and Tammeil recommended adding this item to the "Collection of systemwide data" bullet point.

  iii. Tammeil will work with Laura Murrell on the design of the brief and provide a date of release at the next meeting.

f. Resources
  i. Below are links to resources shared during the meeting:
    1. https://hope4college.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/RCCA-Y3-Spring-Curriculum.pdf
    2. https://hope4college.com/parenting-while-in-college-racial-disparities-in-basic-needs-insecurity-during-the-pandemic/
    3. https://hope4college.com/amarillo-colleges-no-excuses-poverty-initiative-a-strategy-guide/
    4. https://hope4college.com/when-it-comes-to-caring-about-your-students-a-little-can-go-a-long-way/
    5. https://hope4college.com/beyond-the-food-pantry-spreading-the-word-supporting-students-basic-needs-with-a-syllabus-statement/
    6. https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB2266
    7. https://www.capolicylab.org/california-community-college-and-university-of-california-student-participation-in-calfresh-food-benefits/
    8. https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/01/28/universal-basic-income-california-campuses.

https://www.ccleague.org/resources/focus-areas/affordability-taskforce

Quality Public Community Colleges for All Californians