



# CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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## CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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Contact: Paige Marlatt Dorr

Office: 916.327.5356

Cell: 916.601.8005

Office E-mail: [pdorr@cccco.edu](mailto:pdorr@cccco.edu)

### **California Community Colleges Board of Governors Vice President Cecilia V. Estolano Appointed to the Committee on Awards for Innovation in Higher Education**

*SACRAMENTO, Calif.* – California Community Colleges Board of Governors Vice President [Cecilia V. Estolano](#) issued the following statement on her appointment by Gov. Jerry Brown to the Committee on Awards for Innovation in Higher Education:

“It’s an honor to be selected by Gov. Brown to serve on the Committee on Awards for Innovation in Higher Education,” Estolano said. “I look forward to working with fellow committee members to highlight outstanding college-led initiatives that demonstrate improved completion rates and student success.”

The Awards for Innovation in Higher Education reward colleges in California that implement initiatives to increase the number of degrees awarded, allow more students to graduate in four years and facilitate transfers between community colleges and four-year institutions. The recently enacted 2016-17 state budget includes \$25 million for the awards program.

Gov. Brown announced the reappointment on Thursday. Estolano, 50, of Pasadena, is co-founder of Estolano, LeSar, Perez Advisors, which provides consulting services to public agencies, foundations, business associations and other stakeholders seeking to grow thriving, healthy and vibrant communities. She has been a lecturer at the University of California, Los Angeles since 2009. She was chief strategist for state and local initiatives at Green for All from 2009 to 2011, chief executive officer at the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles from 2006 to 2009 and counsel at Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher LLP from 2005 to 2006. She was assistant city attorney in the Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office from 2001 to 2005, senior policy advisor at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 1993 to 1995 and a member of the California Coastal Commission from 1999 to 2002. Estolano earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law and a Master of Arts degree in urban planning from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Public Affairs.

*The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges>, or <https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges>.*

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