COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

Ensuring Educator Excellence

PRESS RELEASE

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Mary Vixie Sandy Appointed Executive Director of Teacher Credentialing Commission

SACRAMENTO – The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing today announced the appointment of Mary Vixie Sandy as its new Executive Director. Sandy is an education professional with more than 20 years experience working in California's education policy community. She will begin her term on November 1, 2011.

"Teacher development has been a central focus of my research and professional work. I look forward to applying this experience and knowledge in my new role as the Commission's Executive Director," said Sandy. "I pledge to continue the Commission's recent efforts to strengthen its operational efficiency, transparency, and accountability."

Commission Chair, Dr. Ting Sun, stated, "We are fortunate to have someone with such talent and experience on board as we move forward in our ongoing commitment to ensure excellent teachers for California's 6 million school children."

Since 2007, Sandy has served as the Executive Director of the Cooperative Research and Extension Services for Schools (CRESS) Center in the School of Education at UC Davis. The CRESS Center provides professional development, research, and evaluation services for teachers, schools and community based organizations, and fosters collaboration between university faculty and K-12 educators designed to support teacher development and student success.

Sandy began her career in education as a consultant with the California Department of Education, where she worked on implementation of the State's Model Curriculum Standards. She then joined the professional staff of the California Postsecondary Education Commission, where she worked on a landmark study of teacher professional development, assisted with the administration of the Eisenhower Mathematics and Science State Grant Program, conducted policy research, and engaged in legislative analysis and advocacy.

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In 1992 Sandy joined the professional staff of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. While at the Commission she served as a grant manager, policy analyst and program evaluator. As a senior manager in policy and program development for the Commission, she directed implementation of substantive reforms in teacher credentialing.

In 2004, Sandy joined the management team of the California State University system. As the Associate Director of Teacher Education and Public School Programs for the CSU Chancellor's Office, she continued to work on policy issues in the realm of teacher development from the vantage point of postsecondary education, working with faculty, education deans and other administrators on program development and policy implementation.

Sandy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Sonoma State University, a Master of Arts Degree in Philosophy in Education from the University of California at Davis, and is currently completing a Doctorate in Education at UC Berkeley.

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