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Legislature’s higher education analyst chosen for Sacramento State post

Sacramento State’s Center for California Studies has a new director. Steve Boilard, from the state Legislative Analyst’s Office, has been selected for the position. He begins Sept. 10.

Boilard has extensive experience in government and education. During his 14 years in the Analyst’s Office, he has served as the managing principal analyst, director of Higher Education, and a senior analyst. He also has been an assistant professor at Western Kentucky University, an instructor at UC Santa Barbara, and a policy analyst with the California Department of Housing and Community Development. He holds a doctorate in Political Science from UC Santa Barbara.

In his new post, Boilard will guide Sacramento State’s Center for California Studies. The center administers the award-winning Capital Fellows Programs, which place college graduates with the state Legislature, executive branch and courts; the LegiSchool Project, which encourages secondary students to engage in matters of public policy and state government; and other research and public service programs.

“Steve has a rare combination of high-level, practical experience with state government and academic training,” says Edward Lascher, interim dean of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, and former acting director of the center. “Additionally, he has a strong commitment to public service.”

Boilard says the center’s promotion of civic literacy caught his attention.

“I’ve long had an interest in governance, in particular the relationship of the citizens to the government,” he says. “I think it needs a lot of attention, and the center can help provide that.”
The post was previously held by Tim Hodson, who died Oct. 25, 2011. Boilard admires Hodson's leadership of the center. “It has a very good reputation in the capital, and this was an opportunity to carry on Tim’s good work,” Boilard says.

In addition to his professional experience, Boilard is a Sacramento State alumnus, graduating in 1988 with a master of arts in government. “I've remained pretty closely connected with the campus, so being connected in a professional way is very gratifying.”

For more information on the Center for California Studies, visit www.csus.edu/calst/. For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

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