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March 7, 2014


The Honorable Mark Leno
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Leno:

Pursuant to Section 10803 of the Education Code, enclosed is the University of California's annual report to the Legislature on the *Unique Statewide Pupil Identifier*.

If you have any questions regarding this report, Associate Vice President Debora Obley would be pleased to speak with you. She can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9112, or by email at Debora.Obley@ucop.edu.

Yours very truly,


Janet Napolitano
President

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Marty Block, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
(Attn: Mr. Joe Stephenshaw)
(Attn: Ms. Cheryl Black)
The Honorable Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2
(Attn: Mr. Mark Martin)
(Attn: Ms. Amy Rutschow)
Mr. Michael Cohen, Department of Finance
Mr. Mac Taylor, Legislative Analyst's Office
Ms. Peggy Collins, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Mr. Gregory Schmidt, Secretary of the Senate
Ms. Tina McGee, Legislative Analyst's Office
Ms. Amy Leach, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Mr. Jim Lasky, Legislative Counsel Bureau
Mr. E. Dotson Wilson, Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Provost and Executive Vice President Aimée Dorr
Executive Vice President Nathan Brostrom
Senior Vice President Dan Dooley
Vice President Patrick Lenz
Vice President Pamela Brown
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez
Associate Vice President Debora Obley
Executive Director Jenny Kao
Deputy Marsha Sato

Unique Statewide Pupil Identifier

April 2014

Legislative Report



UNIVERSITY *of* CALIFORNIA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Unique Statewide Pupil Identifier

The following report is forwarded in compliance with Section 10803 of the Education Code, which states:

“10803. (a) The Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall each establish a process by which colleges and universities within those systems issue, maintain, and report information using the unique statewide pupil identifiers specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 60900.

(b) Annually, on or before April 1, the Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall provide a progress report to the Governor and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The report shall include a detailed timeline for the implementation, maintenance, and use of the unique statewide pupil identifiers pursuant to subdivision (a).”

This document is the annual report responding to this legislative request.

I. Background

The move to adopt a unique Statewide Student Identifier (SSID) paves the way for longitudinally-linked student-level data. The ability for the University of California (UC) to more accurately track students over time will prove an invaluable tool for assessing student progress in relation to academic preparation, participation in special programs, as well as campus outreach efforts. In addition, the SSID will facilitate a more comprehensive assessment of graduation and retention rates as students move across segments, as well as employment trends (for graduates and non-graduates alike). In the absence of such an identifier UC has relied on the use of “fuzzy matches”, which use a combination of information about a student to uniquely identify an individual.

II. Identifiers

UC began collection of the SSID on the Undergraduate Application beginning with the Fall 2007 admission cycle (November 2006). The SSID has been kept as an optional item on the application as many of UC applicants are not from California and private schools do not assign one. Since the 2007-08 academic year, the SSID has been routinely pulled into the UC Corporate Student System from the application database. Including the 2013 admissions cycle underway, UC now has data for eight entering cohorts. Each year approximately 70% of California applicants report their SSID; however, no validation is applied since no validating source is available. Each year, approximately 81% of students from public schools submit a SSID. Students enrolled in private high schools may have an SSID if they attended a public school prior. Reports from our call center lead us to believe that California students are generally unaware of their SSID or where to find it. Some California schools print a student’s SSID on the report card or transcripts while others do not release the number to students. Overall, student awareness and reporting of their SSID seems to be increasing. Since we have not validated the self-reported SSID, we have not yet used this information to match student records across K-12 and the California higher education system, and are still relying on historical methodologies for uniquely identifying students.

In addition, the University of California’s State Academic Preparation and Educational Partnerships (SAPEP) programs have a data collection system that allows for SSIDs to be collected, stored, and used in the analysis of student outcomes. Some SSIDs are obtained through Transcript Evaluation Service (TES) but not all students are included. Currently, SSIDs are not routinely collected because they are self-reported and many programs do not have access to this information. As with admissions, some students are not aware of their SSIDs when

participating in UC programs. When it is available, UC's Education Partnerships (EP) do access SSID data stored in the UC Corporate Student System. We are prepared to more fully utilize the SSID in our programs, policy and outcomes evaluations once California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) is fully developed and the data becomes more robust and reliable.

- III. Detailed timeline for the implementation, maintenance, and use of the unique statewide pupil identifiers:
As stated above, the SSID has already been incorporated into UC student data systems and can now be tracked over time. Usefulness of the SSID is currently limited until the data is more accurately reported by K-12 schools and more readily available in electronic form. UC is participating in efforts to facilitate the sharing of student data between the three public segments of higher education (University of California, California State Universities, and California Community Colleges) and K-12 institutions (California Department of Education - CDE). The goal is to directly match UC and CDE student data, providing a way to validate self-reported SSID. Access to CDE student SSID data will also provide UC a means for deriving an SSID for those who did not provide this information on their undergraduate applications. Attaining this goal continues to be dependent on getting SSID included on all student high school transcripts, ideally electronic submission of all such transcripts (eTran), and provision of a comprehensive dataset of valid SSID's matched with student name and high school from CDE (so data received can be validated).