

For Immediate Release

Contact: Tere Fluegeman

(949) 582-4920

tfluegeman@socccd.edu

Gary Poertner Appointed Chancellor
of South Orange County Community
College District



October 26, 2010 -- The South Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees voted last night to appoint Gary Poertner as their next chancellor. He will begin his post on December 1, 2010.

Donald P. Wagner, South Orange County Community College District Board President said, "On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank Gary Poertner for coming out of a well-earned retirement to lead the district in these challenging times. Gary is well known to the district community, respected by all, and uniquely situated to provide a calm, professional leadership the district will need in the next few years."

Mr. Poertner spent 11 years of dedicated service as Deputy Chancellor for the district, providing leadership in all business operations including fiscal services, payroll, accounting, purchasing, and facilities planning. For many years he supervised the operations of human resources and information technology and provided development oversight for the district's newest campus, the Advanced Technology and Education Park in Tustin. Under his leadership, South Orange County Community College District was one of the first districts in the state to fully fund its retiree liability. He has over 40 years experience as an administrator in California public schools such as College of the Redwoods, El Camino College, and the Shasta Union High School District. He holds a B.S. in Commerce from St. Louis University and a MBA from California State University, Long Beach.

"I am delighted with my appointment as Chancellor of this outstanding community college district, which is so highly respected," said Poertner. "I appreciate the confidence the Board of Trustees has shown in my abilities to lead this organization with two excellent colleges. I have prepared for over forty years to assume this responsibility and I am anxious to begin the challenge."

The chancellor oversees 2,600 employees and 43,000 students at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, Irvine Valley College in Irvine, and the Advanced Technology and Education Park (ATEP) in Tustin and supervises an annual budget of more than \$446 million.

Founded in 1967, South Orange County Community College District serves 26 cities and communities through Saddleback College, Irvine Valley College and the Advanced Technology & Education Park (ATEP). The colleges prepare more than 43,000 students each year for careers, transfer to four-year colleges and universities and lifelong learning.

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