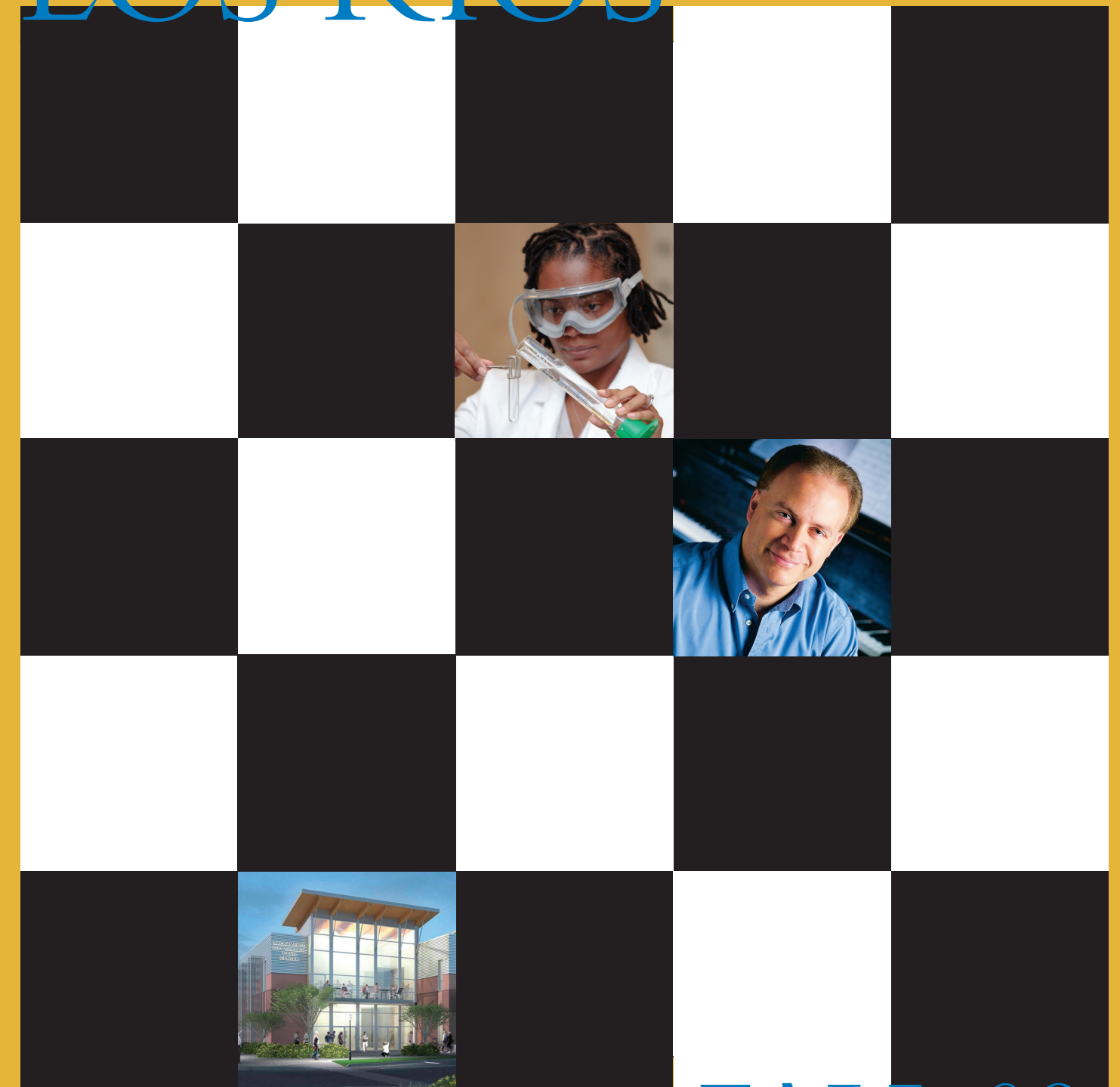


LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGES



Los Rios Community College District
1919 Spanos Court
Sacramento, CA 95825

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT **FALL 09**



Chancellor Harris at press conference announcing GreenForce, September 2007.

"Any plan, no matter how big or small, is only as good as the people responsible for implementing it. We have made remarkable progress because we have remarkable people working across our colleges and district."

The progress we have made in achieving many of our strategic plan's stated objectives is truly remarkable. In spite of difficult budget cuts and a nearly two-year focus on accreditation, we have not been distracted from our work to improve student success; enhance teaching and learning effectiveness; increase access and growth; promote community, economic and workforce development; and extend organizational effectiveness.

Our plan, published in 2006, is now at its halfway mark; a good time to assess how far we have come and what is left to do.

