

# Central Mother Lode Regional Consortium

November 10, 2015

Geoffrey L., Baum, President  
California Community Colleges Board of Governors  
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office  
1102 Q Street, Suite 4550  
Sacramento, CA 95811-6549

Sent via email to:  
Christina N. Castro,  
Liaison to the Board of Governors,  
[ccastro@cccco.edu](mailto:ccastro@cccco.edu)

Dear President Baum:

On behalf of the Central/Mother Lode Regional Consortium (CRC), I am writing to express our support for the California Community Colleges Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation and Strong Economy's Report and Recommendations. Preparing students for California's high-value jobs and positioning our regions to attract industry sector investment are the optimal outcomes as our community colleges strengthen workforce education to close the skills gap by responding to Task Force recommendations on a regional basis.

As CRC is a collaboration of 14 community college faculty and staff and regional workforce and economic development organizations that serve the Central and Mother Lode region on behalf of the CCCCCO and the DWM for Jobs and the Economy Initiative, we strive to support regional economic growth by facilitating development and growth of college training and educational programs to meet the needs of regional businesses and industries. These efforts will continue to expand exponentially to correspond with the Task Force recommendations.

Furthermore, we would like to offer comments on Task Force Recommendation 13: *Increase the pool of qualified CTE instructor by addressing CTE faculty recruitment and hiring practices.* As the demand for CTE workforce education increases, the pool of qualified CTE instructors shrinks. It is highly desirable to allow for greater consideration of professional experience for certain CTE disciplines in order to attract qualified instructors away for high-wage private industry jobs. We believe that creating a more definitive or realistic equivalencies of experience for salary calculations will encourage qualified CTE instructors to apply for positions that they would not have otherwise considered.

In closing, we thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to higher education and California community colleges. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of my Steering Committee members.

Sincerely,



Karri Hammerstrom  
Regional Chair-Interim  
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