



**SAN ANTONIO  
COLLEGE**

*Create Your Tomorrow*

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San Antonio, TX 78212

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[www.accd.edu/sac/pr/news.htm](http://www.accd.edu/sac/pr/news.htm)

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# Update

## SAC's Strategies for Success Program wins Star Award

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board honored San Antonio College's "Strategies for Success" as one of eight outstanding programs in the state "for their exceptional contributions toward one or more of the goals of Closing the Gaps by 2015," the higher education plan adopted by the Board to significantly increase Texas colleges' enrollment and retention, particularly among minorities, as well as their research capabilities by the year 2015.

The Alamo Community College District also won a Star Award for its Community Education Centers, which contributed to a 23 percent increase in the district's enrollment from 1999-2001. The eight award-winning programs were selected from 78 originally nominated, with only three awards going to community colleges, four to four-year institutions, and one to a partnership.

"We are very pleased to receive this recognition," said Dr. Robert E. Zeigler, San Antonio College President, who added, "Strategies for Success, coordinated



*Strategies for Success staff, from left, include Veronica Rivera-Luna, Emma Mendiola (Coordinator), Irene Alvarado, and Lisa Menard.*

by Emma Mendiola, has a proven track record of motivating and helping students. The program is a key component in our efforts to retain students by improving their skills so they can succeed academically."

Strategies for Success is an intensive counseling-classroom intervention designed to assist students in academic difficulty, aimed at providing students with skills in study techniques, time management, research, critical thinking, learning styles, technology, managing personal issues, and career

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## Continuing Education adds training options for unemployed

Responding to the demand from unemployed workers for career training, the San Antonio College Continuing Education Training Network has expanded the training package announced last week to assist workers who qualify as Workforce Initiative Act clients.

The package includes 600 hours of Basic Skills/General Diploma Certification (GED) test preparation plus 600 hours of skills preparation and hands-on training toward certification in one of four "demand occupations": Pharmacy Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, Microsoft Office Specialist, and General Office Clerk. In addition, students who need English language skills can opt to attend 1200 hours of English as a Second Language training before starting the GED-Career Skills Training program.

"Recent employees of Levi Strauss, among others, will be interested in this 40-week program," said Tim Rockey, Continuing Education Information and Advisement Specialist.

He said funding for training in these programs, valued at approximately \$6,000, is provided by the Federal Trade Adjustment Act and is administered by Alamo Workforce Development and the Texas Workforce Commission. Case managers from the Texas Workforce Commission and the Levi Service Center will screen and process applications.

Classes will be held Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and are expected to begin in March. Students will receive a student ID, access to the library and other facilities, books, uniforms, and supplies. Also, GED test fees are covered for one series of tests.

The General Diploma Certification (GED) classes will prepare students for the GED test. This certification is equivalent to a high school diploma. Skills covered include math, reading, writing, science, and social studies.

The Pharmacy Technician program trains students to work in a retail or hospital pharmacy by preparing them to pass the National Pharmacy Technician Certification

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## Calendar of Events

[www.accd.edu/sac/pr/calendar.htm](http://www.accd.edu/sac/pr/calendar.htm)

### Monday, Feb. 2

Black History Month Opening Ceremony  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Loftin Student Center

### Thursday, Feb. 5

Black History Month  
Local Artist/Exhibit & Reception  
10:50 a.m.- 12:05 a.m., VATC 120

### Wednesday, Feb. 11

Lecture Series - Sociology Department  
"Brown vs. Board of Education:  
Where Are We Today?" 10-11 a.m.  
McAllister Auditorium

### Tuesday, Feb. 17

Brown Sisters from Brown vs. Board of Education (1954), 11 a.m. at SAC's McAllister Auditorium and 7 p.m. at St. Philip's College Watson Fine Arts Center.

### Monday, Feb. 23

Black History Month Panel Discussion  
"Is There Equality in Education?"  
11 a.m.- 12 p.m. VATC 120

### Thursday, Feb. 26

Black History Month  
African American Read-In: Janice Clayton  
10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m., Loftin Student Center.

### Friday, Feb. 27

Soul Fest  
11a.m. - 12 p.m., Loftin Student Center

## "Saturn Night Live" on Jan. 31

The public is invited to attend a free "Saturn Night Live" observing session at the San Antonio College Observatory and using telescopes in the adjacent parking lot on Saturday, Jan. 31, from 6 p.m. - midnight. The event is co-hosted by San Antonio College and the San Antonio Astronomical Association, which is donating the telescopes for the occasion. The observing session will be cancelled if it is cloudy or raining. For more information, call the Scobee Planetarium at 210-733-2910.

## THECB Star Award to SAC

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exploration and planning. The program may be taken voluntarily, on the advice of a counselor, or as a requirement if the student is on scholastic probation.



"The evidence shows that students who go through the Strategies for Success program are more likely to improve academically and stay in college," said Mendiola.

