



University of California Budget Student Consultation Process *Memorandum of Understanding*

Background

On September 27, 2012, Assembly Bill 970 (Fong) was signed into law. Existing law, known as the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth the missions and functions of the segments of public postsecondary education in the state and authorizes CSU and UC to charge fees to students attending their respective institutions.

AB 970 (Chapter 620, Statutes of 2012) establishes the "Working Families Student Fee Transparency and Accountability Act" as a part of the Donahoe Higher Education Act, and establishes various policies relating to student fees and student financial aid at UC and CSU.

The law requires the regents and the trustees to comply with prescribed public notice and student consultation procedures prior to adopting an increase in mandatory systemwide fees, and prohibits them from adopting a mandatory systemwide fee increase before specified dates.

The law also requires the trustees and the regents to provide annual reports on expenditures and financial aid to the Legislature, and would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to annually review and report to the Legislature its findings, conclusions, or recommendations regarding the implementation of policies implemented pursuant to AB 970.

The provisions of the law apply to the University of California only to the extent that the regents act by resolution to make them applicable. Given this, the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) and the University of California Student Association (UCSA) have come to the following agreement as to how student consultation will occur.

Yearly Student Consultation Process for the UC Budget

UC Budget Proposal: Initial Consultation

- A member of the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will attend the UCSA **August**, **September**, and **October** Board of Directors meetings, or participate by phone, to discuss the proposed UC Budget for the next school year and engage in discussions with the Board.
- No later than 18 days before the **September** meeting of the Board of Regents, UCSA will provide the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department with information about UCSA budget priorities, which will be reflected in any September Regents item on the UC budget.
- No later than 18 days before the **November** meeting of the Board of Regents, UCSA will provide the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department with its perspective on the University's budget for the upcoming year, which will be reflected in any November Regents item on the UC budget.

February: Governor's Budget Consultation

- The UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will provide the UCSA Board leadership with the Governor's January Budget Proposal that will be presented to the UC Board of Regents for discussion no less than 7 days before the February UCSA Board of Directors meeting.

- A member of the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will attend the UCSA February Board of Directors meeting, or participate by phone, to review the Governor's January Budget Proposal and Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) findings (if available).
- The UCSA Board of Directors will provide the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department with feedback on the Governor's January Budget Proposal and LAO findings.

May: Governor's Budget Revision

- No later than 4 days after the Governor's May Revise Budget is released, UCSA Board leaders and members of the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department and State Government Relations Office will meet to discuss its impact on the University's budget and common advocacy strategies and priorities.
- The UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will provide the UCSA Board leadership with the UC budget materials that will be presented to the Regents for discussion and approval no less than 5 days before the May UCSA Board of Directors meeting (if available).
- A member of the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will attend the UCSA May Board of Directors meeting, or participate by phone, to review the Governor's revised budget proposal and its potential impact on UC.
- No later than 18 days before the **May** meeting of the Board of Regents, UCSA will provide the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department with its perspective on the May Revise proposal, which will be reflected in any May Regents item on the UC budget.

Monthly Budget Calls with Leadership

- The UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will hold monthly conference calls with UCSA leadership to discuss strategy on budget advocacy and budget priorities.

Student Consultation on Campus Budget Issues

- UCOP will encourage campus leadership to provide opportunities for student engagement on budget priorities and related issues at the campus level.

Notification of Increases

The University of California shall consult with UCSA leadership **at least 30 days prior to providing public notice of the proposed approval of a mandatory systemwide tuition or fee increase.** The range of potential mandatory systemwide fees under consideration for the next fiscal year shall be discussed with appropriate student representatives at the time of consultation before public notice of the mandatory systemwide fee increase proposal.

- Any tuition or other student fee proposals will be released publicly, as well as to the UCSA Board of Directors, at least 10 days in advance of the Regents Meeting where it will be discussed and 10 days in advance of the Regents Meeting where it will be approved.
- At least 10 days before a tuition or fee increase is approved at the Regents Meeting, the UCOP Budget Analysis and Planning department will submit the following information to the UCSA Board leadership, for distribution to the UCSA Board of Directors, and in the Regents annual UC Budget document that is posted on the Office of the President and UC systemwide website:
 - (1) A report detailing the need for tuition or other student fee increase proposal, setting forth the facts supporting the fee increase.
 - (2) A report specifying the purposes for which revenue derived from tuition or other student fee increase will be used.
 - (3) A description of the efforts to mitigate the impact of the tuition or other student fee increases on needy students.
 - (4) The potential impact to students, including, but not limited to, the changes to the minimum workload burden for all students, if applicable, institutional financial aid awards, and the average student loan debt for undergraduates.

- (5) Alternative proposals that can be considered in lieu of the proposed net tuition or other student fee revenue proposal.
- (6) The amounts of the proposed tuition or other student fee increase in both percent of increase and in numerical dollar amount.
- An increase in the mandatory systemwide fees the UC shall not become effective until at least 30 days have elapsed after the date on which the fee increase was adopted.
- The University will continue its practice of setting aside sufficient financial aid to meet institutional goals for assisting students and families in meeting the total cost of attendance. If any changes in institutional financial aid resources are considered, the impact on students should be explained to students. This explanation shall include, but is not limited to: changes to the minimum work or loan burden for all students, if applicable; institutional financial aid awards; and the average student loan debt for undergraduate students.

Other

This agreement is in effect for two years following the date of last signature and may be revisited at that time to determine if it should be extended. This agreement can be re-negotiated upon agreement of both parties.

In cases where the Governor's proposed budget reduces General Fund appropriations from the prior annual Budget Act for the support of the operations of University, the Legislature enacts or authorizes reduced General Fund appropriations from the prior annual Budget Act for the support of the operations of the University, the Legislature enacts a budget reduction for the General Fund support of the operation of the University in the middle of a fiscal year, or the Governor implements a budget reduction for the General Fund support of the operation of the University of California in the middle of a fiscal year, this agreement is suspended for that period of time. In good faith, the University will make every effort to engage the statewide student association and public in consultation of planned budget proposals in advance of any vote by the Board of Regents.

APPROVED BY:

Signature:



Chief Financial Officer, University of California

Date:

6/5/18

Signature:



President, University of California Student Association

Date:

6/7/18

