



PRESS RELEASE

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RIO HONDO COLLEGE HOSTS GRAND OPENING TO CELEBRATE NEW LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

Whittier- Aimed at enhancing student learning opportunities and further expanding the array of exceptional on-campus facilities, Rio Hondo College's new Learning Resource Center has been completed and now open for use by all members of the Rio Hondo College community.

To celebrate completion of the long-awaited project, the College hosted a grand opening and ribbon-cutting for the facility Thursday, Oct. 15. The new LRC is a two-story, 94,000 square-foot facility that houses new reference, resource and educational spaces for the advancement of reading and writing abilities, distance learning and other classroom space, as well as a multi-media resource center.

"The new Learning Resource Center has been a project many years in the works and to see it now completed is wonderful," said André Quintero, President of the Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees. "This new facility will be a great asset to Rio Hondo teachers and students alike, and we are very excited to open its doors to our campus community."

The grand-opening and ribbon-cutting event included a welcome by Rio Hondo College Superintendent/President, Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. as well as remarks by others involved in the project, a student representative, musical entertainment, construction highlights for the \$40.7 million project and informational tours of the two-story building.

Part of Rio Hondo's *Building Access and Excellence* building program, the Learning Resource Center, approved for construction in 2004 is the program's first major classroom building to be completed. Completed projects include a pedestrian bridge, campus infrastructure, central plant, and construction of the Santa Fe Springs Regional

Public Safety Training Center. The *Building Access and Excellence* program was designed to improve facilities and learning environment for Rio Hondo students.

“The Learning Resource Center is one of several recent facilities improvements at Rio Hondo College, but it is truly a ‘signature’ building for the campus and central to the enhanced learning environment” said Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D., Superintendent/President. “We are pleased with the outcome and commend those involved in the two-years of planning and construction. Of course, we are most appreciative to our community for their support in passing Measure A facilities bond which makes it all possible.”

Located in Whittier, California, Rio Hondo College is a collaborative center of lifelong learning which provides innovative, challenging, and quality educational offering - including programs and courses leading to transfer and vocational degrees and certificates - for its diverse students and community. For information on the College or its programs, please call 562-692-0921 or visit www.riohondo.edu.

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