

CARLOS OSVALDO CORTEZ, PH.D.

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BIOGRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

Carlos O. Cortez, Ph.D., recently served as the chancellor of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), the seventh-largest community college system in the United States. In this capacity, he oversaw more than 100,000 students annually and was responsible for a \$1 billion budget. As chancellor, Dr. Cortez oversaw the reopening of the district's 10 campuses following the COVID-19 pandemic, rebuilding enrollment, and restoring the district's finances through careful fiscal planning and establishing new revenue streams. He also spearheaded the development of a districtwide strategic plan that will take the SDCCD through 2030.

Previously, Dr. Cortez served as the president of San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE), one of the four colleges that comprise the SDCCD. Dr. Cortez has served as faculty at Johns Hopkins University, National University, New York University, and the University of California (Berkeley, Los Angeles, and San Diego). His research interests center on the role of educators and administrators of color in the historical development of American social welfare and education policy. Dr. Cortez is also an expert in the area of promoting inclusion in urban education through literacy and policy initiatives and a champion of higher education accessibility.

Dr. Cortez has taught consistently since 1999. He has served as an administrator for 18 years and as CEO for 13 years. Prior to leading SDCCE, he worked as the acting vice president and dean of instruction at Berkeley City College (BCC). Before BCC, he served as director of Education Extension at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). He began his career in education as a Teach for America Corps member. His experience spans the public, private, and charter school sectors in Washington DC, Houston, New York City, Los Angeles, Berkeley, and San Diego. Dr. Cortez served as principal of New Village Charter School and as assistant principal of special education services at Grape Street Elementary School, both in Los Angeles. In these positions he was known for his dedication to teachers and students, the development of innovative programs and services, policy advocacy, astute fundraising, and sound fiscal management.

Throughout his career, Dr. Cortez has elected to work primarily with underserved, ethnically diverse student populations from systemically marginalized communities. He has been a staunch advocate for policy and financial reform as a member of various state and federal-level legislative task forces, including his current service on the California League of Community College's Advisory Committee on Legislation, the Campaign for Free College Tuition, and the Major District Budget and Policy Advocacy Council. His commitment to social justice drives his passion for urban education reform. Dr. Cortez serves on several regional and national non-profit boards, including the Promises to Kids, the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE), the San Diego State University College of Education, the Jackie Robinson YMCA, and Goodwill, Inc. San Diego.

In 2017, Dr. Cortez was awarded the Martes Award for Excellence in Research by the Association of California Community College Administrators and was recognized as San Diego Male Leader of the Year by California State Assemblymember Shirley Weber. In 2018, he received the Excellence in Continuing Education Award from the Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE); the 2018 Innovation of the Year Award by the League for Innovation in Community Colleges; and The RP Group Research and Planning Project award. He has served as the principal investigator on \$5.7 million of competitive federal research grants.

In 2019, he was awarded the Teach for Innovation McGrory Award for Innovative Alumni Leadership, and his organization was named the 2019 NACCE Heather Van Sickle Entrepreneurial College of the Year. In 2020, Dr. Cortez was awarded the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) Lighthouse Awards as a Turnaround School Leader and was named a 2020 Top 100 Leaders in Education by the Global Forum for Education and Learning. In 2022, he was recognized by the American Council on Education with the prestigious Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award as well as the San Diego Business Journal's Top 50 Latino Leaders of Influence Award.

Dr. Cortez's educational background includes a bachelor's degree in History and Sociology from Georgetown University; a master's degree in Race and Gender Politics from New York University; and a doctor of philosophy in Education Policy and Administration from the University of Southern California. All three degrees focus on African American Womanist political historical contributions to social welfare and education policy reform.

