

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>

Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 4:50 PM

Subject: President/CEO Message - March 13, 2025

Campus Community,

The month of **March** has been a time of reflection for me for two reasons. First, this month marks the fifth anniversary of when COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic. Second, 14 years ago this month, I was appointed interim Chief Executive Officer for Compton Community College District. On **March 11, 2020**, I used my [first President/CEO Message](#) to share a lot of information about our response and updates related to COVID-19. We have come a long way since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, I reflect on the many challenges we faced during that time of uncertainty and how we, as an institution, accepted those challenges to find solutions to support our students on their educational journey.

On **March 16, 2011**, I began my tenure as the President/CEO of Compton CCD, and below were the goals I shared with the campus community on that day:

1. Complete the 2011-2012 Compton Community College District Budget Development Process
2. Address Facilities Needs
3. Continue to Support the Partnership with El Camino Community College District
4. Work with the Community

As I reflect on that day and that time of uncertainty, I am amazed at how we have addressed the many challenges. During that time, we were dealing with an uncertain state budget, the Library-Student Success Building was not completed even though it was slated to open in **2007**, the partnership with El Camino Community College District was very unstable, and there was distrust within the community regarding the direction of our institution. Once again, regardless of the challenge, we addressed them.

Who would have guessed that we would be building student housing at Compton College? Thanks to the perseverance and hard work that has led to this historical undertaking, we can't wait for the students to occupy the 251 beds in **fall 2027**. I know we have so much more to accomplish at Compton College, but I am excited about our future challenges, and I am even more excited about implementing [Compton College 2035](#). I want to thank the faculty, classified professionals, and the managers/supervisors for all you are doing to support our students.

Today's President/CEO Message includes reminders about upcoming employee and student engagement opportunities, information about the **March 26** Internships, Job and Resource Fair, the **March 17** Board meeting, and more.

Spring 2025 Enrollment Update

As of **today, March 13, 2025**, Compton College generated 1,586 FTES for the Spring 2025 term. Our fill rate for Spring is currently 70%, and 11,233 seats are filled.

Out of the 129 "Late Start" class sections, 63 are already filled. However, there are still nearly [800 open seats available in these sections](#), including some that begin in April and run for just 8 weeks. Encourage students who missed the opportunity to add a class at the start of the term to meet with a counselor or advisor to explore their options and register today.

Compton College Campuswide Forum

Employees are invited to a virtual Campuswide Forum **next Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom**. The focus will be on accreditation, the 2025-2026 Compton Community College District Budget, and the [Compton College 2035 Comprehensive Master Plan](#). To participate, please register in advance using this link: [Compton College Campuswide Forum Online Registration](#).

Meet Congresswoman Maxine Waters

Just a friendly reminder that Compton College students have a special opportunity to meet Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA—District 43) on **Wednesday, March 19, 2025, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Little Theater.**

Student Opportunities:

- Ask questions and gain insights into the legislative world.
- Share concerns and ideas directly with a Congressional representative.
- Learn how Congresswoman Waters represents higher education at the Capitol.

Please share this information with your students to ensure everyone has the chance to participate.

Recognizing Excellence at Compton College

We are proud to honor our distinguished administrators, faculty, staff, outstanding adjuncts, and Civility Champion Award recipients. Honorees will be recognized at the Compton Community College District Board meeting on **May 19, 2025.**

Award Categories:

- **Administrator/Supervisor:** Commitment to academic excellence, professionalism, and outstanding service.
- **Full-Time Faculty:** The highest level of commitment to students, college, and profession.
- **Staff:** Commitment to academic excellence, professionalism, and outstanding service.
- **Adjunct Faculty:** Highest level of commitment to students and teaching.
- **Civility Champions:** Demonstrating commitment to civility and mutual respect (one student, one faculty, one staff, and one administrator).

