



PRESS RELEASE
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Teacher Commission Welcomes EnCorps President

SACRAMENTO – The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) welcomes EnCorps President Jennifer Anastasoff to its December 9 meeting. Ms. Anastasoff will present “Transitioning Scientists, Techies, Engineers, and Math (STEM) Professionals in Teaching,” outlining the accomplishments of the EnCorps Teacher Program in recruiting and placing some 132 STEM tutors, guest teachers, and full-time teachers to date and detail projections to place an additional 200-plus recruits by June 2011.

Increasing the focus on America’s need for more and better STEM and career technical education (CTE) was one of the driving points of the federal Race To The Top grant competition. Acting on legislation passed in the California Senate, SBX5 1, in June 2010 the Commission opened additional avenues for individuals interested in careers in STEM and CTE education. Expanded options for prospective program sponsors looking to offer credential preparation in these areas were also added.

“Ms. Anastasoff’s presentation is not only relevant but timely, as the Commission and the rest of the state prepare to begin working with a new Governor and a new group of lawmakers,” says Dale Janssen, the Commission’s Executive Director.

The founding CEO of EnCorps, Ms. Anastasoff has significant experience engaging the corporate sector in pro-bono projects as well as in education. In her capacity as CEO of BuildingBlocks International (BBI), a San Francisco-based nonprofit that is working with multinational corporations to develop what Business Week calls a corporate "Peace Corps," she created the corporate and programmatic infrastructure to support professionals transitioning into the public sector, conducted a national public education campaign, and successfully built strategic relationships with companies like Pfizer, UPS, Cisco and PwC. Her prior work includes teaching through Teach for America and serving as an analyst in the California Legislature. She has spoken and presented papers at Harvard University and its Business School, the University of California at Berkeley, and the Comparative International Education Society Conference. Ms. Anastasoff has a

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Master's degree in Education Policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, where she received the prestigious Public Service Fellowship. This is Ms. Anastasoff's second presentation to the Commission; her first was at the June 5, 2008 meeting.

For additional information about this and past Commission meetings, and for STEM – CTE teacher training information, go to www.ctc.ca.gov.

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