

RANCHO SANTIAGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Contact: Judy Iannaccone Director, Communications Phone: (714) 480-7503 e-mail: iannaccone_judy@rsccd.edu October 5, 2011 MEDIA ALERT RFIEASE

Santa Ana College, Fullerton College, and Cal State Fullerton Celebrate \$5.9 Million ENGAGE in STEM Grant October 7th Launch Event Spotlights Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and Program Partners

WHAT Santa Ana College (SAC) is hosting a launch event to celebrate the announcement of a five-year \$5.9 million federal grant to increase the number of Hispanic and other low-income students attaining degrees in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) in three Orange County institutions of higher education. The grant is a cooperative arrangement project funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic-Serving Institutions Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Articulation Program. The partners in this grant are all designated as Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI). To be an HSI, an institution must have at least 25 percent of its student body classified as Hispanic.

The grant will also develop model transfer and articulation agreements between the partner institutions, enable more data-based decision-making, and increase the number of math and science teachers. The grant will also focus on creating two STEM pathways for students—one in engineering and the other in earth science—leading to a teaching credential. Additionally, the STEM centers and STEM teaching centers at each institution will be expanded.

WHERE

Tessmann Planetarium Lobby

Santa Ana College 1530 W. 17th St., Santa Ana, CA 92706 **Parking for the media is available in the parking lot adjacent to the Administration Building.**

WHEN Friday, October 7, 202

12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

WHO In addition to Congresswoman Sanchez, the following educational leaders will participate:

- Linda Rose, Ed.D., Santa Ana College vice president of academic affairs
- Micki Bryant, Ph.D., Santa Ana College dean of counseling
- Steve Bautista, Santa Ana College counselor/ coordinator, Center for Teacher Education
- Karen Rose, Fullerton College director of special programs
- Amy Cox-Petersen, Ph.D., California State University, Fullerton, acting director, Center for Careers in Teaching

WHY The grant addresses the need for a STEM-knowledgeable workforce, the low transfer rates of Hispanic and other minority students in STEM majors, and the critical shortage of highly qualified and diverse K-12 teachers in math and science.

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