

August 21, 2017

Dear Colleague,

As our colleges welcome students back to our campuses this week for a new academic year it is important for each one of us reflect on the clarity of our mission and of our system's values in light of recent events.

The [Board of Governors](#), unanimously and in unambiguous terms, stated in January that the California Community Colleges embrace diversity in all of its forms and that all people have the opportunity to reach their full educational potential regardless of their background or immigration status. In recent months the Chancellor's Office and colleges have sought to reassure students that our campuses will remain safe, welcoming places for all students to learn and let them know that no changes have been made with regard to admissions or financial aid.

As we have seen recently, an old and vile menace has visited some college campuses across the country to spread hatred and terror. The California Community Colleges denounce white supremacists such as the KKK and neo Nazi groups that seek to incite violence and attack core values of human dignity. As the [Southern Poverty Law Center](#) points Tc 0 Tw Skp-409u0p-40912 1nBDC BT /CS0 cs 0 40 Tw Sk2 (t)-12