

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Equalization Funding for Community Colleges

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

As a San Diego Community College District employee, I see first hand the on-going benefit of our instructional programs. First to the students whose futures depend on quality and affordable education and secondly to the State which benefits from a skilled and educated workforce.

To that end, we are especially appreciative of the first installment to the California Community Colleges of \$80 million to begin the process of equalizing the State's cost per student. As a low-revenue district the San Diego Community College District struggles to meet student and community needs and system goals. Our success is due in large part to the dedication and accomplishment of a committed faculty and staff. Last year's first installment of equalization funding provides much needed relief to a fiscally challenged district and allows us to strengthen our services to the community.

I, along with my peers and the students of the San Diego Community College District, fervently request that you include the second installment of \$80 million in equalization funding in the May revision of your proposed 2005-06 budget.

This important investment in students, and system equity, will benefit the economic future of California.

Sincerely,