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LACC's Black Lives Matter November Town Hall Features Derrick Drakeford, Ph.D.

(November 18, 2020) In response to the rising movement for Black Lives Matter, Los Angeles City College (LACC) has implemented several initiatives to fulfill their commitment to pursue racial justice.

One of the main components of LACC's pledge to root out racism, bias and micro-aggressive behavior on campus is the development of a series of Black Lives Matter Town Halls for faculty, staff and the LACC community. These Town Hall meetings provide a safe space for the campus community to have courageous, critical, conscious conversations about race, equity and social justice. More importantly, it helps the campus move closer to addressing associated issues. Past speakers have included Benjamin Crump, Esq., Danny Glover, Ben Guillory, Capri Maddox, Tim Wise and Michael Eric Dyson.

"The entire LACC community is committed to better understanding how systemic racism can impact our campus and to ensure that we do everything we can to eliminate its impact for the future of our students, staff, faculty, alumni and the world," said Dr. Mary Gallagher, President, Los Angeles City College. "Our new initiatives, including our Black Lives Matter Town Halls, will continue to provide support and resources for our community."

"Inclusion: The Art of Storytelling," LACC's next Black Lives Matter Town Hall, will be held Friday, November 20 at 1:30pm. The free event will feature Derrick Drakeford, Ph.D. and will cultivate a mindset of inclusion and empower attendees to re-create this mindset through story listening and by examining the research method of autoethnography.

The event is free and can be accessed at <https://laccd.zoom.us/j/97256000545>.

About Dr. Derrick Drakeford

Dr. Derrick Drakeford is a Social Entrepreneur, the CEO of Drakeford, Scott, and Associates L.L.C. (www.drakefordassociates.org) and founder of Purpose University (www.learnpurpose.org). Derrick is a former faculty member of North Carolina Central University in the Masters in Public Administration Program, and served as the Director of Freshman Studies at Shaw University. Derrick has consulted with nonprofit organizations, schools, businesses, and churches for eleven years. He holds a BS in Political Science from Bethune-Cookman College and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of North Carolina's School of Government.

About Los Angeles City College

Established in 1929, Los Angeles City College is one of the oldest of the California Community Colleges. Located in the heart of Hollywood, LACC provides a dynamic innovative learning environment offering more than 100 vocational and professional programs including degrees, transfer programs and certificates to more than 18,000 students. In the past decade, a total of 6,651 students have transferred to four-year colleges and universities, including 4,040 students attending Cal State universities and 1,086 students transferring to UC campuses. Los Angeles City College is home to one of the most vibrant and diverse campuses in the country. The campus provides a wide range of professional and vocational programs at a fraction of the cost of state and private colleges. LACC provides students and adult learners vital pathways to more advanced education and enhanced employment. In 2019, LACC celebrated its 90th anniversary.