



CPEC

News Release

California Postsecondary Education Commission
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State higher education panel to discuss the Master Plan for Higher Education, transfer, and university fees

SACRAMENTO — March 8, 2010 — Higher education experts will update the California Postsecondary Education Commission on how the University of California, California State University, and the community colleges are improving community college transfer.

The CPEC quarterly meeting is on March 9 and 10 in Sacramento — 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Wednesday.

The Commission will hear from UC Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Lawrence H. Pitts, M.D., CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Academic Support Allison Jones, and California Community Colleges Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Special Programs Linda Michalowski.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for the state to expand UC and CSU to meet growing demand for enrollment slots. Transfer can give more students the opportunity for a university education because the state can accommodate more lower-division students at community colleges at a much lower cost than at the four-year systems.

Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod has been invited to address the Commission on the state's postsecondary education systems and the Legislature's current review of the Master Plan. Her remarks are scheduled for 10 a.m. on March 9. She and Assemblymember Ira Ruskin are leading a review of the state's 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, which has guided the development of higher education over the past 50 years. One of the principles in the Master Plan is that all Californians should have the opportunity for a high-quality, low-cost college education.

On Wednesday, March 10, the Commission will discuss newly released projections of higher education enrollment demand. The demand for undergraduate enrollment slots at UC, CSU and community college campuses will increase by 16 percent, or 387,000 students. If the state does not fully fund enrollment for the three systems, to at least the 2008–09 level, 277,000 students face being turned away next year.

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Commission Briefing

On Thursday, March 11, from 10 to 11 a.m., CPEC and the Campaign for College Opportunity will participate in a phone briefing for the media and stakeholders regarding the statewide enrollment demand and capacity projections.

Those on the call are Commission Chair John Perez, CPEC Executive Director Karen Humphrey, CPEC Lead Researcher Stacy Wilson, and Campaign for College Opportunity Executive Director Michele Siqueiros. Higher education representatives will include CSU President Charles Reed.

Call-in number: 800.862.9098 — Conference ID: 7READY

Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, March 9

10 to 11 a.m.

Presentation by Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, co-chair of the Joint Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education

11 a.m. to 12:30 pm

Panel discussion — Intersegmental task force on transfer issues

2:15 to 2:30 p.m.

Review of proposed community college center in Orange County

2:30 to 3 p.m.

Staff report — Fees at public colleges and universities

3 to 3:30 p.m.

LAO Report on Coordination of Higher Education — Presentation by Judy Heiman, Legislative Analyst's Office.

Wednesday, March 10

8:30 to 10 a.m.

CPEC staff report — Enrollment demand, institutional capacity, marginal instructional costs, potential losses in college opportunity, social and economic benefits of public investment in higher education.

Thursday, March 11

10 to 11 a.m.

Briefing call — Discussion on findings and implications of enrollment and capacity demand. Panel includes representatives from CPEC, Campaign for College Opportunity, UC, CSU, and the community colleges. Call-in number: 800.862.9098. Conference ID: 7READY

Thursday, March 25

2:30 to 4 p.m.

Capitol Briefing — Presentations by CPEC researchers, Campaign for College Opportunity, and higher education representatives. State Capitol Room 126.

A complete meeting agenda and staff reports are available at www.cpec.ca.gov/agendas/agnd1003.asp.

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The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. The Commission's primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities.