



The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: September 21, 2015

SUBJECT: Aspen Institute's New College Leadership Project		Item Number: 4.1	
		Attachment: No	
CATEGORY:	Executive Division	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Erik Skinner, Deputy Chancellor	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Brice W. Harris	Action	
		Information	X

ISSUE: This item on the Aspen Institute's New College Leadership Project is being presented at the Board's request for an informational briefing.

BACKGROUND: The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, DC. Its mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and to provide a nonpartisan venue for dealing with critical issues. Its work in higher education, organized under the College Excellence Program, aims to advance practices, policies, and leadership that significantly improve student outcomes. Through the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the New College Leadership Project, and other initiatives, the College Excellence Program works to improve colleges' understanding and capacity to teach and graduate students, especially the growing population of low-income and minority students on American campuses.

The presentation to the Board will focus on the New College Leadership project, an initiative designed to align the hiring and professional development of college presidents with the goal of substantially improving student success. This work leverages research findings about the qualities of exceptional community college presidents linked with significant gains in student success outcomes, using these findings to develop applied tools and training to assist colleges in hiring and supporting outstanding leaders. The presentation will be made by Josh Wyner and Douglas Houston.

(Background cont.)

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for informational purposes.

(Background cont.)

Joshua Wyner is Vice President and Executive Director of the College Excellence Program at the Aspen Institute. In this work he oversees the New College Leadership Project, as well as the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

Dr. Douglas Houston serves as the Chancellor of the Yuba Community College District. In addition to this role, Dr. Houston is also a recognized statewide leader in economic development and workforce training policy, currently serving on the California Community Colleges' Economic Development Policy Advisory Committee.