



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Santa Ana College Earns National Recognition

(Santa Ana)— According to *Community College Week*, a national publication for two-year college professionals, Santa Ana College ranks 10th among the top 100 associate degree producers for Hispanic students in the nation. The 92-year-old college is the state's third highest producer of Hispanic graduates, surpassed only by sixth-ranked East Los Angeles College and eighth-ranked Riverside Community College.

In addition, Santa Ana College ranks 16th among the top 100 associate degree producers for Asian American students in the nation. In fall 2006, the college's enrollment demographics included one percent American Indian, two percent African- American, 12 percent Asian, 46 percent Latino, 29 percent Caucasian, two percent Filipino, three percent other, and five percent not reported.

The publication's July 16 issue ranked two-year colleges based on degrees conferred during the 2005-2006 academic year. The report is based on data compiled by the National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set completions survey.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, Santa Ana College conferred a total of 1,350 associate degrees. In addition, 487 SAC students earned vocational certificates in the same year.

"Students come to our college district with different academic goals. Some seek to become transfer-ready; others want job-related training; while others pursue personal enrichment," said Dr. Edward Hernandez, Jr., district chancellor. "Although it's very gratifying to be recognized nationally, we must continue to strive to increase access to all our programs, including transfer, vocational, and high school diploma programs to prepare our students for a brighter tomorrow."

In fall 2006, nearly 66 percent of Santa Ana College's students were identified as ethnic minorities. The college's total enrollment, including credit and non-credit programs, was 38,522 during fall 2006.

About the Rancho Santiago Community College District

The mission of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) is to respond to the educational needs of an ever-changing community and to provide programs and services that reflect academic excellence. Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College are public community colleges of RSCCD, which serve the residents of Anaheim Hills, East Garden Grove, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, Tustin and Villa Park. Both colleges provide education for academic transfer and careers, courses for personal and professional development, customized training for business and industry, and programs to train nurses, firefighters and law enforcement personnel.

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