

Contact: Judy Iannaccone Director, Communications Phone: (714) 480-7503 E-mail: iannaccone_judy@rsccd.edu March 16, 2010 For Immediate Release

Santa Ana and Santiago Canyon Colleges' Accreditation Reaffirmed

(Santa Ana)—The two Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) campuses have had their accreditation reaffirmed, officials have announced.

Both Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College received notification from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges that their accreditation has been reaffirmed for the next six years.

"Congratulations to the many people across the district who contributed to the successful reaffirmation of accreditation of our colleges," said Edward Hernandez, Jr., Ed.D., RSCCD chancellor. "It is the dedication and commitment of our faculty and staff to our students' success that is making a difference in our communities every day."

Santa Ana College President Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D., said, "Maintaining accreditation is extremely important because it validates the education students receive."

Last year, officials from both colleges began the exhaustive process of renewing accreditation, which includes conducting an extensive self-study of the colleges and preparing numerous reports for the accrediting commission. In November, an evaluation team from the Accrediting Commission visited both colleges.

Santiago Canyon College President Juan Vázquez said, "Being reaffirmed reflects the college's commitment to supporting its students in their journey towards academic and career success."

Santa Ana College was founded in 1915. Santiago Canyon College was established as an independent college in 2000.

About 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.

###

District Office 2323 North Broadway Santa Ana, CA 92706 - 1640 (714) 480-7500 Tel (714) 796-3900 Fax