



CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 9, 2021

9:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Marlene L. Garcia (Executive Director)

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT:

Catalina Cifuentes (Chair)
Charles Nies (Interim Vice Chair)
Debra Maxie (Secretary)
Patrick Day
Juanita Doplemore
Shannon Gary
Hal Geiogque
Guillermo Mayer
Steve Ngo
David O'Brien
Angel Rodriguez (departed 9:47 a.m., rejoined 1:07 p.m.)
David Valladolid

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Catalina Cifuentes called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Roll call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

2. **Public comment on items not on the agenda.**

There was no public comment.

3. **Approval of the Commission minutes of June 23, 2021 (Action)**

Commissioner Geiogque **moved to approve** the minutes. **Seconded by** Commissioner Valladolid

Roll call vote:

In Favor (11): Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie, Mayer, Ngo, Nies, Rodriguez, and Valladolid

Abstention (1): O'Brien

Carried (11 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the minutes of the June 24, 2021 meeting.

4. Chair's oral report on Commission related issues (Information)

Chair Catalina Cifuentes welcomed everyone and thanked Commissioners who have stepped up to fulfill Interim officer roles for the Commission and Committees. Chair Cifuentes also announced new Commissioner, David O'Brien, and welcomed him back to the Commission.

5. Executive Director's oral report (Information)

Executive Director Marlene Garcia welcomed everyone and provided an update legislative and operational changes for new program needs.

6. Presentation of Resolution to Isaac Alferos, former Commissioner (Information)

Chair Cifuentes read the resolution for former Commissioner Isaac Alferos.

Commissioners were provided an opportunity to share their thoughts and gratitude for former Commissioner Alferos.

7. Update on ratification of contracts over \$100,000 (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Lilly Myers, Deputy Director of the Fiscal Administrative Services Division, to present item 7.

Ms. Myers presented the contracts for ratification.

Commissioner Ngo **moved to ratify** the contracts. **Seconded by** Commissioner Maxie.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (12): Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie. Mayer, Ngo, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, and Valladolid

Carried (12 to 0)

The Commission **RATIFIED** the contracts described in the proposed new contracts over \$100,000.00.

8. **Consideration of adoption of modification of regulations to interpret and make specific amended Sections 69999.10 through 69999.24 of the Education Code relating to the California Military Department GI Bill Award Program (Action)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, to present item 8.

Ms. Blair provided a brief background on the modification of the previously approved regulations. She noted that the staff recommends the Commission adopt the proposed modified regulations

Commissioner Ngo **moved to adopt** the proposed modified regulations. **Seconded by** Commissioner Mayer.

There was no public comment.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (11): Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie. Mayer, Ngo, Nies, O'Brien, and Valladolid

Absent (1): Rodriguez

Carried (11 to 0)

The Commission **ADOPTED** staff recommendation to adopt the proposed modified regulations and authorize staff to complete the regulatory process.

9. **Consideration of adoption of modification to regulations for institutional appeals relating to participation in the Cal Grant Program (Action)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, to present item 9.

Ms. Blair provided a brief background on modifications to regulations for institutional appeals related to participation in the Cal Grant program.

Commissioner Ngo **moved to approve** the item. **Seconded by** Commissioner Geiogoue.

There was no public comment.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (12): Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie. Mayer, Ngo, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, and Valladolid

Carried (12 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** staff recommendation to adopt the proposed modified regulations and authorize staff to complete the regulatory process.

10. Update on 2021-22 State Budget Act - Cal Grant Expansion and new Commission programs (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Director of Government & External Relations, to present item 10.

Mr. Brymner presented an update on the 2021-22 State Budget Act. Mr. Kang presented an update on new Commission programs.

Executive Director Garcia recommended the Commission can authorize staff to work with two Commissioners, identified by the Chair, to work with staff to review regulations prior to presentation at the December 2021 meeting.

Commissioner Ngo **moved to approve** the authorization and asked the Chair and Ms. Blair to confirm if a motion is necessary for this authorization. Ms. Blair responded that the Chair could do this without a motion, but since the possibility of an interim meeting was indicated during the discussion, a motion would clarify that the interim meeting would not be necessary.

Seconded by Commissioner Valladolid.

