



## Guiding Principles

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force is to identify common advocacy areas, and educate and inform elected representatives and all other community stakeholders regarding community college issues and how they affect the four districts in Orange County: Coast Community College District, North Orange County Community College District; Rancho Santiago Community College District, and South Orange County Community College District. The Task Force will concentrate its efforts on local representatives; and, when necessary, the Governor, Secretary of Education, and the California Community College Board of Governors.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force are:

- Share information on legislation affecting community colleges at the state and federal levels
- Familiarize task force members with state and federal legislative agendas
- Agree on legislative direction

### **Membership**

The task force shall consist of the following representatives:

- 4 Trustees (one from each district)
- 4 Chancellors (one from each district)
- 4 Public/Government Affairs Directors (one from each district)
- 4 Community Representatives (one from each district)
  - Student, Classified Staff, Faculty, Community/Business Member

Each district shall select its representatives. Faculty, classified, and student representatives from each district will be invited to participate on the task force as needs arise. These invitations will be based on the criterion of specific expertise or experience that benefits the task force policy agenda.

Each district should appoint or designate an alternate for each trustee representative. Alternates should attend meetings when the appointed trustee must be absent.

### **Role of the Trustee Representative**

The trustee representative is charged with keeping the other trustees on his or her board informed of task force issues and activities. Each trustee communicates with the other board members at his/her district to encourage participation in task force activities such as legislative visits, letter writing, fax, and phone campaigns. Each district appoints a trustee representative and an alternate to the task force each academic year.

### **Role of the Chancellor**

The chancellor representative to the task force keeps management, faculty, and other staff members informed of task force issues and activities. This is usually done through existing intra-district communication channels and shared-governance processes to encourage information sharing and participation in letter writing, fax, and phone campaigns. The chancellors also take turns hosting the

task force, with this responsibility rotating annually. The chancellor from each district serves on the task force each year.

**Role of the Public/Government Affairs Director**

The public/government affairs director representative to the task force assists the chancellor of each district in keeping management, faculty, and other staff members informed of task force issues and activities. This is usually done through existing intra-district communication channels and shared-governance processes to encourage information sharing and participation in letter writing, fax, and phone campaigns. The public/government affairs directors also assist their respective chancellors the years they are responsible for hosting the task force. The public/government affairs director from each district serves on the task force each year.

**Role of the Community Representative**

This representative serves as a liaison between the task force and representative constituents. These may include, but are not limited to, community groups, business leaders, student groups, faculty groups and classified staff. Each district appoints one representative to the task force each academic year. The founding task force cited an ideal membership composed of: one student, one faculty member, one classified member and one community/business member.

**Logistics**

**Meetings**

The Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force will meet monthly at Irvine Valley College which is a more central location than the South Orange County Community College District offices. Agendas and minutes from all meetings shall be maintained by the district serving as chair.

The first meeting is typically held in September, at which the task force shall determine the goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Goals should be limited to three to five issues. The following meetings shall be to implement the goals and objectives.

Meetings shall continue until the spring semester ends. The meeting schedule should coordinate with the legislative calendar and will vary according to planned activities and the need for task force consultation and legislative visits.

**Chair**

The Chair of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force will rotate each year per the following schedule:

2016-2017	South Orange County CCD
2017-2018	North Orange County CCD
2018-2019	Coast CCD
2019-2020	Rancho Santiago CCD

## **Legislative Outreach**

Outreach efforts of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force include:

- Individual legislative meetings in district legislative offices
- Individual or group legislative meetings in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.
- Utilize advocacy days through the CCLC and AACC
- Coordinated press strategy on events (press releases, newsletters, etc.)
- Develop and distribute socioeconomic impact study to market the value of a community college education

## **Legislative Priorities – 2016-2017**

### **State Priorities**

- Budget Priorities
  - Base increase to address increasing costs for PERS/STRS and other mandates
  - Veterans (facilities, student services, professional development)
  - Technology (course management, OER, statewide library)
  - Faculty Obligation – 50% Law; Funding for full time faculty
- College Affordability
  - Incentivize/support local district Promise programs
  - Student costs for books, transportation, housing
  - Financial Aid – Cal Grants reform
- Dual Enrollment
- Campus Safety
  - Flexibility for infrastructure, personnel, mental health

### **Federal Priorities**

- Higher Education Act Reauthorization
- Perkins Reauthorization
- Year Round Pell Grants
- Veterans issues

### **Taking Legislative Positions**

It is the intent of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force to take a legislative position when all four districts are in agreement. However, when legislative deadlines warrant, the task force may take a position with a minimum of three districts provided there is no dissenting opinion. Individual districts may take legislative positions at any time.

## **Other Priorities**

### **Socioeconomic Impact Study**

- A committee comprised of the Public/Government Affairs Directors from each district shall lead the effort.
- The committee is asked to identify the research required, timeline and costs for conducting an Orange County Community Colleges socioeconomic impact study and marketing piece.
  - One comprehensive report
  - Individual reports for each district