EDUCATION

2006	DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	LOS ANGELES, CA
1999	MASTER OF ARTS AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	NEW YORK, NY
1997	BACHELOR OF ARTS AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY	WASHINGTON, DC

CERTIFICATES AND CREDENTIALS

2018	STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVES IN NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE HARVARD UNIVERSITY	CAMBRIDGE, MA
2005	CALIFORNIA STATE TIER I AND II PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE CREDENTIAL (P-12 PRINCIPAL) UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	LOS ANGELES, CA
2002	CLEAR CALIFORNIA STATE TEACHING CREDENTIAL (CLAD), SECONDARY SINGLE SUBJECT SOCIAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	LOS ANGELES, CA
2002	CALIFORNIA STATE ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) AUTHORIZATION AND CROSS-CULTURAL, LANGUAGE, AND ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT (CLAD) UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	LOS ANGELES, CA

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING

JULY 2021-JUNE 2023

CHANCELLOR

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SAN DIEGO, CA

INSTRUCTION, LEARNING, AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

- Facilitated the strategic reengagement of students coming out of the pandemic, exceeding district enrollment management targets.
- Promoted and supported equity-minded and culturally competent teaching, learning, and student success through the maintenance and improvement of high-quality instruction and services in both credit and noncredit programs.
- Supported associate and baccalaureate degree completion, certificate completion, transfers to four-year institutions, and career and occupational education and opportunities for workforce training.
- Fulfilled the needs of a diverse student body by working with faculty, staff, and students to initiate innovative programs and curricula, student support services, and appropriate co-curricular activities.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

- Effectively managed a \$1 billion annual operating budget.
- Within two years, eliminated a \$45 million structural deficit and established \$16 million in reserves.
- Provided leadership and accountability for strategic planning and annual goals.
- Ensured the integrity and stability of the District's finances through an effective and transparent financial management system and by providing advocacy for ongoing state and federal funding.
- Pursued the effective management of alternative sources of revenue, including state and federal grants, bond measures, property leases, and private philanthropy – generating a record-setting \$50+ million in new funding during year one as chancellor and helping the San Diego Promise exceed \$2.6 million in fundraising since inception.
- Established a new Office of Development and Entrepreneurship to increase alternative funding opportunities.
- Secured four federal earmarks in 2022 and 2023.
- Ensured the effectiveness and availability of appropriate technology for all district functions, spearheading the development of a technology plan and the appointment of a new senior administrator to oversee technology for the district.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING

JULY 2021-2023
CONTINUED

CHANCELLOR
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SAN DIEGO, CA

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP, AND ADVOCACY

- Facilitated the development of an 8-year strategic plan.
- Built positive relationships with participatory governance groups, promoting collegiality, cohesiveness, and respect among all District constituents.
- Deliberately created a unified community and District environment by developing and strengthening relationships between the credit colleges and the college of continuing education, the District Office, and the communities served by the District.
- Promoted a positive image of the District through appropriate marketing, outreach, and community relations strategies, including the centralization of branding with a significant increase in funding for these efforts.
- Established the San Diego Metro Collaborative to strengthen and develop cooperative partnerships with industry, local K-12 districts, and other institutions of higher education leading to significant increases in student enrollment, particularly in high-wage, high-demand pathways.
- Promoted diversity, equity, and inclusion within the District and within its instruction and services, raising more than \$50 million in my first year as chancellor to support efforts to support all students and employees, with a focus on 10 special populations: adults with disabilities, active military and veterans, BIPOC, first generation, justice-involved, LGBTQ+. low-income, transitional-age foster youth, unhoused.
- In 2022, facilitated the passage of AB 1719, a bill that would allow community college access to federal housing funding to build housing for low-income employees. Presently, two bills are pending: AB 91 (Alvarez) and AB 421 (Ward).
- Provided testimony on innovating enrollment management strategies at State Senate budget hearings.
- Served as president of the San Diego Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association, leading advocacy efforts on behalf of the six-district regional alliance.
- Led advocacy efforts that resulted in the District receiving approval of a baccalaureate in Cyber Defense and Technology at San Diego City College and provisional approval of a bachelor's degree program in Public Safety Management at San Diego Miramar College.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING

