Cerritos College receives $3.8 million HSI-STEM grant

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NORWALK, Calif. – September 30, 2011 – Cerritos College has been awarded a $3.8 million STEM grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and articulation program.

The purpose of this grant is to increase the number of Hispanic and other low-income students attaining degrees in STEM fields and to develop model transfer and articulation agreements between the 2-year and 4-year HSIs in such fields.

The grant, which will be paid out over five years, will finance the college’s pilot program of A.A. degree attainment and university STEM transfer, concentrating on the high-need areas of computer science and environmental science.

“Although Cerritos College has a strong history of service to Hispanic and other underserved populations, they are typically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math fields,” said Cerritos College President/Superintendent Dr. Linda Lacy.

“This grant will allow us to provide underrepresented students who are interested in pursuing careers in science and technology with the academic enrichment and support they need to successfully transfer to four-year institutions.”

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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