



THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PERSONNEL (WESTOP) IS ONE OF TEN REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS DEDICATED TO FURTHERING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW-INCOME, FIRST-GENERATION AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.

WESTOP'S MEMBERSHIP IS COMPRISED OF EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL FROM THE STATES OF ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, HAWAII, NEVADA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS OF AMERICAN SAMOA, GUAM, THE FEDERAL STATES OF MICRONESIA, THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU, THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS AND THE COMMON WEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS.

WESTOP HAS HAD A TRAILBLAZING LEGACY OF STRENGTH, LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO REPRESENT THE CONCERNS AND NEEDS OF TRIO STUDENTS AND EDUCATIONAL EQUITY ISSUES IN OUR REGION. WE CONTINUE TO FACE NUMEROUS CHALLENGES: THE UNCERTAINTY OF RECEIVING SUBSTANTIAL FUNDING; DELAYS IN GRANT COMPETITIONS; MANY CAMPUSES AND STATES THAT ARE COPING WITH UNPRECEDENTED BUDGET SHORTFALLS WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN WORK FURLOUGHS AND IMPLEMENTING THE NEW HEOA REGULATIONS. AS IN THE PAST, WE HAVE MANAGED TO COME TOGETHER AND ADVOCATE FOR EDUCATIONAL ACCESS ON BEHALF OF OUR STUDENTS. IT IS VITAL FOR WESTOP TO STRENGTHEN ITS ADVOCACY PARTNERSHIPS AND EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCES REGIONALLY AND NATIONALLY TO GET THROUGH THESE CHALLENGING TIMES.

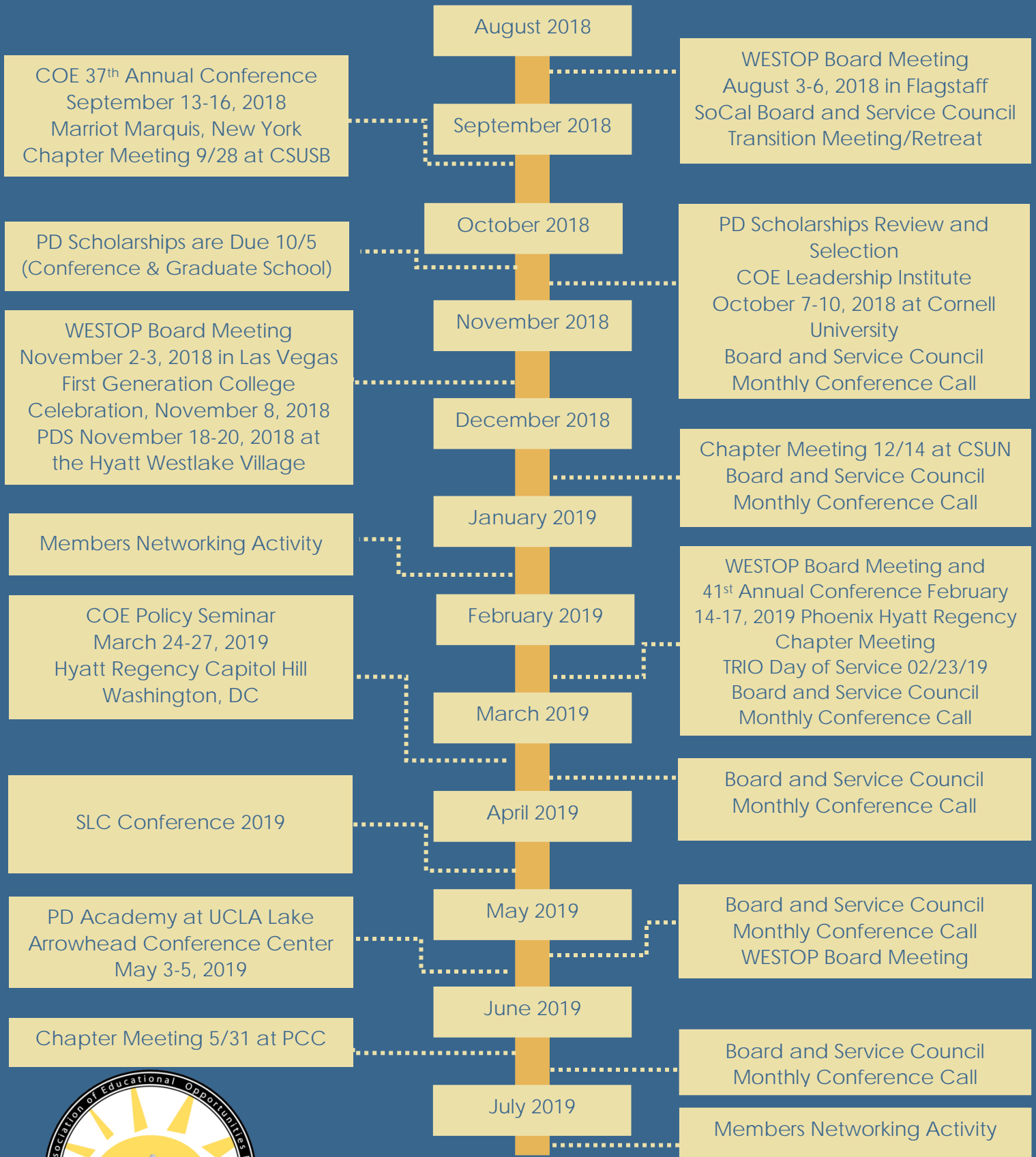
OUR ASSOCIATION CONSIST OF SIX CHAPTERS: ARIZONA, CENTRAL CALIFORNIA (CENCAL), NEVADA, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (NORCAL), PACIFIC ISLAND (PIC) AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (SOCAL).

THE SOCAL CHAPTER IS THE LARGEST CHAPTER WITHIN WESTOP, ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY 41% OF THE ASSOCIATIONS MEMBERSHIP. THE SOCAL CHAPTER HAS MORE THAN 200 MEMBERS, REPRESENTING OVER 36 EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS IN 20 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION. CHAPTER MEMBERS ARE MADE UP OF DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THE VISION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

OUR MISSION AT THE SOCAL CHAPTER IS THAT OF EMPOWERING AND ADVANCING EQUITY MINDED EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONALS TO BE CHAMPIONS FOR LOW-INCOME AND UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS WITHIN THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER.

THE SOCAL CHAPTER STRIVES TO OFFER MEMBERS PRACTICAL OPPORTUNITIES TO NETWORK, ATTEND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AS WELL AS TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES. EACH YEAR THE CHAPTER ORGANIZES TWO MAJOR EVENTS; 1) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR, 2) STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE. WESTOP SOCAL IS COMMITTED TO THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF OUR MEMBERSHIP. WE FOCUS OUR WORK ON THE FOLLOWING CORE VALUES: COMMITMENT, LEADERSHIP, EQUITY, ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS.

WESTOP SoCal 2018 – 2019



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