Hitting QE²: a "Quality Educational Experience" for California Community Colleges in the 21st Century

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Presentation Goals

- ▶ Define *QE*² "*Quality Educational Experience*"
- Discuss how the costs of instruction for community colleges has changed over time
- Discuss factors that contribute to creating a QE² for students
- Identify challenges and road blocks which might impact a college's ability to consistently hit the *QE*² target
- Recommend solutions to ensure a college remains fiscally responsible and committed to providing a *Quality Educational Experience (QE²⁾* for students



What defines a "Quality Educational Experience"?



Examples

- Learning Environment
- Facilities
- Faculty
- Administrators and Staff
- Commitment
- Technology
- Connections
- Support for Students
- Support for Employees
- Comprehensive Offerings
- Planning and Budgeting

What factors contribute to creating a "Quality Educational Experience" for students?

> Tangibles and Intangibles?



Factors Include

- Environmental
- Human
- Leadership, Governance and Policy
- Financial
- Vision and Philosophy
- Curriculum

Environmental Factors

- Physical surroundings
- > Safe and secure environment
- Technology availability and currency of equipment, system, and software applications
- Underlying infrastructure capacity to support
- Extra-curricular campus opportunities
- Sustainability

Human Factors

- Professional development
- Adequate quantity of faculty and staff
- Competent and supportive
- Services to assist and support diverse students
- Academic excellence in the classrooms (virtual and face-to-face)

Leadership, Governance and Policy Factors

- Participatory Governance
- State level leadership commitment
- Accreditation
- Performance Metrics and Goals
- Legislative as well as BOG mandates

Financial Factors

- Appropriate general fund allocations
- Appropriate categorical funds
- Sufficient COLA and growth (access) funding
- Compliance with laws and regulations
- Prop 98 Mandates
- Potential new funding formula
- Differential funding by program type (i.e. noncredit and CTE)

Vision and Philosophy

- Academic excellence
- Value
- "It Takes a Village"
- Everyone plays a role in student success
- Community comes first

Curriculum

- Relevant and attainable pathways whether for transfer, career placement, or other educational goals
- Student oriented schedules
- Responsive to community and industry
- Compliant
- Innovative

Challenges and Road Blocks



Leadership , Governance and Policy Challenges

- System/state and local "hybrid" model
- Competing, antiquated, and incompatible regulations and laws
- Turn over in district/college leadership
- Duplicative efforts for accreditation and Title 5/Ed Code requirements
- Hesitancy to tackle big issues statewide
- "Never a Good Time to Discuss Change"
- Diversity of districts/colleges leads to little common ground

Other Leadership and Policy Challenges

- ▶ 50% Law
- FON
- Unfunded state mandates
- Quantity versus Quality funding

Financial Road Challenges

- Lack of predictable and reliable apportionment revenues
- Lost purchasing power (COLA)
- Uncertainty of apportionment payments (Cash)
- Uncertainty of growth/access apportionment
- Increasing costs of operations
- One-time funds matching requirements (Instructional Equipment, Scheduled Maintenance and SS&SP)
- Resources are necessary; however, do not guarantee quality or student achievement

Financial Road Challenges

(continued)

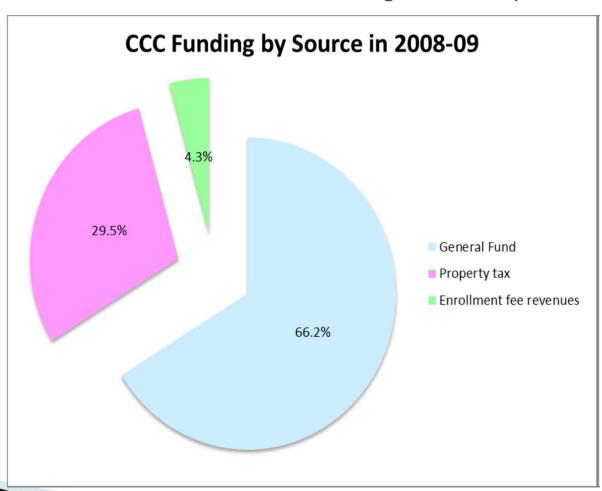
- Statutorily guaranteed backfills of EPA and RDArelated revenues that due to timing and determination of gaps creates delays and confusion with regard to apportionment funding
- Lack of a continuous appropriation for community colleges is an increasing problem
- Prop 30 tax revenue goes completely away by 2017; however, EPA accountability requirements will continue
- Differential (CTE) or equalized (noncredit CDCP) funding

How has the cost of instruction changed for community colleges over time?

