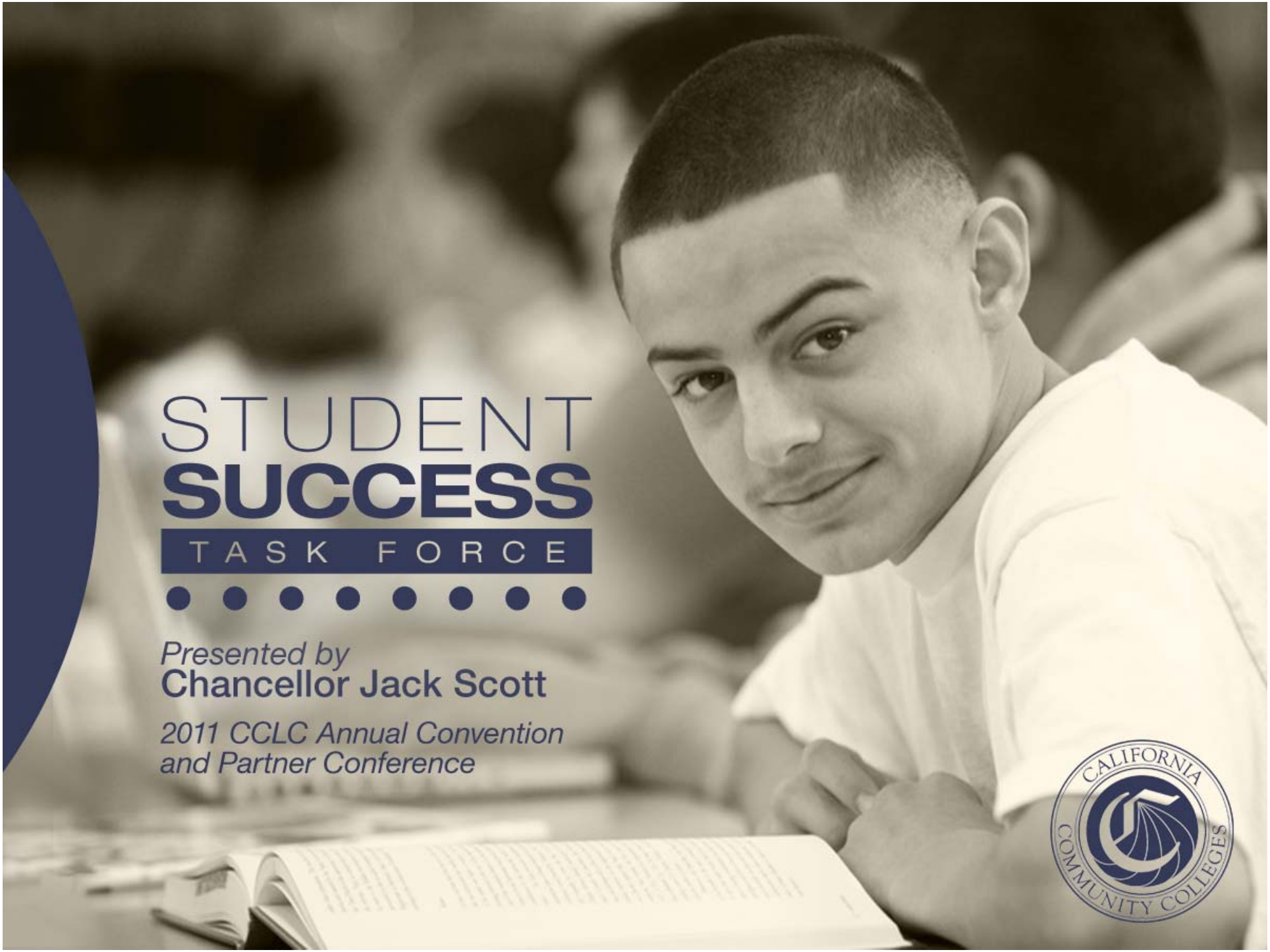
STUDENT
SUCCESS
TASK FORCE
Presented by
Chancellor Jack Scott
2011 CCLC Annual Convention
and Partner Conference
CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Education for the 21st Century

Increasing educational attainment

- President Obama has announced the goal to make America "**the most educated country in the world**" by 2020
- Between 2008 and 2018, occupations **requiring an associate degree** will grow the fastest
- By 2025, California's workforce will face a **shortage of 1 million** college degree and certificate holders
- Community Colleges nationwide called upon to produce more graduates and certificate holders

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California Community Colleges

Quintessential "open access" college system supporting workforce development

- **112 colleges** and numerous off-campus centers **make up the largest higher education system** in the nation
- Gateway to higher education for nearly **2.6 million students** annually
- Serving the most diverse population in the nation

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Workforce Impact

State's largest workforce training provider and a critical pathway to four-year institutions

- **70% of the California's nurses** and **80% of firefighters, law enforcement personnel,** and **EMTs** were trained in Community Colleges
- **28% of University of California graduates** and **55% of California State University graduates** began their higher education at a community college.

