ITEM  Statewide Student Success Tools

DATE  July 24, 2013

The Board study session will focus on two new information and decision support tools recently made available by the State Chancellors Office: the Student Success Scorecard and the Salary Surfer.

The California Community College Student Success Scorecard was released by the State Chancellor's office in April 2013. The development of the Scorecard was one of the recommendations of the Student Success Task Force as part of an effort to provide community stakeholders information on key student progress and success metrics in order to improve college performance. The Scorecard provides information on high order outcomes (degree and certificate completion and transfer activity) as well as momentum point activity, namely, those events that occur partway through a student's academic experience that are correlated with higher rates of degree completion and transfer. The Scorecard also provides disaggregated data showing the performance of students by age, gender and ethnicity.

Also emerging as a recommendation of the Student Success Task Force is the development of a wage tracking system to monitor the salary gains of community college students associated with the receipt of their credential. The State Chancellor's Office released the web-based Salary Surfer in June of this year, allowing the public to observe the salary timeline of students across three periods: (a) two years prior to receiving their credential; (b) two years after receiving their credential; and (c) five years after receiving their credential. The Salary Surfer provides users with an historical snapshot of the wage gains associated with each program of study and by each type of credential (degrees and certificates). Both the Scorecard and the Salary Surfer provide data at the system/state level as well as for individual community colleges.

The study session will include an orientation to the content provided by the Scorecard and the Salary Surfer. The training will include a brief overview of both tools, how to access the information and a more detailed review of the information provided for each of the District's three colleges, including a discussion of the important limitations and caveats associated with each tool. At the close of the training, each Board member will gain knowledge on how to access the information provided by both tools, and they will be informed as to which questions the tools can help answer as well as those questions that cannot be answered.

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