



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Laurie Weidner, APR
Executive Director,
Public Affairs/Governmental Relations
Phone: (714) 480-7509
E-mail: weidner_laurie@rsccd.edu

December 18, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2010 Officers Elected for College District Board of Trustees

(Santa Ana)— At the December 7 regularly scheduled meeting of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) Board of Trustees, the Board unanimously elected Lawrence (Larry) R. Labrado, Sr., president, Brian Conley, M.A., vice president, and Phillip Yarbrough, clerk. Each will serve a one-year term ending in December 2010. The seven-member Board also includes Trustees R. David Chapel, Ed.D., the immediate past president, John Hanna, Lisa Woolery, APR, M.A., Mark McLoughlin, and Student Trustee Gloria Holguin.

“During unprecedented times like these, it is imperative that large educational institutions, like the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD), have seasoned leaders at the helm. The students and community of central Orange County will continue to benefit from the professional expertise of the 2009-2010 Board of Trustees, which I am honored to lead this year as president. With expertise in higher education, finance, economics, strategic planning, and business, the Board not only has the background to make effective decisions but they have the passion and conviction to fulfill the college district’s mission,” explained President Labrado. “This year as president, I intend to sustain the Board’s commitment to continuous improvement and will be focusing on supporting the administrative team with strategies to sustain the fiscal well being of the district – even as we are adapting to decreasing revenue from federal, state and county sources,” President Labrado added.

Labrado was appointed to fill a vacant seat on the Board in January 1994 and was elected to the Board that November. A former educator, Labrado served as an outreach director at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) prior to his retirement. He is currently a small business owner with more than 20 years of experience in enrollment management. Labrado, a resident of Orange who has devoted decades to community service, has served on numerous local charitable and non-profit boards and has received recognition for his service and leadership. He is currently active in the American GI Forum and is serving as the director of the American GI

- m o r e -

2-2-2

Educational Foundation. In 2007, he was recognized by CSUF as one of the campus' top 50 Latino alumni. He holds an associate degree from Santa Ana College and a bachelor's degree in ethnic studies from CSUF.

Having been elected to the Board in 1988, Conley, the district's most seasoned Trustee, will serve as vice president. Over his 22-year tenure on the Board, Conley has served as president four times. A community college professor, Conley has served on many local, regional and statewide educational committees and commissions, and is a former Governor appointee to the Board of Governors for the community college system of California. During his decades of service to the college district, Conley has received many awards and accolades including the national Trustee Leadership Award from the Association of Community College Trustees, the Advocate of the Year Award by the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges and Outstanding Alumni Awards from both of his alma maters - Sacramento City College (SCC) and California State University, Sacramento (CSUS). He holds an associate degree from SCC, a bachelor's degree from CSUS, and a master's degree from California State University, Fresno. He also completed graduate studies at the UCLA School of Graduate Management, Pepperdine University's Graduate School in Education, and Beaux-arts in Geneva, Switzerland.

Yarbrough, elected to the Board in 1996, will serve as the Board clerk. In 2008, he served as Board president. A small business owner, Yarbrough taught economics courses as an adjunct professor at Santa Ana and Santiago Canyon colleges prior to being elected to the Board. In addition, he has held leadership positions on various community boards including the executive board for the Orange County chapters of Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the American Lung Association. He also served as the Orange County coordinator for The Concord Coalition, a non-profit federal deficit reduction organization dedicated to eliminating federal deficit spending and balancing the federal budget. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance from CSUF.

About the Rancho Santiago Community College District

The mission of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) is to respond to the educational needs of an ever-changing community and to provide programs and services that reflect academic excellence. Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College are public community colleges of RSCCD, which serve the residents of Anaheim Hills, East Garden Grove, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, Tustin and Villa Park. Both colleges provide education for academic transfer and careers, courses for personal and professional development, customized training for business and industry, and programs to train nurses, firefighters and law enforcement personnel.

###