



**SAN ANTONIO  
COLLEGE**

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# Update

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## Journalism students continue to take top awards

San Antonio College Journalism-Photography students continued a tradition of excellence by winning top awards for the weekly newspaper *The Ranger* and *The Fourth Write* magazine in state, regional, and national competition with students from both two- and four-year institutions of higher education.

The *Ranger* was selected, for the third time, as the Best Non-daily College Newspaper in Texas by the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors Association (TAPME). The newspaper also was awarded, for the fifth time, the Best Non-daily College Newspaper in Texas and Oklahoma in Region 8 of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), competing with both two- and four-year college publications.

The *Fourth Write* magazine was selected Best Magazine Published Once Yearly by the SPJ in 2001-2002, the third time it has won that award. (In 1992, the SPJ selected the publication as the Best Magazine in the nation.)

Last fall, *The Ranger* and *The Fourth Write* were picked best overall, and the publications and individuals in the department won the Sweepstakes award in Texas Community College Journalism Association competition in Midland.

The *Ranger* also was selected in November as a Pacemaker finalist at the Associated Collegiate Press convention in Orlando, Florida, making it one of the top six community college newspapers in the nation. On nine occasions, the *Ranger* has won the Pacemaker Award, which goes to the top five community college newspapers in the country. In 1996, the newspaper was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Associated Collegiate Press and the National Newspaper Association Foundation.

In addition, students won 23 TAPME awards, which were announced in early April at their convention on South Padre Island: *The Ranger* placed fifth in Division 2 Sweepstakes and *The Fourth Write* placed second in General Magazine competition. Placing first were Michael Paterka for illustration, Fred Tabares for feature page design, Joel Luna for sports feature, and Eric Lyle Kayne for action photo (magazine). Placing second were Production manager Chris Castillo for news page design, Nicholas Gibson for on-line, Jennifer Harrelson and Clem Spalding for cover design (magazine), overall magazine, and sweepstakes (magazine). Third place winners were John Lauicella for news story, Harrelson and Brook Freeman for story package (magazine), staff, single issue (magazine), and staff, series. Students also took nine honorable mentions in newspaper and magazine competition.

## San Antonio College Commencement set for May 10

San Antonio College will hold its 75th Annual Commencement Exercise on Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m. in Laurie Auditorium at Trinity University. Approximately 400 students will graduate.



associate of applied science degree in Public Administration and will represent the Professional-Technical Division, and Timothy DeLeon, who will graduate with an

associate of arts degree and will represent the Arts & Sciences Division.

The college's 2002-2003 Outstanding Former Students Albert A. Ortiz, Chief of Police, and Norma S. Rodriguez, retired City Clerk, will be recognized at the ceremony.

The San Antonio College Brass Quintet, the Chamber Singers, and the new Sign Choir will all perform.

Student speakers will be Angelica Gutierrez, who will graduate with an

For more information, call the Admissions Office at 733-2583.

## Calendar of Events

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

### Saturday, May 10

SAC Commencement Ceremony  
10 a.m., Trinity University, Laurie Auditorium

### Friday, May 16

SAC Employee Development Day & Picnic (College offices closed for employee participation), 8 a.m.-5 p.m., McAllister Auditorium.

### Sun-Fri, May 18-23

3rd Annual Institute on Quality in Early Childhood

### Tuesday, May 20

Staff Council Meeting  
2:30 p.m., VATC 120

Women Empowered (WE) Conference  
9 a.m.-2 p.m., McCreless Auditorium  
(See back page for details)

### Monday, May 26

Memorial Day Holiday – College Closed.

## Public invited to Astronomy Day viewing at SAC

San Antonio College will join the San Antonio Astronomical Association in celebrating Astronomy Day on Saturday, May 10, 8:30-11 p.m., with a public observing session using the San Antonio College Observatory and telescopes set up in the parking lot adjacent to the Scobee Planetarium.

According to Planetarium Coordinator Bryan A. Snow, the public is invited to view “the Moon, the planets Saturn and Jupiter, and a variety of other targets.”

This event is free and open to the public, and parents are encouraged to bring their children. Parking is free and located one block east of San Pedro Ave. off of W. Park St.

If the evening is cloudy or raining, the evening observing session will be cancelled. For more information, call Snow or Educational Specialist Bob Kelley at 733-2910.

## College Access Program opens higher education doors

Higher education brings to mind classroom instruction, but the public may not realize how many steps students must take before they ever see a professor. For most, these include assessment, admissions, financial aid, counseling, and registration. A student's first step may well be to talk with a counselor in the College Access Project Team, which serves both high school seniors and the corporate and business community.