JULY 2021-MAY 2023

CONTINUED

CHANCELLOR

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SAN DIEGO, CA

HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

- Demonstrated effectiveness and commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and equal employment opportunity for all categories of staff.
- Built the most diverse leadership team of any community college district in the state.
- Provided leadership to ensure responsible, effective, and productive collective bargaining processes and relationships including the renewal of the resource allocation formula and the faculty and classified professional labor contracts.
- Supported culturally competent professional growth and development for all employees, including faculty-led efforts to include evidence of equity and inclusion as part of the faculty tenure approval and evaluation process.

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

- Established a new office of institutional innovation and effectiveness.
- Successfully facilitated compliance with all accreditation obligations
- Ensured programming and decision-making are informed by meaningful data analysis, both quantitative and qualitative.
- Ensured the development and implementation of research and strategic planning regarding the need for new and/or improved educational programs and services

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING

JULY 2015–JUNE 2021

PRESIDENT

SAN DIEGO COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SAN DIEGO, CA

INSTRUCTION, LEARNING, AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

- Effective management of a \$60+ million average annual operating budget with exceptional annual audits and external ratings, and overseeing 1,000+ employees with productive relationships with the American Federation of Teachers Local 1931 as well as the Academic and Classified Senates.
- Of the four institutions in the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE) led the District in both enrollment and productivity (average class size) for the four past academic years, exceeding established targets—resulting in significant additional revenue through state apportionment.
- SDCCE led the region's 10 colleges and ranks 9 out of 115 colleges statewide in strong workforce outcomes: career technical education certificate completion and job placement, which has resulted in significant additional revenue through incentive funding.
- Over six years, SDCCE developed dozens of new innovative instructional programs, such as python coding, cyber security, mobile application development, digital media, acute care nursing, and advanced construction trade apprenticeship pathways.
- In fall 2020, SDCCE launched the award-winning ICOM (Interactive Competency-based Online Micro-credentialing) Academy—the most intuitive, dynamic, and robust distance education platform in the state of California with professionally produced courses requiring synchronous instruction, project-based learning, online laboratories, and accessibility to all brick and mortar student success services fully online while eliminating textbooks costs through the adoption of Open Educational Resources.
- SDCCE was named the 2019 National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship's Heather Van Sickle Entrepreneurial College of the Year for reinventing online career education.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

- Enrollment management: SDCCE exceeded enrollment targets for six years running and productivity targets (average class size) for the past four years which has resulted in significant additional revenue in the form of state apportionment.
- Development: SDCCE established a new Foundation in 2016, which has led to the cultivation of exponentially greater resources for the institution, raising over \$50 million while in this role.
- Entrepreneurship: SDCCE's Foundation restructured the Employee Training Institute in 2016, which provides customized contract education and fee-based education services for the District, joining the UNMUDL marketplace to serve an international audience and generate millions in annual discretionary revenue.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING

JULY 2015–JUNE 2021
CONTINUED

PRESIDENT

SAN DIEGO CONTINUING EDUCATION

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP, AND ADVOCACY

- I served on several boards and committees that focus on policy advocacy including the Campaign for Free College Tuition, the Workforce Development Board, California League for Community Colleges Advisory Committee on Legislation, California State Senate Select Taskforce on Autism Spectrum Disorder, and the Noncredit Coalition.
- I led the execution of a statewide study and report — The Past, Present, and Future of Noncredit Education in California, 1856-2018 — that generated a list of policy recommendations that have been adopted by the Association of Community and Continuing Education, and subsequently received multiple awards including Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) Excellence in Continuing Education, 2018; The RP Group Research and Planning Project Award, 2018; and Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) Mertes Award for Research, 2017.
- I regularly met with, lobby, and testify before county and state elected officials. I scheduled annual campus tours for local, state, and federal elected officials and other relevant dignitaries.

RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

- SDCCE created an Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness, which precipitated an institutional shift toward a culture of data-informed decision-making and facilitated the development of SDCCE's first strategic plan, as well as an exceptional accreditation site review in spring 2016.
- SDCCE conducted the first comprehensive, 3-year longitudinal study of noncredit programs statewide and published the award-winning report: The Past, Present, and Future of Noncredit Education in California, 1856-2019.
- As an international border institution, SDCCE initiated the first study on the binational adult learner student experience in the United States to examine best practices to support the educational development of immigrant students, which concluded in fall 2021.
- With great success, I oversaw the accreditation process for four types of educational institutions (K-12, community colleges, adult education, and Tier I research institutions) as well as the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and the Board of Registered Nursing during my 16+ years as an administrator.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING

JULY 2013-JUNE 2015	VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF INSTRUCTION PERALTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT	BERKELEY, CA
MARCH 2009-JUNE 2015	EDUCATION EXTENSION DIRECTOR UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES LOS ANGELES, CA	
JULY 2006-MARCH 2009	PRINCIPAL LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	LOS ANGELES, CA
JULY 2001-JUNE 2005	TEACHER LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	LOS ANGELES, CA
AUGUST 1999-JULY 2001	TEACHER - TEACH FOR AMERICA CORPS MEMBER NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION	NEW YORK, NY
JANUARY-JUNE 1998	HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATOR NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP	NEW YORK, NY
2020-2021	ADJUNCT UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND DOCTORAL COMMITTEE SERVICE NEW YORK UNIVERSITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">ED LED-GE 3033: LEADERSHIP II	NEW YORK, NY
2018-2021	INTERNATIONAL SPORTS SCIENCES ASSOCIATION COLLEGE OF EXERCISE SCIENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">HIST 102 UNITED STATESHIST 203 HISTORY OF SPORTSOC 101 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	CARPINTERIA, CA

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

ADJUNCT UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND DOCTORAL COMMITTEE SERVICE

2017-PRESENT	NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SAN DIEGO, CA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ILD 625 EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH• EDA 657 ORGANIZATIONAL AND SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP• EDA 658 COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP• CED 602 SOCIETAL ISSUES IN SCHOOLS• CED 614 ETHICAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS• CED 637 SCHOOL COUNSELING RESEARCH• EDA 654 INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP• ILT 604 LEARNERS AND LEARNING I• ILT 606 LEARNERS AND LEARNING II• ILT 608 DESIGN AND PROCESS OF TEACHING• MAT 651 ASSESSING EDUCATIONAL LEADERS• MAT 652 LEADERSHIP ACCOUNTABILITY• MAT 653 MOTIVATIONAL LEADERSHIP• MAT 654 SEMINAR IN SOCIAL ISSUES• MAT 655 LEADERSHIP IMPACT SEMINAR	
2018-2020	JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY BALTIMORE, MD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 883.718 DISSERTATION RESEARCH• DOCTORAL STUDENT ADVISOR	
2018-2019	ASPEN UNIVERSITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EDD 832 HUMAN POTENTIAL AND MOTIVATION• EDD 830 LEADERSHIP THEORY• EDD 834 CREATING STRATEGIC CHANGE THAT LASTS• EDD 838 BUILDING SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENDURE• MED 705 RESEARCH ON EFFECTIVE TEACHING• MED 725 CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS AND MANAGEMENT• MED 761 CURRICULUM MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT DATA• RSH 900 DOCTORAL WRITING AND INQUIRY INTO RESEARCH	DENVER, CO
2014-2022	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EDUCX 316.13 EARLY ORIENTATION• EDUCX 316.16 CURRICULUM DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT• EDUCX 316.18 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS	BERKELEY, CA
2013-2019	CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EDUC 620 ADMINISTRATION WITHIN DIVERSE POPULATIONS• EDUC 662 SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	MT PLEASANT, MI
2009-2013	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EDUCX 312.8A HEALTH EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS• EDUCX 424.11 SINGLE SUBJECT TEACHING METHODS IN ENGLISH/HUMANITIES• EDUCX 829.13 CHARTER SCHOOL LEADERSHIP: PROP 39 & BEYOND• EDUCX 829.14 CHARTER SCHOOL LEADERSHIP: SURVIVING AND THRIVING: FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS• EDUCX 829.15 CHARTER SCHOOL LEADERSHIP: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND REVOLUTIONARY PEDAGOGY: TOLLS FOR DEVELOPING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE	LOS ANGELES, CA