This progress report is not definitive as it only covers the major programs, services, functions and events that have acted to promote our goals. I know as you read it, you will think of many more things that have occurred in your department, office or service area that also have served to move us forward.

Any plan, no matter how big or small, is only as good as the people responsible for implementing it. We have made remarkable progress because we have remarkable people working across our colleges and district.

Thank you for getting us this far and for all you will do to get us even further.

Bruce

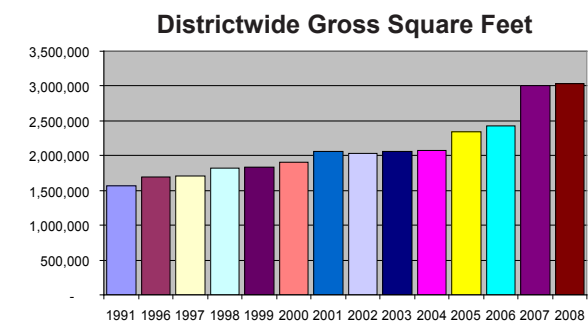
Good organizations are constantly working to become better organizations. The 2006 Strategic Plan laid out areas where our district and colleges could improve including enhancing the institutional capacity for diversity, integrating technology in planning, streamlining business and human resource processes, promoting the health and safety of the district and college communities, and increasing grant funding. Much has been done in these areas. Below are just a few of our accomplishments to date.

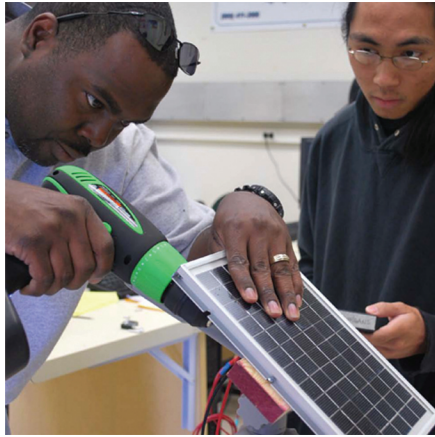
- In Spring of 2008 we administered an **Employee Satisfaction Survey**; the responses to which influenced planning in several areas, and confirmed how positively people feel about our organization.
- Demographic research comparing the diversity of our student body and employees with the diversity of the community we serve shows that our **student body fairly well mirrors our community** and that the district has come a long way in **diversifying faculty and staff**.
- **In the area of technology**, the District's Information Technology unit has implemented: **Desire2Learn** course management system; **Version 9** of PeopleSoft; **single sign-on** function for students and employees; **degree/audit** function in PeopleSoft.
- Human Resources developed an **online application process** that streamlines the process for candidates and makes it easier for interview committees to screen applicants and complete their work more quickly.
- **In the area of health and safety, we have:** Created a **catastrophic leave program** for employees; created an **employees assistance program**; provided crisis and disaster **preparedness training** throughout the district; provided NEMS/SEMS employee training and certification; and undertook a district wide **study of custodial work** which led to a number of improvements.



"My two years at FLC are my favorite of my entire college experience. I got to meet such wonderful professors."

Madhuri Nemali transferred to UC Davis and is now enrolled in Santa Clara University's School of Law.



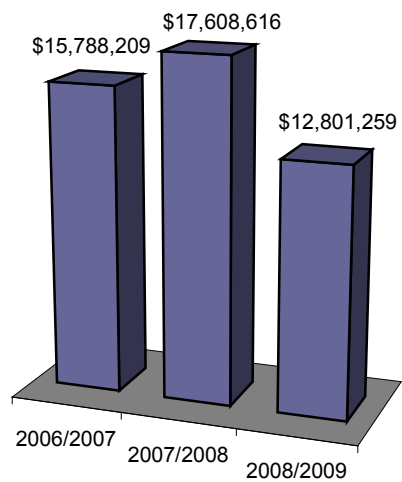


GreenForce students working on a solar panel in American River College's Solar Technology program.

Our colleges play a critical role in the economic vitality and social health of our region. Los Rios faculty and staff work closely with many state, local and federal agencies; civic and business leaders; and local organizations to ensure our colleges offer those programs most needed by the region. To foster community, economic and workforce development, our district created the GreenForce initiative, partnered with Sutter Health to expand nursing programs, and moved aggressively to seek federal and state grants for workforce development. Below are a few of our accomplishments.

