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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Compton Community College District Interim CEO Keith Curry Receives Distinguished Alumni Award from University of California, Irvine**

Dr. Keith Curry, Compton Community College District interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO), was recently honored with a Distinguished Alumni award by his alma mater, the University of California, Irvine (UCI). Curry was recognized at UCI's 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lauds & Laurels ceremony, along with 17 other recipients. Sponsored by the UCI Alumni Association, the award recognizes the honorees' outstanding contributions to the university and their communities.

Established in 1971, the UCI Alumni Association awards program honors alumni, students, faculty and staff who have brought recognition to the university through their achievements, studies or profession. To date, more than 800 outstanding individuals have received the Distinguished Alumni award.

"Lauds & Laurels celebrates the accomplishments of a select group of people whose efforts positively impact UC Irvine and beyond," said Jorge Ancona, UCI assistant vice chancellor, alumni relations. "These are the most prestigious awards conferred by our alumni association, and the campus is a better place because of the achievements of our honorees."

Curry becomes the permanent CEO for the Compton Community College District effective July 1, 2013. He previously served as the interim CEO since March 2011. Before overseeing District operations, he 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.

### **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.

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