





# The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: March 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding with the Student Senate for California Community Colleges		Item Number: 2.2	
		Attachment: Yes (1)	
CATEGORY:	Student Services	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Pamela D. Walker, Vice Chancellor	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor	Action	X
		Information	

**ISSUE:** This item requests the approval and execution of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by and between the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (BOG), the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO), and the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC).

**BACKGROUND:** California Education Code section 76060.5 allows community college students to authorize a \$2 student representation fee if a student body association has been established at that community college and the student body establishes the fee in an election. The fee authorizes the collection of \$2 from each student, with \$1 used to support the operations of a statewide community college student organization recognized by the BOG. Under California Education Code section 76060.5, the BOG may only distribute the funds to the recognized statewide organization if certain conditions are satisfied.

The SSSCC represents the students of the California Community College system in state-level shared governance and legislative advocacy. The purpose of this MOU is to recognize the SSSCC as the official statewide community college student organization, to establish parameters for the working relationship between the CCCCCO and the SSSCC, and to meet the conditions required by California Education Code section 76060.5 for distribution of the student representation fees.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** It is recommended that the Board of Governors: (1) approve the MOU; (2) authorize the BOG president and the Chancellor to sign the MOU; and (3) authorize the Chancellor to distribute the student representation fees to the SSSCC pursuant to the conditions in California Education Code section 76060.5.

**ANALYSIS:** The California State Legislature has recognized that unlike the University of California and California State University systems, the California community colleges do not have a sustainably funded statewide student association.

Historically, a governing body of a student body association was authorized to hold an election to establish a student representation fee of \$1 per semester. Assembly Bill 1358 amended California Education Code section 76060.5 to authorize an election to establish a student representation fee of \$2 per semester, with the extra \$1 collected to support the operations of a statewide community college organization recognized by the BOG.

California Education Code section 76060.5 clearly specifies the underlying goals that the recognized statewide organization must meet, and established legal conditions and reporting requirements in order to receive the student representation fee. The collected fees would help the recognized organization effectively represent community college students by participating in state-level shared governance and advocating before the California State Legislature and other governmental entities. Moreover, California Education Code section 76060.5 authorizes the BOG to hold student representation fees until the recognized organization satisfies all the requirements set forth in the section.

Consistent with Assembly Bill 1358, the proposed MOU allows the BOG to recognize the SSCCC as the statewide student organization to advocate and participate in state-level shared governance on behalf of the 2.1 million community college students in California. In addition, the MOU establishes the working relationship between the CCCCCO and the SSCCC to ensure compliance with California Education Code section 76060.5, and to delineate a clear process for distribution of the student representation fees to allow the SSCCC to become financially sustainable and accountable.

The attached MOU was drafted by the Chancellor's Office Legal Affairs Division in collaboration with the Student Services Division, the SSCCC, and SSCCC's Legal Counsel.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

MOU by and between the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, and the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.