



The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: March 4, 2013

SUBJECT: Partnering for Success: Working with the Business Community to Support our Colleges		Item Number: 3.6	
		Attachment: Yes	
CATEGORY:	Foundation for California Community Colleges	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Keetha Mills, President/CEO	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Brice W. Harris, Chancellor	Action	
		Information	X

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented to the Board for information and discussion.

BACKGROUND: This item will include a presentation and discussion related to the variety of ways the Foundation for California Community Colleges (Foundation) partners with the business community at the statewide level to support the California Community Colleges. The presentation will highlight key Foundation corporate partners and related programs in order to raise awareness of current system-wide offerings and support, and trigger discussion around expanding the Foundation’s relationships with the business community in ways that are in alignment with Board of Governors and System priorities and needs.

As the official nonprofit organization supporting the Chancellor’s Office and the California Community Colleges, the Foundation serves in a unique role of providing support to all 112 community colleges through innovative, diverse and far-reaching programs. Critical to the success of its efforts is the Foundation’s ability to attract and engage in partnerships with the business community that enable the organization to deliver programs and services that benefit, support and enhance the California Community Colleges in a number of ways.

These partnerships allow the Foundation to involve the business community in meaningful ways that help ensure the private sector remains informed of the needs and challenges facing our system of higher education, while at the same time providing a conduit for supporting programs that contribute to an educated and well-prepared workforce. The Foundation’s work with the business community has provided significant benefit to the system in the form of cost savings, direct funding and financial support, scholarship programs that benefit students at every college throughout the

state, employment and training opportunities for students, and other unique partnerships that bring added value to community colleges in a variety of ways.

There are a variety of opportunities to interact with some of our statewide corporate partners over the coming months. The Foundation's sixth annual CollegeBuys Purchasing Conference, which offers professional development opportunities for college purchasing professionals, will take place at the Catamaran Resort in San Diego from April 3 – 5. Additionally, the Foundation holds a series of Chancellor's Circle luncheons throughout the year at colleges throughout the state, bringing our Chancellor's Circle members together with college leadership for meaningful dialog. California Community Colleges Board of Governors members are welcome and encouraged to join us for any of these events, which provide opportunities to interact with both community college leadership, as well as many of the Foundation's corporate partners.

These and other opportunities for engagement will be discussed in detail as part of the Foundation's full presentation.