San Diego City College Receives National Recognition for Community Service, Named to President’s Honor Roll

San Diego, CA–San Diego City College has been named to the 2009 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

The Corporation for National and Community Service, which administers the annual Honor Roll award, recognized more than 700 colleges and universities for their impact on issues from poverty and homelessness to environmental justice. On campuses across the country, thousands of students joined their faculty to develop innovative programs and projects to meet local needs using the skills gained in their classrooms. At San Diego City College, students from child development to business to sociology were involved in projects.

“With nearly 1000 students providing 30,000 service hours in a year, I could not be more proud of City College and it’s commitment to the community,” said Dr. Terrence Burgess, President of San Diego City College.

According to Francisco Moreno, City College’s Faculty Service Learning Coordinator, 29 faculty members across 16 disciplines worked with some 60 community partners to provide the 30,000 service hours. The projects included biology, graphic design, art, dance, Chicano studies and math students working with the Seeds at City-Campus Organic Garden, geography students working on earthquake disaster preparedness, health students working with an HIV Clinic focused on the Latino community, and Price Scholarship students working with middle and elementary schools to provide Cesar Chavez Service Clubs after school.

“Congratulations to San Diego City College and its students,” said Patrick Corvington, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. “Our nation’s students are a critical part of the equation and vital to our efforts to tackle the most persistent challenges we face.

Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors including the scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses. Click here for a full list of Honor Roll recipients.
College students make a significant contribution to the volunteer sector; in 2009, 3.16 million students performed more than 300 million hours of service, according to the Volunteering in America study released by the Corporation. Each year, the Corporation invests more than $150 million in fostering a culture of service on college campuses through grants awarded by its programs; the education awards that AmeriCorps members receive at the conclusion of their term of service to pay for college; and through support of training, research, recognition, and other initiatives to spur college service.

The Corporation oversees the Honor Roll in collaboration with the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Campus Compact and the American Council on Education.

About San Diego City College

Founded in 1914, San Diego City College serves as the educational cornerstone of downtown San Diego. With more than 18,000 students, City College offers 240 Associate Degrees and Certificates and 1,500 day, evening and weekend classes, including programs in nursing and cosmetology. Home to KSDS Jazz 88.3 and the award-winning Knights, City College is part of the San Diego Community College District, comprised of City College, Mesa College, Miramar College, and Continuing Education. www.sdcity.edu

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that engages more five million Americans in service through its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America programs, and leads President Obama's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. For more information, visit www.nationalservice.gov.