

NEWS RELEASE

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## Two new classroom buildings at San Diego Miramar College awarded LEED Silver Certification for Sustainable Design

San Diego Community College District now has 10 LEED certifications - on track for a total of 30

SAN DIEGO – The new <u>Humanities & Arts</u> and <u>Math & Business</u> classroom buildings at San Diego Miramar College have been awarded <u>Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design</u> (LEED) Silver certifications for sustainable and green design by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). The USGBC is an organization that promotes sustainable, efficient and healthy building design and operation. The buildings, which were completed in November 2010, are the San Diego Community College District's ninth and tenth facilities to be LEED certified. The District is on track to obtain a total of <u>30 LEED-certified projects</u>, more than any other public agency or educational institution locally.

"This is a great accomplishment for our district," said Dr. Constance Carroll, San Diego Community College District Chancellor. "Not only are we providing high-demand academic and career training programs for our students; we are providing them state-of-the-art facilities that demonstrate the very highest level of environmental stewardship and excellence."

The classroom buildings are Miramar College's first to obtain the prestigious Silver certification. The Hourglass Park Field House was the college's first LEED-certified project, obtaining basic LEED certification in 2010.

"I am very pleased that we are recognized as a leader in sustainable design and construction," said Dr. Patricia Hsieh, San Diego Miramar College President. "Miramar College has 11 projects that have obtained or are on track to obtain a LEED certification, including our new Police Station which will receive a LEED Platinum certification, the highest certification possible and the first Platinum for an educational facility locally."



The <u>Humanities & Arts Building</u> consists of 45,000

square feet of new space for the English, Visual Arts, Music, Speech and Foreign Language programs. The building

includes state-of-the-art "smart" classrooms equipped with computers and audiovisual and multimedia equipment. It also includes a 60-seat lecture theatre, a recording studio, studio space for drawing, painting and ceramics.

The <u>Math & Business Building</u> consists of approximately 46,000 square feet of new "smart" business computer classrooms, computer labs, and a mathematics research center.

Both projects were named "Projects of Distinction" winners in the 2008 Education Design Showcase, honoring innovative yet practical solutions in planning, design and construction of higher education facilities.

Combined as a \$34.3 million dual-classroom building project, the facilities include a number of unique features, including:

 Sloped roofs provide north-facing clerestory windows (a band of narrow windows along the very top of a high wall, allowing light to filter into adjacent spaces) and south-facing photovoltaic panels.



- The design includes efficient thermal "massing," which delays the transfer of heat throughout the course of a day, and minimizes the impact of a heating or cooling load on a building. Heavy materials such as concrete, brick and stone can all be used to achieve thermal massing.
- All windows utilize 'high performance' glass that allows sunlight to filter into the building, but reduces the amount of UV light and solar heat entering the building.
- Recycled materials, high efficiency lighting, plumbing and mechanical systems are used throughout.
- Building Information Modeling (BIM) allowed the design team to study building orientation and optimize efficiencies in 'model space' before building in real space. Using BIM can help detect possible conflicts that could arise during building construction, and it can help better sequence construction activities.

The classroom buildings were funded by the District's \$1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction bond program, which is providing for new instructional and career training facilities, major renovations, and campuswide infrastructure projects at City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges, and six Continuing Education campuses throughout San Diego.

The project team included:

- Architect: NTD Architecture
- Construction Manager: Sundt Construction
- Mechanical Engineer: DCE, Inc.
- Electrical Engineer: Michael Wall Engineering
- Structural Engineer: Wiseman + Rohy Structural Engineers
- Campus Project Manager: James Bray, Gafcon, Inc.
- Propositions S and N Program Manager: Gafcon, Inc.

For high-resolution photographs or renderings, please contact Ursula Kroemer at <u>ukroemer@gafcon.com</u> or (760) 705-6919. To learn more about the Propositions S and N bond program, please visit <u>http://public.sdccdprops-n.com</u>.