



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Judy Iannaccone
Director, Communications

Phone: (714) 480-7503
e-mail: iannaccone_judy@rsccd.edu

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MEDIA ALERT

Santa Ana College Hosts Open Forum with the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans on August 17

WHAT Juan Sepúlveda, director of White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, will lead town hall-style “Community Conversations” at Santa Ana College to gain input on the status of Hispanic education. The stop will include visits with community leaders, elected officials, and educators. The event is sponsored by the Rancho Santiago Community College District and Santa Ana College.

WHERE **Santa Ana College**
[Johnson Center, U102](#)
1530 W. 17th St., Santa Ana, CA

WHEN **Monday, August 17, 2009**
10:00 a.m. Community Conversation Session One
12:45 p.m. Community Conversation Session Two
*Press and interview time scheduled for 9:00 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.

WHO Juan Sepúlveda was appointed by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan on May 19, 2009, to the position of director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. In this capacity, he is responsible for directing the efforts of the White House Initiative in engaging Hispanic students, parents, families, organizations, and anyone working in or with the education system in communities nationwide as active participants in improving the academic achievement of Hispanic Americans.

Other spokespersons include Edward Hernandez, Jr., Ed.D., chancellor of the Rancho Santiago Community College District and Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D., president of Santa Ana College.

WHY The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans was created by Executive Order on Sept. 24, 1990, to improve federal efforts to promote quality education for Hispanic Americans. Sepúlveda is visiting Hispanic communities to gain input prior to updating the executive order later this year.

HOW The public is invited to reserve a space at this important community forum. An RSVP is required for admission as space is limited. RSVPs may be made [online](#)

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(http://www.sac.edu/activities/public_affairs/whitehouseinitiative.htm) or by calling the Rancho Santiago Community College District Chancellor's Office at (714) 480-7450. RSVPs must be received by Thursday, August 13, at 5:00 p.m.

To arrange for interviews about the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, please contact Glorimar Nosal at (202) 870-1227 or glorimar.nosal.ed.gov.

To arrange for interviews with Santa Ana College and Rancho Santiago Community College District spokespersons, please contact Judy Iannaccone at (714) 480-7503 or iannaccone_judy@rsccd.edu.

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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