

Recent Grants Received at West ...



Pharmacy Technician: \$399,996 from the CCCCO's Allied Health Initiative

Todd LeGassick and Aracely Aguiar spearheaded a proposal to expand the college's enrollment capacity the success rate of students in the Pharmacy Technician program. It will fund (a) faculty development that will focus on enabling qualified pharmacists to learn effective teaching methodologies; (b) development of instructional materials; (c) instructional salaries for 2 years, (d) outreach activities to inform interested persons of the career opportunities and preparation to enter the Pharmacy Technician occupation; (e) outreach to continue to build clinical affiliates (hospitals in particular) for this program, generating continuing industry support, and (f) peer tutoring and career guidance; and (g) classroom/lab equipment and supplies. These activities will accelerate the implementation of the Pharmacy Technician program and enable the program to accept 35 students in the first year, and 70 in the second year of the project to meet the local need for qualified Pharmacy Technicians.

Walmart SEMILLAS Excelencia in Education Grant: \$50,000 from WalMart

Mary-Jo Apigo wrote a successful proposal for a grant from the SEMILLAS/ Walmart Excelencia in Education program. The project involves using ePortfolios as an added technological and pedagogical tool, to enhance our campus learning communities. Research demonstrates that Latino students are woefully behind in all skill levels in technology. The project will dramatically improve their skills and level the playing field as they go through the educational pipeline.

The project has two objectives. The first is to address the need of Latino students to become more technologically literate. West has implemented learning communities and wants to enhance this student success

model with ePortfolios as part of the pedagogical model. ePortfolios engage students in critical thinking and provide student centered learning where they take charge of their personal collection of work. The first learning communities within the project will be the Puente program with 30 Latino students in 2009-2010 and an additional 30 students from learning communities from the Weekend College and the new First Year Experience program. Latino students from the transfer center will also be recruited to participate.

The second objective is to train faculty and students in creating ePortfolios within learning communities. A coordinator will teach 12 faculty the technology as well as the pedagogical aspects of using ePortfolios during the 2009-2010 academic year.



Citywide Hospitality Training Partnership: \$650,000 from the Community Development Department, City of Los Angeles

West with it partners (1) the California Labor Federation, (2) UNITE-HERE (the hotel and restaurant employees' union), (3) four hotels (the new W in Hollywood, the new JW Marriott at Staples Center, and the Radisson and Sheraton on Century Boulevard), and (4) two WorkSource Centers (JVS and the Urban League) received grant funding from the City of Los Angeles to develop a sustainable hospitality training partnership. This 18-month project will lay the foundation for a long-term training partnership for new and incumbent workers in the hospitality industry by piloting and assessing training and inviting West faculty to develop contextualized courses for long-term sustainability.

New Funding Opportunities

- ⇒ WLAC is partnering with the district and sister colleges, the IBEW's training arm, LA DWP, the city and county Workforce Investment Boards, and others on an **Energy Training Partnership** proposal to conduct training in sustainable design, efficient technologies, solar and renewable energy, energy efficiency and weatherization, appliance efficiency, tools, water management, and recycling and water conservation.
- ⇒ WLAC is participating in a district-led proposal development effort for **US Department of Labor Pathways Out of Poverty funding**. \$500 million is available nationwide for training and job placement activities related to green industries.
- ⇒ The **US Department of Labor has issued a request for proposal for training and job placement activities in health career fields**. The possible areas for programs include nursing, allied health, and health information technology. West, along with Southwest, Trade, and Harbor, is forming a Health Careers Academy where students can choose from among the program options available from the 4 colleges. Projects can range from \$2 to \$5 million.
- ⇒ West science faculty are developing a proposal for the NSF S-STEM program which provides scholarships and supplemental activities for STEM majors who are academically talented and financially needy.
- ⇒ Discussions around new **Title V** projects are in the beginning stages.
- ⇒ The **Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health**, has an opportunity to address/change unhealthy behaviors in at-risk minority youth and provide them opportunities to learn more positive life styles and enhance their capacity to make healthier life choices.
- ⇒ NASA has funding for increasing the quality of middle and high school STEM education.
- ⇒ After congressional approval and funding, the **American Graduation Initiative** (President Obama's \$12 billion for community college initiative) will provide opportunities to develop innovative proposals that will increase the number of students graduating from community colleges with degrees in occupational fields. Currently, the legislation is working its way through Congress.

Grant questions or ideas, please
feel free to email or call:

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