



**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**RSCCD Board of Trustee Named to Prestigious Statewide Commission**

SANTA ANA, CA – Brian Conley, M.A., president of the Board of Trustees for the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD), has been appointed by Assembly Speaker John Pérez to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). The Commission, based in Sacramento, oversees and administers more than \$1 billion in state and federal student financial aid and loans. Conley will serve a five-year term culminating in January 2015.

“I am deeply honored by this appointment. Given the fiscal issues facing both the state and nation, there has never been a more important time to support student financial aid programs. I am passionate about sustaining state and federal financial aid and loan programs as they are vital for educational access. After all, the programs administered by the CSAC ensure that thousands of needy students can enroll in college and reach their academic potential. I’m confident that my knowledge of the higher education systems in California and my federal leadership and policy responsibilities will support the mission and goals of the CSAC,” said Conley.

Conley, the longest serving trustee on the RSCCD Board, has served an unprecedented six times as president. He was specially appointed to the Commission by the Speaker because of his statewide and national reputation as a leader in California’s community colleges. In addition to his more than 30 years in higher education as both a fine arts professor and department chair, Conley is a former member of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors and a former member of the Statewide Pupil Assessment Review Board. He is currently serving a three-year term as the Regional State Coordinator for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) association. In this capacity, he keeps ACCT leaders apprised of the challenges and innovations in California’s community colleges and makes policy recommendations.

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During his 22 years of service to RSCCD as a trustee, he has earned many awards of distinction including the coveted Trustee Leadership Award from the ACCT, the Advocate of the Year Award from the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, the Community College Leadership Award from the California Federation of Teachers, as well as Outstanding Alumni Awards from both of his alma maters - Sacramento City College and California State University, Sacramento. To learn more about Conley, visit [www.rsccd.edu/brianconley](http://www.rsccd.edu/brianconley). To learn more about the CSAC, visit [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov).

**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.*

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