



A look at some of Cuyamaca College's green initiatives

The newly developed Center for Innovation within the office of Continuing Education serves as the umbrella for many of the contract and grant-funded professional and vocational programs housed at Cuyamaca College. Many are regional programs funded to serve all of San Diego and Imperial counties. The Center for Innovation houses the following grants:

1. **Gateway to Green Collar Jobs** is a \$400,000 grant that will provide training to 100 students over the next 18 months. It is a combined initiative of Cuyamaca College's Water/Wastewater Technology, Ornamental Horticulture and Environmental Health and Safety Management programs. Courses in this program lead to certificates and preparation for state and national industry credentialing in the rapidly expanding water industry of Water Conservation Practitioner, Water Management, and Landscape Irrigation Auditor. Tonette Salter is the contact: 660-4558. Tonette.salter@gcccd.edu

2. **Solar power** is a promising renewable energy source for San Diego and Cuyamaca College has received \$400,000 of grant funds to develop a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Solar Thermal (hot water) installer training programs. Training will begin in spring 2010 and will help meet the workforce needs by training 100 installers in San Diego County. For more information, call Jonathon Kropp at 619-660-4045. Jonathon.kropp@gcccd.edu



(The Gateway to Green Collar Jobs and solar programs focus on student success with the addition of an innovative lab, where students can go for assessment and instruction to prepare them for the workplace. Reading, writing and basic math, along with vocational English as a Second Language, will be taught in the context of the green-collar job, thus helping students grasp the link between educational skills and workplace success. Students can also become better hiring prospects by learning resume and cover-letter writing, filling out job applications, and presenting well at interviews. To prepare students for what to expect on the job, topics such as attendance, punctuality, work habits, attitude and behavior, listening, critical thinking and problem-solving, interpersonal relations, use of computers, and teamwork are covered.)

3. **The Green Building Training Collaborative** is a \$1 million grant that will provide education to a minimum 200 people throughout the region in the following areas: Green Building Professional, Building Analyst, Home Energy Rater, Water Auditor, Solar Photovoltaic Installer, and Solar Thermal Installer. Cuyamaca College will partner with Palomar College to provide this education. Contact is Darlene Spoor, Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Training, 660-4672; darlene.spoor@gcccd.edu

4. **The Environmental Training Center** at Cuyamaca College serves San Diego and Imperial counties. The ETC at Cuyamaca serves more than 1,200 students each year, providing environmental health and safety training programs. Contact Jennifer Lewis, the local director based at Cuyamaca: 660-4020; Jennifer.lewis@gcccd.edu
5. **The Centers of Excellence** support community colleges by providing customized data on high-growth, emerging, and economically-critical industries and occupations and their related workforce needs. These 10 centers, located strategically to study the regional economies of California, produce industry-validated environmental scan reports designed to enable community colleges to remain relevant and responsive in their offerings. Local contact is Kari Caldwell, interim center director at Cuyamaca College. (619) 660-4619; karl.caldwell@gcccd.edu
6. **The Workplace Learning Resource Center** is a region-wide initiative which serves the basic -skill needs of the workforce in San Diego and Imperial Valley. Working with the green initiatives at Cuyamaca College, the resource center has taken the lead in developing a learning lab for students who need assistance with reading, writing, English and work readiness skills. This unique partnership will enhance the offerings of green programs at the college and will provide the additional education and training that industry partners say is missing from standard technical training programs. Local contact is Linda Waring based at Cuyamaca College: 619-660-4508 or linda.waring@gcccd.edu
7. **The Green / Water Grant** will provide education and training for the water distribution industry throughout the region. Through a regional planning process using advisory committees, employer surveys and employment trends, a significant and growing need has been identified for trained water technicians and operators. This grant will allow for continued student training, for new faculty to be recruited and trained, and for the curriculum to be shared with other colleges throughout the state. For more information, contact Don Jones at 619-660-4792 or donald.jones@gcccd.edu. More information is available at sdwaterworks.org
8. **The English at Work** grant introduces basic English as a Second Language curriculum in the context of the automotive and ornamental horticulture fields. Training is geared to meet the needs of incumbent workers and provides instruction to the underserved and/or underemployed populations in the San Diego / Imperial region. The training provides valuable skills in occupational safety, customer service and workplace culture, in addition to the technical skills in the automotive and ornamental horticulture industries. Contact Molly Ash at 619-660-4667 or molly.ash@gcccd.edu

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