

Impact Report 2019



Wheelhouse

The Center for Community College
Leadership and Research

Founded at UC Davis in 2016, Wheelhouse strengthens leadership and practice in the California Community Colleges, the nation's largest system of higher education.

We accomplish that mission in two ways:

Leadership and Network Development

Our Institute on Leadership delivers professional and peer learning for annual, select cohorts of Wheelhouse Fellows—sitting and aspiring district chancellors and college presidents. We focus on leading change, performance analytics, individual and organizational agility, and research and policy know-how. Throughout, we build lasting peer networks.

Actionable Research

We bring research to practice by disseminating timely, digestible, independent briefs to decision-maker audiences at the state, regional and local levels.

Our work is supported by UC Davis, the State of California, and private philanthropy.

This report highlights our accomplishments to date.



Wheelhouse provides that opportunity for the leadership of the community colleges to come together and have a trusted, safe forum.”

OMID POURZANJANI
VICE CHANCELLOR, CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE



Supporting Leaders

The Wheelhouse Institute on Leadership supports Community College CEOs to build know-how, tenacity, and lasting peer networks. Where once California college presidents traveled to Texas or Massachusetts for transformational leadership experiences, now they come to the University of California for context-specific learning designed for their needs and opportunities.

A Cohort of Peers

Wheelhouse annually convenes a **diverse cohort** of 20–25 Fellows at the Institute on Leadership. Cohorts are shaped by breadth of experience, geographic representation, and diversity of backgrounds and roles. Fellows include sitting and aspiring district chancellors, superintendent/presidents and college presidents who gather at UC Davis for 10 days over the course of the year.



Tailored Curriculum

We tap the real-time experiences of our Fellows to develop teaching cases for **lively and interactive seminars**. The table is set for robust examination of leadership theory and framing, strategic communications and leading for change.

360° Evaluation

The **360° evaluation** gives Fellows a chance to assess strengths and challenges and provides a clear view of how their leadership is perceived by others. **Coaching** is available to analyze results and formulate action plans for strengthening capacity at the individual and cabinet levels.

The Aggie Experience

Wheelhouse Fellows have entrée to the **best of UC Davis**, from world-leading producers of wine and olive oil to art exhibits, Arboretum walks and dinners out in one of the nation's great college towns.

Thought-provoking Presenters

Wheelhouse brings Fellows into dialogue with leaders who help them examine and define their own approach to the teams and institutions they serve. Presenters include:

- **Matthew Miller**, Harvard Graduate School of Education
- Team communications and feedback expert **Elaine Lin-Hering**
- Google Racial Equitect **Myosha McAfee**
- Stanford Psychologist **Carol Dweck**
- Adult learning expert and *Immunity to Change* author **Robert Kegan**
- **Scholars** in our research network
- Retired and current **chancellors and presidents**



What it's forcing me to do is look inward at myself because I want to be an effective leader.”

LINDA ROSE
PRESIDENT, SANTA ANA COLLEGE



WHEELHOUSE
BY THE NUMBERS



38

College presidents and chancellors recruited as Wheelhouse Fellows



9

Affiliated scholars from 5 California research universities

Statewide Impact

College leaders come to Wheelhouse from institutions large and small, from the southern border and the Central Valley to the Bay Area and the rural north.

FELLOWS COHORT 2018

Cabrillo College
Aptos
Matthew Wetstein
Superintendent/President
👤 17,253

College of the Redwoods
Eureka
Keith Snow-Flamer
Superintendent/President
👤 7,587

College of Siskiyou
Weed
Stephen Schoonmaker
Superintendent/President
👤 6,380

Compton College
Keith Curry
President/CEO
👤 12,366

Cypress College
JoAnna Schilling
President
👤 21,115

Laney College
Oakland
Tammeil Gilkerson
President
👤 17,927

Merced College
Chris Vitelli
Superintendent/President
👤 15,378

Mission College
Santa Clara
Daniel Peck
President
👤 15,208

Moorpark College
Luis Sanchez
President
👤 19,302

Moreno Valley College
Robin Steinback
President
👤 14,233

Sacramento City College
Michael Gutierrez
President
👤 31,515

San Bernardino Valley College
Diana Rodriguez
President
👤 17,755

38
FELLOWS
IN 2017
AND 2018

18 – 20
ADDITIONAL
FELLOWS
WILL FORM A
NEW COHORT
IN 2019

INSTITUTIONS
SERVING
805,328
STUDENTS
IN 2017
AND 2018

Santiago Canyon College
Orange
John Hernandez
President
👤 28,443

Sonoma County Junior College
Santa Rosa
Frank Chong
Superintendent/President
👤 37,677

Southwestern College
Chula Vista
Kindred Murillo
Superintendent/President
👤 26,775

West Hills College
Coalinga
Brenda Thames
President
👤 4,999

Woodland Community College
Michael White
President
👤 6,216

Yosemite Community College District
Modesto
Henry Yong
Chancellor
👤 28,430

“

I truly valued the high quality of the presenters, the interactive learning culture and the spirited and supportive dialogue with my peers.

