

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS RIOS CHANCELLOR NAMED TO NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

Sacramento—Los Rios Community College District chancellor Brice Harris has been appointed to serve on a national Commission on Higher Education Attainment created by six higher education associations.

According to Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education (ACE), the commission was created in response to President Obama's call for the United States to have the highest level of postsecondary educational attainment in the world by 2020. "We believe achieving this important objective will not be possible without clear and decisive leadership by colleges and universities, which is why we are launching this effort," Broad said.

Harris, who has served on the ACE Board since 2010, will represent community colleges on the 18-member commission. He has also served on the Community College League of California's Futures Committee and on the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Student Success Task Force which just recently released its recommendations.

"It is very encouraging to see this kind of leadership at the national level and to have all the major national higher education associations come together to address the critical issues of student success and completion," Harris said.

The commission plans to explore a number of topics and issues, including:

- The changing nature of students seeking a degree or credential.
- The ability of higher education to attract, retain and graduate the increasing number of adults seeking a degree or credential.
- The current capacity of higher education to accommodate the large number of students who will need to enroll to meet President Obama's goal.
- The opportunities to increase efficiency and enhance productivity in meaningful ways.

The commission's first meeting will be held October 31 and the group is expected to complete its work by Fall 2012.

The Los Rios Community College District enrolls 83,000 students at its four Sacramento area colleges—American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City.

Commission members include:

American Council on Education

E. Gordon Gee (Chair), President
The Ohio State University

Eduardo Padrón, President
Miami Dade College (FL)

Jim Yong Kim, President
Dartmouth College (NH)

American Association of Community Colleges

Gail O. Mellow (Vice-Chair), President
LaGuardia Community College (NY)

Brice Harris, Chancellor
Los Rios Community College District (CA)

Rufus Glasper, Chancellor
Maricopa Community College District (AZ)

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

George A. Pruitt (Vice Chair), President
Thomas Edison State College (NJ)

Mary Evans Sias, President
Kentucky State University

Charles B. Reed, Chancellor
California State University

Association of American Universities

Holden Thorp, Chancellor
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Michael Drake, Chancellor
University of California – Irvine

Morton Schapiro, President
Northwestern University (IL)

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities

Brit Kirwan, Chancellor
University System of Maryland

Diana Natalicio, President
University of Texas at El Paso

Michael Crow, President
Arizona State University

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

Andrew K. Benton (Vice-Chair), President
Pepperdine University (CA)

Tracy Fitzsimmons, President
Shenandoah University (VA)

George Martin, President
St. Edward's University (TX)

Ex Officio Members

Molly Corbett Broad, President
ACE

Walter Bumphus, President and CEO
AACC

Muriel Howard, President
AASCU

Peter McPherson, President
APLU

Hunter Rawlings, President
AAU

David Warren, President
NAICU