



President's Newsletter



ALAMO
COLLEGES

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

APRIL 28, 2009

Accolades! St. Philip's at its Best!

St. Philip's has much to celebrate. We are **1st in the state** for awarding the most degrees and certificates to at risk students in critical fields (science, technology, engineering and math).

We are **1st in the state** among our peers with the highest LVN pass rate in programs with 100 or more graduates per year.

3 SPC programs are rated exemplary by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: Culinary Arts, Respiratory Therapy, and Physical Therapy .

SPC programs rated exemplary by the American Culinary Federation, the only non-proprietary institution in the state with this designation and only 25 in the world hold this honor.

We are making a difference to our students and our community.

Thank you for your efforts!

CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE

Renita Mitchell, Dennis McDonough, Dr. Carmen Nava-Fischer all deserve our appreciation for their hard work and dedication in developing the Center for Excellence in Science and the Center for Excellence in Mathematics, both of which will be housed at the Southwest Campus.

Through their vision and their willingness to go the extra mile to make a dream a reality, St. Philip's students will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills in critical workforce and transfer areas of alternative energy and applied statistics.

The Centers are focused on aligning skills and competencies of the STEM core curricula with new course and degree offerings that are responsive to ever increasing labor force demands from alternative energy industries.

New degrees will include an Associate of Arts

St. Philip's students will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills in critical workforce and transfer areas of alternative energy and applied statistics.

degree in Statistics, an Associate of Science degree in Natural and Alternative Energy Resources and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Alternative Energy Sources.



Renita Mitchell
Mathematics



Dennis McDonough
Electronics and Information
Technology



Dr. Carmen Nava Fischer
Natural Sciences

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT GRANTS

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Thanks to the efforts led by **Mary Kunz** and **Regis Shephard**, the St. Philip's College Student

Engagement Grant initiative was developed and implemented to: The SPC Student Engagement Grants (SEG) were designed to:

- Support recruitment efforts and enrollment in targeted programs
- Improve student retention through financial support
- Improve student retention

through increased opportunities for student engagement resulting in 5 St. Philip's staff and faculty receiving scholarship funds for students in their areas to engage in activities related to their discipline.

- **Raphael Brisita** / MultiModal Transportation
- **Robert Fransman** / Electronics & Information Technology
- **Regis Shephard** / Fine Arts

- **Randall Dawson** / Kinesiology
- **Kevin Schantz** / Service Learning

A total of 19 full-time students received scholarships of \$1250 each and 6 part time students received scholarships of \$750 each.

Congratulations to Mary and Regis along with participating faculty for taking the initiative to serve our students well.

Celebrating our 111th



Welcome to our new Director of Student Support Services, Dr. Ruben Izaguirre



St. Philip's College administration joined St. Philip's Church in celebrating our 111th anniversary on March 1, 2009

Alamo Colleges "Shared Values"

SPC Desired Values

1. Accountability
2. Accessibility for students
3. Information sharing
4. Open communication
5. Appreciation of diversity
6. Teamwork
7. Collaboration
8. Commitment to community
9. Continuous improvement
10. Academic freedom

Living our Values

We, the members of the Alamo Community College District, are committed to building our individual and collective character through a set of shared values. These values guide and inspire our thoughts and actions, fulfilling our vision and mission in service to our students and communities.

INTEGRITY: We have the courage to act ethically, building a culture of trust and respect.

COMMUNICATION: We engage in open and transparent communication, information sharing and collaboration.

COMMUNITY: We commit to a joyful culture of learning and service where unity in diversity occurs through mutual respect, cooperation and accessibility.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM: We value creativity, growth and transformation through vigorous inquiry and a free exchange of ideas for all.

ACCOUNTABILITY: We take responsibility for our actions and strive for continuous learning and improvement.

Adopted May 20, 2008

Alamo Colleges surveyed employees across the district to take a snapshot of employee personal values in comparison to employee perception of current organizational values and desired organizational values. The findings indicate that SPC employees have a positive set of personal values and desire a college culture with positive values as well. You will be meeting with leadership in your division to share your thoughts on how we can reach our desired organizational values. Your contributions are necessary and appreciated.

Serving our Students— Recent Grant Awards

Department of Health and Human Services	Office of Head Start Training & Technical Assistance Center: Sub-award from the City of San Antonio - financial assistance for Early Childhood Studies students	\$23,000
Greater Texas Foundation	Scholarship grant increase enrollment of female students in technical degree programs	\$25,000
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	COLLEGE CONNECTIONS/ To build awareness among high school seniors of a college education, increase rates of participation in college, increase the number of students who successfully transfer to a four year college.	\$179,000
Columbia University Teachers College	NPCR Subcontract - Summer Bridge Developmental Study participant	\$117,116
American Association of University Women	COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS/ provide funds that address issues related to the needs of women and girls or that provide information to educate and benefit the public on those issues.	\$6,963
State Energy Conservation Office	Outreach to advertise and attract students to programs in alternative energy	\$14,000



Moving from Good 2 Great is a priority initiative. On April 21, 2009 the President's Cabinet met to prepare for the upcoming Good 2 Great retreat that will engage almost 100 employees across the institution to focus upon the College's many accomplishments over the last year and to lay the groundwork for our upward trajectory going forward. We will continue to work on improving processes, organizational structures, enrollment, retention, teaching and learning excellence, graduation and fundraising efforts. The two-day retreat will be held on May 13 and 14, 2009.