

MESSAGE FROM INTERIM CEO DR. KEITH CURRY

The fall semester is well underway, and stories of student success are all around us. I am excited about the year ahead and what we plan to accomplish.

Some of you may recall that when I first accepted the position of Interim CEO, I agreed to do so to continue providing the necessary support for achieving student success. That is still the goal for the CCCD today. In fact, the slogan I have adopted is "Every Student is a Success Story." You will likely hear me say those words repeatedly in the coming year.

Most of you have met Special Trustee Henry, and many of you have interacted with him in the short time he has been back. We are pleased to have him with us once again as we continue the path to success.

With the opportunity for another successful year ahead of us, I want to share the following CCCD goals for the 2011-12 academic year.

2011-12 Goals for the Compton Community College District

1. Continue to Support the Partnership

It is important for everyone – internally as well as our external communities - to be apprised of progress we are making and the areas needing improvement at the Compton Community College District. I will work with the Special Trustee and the leadership at El Camino College to support El Camino College's mission of providing the programs and services needed for student success. We will also work cooperatively to continue our mutual goal for the Compton Community Community College District to one day have a college again.

Through the Accreditation Steering Committee, co-chaired by Academic Senate President Saul Panski, ECC Compton Center VP Barbara Perez and myself, we are continuing our review and assessment of the Compton Center's readiness for El Camino College to apply for accreditation eligibility for its Center.

The primary goal continues to be to provide excellence in academic programs and services which support student success – and keeps the doors open to a higher education in the Compton District communities.

2. Communication with Students, Employees and the Community

I will be in all of the communities we serve, building, maintaining, and re-establishing connections. I will be meeting with local, state and federal elected officials, business organizations, church groups, and community leaders throughout the Compton District.

In addition to the meetings and visits, we will continue to provide timely updates about the partnership through newsletters, emails and publications. We will also provide timely updates on the Accreditation Process via a <u>web page</u> – which is already up and running - as well as with newsletters and email communications.

My weekly Open Door Policy will continue – from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. every Tuesday. Please feel free to meet with me if you have any questions, concerns or stories of success to share.

The Special Trustee and I will make it a priority to inform and educate our communities about the successes of the Compton District as well as the areas were improvement is needed.

The number one priority is student success. We are all here to ensure that the residents of our communities have access to a quality higher education. We are about the business of making every student a success story.

3. Fiscal Stability for the Compton Community College District

Our Planning and Budget Committee has developed <u>Guiding Principles</u> to help direct the budget priorities for 2011-12. We want the budget cuts to have the least possible impact on students. I am pleased to announce that Mr. Gerald Sequeira, director of admissions, is serving as the PBC chair for 2011-12.

As a result of the state budget cuts, El Camino College Compton Center has been forced to offer fewer sections, making it more difficult for students to get the classes they need to graduate or complete a certificate program.

We will work with our partner, El Camino College, to determine what the Compton Center needs from the Compton District in order to provide the academic programs and student services our students need to succeed.

The CCCD fiscal area staff and I will continue to work with ECC Administrative Services on our budget, as our fiscal stability impacts the Center's readiness for accreditation eligibility.

4. Address Facilities Needs

We are working with our partner through Vice President Barbara Perez to develop an Educational Master Plan, which we will then link to the Facilities Master Plan and the Five-Year Construction Plan for the Compton District. The Educational Master Plan will be included on the September 27 board agenda.

We will continue to provide timely information to employees, students and our communities regarding timelines and updates about our facilities projects.

5. Support Professional Development for CCCD Employees

Working through the ECC Staff Development Office, workshops are offered throughout the year for faculty, staff and mangers on a variety of topics to assist employees in their job. Additionally, employees are encouraged to return to school to further their education to enhance current skills and learn new ones.

This year via the Human Resources Department, we are initiating an annual faculty and staff member award recognition program. Details will be forthcoming later in the semester.

In closing, I wish each employee a successful and rewarding year as we all work to help every student become one more success story.