



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott Congratulates Winners of Green California Community College Summit's 2011 Leadership Awards *Instructors at Rio Hondo, Butte and Santa Monica colleges are recognized for outstanding efforts*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott today congratulated the winners of the Green California Community College Summit's 2011 Leadership Awards. The awards honor outstanding accomplishments in sustainability within the 112-campus California Community Colleges system.

The awards will be presented at an Oct. 17 reception as part of the summit that runs through Oct. 18 at the Pasadena Convention Center.

"Renewable energy and sustainability make great sense from a budget standpoint. And, the industry's growth means additional jobs and quality workforce training at our community colleges," said Chancellor Scott, noting a new report by the Solar Foundation that shows 25 percent of the nation's solar energy jobs are in California. "Our colleges are turning out workers with the skills to build, install and operate these new technologies. I congratulate all of the winners for their fine efforts in helping to lead California's drive toward energy independence."

The winners are:

Instructor Award: Professor John Frala

Frala teaches Advanced Transportation Technologies and Energy at Rio Hondo College in Whittier. A leader in alternative fuels education, he has brought the need for change in energy usage to public attention through his education seminars.

Teacher Award: Benjamin Kay

Kay is a marine scientist and marine biology teacher at Santa Monica High School and Santa Monica College. He teaches students about aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and the human-caused impacts that threaten their fragile existence. His courses integrate inquiry-based methods, hands-on labs, field trips and expert guest speakers.

Pioneer Award: Michael Miller

Butte College in Oroville is the first college campus in the nation to go completely "grid positive." Behind the Butte-Glenn Community College District's innovative green building, energy efficiency and renewable energy programs is Michael Miller.

District Award: Pasadena Area Community College District

The Pasadena Area Community College District is recognized for its wide-ranging sustainability initiatives. Long before "going green" became popular, Pasadena City College began to install energy-saving equipment. The district is now among the system leaders in energy and water efficiency and renewable energy.

Energy Award: Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

As a signatory to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District pledged to work toward making its campuses carbon neutral. A Climate Action Plan developed goals of using renewable energy and increasing energy efficiency. Meeting these goals has led to significant reductions of the district's carbon footprint and operating costs.

Curriculum Award: RichmondBUILD and Contra Costa Community College

The RichmondBUILD Green Jobs Training Academy was developed in 2007 to create employment and career opportunities in Richmond and the San Francisco Bay Area. A partnership with Contra Costa College improved curriculum delivery. RichmondBUILD graduates have a 90 percent job placement rate.

Student ambassadors from the Green Youth Movement will also give a special award to state Sen. Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills), who authored legislation that created the new statewide Education and the Environment Initiative. California Secretary for Environmental Protection Matt Rodriguez will also participate in the summit.

Featured speakers at the summit will include Carl Pope, chairman of the Sierra Club and Co-Founder of the Blue Green Alliance and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson.

The [California Community Colleges](#) is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.6 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, 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.

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