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New Team Brings Fund-Raising Focus to Foundation for California Community Colleges

Hiring of Kerry Wood, Shiloh London marks launch of Foundation's development efforts.

SACRAMENTO—The Foundation for California Community Colleges is announcing the creation of a new team dedicated to raising private dollars to benefit, support and enhance the state's 109 community colleges. On March 3, Kerry Wood joins the Foundation as Executive Director of Resource Development, and Shiloh London assumes the role of Director of Development Operations. They will work closely with Foundation President and CEO Dr. Paul Lanning in leading efforts to fund raise for the community college system and increase the capacity of local colleges to do the same.

“Donations to higher education are at an all-time high of \$29.8 billion per year, yet community colleges see a disproportionately small fraction of that amount,” Lanning said. “Bringing Kerry and Shiloh on board marks the first time the Foundation has embarked on an ongoing campaign to generate endowed scholarship support for California community college students in need.”

Both Wood and London bring extensive experience in resource development to the Foundation. Wood previously served with the Mercy Foundation for 12 years, most recently as director and in previous roles as development officer and marketing director. In total, she has more than 15 years of experience in development and communications roles, including nearly three years as Director of Institutional Advancement for the Crocker Art Museum. A community college alumna, Wood is currently the President of the California Capital Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and a board member of the Children's Receiving Home of Sacramento. At the Foundation, she will be responsible for developing and implementing the organization's first-ever strategy for resource development.

With more than 10 years of experience in community development, campaign management and public relations, London was most recently Senior Campaign Director with United Way California Capital Region and is currently a member of Women in Philanthropy and the Sacramento Public Relations Association. She will provide the Foundation with vital operational support in developing a campaign strategy, creating and maintaining relationships with donors, researching and preparing grant proposals, coordinating special events, and other development-related activities.

In concert with a new initiative to help community colleges engage their alumni, the Foundation's development team will help California community colleges develop philanthropic support while also seeking broader statewide backing from strategic partners and benefactors.

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“As the Foundation moves forward with this exciting venture, I think we will find untapped potential when it comes to generating private support for community colleges,” said Lanning. “Although we as a system have never before had the resources to achieve true success in the fund-raising arena, we are now investing in the professional staff and tools we need to introduce a new era for California community colleges.”

The Foundation for California Community Colleges is the official auxiliary to the California Community Colleges’ Board of Governors, Chancellor, and System Office. The Foundation’s mission is to benefit, support, and enhance the missions of the California Community College system, the largest higher education system in the nation. Incorporated in 1998, the Foundation works with Community Colleges and partner organizations to manage donations, grants, programs, and services that drive excellence in education while saving millions of dollars for colleges each year. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit corporation and receives no direct state or public support. For more information, visit www.foundationccc.org.

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