



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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El Camino College Announces Commencement Speaker: Dr. Mildred García

El Camino College recently announced that Dr. Mildred García, president of California State University, Dominguez Hills, will address the Class of 2008 at the 61st Annual Commencement Ceremony scheduled for 4 p.m. June 6 in Murdock Stadium.

"We are honored to welcome Dr. García to our college as commencement speaker," said Dr. Thomas M. Fallo, president of El Camino College. "She is a dedicated educator, committed to providing higher education opportunities for all."

Dr. García assumed the presidency at Dominguez Hills in August 2007 and became the university's first female president and the first Latina president in the 23-campus California State University system. She is the university's seventh president, following James E. Lyons Sr., who retired last year after seven years at CSUDH.

Dr. García's career in academia spans more than 30 years of higher education leadership. As president of Berkeley College, New York and New Jersey since 2001, she oversaw six campuses with nearly 6,000 students that offer two-and four-year degree programs. From 1997 to 2001, she held several positions with Arizona State University including vice provost for academic personnel, associate vice provost for academic affairs, and was also a tenured professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. While at ASU, Dr. García was also the liaison for faculty with the Hispanic Research Center on campus.

She was also affiliated with Montclair State University from 1986 to 1996 where she served as assistant vice president for academic affairs; executive assistant to the vice president for academic affairs; and as a faculty member in the School of Professional Studies. Dr. García also served as the dean of students for Hostos Community College in New York, as well as executive assistant to the president.

Dr. García holds a bachelor's degree in business education from Bernard M. Baruch College, a master's degree in business and higher education from New York University, a master's degree in higher education administration from Columbia University – Teachers College, and a doctorate in education from Columbia University – Teachers College.

Considering herself an educator foremost, Dr. García began her teaching career as an instructor of business and technology at LaGuardia Community College in New York. She continues to produce scholarly work focused on issues of equity in higher education.

Her commitment to ensuring equitable access to higher education is well served at CSUDH, a university considered one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse in the western United States.

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