Dr. Omar Torres Candidate for Superintendent/President Solano Community College

Dr. Omar Torres has proudly spent the last 23 years in higher education as part of the California Community College system. Since July 2020, Dr. Torres has served as the Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Instruction and Accreditation Liaison Officer at College of the Canyons (COC), where he facilitates the creation of transformative instructional and equitable support opportunities for students, faculty, and staff through the development of experiential and integrated learning, cultural responsiveness and the dismantling of barriers, innovative uses of technology, community partnerships, fundraising, construction projects, while fostering a vibrant environment of inquiry, open communication, and trust. Prior to that role, Dr. Torres served as the Associate Vice President of Instruction for 3 years and the Dean of Mathematics, Sciences & Engineering as well as the Dean of Health Professions & Public Safety for 6 years at COC. He also had the opportunity to briefly work at Santa Ana College as the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Before becoming an administrator, Dr. Torres was at Moorpark College for 6 years as a full-time, tenured faculty member in chemistry, teaching both onsite and online while serving as department chair and member of the college's Academic Senate and Curriculum Committee. He began his career in 2001 at Los Angeles City College as an adjunct instructor in chemistry while working full-time as a high school chemistry teacher for 3 years.

Statewide, Dr. Torres is the president-elect of the CCCCIO organization, serves on both the California Community Colleges Curriculum Committee and the Community College League of California Advisory Committee on Legislation, led the statewide training for deans of color and allies that aspire to become chief instructional officers, and represented the CCCCIO board as past Region 6 CIO representative. Dr. Torres participates on multiple boards, including the College of the Canyons Foundation Board and the Valley Industry Association of Santa Clarita.

Dr. Torres received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Texas A&M University, a master's degree in chemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles, and an Ed.D. in organizational leadership from the University of La Verne.

