

Assembly Committee on Higher Education
Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair

An Oversight Hearing On
Streamlining Transfer in Public Higher Education:
A Progress Report on the Implementation of SB 1440 and AB 2302

Speaker Biographies

California's Transfer Structure: Goals, Progress and Recommendations

Colleen Moore

Research Associate, Institute for Higher Education Leadership & Policy

Colleen Moore has been a Research Specialist at the Institute for Higher Education Leadership & Policy for over ten years. Her principal areas of focus include accountability, community colleges, the use of data to improve student outcomes, and higher education performance and finance. Ms. Moore has co-authored numerous reports and articles on higher education policy, community colleges, student success, career technical education, and accountability. Prior to her work at the Institute, Ms. Moore had over a decade of experience conducting policy-oriented research on a variety of topics for several public and private organizations, including California's Employment Development Department, the California Institute for County Government, the Defense Personnel Security Research Center, the Prevention Research Center, and the Center for Health Care Evaluation at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. She earned a B.A. in Psychology from University of the Pacific, and a Masters in Public Policy and Administration from Sacramento State University.

Michele Siqueiros

Executive Director, Campaign for College Opportunity

As the Executive Director for The Campaign for College Opportunity, Michele works to expand access and success in college for California students. With her leadership in 2010, The Campaign led the effort for historic transfer reform that will make it easier for students to transfer from any California Community College to the California State University system. In November 2011, Michele was appointed to the California Student Aid Commission by Governor Jerry Brown. From 2005 to 2010, Michele served as an appointee of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on the Board of Neighborhoods overseeing the citywide system of neighborhood councils. In 2008, La Opinion Newspaper named her one of Los Angeles' Mujeres Destacadas (Outstanding Woman) for her extraordinary leadership in education. She currently serves on the Boards of the Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP), the Alliance for a Better Community, and Pitzer College Alumni. Michele graduated from Pitzer College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Studies with Honors in Chicano Studies. She received her Master of Arts in Urban Planning from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Lande Ajose, Ph.D.

Deputy Director, California Competes: Higher Education for a Strong Economy

Dr. Lande Ajose is the Deputy Director of California Competes: Higher Education for a Strong Economy. In this role she advocates on behalf of higher education policies that equitably serve students while also benefitting the California economy. Her introduction to issues of equity and postsecondary education began as an admission officer at Vassar College. Community college effectiveness became a focus of her work while at the James Irvine Foundation and continued when she joined the staff of MDRC, where she managed a comprehensive evaluation of the Achieving the Dream initiative. Lande's expertise in education and low-income employment was honed while at the consulting firm Informing Change where she directed complex strategic planning engagements and program evaluations related to education, poverty alleviation and workforce development. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Education are among her numerous past clients.

The CCC-CSU Transfer Experience: Implementation of SB 1440

Michelle Pilati, Ph.D.

Immediate Past President of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

Dr. Pilati is the immediate past President of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) and a professor of psychology at Rio Hondo College where she has been full-time faculty since 1999. Presently she is serving on the SB 1440 Intersegmental Curriculum Workgroup and as the Faculty Coordinator for the Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID). As a member of the ASCCC Executive Committee she was actively involved in curriculum and transfer-related initiatives, including the implementation of SB 1440. During her time on the ASCCC Executive Committee, she served as the Faculty Coordinator for both Statewide Career Pathways (facilitating articulation between high schools and community colleges in vocational disciplines) and the Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID; an intersegmental faculty-led solution to the call for common course numbering and a means of simplifying articulation within the community colleges and between the segments of higher education). At the national level she has pursued her interest in online education, serving as an Editor for MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) and was a founding Editorial Board Member and served as Co-Editor of the MERLOT peer-reviewed journal, JOLT. At Rio Hondo College, she served as Distance Education Coordinator and Curriculum Chair. Prior to her current position, she served as a Visiting Professor at UC Irvine, conducted postdoctoral research at UCLA's Drug Abuse Research Center, and worked as an academic counselor in UCLA's Department of Psychology. Dr. Pilati earned her Bachelor of Science degree in biology and psychology at the State University of New York at Albany. She completed her doctorate in psychology at UCLA.

Ken O'Donnell

Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Planning, Office of the Chancellor of California State University

Ken works on statewide curriculum, with a focus on student engagement and success and the state's shared coursework in general education. All students take GE, regardless of their major or college of origin. This learning often comes early in their path to degree, and sets the pace for the rest of their time in college. In 2008 he was named by the Executive Vice Chancellor as state liaison to the AAC&U's national project *Give Students a Compass*, which seeks to infuse high-impact educational practice into the lower-division college curriculum. In 2010 he was appointed to the NASH/EdTrust campaign *Access to Success*, a national effort to raise graduation rates and reduce achievement gaps. In 2011 his portfolio was expanded to include implementation of a new law streamlining transfer in popular majors. In 2012 Ken was asked to create a new department in the Office of the Chancellor, leading system office work around Student Engagement and Academic Initiatives & Partnerships. His day to day work is with faculty and administrators throughout the California State University, with a professional interest in ePortfolios, learning outcomes assessment, and engaging, student-focused pedagogy and curriculum. He has addressed numerous conferences and workshops around the country on general education, and the role of public state systems in educational reform.