Nomination Process:

- Details and forms were emailed to all Faculty, Managers, and Classified Professionals on March 6, 2025
- Submit nominations to Human Resources by **April 21, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.**

Compton Community College District Board of Trustees Meeting

On **Monday, March 17, 2025**, the Board of Trustees will meet in the Student Services Building, Room 212. All regular session meetings are open to the public. The closed session begins at 5:00 p.m., with the open session commencing at 6:00 p.m. The Board Agenda is posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Agendas are posted on the BoardDocs website under the "Meetings" tab at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ca/compton/Board.nsf/Public>.

President/CEO Closing the Loop

1. My responses to the [Academic Senate](#) – Summary of Decisions made at the **February 20, 2025** meeting are available [here](#).
2. Effective **March 4, 2025**, Compton College's Formerly Incarcerated Students in Transition (F.I.S.T.) Program has been renamed to the Rising Scholars Program to align with statewide naming conventions. This change, recommended by Lydell Willis, Director of Student Basic Needs and Success, is generally supported by current F.I.S.T. participants. Elements of the F.I.S.T. logo will be incorporated into a new design to honor the program's award-winning legacy.
3. The [Los Angeles County Department of Public Health retired its COVID-19 data dashboard on March 1, 2025](#), due to significantly reduced public risk. Consequently, the Consultative Council recommended and approved discontinuing the weekly COVID-19-related emails reporting positive cases on campus. However, the COVID-19 reporting protocol remains in place, and individuals should continue using the online reporting form available via MyCompton for students and employees. This ensures accurate tracking and confidential contact tracking.

Final Thoughts

Yesterday, **March 12, 2025**, I sent an email to all managers and supervisors about our transition from virtual to in-person meetings and activities over the next six months, starting **April 1, 2025**. I will discuss this transition further at the next Consultative Council meeting on **Monday, March 17, 2025**. More information will be shared in future President/CEO Messages, but it's time for us to make this important transition.

Also, on **March 12, 2025**, Compton College hosted the "[Spring into the Future L.A. Career Readiness Symposium](#)" in collaboration with the Los Angeles Regional Consortium (LARC). The symposium provided insight, collaboration, and actionable strategies to shape the future of Career & Technical Education (CTE) and Dual Enrollment in our region. Over 100 participants learned about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Green Economy, both critical to the future of work and aligned with Region 7's strategic goals.

The goal is to strengthen K-14 pathways and ensure students are prepared for success in emerging industries. Rachael Mann, author of *Pack Your Bags for an AI-Driven Future*, discussed AI as a societal shift on par with the printing press, the assembly line, and the internet. Leo Medina from East Los Angeles College talked about Green Jobs in Logistics, and Luke Myer, with the Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research, discussed *The Book of Green Jobs: A Guide to Middle-Skill Climate-Ready Jobs in Los Angeles County*. Participants from Los Angeles Region Community Colleges and local school districts, including Compton, Lynwood, and Paramount Unified School Districts, benefited from breakout sessions and keynote speakers.

Despite the rain, many people attended and were impressed with our campus transformation, new buildings, and upcoming construction projects. Special thanks to everyone involved in planning this event, and an extra thank you to Alicia Zambrano, Career and Technical Education Career Pathways Coordinator, for leading the coordination efforts for Compton College.

Finally, I am excited to announce the "[Passport To Your Career](#)" event, an [Internship, Job, and Resources Fair](#) scheduled for **Wednesday, March 26, 2025**. This event, open to Compton College students, alumni, and the community, offers a unique opportunity to discover new career paths, visit resource tables, and explore various job opportunities. The fair will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the quad at Compton College. Hosted in partnership with the Employment Development Department, the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, America's Job Center of California (Los Angeles County), and the Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board, the Compton College Adult Education & Workforce Development department aims to provide valuable connections and resources to help attendees advance their careers. Don't miss this chance to take the next step in your professional journey! For more information, contact Nicole Smith, job placement specialist, at nsmith1@compton.edu.

In closing, I can't believe how fast this semester is going. Spring break is approaching quickly, and students are already asking about commencement and this year's keynote speaker. I wonder who it will be.....

Please enjoy your Friday and the upcoming weekend with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D.
(he/him/his)
President/CEO
Compton College