Dr. Arthur Q. Tyler Named Chancellor of City College of San Francisco

Special Trustee Robert Agrella says Tyler’s experience leading California and Texas community colleges makes him the ideal choice for City College as it works to retain accreditation

SACRAMENTO -- City College of San Francisco Special Trustee Robert Agrella today named Dr. Arthur Q. Tyler as the new chancellor of City College, saying his experience leading community colleges in Sacramento, Los Angeles and Houston, combined with his expertise in fiscal and accreditation matters, makes him uniquely qualified to lead the college.

Tyler most recently served as deputy chancellor and chief operating officer of the Houston Community College System, which operates six community colleges and serves more than 72,000 students in the greater Houston area. He also has a decade of experience serving California community colleges. Tyler served as president of Sacramento City College from 2005 to 2007; was the special trustee tasked to oversee the Compton Community College District from 2004 to 2005; and served as vice president of administration of budget and management for Los Angeles City College from 1997 to 2004.

“Dr. Tyler has the skills and leadership experience needed to get the job done and to get City College through the accreditation process and help us turn the page,” Agrella said. “I couldn’t be more pleased to have him on board and to work with him on behalf of the students, faculty, staff and administration of the largest community college in the state. He will bring new energy and focus to this institution and position it to succeed over the long haul.”

“I am humbled and honored to lead City College, which plays such an important role in the civic identity of San Francisco,” Tyler said. “I am well aware of the challenges we face collectively as a college and as a city, and I am committed to working with faculty, staff and the community to ensure that City College is a premier institution of higher learning for future generations of San Franciscans.”

Tyler was responsible for leading the daily operations of the Houston Community Colleges System, including academic affairs, workforce development, student services and support, facilities and construction and
finance and budget. During his tenure, he helped pass a $425 million general obligation bond and managed more than $750 million in construction funds.

“City College has made a lot of progress in the past few months, and Dr. Tyler’s expertise and energy will only add to the momentum,” said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris, who worked with Tyler at the Los Rios Community College District in Sacramento. “I look forward to working with him again and will make sure both the special trustee and Dr. Tyler receive the full support of the Chancellor’s Office.”

Prior to a career in higher education, Tyler was a leader at several electronic engineering and manufacturing companies and spent more than 20 years in the United State Air Force and with joint military commands. Tyler earned a U.S. Air Force Airman’s medal for heroism and valor and the Meritorious Service Award. As a member of select U.S. educational groups, Tyler has led efforts to Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Vietnam to discuss challenges of developing community college systems in those countries.

Tyler’s salary will be $285,000 a year with a two-year contract and a start date of Nov. 1, 2013. The contract has a rolling review with the first performance evaluation to be performed before June 30, 2014.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.3 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.