



News Release

*"Empowering
Community Colleges
through leadership,
advocacy and support."*

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CHANCELLOR DRUMMOND PRESENTS TWO CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS 'FRIENDS OF CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES' AWARD

SACRAMENTO – Honoring two California lawmakers for providing golden educational opportunities to millions of the state's citizens, Chancellor Marshall (Mark) Drummond presented the "Friends of California Community Colleges" award to State Senator George Runner (R-Antelope Valley) and Assemblymember John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) earlier this week.

"I'm very elated as well as honored to present these awards to Senator Runner and Assemblymember Laird," Chancellor Marshall (Mark) Drummond said Tuesday evening at the California Chamber of Commerce, site of the third annual California Community Colleges Legislative Reception.

"Senator Runner has a long standing commitment of removing barriers for community colleges. He has helped ensure bonds are funded efficiently and expeditiously for our community college classroom facilities to accommodate students. He has also tirelessly worked to improve the plan check review process and has been a tremendous supporter of our system in all areas."

Chancellor Drummond lauded Assemblymember Laird's dedication to the California community college system. "As budget chair, Assemblymember Laird has ensured that community colleges receive their fair share of Proposition 98 Funding and that the system receives as much funding as the budget process will allow."

Senator Runner said he is honored to be recognized by the California Community Colleges and to receive this prestigious award. "Community colleges are an important foundation for every community in California," Senator Runner said. "I believe we must work to make community colleges more accessible to every Californian."

Assemblymember Laird appreciated the honor. "As a former Cabrillo College trustee, I'm proud of our community college system and the opportunities it creates for Californians headed for four-year universities, as well as those working to learn new skills. I'm

looking forward to continuing our partnership in order to increase access and innovation.”

The “Friends of California Community Colleges” award is supported by The Foundation for California Community Colleges.

The California Community College System, through its 109 colleges, provides educational, vocational and transfer programs to more than 2.5 million students annually. More information about the system can be found at www.cccco.edu

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