

# The Civil Rights Project



*Proyecto Derechos Civiles*

**FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

February 13, 2012

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## **MEDIA CALL ADVISORY**

### **Making Community Colleges Work for Students of Color** *Civil Rights Project Reports Call for Fundamental Changes*

(Los Angeles, CA) On Tues, Feb. 14, 2012, The Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA will issue three reports about the mechanisms underlying California's poor record of transfer from community colleges to four-year campuses. The reports are based on an analysis of data; findings show what can and must be done to improve the capacity of the community colleges to help students of color gain BA degrees.

**What:** **Media Call on three UC reports and their findings:** 1) *Building Pathways to Transfer: Community Colleges that Break the Chain of Failure for Students of Color*; 2) *Unrealized Promises: Unequal Access, Affordability, and Excellence at Community Colleges in Southern California*, and 3) *Beyond the Master Plan: The Case for Restructuring Baccalaureate Education in California*

**Who:**

- **Assemblyman Martin Block**, chair of the California Assembly Higher Education Committee, retired professor and dean, San Diego State University
- **Gary Orfield**, report co-author and co-director, UCLA Civil Rights Project
- **Patricia Gándara**, report co-author and co-director, UCLA Civil Rights Project

**When:** **Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. PST**

**Dial:** **(877) 297-2501; Conference ID # 52207220**

#### **About The Civil Rights Project at UCLA**

Founded in 1996 by former Harvard professors Gary Orfield and Christopher Edley, Jr., the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles is now co-directed by Orfield and Patricia Gándara, professors at UCLA. Its mission is to create a new generation of research in social science and law, on the critical issues of civil rights and equal opportunity for racial and ethnic groups in the United States. It has commissioned more than 400 studies, published more than 14 books and issued numerous reports from authors at universities and research centers across the country. The U.S. Supreme Court, in its 2003 *Grutter v. Bollinger* decision upholding affirmative action, and in Justice Breyer's dissent (joined by three other Justices) to its 2007 *Parents Involved in Community Schools* decision, cited the Civil Rights Project's research.

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