

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 9, 2015

Western Regional Office
915 L Street, Suite 1425
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-442-0392 (voice) 916-446-4028 (fax)
Web site: www.hacu.net

Contact: Erica Romero
Senior Executive Director,
Western Regional Office
eromero@hacu.net
(916) 442-0392



**HACU Appreciative of Increased Higher Education Funding
Continues to advocate for additional funds to provide adequate access to higher education**

SACRAMENTO, CA – The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) appreciates that Governor Brown’s budget proposal increases funding to the California Community Colleges, the California State University system, and the University of California, as well as funding for the California Dream Act and the Cal Grant program. However, HACU continues to advocate additional resources for higher education and the Cal Grant program.

“The Governor’s proposed higher education budget is particularly generous to the California Community Colleges, who benefit greatly from Proposition 98 revenues that were a result of Proposition 30. Particularly exciting is the increased enrollment funding and the investment in Student Success Funds meant to improve and expand student success programs and to strengthen efforts to assist underrepresented students,” said Dr. Antonio R. Flores, President and CEO of HACU. “Students need not only a seat in classrooms, but tools to help them succeed in their education.”

“Although the Governor’s budget increases funding for both the University of California and the California State University, funding remain below pre-recession levels, and, more importantly, below the amount the UC and CSU say they need to guarantee access and success to public higher education. This year’s UC and CSU applicants are the most diverse ever, including the largest Latino applicant pool in history: these students deserve access to a great university system. Genuine fiscal prudence recognizes that California’s economy benefits when all qualified students have access to higher education and to the support services needed to successfully complete their degrees,” continued Flores.

Flores added: “While there is additional funding for Cal Grants, including for Dream Act students, as well as for important outreach programs, the budget still does not fully restore the award for students attending the independent nonprofit institutions to previous levels. These are some of California’s neediest students. We urge the Governor and the Legislature to find resources to restore funding levels so that these students can attain their dream of a higher education.”

HACU staff will continue to review the detailed California proposed budget, participate in higher education budget hearings, and provide information on how the budget impacts Latino students in California.

HACU was established in 1986 with a founding membership of 18 institutions. Today, HACU represents more than 400 colleges and universities committed to Hispanic higher education success in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Latin America, and Spain. HACU’s regional office in Sacramento represents its membership in the western region of the U.S. HACU is the only national educational association that represents Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).

###