WASHINGTON UPDATE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
Week of Feb. 10 – 14, 2020

THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION

- This week, the House and Senate are in session.
- On Monday, President Trump released his fiscal year (FY) 2021 budget.
- This week, the Senate is expected to vote on the nominations of Andrew Breshner to be a judge on the 11th circuit and Joshua Kindred, Matthew Schelp, Joshua Kness and Philip Halpern to be U.S. district judges.
- As soon as this week, the Senate may vote on a resolution to strengthen Congress’ role in restraining President Trump’s ability to take military action against Iran.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

- Last Monday and Tuesday, engineering deans from four UC campuses – Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside and Santa Cruz – were in Washington, D.C. to attend the American Society for Engineering Education’s 2020 Engineering Deans Council Public Policy Colloquium and participate in Capitol Hill advocacy meetings. UC FGR helped coordinate the Senate and House leadership meetings.
- Last Monday through Wednesday, representatives from three UC campuses – Berkeley, Davis and San Francisco – were in Washington, D.C. for advocacy on behalf of National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Education and Research Centers and NIOSH Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Centers. UC FGR helped coordinate Capitol Hill meetings.
- Last Wednesday, UC Riverside and UC FGR met with Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA-42) to deliver The Science Coalition’s (TSC) Champion of Science reengagement award, which acknowledges his ongoing support of fundamental scientific research. Rep. Calvert originally received the Champion of Science award in 2006. UC is a founding member of TSC.
- Last Thursday, UC San Diego, along with the University of Arizona, New Mexico State University, University of Texas at El Paso and University of Texas at San Antonio, hosted the, "Data-Driven Discovery at the U.S.-Mexico Border,” convocation. The convocation highlighted opportunities for innovation in data-driven research in science and engineering to support border communities.

VISITORS TO WASHINGTON

- Alex Bustamante, senior vice president and chief compliance and audit officer, UC Office of the President, will be in Washington, D.C. for hill and agency meetings.
- Roger Wakimoto, vice chancellor for research, and Jennifer Poulakidas, associate vice chancellor for government and community relations, UCLA, will be in Washington, D.C. for hill and association meetings.
- Sabine Mueller, assistant professor of clinical neurology, UCSF, will be in Washington, D.C. to participate in the Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG)
Advocacy Group’s congressional briefing titled, “#Moonshot4Kids Congressional Briefing & Summit.”

- **Alyssa Panitch**, Edward Teller Professor and department chair of biomedical engineering, **UC Davis**; **Phillip Messersmith**, professor of bioengineering and materials science and engineering, **UC Berkeley**; and **Enrico Gratton**, professor of surgery, biomedical engineering, astronomy and physics, **UC Irvine**, will be in Washington, D.C. for the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering annual meeting and hill meetings.

- **Robert Powell**, professor of chemical engineering and materials science, **UC Davis**, will be in Washington, D.C. to attend the Nuclear Deterrence Summit.

- **Christine Castillo**, government relations specialist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and **Matthew Calabrese**, special assistant for government relations at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, **UC San Diego**, will be in Washington, D.C. for hill meetings.

- **Mike Witherell**, director, and **Don Medley**, head of government and community relations, **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory**, will be in Washington, D.C. for hill and agency meetings.

**BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS**

- **FY 2021 Budget Request**

  **Upcoming Congressional Activity:**

  - On Tuesday, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Budget Hearing – USDA Office of the Inspector General.”
  - On Wednesday, the House Budget Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The President’s FY 2021 Budget.”
  - On Thursday, the Senate Finance Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The President’s FY 2021 Budget – HHS.”

**THIS WEEK IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND POLICY BRIEFINGS**

- On Tuesday, the Biotechnology, Horticulture and Research Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Economic Opportunities from Local Agriculture Markets.”

- On Tuesday, the House Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The Department of Defense’s Role in Long-Term Major State Competition.”

- On Tuesday, the Research and Science Subcommittee of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee will hold a hearing titled, “More Hires, Fewer Hacks: Developing the U.S. Cybersecurity Workforce.”

- On Tuesday, the Innovation and Workforce Development Subcommittee of the House Small Business Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The Innovation Pipeline: From Universities to Small Businesses.”

- On Tuesday, the Workforce Protections Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Balancing Work, Health, and Family: The Case for Expanding the Family and Medical Leave Act.”
• On Tuesday, the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Space Situational Awareness: Key Issues in an Evolving Landscape.”

• On Tuesday, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The Infant Patient: Ensuring Appropriate Medical Care for Children Born Alive.”

• On Tuesday, the Manufacturing, Trade and Consumer Protection Subcommittee of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Name, Image, and Likeness: The State of Intercollegiate Athlete Compensation.”

• On Wednesday, the Ways and Means Committee will markup the Consumer Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills Act, among other legislation.

• On Wednesday, the Health Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Protecting Women’s Access to Reproductive Health Care.”

• On Wednesday, the House Science, Space and Technology Committee will markup H.R. 2986, the Better Energy Storage Technology Act; H.R. 4230, the Clean Industrial Technology Act of 2019; H.R. 5374, the Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act of 2019; H.R. 5248, the Grid Modernization Research and Development Act of 2019; and H.R. 5760, the Grid Security Research and Development Act.

• On Wednesday, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Roundtable – Are we prepared? Protecting the U.S. from Global Pandemics.”

• On Wednesday, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Space Missions of Global Importance: Planetary Defense, Space Weather Protection, and Space Situational Awareness.”

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