

Assembly Committee on Higher Education
Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair

*Affordability as a Barrier to Access and Success at
California's Public Colleges and Universities*

Speaker Biographies

• Welcome and Introductions

Henry Yang

Chancellor, University of California Santa Barbara

Henry T. Yang was named UC Santa Barbara's fifth chancellor in 1994. He was formerly the Neil A. Armstrong Distinguished Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Purdue University, where he also served as the dean of engineering for ten years. Dr. Yang is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Society for Engineering Education, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He is the current chair of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities, and a past chair of the Association of American Universities. He serves on the President's Committee for the National Medal of Science and the Kavli Foundation board, and is chairman of the board for the Thirty Meter Telescope project. Dr. Yang specializes in aerospace structures, structural dynamics, composite materials, finite elements, transonic aeroelasticity, wind and earthquake structural engineering, and intelligent manufacturing systems. He continues to teach an undergraduate course every year, and is currently guiding three Ph.D. students with support from National Science Foundation grants. In 2007 he received an honorary distinguished teaching award from UCSB's Academic Senate.

• Overview: Strengths and Weaknesses of California's Affordability Structure

David Longanecker, Ed.D.

President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

David Longanecker has served as the president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education in Boulder since 1999. Previously, Longanecker served for six years as the assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the U.S. Department of Education. Prior to that he was the state higher education executive officer in Colorado and Minnesota. He was also the principal analyst for higher education for the Congressional Budget Office. Longanecker has served on numerous boards and commissions. He has written extensively on a range of higher education issues. His primary interests in higher education are: expanding access to successful completion for students within all sectors of higher education, promoting student and institutional performance, assuring efficient and effective finance and financial aid strategies, and fostering effective use of educational technologies, all for the purpose of sustaining the nation's strength in the world and increasing the quality of life for all Americans, particularly those who have traditionally been left out in the past. He holds an Ed.D. from Stanford University, an M.A. in student personnel work from George Washington University, and a B.A. in sociology from Washington State University.

Judith Heiman, M.B.A.

Principal Analyst, California Legislative Analyst's Office

Ms. Heiman is a principal analyst at the Legislative Analyst's Office. In this role, she provides budget and policy analysis and recommendations to members of the legislature on higher education issues. Prior to her current position, she served as Deputy Secretary of Education in Virginia, and senior budget and policy analyst at the Virginia Department of Planning and Budget. In these roles she analyzed statewide higher education

funding and policy issues, and developed and implemented initiatives to support the state's education policy agenda in collaboration with state agencies, educational institutions and the broader education community. Earlier positions include leadership and management roles in the public and nonprofit sectors. Ms. Heiman holds an undergraduate degree from Brandeis University and an M.B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley; she is also an Associate of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.

Richard R. Rush

President, California State University Channel Islands

Richard R. Rush became president of California State University Channel Islands in June 2001. As head of the 23rd and newest campus in the California State University system, Dr. Rush has hired the faculty and senior administrative staff and overseen the creation and development of the University's strategic, academic and physical master plans, the budget and financial structure, infrastructure and road improvements, the acquisition of adjacent land, as well as successfully leading the University's efforts to achieve Accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Before arriving at CI, Dr. Rush spent nine years as president of Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he created ties between MSU and regional industry, the local community, and civic leaders. Prior to that, Dr. Rush played a key role in the founding of CSU San Marcos while serving as Vice President in Charge and, subsequently, as Executive Vice President. Dr. Rush serves on the boards of the Economic Development Cooperative – Ventura County, Camarillo Chamber of Commerce, Community Memorial Hospital, Casa Pacifica, California Campus Compact, and American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Council of State Representatives, among others. In addition, he serves as Chair of the P-16 Regional Council for the Improvement of College Attendance and Success which focuses on improving the college-going rates of students, particularly from communities with historically low participation.

Jamillah Moore, Ed.D.

Chancellor, Ventura County Community College District
Commissioner, California Student Aid Commission

Dr. Jamillah Moore brings 18 years of educational, policy, instruction, and advocacy experience to her role as Chancellor of Ventura County Community College District. Dr. Moore began her career in advocacy as a California State Senate fellow in public policy for Senator Teresa P. Hughes. In 1996, she was appointed as senior consultant for the California State Senate Select Committee on College and University Admissions and Outreach. She then went to work for the Los Angeles County Office of Education as the Director of Governmental Relations. In 2004, Dr. Moore joined the System Office of the California Community Colleges as a Senior Vice-Chancellor for Governmental and External Relations. In 2005, she led the state recovery team for one year as the Interim President of Compton Community College, working to sustain educational opportunities for the students in that community. In 2007, she joined the Los Angeles Community College District as the President of Los Angeles City College, where she provided fiscal stability, reaffirmation of the college's accreditation, and led the charge in becoming the first California Community College to receive the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program. Dr. Moore is a graduate of the University of San Francisco, where she earned a doctorate in International and Multicultural Education. She is also a former EOP student and graduate of California State University, Sacramento, where she earned a Masters in Intercultural Communication and Public Policy and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.