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

ADJUNCT UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND DOCTORAL COMMITTEE SERVICE

2010-2013

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES, CA

- EDUC 501 INSTRUCTION FOR TEACHING ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE
- EDUC 505T INTEGRATING LITERACIES IN SECONDARY CONTENT INSTRUCTION - TESOL
- EDUC 506 NEW MEDIA LITERACIES IN HIGH NEEDS SCHOOLS
- EDUC 513A TEACHING ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS IN SECONDARY CLASSROOMS
- EDUC 516 THE FRAMING EXPERIENCE
- EDUC 517A UNDERSTANDING THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF URBAN SCHOOLS
- EDUC 517B UNDERSTANDING THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF URBAN SCHOOLS
- EDUC 519 HUMAN DIFFERENCES
- EDUC 552 LITERACIES IN THE CONTENT AREA - HUMANITIES
- EDUC 568 A GUIDING PRACTICE A
- EDUC 578 INTEGRATING THE ARTS IN SECONDARY ENGLISH AND SOCIAL STUDIES

2009-2010

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SAN DIEGO, CA

- EDUCX 30057 HEALTH EDUCATION FOR THE TEACHER
- EDUCX 30087 TEACHING THE GIFTED AND TALENTED: DIFFERENTIATING THE CURRICULUM

RECENT ACADEMIC RESEARCH

- Boggs, G. and L. Gallizio. *A College for All Californians: A History of California Community Colleges*. (2021) New York: Columbia University Teachers Press. Contributing author.
- Binational Adult Noncredit Learner Experience on the Mexicali Border, 2021
- The Past, Present, and Future of Adult Noncredit Education in California, 1856-2018
- FIPSE Federal Research Grant, Principal Investigator, 2010-2013
- TPSID Federal Research Grant, Principal Investigator, 2010-2015
- Dissertation, Crusaders for social justice: black female educator-activists in social welfare reform in Los Angeles during the golden age of the black power movement, 1966-1975

AWARDS AND HONORS

- San Diego Business Journal Top 50 Latino Leaders of Influence, 2022
- American Council on Education Reginald Wilson Diversity Award, 2021
- Global Forum for Education and Learning's Top 100 Leaders in Education, 2020
- San Diego County of Education Turnaround School Leader Lighthouse Award, 2020
- National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship Heath Van Sickle Entrepreneurial College of the Year Award, 2019
- Teach for America's Teach for Innovation McGrory Award for Innovative Alumni Leadership, 2019
- Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) Excellence in Continuing Education, 2018
- League for Innovation in Community Colleges Innovation of the Year Award, 2018
- The RP Group Research and Planning Project Award, 2018
- Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) Mertes Award for Research, 2017
- 79th District, Assembly Member Shirley Weber Distinguished Male Leader Award, 2017
- Berkeley City College, Employee of the Year Award, 2015

