



Otto for Education
Doug Otto
for Long Beach City College Board of Trustees

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Doug Otto Announces Plan to Improve Graduation Rate and Time at LBCC
Plan is Among the “Innovative Ideas” Otto Has for His Next Term on the Board of Trustees

(Long Beach) – Long Beach City College (LBCC) Board of Trustees President Doug Otto today released the second “innovative idea” he has planned for the next term.

“During my time on the Board of Trustees, student achievement has been my top priority. We have made huge strides in providing students with opportunities and support for their success. There is still more work to be done. In particular, we must improve the graduation and transfer rates at LBCC, and make sure that more students are completing their coursework in a reasonable amount of time.”

“The national average for community college students to graduate or transfer is six years. This is unacceptable. Too few students are completing their coursework in part because it is taking them too long. That’s something I want to change.”

“In my next term on the Board of Trustees, my goal is to reduce the time it takes LBCC students to graduate or transfer to three years. Not only will this allow students to move on to the next phase of their education or career more quickly, it will also allow more students to complete their coursework because more seats will be available in our classrooms.”

“Recently we began this process by implementing the new Transfer Degree Program, which will allow LBCC grads to enter into the Cal State system with two full years of credit and a path to early completion of their Bachelor Degrees. Since we introduced the program three years ago, we have seen transfer degrees increase by more than 300%, and the number of overall graduates has increased by more than 30%.”

“We have also created a model for raising achievement with the Promise Pathways program. This is available to those students who are part of the Long Beach College Promise, a nationally-recognized program that allows Long Beach Unified and other local school district students to receive a full year at LBCC tuition-free, if they meet specified academic standards.”



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“We implemented Promise Pathways to help those students graduate or transfer in a reasonable time frame. In the first year, there was a 300% increase in college math course completion and a 340% increase in college English course completion among LBUSD students who participated. I will advocate on the Board to expand this program to all LBCC students.”

Doug Otto is an attorney, community leader, and law professor. Serving on the Long Beach City College Board of Trustees since 2004, Doug has helped develop and implement many successful programs for the college. His leadership during tough budget times allowed LBCC to come out of the Great Recession as one of the best community colleges in California. Representing the 4th Trustee District, he lives on the East Side with his wife, Freda.

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