• **Student Aid Distribution at Public Colleges and Universities**

Brad Hardison

Director of Financial Aid, Santa Barbara City College

Brad Hardison is currently the Financial Aid Director at Santa Barbara City College. A position he has held for the last 13 years. During his time at the community college, Brad served the statewide financial aid association, CCCSFAAA as the President in 2009. Prior to being President He also served as regional representative and Treasurer. In his capacity on the board, Brad represented community college students and financial aid administrators on statewide issues relating to financial aid and continues to be a strong advocate and voice. Most recently Brad served on a statewide work group to develop new BOGW regulations. Brad has a Bachelor's Degree from UCSB in Political Science and a Master's from CSUN in Public Administration.

Dean Kulju

Director, Student Financial Aid Services and Programs, California State University, Office of the Chancellor

Dean is responsible for the leadership and direction of student financial aid services and programs for the CSU system. Major areas of responsibility include the following: administrative oversight of the State University Grant (SUG) program, management of systemwide financial aid database and data analysis, liaison with campus financial aid and business officers to provide guidance and facilitate policy review and implementation, coordination of audit of Federal funds, and administration of systemwide contracts for billing and collection services related to student loan programs. Dean represents the California State University on a variety of committees and task forces related to student financial aid programs and services. Prior to joining the Chancellor's office staff in January of 2008, Dean served as the Senior Director of Financial Aid and Administrative Operations at CSU, Long Beach. He has worked in financial aid for twenty five years: ten years at CSU Long Beach, five years at the University of California, and four years at the University of Washington. Dean earned his bachelor's degree in Business Management at the University of Idaho, and his MBA in Human Resource Management at the University of Colorado.

Michael Miller, Ed.D.

Financial Aid Director, University of California, Santa Barbara

Michael Miller is the Director of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He came to work at UCSB after graduating from Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon. Michael started working in financial aid as a freshman in college and aside from a four year hiatus to serve in the United States Army from 2001 to 2005; his entire professional career has been in higher education and financial aid. Miller is dedicated to educating UCSB students about the importance of making sound financial decisions while in college. He has conducted research on the impact of multimedia in student services, more specifically, financial aid. In 2012, under Miller's leadership, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at UC Santa Barbara was awarded the Gold Star Award by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) for their innovation in the financial aid arena. Miller also sits on the NCAA Rules Cabinet as well as several state and systemwide committees and workgroups.

• **Recommendations and Student Perspectives**

Debbie Cochrane

Research Director, The Institute for College Access and Success

Debbie Cochrane is the research director of the Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS) and its Project on Student Debt, and is an expert on financial aid policy and practice. She also leads the organization's policy and advocacy work on national community college issues and California higher education, and has testified at California legislative, budget, and oversight hearings. Her work has shed light on the role of financial aid and affordability in college access and success at community colleges, identifying obstacles between students and the aid they need as well as practical ways to lower those obstacles. Her analyses of how federal and state policy proposals affect low-income students are frequently cited by reporters and policymakers, and she has helped build statewide coalitions to support strong financial aid programs and better outcomes for students.

Alfonso Levi Palencia

Student Trustee, Santa Barbara City College

A non-traditional student originally from Pasadena, Alfonso has attended four community colleges in two counties, one community college online in Northern California and two quarters at CSULA through their "Open University" program. After more than ten years of pursuing his dreams of higher education, he was finally admitted to UCSB in May 2013, on appeal, and begins classes there this fall with plans to major in Global and International Studies.

Sarah Couch

President, California State Student Association

Sarah Couch is a Master's of Arts student in English Literature at Sacramento State, set to graduate in Spring 2014. She also double majored in English and Film Studies at Sac State for her undergraduate career. Currently serving as the President of the California State Student Association, Sarah advocates on a regular basis for the affordability, accessibility and quality of the CSU and the 437,000 students in it. Sarah hopes to eventually one day go into public service.

Alexandria Thush Choate

External Vice President of Statewide Affairs, UC Santa Barbara

Alexandria Thush Choate is a fourth year Political Science major, minoring in LGBTQ Studies, and the current Associated Students External Vice President of Statewide Affairs at UCSB. With a strong familial background in the California educational system, she has been a consistent advocate for a free and accessible public education. In the past Alex has worked on initiatives such as the Middle Class Scholarship Act, an oil extraction tax, and voter registration. After graduation, she hopes to begin a career in politics that focuses on development of infrastructure in third world countries.

