January 9, 2012

Dr. Peter MacDougall
Chair of the Task Force on Student Success
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
1102 Q Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Support – Student Success Task Force Recommendations

Dear Dr. MacDougall,

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group is proud to endorse the draft recommendations of the California Community Colleges Task Force on Student Success. We applaud the Student Success Taskforce for its bold leadership and willingness to develop thoughtful and meaningful reforms within the state’s California Community College system to ensure greater student success. We believe that the Taskforce has laid out a comprehensive plan to implement proven strategies that will help students reach their college goals.

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group, founded in 1978 by David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, represents more than 345 of Silicon Valley’s most respected employers on issues, programs and campaigns that affect the economic health and quality of life in Silicon Valley, including energy, transportation, education, housing, health care, tax policies, economic vitality and the environment. Leadership Group members collectively provide nearly one of every three private sector jobs in Silicon Valley. The Student Success Taskforce recommendations are a critical step in addressing student completion and identifying opportunities to increase the rate of community college students obtaining a degree and certificate to ensure a skilled and economically productive labor force. During this time of scarce resources and state budget cuts, we must implement innovative solutions that will improve student outcomes, provide for an educated workforce, and ensure the efficient use of state investment in higher education.

We commend the Task Force members for the courage they have demonstrated to propose significant reforms. The Silicon Valley Leadership Group stands ready to ensure that California makes student success a priority.

Sincerely,

Brett Barley, Esq.
Director, Education Policy
Silicon Valley Leadership Group