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My staff and I wish you happy holidays!

Regards,

Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice Chancellor

CCCCO Division of Workforce and Economic Development

Board of Governors Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation and a Strong Economy

[Regional College Conversations](#) have been occurring as part of the 3-phase rollout of the Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation and a Strong Economy commissioned by the Board of Governors. Events thus far have had strong field participation. Each Conversation has been professionally facilitated and has resulted in the attendees self identifying and prioritizing five topics they recommend for the Task Force consider. Following this phase will be a series of [Strong Workforce Town Halls](#) where these ideas can be further vetted with external stakeholders who depend on the community colleges for workforce training.

[Visit here for an overview of the Task Force »](#)

[Get answers to your burning questions »](#)

[View the calendar for important Task Force dates »](#)



About the Task Force

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Provocative New Report - Beyond the Skills Gap: Making Education Work for Students, Employers, and Communities

The New America Foundation recently released a new paper titled [Beyond the Skills Gap: Making Education Work for Students, Employers, and Communities](#). It explores the relationship between higher education, workforce development, and the needs of students and employers for skills. The author identifies a series of “policy gaps” that are hindering efforts to build stronger connections between learning and work.



You can find the paper at the embedded link or here: www.edcentral.org/beyondtheskillsgap.

Meet Paul Steenhausen



Paul D. Steenhausen, Ph.D.
Executive Director
CA Student Success Center

What aspects of your background and experience are you bringing to this new role as Executive Director?

I joined the Success Center for California Community Colleges in August 2014. Before that, I was at the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) for twelve years--the last eight of those years working on community college issues. The relationships formed with faculty, staff, and campus administrators during that time have helped to make this move a natural transition and I'm excited about having an opportunity to roll up my sleeves and implement policy rather than just making policy recommendations.

What is the Center doing to increase collaboration and cooperation in the system and how is the Center funded to accomplish those goals?

The Success Center is partnering with several organizations, including the Academic Senate, 3CSN, and @ONE, on an online professional development portal--or "clearinghouse"--for faculty, staff and administrators.

The goal of the portal is to create a virtual support hub with high-quality video training sessions, professional development materials, and a communications platform so that educators can seamlessly share best practices and help each other implement better programs

LAUNCHBOARD NEWS



LAUNCHBOARD PROGRAM REVIEW TOOL

What types of information would help improve your CTE program review processes? The LaunchBoard team is working with the statewide Academic Senate and practitioners to develop a tool to support local reporting.

Tell us what you would like to see by joining a series of statewide conference calls, or review a draft tool and giving your feedback through an online survey.

[Details available on the Doing What Matters website.](#)

TRACKING PARTICIPATION IN ARTICULATED COURSES

Good news for colleges and K-12 districts using the CATEMA System to gather data on students participating in articulated courses--starting in summer 2015, you can elect to have your data added to the LaunchBoard.

[A new guide explaining the process](#) is available on the Doing What Matters website, including how to expand use of the tool to track dual enrollment and credit by exam.

at their respective campuses. My overarching vision is for the CCC to have the best system of professional development and peer collaboration in the country.

Seed money for the Success Center is provided by a two-year grant from the Kresge Foundation. We are taking those valuable Kresge Foundation dollars and using them to leverage other funding sources such as the state-funded Online Education Initiative and special funding from the Hewlett Foundation.

What is the impetus for the Center and the clearinghouse?

The Center's role is to help implement the recommendations contained in the Student Success Task Force's report, which were unanimously adopted by the Board of Governors in 2012. One of the key recommendations in that report concerned professional development and the need to create ongoing learning opportunities for all faculty, staff and administrators. The Student Success Task Force called for transformative change in the system and that can't possibly happen without strong support for practitioners to rethink curriculum and delivery systems. Educator success and student success go hand in hand, really.



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