



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

Nov. 20, 2015

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California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris Honors Two Community College Programs with Student Success Award

BURLINGAME, Calif. – California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris on Friday honored two community college programs with the 2015 Chancellor's Student Success Award. The award is presented to programs that succeed in supporting students as they achieve their higher education goals. This year's honorees are Citrus College's STEM Summer Research Experience Program and College of the Canyons' Accelerate Your Dreams to Reality Program.

"It is a tremendous honor to recognize these programs for going above and beyond to help our students succeed," said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris. "The California Community Colleges system is at the national forefront of innovation and development thanks in part to the unwavering commitment of our system's faculty, staff and administrators."

Citrus College developed a Summer Research Experience Program to address student equity goals and overall success for STEM students and, in particular, to address the low enrollment and achievement of Latino students in college STEM programs. Each year, the program places 40 to 50 students, who spend at least 40 hours a week at a research site for an 8-10 week period. Citrus College partnered with three universities and four research institutions for student placement assignments. The Summer Research Experience Program has contributed to a 63 percent increase in STEM degree production in the past two academic years, during which the biggest gains were made by Hispanic/Latino STEM majors, who exhibited a 93 percent increase in STEM degrees. The program also contributed to a 126 percent increase in STEM transfers to CSU and UC campuses in the past six years.

College of the Canyons revamped curriculum to address remedial education and further support student success. The English and mathematics departments redesigned two courses that help students successfully move through developmental pathways. A new math class combines basic and intermediate algebra for non-STEM majors who want to take college statistics, and a new remedial English offering combines two courses that prepare students for transfer level work. These accelerated pathways have led to significant improvement over traditional course sequences and brought about a new way to address the achievement gap.

The 2015 Chancellor's Student Success Award is made possible through generous support from the Foundation for California Community Colleges.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education in English and math, 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 <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges>, or <https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges>.

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