



The Gordon Commission  
on the Future of Assessment in Education



National Center for Research  
on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing

UCLA | Graduate School of Education & Information Studies

USC Rossier  
School of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**UCLA TO HOST SYMPOSIUM ON THE REPORTS OF THE  
GORDON COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF ASSESSMENT IN EDUCATION**

Los Angeles, CA – A number of well-known national education assessment and policy experts will host a symposium on June 12, 2013 to discuss the reports of the Gordon Commission on the Future of Assessment in Education. The reports call for state and federal policymakers to make substantial changes to K-12 assessments and re-direct the existing focus on the use of test results.

Signaling a shift from high stakes consequences for students, schools, and teachers, “the primary purpose of assessment ought to be to inform and improve teaching and learning,” said Edmund W. Gordon, chairperson of the Gordon Commission. The Commission’s report, *To Assess, To Teach, To Learn: A Vision for the Future of Assessment*, comes amidst adoption by 45 states of the Common Core State Standards, expected to be measured by one of two technology-based tests beginning in the 2014-15 school year.

The event is co-sponsored by the UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education, and the Gordon Commission on the Future of Assessment in Education.

In addition to Dr. Gordon, the afternoon symposium will include brief presentations from Commission members Eva Baker and Louis Gomez from UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies; and other leading education experts including Karen Symms Gallagher,

Dean of the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education, Edward Haertel, Stanford University School of Education, Carl Cohn, California State Board of Education, Charlene Rivera, George Washington University, and Norma Silva, UCLA Lab School.

Representing the consortia developing technology-based assessments to measure the Common Core State Standards are Tony Alpert from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and Allison Jones from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.

Rounding out the speakers are Li Cai, co-director with Eva Baker of UCLA's Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST), as well as Joan Herman, CRESST Senior Research Scientist.

"This event is an excellent opportunity to discuss the Commission's recommendations that are likely to produce significant changes in assessment," explained Baker, who authored a paper for the Gordon Commission on testing in the global future.

Among the report's recommendations is that the states create a permanent council on educational assessments that would evaluate new assessments and their effects on teaching and learning. The report also encourages Congress and President Obama to revise federal education law in order to promote new ideas about assessment.

The event will be held at UCLA's De Neve Plaza, on June 12, 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. To attend, please send an RSVP to Candice Carpio at [carpio@cse.ucla.edu](mailto:carpio@cse.ucla.edu).

For more information, contact Ron Dietel at 310-794-9168 or [dietel@cse.ucla.edu](mailto:dietel@cse.ucla.edu).

### **About the Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing**

The National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing ([CRESST](#)) is a research center within UCLA's Graduate School of Education & Information Studies. CRESST

conducts research into accountability systems, practices, and policies. The Center also evaluates a broad number of educational programs and methods, with a central goal of improved achievement for all students and reductions in achievement gaps.

### **About the Gordon Commission on the Future of Assessment in Education**

The Gordon Commission was established by ETS as an independent entity with the mission to study the best of educational assessment policy, practice and technology; consider the best estimates of what education will become and what will be needed from educational assessment during the 21st Century; and to generate recommendations on educational assessment design and application that meet and/or exceed the demands and needs of education — present and predicted.

### **About the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education**

The mission of the [USC Rossier School of Education](#) (ross-EAR) is to improve learning in urban education locally, nationally and globally. Rossier leads the way in innovative, collaborative solutions to improve education outcomes. The school's work is field-based, in the classroom, and online, and reflects a diversity of perspectives and experiences. It is committed to innovation in all its programs, preparing teachers, administrators, and educational leaders who are change agents.

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