PUBLIC SERVICE

- 2022-Present Advisory Board, San Diego State University College of Education
- 2021-Present Advisory Board, Promises to Kids
- 2021-Present Planning Committee, Diversifying San Diego's K-12 Educator Workforce
- 2021-2023 Advisory Council, The Campaign for Free College Tuition
- 2020-Present Governance Steering Committee, UNMUDL
- 2019-Present Board of Directors, Goodwill, Inc., San Diego
- 2019-Present Board of Directors, National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship
- 2017-2022 Board of Managers, Jackie Robinson YMCA
- 2015-2021 Board of Directors, San Diego College of Continuing Education Foundation
- 2014-Present Advisory Committee on Legislation, Community College League of California
- 2021-2022 Board of Directors, League for Innovation in the Community College
- 2021-2022 Chair, San Diego/Imperial County Community College Association
- 2019-2021 Community Advisory Board, ABC 10 News
- 2017-2019 Board of Directors, The Trevor Project
- 2016-2020 Board of Directors, San Diego Workforce Partnership Workforce Development Board
- 2016-2020 Board of Directors, Thrive Charter School Foundation
- 2016-2018 Advisory Board, Teach for America San Diego
- 2016-2018 Board of Directors, International Cottages, House of Puerto Rico
- 2010-2013 Member, California State Select Task Force on Autism Spectrum Disorder
- 2010-2013 Board of Directors, Green Ambassadors
- 2010-2013 Board of Directors, Environmental Charter Schools
- 1999-2001 AmeriCorp Member
- 1999-2001 Corps Member, Teach for America

SELECT PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 2022 HACU, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
- 2021 ACCT, Association of Community College Trustees
- 2021 NACCE, National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship
- 2021 HACU, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
- 2020 AACC, American Association of Community Colleges
- 2020 The League for Innovation in the Community College
- 2019 NACCE, National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship
- 2019 Building Workforce Partnerships Conference, California Labor Federation
- 2019 IICE, Ireland International Conference on Education
- 2019 The Council for the Study of Community Colleges
- 2019 ACCE, Association for Community and Continuing Education
- 2019 The League for Innovation in the Community College
- 2018 Live Well San Diego, Live Well Advance Conference, San Diego, California
- 2018 San Diego Workforce Partnership Opportunity Summit, San Diego, California
- 2018 CIES, Comparative and International Education, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2018 HACU, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2018 OEC, Open Education Conference, Niagara Falls, New York
- 2018 ACCT, Association of Community College Trustees, New York, New York
- 2018 CCLC, Community College League of California, Mission Hills, California
- 2018 LICE, London International Conference on Education, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 The New World of Noncredit, Building and Expanding Programs in Community Colleges, San Diego, California

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- AmeriCorps
- American Education Research Association (AERA)
- American Studies Association (ASA)
- Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA)
- Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE)
- Community College League of California (CCLC)
- Comparative and International Education Society (CIES)
- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)
- Holmes Partnership ScholarIrvine Fellows Program (IFP)
- National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE)
- Scholars, Writers, and Artists for Social Justice (SWASJ)
- Teach for America (TFA)
- University Continuing Educators Association (UCEA)

CONSULTING GIGS

- Academia Avance: Initial Charter School Petition. Los Angeles, CA: 2004.
- Multi-Media Arts Charter School: Backwards Planning Design. Los Angeles, CA: 2006.
- Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandizing (FIDM): Backwards Planning Design and Basic Skills Curriculum Design. Los Angeles, CA: 2006.
- University of Southern California: Curriculum Development. Los Angeles, CA 2012.
- Los Angeles County of Education: Positive Behavior Supports for English Language Learners. Downey CA: 2012-2013.
- University of California, Berkeley: The History of American Higher Education and Post-Doctoral Opportunities for Ph.D. Candidates. Berkeley, CA: 2014.
- University of California, Berkeley: Curriculum Design. Berkeley, CA: 2014.
- Collaborative Brain Trust: Non-Credit Program Development. Sacramento, CA: 2016.
- Rio Hondo College: Non-Credit Program Development. Whittier, CA: 2017.
- Peralta Community College District: Non-Credit Program Development. Oakland, CA: 2018.
- Aspen University: Doctoral Student Advising. Tampa, CA: 2018-2019.
- Manpower San Diego: Curriculum Development. San Diego, CA: 2020.
- Lionel University: Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity. Carpinteria, CA: 2021.
- Ivy Executive Research: Education Technology. New York, NY: 2022.
- Servitas, LLC: Student Housing Design. Irving, TX: 2023.

