

January 6, 2021 #EquityChat
Eloy Oakley (@EloyOakley),
Chancellor of California Community Colleges (@CalCommColleges)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Welcome tonight to #EquityChat sponsored by @CollegeFutures w/ @EloyOakley Wed. 1/6 at 5 p.m PST. @Iamkeithcurry & @SDMesaPrez your #EquityAvengers coming to you tonite on this unprecedented & violent day in our country...join us as welcome Chancellor Oakley.

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1. @EloyOakley Can you give us your reaction to the violent events in the nation's capital today?
#EquityChat @Iamkeithcurry

[@EloyOakley](#) Q1. TY for having me @SDMesaPrez. Today's events were a distressing, disturbing & disgusting attempt to undermine the democratic process. This should be a reminder of how fragile our democracy is & how vigorously we must defend it. @Iamkeithcurry @CalCommColleges #equitychat

[@ahandsintheair](#) Agreed! I appreciated your statement, especially the part that said "As educators, these events reinforce the need to advance work of diversity, equity and inclusion in our colleges as we help build up communities and strengthen civic life."

[@ErinCharlens](#) Following

[@Iamkeithcurry](#) Q2. @EloyOakley. Reflecting on today's events, what advice/guidance would you share with educational leaders? #EquityChat @CalCommColleges @SDMesaPrez @Iamkeithcurry

[@EloyOakley](#) Q2. We should use the events of today as a platform to engage our students about the importance of civic engagement & understanding of how our democracy works. @Iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CalCommColleges #equitychat

[@ahandsintheair](#) Absolutely...along with inspiring a new vision for how our democracy should and could work.
#EquityChat

[@poppyfitch](#) YES! "Platform to engage" helps us make meaning and turn events into onramps to civic engagement and see connection to our day to day lives. This was my CCC story and I carry it in my work! Thank you for your leadership! 🙏

[@LegaspiVp](#) Completely agree! Would also add modeling civil and productive behavior within our own governance processes. #EquityChat

[@LorrainePrinsky](#) We must do a better job of teaching critical thinking, teaching students how to check the validity of statements coming from leaders, not to automatically trust rumors and unverified comments.

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Hard to push against the avalanche of misinformation, couldn't agree more...

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3. @EloyOakley Can you share information on the @CalCommColleges Call to Action and why it is so essential for @CalCommColleges to engaged in anti-racism work? #EquityChat @Iamkeithcurry

[@EloyOakley](#) Q3. The @CalCommColleges Call to Action could not be more important than it is today. As educators we must intentionally & visibly reject & root out racism & other forms of systemic discrimination. I am proud that our higher ed system has embraced this call. #equitychat

[@ahandsintheair](#) Student Services at @sdmesacollege has also embraced this call. We started where we were, with what we had & recommitted ourselves 2 make intentional change that roots out racism, esp for Black students. See <http://sdmesa.edu/blacklivesmatter/index.shtml> 4 info about our initial commitment. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) #MesaProud #creatingconditionsthatmatter @sdmesacollege

[@SDMesaPrez](#) ¹⁰⁰co-sign ...we've picked a point on the horizon for our students and have to stay the course. [@ProfeCheno](#) This makes our work in the CCCLEAD Program that much more important. Thank you for being a great prof in EDUC 815 this past fall.

[@SDMesaPrez](#) My pleasure [@ProfeCheno](#) !

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q4. [@EloyOakley](#). What new programs or initiatives are you looking forward to working on with the Biden Administration? #EquityChat [@CalCommColleges](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#)

[@EloyOakley](#) Q4. The Biden Admin will on Day 1 value every single one of our students & our colleges, a welcomed change. We will work together on student basic needs, increasing Pell, College Promise, & expanding access to more residents. [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CalCommColleges](#) #equitychat [@SDMesaPrez](#)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Even under the backdrop of today-I find hope and know the respect our [@CalCommColleges](#) have with [@JoeBiden](#) [@DrBiden](#) [@KamalaHarris](#) [@SenKamalaHarris](#) - our time is now!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5. [@EloyOakley](#) Tell us about [@CalCommColleges](#)? And your work as the [@CalCommColleges](#) Chancellor?

[@EloyOakley](#) Q5. The [@CalCommColleges](#) are the gateway to higher ed for the top ¹⁰⁰ of students. We are the most democratic system of higher ed in the world. I am so proud to serve this system. Our work is about creating opportunity for all Californians. [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) #equitychat

[@ahandsintheair](#) While @ an MLK Breakfast w/ UC & CSU leaders, [@carrollsdccd](#) emphatically said that CCC's serve the top 100% of all students. Those words sparked a fire in my soul & reignited my purpose. 1 yr later I was working in the CA Community College system. #conditionsthatmatter #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q6. [@EloyOakley](#). How has [@CalCommColleges](#) adjusted due to the COVID-19 pandemic? And how has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the [@CalCommColleges](#) 2021-2022 California State Budget Request? #EquityChat [@CalCommColleges](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#)

[@EloyOakley](#) Q6. The [@CalCommColleges](#) have heroically adapted to the challenges COVID has created for our students & done great work to support them through this crisis. The 21-22 budget will reflect the needs our students & our colleges to see our way through this pandemic. #equitychat

[@ahandsintheair](#) And, I love that you see our #heroic, #equityavenging efforts. Our system truly reflects the belief that students matter and that we care. Our nimbleness has truly been inspiring during this time. We are meeting students where they are & the more we understand, the better we do.

[@ahandsintheair](#) A budget that reflects the needs of our students and colleges sounds delightful. I'll be 😊, planning and creating conditions that matter for us to make it through this pandemic. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7. [@EloyOakley](#) What are you reading? And what book(s) would you recommend we consider reading?

[@EloyOakley](#) Q7. When I get I chance to read I had the pleasure of reading Ta-Nehisi Coates, Between the World & Me. Definitely recommend this book. Next up is Jamie Merisotis new book, Human Work. [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CalCommColleges](#) #equitychat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Love Coates, will add [@jamiemerisotis](#) #HumanWork to my reading list.

[@LorrainePrinsky](#) I'm reading the biography of Thomas Jefferson by Tom Meacham. The story of the peaceful transition of power from Adams to Jefferson is told well. I'm also reading Outlander book 7 (set in the same historical period) just to keep my Covid stay-at-home a bit more spicy.

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q8. [@EloyOakley](#). In closing, please tell us three things about you that are not on your resume.

#EquityChat [@CalCommColleges](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#)

[@EloyOakley](#) Q8. All of my four children have attended [@CalCommColleges](#). I am a huge [@Dodgers](#) & [@Lakers](#) fan! I performed as Elvis during most holiday seasons at [@LBCityCollege](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) #equitychat [@SDMesaPrez](#) [GIF: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1346999059249127427>]

[@SDMesaPrez](#) What??? Hoping there's some receipts on the Elvis performances...and you're in good company on the LA team love [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@MSCollegeOpp](#) [@lindam_v](#)

[@jjhetts](#) [GIF: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1347001406880796675>]

[@lindam_v](#) More reasons why [@EloyOakley](#) is the coolest 😎

[@ahandsintheair](#) Oh wow. Elvis?.....I'm chuckling. That is fabulous.

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY [@EloyOakley](#) for joining us on #EquityChat TY for your unwavering commitment to [@CalCommColleges](#)..for your unabashed determination in creating equitable outcomes 4 all students-Next week 1/13/21 we are joined by [@DrShaunHarper](#) [@USCRaceEquity](#) #EquityAvengersout [@CollegeFutures](#)

[@EloyOakley](#) 🙏