

Thomas Vu (He/Him/His)

Vice President for Policy, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities



Tom Vu is the vice president for policy at the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), where he develops and manages the execution of AICCU's agenda on state and federal policy. He leads the association's federal advocacy efforts, assists in association management and board relations, and represents AICCU on the Cradle-to-Career Data Governing Board. Tom has been with AICCU for nearly 11 years, representing the independent higher education sector before the Legislature, Congress, and other policymaking bodies.

He has spent his career in state policy and advocacy, including with the California Chamber of Commerce, the California Special Districts Association, and other nonprofit associations. Tom graduated with double bachelor's degrees in Economics and Political Science from UC San Diego, received his Master in Public Administration degree from the University of Southern California, and is currently working toward a Ph.D. in Public Administration and Policy from Old Dominion University, in Norfolk, Virginia.

Kristen Soares (She/Her/Hers)

President, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities



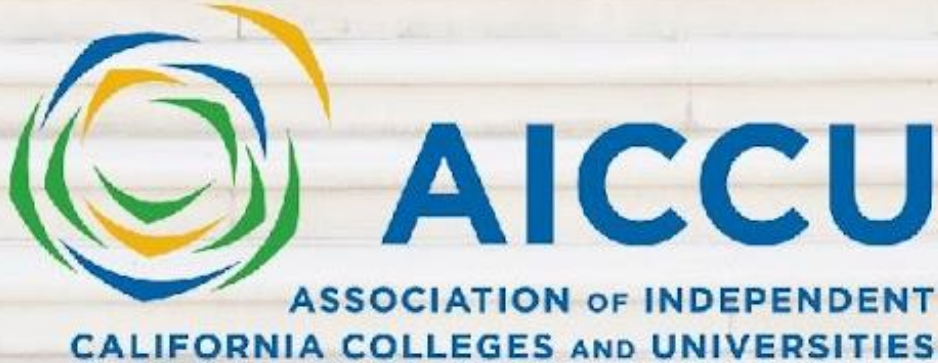
Kristen Soares is the fourth president of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU). As president, Kristen works in partnership with leaders around the state to shape policy for California's independent colleges and universities. Kristen has been president of AICCU for nearly 13 years and brings extensive background in higher education, policy, administration, and governmental advocacy. Previously, she spent nearly 25 years at the University of Southern California (USC). She served as the senior

associate vice president for government relations and civic engagement, where she provided strategic direction and leadership for USC's government and community relations offices in Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Washington, D.C. Kristen is a graduate of the University of Southern California, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration.



AICCU Presentation

Cradle-to-Career Governing Board Meeting
August 14, 2024





Introductions

Presenters:

Kristen Soares, President, AICCU

Thomas Vu, Vice President for Policy, AICCU and C2C Governing Board Member





Agenda topics

- AICCU, our members, and the independent higher education sector
- Sector details and our students
- Breaking down "myths" of private higher education
- Workforce contributions
- AICCU engagement in policymaking
- AICCU and the C2C





AICCU: Who We Are and Who We Represent

- AICCU mission and history
- The organizational voice for California's independent, nonprofit colleges and universities
- Over 80 member institutions, located across the state – our diversity is our strength!
- What does “membership” entail?
- California Private College Alliance





California's Independent Higher Education Sector

Enrollment:

- 184,000 undergraduate students (20% of undergrads)
- 166,000 graduate students (54% of graduate students)
- 18% of undergrads are nontraditional learners

Commitment to student success

- 66% four-year graduation rate
- 77% six-year graduation rate
- 75% of AICCU institutions are HSI or emerging HIS
- 78% of AICCU institutions are Yellow Ribbon Institutions





Breaking Down Myths

Reflecting California's diversity:

- 66% of undergrads are of non-White backgrounds
- 82% of Cal Grant recipients are of non-White backgrounds, including 51% of Latino background
- 77% of Pell Grant recipients are of non-White backgrounds, including 41% of Latino background

Making higher ed affordable

- 79% of UG receive aid of some sort
- Over 25,000 Cal Grant students
- Over 46,000 Pell Grant students
- Average institutional aid to CG recipient: \$24,000





Key Contributors to California's Workforce

- 39% of newly credentialed teachers (37% enrolled)
- 51% of nursing degrees
- 91% of clinical, counseling, and applied psychology degrees
- 95% of physician assistant graduates





AICCU at the Table

- Thomas Vu (AICCU), C2C Data System Governing Board
- Kimberly White-Smith (University of San Diego), Commission on Teacher Credentialing
- Shannon Gary (University of San Francisco), Student Aid Commission
- Kristen Soares (AICCU), Intersegmental Coordinating Committee
- ASSIST integration, Associate Degree for Transfer participation and working group, Common Course Number Council, Master Plan on Career Education





AICCU and the C2C

- AICCU participation in early, informal discussions
- Formal participation in the working group (Education Code Section 10854)
- Formal participation in the C2C governing board (Education Code Section 10864)
- Community Engagement: Alexis Takagi and Lorenzo Gamboa
- Data & Tools: Helen Norris





AICCU and the C2C

Advisory Board members from AICCU member institutions:

- Community Engagement:
 - Lorenzo Gamboa, Director, Inclusion and Outreach, Santa Clara University
 - Alexis Takagi, Ph.D. student, Santa Clara University, and former California Student Aid Commissioner
- Data & Tools:
 - Helen Norris, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Chapman University





AICCU and the C2C: Looking to the Future

- The Big Question: How to incorporate data from 130 independent colleges and universities?
- Alphabet soup: AICCU, C2, and NSC partnership
- First cohort of 14 AICCU member institutions
- An on-going effort to recruit and engage and address concerns





Thank you.