JOSE FIERRO
PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT, CERRITOS COLLEGE



FELLOWS COHORT 2017
Berkeley City College
Rowena Tomaneng
Superintendent/President
👤 11,227

Butte-Glenn Community College
Oroville
Samia Yaqub
President
👤 15,630

Cerritos College
Norwalk
Jose Fierro
President /Superintendent
👤 31,118

Clovis Community College
Fresno
Lori Bennett
President
👤 9,827

College District
Anaheim
Cheryl Marshall
Chancellor
👤 33,384

Contra Costa College
San Pablo
Mojdeh Mehdizadeh
President
👤 10,041

Cosumnes River College
Sacramento
Edward Bush
President
👤 19,524

Crafton Hills College
Yucaipa
Wei Zhou
President
👤 8,109

Cuyamaca College
El Cajon
Julianna Barnes
President
👤 13,735

El Camino College
Torrance
Dena Maloney
Chancellor
👤 33,208

Gavilan Community College District
Gilroy
Kathleen Rose
President
👤 9,187

Golden West College
Huntington Beach
Omid Pourzanjani
VP of Instruction
👤 17,326

North Orange County Community College District
Los Altos Hills
Thuy Thi Nguyen
Vice President of Instruction
👤 31,565

Palomar Community College District
San Marcos
Joi Lin Blake
Superintendent/President
👤 36,838

Pasadena City College
Rajen Vurdien
President
👤 42,968

San Diego City College
Denise Whisenhunt
Interim President
👤 24,904

Santa Ana College
Linda Rose
President
👤 59,833

Santa Monica College
Kathryn Jeffery
Superintendent/President
👤 45,072

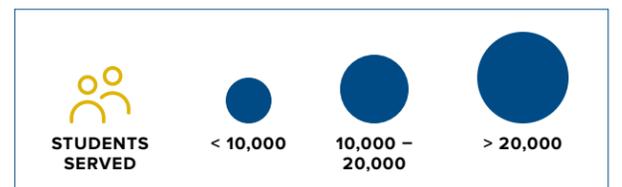
Solano Community College
Fairfield
Celia Esposito-Noy
Superintendent/President
👤 13,944

Yuba Community College
Marysville
G.H. Javaheripour
Superintendent/President
👤 9,329

“

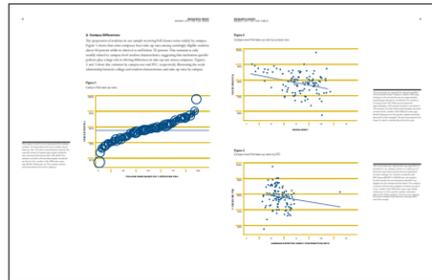
Wheelhouse gave me time and space to learn, reflect and connect with colleagues from all over the state. It has been an invaluable part of my development as a CEO.

SAMIA YAQUB
PRESIDENT, BUTTE-GLENN COMMUNITY COLLEGE



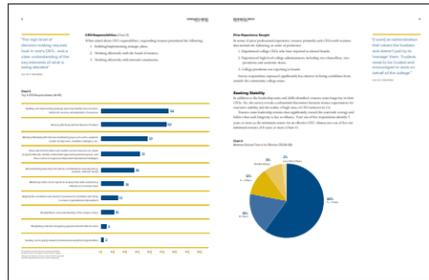
Research

Wheelhouse publishes digestible and actionable briefs for decision-maker audiences statewide, including community college administrators and trustees, the California Community College Chancellor's Office and Board of Governors, the Office of the Governor, the State Legislature and media covering higher education.



Money Left on the Table
An Analysis of Pell Grant Receipt Among Financially-Eligible Community College Students in California (Martorell and Friedmann, 2018)

Community College Quality
The Promises and Pitfalls of Measurement (Kurlaender, Carrell and Jackson, 2018)



Talk to Me
What California Community College Trustees Want from Their CEOs (Cooper, 2017)

Associate Degrees for Transfer
Early Effects on Degree Completion in California Community Colleges (Baker, 2017)



A Missed Opportunity for Improving Equity?
Early Observations on California's Community College BA Pilot (Cuellar and Gandara, 2017)

Tough Job if You Can Keep It
What California Community College CEOs Say About Their Challenges and Longevity (Cooper, 2016)

Growing an Impact Network of California Scholars

Wheelhouse is developing and supporting a statewide network of researchers whose work connects to our mission. Our annual Scholars' Retreat brings together academics from San Diego State, Stanford, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UCLA, USC and select non-California universities for research collaboration, peer feedback and learning. To cultivate the next generation of CCC-focused scholars, we include graduate students working with our affiliated scholars at these institutions.

7
Teaching cases and minicases developed

4
Statewide surveys conducted of CEOs, trustees, and financial aid directors

7
Research briefs published

\$1.9 M
Raised since inception in 2016

Investment

Since its inception in 2016, support for Wheelhouse has grown from a single funder to six streams of investment totaling \$1.9 million. These investments represent a mix of university, state and private foundation support.



WHEELHOUSE TEAM

Susanna Cooper

Managing Director

Michal Kurlaender

Lead Researcher

Deborah Travis

Director, Institute on Leadership

Anna Lawrence

Associate Director

Elizabeth Friedmann

Postdoctoral Scholar

Ambar Hernandez

Graduate Student Researcher

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Manuel Baca

Trustee, Mt. San Antonio College

Thomas Bailey

President, Teachers College,
Columbia University

Helen Benjamin

Chancellor Emerita, Contra Costa
Community College District

Julie Bruno

President, Academic Senate,
California Community Colleges

Edward Bush

President, Cosumnes River College

Larry Galizio

President and CEO, Community College
League of California

Brice W. Harris

Chancellor Emeritus,
California Community Colleges

Douglas B. Houston

Chancellor, Yuba Community College
District

Harold Levine

Dean Emeritus, UC Davis School of
Education

Lauren Lindstrom

Dean, UC Davis School of Education

“

We can join together
and look at how we
can effectively execute
what's needed for our
students.”



JOI LIN BLAKE

SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT,
PALOMAR COLLEGE

