



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ernest H. Moreno Building Sign Unveiling at East Los Angeles College **Respected leader in community college education and leadership**

(LOS ANGELES) -- Ernest H. Moreno has enriched the lives of community college students for nearly a half century. The San Gabriel Valley native served as Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) employee for 42 years as a faculty member, administrator and college president. In 2013, he was elected to the LACCD's Board of Trustees.

Today, the Ernest H. Moreno Building of Language, Arts & Humanities sign unveiling ceremony takes place to honor Moreno for his considerable contributions to East Los Angeles College (ELAC), where he served as president from 1994 – with a brief interim assignment as President of Los Angeles Mission College – until his retirement in 2011.

“Ernie Moreno is a legacy in our community,” said Scott J. Svonkin, President of the LACCD Board of Trustees. “Ernie led the effort to build one of the preeminent community colleges in the nation, right here at East Los Angeles College. He took a community college that had buildings in disrepair and with decades-old bungalows in use for classrooms and led the way for ELAC to become one of the finest and largest colleges in California and the nation.

“Today, you can look around this campus and see the contributions of Ernie Moreno. It was his vision to bring world-class facilities to students and ELAC. And then he joined our board and led the effort to rebuild our campuses across the district. World-class facilities are now the norm at each of our nine LACCD campuses.”

The five-story 135,000 square foot Ernest H. Moreno Building of Language, Arts & Humanities serves several academic departments including English, Foreign Language, Chicano Studies and Speech; and provides 40 classrooms, three labs and office space for more than 80 faculty. The new central plaza quadrangle the building faces, offers space for students to study, and relax.

“I am honored and humbled by the naming of this beautiful building dedicated to the Language Arts and Humanities,” said Ernest H. Moreno. “During my nearly 18 years as president I was able to transform East Los Angeles College from a relatively small college to one of the largest in the nation and plan and guide the rebuilding and expansion of the entire college. My vision for the college was motivated by my devotion to the wonderful students and community that ELAC serves. I must thank the dedicated faculty and staff that help make my tenure as president a success.”

“Trustee Moreno led ELAC through significant growth of students and spearheaded the building program at the college,” said Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., LACCD Chancellor. “Under his leadership, the college has become a premier institution that proudly serves the surrounding community.”

Moreno taught business administration, supervision and management, and labor relations at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College from 1976 to 1986, and political science at West Los Angeles College from 1986 to 2006. Educated in the San Gabriel Valley Unified School District, he attended California State University, Los Angeles where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in political science. He earned a Master's in public administration from California State University, Long Beach.

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(Description of News Release Here)

Moreno is Chairman and member of the Board of Directors of Monterey Park Hospital and a member of the Board of Los Angeles County College of Nursing and Allied Health. He was a member of the Santa Clarita Community College District Board of Trustees from 1989 to 2006.

In 2004, he was given the John W. Rice Award for Equity and Diversity. In 2006, the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) named Mr. Moreno Outstanding Administrator of the Year. In 2007, the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley presented him with the Steve Allen Excellence in Education Award. Also in 2007, the AAHHE presented Moreno with its annual Alfredo de los Santos Distinguished Leadership in Higher Education Award. ■

East Los Angeles College (ELAC), one of nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District, serves more than 60,000 students from a vibrant and diverse service area comprising 14 communities. The college is committed to access, equity and student success offering both academic transfer courses preparing students for admission to four-year colleges and universities and career-technical education programs training students for careers in two years or less. ELAC is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). <http://www.elac.edu>

About the Los Angeles Community College District

The Los Angeles Community College District, 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.

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