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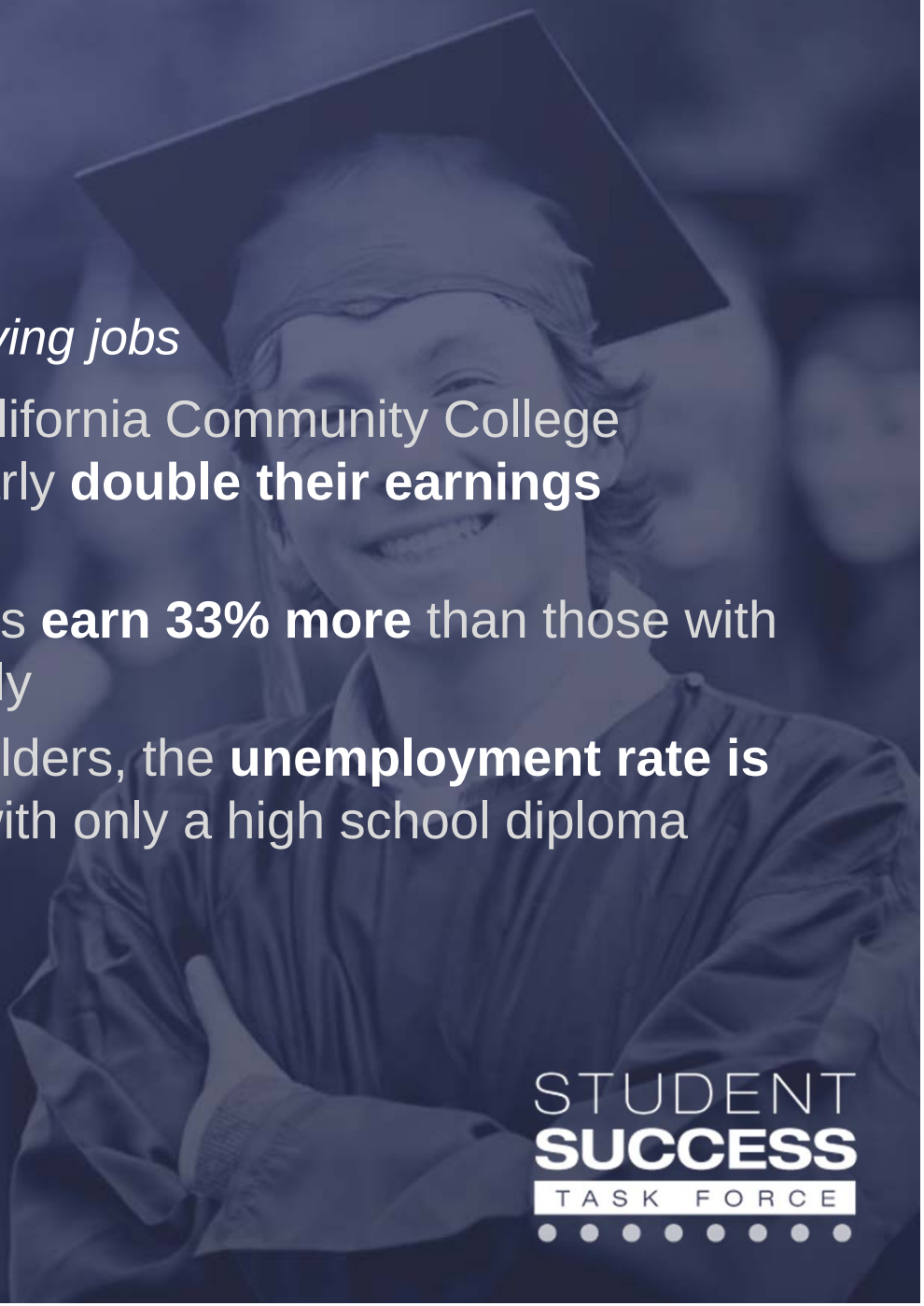
Workforce Impact

Increased access to well-paying jobs

- Students who earn a California Community College degree or certificate nearly **double their earnings** within 3 years
- Associate degree holders **earn 33% more** than those with a high school degree only
- For associate degree holders, the **unemployment rate is 30% lower** than those with only a high school diploma



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Challenges Facing Community Colleges

Need for policies and practices that ensure student success

- **Increased demand on the system**. In the last 15 years, enrollment has grown 44%
- **Substantially reduced resources**. 47% of CCC students report they cannot enroll in needed classes, compared to 28% nationwide
- **Unacceptable completion rates.** Of the 18% of students who begin one level below transfer-level, only 42% ever achieve a certificate, degree, or transfer preparation

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Taking Action Now

Creation of the Student Success Task Force

- Pursuant to **Senate Bill 1143,** the California Community Colleges Board of Governors (BOG) established **the Student Success Task Force**
- **The Task Force Goal** is to examine best practices and models for accomplishing student success and present recommendations
- **The Task Force is composed of 20 members** from a diverse group of internal and external stakeholders

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Timeline

12-month strategic planning process to improve student success

- **January – June 2011**: The Task Force began analyzing and discussing topics such as college readiness and assessment, student services, basic skills instruction, and performance-based funding.
- **July – September 2011**: Developed recommendations.
- **September 30, 2011**: Released draft recommendations, currently being vetted statewide at conferences and public town halls.
- **November 9, 2011**: The Task Force met to review feedback on draft recommendations.
- **January 2012**: Final report will be provided to the Board of Governors.

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The Recommendations

"The resulting draft recommendations, sweeping in scope, constitute a bold plan for refocusing our colleges on student success"

—Jack Scott, Ph.D.
Chancellor, California Community Colleges

Recommendations Overview

Refocusing California Community Colleges toward student success

This comprehensive plan to improve the System's capacity to serve students:

- **Would rebalance priorities within the community college system** to better focus on the core missions of workforce preparation and transfer, while protecting access
- **Would make community colleges more responsive** to the needs of students and the economy
- **Would increase student success rates** for certificate and degree completion and transfer to four-year institutions

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Recommendations Overview

8 areas of focus with 22 recommendations

1. Increase college and career readiness
2. Strengthen support for entering students
3. Incentivize successful student behaviors
4. Align course offerings to meet student needs
5. Improve education of basic skills students
6. Revitalize and re-envision professional development
7. Enable efficient statewide leadership and increase coordination among colleges
8. Align resources with student success recommendations

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1 AREAS OF FOCUS

Increase college and career readiness

- Addresses the issue that 70-90% of first-time CCC students require remediation in English, math or both.
- Common Core State Standards implementation provides opportunity for collaboration with higher education and K-12 partners to define standards for college and career readiness and communicate them to students in the K-12 assessment process.

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2 AREAS OF FOCUS

Strengthen support for entering students

- Require common, centralized, and diagnostic assessment.
- Require students to participate in orientation and complete education plans; require students with limited "college knowledge" to participate in a student success course or other intervention.
- Integrate student-friendly technology to increase access to support services—balanced to NOT replace face-to-face interactions, but a balance of the two will.

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3 AREAS OF FOCUS

Incentivize successful student behaviors

- The system is already rationing access to education; we must find better ways to ration.
- The community college system will adopt enrollment management policies that encourage students to follow delineated educational pathways that are most likely to lead to completion of their educational goal:
  - Enrollment prioritization
  - Require progress according to institutional standards towards an educational objective for BOG Fee Waiver eligibility
  - Require students to begin addressing basic skills deficiencies in first year
  - Encourage students to consider attending full time

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4 AREAS OF FOCUS

Align course offerings to meet student needs

- Currently, there is an imbalance between the supply and demand of basic skills, career and technical, and transfer classes.
- The community college system must shift from using historical course scheduling patterns and, instead, make informed course schedules focused on needs of students to complete certificates, degrees, and transfer.

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5 AREAS OF FOCUS

Improve education of basic skills students

- Of students who begin a mathematics sequence four levels below transfer-level , only 25.4% ever achieve a certificate, degree, or transfer preparation; the range is similar for students in basic skills English writing and reading and English as a second language.
- The community college system, with the legislature and K-12 education, should develop a cohesive statewide framework for the delivery of adult education.
- Target existing Basic Skills Initiative dollars for curriculum innovation and the scaling of best practices.

