



California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association

March 15, 2007

Ricardo Sarmiento
Appointment Secretary
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento CA 95814

Dear Mr. Sarmiento,

On behalf of the California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association I am writing in support of the appointment of the California Student Aid Commissioner, Dr. Yasmin Delahoussaye, Vice President for Student Services at Los Angeles Valley College. As president of our statewide association, one of my responsibilities is to participate in cooperative efforts to develop effective student financial aid programs that enhance access to higher education. The California Student Aid Commission is a most vital partner in these efforts.

Due to the complexity of student aid, it is imperative that the Commission include representatives with experience in the administration of state and federal student aid programs. Dr. Delahoussaye has 30 years of service within the California educational system, with the last eighteen years spent in student services leadership roles with the Los Angeles Community College District. One of her roles is as liaison to the District's Financial Aid Directors, though which she monitors financial aid challenges; advocates for increased staff; encourages new technologies and processes to improve and enhance student services; supports initiatives to increase participation in financial aid programs. She understands that financial aid is an important mechanism for advancing educational opportunity and has used her voice to advocate for opportunity and choice for all students who are motivated to succeed in higher education.

Dr. Yasmin Delahoussaye has stepped forward to take this position designated to represent the California Community Colleges on the California Student Aid Commission. Dr. Delahoussaye has demonstrated a strong commitment to open educational access and opportunity for the students of California. Maintaining continuity, stability and leadership within the Commission is vital to serving students.

It is without reservation that we endorse the appointment of Dr. Yasmin Delahoussaye.

Sincerely,

Beth Asmus
President

cc: Linda Michalowski, Vice Chancellor, Student Services & Special Programs,
California Community Colleges System Office
Tim Bonnel, SFA Programs Coordinator, California Community Colleges System Office
Dr. Yasmin Delahoussaye, Vice President, Student Services, Los Angeles Valley College

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