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UCSA Responds to 2015-16 State Budget Deal
Negotiations Fund Major Priorities for Student Success

SACRAMENTO, CA - Today, Governor Brown announced a deal with state legislators for the 2015-16 California State Budget, a spending package totaling \$115.4 billion. The legislative budget plan, Assembly Bill 93, contained a number of significant investments in the University of California and its students - including funding for enrollment growth and increases to the Cal-Grant Program. Students have spent months advocating in Sacramento for increased general fund contributions to the UC and vital programs that support student success.

Leading up to this point, the **University of California Student Association** advocated for an increase of the Cal Grant B award maximum to \$2,000; additional funding for the California DREAM Loan Program to support AB 540 students; and bolstering of the Middle Class Scholarship through programmatic changes that refine, but not threaten its availability. All of these student supported asks are generally addressed in the budget deal. Additionally, the UC will be able to access \$25 million in funding if it can provide a roadmap to enrolling 5,000 new students over the next two years.

"I am encouraged that the budget acknowledges our state's investment in education for California's students from preschool to the completion of a college degree," said **Jefferson Kuoch-Seng, UCSA President**. "However, support for enrollment growth must be matched with allocations that improve quality and affordability at the UC. We cannot open the doors to more students without ensuring that they will have the opportunity to succeed when they get there."

Budget discussions have come a long way since the Governor's January proposal. The deal announced today provides more strategic funding for the UC and programs students need to access their education. UCSA is proud of its advocacy for these critical services and is grateful to state legislators who prioritized California's students and families in their final negotiations.

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About the University of California Student Association

The University of California Student Association is the official voice of over 240,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from all ten UC campuses. It is our mission to advocate on behalf of current and future students for the accessibility, affordability, and quality of the University of California system.

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