



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Shaena Engle

Manager, Public Relations

[engles@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:engles@lacitycollege.edu)

## **LACC RANKED 2<sup>nd</sup> IN CALIFORNIA AND 6<sup>th</sup> NATIONWIDE IN ACADEMIC INFLUENCE'S BEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE RANKINGS**

(March 11, 2021) Academic Influence has rated Los Angeles City College (LACC) the second best community college in California and the sixth in the U.S.

On Thursday, March 4, 2021, Academic Influence released its first ranking of the best 50 American community colleges. The rankings were derived from an initial list of 839 community colleges in the country.

“We are extremely gratified that the hard work of LACC’s faculty, staff, and students is being recognized through strong rankings in Academic Influence,” said Dr. Mary Gallagher, President, Los Angeles City College.

Academic Influence used the same methodology it’s employed to rank all kinds of higher education institutions, including liberal art colleges, research universities and international institutions. Its approach is based on the premise that the people affiliated with a school determine its quality. To measure that quality, a trademarked measure termed “Concentrated Influence” is computed.

“Throughout its 90 plus year history, Los Angeles City College has produced alumni who make significant contributions in their communities, the nation, and the world. The production of our distinguished alumni is proliferated on a decade’s long foundation of faculty and staff excellence, each making their own significant mark in and beyond the institution’s walls. It is wonderful to see these contributions recognized by Academic Influence,” said Dr. Jim Lancaster, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Los Angeles City College.

“At LACC, we collaborate with brilliant minds in entrepreneurship, ethics, innovation and theory,” said Alen Andriassian, Acting Vice President of Student Services, Los Angeles City College. “I am excited to be a part of the leadership of such an exceptional institution.”

Using machine-learning technology developed with funding from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Academic Influence searches open-source data in two massive sources - Wikipedia and CrossRef - for papers, chapters, books, and citations to individuals worldwide. Collectively, these databases contain billions of continuously updated data points about millions of individuals' achievements.

Then, the Concentrated Influence score of a given institution is calculated by combining all the “mentions” of the individuals who've been associated with that institution as faculty, administrators or alums. That score is then divided by the school's total number of students. Adjusting for size this way gives small and mid-sized schools an equal chance of competing with larger colleges. A small school with proportionately more influential faculty than a large school, whose absolute influence may be bigger, will score higher using Concentrated Influence rankings.

LACC ranked sixth in the nation behind Anne Arundel Community College, Roxbury Community College, Eastern Main Community College, Springfield Technical Community College and College of Marin. LACC ranked second in California community colleges behind the College of Marin. Also ranked in the top five California community colleges was Los Angeles Valley College.

### **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.