DATE: July 5, 2016

TO: Chief Executive Officers
Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Student Services Officers

FROM: Pamela D. Walker
Vice Chancellor, Educational Services

SUBJECT: Suspension of SSSP, Equity, and Basic Skills Plans for 2016-2017

In the last few years our California community colleges have received significant resources to develop plans, hire new faculty and staff, and provide innovative programs and services to scale efforts of student success. While the initiatives of Student Success and Support Program, Student Equity, and Basic Skills have provided colleges with much needed financial support, colleges have been required to submit annual Action and Expenditure Plans to the Chancellor's Office.

As these three areas were developed independently, the planning processes have proved to be laborious and redundant. Colleges have indicated they are experiencing fatigue because of the need to write three plans each year. In response, the Chancellor's Office is suspending the requirement for colleges to submit plans in these areas for the Fiscal Year 16/17 only. The requirement to submit a plan will resume in FY 17/18.

During this one-year hiatus, Academic Affairs and Student Services—the two divisions that oversee these three areas—will investigate how to merge the three plans into one plan that covers all three areas. We believe that students are better served when efficiency goes up, duplication goes down, and articulation and coordination are increased.

It is also our intent to encourage colleges to engage in significant dialogue regarding these three important initiatives. To that end, during the hiatus, we will also consult with the colleges to create best practices and clear guidelines for the creation of a single, unified plan; we will share the results with the colleges in a series of workshops and seminars. Through these collective efforts within colleges, within the Chancellor’s Office, and between the colleges and the Chancellor’s Office, we will further enhance the work of student success.

Questions should be submitted to the appropriate specialist, who is the first line of contact at the Chancellor's Office:

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