

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** September 27, 2012 FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pam Hunter 760.773.2589 Executive Director, Institutional Advancement/ Title V Project Director

## COD Director of Advanced Transportation Technology and Energy to Lead Discussion on Green Jobs at Southern California Energy Summit

PALM DESERT, CA—Larry McLaughlin, Director of Advanced Transportation Technology & Energy (ATTE), College of the Desert, will lead a panel of experts in an important discussion centered on how to put Southern California back to work with Green Jobs at the upcoming Southern California Energy Summit in Palm Springs October 5, 2012. The outlook for Southern California's green job opportunities and identifying the steps needed to ensure that an appropriately skilled workforce is being developed are the topics for the panel.

The Energy Summit brings together regional leaders from the counties of Inyo, Mono, Kern, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial to discuss the opportunities, challenges and solutions facing the various renewable energy industries of Southern California.

Joining McLaughlin for the panel discussion are: Tom Freeman, Commissioner, Office of Foreign Trade, County of Riverside Economic Development Agency; Jim Caldwell, Sector Lead for Energy & Utility Initiatives, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office; Rhonda Mills, Southern California Program Director, CEERT; Dave Teasdale, Director, Clean Energy Center, Kern Community College District; and Timothy E. Kelly, President/ CEO, Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation.

The COD Advanced Transportation Technology & Energy Center helped develop the nation's first community college curriculum for natural gas and hydrogen, still being utilized world-wide. College of the Desert's transportation and energy technology and related technical education assistance and outreach programs are tailored to the needs of regional employers and employees in California.

The College provides students, technicians, faculty, public and other initiative centers with the education, training and resources they need to effectively learn, teach and work with advanced transportation and energy technologies.

For more information about the COD ATTE programs contact Larry McLaughlin at (760) 773-2595. For more information about the Energy Summit contact: (760) 327-9708.

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