STATEWIDE OFFICE

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San Diego City College Students Chosen for Leadership Conference

San Diego, CA - A select group of San Diego City College students honed leadership skills for the future during a special conference for engineering and computer science majors. The Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Student Leadership Conference offers extensive professional and leadership development through direct interaction with industry mentors and speakers. The hand-picked MESA students, engineering or computer science majors, are from 25 universities and community colleges across the state, including San Diego City College.

San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E) sponsored 12 students from the San Diego area including two from San Diego City College. SDG&E’s $10,000 contribution also funded eight students from the San Diego State University MESA program and two students the Southwestern College MESA programs.

Brad Weinstein and Sherwin Yari of SDG&E held workshops about the energy industry and encouraged students with continuing their educational journeys. Yari, an associate engineer and MESA alum, shared how MESA helped him while a student at San Diego State University.

Other sponsors include Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Sacramento Municipal Utilities District, Southern California Gas Company and Vanir Construction Management, Inc. Other contributors include East Bay Municipal Utilities District, the Oakland Athletics and Pixar.

MESA is one of the largest programs in the state to support educationally disadvantaged students so they can graduate from college with science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) degrees.

“We know that California’s economy needs more STEM workers to stay competitive,” said MESA Executive Director Oscar F. Porter. “These students provide the solution to industry’s need for well-trained professionals.

“They were selected to attend the conference because these students have strong leadership skills. This event gives them a chance to interact extensively with STEM professionals currently working in the field,” said Porter.
Student attendees represent the following campuses: CSU Chico, CSU East Bay, CSU Fresno, CSU Long Beach, CSU Los Angeles, CSU Sacramento, San Diego State University, San Francisco State University, San Jose State University, Sonoma State University, UC Riverside, UC Santa Barbara, UC Santa Cruz, American River College (Sacramento), Butte College (Oroville), Cañada College (Redwood City), City College of San Francisco, Cosumnes River College (Sacramento), Los Medanos College (Pittsburg), Mission College (Santa Clara), Napa Valley College, Sacramento City College, San Diego City College, San Joaquin Delta College, Skyline College (San Bruno), Southwestern College, Yuba College (Marysville).

MESA, an academic preparation program that each year serves about 20,000 California pre-college, community college and university students who are educationally disadvantaged, is an awarding winning program with a model that works. Seventy percent of MESA high school graduates statewide went directly to college after graduation compared to 48 percent of all California graduates. Sixty percent of MESA students go on to math, science or engineering majors.

San Diego Gas and Electric, (SDG&E) is a regulated public utility that provides safe and reliable energy service to 3.5 million consumers through 1.4 million electric meters and more than 850,000 natural gas meters in San Diego and southern Orange counties. The utility’s area spans 4,100 square miles. SDG&E is committed to creating ways to help our customers save energy and money every day.

For more information about MESA, visit http://mesa.ucop.edu/home.html.
For more information about SDG&E, visit http://www.sdge.com/index/

Photo of San Diego City College MESA students is available upon request.

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