UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI’I STUDENT CAUCUS, 2015-2016
MEETING #7
Saturday, February 20, 2016
University of Hawaii at Hilo, SSB W201

Attendees:
UH Hilo: Melinda Alles & Abraham Jose
Manoa, ASUH: Kelly Zakimi, Roxie Kamoshida
Manoa, GSO: Bret Polopolus-Meredith, Ed Hoogland
Kapiolani CC: William Arenivas, Ismael Salameh
Leeward CC: Trong Dang, Phung Nguyen
UH Maui College: Dannette Arrojo, Alanna Loehnis
Windward CC: Kelli Acopan, Alysia-Mae Hanohano

Advisor Russell Chan

Guests:
Kelly Oaks, UH VCSA
Laz Sye, UHHSA
Nathan Pallet, UHHSA
Alison Ida, UH Maui College

I. OPENING
Meeting opened at 9:37 am by Chairperson Mindy Alles.

II. PRESENTATION: Russell Chan, Education Specialist from the Office of the Vice
President for Student Affairs and University & Community Relations (System) on Student
Affordability (Tuition Affordability Study Results) from UHERO

A. Background: Every 5 years UH System Financial Aid area looks at cost of student
attendance, used to influence Financial Aid.

B. Discussion
   1. Need to compare mean total spending to cost of living per island – importance on
      purchasing power, not raw numbers.
   2. How was this received by Office of Student Affairs? Information gathered in
      survey used in formula for calculating actual cost of attendance.
   3. Cost of attendance calculation affects tuition? Not sure. Don’t know what
      information being used in proposal.

C. Follow-up
   1. Russell to forward PowerPoint to Mindy to share with listserv.
   2. Campus governments check websites to see what schools report to prospective
      students.

III. DISCUSSION: UH Legislative Priorities and Caucus Priorities
ACTION AGENDA: Decide which legislative bills Caucus wishes to support/take action
on, create testimony.
A. Manoa
  2. HB 2240: Establish new special Green Revolving Fund (Sustainability projects)
  3. HB 1799 – Capping Resident Tuition

B. Kapiolani CC
  1. Culinary Program Bills (Bill numbers unknown)
  2. HB 96: OMBUDS – bill only pertains to Manoa vs. System, get bill reintroduced and amended to cover system.

C. Windward CC
  1. Equipment Renewal Money Request for CCs (Bill number unknown)
  2. SB 2671, companion HB 1955: Vet Tech Bill

D. UH Hilo
  1. Security Bill (Bill number unknown): Switching to internal security vs. outsourcing
  2. Athletics (Bill number unknown): requesting additional funding for travel, funding for advisors so athletes have proper academic advising.

E. UH Maui College
  1. Cancer Center Bill for No Smoking Campuses (Bill number unknown): Maui received $5,000 grant to make it a no-smoking campus

F. GSO
  1. SB 2767, companion HB 1703: Mental Health Services – Support
  2. HB 1532, companion SB 2080: Publicizing Earnings – Oppose
  3. HB 1799, companion SB 2401: Capping Resident Tuition – Oppose
  4. SB 2061 – Hawaii Promise Program – Free community college courses for Hawaii Residents – Support
  5. SB 2155: Requiring Employee Retirement System (ERS) to divest from fossil fuels – Support
  6. HB 2240, companion SB 2013: Establish new special Green Revolving Fund (Sustainability projects) – Support

G. Open Floor Discussion, Straw Voting:
  1. Caucus represents System, recommend to focus on system bills but review bills on case-by-case basis
  2. HB 1685: Double Governor’s Salary – require UH employees that make more than double the Governor’s salary undergo review and approval or disapproval by legislative vote
  3. HB 1703: support because CCs can take advantage of trickle down from Manoa,
can tap into Manoa counseling services that CCs don’t have access to. In testimony, needs to address ability for CCs to utilize services/Manoa to extend service to other campuses.
   a) Straw vote: keep

4. HB 2240: concern – legislature can sweep pot.
   a) Straw vote: keep

5. HB 1799: oppose. Even if with exemptions, people don’t come close to credit max as stated in bill, residents shouldn’t have to pay non-res tuition when they already pay taxes to support public institution. May not be the most effective way to get students out of classroom when FinAid and GI Bill (for example) already have requirements (including time restrictions) placed on them. Instead, admin needs to push internally within individual campuses without discriminating.
   a) Straw vote: keep

6. HB 96: not current bill, assign someone to lobby/pursue attempt to resurrect with intention of amending.
   a) Straw vote: keep

7. Cancer Center No Smoking Bill: cannot find bill number, table

8. HB 1532 – ASUH and GSO both oppose.
   a) Straw vote: keep

9. SB 2061
   a) Straw vote: keep

10. SB 2155: defective date within 5 years to divest. Pertains to employees in general, institutions should reflect stance on green and sustainability.
    a) Straw vote: dump

