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## **CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM NAMES STUDENT SUCCESS CHAMPION AND FIRST LATINO CHANCELLOR**

Sacramento— Today, in a historic move, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors chose Eloy Ortiz Oakley to become the system's next Chancellor. Oakley will be the first Latino to serve as Chancellor of a system that serves over 2.3 million students, 42% of whom are Latino.

“Eloy is a trailblazer,” said Campaign for College Opportunity President Michele Siqueiros, “He has been a statewide leader in improving community college student outcomes and closing equity gaps in those outcomes for low income and underrepresented students. Oakley is also a nationally recognized leader who brings a wealth of experience, a gift for building partnerships, a laser focus on equity, and a remarkable student-centered vision that will help ensure that significantly more California community colleges students realize their college dreams.”

A tireless champion of college access and student success, Oakley was appointed as the Superintendent-President of the Long Beach Community College District (LBCCD) in 2007 and served on the board of directors for The Campaign for College Opportunity from 2010-2015. He is currently the only college president serving as a Regent for the University of California, a position he was appointed to by Governor Brown in 2014.

Eloy is a proud product of community colleges, enrolling at Golden West College after serving in the United States Army. He then transferred to the University of California, Irvine where he received his a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Analysis and Design and Master of Business Administration.

Under Oakley’s leadership, the Long Beach Community College District has received state and national recognition for its efforts to improve college-going and student completion rates. He has been instrumental in the nationally recognized Long Beach Promise efforts which have steadily improved educational outcomes for students across the educational pipeline in Long Beach for over a decade, and has raised millions of dollars in additional grant funds to support student scholarships and expand innovative reforms. He is the best leader the Board of Governor’s for the Community Colleges could have selected.

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***About Campaign for College Opportunity:***

*The Campaign for College Opportunity is a California non-profit research and advocacy organization focused on a single mission: to ensure all Californians have an equal opportunity to attend and succeed in college in order to build a vibrant workforce, economy and democracy. For more information, visit [www.CollegeCampaign.org](http://www.CollegeCampaign.org) / [Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeCampaign) or follow [@CollegeOpp](https://twitter.com/CollegeOpp).*