KEY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

- 2010: United States Department of Education - Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE): Culturally-Inclusive Positive Behavior Supports Teacher Training Program, \$650,975.
- 2010-2014: United States Department of Education - The Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID), \$4,500,000.

SAN DIEGO COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION, SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

- 2015-2021 (annual allocations): United States Department of Labor Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Education Family Literacy Act, \$11,802,432
- 2016-2021 (annual allocations): Arthur N. Rupe Foundation, \$132,000
- 2016-2021 (annual allocations): United States Department of Labor Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Formula Program, \$440,000
- 2018-2021 (over four years): California Coast Credit Union, \$11,000
- 2018: City of San Diego - Community Projects, Program, and Services, \$6,500
- 2018: County of San Diego - Neighborhood Reinvestment Program, \$12,899
- 2018: Goodwin Family Memorial Trust, \$5,800
- 2019: City of San Diego - Community Development Block Grant, \$292,000
- 2018: Las Patronas, \$8,619
- 2019: Sempra Foundation, \$10,000
- 2019: California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) Improving Online CTE Pathways Grant, \$500,000
- 2019: Irvine Foundation, with the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, \$300,000
- 2019: Lucky Duck Foundation, \$200,000
- 2020: California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Communications Interoperability Grant Program (SCIGP), \$100,000
- 2020: City of San Diego - Art, Cultures, and Community Festivals, \$5,000
- 2020: County of San Diego - Classified School Employee Professional Development Block Grant, \$5,000
- 2020: County of San Diego - Community Enhancement, \$15,000
- 2020: County of San Diego - Neighborhood Reinvestment Program, \$10,168
- 2020: Parker Foundation, \$75,000
- 2020: Sempra Foundation, \$15,000
- 2020: Salesforce, \$21,000
- 2020: San Diego Community Foundation, \$35,000
- 2020: United Way of San Diego County, \$48,060
- 2020: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Construction Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Grant, with the San Diego Workforce Partnership, \$1,363,636
- 2020: Wells Fargo, \$103,042
- 2021: Price Philanthropies, \$50,000
- 2021: State of California, Renovation of historic ECC Library, \$35,000,000
- 2022: Keeping the Promise giving day, \$32,500
- 2022: Funders Together to End Homelessness San Diego, \$150,000
- 2022: Roger Frey (Promise donor), \$55,000
- 2023: Molina Family Foundation, \$50,000

SELECTED MEDIA

Times of San Diego, February 3, 2023: Opinion: At SDCCD, We are Committed to Pride

KUSI-TV, January 5, 2023: Chancellor Cortez Discusses Open Registration for the San Diego Promise

CalMatters, December 15, 2022: California's Antiquated Higher Education Plan Needs a Serious Overhaul

San Diego Business Journal, November 14, 2022: SD 500: San Diego's Most Influential People in San Diego

San Diego Business Journal, October 13, 2022: Latino Leaders of Influence – Top 50 of 2022

KUSI-SD, August 23, 2022: Chancellor Carlos Cortez Talks About the Year Ahead at SDCCD

KGTV-SD, June 27, 2022: Chancellor Cortez Discusses New Housing Program for SDCCD Students

KGTV-SD, June 6, 2022: Talking with SDCCD's New Chancellor

Diverse Issues in Higher Education, March 9, 2022: ACE Recognizes San Diego Community College District Chancellor

American Council on Education (ACE), March 7, 2022: Ace Honors San Diego Community College's Carlos O. Cortez with 2022 Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award

The San Diego Union-Tribune, January 7, 2022: Opinion | Policing on California College Campuses Must Change and Improve or We're Failing Our Students

Hispanic Outlook, on Education Magazine, November 2021: SDCCD: Serving Latinx Students Through and Beyond the Pandemic

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