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**For Immediate Release**

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## **El Camino College to Participate in Enhanced Transfer Program with UC Berkeley**

El Camino College is one of seven community colleges to team up with the University of California at Berkeley to expand its Transfer Alliance Project in the Los Angeles area.

UC Berkeley recently received the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation grant which will provide funds to reach out to more community college transfer students from low- to moderate-income families during the next four years. The grant funds will cover a total of about \$7 million for support programs at the participating campuses.

“For us at El Camino, this means an increased UC Berkeley presence on our campus, and more services available to student populations that are underserved and underrepresented,” said Sue Oda Omori, El Camino College transfer center coordinator.

“We also look forward to more accessibility to information and support in transfer admissions, and hopefully the opportunity to increase the numbers of our students who transfer to UC Berkeley,”

The top campuses of the universities of Michigan and North Carolina are also participating in the grant program, along with private colleges Amherst, Mount Holyoke, Bucknell, Cornell and USC.

“We hope that this program encourages more universities to strongly consider community college students – our students – for transfer admission,” said El Camino College President Thomas M. Fallo. “Our students work hard every day to achieve their education and career goals and need the chance to take it to a higher level once they leave our campus.”

UC Berkeley already works closely with community college transfer programs throughout the state, and plans to use the grant to add about 480 slots, in addition to offering enhanced transfer services to 1,400 potential new students.

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