



## **WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT “KEEPING THE PROMISE: GOING THE DISTANCE ON TRANSFER REFORM”**

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“We will continue to see more and more students benefit from this streamlined, efficient system and the new Associate Degrees for Transfer. Already the number of students earning the new degree is nearly doubling year after year, and that’s a trend I am proud of. These new degree pathways help students and their families navigate a path to a bachelor’s degree, help keep college affordable and will help provide the educated workforce that our economy demands. I thank the Campaign for College Opportunity for its continued attention and follow up studies on implementation. Only through this kind of vigilance can we build a better, more responsive higher education system that benefits students, taxpayers, and our economy.

**The Honorable Alex Padilla  
Secretary of State  
State of California  
(Author, SB 1440 and SB 440)**

“California Community Colleges provide an invaluable point of entry for millions of students each year. Their role in California higher education, in training and labor market preparation, and in local economies, is unparalleled and hugely important. For the students who start at these schools with the goal of earning a Bachelor’s Degree, we need to ensure that the structure of these schools, and the structure of the four-year schools to which they will transfer, is clear and helpful. Associates Degrees for Transfer are an important step towards this efficiency and equity, and the CCC and CSU systems should be proud of this progress. I appreciate this report by the Campaign for College Opportunity—it’s so important that we continue to monitor the effects of this policy to ensure that it is maximally effective over time.”

**Rachel Baker  
Assistant Professor, School of Education  
University of California, Irvine**

“Transfer from community colleges to the state’s public four year universities has been elusive despite California’s Master Plan vision that promised equal access to a bachelor’s degree regardless if the entry point was a community college, CSU or UC. For more than 50 years, we have been trying to fix the broken transfer process and the most promising are the new Associate Degrees for Transfer. The Campaign for College Opportunity’s new report provides strong evidence that students need these new pathways, are interested in the pathways, and are successful once they get on the pathway but, as the report points out, the intents of SB 1440 are far from achieved.”

**Dr. Estela Bensimon**  
**Director and Professor**  
**Center for Urban Education, Rossier School of Education**  
**The University of Southern California**

"California’s community colleges provide opportunities for millions of Californians to get the education and training they need for a better future for themselves and for our state. Because most students desire a bachelor’s degree, it is important for us to align degree requirements so students can transfer successfully from community colleges to one of our public universities. A new report, *Keeping the Promise: Going the Distance on Transfer Reform*, shows that through the new Associate Degree for Transfer, we have begun to remove many of the barriers students face. I applaud the work of the community colleges and campuses of the California State University that have made student transfer a priority and call on the faculty and administrators of remaining institutions to do what is necessary to help students succeed."

**George R. Boggs, Ph.D.**  
**Superintendent/President Emeritus, Palomar College**  
**President & CEO Emeritus**  
**American Association of Community Colleges**

“I learned about the Associate Degree for Transfer through EOPS when I was at Orange Coast College and what I liked about it was that it gave me a clear plan for what to take both at the community college and then at the CSU. Having such a clear plan has freed me up to take advantage of other opportunities now that I am at CSU Fullerton, like joining clubs and even studying abroad. The ADT has saved me money because I’m not taking all of these extra courses I don’t need.”

**Mark Casas**  
**Senior, Psychology Major**  
**CSU Fullerton**

“It is encouraging to see such substantial progress being made when it comes to creating a framework for improving transfer from community colleges to the CSU. In addition, support from such a broad range of stakeholders is inspiring. On the other hand, it is clear that there is still much work to do, especially as it comes to public/widespread awareness of the program, as only 8% of CSU transfer students are participating in the Associate degree for Transfer. In order for this program to have the critical impact that was intended, we are going to have to find a way to educate and connect with a much greater number of potential transfer students.”

**Taylor Herren**  
**President**  
**California State Student Association**  
**Student, CSU Chico**

“The California Master Plan was framed in such a way that community colleges in the state would be a pathway to a baccalaureate degree for many of the students attending college in the state. The fact that only four percent of the enrollees in community colleges succeed in taking this pathway suggests that something is terribly wrong with the transfer mechanisms to the public universities in the state. This report indicates that progress is being made to fix a broken system. But it also reflects the difficulties in changing entrenched practices and reveals how long the road to success really is.

**Dennis Jones**  
**President Emeritus**  
**National Center for Higher Education Management Systems**

In my second year of community college, my counselor told me about the Associate Degree for Transfer. It was great because I finally had a clear path that I could navigate on my own that would get me closer to transferring to a CSU campus and eventually reach my career goal. And even though it took me a total of three years to transfer, I only accumulated 63 units, earned my associate degree and am now enrolled at CSU Fullerton. My brother is in the process of registering for community college, I am so happy that I can help him navigate the system based on the experience I had earning an Associate Degree for Transfer. Because students have the Associate Degree for Transfer, I now believe that it doesn't matter where you start, as long as you finish and I'm on the road to finishing!”

**Vanessa Moreno**  
**Junior, Sociology Major**  
**DREAMer**  
**CSU Fullerton**

“PIQE’s experience in engaging parents has shown us that parents care deeply about their child’s education and future, but need good, clear, and timely guidance. Transfer reform is no different. More needs to be done to ensure that the ADT becomes the preferred transfer pathway into the CSU System.”

**Maria Elena Meraz**  
**Executive Director**  
**Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)– Los Angeles**

“Latinos are the largest racial/ethnic group in California, and close to two-thirds of California’s Latino college freshman enroll in community colleges. It is clear that our ability to provide high-quality educational opportunities and open pathways to four-year degrees from community colleges will have significant implications both for the Latino community, and for California’s educational and financial success as a whole.”

**Feliza Ortiz-Licon, Ed.D.**  
**Senior Director**  
**National Council of La Raza**

“Creating structured transfer pathways for community colleges students to the CSU is key for California to meet the demand for a skilled workforce that has quality college credentials. The Associates Degree for Transfer is demonstrating that increasing degree attainment in California is possible and will require that all community colleges and public universities work together to fully realize the promise of SB 1440/SB 440.”

**Eloy Ortiz Oakley**  
**President and Superintendent**  
**Long Beach City College**

"The AD-T in Psychology and Sociology allowed me to transfer to California State University, East Bay within the two year window. It also provided structure and universal standards for all students seeking CSU transfer success. This degree minimized the stress of finding out what each school required for transfer acceptance and motivated many of my peers to continue in higher education. Before the AD-T many community college students were relying on misinformation. As a result, they would take classes they did not need. This wasted their financial aid grant. With the AD-T students can take the required classes and save money, as it provides the accurate academic path.

**Tiffany Patterson**  
**ASI Concord Campus Director**  
**Senior, Sociology w/ minor Psychology**  
**California State University, East Bay**

“Historically, California community college students have faced significant barriers to transfer. The Legislature created the Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) program to simplify transfer from community college to the California State University. Although the segments have made considerable progress with the ADTs, not every student is sharing in the success. We must strive to ensure all students have the opportunity to utilize this pathway and realize their career goals.”

**The Honorable Miguel Santiago (D-Los Angeles)  
California State Assembly  
Former Trustee, Los Angeles Community College District**

"***Keeping the Promise*** challenges Community Colleges, CSU, and UC to redouble efforts to set aside barriers that hinder student transfer. Using compelling data and no-nonsense language, the Campaign for College Opportunity has again put students first in a report that will drive California toward producing the baccalaureate degrees essential to our future.”

**Bill Scroggins, Ph.D.  
President/CEO  
Mt. San Antonio College**