



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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California Community Colleges Board of Governors Gives Go Ahead to Rescue Plan for City College of San Francisco

Special Trustee Will Have Extraordinary Powers to Address Accreditation Deficiencies

SACRAMENTO – The California Community Colleges Board of Governors voted unanimously today to grant Chancellor [Brice W. Harris](#) authority to appoint a special trustee with extraordinary powers to oversee City College of San Francisco as it remains open and as it appeals last week's decision by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC).

"This is the best course of action to keep City College open and accredited over the long haul," said Board of Governors President Manuel Baca. "Our board and San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee both agree that City College does not have the luxury of time and that a special trustee offers the only hope of continuing to serve students in San Francisco."

On July 3, the ACCJC announced that it planned to terminate City College's accreditation in July 2014. The college, however, remains open and accredited pending appeal of that decision. The special trustee, who replaces the authority of the local district's board of trustees, will work during the appeal process to address all remaining deficiencies identified by the accrediting commission.

"I want to make very clear that this increased involvement by the Chancellor's Office is designed to save City College, not preside over its closure," California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris said. "There are 85,000 students who rely on this institution for educational and career training opportunities. It will be our singular mission to keep it open."

Harris said Dr. Robert Agrella will immediately step into the special trustee role. Agrella has represented the state Chancellor's Office on City College's governing board since October 2012, serving as a special trustee with limited powers over governance.

A video message from Chancellor Harris on this issue is available [here](http://bit.ly/16Jqiq0). (bit.ly/16Jqiq0)

The [California Community Colleges](#) is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.4 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

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