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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **LACCD Responds to Release of Audit by State Controller's Office**

Los Angeles, August 10, 2011 – Responding to the release of an audit of the Los Angeles Community College District Building Program, (LACCD or the District), LACCD Board of Trustees president Miguel Santiago announced that the board will meet in special session next week to discuss the audit and the District’s response.

“While I haven’t had a chance yet to fully review this audit, it raises significant issues, and I look forward to hearing from staff how we will appropriately respond to them,” said Santiago a member of the LACCD Board of Trustees since 2008 who was elected president by the full board last month. “Our building program is providing great benefits to our students, faculty, staff, and local communities, but it must be done without wasting taxpayer dollars. The special board meeting next week will allow us to ensure accountability and transparency in the operation of this critical program. The board intends to take decisive action in the coming months to continue to reform the building program.”

The Special Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17, 2011, at 6:30 pm in the LACCD Educational Services Center Board Room, located on the first floor at 770 Wilshire Boulevard, in downtown Los Angeles.

“Our building program, under which we have delivered literally billions of dollars of projects on time and under budget, has been the subject of numerous financial and performance audits, and we take the recommendations of every auditor seriously,” said Daniel LaVista, chancellor of the 9-college community college district since August of 2010. “After an initial review of the state controller’s audit, I can say that while we disagree with many of the specifics of the audit and some of the findings, we will examine the audit and make whatever changes are necessary to further tighten and improve management.”

A detailed statement from LACCD Chancellor Daniel LaVista regarding the audit is also attached.

### **About the Los Angeles Community College District**

The Los Angeles Community College District, the nation's largest community college district, serves one-

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quarter million students a year in more than 36 cities in Los Angeles County. The District covers nearly 900 square miles and has educated and trained the region's diverse workforce since 1969.

**About the LACCD Building Program**

LACCD's Building Program is a 14-year, \$6 billion program funded mostly by taxpayer-approved bonds, supplemented by additional funding from the state of California. With approximately \$3 billion spent so far, the LACCD's nine colleges are benefiting from brand new and renovated academic buildings, sports facilities, arts complexes, administrative buildings, child development centers, and parking structures. The Building Program has completed hundreds of separate projects, with hundreds more in the planning or construction stages. For more information on the LACCD's construction program and a list of awards the District has received for its environmentally responsible projects, visit [www.laccdbuildsgreen.org](http://www.laccdbuildsgreen.org).

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