February 2016

Dear Prospective Candidates:

The call to action for community college leadership has never been so strong and so necessary. Shifting demographics, increased accountability for student success, and impending retirements are just a few of the dynamics impacting our educational landscape. Meanwhile, our democracy and the strength of our economy depends on educated citizens with postsecondary education and training.

America’s community colleges serve 12 million students nationwide. California’s 113 community colleges serve 2.1 million students from every walk of life. Together our colleges provide high quality, accessible and affordable education. Our community colleges are also our nation’s largest workforce and training provider.

At the LACCD, we serve over 200,000 students districtwide at nine campuses through Los Angeles County, covering almost 900 square miles. We are the largest community college district in the nation, serving one of the most diverse, poorest and neediest student bodies in the country. This spring, we will confer nearly 14,000 + degrees and certificates. But there is more that we can and will do. Leaders will be necessary.

The LACCD is proud to partner with UCLA to offer the Presidents’ Academy, a year-long leadership seminar that includes a summer component and monthly sessions filled with thought-provoking learning and networking, plus structured mentoring for applied learning and strategic planning. Seminars are led by some of the nation’s top community college professionals and higher education experts that incorporate case studies, promising practices, and emerging research.

During the Academy, participants will build a presidential strategy portfolio that highlights their educational leadership approach and expands their capacity to lead our community colleges at the Los Angeles Community College District and beyond.

Thank you for exploring this exciting leadership opportunity.

Sincerely,

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor