



**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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**Citrus College Honored for Providing Students with Transfer Pathways**

**Glendora, CA** - The Campaign for College Opportunity, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization devoted to ensuring that the next generation of college-age students in California has the chance to go to college and succeed, has named Citrus College a "Champion for Higher Education" because of its successful creation and implementation of California's new associate degrees for transfer.

The college was one of 13 of the state's 113 community colleges that will be honored for leading the way in creating strong transfer pathways. The organization will also be honoring three California State Universities. California Secretary of State Alex Padilla and other legislative leaders will present the honorees with a special recognition of their achievements during a ceremony held in Sacramento earlier this month.

Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president; Mrs. Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees; Dr. Martha McDonald, vice president of student services; and Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of academic affairs; represented Citrus College at the event.

"Citrus College has invested a significant amount of time and effort into creating associate degrees for transfer that will ensure a smooth transition to the California State University (CSU) system. We currently offer 18 transfer degrees, with several more in the planning stages," Dr. Perri said. "Being recognized as one of the state's top performing community colleges by the Campaign for College Opportunity is a reflection of the institution's commitment to providing students with the academic preparation they need to achieve success."

The state's associate degrees for transfer were implemented four years ago and have been a collaborative effort of the California Community Colleges and CSU system. Otherwise known as

“transfer degrees,” they provide community college students with guaranteed admission to the CSU system and priority admission to a CSU campus.

According to the California Community College Chancellor’s Office, the number of transfer degrees awarded in 2014-2015 was nearly double the number awarded the year before.

At Citrus College, a record 693 students transferred to the CSU system during the 2014-2015 academic year. Of these 693 students, 500 transferred with an associate degree for transfer.

“Upon enrolling at Citrus College, the majority of students indicate that transferring to a four-year college or university is their ultimate goal. The entire college community is dedicated to providing these students with the resources needed to make this happen. One way in which we do this is with associate degrees for transfer,” said Trustee Keith. “It is an honor to have our efforts recognized by the Campaign for College Opportunity. Being labeled a ‘Champion for Higher Education’ is a remarkable acknowledgement of institutional progress and inspires us to continue our efforts with even greater enthusiasm.”

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(From left to right) Dr. Martha McDonald, vice president of student services; Mrs. Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees; Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College; and Dr. Arvid Spor, vice president of academic affairs; accept the “Champion for Higher Education” award from Michele Siqueiros, president of the Campaign for College Opportunity.