



FACCC Legislation and Budget Committee Meeting Notes

February 5, 2024

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Attending: Ruby Christian-Brougham, Libby Cook, Logan Fisher, Bob Stockwell, and Sarah Thompson

Absent: Wendy Brill-Wynkoop and Anna Mathews

Overview

- The committee will focus on advocating for the housing study bill and addressing the issue of AI-led classes without a human instructor.
- Support for the legislative bill AB2033, which enables EBT card use on college campuses, was decided but with pending questions regarding implementation details.
- Key revisions to the education funding position paper, including the addition of setting a cap on administrative costs and a separate ratio for non-credit instruction, were favorably received by the board.
- Concerns were raised over selective COLA funding for categoricals, with crucial programs lacking increases despite their role in Vision 2030.

Faculty Associations Collaboration

- Sarah explained current collaborations focus on advocacy for the budget.
- FACCC and CCCI are the only faculty organizations working together, focusing on legislative and budget issues.
- FACCC is proposing a strategic approach to advocate for a housing study bill, which might precede direct funding for student housing.
- A bill to prevent AI from entirely running classes, referred to as the "human instructor bill," is being talked about but lacks a sponsor.

Talk on Legislation and Budget Committee Documentation

- The committee won't review every bill but will focus on specific ones.
- The "final first draft of the position paper" with the FACCC board's recommended changes was to be reviewed.
- Sarah mentioned a comprehensive tracker for legislation as a helpful resource, but noted that they would not review each bill in detail during the meeting.

Student Housing and Homeless Student Support

- Logan raised environmental impact and cost considerations for student housing.
- Ruby detailed that the targeted homeless student population for the proposed housing bill is specifically those over **26** years old, and mentioned LACCD's efforts to count how many students are affected in their district.
- The group talked about ensuring that any new legislation considers environmental impact and feasibility.

Legislative Bill AB2033 - EBT Card Use on Campus

- The bill proposes enabling the use of EBT cards on college campuses so students reliant on EBT do not need to leave campus to buy food, aiming primarily at food retail stores such as convenience stores.
- The committee had questions concerning the cost implications of implementing the bill and the extent of reimbursed costs.
- Libby provided insights into what items EBT funds can cover, which include unheated foods, as heated foods are excluded.

Position Paper on Education Funding and Policies

- Board feedback on the draft included a suggestion to evaluate and possibly alter the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) in alignment with Vision 2030.
- The committee agreed to potentially add to the position paper the idea of setting a maximum percentage for administrative costs to limit funds not directly allocated to education.
- A section on categoricals was talked about, emphasizing clarity on budgetary concerns and the misuse of funds in hiring practices.
- It was decided to propose a full-time to part-time ratio specifically for non-credit instruction rather than incorporating it into the credit instruction ratio.
- The revisions received highly favorable feedback from the board.

COLA Funding Issues

- Sarah wrote an article for her campus regarding COLA selectivity for categoricals.
- She mentioned the upcoming battles this spring because some categoricals get COLA and some don't, with none related to faculty funding receiving it.
- She expressed concern over the absence of a steady funding source, fearing competition between categoricals could result.
- Sarah shared important figures, saying the COLA is likely to increase to about **2%**, as the league and chancellor's office thought.
- Libby highlighted the disparity in COLA application, mentioning EOPS received it but not NextUp or other programs like veterans resource centers and basic needs centers, which were excluded despite their importance in Vision 2030.
- Sarah concurred, adding that essential learning communities like Puente and Mesa also lacked COLA, with Mesa just recently becoming a standalone program and NextUp being a part of foster youth, which is significant in Vision 2030.

A&P Sessions Planning

- Sarah detailed the A&P event, which includes a general session where Ruby and she will present a position paper highlighting FACCC budget priorities for the year, followed by a breakout session on advancing these funding priorities.
- The breakout session is round-robin style, with presentations on legislative strategy and resources for attendees to use in meetings with legislators.

Legislative Bills and Webinar

- Sarah mentioned they had three bills for talk and acknowledged time constraints with **nine minutes** left in the meeting.
- A webinar for the 50% law is scheduled for **February 13th**.

Parking Bill Talk

- Sarah and Bob talked about a bill on overnight parking for homeless students, touching on liability issues, restroom access, and garbage services, which need to be included in the bill for funding.
- They talked about how cities could provide designated parking lots for housing near colleges as an alternative to colleges managing such facilities.

Reflections on Housing Solutions

- Sarah and Ruby talked about alternative solutions for student housing, emphasizing education as the colleges' primary mandate rather than providing extended social services.

Legislative Bill Deadlines

- Bob noted that bill introduction deadlines seem delayed and that there's an extended opportunity for review.
- The group agreed to revisit bill talks during the committee day at the end of the month.