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Innovative Program Strives to Inform and Inspire Local Leaders
~ Cal State San Marcos is Now Accepting Applications for Leadership North County ~

San Marcos, California, May 17, 2010 – With the goal of informing and inspiring leaders in North County San Diego, the Leadership North County (LNC) program, through California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) Extended Learning, announced today that applications are now being accepted for the Class of 2011.

Leadership North County (LNC) is a ten-month comprehensive leadership program that fosters the growth of community leaders. With the hope that they will serve as catalysts in building a stronger region, LNC orients program participants to how the North County community functions and works to increase awareness of the issues affecting the area.

“I've found the entire LNC experience rich, dense, stimulating, exhausting, and totally worthwhile,” says Beckie Garrett, governing board vice president for San Marcos Unified School District and participant in Leadership North County's Class of 2010 program. “LNC provides a look at the workings of our North County that I wouldn't otherwise have had the opportunity to see. The course offers a big picture view of how our region functions independently, as well as how it interacts with the rest of the county and state. It's fascinating to assess contemporary issues with such a broad-based group of North County leaders.”

LNC launches a new program cohort each year in September, and the group meets one day a month through June. Each month, through seminars, tours and exercises, new regional issues or topics are explored including government, energy and water, economic drivers, land use, education, public safety, and health care.

“You cannot help but walk away from your experience in Leadership North County inspired to be more engaged in our local community,” explains Scott Gross, program director of LNC. “As a participant in LNC, you will benefit from access to established leaders who are affecting our daily lives here in North County. Each year, program graduates – even those who have lived here all their lives – are amazed but how much they have learned, and have appreciated examining issues from multiple perspectives.”
LNC graduates now total more than 400. These alumni, who have graduated from Leadership North County since its inception in 1986 (then known as Leadership 2000), include city council members, mayors, company vice presidents, business owners, nonprofit directors, commissioners, and directors and superintendents from various city departments.

Applications will be accepted through June 4, 2010. To download an application or to learn more about the LNC program, please visit www.csusm.edu/LNC or call 760-750-4020.

About Extended Learning at California State University San Marcos

As the academic outreach arm of Cal State San Marcos, Extended Learning is a leading provider of professional and continuing education in San Diego North and Southwest Riverside Counties. Offering degree programs and both academic credit and noncredit professional enrichment courses and career-based certificate programs, we help individuals and organizations achieve their educational and training goals.

About California State University San Marcos

California State University San Marcos combines the ambiance of a mid-sized, personal, modern campus with the unequaled value of the California State University. Since its founding in 1989, the campus has distinguished itself. Students benefit from the latest facilities and equipment, a superb faculty that enjoys teaching, and a rigorous academic program that prepares students for a successful life in and out of the workplace. A recent survey reported that the University’s annual spending in the region was $161 million, generating a total impact of $307 million on the regional economy. 85 percent of CSUSM’s alumni stay in the region. CSU San Marcos is located on a 304-acre hillside overlooking the city of San Marcos. It is 15 miles east of the ocean; just 30 miles north of downtown San Diego.

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