

## Biography

## ALBERT J. ROMÁN, DPA

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Dr. Albert J. Román is a candidate for Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College. His passion for working with educational institutions that serve diverse student populations compelled him to apply for this position. As an immigrant student and first-generation college graduate, Dr. Román's educational journey is similar to many students who attend Rio Hondo College. Dr. Román is able to relate and understand firsthand the challenges students face and the opportunities they have to realize their full potential.

Dr. Román has devoted his career to public education. He believes community colleges are vital to bolstering economic growth in underserved communities and providing viable educational opportunities to students of diverse backgrounds. Furthermore, he believes community colleges must work diligently to close the achievement gap of disproportionately disadvantaged students through outreach, increased access and academic and ancillary support. In addition, community colleges must build public and private partnerships in the community to strengthen their institutional capacity. This includes advocacy at the local, state and federal level and reaching out to the most vulnerable sectors of the community.

Dr. Roman has held several senior leadership positions in educational institutions that serve diverse student populations. His experience spans working as a classified employee, faculty member, director of human resources, assistant superintendent, vice president and Vice Chancellor for the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), the largest community college district in the nation. In his current role as Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Dr. Roman provides leadership, guidance and support to nine colleges who collectively serve over 230,000 students. Prior to LACCD, he worked as Vice President for the Southwestern Community College District. In addition, he worked as assistant superintendent where he had executive oversight of several programs including adult education and student services. Dr. Román also served as director of human resources and has taught at the community college level. Prior to these positions, he worked as a congressional representative for the federal government and field representative for the California State Senate. In addition to his governmental experience, other leadership capacities include Senior Partner of AR Strategic Solutions, a firm that helps educational organizations develop innovative strategies and transformational plans. Through this partnership, Dr. Román has consulted for a variety of organizations in performance management, conflict resolution, accreditation, strategic planning, labor relations, institutional advancement and leadership development. In addition to public sector agencies, Dr. Román has worked directly with non-profit organizations to manage, develop and implement resource development programs.

Dr. Román holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside and a Master's and Doctorate degree in Public Administration from the University of La Verne.