

State of the College Address
Sharing a Vision for Success
By Dr. Jamillah Moore
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Los Angeles City College (LACC) is an “urban oasis of learning that educates minds, open hearts, and celebrates community.” The mission statement of the college also serves as our written commitment to student success. This is my written vision and goals for LACC.

At LACC we’ve made extraordinary gains with little (or) to no resources, while improving our college infrastructure. I am proud of all that we have accomplished. We have done a tremendous amount of work and it has paid off. Here are some of the specifics:

- Reaffirmed the College’s Accreditation (July, 2010)
- Balanced a \$7.5 million budget deficit Fiscal Year 2010
- Home to a Nationally Recognized Theatre Production
- Home to a number one ranked Math Team
- Achieved ABA Accreditation of the Paralegal Law Program
- Re-achieved our status as an Hispanic Serving Institution
- Awarded a Title V Grant for \$4 million over a five-year period (October, 2010)
- Dental Tech Graduates ranked number one in nation on licensure exams
- LACC Foundation hosted an 80th Anniversary Gala raising over \$400,000 in scholarship funds
- Received Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Grant
- Selected to participate in Achieving the Dream Initiative

In addition to these accomplishments, we continue to build our reputation nationally, as evidenced by the 2011 and 2010 commencement speeches by the Honorable Congressman John Lewis and U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis. A visit in August (2010) by both U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius. And, most recently, a visit by US Representative Xavier Becerra. None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the College’s strong participatory governance. I commend the work of the Academic Senate, Faculty, Classified, Associated Student Government, and the Management Team who all worked collaboratively and efficiently to address the budget, re-achieve our accreditation and sustain our quality academic programs. As a result of the strong commitments and efforts made by the students, staff, faculty, management and community, Los Angeles City College has now set the stage for enhanced student success.

While the college has made huge strides, I cannot just discuss the good without sharing the day-to-day challenges. The California community college system is the largest in the nation with 112 colleges, 72 districts and in 2009-10 an enrollment close to 2.8 million Californians. While it is true that community colleges are vital to the state, in the current economy we have and will

continue to face devastating budget cuts. Yet, the reality is that we are the only affordable and accessible option for many students and families in the communities we serve.

Economic and Educational Realities:

- When individuals are unemployed, they seek out a community college for new training and a new career
- Veterans are returning home not just looking for employment but a college degree and post-military careers
- Cuts and tuition hikes to the CSU and UC are bringing more students to community colleges
- When careers become obsolete or people are fearful of losing their jobs, they return to school for skill training

While demand is up, Los Angeles City College has faced and will continue to face deep budget cuts. As a result of state funding reductions, the Shared Governance Council has voted to:

- Cut spending more than \$10 million over two years from a previous base of \$61 million annually
- Temporarily suspend athletics
- Eliminate more than 250 part-time positions
- Eliminate entire sessions of the academic calendar (Winter 2009 and Summer 2010). This had a significant impact on our students and part-time faculty members. Many students were forced to either put their academic careers on hold or attend other institutions
- Reduce course section offerings by 18% (862 sections), enrollment decreased by 6% (6,200 enrollment), and FTES was 98% of base (2009-10 to 2008-09 comparison)
- Make a 15 percent across the board cut (no salary or benefits) to all programs
- Eliminate student workers from the general fund

We must all recognize that in order to keep things running smoothly, many are sacrificing behind the scenes. I appreciate and would like to thank those who have given so much and asked very little in return. A special thank you to our Learning Resource Center, the Office of Special Services and the Hollywood WorkSource Center for the countless students and individuals they've assisted. Thank you!

Los Angeles City College, the flagship institution of the Los Angeles Community College District, experienced unprecedented achievements in 2010-11. I am profoundly grateful to everyone who made this year's achievements possible. We need to take that same energy, teamwork, and focus into our efforts for 2011-12.

STUDENT SUCCESS (ACCESS MUST EQUAL SUCCESS)

According to the statewide chancellor's office for community colleges, within the next decade the number of Californians between the ages of 18 and 24 is expected to increase by more than one million. This increase presents an opportunity as well as a challenge. If we are going to fulfill our mission of access we also need to continue to prepare, at record pace, individuals for

the workforce and we will need adequate space and funding to accommodate the new demand. For Los Angeles City College this means we must:

- Prioritize resources to ensure an increase in:
 - Certificate and Degree completion
 - Basic Skills Progression
 - Transfer Initiatives
- Support the LACCD/LAUSD Memorandum of Understanding (According to the Public Policy Institute of California the state ranks 40th in the nation in the percentage of high school graduates who go directly to college)
- Sustain LACC's Outreach Plan with Area Four High Schools
- Successfully implement the Title V grant to increase the number of students served by online course offerings and Student Services
- Through the Enrollment Management Plan, ensure FTES growth targets are met in accordance with the budget
- Adopt the American Association of Community Colleges' Completion Agenda (According to the Public Policy Institute of California the state ranks 46th among the nation in college completion rates)
- Identify, review and strengthen viable career pathways for students

FISCAL READINESS AND FACILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Through the Shared Governance Council and Budget Committee develop, implement, and plan to balance the budget, reduce and in certain areas eliminate deficit spending and sustain a reserve to ensure the college protects its mission
- Ensure that the Faculty Obligation Number (FON) is maintained in a fiscally prudent and sustainable manner
- Continue the implementation of the 2008 Facilities Master Plan with an emphasis on efficiency of costs, instructional and administrative information. While the Bond construction program has been successful in completion of four brand new facilities on campus we need to ensure completion of another six by 2014
- Work on increased reduction in utility costs
- Work on improving utilities management technologies
- Continue implementation of sustainability measures and LEED certification of all new buildings

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (Research and Accreditation)

- Prepare and support completion of the college-wide development and implementation of student learning outcomes including comprehensive assessment by December, 2012 in fulfillment of the ACCJC timeline
- Develop and implement a plan with timelines to address the recommendation from ACCJC on the 2009 Self-Evaluation on Succession Planning

ECONOMIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Increase Career Technical Educational Opportunities, Integrate economic development initiatives
- Increase state and federal grant funds for Economic Workforce Development
- Increase pathways to partnerships with private industry like that of Goldman Sachs

My vision for the institution will help to strengthen Los Angeles City College's commitment to creating pathways and partnerships to promote student success. From our Strategic Plan to our Accreditation Report, Los Angeles City College is committed to achieving success. LACC has experienced tremendous positive changes over the past few years, and we are reaping the rewards of our hard work for the students and the community. I am so proud to be a part of an institution with such rich history, diversity and educational contributions to the community it serves. While we are impacted by the economic challenges I am fully aware of those challenges and the impact it has on campus morale. As we face the uncertainty of the future I would like to reiterate my commitment to open lines of communication. My office and the offices of the management team will continue to be available to communicate with the campus. We are open to suggestions and part of my vision is to continue to keep those lines of communication open as we strive toward student success. We must be clear that without our students there is no campus so it is critical that we continue to serve and support our main constituency as they are our future.

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