



Byron D. Clift Breland, Ph.D.

Biography

Dr. Byron D. Clift Breland has more than 25 years of administrative and teaching experience in higher education and currently serves as chancellor of the San Jose – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) located in Silicon Valley. He has worked to develop innovative partnerships that provide meaningful educational and job training experiences for the diverse student populations of San Jose City College, Evergreen Valley College, the Community College Extension Center in Milpitas, and the Center for Economic Mobility.

Prior to being promoted to the SJECCD chancellor position, Dr. Clift Breland served as the president of San Jose City College (SJCC), where under his leadership, SJCC became positioned among the top institutions in the nation in career education and workforce preparation. In addition, Dr. Clift Breland has overseen the opening of a college extension center in the city of Milpitas with a focus on dual enrollment for high school students. He was also instrumental in assisting with launching the San José Promise, which provides up to two years of cost-free education and breaks down financial barriers for students in the city of San Jose.

Previously, Dr. Clift Breland served as associate vice president/provost at Long Beach City College's Pacific Coast Campus; associate dean of student development at Santa Ana College; and assistant dean, director of judicial affairs at the University of California, Irvine, serving both the undergraduate and medical school campuses. In addition, he has held administrative positions at University of Southern California and University of Maryland at College Park.

Dr. Clift Breland currently serves on numerous boards, councils and commissions, including: National Advisory Board for the Steve Fund; Mayor's Silicon Valley Recovery Roundtable; Affordability, Food and Housing Taskforce; Community College Council on Mental Health; Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on International Education; Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce; African-American Male Education Network and Development; and Silicon Valley Leadership Group. He also currently serves as the chair of the board of directors for the Community College League of California (CCLC), and as the president of the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges Board of CCLC.

Dr. Clift Breland earned a BS in consumer economics and an MS in family studies from the University of Maryland, College Park, and an MS in education and a PhD in counseling psychology from the University of Southern California.