The CCC-UC Transfer Experience: AB 2302 and UC Transfer Pathways

Stephen Handel

Associate Vice President, Undergraduate Admissions, University of California

In this role, Handel oversees systemwide policies and practices relating to UC admissions for undergraduate students. Prior to this position, Handel was Executive Director of the National Office of Community College Initiatives at the College Board. In that capacity, Handel advocated for, and conducted research with, community colleges nationally and internationally, with a special focus on initiatives that advanced educational access and equity for all students. Before joining the College Board, Handel served as University

of California's first Director of Community College Transfer Enrollment Planning, where he initiated strategic enrollment policies focusing on the needs of community college transfer students. Handel is the author of the *Community College Counselor Sourcebook* as well as other publications focusing on higher education issues, including *Remediating Remediation* (with Ronald Williams), *Strengthening the Nation By Narrowing the Gap* (with James Montoya), and *Second Chance, Not Second Class: A Blueprint for Community College Transfer*. Handel earned his Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from UCLA, a B.A. from California State University, Sacramento, and an A.A. from Cosumnes River Community College (Sacramento).

Dr. George Johnson

Chair, Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools, University of California

Professor Johnson is Chair of the Board on Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) of the University of California's Systemwide Academic Senate. BOARS advises the Academic Senate and administration on matters relating to admissions of undergraduate students. It is primarily responsible for recommending to the Senate the conditions for admission of undergraduates at both the freshman and advanced standing levels. BOARS works closely with staff at the Office of the President in identifying the nature and quality of college preparatory high school courses that are required for freshman eligibility, and in establishing the general criteria that courses from other institutions of higher education must satisfy in order to be transferrable to the University.

Jeff Spano

Dean of Student Services, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Jeff Spano has served at the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges since 2001, and is Dean of Student Services where he oversees Transfer and Articulation, Disabled Students Programs and Services, Mental Health Services, Health Services, and Veterans Services. In addition, he is Interim Dean over the new Student Success and Support Program, and Admissions and Records. As Dean, he provides policy and program leadership to California's 112 community colleges, and represents the Chancellor's Office on related boards and statewide initiatives. Previously, he managed California's \$131 million School-to-Career Initiative, and began his career in Housing & Residential Services at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he also received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies and his Master of Arts degree in Educational Policy and Organizational Studies.

Student Perspectives

Matthew Blake

Senator of Governance and Policy, Region VIII, Student Senate for California Community Colleges

Matthew Blake is the Vice President of the SCC ASG Senate, a member of the Academic Senate of SCC, Senator of Governance and Policy Student Senate of California Community Colleges, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of the Citizens measure E Bond Committee, and a full time student at Santiago Canyon College. Matthew is a Licensed California General contractor with 21 years of experience in the business and engineering field of construction.

Daniel Thomas Clark

Vice President of Legislative Affairs, California State Student Association

Daniel Thomas Clark is a first generation college student. He graduated from Fresno City College with an Associates Degree in Fire Science and Technology, completing the Fire Academy and EMT course along the way. He is a former Region V Governance and Policy Senator for the Student Senate for California Community Colleges representing the 11 community colleges in the Central Valley (Region V). He founded The Veterans

Caucus for The Community College System and was a founding member of The Latino Caucus for the Community College System. Currently, Daniel attends Fresno State University, majoring in Business Administration. He is the current Vice President of Legislative Affairs for The California State Student Association, a non-partisan advocacy organization that represents the 437,000 CSU students of the CSU system.

Sachin Jain

Graduate Student, University of California, Berkeley

Sachin Jain grew up in San Diego, California. After graduating high school in 2006, he enrolled at De Anza Community College in Cupertino, California. In total, Sachin has attended seven different community colleges. He completed most of his coursework at De Anza and Foothill community colleges in the Bay Area. Sachin transferred to UC Berkeley in 2008 and graduated a year later in the summer of 2009. After graduating, Sachin worked in various legislative capacities at the United States Senate, The White House, and the San Jose City Council. In the Fall of 2012, Sachin enrolled at UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy where he is working towards his Masters in Public Policy. Sachin is most interested in K-12 and higher education policy. In the last two years he has consulted for various education nonprofits and the Oakland Unified School District. Currently, he serves at the Legislative Director of State Affairs for UC Berkeley's Graduate Assembly.