There was no public comment.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (11): Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogue, Maxie. Mayer, Ngo, Nies, O'Brien, and Valladolid

Absent (1): Rodriguez

Carried (11 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the recommendation to authorize staff to work with two Commissioners, identified by the Chair, to review regulations prior to presentation at the December 2021 meeting.

11. Consideration of Budget Change Proposals (BCPs) for Fiscal Year 2022-23 (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Lilly Myers, Deputy Director of the Fiscal Administrative Services Division, Tae Kang, Deputy Director of the Program and Administrative Services Division, and Jake Brymner, Director of the Government and External Relations, to present item 11.

Executive Director Garcia provided a brief context on the needs for these budget change proposals for 2022-23. Ms. Myers presented the two proposals.

Commissioner Mayer **moved to the approve** staff recommendation. **Seconded by** Commissioner Maxie.

There was no public comment.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (11): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogue, Mayer, Ngo, O'Brien, and Valladolid

Absent (1): Rodriguez

Carried (11 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the two BCPs for the fiscal year 2022-23.

12. Announcement of the opening of nominations for 2022 Commission Officers (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, to present item 12.

Ms. Blair provided a brief background on the opening of nominations for 2022 Commission officers and the nomination process.

13. Presentation of proposed 2022 Commission meeting calendar (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Catalina Mistler, Chief Deputy Director, to present item 13.

Ms. Mistler presented the proposed 2022 Commission meeting calendar and noted that the final calendar will be presented at the December 2021 meeting for adoption.

Commissioner Gary asked if one of the Commission meetings will be held at a college campus. Executive Director Garcia noted that once traveling becomes less of a concern due to Covid-19, the Commission would host June retreat meetings at a campus.

14. Update on recent UC Cohort Tuition plan (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Director of the Government and External Relations, to present item 14.

Mr. Brymner introduced Shawn Brick, Executive Director for Student Financial Support at the University of California, Office of the President, to present on tuition pricing for UC students. Mr. Brick presented on the new tuition pricing for UC students.

RECESSED for lunch at 12:03 p.m.

Chair Cifuentes reconvened the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

Roll call was taken and a quorum was recognized.

15. Statewide student leadership presentation (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Director of Government and External Relations, to present item 15.

Mr. Brymner introduced the student leaders from the student associations: Esme Quintero-Cubillan, President, UC Students Association (UCSA), Krishan Malhotra, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Cal State Student Association (CSSA), Gerardo Chavez, President, Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), and Diana Guardado, who represents students at the private, non-profit segment.

Each student presented on behalf of their student organization.

16. Update on Student Loan Debt Workgroup (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Patrick Perry, Director of the Data, Analysis, and Research Team, to present item 16.

Mr. Perry provided a brief background on the student loan debt workgroup. Mr. Perry invited Martha Snyder and Elizabeth Salinas, from HCM Strategists, to present. Ms. Snyder presented an update on Student Loan Debt Workgroup.

17. Report on and consideration of the September 8, 2021, Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee meeting (information/Action)

Committee Chair Charles Nies reported out on the Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee meeting on September 8, 2021.

18. Report on and consideration of the September 8, 2021, Student Impact, Outreach and Communications Committee meeting (Information/Action)

Committee Chair Angel Rodriguez reported out on the Student Impact, Outreach and Communication Committee meeting on September 8, 2021.

19. Report on and consideration of the September 8, 2021, Data, Research, and Strategic Planning Committee meeting

Committee Chair Debra Maxie reported out on the Data, Research and Strategic Committee meeting on September 8, 2021.

20. Report on and consideration of the September 8, 2021, Personnel, Evaluation and Nominations Committee meeting (Information/Action)

Committee Chair Guillermo Mayer reported that there was nothing to report out on the Personnel, Evaluation and Nominations Committee meeting on September 8, 2021.

21. Closed Session of the Commission (Information/Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, to announce closed session.

Ms. Blair announced that the full Commission would meet in Closed Session to discuss and may take action on personnel matters pursuant to California Government Code, Section 11126(a).

The Commission went into Closed Session at 3:01 p.m.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

Chair Cifuentes reconvened Open Session at 4:47 p.m. and announced that there is nothing to report out from the closed session.

22. New business to be considered at future meetings (Information/Action)

Chair Cifuentes noted the following items to consider for future meetings:

- Information on payout and how payout plans work
- Best practices (or promising practices) for program implementation

23. Adjournment

Chair Cifuentes adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

CATALINA CIFUENTES
CHAIR