PRESS RELEASE

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California Community Colleges Board of Governors Re-Elect Officers for 2014

President Manuel Baca and Vice President Geoffrey L. Baum re-elected to one-year terms

SACRAMENTO, Calif. -- The California Community Colleges Board of Governors re-elected President Manuel Baca and Vice President Geoffrey L. Baum for the 2014 calendar term during its bimonthly meeting held in Sacramento. The board, appointed by the governor, nominates and elects its president and vice president each November. The chosen officials serve for a one-year term.

Here are short biographies on both Baca and Baum:

Manuel Baca of Diamond Bar, has been on the board since 2009 and is a professor of government at Rio Hondo College where he has served on the Academic Senate Executive Committee. His previous experience includes having held a number of positions within the state university (California State University, Fullerton) and community college systems. Baca is a current member and past president of the Governing Board of the Mt. San Antonio Community College District and has also served as a member on Colleges System Strategic Plan Steering Committee where he and other state leaders developed the Community College System Strategic Plan for California. He holds a Ph.D. in education from the University of Southern California. Baca serves or has served with numerous community-based and civic organizations.

“I am honored to be re-elected by my colleagues as president of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors,” Baca said. “We have accomplished a lot in my first term as president but there is a lot more left to be done and I look forward to continuing the good work done by the board as well as Chancellor Brice Harris. As the nation’s largest system of higher education, we continue to lead the nation in many areas such as workforce development and I look forward to another exciting year of success for our students, our administrators, staff and faculty and for our state.”

Geoffrey L. Baum of Pasadena, is a member and past president of the governing board of the Pasadena Area Community College District. He works at the University of Southern California, where he serves as managing director of the Center on Communication Leadership and Policy and previously as assistant dean of the Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism. He also serves as director of communications and public affairs for the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands. He previously worked for C-SPAN as executive
producer and as assistant vice president of Claremont McKenna College. He holds a master’s degree in journalism from the University of Southern California and a bachelor’s degree in economics from Claremont McKenna College.

“I look forward to working with President Baca and Chancellor Harris in continuing our system’s momentum in the coming year and continuing our focus on student success,” Baum said. “We’re seeing enrollment numbers come back, intersessions being offered again and system funding stabilizing. It’s up to us to keep moving forward and to continue delivering to California the best workforce possible.”

*The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.3 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.*

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