



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

MEDIA ADVISORY

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California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott Visits Butte College For the Historic Unveiling of the Nation's First Grid-Positive College Campus

- ❖ **Who:** California Community Colleges Chancellor [Jack Scott](#)
- ❖ **What:** Will speak at Butte College's ribbon-cutting ceremony and celebrate the campus becoming the nation's first grid-positive college.
- ❖ **When/** **Where:** **Wednesday, June 29 at 10 a.m.**
Butte College
3536 Butte Campus Drive, Oroville, CA 95965
- ❖ **Why:** Butte College will make history as it becomes the first college in the U.S. to go "grid-positive," producing more than 100 percent of the electricity it uses from its on-site solar arrays. The solar arrays total 4.538 megawatts and will generate more than 6.5 million kilowatt-hours per year. Butte College officials estimate that the initiative will save the campus \$50-\$75 million over the next 15 years. These savings take into account project costs and interest by eliminating the campus' electricity bill, selling excess power back to the local provider and avoiding future rate increases.

The California Community Colleges system has sustained nearly \$800 million in state budget cuts over the last three academic years (including 2011-12). The demand for a community college education continues to outstrip resources. In response to the state's fiscal crisis, Chancellor Jack Scott has asked community college leaders to become more entrepreneurial and seek out new and innovative ways to generate revenue and cut costs. Butte College will dramatically accomplish both of these goals by becoming grid-positive. At the same time, the college will train workers for jobs in the sustainable energy industry – an outcome that will help California's economy and recovery.

Innovation, ingenuity and foresight have made Butte College a national leader in the area of cost-saving, clean energy. The college's efforts will further boost the reputation of the California Community Colleges as being a revolutionary system of higher education that utilizes new technologies and trains California's workforce for jobs in growth sectors.

- ❖ **More:** *Chancellor Scott will be available for on-site and phone interviews before and after the event. Please contact Paige Marlatt Dorr to schedule a time to speak with Chancellor Scott.*

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