- Campus infrastructure requirements to support technology
- New campus facilities are high-tech and with increased square footage
- Distance (on-line and hybrid) education has increased the cost of teaching and learning for equipment, software and student labs
- Career and workforce programs required to meet industry demands are more resource intensive

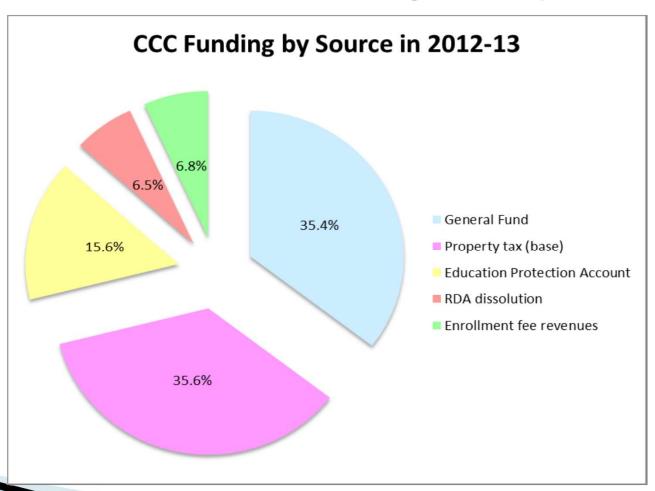
CCC Funding Comparison between 2008 and 2013

(Source: CCCCO's 2012–13 Budget Workshop)



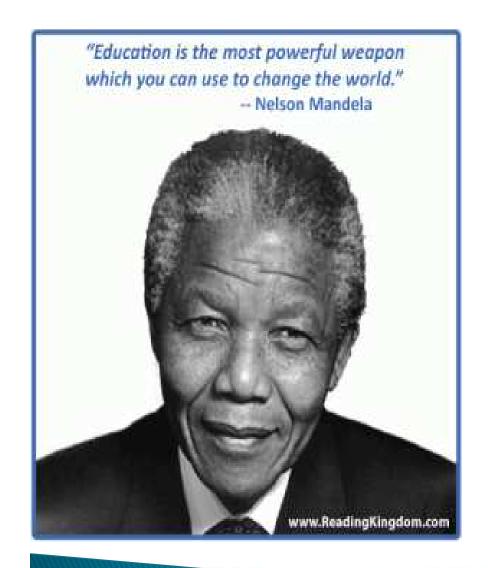
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Other Financial Challenges and Road Blocks

- Accountability requirements without state funding flexibility
- Contractual obligations
- Ever-increasing "cost of business" operations
- National and state economic conditions



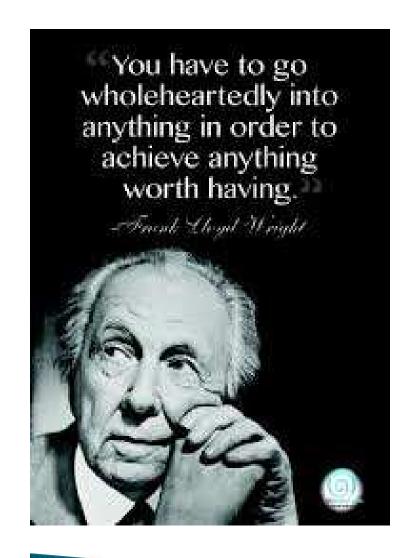
What can the state/system do to positively impact a "Quality Educational Experience" for students?

Equity in the FON?

FON	FTES	Ranking for FTES	Ranking for FON
1401.1	92,199.56	1	1
861.2	48,728.33	2	2
483.8	26,452.35	7	3
467.8	23,708.43	12	4
454.8	30,985.99	3	5
443.5	25,180.33	9	6

Comparison of FTES/FT Faculty

Ranking for FTES	Ranking for FON	FTES/FON
1	1	65.81
2	2	56.58
7	3	54.68
5	4	50.68
3	5	68.13
9	6	56.78



What can colleges do to positively impact a "Quality Educational Experience" for students?

Thank you

Let the conversations begin...and continue...to ensure our community colleges are

Hitting QE²:

a "Quality Educational Experience"

for student success