During the past year, President Napolitano has been meeting with community college leaders across the state to discuss issues of mutual concern and to express the University’s commitment to the student transfer process. Since the beginning of her tenure at UC, President Napolitano has championed the needs of community college students and highlighted the importance of the transfer pathway as an essential avenue of higher education access. One month after taking office, she commissioned a comprehensive review of UC’s transfer policies, practices and services. The subsequent report—“Preparing California For Its Future: Enhancing Community College Student Transfer to UC”—recommends that UC reach out more broadly to California’s community colleges, especially those located in underserved regions that encompass the broad diversity of the state’s populace. (A copy of the report, along with additional background, can be found here: http://ucop.edu/transfer-action-team.)

In the year since the report’s release, President Napolitano has advanced several initiatives designed to improve transfer, including the development of UC’s Transfer Pathways, which provide common course roadmaps for community college students planning to apply to any UC campus (http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/preparation-paths/). See also the Q&A at http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/q-and-a/transfer-pathways/index.html.

Our conversation on November 10th is designed to solicit your advice and counsel regarding other strategies by which the California Community Colleges and the University of California can partner for the benefit of students.