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6 AREAS OF FOCUS

Revitalize and re-envision professional development

- On-going professional development is a fundamental component of supporting systemic change that will improve student success.
- The community college system should develop and support the continued and focused professional development for all faculty and staff through the targeted use of “flex days” and by focusing professional development on basic skills instruction and other high-priority statewide needs.

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7 AREAS OF FOCUS

Enable efficient statewide leadership and increase coordination among colleges

- Implement common goal-setting at the district and college level that includes equity measures, report progress towards meeting these goals in a public and transparent manner, and implement local “score cards.”
- Support stronger statewide coordination and a more robust Chancellor’s Office.
- Support a statewide longitudinal student record system.

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8 AREAS OF FOCUS

Align resources with student success recommendations

- Task Force does not support implementing Performance-Based Funding at this time.
- The community colleges system needs to both redirect existing resources and acquire new resources to implement the Task Force recommendations:
  - Invest in the Student Support Initiative
  - Establish innovative funding mechanism for Basic Skills

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Questions and Feedback

- Taken as a whole, can this plan achieve its goals?
- What are the strengths of the recommendations?
- What are the potential weaknesses or challenges?
- Are there revisions that you would suggest?
- What will be the greatest challenges for implementation?

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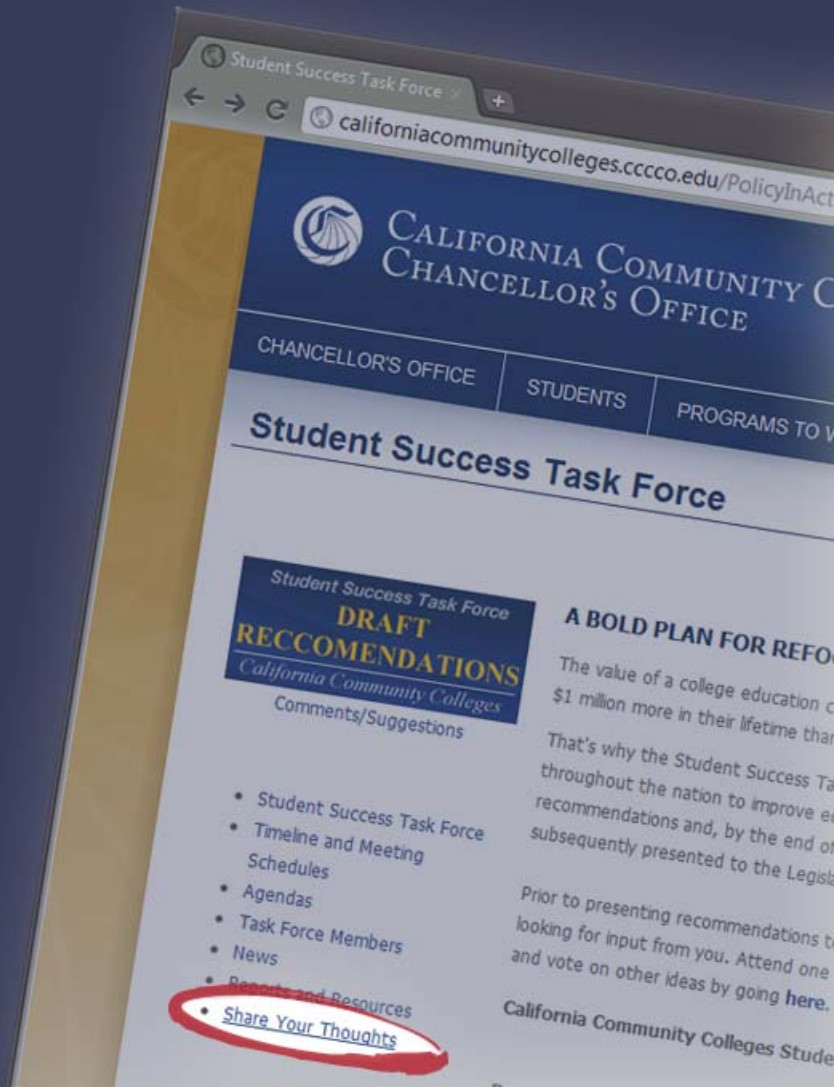
We encourage your comments and questions

http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/SSTF.aspx

Join the dialogue



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