

AGENDA

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Meeting: **2:15 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2016**
 Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium

J. Lawrence Norton, Chair
Maggie K. White, Vice Chair
Silas H. Abrego
Lillian Kimbell
Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana
Lateefah Simon
Steven G. Stepanek

Consent Item

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of September 20, 2016

Discussion Item

1. Statement of State Legislative Principles for 2017-2018, *Information*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

**Trustees of the California State University
Office of the Chancellor
Glenn S. Dumke Conference Center
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California**

September 20, 2016

Members Present

J. Lawrence Norton, Chair
Maggie K. White, Vice Chair
Silas H. Abrego
Rebecca D. Eisen, Chair of the Board
Lillian Kimbell
Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana
Lateefah Simon
Steven G. Stepanek
Timothy P. White, Chancellor

Trustee Norton called the meeting to order.

The committee heard public comment.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of July 19, 2016, were approved as submitted.

Proposition 55 – Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare

Mr. Garrett P. Ashley, vice chancellor for university relations and advancement, reported that there will be 17 statewide initiatives on the November ballot. At the request of State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, Proposition 55 is being brought before the board for consideration.

Ms. Kathleen Chavira, assistant vice chancellor for advocacy and state relations, reported that Proposition 55 would extend the personal income tax increase enacted by the passage of Proposition 30 for an additional 12 years, which could generate between \$4 billion and \$9 billion annually. The revenue would allow K-12 and community colleges to fund a variety of support services and improve the college readiness of first-time freshman and transfer applicants. In addition, the availability of these funds would ease state budgetary pressures and would likely result in more General Fund resources for other discretionary purposes, including higher education.

The committee recommended approval by the board of the proposed resolution (RGR 09-16-13) to endorse the Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare to ensure continued investments in public education in the State of California.

State Legislative Update

Mr. Ashley reported that the legislature returned from summer recess to complete the final month of the legislative session. Of the more than 2,300 bills introduced in 2016, 1,300 passed out of the legislature. The governor has until September 30 to sign or veto bills sent to him.

Ms. Chavira gave an overview of key bills that impact the CSU:

- ***CSU Investment Authority (SB 1412 Block)***: This bill allows the CSU to invest in mutual funds and real estate investment trusts, with no more than 30 percent of funds placed in these new options. The intent is to boost annual returns, providing funding for CSU deferred maintenance and infrastructure needs. This bill has been signed into law.
- ***Lottery Fund Payments (AB 2215 Medina/Baker)***: The bill makes a technical change to government code regarding how the State Controller's Office distributes state lottery funds to the CSU. This bill was signed into law.

Other bills of interest to the CSU include those dealing with a CSU doctorate of audiology program, a four-year pledge program, food insecurity, free digital course materials, and a tuition waiver for students appointed to the California Student Aid Commission.

Following a discussion among board members on trustee involvement and input on CSU bill positions, Trustee Norton said a follow-up conversation is needed to clarify the process.

Joint Memorandum of Understanding – Voter Registration and Engagement

Chancellor Timothy P. White, Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, Secretary of State Alex Padilla and California State Student Association President David Lopez presented the memorandum of understanding between the Secretary of State, the CSU and CSSA on voter registration and engagement. The MOU outlines the shared responsibility of the campuses, students and the state in supporting student civic engagement.

Trustee Norton adjourned the meeting.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Statement of State Legislative Principles for 2017-2018

Presentation By

Garrett P. Ashley
Vice Chancellor
University Relations and Advancement

Kathleen Chavira
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Advocacy and State Relations

Summary

This item contains the proposed Statement of State Legislative Principles for 2017-2018.

Background

At the beginning of every two-year legislative session, the Board of Trustees adopts a formal Statement of Legislative Principles for the California State University. The principles provide basic parameters to guide positions taken by the chancellor and system representatives on matters pending before the California legislature.

Statement of Legislative Principles

As the state's greatest producer of bachelor's degrees, the California State University plays a critical role in arming future leaders with the skills and knowledge for them to thrive in the workforce, drive the economy and actively contribute to the quality of life in California. The CSU achieves these results by providing affordable, accessible and high-quality education, as outlined in the Master Plan for Higher Education. The system and its leaders, faculty and staff remain committed to this important work for the betterment of today and tomorrow.

The following constitute the core principles guiding recommendations on legislation:

1. Work with the legislature and governor to allow the California State University to continue its oversight of academic affairs and matters relating to the internal governance of the university.
2. Preserve the integrity of the collective bargaining process.

3. Remain neutral on matters in which the state seeks to legislate the general public health and safety while not singling out the California State University.
4. Preserve the integrity of the California State University's budgetary process, and seek adequate funding to serve current and future students, support the work of faculty and staff, provide for ongoing operations, capital outlay and infrastructure needs, and to meet the workforce demands of the state.
 - a. Provide that all funds must be appropriated to the Board of Trustees.
 - b. Proposals for operational, student success and academic programs, and capital outlay needs, must be approved and prioritized by the Board of Trustees.
 - c. Provide the operational authority and flexibility, as well as the necessary tools, for the university to respond to the needs of students and the state.
5. Seek to influence the outcome of issues which, while not affecting the California State University alone, would have a disproportionate impact on the university's activities.
6. Seek to secure representation of the California State University on appropriate boards, commissions, task forces, study groups, etc., whose work may have a significant impact on the system. Representatives to such bodies shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees or the Chancellor.
7. As both the chief administrative officer and a trustee, the chancellor is recognized and designated by the Board of Trustees as the spokesperson for the California State University regarding its positions on state and federal legislative proposals. When practical, the position to be taken on a legislative proposal should be discussed with the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Governmental Relations before that position is communicated to the Legislature. Unresolved positions on a legislative proposal will be decided by the chancellor in consultation with the chair of the board. When practical, changes in position on pending legislative proposals will be shared with the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Governmental Relations prior to communication of the change to the legislature. When this is not practical, changes in position will be shared with the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Governmental Relations immediately following communication of the change to the legislature.

The following resolution will be recommended for adoption in January:

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the California State University, that the Statement of Legislative Principles for 2017-2018 be adopted; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the chancellor is authorized to take positions on pending legislation on behalf of the California State University system; but prior to taking or changing such positions on legislative matters, the chancellor shall consult, when practical, with the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Governmental Relations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any unresolved positions on a legislative proposal will be decided by the chancellor in consultation with the chair of the board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the chancellor shall keep the Board of Trustees regularly informed of the positions taken and of such other matters affecting governmental relations as deemed necessary and desirable.