11. HB 1685: doesn’t matter funding source, looks at total salary number.
    a) Straw vote: keep

12. Caucus to take lunch to read bills, revisit after lunch

IV. CAMPUS SHARING
   A. Leeward CC
   1. Subject came up on campus, questions for each campus about switching from MWF schedule to MW schedule. Faculty wants to switch to save Fridays for meetings, office hours, catch up.
      a) Windward CC & Kapiolani CC – no outstanding complaints about schedule, Friday usually dead.
      b) Concerns: UHH – classroom space availability, accountability for faculty to show up on Friday when they are supposed to be there. Has to be beneficial to students, not just faculty
   2. Fair amount of returning and new senators, elections in April
B. UH Maui College:
   1. Held Kukakuka session, another Kukakuka session scheduled for March 1st, collecting surveys about health center and smoke free campus (vs tobacco free)
   2. Float the Boat for elections, trying to get more students registered, seems like Thursday more populated than Tuesdays, earlier in the day might get more student participation
   3. Trying to recruit new members in April, student appreciation right after that, recognizes student improvement.
   4. Asked to participate in graduation
   5. Earth Day – trying to have 25 booths based around sustainability, for students and surrounding community
   6. Newspaper - Rock the Boat – register to vote

C. UH Hilo
   1. Officially have advisor in place, able to hold meetings
   2. March focus on elections, April elections start.

D. Windward CC
   1. Held mini event for Valentines, collected surveys on campus initiatives.
   2. Initiatives supported by campus: student entrepreneur craft fair, farmer’s market, redoing bylaws, getting website up
   3. Initiative denied: Motorcycle parking, security said no need even though students polled said they would like to see it happen to free up stalls for cars
   4. Was approached by Admin to host Ohana Day where students invited to bring their kids to campus, wanted to do a Spring Splash Bash but Chancellor and new VCAS denied, said too much liability, instead working on a spring carnival.

E. GSO
   1. Continue to have successful monthly coffee hours
   2. Had unionization conversation lunch
   3. Putting together survey for grad students
   4. Working on pub crawl event
   5. Going to legislature to support some of the bills – grad assistant unionization
   6. GSO + ASUH met with Ann Sakuma, Manoa fully on board to install OMBUDS office, every incoming class for student orientation is told about OMBUDS.

F. Kapiolani CC
   1. Oahu UPass – students complain about price increase, look at collectively taking stance as Caucus or work with individual CCs to pass shared resolution
   2. Pushing hard for OMBUDS office, passed resolution.
   3. Transparency in campus budget
   4. Come a long way since last year, election packet approved, holding first successful election in 5 years

G. UH Manoa
   1. Passed resolutions in support of OMBUDS at Manoa, opposing financial disclosure, greater implementation of OER, opposition of HECO next era merger.
   2. Having elections soon, packets available on the 29th, elections held in April
3. Necessities drive – first time trying to solicit items for those in need
4. Resume building workshop earlier this month, first ever organized
5. March 12th Saturday from 10-4 - electHER – leadership development program to empower women to run for SG in hopes for them to run for future office. Registration link on ASUH website. Request to spread work around campus. Roxie to send email with information about event.
6. Looking at upcoming tuition cycle. Admin creating proposal for next week, task force to see what is fair for cost of education. Enrollment dropping steadily, tuition increasing 5% per year.

V. LUNCH & CAMPUS TOUR

VI. RESUME ACTION AGENDA: Legislative Bills
A. Resume discussion, each campus gets 4 votes, Caucus to tackle top 4 bills (highlighted). Not present: HawCC, HonCC, UHWO, KauaiCC

1. HB 1703 – Mental Health Services - Support
   a) Votes: Manoa, GSO, Maui, Hilo, Windward
   b) Kelly (Manoa) to draft testimony

2. HB 2240 – Green Special Revolving Fund
   a) Votes: For: Leeward, Hilo

3. HB 1799 – Resident Tuition Cap
   a) Votes: Manoa, GSO, Windward, Hilo, Maui, Leeward, Kapiolani
   b) AJ (Hilo) to draft testimony

4. HB 96 – OMBUDS Resurrection
   a) Votes: GSO, Kapiolani, Maui, Windward
   b) KapCC work on resurrection, Ed to help

5. HB 1532 – Publicizing Earnings - Oppose
   a) Votes: Leeward

6. SB 2061 – Hawaii Promise Plan
   a) Votes: Kapiolani, Manoa, Maui, Leeward, Hilo, Windward
   b) Maui College to draft testimony

7. HB 1685 – Legislative Review Process for Salaries Double the Governor’s Pay
   a) Votes: Kapiolani, GSO

VII. CLOSING
A. Approve January 2016 Minutes:
   1. Amendments: Maui College - council voted to use this as a class but not mandatory. Risa Dixon name and position incorrect.
   2. Motion to accept as amended.
      a) Motion Will, 2nd Trong.
      b) Votes in favor: unanimous, motion carries.
B. Tuition cycle proposal
   1. Tuition were to be increased, want student voice as to how students want monies to be spent. Increase will go to Revenue bonds for deferred maintenance
   2. Vote at March meeting so we have testimony prepared for April hearings

C. HPU SG President wants to connect with us to discuss issues pertinent to Hawaii college students. Kelli A. to put Mindy in touch with HPU SG President and invite them to March Caucus.

Meeting adjourned at 2:21 pm