SDIC Community College Deans' Council Meeting
August 14, 2026 / 9:00am - 11:00am / Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Deans and Associate Deans Present: M. Alvarez, J. Ayala, A. Berry, S. Knox, J. Kropp, J. Lewis, J. Lopez, A. Perman, N. Roe, M. Romero, E. Silva

Guests: S. Bradley, D. Brown, S. Cox, J. Edwards, C. Jensen, K. McMackin, J. Stark, Z. Torres, L. Wisdom

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1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Minutes May 8, 2026 from, motion to approve by M. Romero, second by J. Lopez, **unanimously approved**

3. Program Informational Items
   - No program modifications were presented.

4. Program Recommendations
   - Grossmont College
     - Respiratory Care; New; B.S.
       - Motion to open by M. Romero, second by E. Silva, **unanimously recommended**
       - **Action Items**:
         - A. Perman will provide D. Brown and J. Ayala with documentation regarding the Workforce Development Board endorsement requirement of a Baccalaureate's degree.
         - J. Ayala will follow up internally regarding the endorsement requirement.
         - D. Brown will connect with the San Diego Workforce Partnership to establish a consistent regional process for obtaining endorsements if needed.
         - Shared from CCCCO website, Establishing Workforce Need for a New Baccalaureate Degree Program: An Overview

5. Region and State Action Items
   - K-16 Collaborative updates given by C. Jensen – presentation
     - Mini Grants
       - Approximately $500,000 is available for mini-grants supporting projects aligned with increasing access to high-wage, high-demand careers.
       - Individual projects may receive up to $20,000, and partnership projects may receive up to $20,000 per participating partner.
       - Eligible activities may include pathway development and alignment, work-based learning, project-based learning, early college credit, faculty/counselor exchanges, and expansion of strategic pathway work.
       - Applications are anticipated to be due in mid-November, with a contract period ending September 30, 2027.
         - Mini-Grant Interest Form
     - K16 Regional AI Convening on September 25 at San Diego Mesa College.
   - Early College Credit and K-12 SWP – presentation
     - L. Wisdom provided an update on regional Credit by Exam and high school articulation practices.
       - The Chancellor's Office identifies Credit by Exam and high school articulation as distinct processes; the region has historically operated a blended model.

        - Recent Title 5 changes and current regional practices have raised questions regarding alignment of the region's blended model with regulatory requirements.
        - The group discussed potential implications of moving exclusively to either articulation or Credit by Exam, including impacts on students, faculty, curriculum processes, academic integrity, and K–12 partnerships.
        - E. Silva shared information regarding his district's Credit by Exam process, including the use of college faculty to administer and grade examinations.
        - **Action Items**:
            - Deans will identify the appropriate representatives at their colleges to participate in continued Credit by Exam/articulation discussions.
            - L. Wisdom will continue coordinating regional conversations with appropriate stakeholders.
        - L. Wisdom shared a regional form designed to identify areas where colleges would like additional K–12 partnership and collaboration support, particularly with charter schools and smaller districts.
            - Deans were asked to complete the form by the end of the month.
            - K14 Pathway Partnership form
- CCCOAE given by N. Roe
    - Approximately 80 breakout session proposals were received for 28 available sessions.
    - The group discussed a proposal to move from two statewide conferences each year to one annual conference.
    - **Action Item**: Deans will provide feedback to N. Roe regarding the proposed annual conference model.
- CCCCO given by T. Torres
    - Colleges were reminded to submit outstanding Q4 and fiscal reports.
- Regional given by D. Brown
    - SWP Revised Allocation Memo
        - Updated/recalculated Strong Workforce allocations were discussed. $15.7 million from the $60 million that was allocated to the nursing infrastructure project was being put back in as a one-time backfill, however breakdown has not been shared by the Chancellors office.
        - D. Brown will share additional allocation information and WestEd Laura Coleman's presentation of how the incentive for SWP is calculated when available.
    - CTE Economic Impact Reports
        - Lightcast reports have been shared with colleges for review and feedback; Lightcast will present a regional overview at the August 31 Joint Institutional Researchers and CTE Deans meeting, with final reports anticipated in October.
    - Outcome Projects - Reports are targeted for completion by October and will be compiled to support CEO legislative advocacy in January; drafts will be shared with Deans for review.
        - SWP metrics and outcomes analysis
            - Karen Beltramo, formerly with WestEd and now a DataVista/LaunchBoard expert, will assist with analyzing regional SWP metrics and outcomes over time, with a report anticipated in late October or early November.
        - Wage Data
            - A. Perman provided an update on regional advocacy related to access to wage outcome data.
                - Current limitations restrict colleges and districts from receiving student-level wage data needed to better evaluate program outcomes.
                - Draft advocacy language is being reviewed by the Implementation Committee and will return to Deans' Council as a proposed endorsement letter. Broader regional and statewide support will also be sought.
                - Deans may be asked to assist with communicating the issue to Academic Senates and other campus stakeholders once the draft is finalized.

