



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CALIFORNIA

June 18, 2015

To: Local League Presidents
Local League Education Chairs

Fr: Eleanor Yick, Chair
LWVCEF State Study Committee
Public Higher Education in California

Dear Presidents and/or Education Chairs,

It was exciting to meet and interact with so many Leaguers at the recent LWVC Convention in San Diego. It was particularly gratifying to meet the 20+ League representatives at the Sunday 7:30 a.m. caucus on the Higher Education study! I am happy to report that, as of this date, 43 local Leagues have made a commitment to participate in this very important state study. Our goals are twofold: to educate our membership about the issues facing public higher education in California, and to gain as much feedback as possible from a broad base of our participating Leagues in order to develop a policy statement that will allow the LWVC to advocate both pro and con on issues impacting higher education in our state.

The study guide, including the consensus questions, has been agendized for approval at the LWVC board meeting that was rescheduled from July to August. Assuming approval, it should be sent out electronically and posted to the Web site by early September. Local Leagues then have through May 15, 2016 to study the materials, educate their members, and hold their consensus meetings.

Consensus reports will be due by May 15, 2016. All Leagues are **strongly encouraged** to submit their consensus reports electronically via SurveyMonkey. Directions for entering your results will be included in the study guide. Using SurveyMonkey allows results to be tabulated and analyzed quickly. Assistance and problem solving will be available to any League experiencing difficulty entering its consensus data. Any League that cannot use SurveyMonkey after receiving technical assistance will be able to submit a written report of their consensus results.

This last background packet (#4) includes links to three very interesting but long articles. All are relevant to our study but, due to their length, I would suggest teams of your members select, read, and report on **one** of the articles.

1. Beyond the Master Plan (original publication 2010) by Saul Geiser and Richard C. Atkinson, UC California, November, 2010. The abstract is one page; the full report is quite long: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6d36s98f>

2. The Campaign for College Opportunity: The State of Higher Education in California, The Latino Report: April 2015. Click on the article or infographic:
<http://collegecampaign.org/portfolio/april-2015-state-of-higher-education-in-california-the-latino-report/#>
3. The Campaign for College Opportunity: The State of Higher Education in California, To the US Commission on Civil Rights, June 2015. <http://collegecampaign.org/to-the-u-s-commission-on-civil-rights/>

As you probably know, these suggested readings can also be downloaded directly from the LWVC Web site: <http://lwvc.org/study/education-0>. Suggested discussion questions for each article are not posted, as each League can easily generate a rich discussion of these articles on their own.

In closing, please feel free to contact me (egyick@icloud.com) or any one of the committee members, who are listed on the Web site, if you have any concerns or questions about the study or suggested readings.

Thank you so much,

Eleanor Yick
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P.S. I am also including this link to information about a great conference about Higher Education that is scheduled for June 29, 2015 in Los Angeles:
<http://www.patbrowninstitute.org/pbi-events/higher-education-conference/>