



# CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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## CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

### PRESS RELEASE

August 14, 2014

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### **Two New Executive Hires Fill Posts Critical to Advancing Student Success Initiative in California Community Colleges**

*SACRAMENTO, Calif.* – The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and the Foundation for California Community Colleges today announced the following executive office hires:

Theresa Tena has been appointed vice chancellor for institutional effectiveness by Gov. Jerry Brown and will oversee the new Technical Assistance Unit, which is charged with supporting implementation of effective student success practices in all college districts. Most recently, Tena served as vice president and director of fiscal policy with the Community College League of California, and prior to that as director of fiscal services at Solano Community College. She has also held roles as a specialist in Fiscal Services at the Chancellor's Office and staff finance budget analyst with the California Department of Finance. Tena earned a bachelor's degree in international relations and history from the University of California, Davis and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California. The compensation is \$122,400.

Dr. Paul Steenhausen has been selected to be executive director of the new Student Success Center, which is operated by the Foundation for California Community Colleges through a two-year \$500,000 grant from the Kresge Foundation. The Center's mission is to help the system to coordinate its success-focused initiatives and boost completion rates. Steenhausen is an expert in California Community Colleges policy and finance, having served as a senior education analyst with the Legislative Analyst's Office since 2006. He has conducted extensive research and written numerous reports on community colleges, resulting in the adoption of several new policies by the Board of Governors and Legislature. He earned a master's degree and a doctoral degree in international relations from the University of Southern California. The compensation is \$122,400.

"The Chancellor's Office is unwavering in its drive to improve student outcomes throughout the state," said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris. "Ms. Tena and Dr. Steenhausen have the talent and understanding of the California Community Colleges to help us advance our student success initiative. I look forward to working with both of them to accomplish our goals."

"We look forward to advancing the Student Success Initiative led by the Board of Governors and the state Chancellor's Office by coordinating and amplifying the work already underway system-wide," said Keetha Mills, president and CEO of the Foundation for California Community Colleges. "The California Student Success Center offers an opportunity to share successful strategies implemented in the largest system of higher education with a nationwide network of leading policy makers dedicated to improving student outcomes."

*The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit*

*<http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>.*

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