        - The Chancellor's Office has identified wage data as a priority and is exploring expanded DataVista reporting, alternative data agreements, and potential legislative solutions to improve access.
            - N. Roe shared that proposed trailer bill language may provide the Chancellor's Office authority to distribute wage data to colleges and districts. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.
    - Reflection
        - WestEd will develop a 10-year reflection highlighting the region's progress and evolution.
    - Employer Engagement Evaluation – Fifth Pillar Report
        - Updated evaluation of the region's Employer Engagement model, including its goals and evolution over time.
- Committees & CoPs
    - Employer Engagement Committee
        - The Employer Engagement Committee operates at a broader strategic level and is intended to help guide regional employer engagement activities.
        - Dean/Associate Dean-level participation is encouraged on the Employer Engagement Committee.
    - Career Navigation CoP
        - Career Navigation and Work-Based Learning/Job Placement Communities of Practice are practitioner-focused spaces.
    - **Action Items**:
        - Deans will identify potential representatives for the Employer Engagement Committee.
        - Interested individuals may contact D. Brown or K. McMackin regarding the Career Navigation CoP co-chair vacancy.
- Planning Committees
    - Professional Development Planning: Planning committees will be formed for the Associate Dean Professional Development and regional Deans Academy to finalize topics, dates, and presenters; interested Deans are encouraged to participate.
- In-person October at IVC
    - The October Deans' Council meeting is planned for Friday, October 9 at Imperial Valley College.
    - The anticipated travel/meeting timeframe is approximately 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
    - Charter bus transportation is being explored.
    - The visit will include opportunities to see IVC facilities, including the new automotive facility.
    - ERLs and other regional partners may also participate.

6. J. Edwards shared the LMI & COE Updates

- An upcoming AI-focused report will examine occupations and their exposure to automation, including the relationship between automation and augmentation.
- May
    - Reports Completed:
        - Southwestern College:
            - Commercial Music: Agents and Business Managers of Artists, Performers, and Athletes; Music Directors and Composers; Musicians and Singers
    - Reports Requested:
        - Southwestern College:
            - Commercial Music: Agents and Business Managers of Artists, Performers, and Athletes; Music Directors and Composers; Musicians and Singers
        - Imperial Valley College
            - Agriculture Technology and Sciences, General: Agricultural Equipment Operators; Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians; Farmers,

Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers; Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse; Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals

- June
  - Reports Completed:
    - Imperial Valley College
      - Agriculture Technology and Sciences, General: Agricultural Equipment Operators; Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians; Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers; Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse; Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals
      - Sheet Metal and Structural Metal: Sheet Metal Workers
      - Environmental Control Technology: Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers
    - Palomar College
      - Natural Resources: Conservation Scientists; Fire Inspectors and Investigators; Forest and Conservation Technicians; Forest and Conservation Workers; Forest Fire Inspectors and Prevention Specialists
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    - Palomar College
      - Natural Resources: Conservation Scientists; Fire Inspectors and Investigators; Forest and Conservation Technicians; Forest and Conservation Workers; Forest Fire Inspectors and Prevention Specialists
    - Imperial Valley College
      - Sheet Metal and Structural Metal: Sheet Metal Workers
      - Environmental Control Technology: Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers
    - Grossmont College
      - Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist: Respiratory Therapists
- July
  - Reports Completed:
    - Grossmont College
      - Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist: Respiratory Therapists
  - Reports Requested:
    - Southwestern College
      - Surveying: Surveying and Mapping Technicians; Surveyors

7. Hot Topic Discussions
   - Members were invited to submit future Hot Topic items for Deans' Council discussion
   - Bilingual/Spanish CTE Programs
     - E. Silva shared that Imperial Valley College is developing a noncredit program to upskill farmworkers as agricultural operations become increasingly automated and is exploring requirements for offering CTE instruction in Spanish.
       - The topic will be added to a future agenda for additional discussion and an update as the work progresses.
       - https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/education-code/edc-sect-30/
   - Committee Updates and Regional Structure
     - The group reached consensus to add a standing Implementation Committee update to future Deans' Council agendas to highlight items requiring discussion, feedback, or action. Rotation on committee/CoPs will be done each meeting.
     - D. Brown clarified that the Implementation Committee does not make final decisions on behalf of Deans' Council; items are discussed and refined through Implementation before being brought to Deans' Council for feedback or action.
     - The group clarified that the quarterly IR/CTE Deans meetings serve as an informational forum to keep college institutional research and CTE leads informed about regional initiatives that may impact their departments, while the monthly research group operates as a Community of Practice.

- A resource/modified organizational chart will be developed outlining the purpose, structure, appropriate participants, expectations, and time commitments for regional committees and Communities of Practice to assist Deans with participation and recruitment.

8. Roundtable

- Imperial Valley College: E. Silva announced a college reorganization establishing a new Early College Credit/Noncredit division led by Victor Torres as Dean; a Director position will support E. Silva's remaining administrative responsibilities.
- Palomar College: N. Roe announced that W. Nelson accepted the permanent Associate Dean position and is currently serving as Interim Dean of Business. Palomar will recruit an interim Associate Dean.
- Work-Based Learning Framework: K. McMackin requested that colleges submit any updates or amendments to the Ensuring Equitable Work-Based Learning SG21 Framework and Glossary and follow up with their Work-Based Learning Coordinators as needed.
- Quantum Computing: D. Brown requested information regarding any quantum computing activities within college Computer Science departments in response to emerging regional grant opportunities and workforce interest.

Agenda Link: Deans Council Agenda - Google Docs

Next meeting: Friday, September 11, 2026 *(Virtual)*