Town Hall

*Improving Latino College Completion: Promising Policy and Practice*

*Ventura College, Guthrie Hall*

Tuesday, December 11th, 10am-12pm

**Agenda**

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks by Assemblymember Das Williams

II. Why This Agenda and Why Now? An Overview of Trends and Issues
   A discussion of the urgent trends and issues facing California regarding the rapid growth of the Latino population and the implications for education and the economy.
   
   Michelle Camacho Liu, Education Program, National Conference of State Legislatures
   Dr. Frank Wen, Manager, Research and Analysis, Southern California Association of Governments

III. Analyzing the Data: Where are the Opportunity Gaps for Latinos in California?
   An overview of data and indicators on Latino education outcomes, gaps in Latino student success, and the opportunities California has to address these gaps.
   
   Dr. Joseph Aguerrebere, Board Member, Excelencia in Education
   Dr. Estela Mara Bensimon, Co-Director and Professor, USC Center on Urban Education

IV. California Community Colleges Student Success Task Force
   In 2011, at the behest of the Legislature, the California Community Colleges established a task force to develop recommendations for increasing its students’ completion of degrees and certificates. This effort resulted in 22 recommendations to be implemented through practice, regulation, and statute.
   
   Chancellor Brice Harris, California Community Colleges

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V. Promising Policy and Practice in Re-envisioning Basic Skills Education

Over one-third of Latinos entering college enroll in basic skills classes, affecting their chances of completing a degree. We will hear about promising policies and practices revising the delivery of basic skills education to better support Latino students.

Dr. Bruce Vandal, Vice President, Complete College America
Dr. Katie Hern, Director, California Acceleration Project

VI. Working Collaboratively to Improve Latino College Completion

Long Beach City College has partnered with local and state organizations on an initiative to increase college completion for Latinos in their community. We will learn more about the successes, challenges, and recommendations of this initiative, and discuss the role of policymakers, educators, and community leaders in coming together to determine what can be done moving forward.

President Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Long Beach Community College
Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, President, California Latino School Board Association and Board Member, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Closing Comments