Cerritos College Biological Science Professor Receives Environmental Hero Award from SCE

Constance Boardman Recognized for Dedication to Protecting Wetlands

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NORWALK, Calif. - May 6, 2010 - Constance Boardman, chair of the Cerritos College Biology Department, received a 2010 Environmental Hero Award at Southern California Edison’s Earth Day Celebration on April 30.

“I am very honored that SCE chose me as one of its environmental heros for 2010,” said Boardman. “Preservation of Bolsa Chica has been a passion of mine for almost twenty years.”

“Each year Edison employees nominate individuals and organizations within and outside of SCE based on their actions demonstrating environmental leadership in compliance and stewardship. The nominations were reviewed by the Environmental Heroes Awards Committee,” said SCE Eco IQ President Jenna Bumett, who chaired the committee.

According to Bumett, Boardman was selected for her work as a member of the Board of Directors of the Bolsa Chica Land Trust, which aims to protect and restore Bolsa Chica Mesa, one of the last standing wetlands ecosystems in Southern California.

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“Thanks to Professor Boardman the protected habitat provides nesting, shelter and food for migrating waterfowl and an opportunity to educate the community about this special ecosystem,” said Burnett.

Boardman is a past president of the trust and has been on the board since 1993 except for four years when she was on the Huntington Beach City Council. Currently, in addition to being on the board, she organizes and administrates the meetup.com site for the Bolsa Chica Stewards, the restoration team of the trust.

"Connie Boardman realized years ago that the Bolsa Chica Wetlands were worth preserving for future generations. More than 10,000 volunteers have spent countless hours replanting the mesa with native plants, and educating the community about the special ecosystem. Much of this work is due to Connie's exceptional efforts, which will continue to have a lasting and positive environmental impact," said Rick Greenwood, SCE's director, Corporate Environment, Health and Safety."

Founded in 1992, the Bolsa Chica Land Trust currently has over 5,000 members. The organization is in the process of restoring 118 acres of the Bolsa Chica Mesa that was saved from development.

"We are very proud of Professor Boardman, and are pleased that SCE has recognized her for her tireless work for nature preservation," said Dr. Carolyn Chambers, Dean of the Cerritos College Science, Engineering and Mathematics Division.

To find more about the Bolsa Chica Land Trust's activities, become a fan of its facebook managed by Boardman by searching Bolsa Chica Land Trust on facebook.

Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.

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