

# 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CAPITOL FORUM ON HISPANIC HIGHER EDUCATION

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

HACU Government Relations Staff



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



# Agenda

- Authorizations & Appropriations
- Reauthorizations – ESEA and HEA
- FY 2016 Budget
- PRISM Act and other legislation, regulations, and immigration reform
- HSI Week Proclamation and Resolution
- How we are working to improve all of this





# Authorizations & Appropriations

An authorization creates a program and sets the maximum amounts of \$ it can receive.

--creating a checking account

The program then needs to be funded through the appropriations process.

--putting \$ into the account





# Reauthorizations

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
- Higher Education Act Reauthorization (HEA)



## ESEA

- Priority for Congress- House almost brought up a bill on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, but bill was pulled from the Floor.
- House moving faster than Senate



## HACU ESEA Priorities

- Complete list of Priorities in One Pager in Folders

A few highlights:

- Authorize the creation of a Hispanic-Serving School District (HSSD) designation
- Increase the number of culturally and linguistically competent teachers
- Diversity our nation's teachers and principals



# Higher Education Act (HEA)

- Priority in Congress
- HACU has been engaged for at least a year in conversations with House and Senate Education Committee



# HACU HEA Priorities

Complete List of Priorities in One Pager in  
Folders

A few highlights:

- Maximum funding for Title V and Part A and B
- Hawkins Centers of Excellence
- Dream Act component
- Creation of Graduate Fellowship Program





# Higher Education Act

- MSI Innovation Fund – Title VII Proposal
  - Improve student achievement.
  - Increase successful recruitment.
  - Improve progress towards graduation.
  - Increase students who pursue STEM degrees.





# Higher Education Act

- HACU signed onto community letter in 2014:
  - Supported:
    - Year-round Pell Grants
    - Auto-enrollment in income-based repayment (>150 days)
    - Simplification of income-based repayment
    - Institutional Certification of Private Student Loans
  - Opposed:
    - Use of single financial award letter
    - New requirements for institutions w/ >100 veterans
    - Other measures that would over-burden institutions





# Appropriations

- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- National Science Foundation



# U.S. Department of Education



***Labor-HHS-Education  
Strengthening Hispanic-Serving Institutions:  
Title V Part A***

- FY 2016 - \$100.2M
  - FY 2013 - \$95.4M
  - FY 2014 - \$98.6 M
  - FY 2015- \$100.2 M
- President's FY 2016 Budget Request: level funded at \$100.2M
- HACU's FY 2016 Budget Request - \$117M





## ***Promoting Post-baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans: Title V - Part B***

- President's Budget: \$10.6M in FY 2016
- HACU Request: \$10.6M in FY 2016
- FY 2015 \$8.99M
- FY 2014 \$8.8M



# U.S. Department of Agriculture





# Agriculture Appropriations

## Hispanic Education Partnership Grants Program

- FY 2015- \$9.2 million
- President's FY 2016 Budget Request- \$9.2 million
- HACU Request - \$10 million







# Ag Competitive Grants Program

- Program created in 2014 Farm Bill to train Hispanic Workers and Youth
- President's FY 2016 Budget Request - \$0 million
- HACU Request- \$5 million



# National Science Foundation





# National Science Foundation

- No HSIs program
  - The **only** MSI group not receiving targeted NSF infrastructure development funding.
- HACU Request FY 2016 - \$30 million
  - For a competitive grants program to support HSIs
    - Research
    - Curriculum
    - Infrastructure development, etc.
- President's FY 2016 proposed budget:
  - program for 2-year institutions. No 4-year program.
- 2 proposed fixes: legislative or administrative



# FY 2016 Budget

- President's Budget Submission
- House and Senate Budget Resolutions
- Budget Reconciliation
- September 30, 2015



## Other Legislation

- PRISM ACT
- Immigration Reform
- Teacher Prep Regulations



## PRISM Act

- The Preservation Research at Institutions Serving Minorities Act (PRISM Act)
- Directs the Secretary of Interior to provide technical or financial assistance to HSIs for the establishment of historic preservation training and degree programs.
- Bipartisan bill introduced on March 19th, 2015
- Congressman Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) and Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) |



# Immigration Update

- March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 House and Senate Passed the Department of Homeland Security Bill which did not target Obama's executive actions on immigration
- House Vote : 257-167
- Currently: Tied up in the courts, at least a few months, likely longer.





# Proposed Teacher Prep Regulations

- HACU submitted comments in opposition
- Urged the Department to reformulate
- Requested the Dept not to proceed with implementation
- Concerns
  - ✓ Disproportionate Impact on HSIs
  - ✓ Significant Expansion of Federal Authority
  - ✓ Counter to the goal of Equity in Education





## National HSIs Week September 2015

### Senate Resolution and Presidential Proclamation

The following are ways HSIs celebrate the week on campus:

- **Host a Forum**
- **Organize a community-wide activity**
- **Social Media**
- **Showcase your Students**
- **Celebrate National HSIs Week**

# How are we fixing all of this?

- Your Participation on the Hill
- District Events/Meetings
- Communications Strategy
- Social media



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## Social Media

- Government Relations Staff Twitter account handle: @HACUDC



- Follow us and retweet

- Also on Linked In



# Questions





# HACU Government Relations

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