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**Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez Appointed to National Higher Education Commission**

LOS ANGELES—California Governor Jerry Brown has appointed Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez, Ph.D., to the prestigious Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Dr. Rodriguez now begins a renewable, three-year term representing California on the WICHE Board of Commissioners following the California State Senate’s confirmation of Gov. Brown’s appointment.

“We are proud to have our Chancellor, Dr. Francisco Rodriguez, as one of three California commissioners on the WICHE board,” LACCD President Sydney Kamlager-Dove said. “Chancellor Rodriguez was selected by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate because of his long history of serving California students and his unparalleled leadership for the Los Angeles community colleges.”

WICHE, [www.wiche.edu](http://www.wiche.edu), began in the 1950s to empower higher education systems of 15 Western U.S. states and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to share resources, promote innovation, and increase cooperation in higher education. With a focus on higher education issues such as finance, workforce and accountability, California plays a major role in ensuring the success of WICHE.

“Chancellor Rodriguez, a first-generation college graduate who now oversees the largest community college in the country, exhibits a personal passion for increasing access to higher education, but also a pragmatic ability to work with a broad spectrum of stakeholders to make progress on vexing issues,” WICHE President Joe Garcia said. “He is an outstanding representative of California and he will bring an important perspective to our 16 member states and territories as they work together on behalf of students seeking higher education.”

“It is an honor to be appointed by Governor Brown to this important role,” Chancellor Rodriguez said. “At WICHE, we’ll work to identify accessible and affordable pathways for students of all backgrounds to achieve their educational and career goals. I look forward to bringing our student-focused and innovative strategies from California to the Commission as we continue our work to strengthen educational opportunities and address workforce needs throughout the western region.”

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**About the Los Angeles Community College District**

The Los Angeles Community College District ([www.laccd.edu](http://www.laccd.edu)), the nation’s largest community college district, serves one-quarter million students a year in more than 36 cities in Los Angeles County at its nine colleges. The District covers nearly 900 square miles and has educated and trained the region’s diverse workforce since 1969.

**Members of the Board**

Sydney Kamlager-Dove, President | Mike Fong, Vice President | Gabriel Buelna, Ph.D. | Andra Hoffman | Ernest H. Moreno | Scott J. Svonkin | Steven F. Veres | Christopher Martinez, Student Trustee