



N E W S

El Camino College Compton Center | Public Relations & Marketing Department
16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Contact: Ann M. Garten, Director, Community Relations
Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | Email: agarten@elcamino.edu

For Immediate Release

March 28, 2013

Dr. Keith Curry Appointed Permanent Chief Executive Officer for Compton Community College District

Compton Community College District (CCCD) Special Trustee Thomas Henry, in consultation with El Camino College Superintendent/President Thomas Fallo, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Keith Curry as the permanent Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Compton Community College District. Curry will begin his permanent post on July 1, 2013.

The selection process included a committee of representatives from the CCCD, ECC Compton Center and El Camino College who reviewed all applications submitted and selected a number of individuals for an interview with the committee. From that group, three finalists were forwarded by the committee to Special Trustee Henry and Superintendent/President Fallo for final interviews. Prior to the final interviews, each of the candidates participated in an open forum at the Compton Center. Employees and students of the Compton Center, as well as community members attended the open forum, which provided an opportunity for the finalists to answer questions and provide information relative to their qualifications for the CEO position.

Curry has served as the interim CEO of the Compton Community College District since March 2011. He previously served as the El Camino College Compton Center dean of student services beginning in 2006. Under his leadership, many existing student support programs at ECC Compton Center have expanded and others were created, most notably the First Year Experience (FYE) program. Established at ECC Compton Center in 2009, FYE offers a supportive educational environment that encourages student success through shared learning communities. Other positive outcomes during the past two years include increased student enrollment and transfers; new full-time faculty members hired; new state-funded construction projects; and a balanced budget with a reserve.

"All three finalists were very experienced and demonstrated an excellent understanding of the CCCD and Compton Center," said Special Trustee Henry. "I am most pleased that Dr. Keith Curry was the successful finalist and was selected for the CEO of the CCCD. He brings excellent knowledge of the needs of the District, and the importance of building relationships. During the interview process, he demonstrated his commitment to continuous quality improvement and a positive understanding of the accreditation process. His commitment to quality instruction and focus on student success will be a tremendous benefit to the CCCD and Compton Center."

-more-

2-2-2-2 Curry Appointed Permanent CEO for CCCD

Prior to joining the CCCD, Curry worked at the University of California, Irvine as director of the Early Academic Outreach Program. While at UC Irvine, he was instrumental in re-establishing a partnership between local school districts, including Compton Unified School District (CUSD) and UCI. He co-authored the CUSD Gear-Up proposal during his tenure at UC Irvine.

“I am extremely pleased to have been selected as the CEO for the Compton Community College District. I have wanted this job since I was twelve years old,” said Curry. “I look forward to continuing to build on the successes we have established at the District and the ECC Compton Center in the coming years. Thank you to everyone for their support and words of encouragement.”

As part of the ongoing community outreach efforts, Curry is working to get community members more involved in District affairs. Through a series of “CEO Roundtable Discussions” he is working to build a better understanding of the partnership with El Camino College and its successes. To date, Curry has held CEO Roundtable Discussions in Carson, Compton, Lynwood, Paramount and Rancho Dominguez. His presentations are open to all community members served by the CCCD. The roundtables address a number of important topics including the process to accreditation, newly adopted trustee area boundaries, the facilities master plan, and fiscal stability for the District.

Curry was recently selected to serve as a member the Advisory Committee for Education Services for the Community College League of California. The Chancellor of California Community Colleges also appointed him to four Oversight Boards to local city Successor Agencies and Redevelopment Agencies; he serves as vice chair on two of them.

He earned his doctorate in education from the University of California, Irvine, and a bachelor’s degree in American studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz. His professional affiliations include working with the African American Male Educational Network and Development (A2MEND) organization, the Association for California Community College Administrators, and the Statewide Association of Community Colleges.

Born and raised in Compton, Curry’s service to the community has included volunteering as chair of the Compton Unified School District Achieving College Partnership and serving on the Compton Unified School District Foundation board.

About the Compton Community College District

Board meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of each month and are open to the public. The District is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.

###