



Los Angeles Southwest College, 1600 West Imperial Highway, Los Angeles, California

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Los Angeles Southwest College nationally recognized for entrepreneurship National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship honors LASC

Los Angeles Southwest College has been awarded the prestigious Entrepreneurial College Award for 2016 by the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship.

The NACCE award honors LASC for its leadership in implementing entrepreneurially minded programs as well as its assistance to and celebration of thinkers and doers.

LASC's Career and Technical Education Department, under the direction of Dean Rick Hodge, created the Center for Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) program to help educate and connect aspiring business owners to their career and industry interests. CEO has overseen the rollout of several programs and events on campus that assist students and community members acquire the necessary entrepreneurial skills for success in the classroom, their professional lives and beyond.

These efforts have included:

- Startup Weekend Los Angeles brought together 65 Los Angeles designers, developers, and entrepreneurs to exchange and pitch startup ideas. Winning teams received free office space and funding from Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office.
- The Summer Business Institute saw 11th and 12th graders working in teams over six weeks to create new business ideas and pitch proposals to judges from Google and UCLA.
- More than 400 women attended the inaugural Women and Minority Entrepreneur Statewide Leadership Conference that featured 19 workshops, 25 exhibitors and several keynote speakers.
- Entrepreneurship Pathway Academy promoted certificate programs to LASC students, which included the CoffeeHouse Industry series that featured entrepreneurs from select industries visiting LASC and speaking to students.

- The Social Media Marketing workshop paired attendees with social media and digital professionals in a speed dating format in an effort to equip entrepreneurs on how to best promote their ideas, products and services.

CEO is funded by the Deputy Sector Navigators of Small Business & Entrepreneurship and Global Trade & Logistics, which report to California Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) of the California Community Colleges and Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy.

NACCE includes 300 community colleges representing nearly 2,000 educators, administrators, directors and staff that are focused on promoting entrepreneurship in their community and on their campuses.

LASC will be recognized at the annual NACCE conference set for October 8, 2016 in Sacramento.

About Los Angeles Southwest College

Founded in 1967, Los Angeles Southwest College serves more than 8,000 students with associate degree programs in 34 disciplines, occupational certificates in 47 disciplines, community services and ESL/citizenship classes. Coupled with a strong focus on student success, the campus has undergone a massive expansion and technological upgrade that will make it a model for community college education in the 21st Century. Los Angeles Southwest College is part of the Los Angeles Community College District. For more information, visit www.lasc.edu.