MEDIA ADVISORY February 27, 2012

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California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott to visit West Hills College Lemoore District's new priority registration a model for success; Coalinga's Farm of the Future visit also on schedule

Who/ California Community Colleges Chancellor <u>Jack Scott</u> will visit <u>West Hills College Lemoore</u> to discuss what: a new priority enrollment policy adopted by West Hills Community College District. High school seniors who participate in diagnostic assessment, orientation and who develop an education plan get priority registration at West Hills under the policy. The California Community Colleges Board of Governors' Student Success Task Force has recommended that priority enrollment for students focused on transfer, career technical education and degree attainment be implemented system-wide. Other speakers include West Hills Community College District Chancellor <u>Frank Gornick</u> and West Hills College Lemoore President <u>Don Warkentin</u>. Also on hand will be high school seniors who have filled out priority registration packets for the summer and fall 2012 sessions, as well as West Hills College Lemoore students who received priority status last year.

When/ Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 10 a.m.

Where: West Hills College Lemoore

555 College Ave., Lemoore, CA. 93245

Learning Resource Center

(Chancellor Scott also will visit West Hills College Coalinga at 1:30 p.m., 300 Cherry Lane, Coalinga, CA. 93210, to tour the college's Farm of the Future construction site and to meet with West Hills College Coalinga President Willard Lewallen, faculty and students.)

Media planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Paige Marlatt Dorr at pdorr@cccco.edu

Why: The Student Success Task Force recently recommended that registration priority go to students focused on transfer, career technical training and degree attainment. Throughout most of the college system, registration priority currently goes to students with the most units, thus rewarding unit accumulation rather than progress in their program of study. This is a disservice to first-time students who are the most likely to be turned away due to lack of space. The West Hills Community College District's two campuses (West Hills College Lemoore and West Hills College Coalinga) switched to a new priority registration process in the summer and fall of 2011. Through outreach to high school seniors at the district's 15 feeder high schools, West Hills Community College District saw a 35.4 percent increase in high school graduates enrolling compared to 2010.

More: One-on-one interviews with Chancellor Scott can be scheduled. Please contact Paige Marlatt Dorr to make an interview request.