



HACU

H I S P A N I C
A S S O C I A T I O N
O F C O L L E G E S &
U N I V E R S I T I E S

UPCOMING EVENTS

* May 3-5, 2007

[7th International Conference](#), “Hispanic Culture: Celebrating our Heritage”

* May 12, 2007

[Strategy Conference for SB 160 \(California Dream Act\)](#)
Location: California State University, Los Angeles
Contact: Eric Guerra (916) 651-4022 or Eric.Guerra@sen.ca.gov

**If you would like us to include your events in the newsletter, please send an email with event details to wro@hacu.net.*

HACU Western Regional Office

915 L Street, Suite 1425
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 442-0392 (Voice)
(916) 446-4028 (Fax)
wro@hacu.net

HACU WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

May 2, 2007



NAVIGATING THROUGH OUR WEB SITE:

HACU Western Regional Office's (WRO) page is updated regularly to keep our institutions informed on their respective Legislature's progress. You can find the WRO page under the Government Relations tab on www.hacu.net. On the [WRO main page](#), you can navigate through the five states we represent in the Western Region. In the [California](#) section, you will find a table with all of the bills we are monitoring and supporting/opposing this legislative session. You can obtain the latest version of the bill by clicking on the bill number. If we have taken a formal position you will find the letter submitted to the Legislature in the position column. Below the table, you will find a link that will direct you to a short summary of all the bills listed in the table. Additionally, we have provided a list of the Legislature's Education and Budget Committee Members along with their fax numbers, so you too can submit your input on these important issues.



[SB 160, THE CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT \(CEDILLO\)](#) would allow students who have attended California high schools for 3 years, and graduated from a California high school the right to compete for financial aid. This bill passed out of Senate Education on April 26, 2007. SB 160 will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee. [Support Letter](#)



BUDGET The Legislature has been considering the [Governor's 2007-08 proposed budget](#). We will be meeting with the Assembly and Senate Budget Committee chairs to discuss our concerns. We understand that there may be cuts proposed to higher education—we vow to work with members to make sure this does not happen. We hope to see funding for [Academic Preparation programs](#) and financial aid awareness restored in the Governor's May Revise.



FINANCIAL AID access is extremely important to all students, particularly Hispanic students. HACU is working diligently to increase the number of students obtaining financial assistance needed to succeed in obtaining a college degree. [AB 1540](#) (Bass), which would establish the Cash for College Program under the Student Aid Commission, and would appropriate \$3,000,000 for the bill. This bill would help low-income students, many of whom are first-generation college students, learn about the financial aid available to them and would provide help in filling out the complex forms required to apply for financial aid. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. [Support Letter](#)

COLLEGE ACCESS will increase if students and parents are informed of college admission requirements. [SB 405](#) (Steinberg) would establish the Fair Competition for College and Career Program. This five year pilot program will provide grants to high schools to improve academic and career technical education offerings. HACU has taken a support position on this bill. SB 405 passed the Senate Education Committee on April 26 and was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Also [AB 428](#) (Carter), would require schools to notify students and their parents about which high school courses offered fulfill the A-G requirements, as well as how students are progressing in completing the coursework needed for admission to our 4-year public universities. This was heard in the Assembly Education Committee on April 25, where it received a do pass vote. [Support Letter](#)

Upcoming Legislative Deadline: May 11-Last day for Policy Committees to hear and report to the floor non-fiscal bills.

**If there is a specific bill or issue you would like us to consider, please do not hesitate to contact our office .*