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NEW ONLINE COLLEGE HIRES ARI BADER-NATAL AS CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

Sacramento, CA – The California Online Community College District Board of Trustees has hired Ari Bader-Natal, Ph.D., to serve as Chief Technology Officer for the new Online College. Ari previously served as Chief Learning Scientist at the Minerva Project, where he was responsible for anticipating and designing technologies to support teaching and learning at Minerva Schools at KGI and a number of partner institutions.

“Ari is a proven leader in the education technology space, with a deep understanding of how purpose-driven technology can change a learner’s experience for the better,” said the Online College’s President and CEO Heather Hiles. “I’m confident he will build the right technology to meet our learners where they are, with their needs centered.”

Ari is co-inventor on five U.S. patents, and co-author of three chapters in “Building the Intentional University” (MIT Press, 2017). Prior to his work at Minerva, Ari was Chief Learning Architect at Grockit, where he developed the company’s core social learning and assessment technologies as well as designed a central system for educational data analysis and learning analytics.

“I’m keenly interested in delivering technologies that enable new models of higher education,” said Bader-Natal. “I understand what it takes to successfully transition a new institution from vision to operation, and I look forward to leveraging those experiences here as we navigate the process of building this unique addition to the California Community Colleges system. My goal is to equip this college — our learners, faculty, staff, and employer partners — with the tools to deliver, at scale, on the promise of a better career.”

Ari holds a B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Computer Science from Brandeis University.

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