This contact can be a crucial turning point for some students, and Leo G. Pacheco is a prime example. A Recruitment and Employment Analyst for the Bexar County Civil Service Commission, he enrolled at San Antonio College with the assistance of Sara Samano, who is the Coordinator of the Corporate and Business effort of the College Access Project. Counselor Jon Anderson coordinates the College Access Project for High School Seniors.

"I would not be here if it weren't for Sara Samano," said Pacheco, who added that she encouraged him to return to school and "made a difference in my life." Last year, Pacheco earned Honors for academic excellence, and he continues to do well this year.

Samano is proud of her team's work. "The most rewarding experience for me has been the encouragement my team has provided for this group of students, who traditionally have been older and think it's 'too late' to go back to school."

The College Access Project Team for the Corporate and Business Community program, first begun in 2000, provides transitioning services that include admissions, counseling, registration and financial aid for employees at their workplace, explained Samano. A mobile registration team of counseling professionals helps people with admission and registration by bringing the process to the workplace.

The project now serves 25 businesses and, since its inception, has helped 2,725 students register. Some of the businesses and organizations served by the project include the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Citibank, Washington Mutual, Frost Bank, Pacific Care, Nationwide Insurance, and SBC.

San Antonio College also offers instruction at business sites, such as Coordinator Sylvia DeLeon's "lunch and learn" classes in Public Administration for Bexar County employees.

For more information about the College Access Project Team, call Sara Samano at 733-2341 or Jon Anderson at 733-2138.

### Off-campus summer classes in Seguin & New Braunfels

San Antonio College will offer a variety of courses this summer at Seguin High School and New Braunfels High School, in addition to more than 160 courses available via the Internet and Video courses. Students may register on Wednesday, May 14, 4 - 8 p.m., at the New Braunfels ISD Learning Center, 902 W. San Antonio St., by phone at 210-301-2520, or by Internet at [www.accd.edu](http://www.accd.edu).

### San Antonio College Update

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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.



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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.

## SAC awarded \$56K to train Zoo employees

San Antonio College was recently awarded a \$56,000 grant for the Skills Development Fund which will be used to provide employee training for the San Antonio Zoo.

"The partnership will help bridge skills gaps and create new jobs in San Antonio," said Richard White, Human Resources Development Institute Director for SAC Continuing Education.

Employee training at the San Antonio Zoo will include customer service, management development, CPR, horticulture, pest control, and human resources certification.

The San Antonio Zoo is one of the largest in the country with over 3,500 animals of 750 species. It is ranked by the American Zoological Society as one of the top ten zoos in the nation. The zoo's conservation program with flamingo, white rhino, black rhino, snow leopard, whooping crane, and many other species are recognized around the globe.

## Staff Council Elections

Staff Council will hold elections for new members on Thursday, May 15 from 1-4 p.m. and Wednesday, May 28 from 9-11 a.m. in VATC 120.

Staff Council consists of fifteen members who represent classified and professional employees, and district employees assigned to SAC. Current vacancies are two professional positions, four classified positions, and two district positions. Nominees must have one-year minimum service with ACCD and be full-time permanent or full-time temporary employees.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Staff Council Web site or from the bulletin board located between offices FAC 210 and 212. For more information, contact Election Committee Chair Delia De Luna at [dluna@accd.edu](mailto:dluna@accd.edu) or 733-2363.

## Scholarships and conference for women returning to school

The San Antonio College Women's Center & Adult Re-Entry Program is accepting applications for scholarships that will be awarded at the upcoming Women Empowered (WE) Conference. Scholarships will be awarded in the amounts of \$250, \$500 and \$1,000.

To be eligible, women applicants must have a high school diploma or GED; be attending college for the first time and have been out of school for more than five years; enroll in three or more courses at San Antonio College during the Fall 2003 semester; and write a 300-word essay. Scholarship winners must also be present at the WE Conference. The scholarship deadline is Friday, May 9.

The WE Conference is free and open to all women interested in returning to school. Motivational workshops addressing overcoming fears and gaining confidence will be offered from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20 at McCreless Auditorium (near Belknap and W. Dewey Streets).

Scholarships are provided by H-E-B, the City of San Antonio, and the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women. The conference is presented by the SAC Women's Center & Adult Re-Entry program in conjunction with the SAC WINS (Women Investing in New Successes) Leadership Program and the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

For a scholarship application or to register for the Women Empowered Conference, call the SAC Women's Center at 733-2299.