



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Dr. Thomas Fallo Appointed Acting Chancellor of South Orange County Community College District**

November 21, 2017 – Dr. Thomas Fallo has been appointed to serve as acting chancellor of the South Orange County Community College District following a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees. The chancellor acts as chief executive officer of the district, overseeing the colleges and district-wide operations, an \$800 million budget, and nearly 4,000 employees. Dr. Fallo started in his position today and is replacing Dr. Debra Fitzsimons, who recently announced her retirement from the district.

Dr. Fallo has a 45-year career in the California Community Colleges and retired as superintendent/president of El Camino College in 2016 after serving 21 years in that role. He previously worked at the Los Angeles Community College District, serving as acting and interim chancellor and vice chancellor of business services. Prior to that, he held the positions of vice chancellor of business services and vice president of administrative services at both El Camino College and Glendale Community College District.

Board President Timothy Jemal stated, “Dr. Fallo’s excellent reputation and long and successful career as a community college president/superintendent made him an outstanding choice to serve as our acting chancellor. We are very fortunate to have him join our district and the board of trustees looks forward to working with him.”

Dr. Fallo said, “I was interested to serve as acting chancellor of the South Orange County Community College District because of its excellent reputation and commitment to innovation in academics and services to students. I thank the board of trustees for their confidence in me and I look forward to working with the students, faculty, staff, and administration of Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College.”

Dr. Fallo earned a Doctorate in Institutional Management from Pepperdine University; and a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from UCLA.

Dr. Fallo will serve as the acting chancellor until summer 2018, when the board of trustees expects to hire a permanent chancellor.

*South Orange County Community College District serves more than 60,000 students per year through our two colleges, Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College. The district serves nearly one million residents and employs more than 3,000 faculty and staff.###*