



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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Community Colleges Governor Award Presented to Arnold Schwarzenegger at National Trustee Conference

Sacramento, CA – Today the California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott honored Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger with the first ever “Community Colleges Governor” award in front of more than 1,300 college trustees and presidents from around the nation at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Annual Leadership Congress held in San Francisco. Schwarzenegger, a Santa Monica College graduate and long time supporter of the California Community Colleges, received the one-of-a-kind award for his distinguished advocacy efforts on behalf of the system.

During his tenure as governor, Schwarzenegger has supported the community colleges and established important and highly successful public-private partnerships such as the Allied Health Initiative, the California Nurse Education Program and California Clean Energy Workforce Training Program. These initiatives provide federal, state and private funding for the community colleges to offer increased workforce training opportunities in critically needed professions that address the state’s growing demand for specialists in emerging fields while putting thousands of Californians back to work. He also signed legislation to change the funding formula for community colleges and improve and strengthen high school and community college based career technical education programs.

“With 2.9 million students, the California Community College system is the largest provider of workforce training in the state,” said Chancellor Jack Scott. “No other system of higher education in the world matches our capacity to change lives and produce a strong, qualified workforce. Gov. Schwarzenegger understands the critical role community colleges play in preparing Californians for the changing job market, getting the unemployed job training, preparing students to transfer to four year colleges and universities and providing basic skills courses.”

“California’s community colleges provide a first-rate education that is affordable and pave the way to four-year universities and successful careers – and that is why I am confident they will play a critical role in our nation's economic recovery,” said Gov. Schwarzenegger.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation comprised of 72 districts and 110 colleges serving more than 2.9 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training and basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit www.cccco.edu.

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