



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE



FOUNDATION for CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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Chancellor's Student Success Award and 2009 Exemplary Program Awards Recipients Honored at Board of Governors Meeting

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – January 11, 2010 – California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott, along with members of the Board of Governors and the Foundation for California Community Colleges President Paul Lanning, honored community colleges from around the state with the Chancellor's Student Success Award and the 2009 Exemplary Program Awards at the board meeting held this morning. Ten colleges received an award or honorable mention at the ceremony.

"I congratulate today's award recipients for their leadership in fostering exceptionally high rates of student success," said Chancellor Scott. "While I take pride in the fact that our colleges are open access institutions, increasing the number of students who succeed in college is equally important and a priority of mine. When students succeed by completing a career certificate or a college degree, they are far more likely to go on to lead productive lives. These innovative programs serve as models to be considered and replicated throughout the state."

Chancellor's Student Success Award Background

The annual Chancellor's Student Success Award, established in 2004, honors college and district programs that demonstrate a commitment and significant progress toward achieving equity goals for all students. The programs must also exhibit success rates in the areas of access, retention, course completion, degree and certificate completion, and transfer. Only two colleges or districts are selected each year to receive the prestigious award and two additional honorable mentions are given to two noteworthy colleges or districts. Today Chancellor Jack Scott recognized the four winning programs at the board meeting.

Chancellor's Student Success Award - Los Rios Community College District

Los Rios Community College District received the award for its "Education Initiative" program which improves success rates for one of the district's fastest growing and most at risk groups - first-time freshman ages 18 to 20. Each college in the district responded to the call to find ways to improve success. All of the colleges constituencies were strongly engaged in the initiative but the efforts of the faculty were noteworthy both inside and outside of the classroom.

Some of the activities included the development of “The Spot” at American River College, a place where students can gather to study, work on a computer or meet with counselors in a welcoming environment. Cosumnes River College offered special Freshman Seminars; Folsom Lake College enhanced tutoring services and a “Get Connected” event; Sacramento City College offered the “RISE (Respect, Integrity, Self-Determination, Education)” program’s in-class tutoring.

Chancellor’s Student Success Award – Long Beach City College

Long Beach City College received the award for its “College Promise” collaborative program which assists students with preparation for higher education beginning in fourth grade and continuing through college and its “Student Success Plan” which offers supplemental learning assistance in math, writing, reading and career technical education courses.

“College Promise” is a joint effort of the Long Beach Unified School District; California State University, Long Beach; and Long Beach City College to dramatically increase the number of greater Long Beach area students who successfully complete a higher education degree or certificate. This year every fourth grade student in the area will visit Long Beach City College and every fifth grade student will visit California State University, Long Beach – over 12,000 student visits.

The first goal completed of the 13 outlined in the “Student Success Plan” was the creation of four Success Centers that offer supplemental learning assistance in math, writing, reading and career technical education courses. More than 7,000 students each semester visit a center to complete activities designed to help them overcome key hurdles to success in each course.

Chancellor’s Student Success Award – Honorable Mentions

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District received an honorable mention for its “UMOJA Community.” This resource is dedicated to enhancing the cultural and educational experience of African Americans and other students. This is done through a curriculum, pedagogy and network of support services responsive to the legacy of the African Diaspora.

West Valley College was awarded an honorable mention for its “Educational Transition Program” which provides a wide array of services to adult learners, including dislocated workers who need training and education to return to the workforce, immigrant adults with limited English Skills and veterans who recently separated from active duty.

Exemplary Program Awards Background

Established in 1991 by the Board of Governors, the Exemplary Program Awards recognize outstanding community college programs. The award, which comes with a \$4,000 cash prize and a plaque, is given to two programs. Up to four additional colleges or districts can receive an honorable mention. The awards are sponsored by the Foundation for California Community Colleges and provide an excellent opportunity for to showcase model programs.

2009 Exemplary Program Awards – Santa Barbara City College

The “Partnership for Student Success” initiative of Santa Barbara City College was aimed at addressing the needs of the large population of underprepared students entering the college and increasing the academic success of all Santa Barbara City College students.

The initiative was a coordinated, faculty-led tutoring supplemental instruction program consisting of a Writing Center, the Math Lab, the Academic Achievement Zone, and the “Gateway to Success Program.”

In-class and outside tutoring was offered in designated classes ranging from ESL and basic skills through first year content of career technical education courses. In the spring of 2009, the Gateway Center reported more than 5,000 tutoring sessions occurred.

2009 Exemplary Program Awards – Bakersfield College

With more than 70 percent of its first-time students entering with basic skills needs, Bakersfield College implemented the “Academic Development Program” to help students successfully move into transfer and career programs. The campaign is designed to address the needs of underprepared students entering college by creating “a bridge to success” through improved teaching and learning techniques including faculty-led tutoring and supplemental instruction programs that are more effective at serving students in a manner tailored to their specific academic needs.

2009 Exemplary Program Awards – Honorable Mentions

Contra Costa College received an honorable mention for its “Center for Science Excellence” program that answers the national call to increase the number of underrepresented students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math fields.

El Camino College received an honorable mention for its “First Year Experience” program that links academic support to student services.

College of San Mateo received an honorable mention for its “Writing in the End Zone” program that pairs developmental English and transfer level composition courses with physical education and football.

College of the Sequoias received an honorable mention for its “Puente Project,” which calls for a general focus on learning, which leads to productive work, lifelong learning, and community involvement.

Each year, the Foundation for California Community Colleges sponsors a number of awards and scholarship programs that recognize leadership, innovation and commitment to excellence in the community colleges. “The Foundation is honored to co-sponsor these awards in collaboration with the Chancellor's Office because they reward institutions for making a significant impact on our students,” said Foundation President and CEO, Dr. Paul Lanning. “The level of innovation, commitment and passion demonstrated by the award recipients is always impressive and praiseworthy.”

A full description of each of the program award winners is available on the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office [Web site](http://www.cccco.edu) (www.cccco.edu).

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation comprised of 72 districts and 110 colleges serving 2.9 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training and basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. 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.

The Foundation for California Community Colleges is the official non-profit to the California Community Colleges' Board of Governors, Chancellor, and System Office. The Foundation's mission is to benefit, support, and enhance the missions of the California Community Colleges system, the largest higher education system in the nation. Incorporated in 1998, the Foundation works with Community Colleges and partner organizations to manage donations, grants, programs, and services that drive excellence in education while saving millions of dollars for colleges each year. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit corporation and receives no direct state or public support. For more information, visit www.foundationccc.org.