

REL#10-109
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2010

CONTACT: Tina Jung
PHONE: 916-319-0818
E-MAIL: tjung@cde.ca.gov

**State Schools Chief Jack O'Connell Announces Free Online
Tool to Help Families Find the Right Colleges for Their Children**

SACRAMENTO – State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell today urged college-bound students to sign up for CollegeWeekLive UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DAY, a free online event on October 7 showcasing all of the University of California (UC) campuses.

“Parents know it’s expensive to pack up the car and visit each college or university that their children are interested in attending,” said O'Connell. “Now you can take virtual tours of every UC campus and explore several academic programs right from your computer. It’s fast, it’s free, and it makes economic sense to narrow down your search for schools online before you actually visit them.”

CollegeWeekLive is a virtual college fair that connects hundreds of thousands of students to colleges and universities worldwide online at www.CollegeWeekLive.com. Families can get tips on preparing for college admissions tests, writing a winning application essay, and the interview admissions process. Families can speak directly with admissions experts, get information on scholarships and how to pay for college, and even take virtual tours of campus. CollegeWeekLive connects colleges directly with students, parents, and counselors live online in real time. Prospective students can also connect with current UC students for networking via live video webcasts and text chat.

“CollegeWeekLive, University of California Day is unique because each of the nine undergraduate campuses will be represented,” said Walter A. Robinson, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director of UC Berkeley’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions. “UC Day gives any prospective UC applicant a chance to get to know each of the campuses, from anywhere in the world. Each campus will staff virtual booths, feature live video streams, and be available for chats. We urge all prospective students, their parents, and counselors to participate and discover the special qualities each campus has to offer.”

Prospective students can explore different aspects of student life at each of the schools, such as admissions, academics, athletics, financial aid, and campus housing. Attendees can also participate in any of several live video webcam sessions with currently enrolled students from the different UC system schools to get a more informal take on collegiate life.

To register for the next CollegeWeekLive UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DAY on October 7, please visit www.CollegeWeekLive.com.

#

The California Department of Education (CDE) is a state agency led by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell. The core purpose of CDE is to lead and support the continuous improvement of student achievement, with a specific focus on closing achievement gaps. For more information, please visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov> or by mobile device at <http://m.cde.ca.gov/>. You may also follow Superintendent O'Connell (@SSPIJack) on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/sspijack>.

About CollegeWeekLive

CollegeWeekLive (<http://www.CollegeWeekLive.com>) provides the world's largest college fairs and online admissions events. With hundreds of colleges and universities exhibiting and more than 350,000 registrants, CollegeWeekLive revolutionizes college admissions, making the process easier and more cost-effective by bringing students, parents, counselors, and colleges together online, transcending time and distance. CollegeWeekLive is free for students, parents, and counselors.

CollegeWeekLive is produced by PlatformQ, whose mission is to connect people, companies, organizations and associations worldwide to meet, interact and learn from leading experts and thought leaders through proven interactive tools at online events. CollegeWeekLive and PlatformQ are trademarks of PlatformQ, LLC. All other trademarks or service marks are property of their respective owners.