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NEWS

Coast District Trustee Walter G. Howald Elected President of State Trustee Board

Coast Community College District Trustee Walter G. Howald was elected president last week to the statewide policymaking board representing all California community college trustees. Howald will serve a three-year term, the first year as President of the Community College League of California's (CCLC) California Community College Trustee (CCCT) board of directors. Howald also serves at the national level on the Board of Directors of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).

The 21 members of the CCCT board are elected by 72 local governing boards in California. Trustee Howald was first elected to the Board in 2005, and was re-elected for three additional terms by trustees throughout the state. The California Community College System is the largest highest education system in the world, serving 2.8 million students.

"The CCCT board is recognized statewide for its outstanding leadership and dedication to serving students," said CCLC Chief Executive Officer Scott Lay "We are pleased Walt will continue his service on the board and lead us through the trying times ahead."

Coast Board President Jerry Patterson commented, "Walt's position as President of the League is a perfect complement to our Board's efforts to find innovative opportunities in research and grants that will advance the mission of our colleges."

The CCCT Board meets approximately six times a year and takes action on education policy issues before the state Board of Governors and the Legislature. The Board also provides policy direction to CCLC staff concerning statewide educational policy, research initiatives, publications, workshops and conferences.

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“I am honored to continue to represent the interests of Orange County’s and California’s community college elected officials on the CCCT Board,” Howald said. “We are facing another fiscally challenging year. Continuing my service on the board affords me the opportunity to continue my involvement in examining funding and governance issues facing community colleges and, ultimately, to ensure that we better serve the students.”

Howald has served as a member of Coast Community College District’s Board of Trustees since 1985. He resides in Trustee Area 5, which includes portions of Costa Mesa, Newport Beach and the Newport Coast.

An active part of his community, Howald has served on the Board of Trustees of the Newport Beach Public Library and as a member of the Friends of Oasis.

Howald is a graduate of the UCLA School of Law and president of his law firm, which has a primary emphasis on civil, business and trial law. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the California State Bar Association and the Orange County Bar Association.

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Editors: Photo of Trustee Howald attached.