Students on scholastic probation who completed Strategies for Success improved their Grade Point Average (GPA) and also enrolled for the next term in greater numbers than those before the program was available. For example, those who participated in Strategies for Success from Fall 2000-Fall 2002 raised their average GPA from 1.46 to 1.81, with 62 percent enrolling in the next term, compared with those measured prior to the program (Fall 1995-Fall 1997) whose average GPAs decreased from 1.50 to 1.44, with only 45 percent enrolling for the next term.

Mendiola added, "Students who completed Strategies for Success have consistently shown improvement in 10 areas that contribute to academic success as measured by a pre-test and post-test assessment, based on the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory."

For more information about Strategies for Success, contact Emma Mendiola at 733-2805. For information about the Star Award, contact Dr. Rissa Potter at 512-427-6124 or [rissa.potter@thecb.state.tx.us](mailto:rissa.potter@thecb.state.tx.us).

**Please Remind Students:**

**Flex II Telephone/Web Registration Begins Feb. 2**

**Classes begin March 8**

### San Antonio College Update

Editors ..... John Hammond and Joanne Martin  
Photographer ..... Leonard Ziegler  
Send news to Public Relations, FAC 313, call 733-2147, or e-mail your items to [jhammond@accd.edu](mailto:jhammond@accd.edu) or [jmartin@accd.edu](mailto:jmartin@accd.edu) by the 5 p.m. Monday deadline. The Update staff reserves the right to edit items.



**SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE**

The Alamo Community College District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For any special accommodations issues or an alternate format, contact San Antonio College disability Support Services at 733-2347.

## Unemployment needs met

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Exam. The Emergency Medical Technician program prepares students to become nationally registered as an emergency medical technician. The Microsoft Office Specialist program prepares students to be a secretary, administrative assistant, or office manager, with training for all Microsoft Office software and enhancing their data entry skills. The General Office Clerk program trains students in such skills as typing, filing, correspondence, reports, statements, operation of office equipment, answering telephones, and other clerical duties in an office environment.

Seating is limited, and students will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 733-2635.

## Hyde presents scholarships

On Jan. 15, Dr. Margaret Crehan Hyde, SAC Dean of Arts & Sciences, presented scholarships to students at Davis Middle School for winning in this year's Science Fair competition. Students who each received a \$500 ACCD scholarship are 8th-grader Jessie Herrera, 7th-grader Brittany Jefferson, and 6th-grader Florian Love. This is the second year that Hyde participated in Davis Middle School's Science Fair competition.



## Bounds to go fishing

Tom Bounds, SAC Facilities Superintendent, practiced the new duties of retirement with his new fishing pole during his retirement celebration on Jan. 22. He received a plaque presented by ACCD Facilities Director Val Santos and ACCD



Chancellor Dr. J. Terence Kelly. Friends and co-workers gathered from throughout the college district to bid farewell. The celebration included a special performance by Palo Alto College's Mariachi Palomino.

# Exciting NEWS!

Congratulations to **Regina Ridgeway**, Senior Secretary in the Chemistry & Earth Sciences Department, for being named Employee of the Month for January.



Congratulations to former San Antonio College student **Esther Cardenas Pipoly**, who transferred to UTSA, where she graduated in December with a BA in Communication. Her story, which reflects her gratitude for the counseling provided by the SAC Women's Center, can be found at [www.utsa.edu/today/2003/12/pipoly.cfm?header=-1](http://www.utsa.edu/today/2003/12/pipoly.cfm?header=-1).

Congratulations to **Stephen K. Mayberry**, Banking major, who received the annual Wall St. Journal Award given to Business students for academic excellence. Mayberry is a full-time staff member of the Judson School District. "He is one of the best students in every class and a success story," said Maria Davis, Program Coordinator for Banking & Financial Services. Davis served 20 years in the U.S. military, then 10 years working for Judson School District. The Wall St. Journal Award includes a paperweight, a one-year subscription to the publication, and a citation.

**Darryl Nettles** has been named SAC Interim Director of Student Life. His interim duties begin Feb. 2. He can be reached at 785-6126 or e-mail at [dnettles@accd.edu](mailto:dnettles@accd.edu).

## Oaxaca trip planned for Spring Break

Students, faculty and staff are invited to participate in a Spring Break trip to Oaxaca, Mexico as part of pilot program combining Conversational Spanish (Spanish 1300) and direct-language experience in Oaxaca.

Prior to the trip, students will meet four to six times at different ACCD campuses. Oaxaca plans include trips to archaeological sites and a service learning component.

The cost is \$575 for a bus trip, lodging, meals, tips, and excursion costs, though participants should also bring their own money. The deadline for payment is Feb. 10 at noon. See [www.accd.edu/sac/forlang/jmanzo/oaxaca.htm](http://www.accd.edu/sac/forlang/jmanzo/oaxaca.htm) for a similar Oaxaca 2003 Summer Service Learning trip. For details, contact Tom Manzo at 733-2529 or [jmanzo@accd.edu](mailto:jmanzo@accd.edu).