- We created **GreenForce** to train students in the growing fields of solar technology, sustainable building design and construction, and energy management.
- Our colleges received a **\$2 million Department of Labor grant** to jumpstart the GreenForce Programs.
- During the past three years, our colleges and Business and Economic Development Center received more than **\$46 million** in state and federal grants related to a wide variety of workforce development programs.
- Our colleges have created **_____ new programs** to meet workforce needs including: Pharmacy technology, solar design, solar installation, biofuels technology, wastewater management, E-business, and robotics to name a few.
- The Los Rios Foundation has achieved more than half of its capital campaign goal of **\$19 million**.

Districtwide Grant Funding



Much has been done to improve all aspects of student success; from improving curricula and developing student learning outcomes to increasing student engagement and enhancing student services. Below are a few examples of what we have done to improve student success.

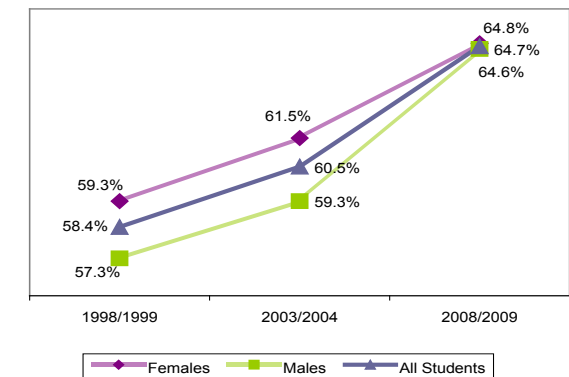
- All colleges have implemented the **Basic Skills Initiative** and the district's Office of Institutional Research has continued **cohort study of first-time freshman**.
- District Information Technology is implementing the **Degree Audit** function in PeopleSoft which allows students to better track their progress toward completing a degree and provides counselors with more complete and immediate information regarding student success.
- To enhance student engagement and student learning ARC created "**The Spot**;" CRC created the "**Freshman Seminar**" for which it earned a statewide award; FLC began a "**Freshman Orientation**;" and SCC developed the "**Let Us Help You**" project for the beginning of each semester.
- All campuses administered the **Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Survey** in 2008 which indicates that students are more satisfied with their educational experiences at our colleges than when the survey was last administered. ARC and SCC also administered CCSSE—the Community College Survey of Student Engagement.
- Faculty at all four campuses have developed **SLO's** for programs and courses.
- **Multi-cultural training** opportunities have been provided to employees by all four colleges and the district office. In Spring 2009, SCC received the John W. Rice Award for its Cultural Democracy program.



"Not only was the quality of education extremely high, but the ARC instructors took a personal interest in their students."

ARC grad Chris Fortenbach is now in the UC Davis MD/PhD program.

Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

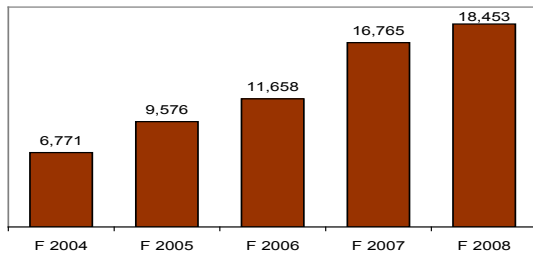




"There is no doubt that attending SCC has been one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life."

SCC grad Vy Dong Tran is currently attending UC Berkeley.

Enrollments by Students Taking Online Courses Only



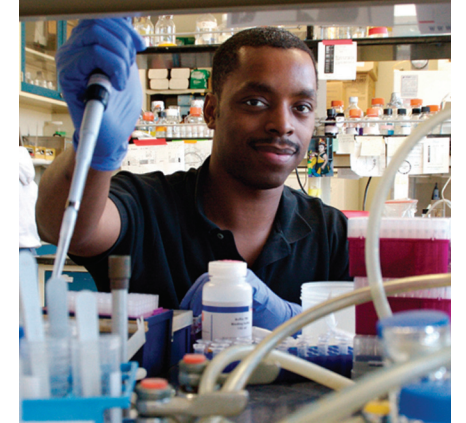
Enrollments may include students taking more than one course.

Recognizing that teaching and learning is the core of our mission, our colleges and district have continued to make improvements in the teaching and learning environments and in making available the data and services faculty need to teach effectively. Below are a few of the accomplishments we have achieved.

- Implementation of a **new course management system**, Desire2Learn, which allows faculty to better communicate with students and manage course content.
- Enhancement of the **Socrates** curriculum management system.
- Development of the **Degree Audit** function in PeopleSoft.
- Implementation of the **Basic Skills Initiative** and continued monitoring of first-time freshmen students through the **Education Initiative**.
- The district's Office of Institutional Research has undertaken a large **study of distance education** students to determine who they are, how well they are succeeding, and what can be done to improve student success in the distance education environment.
- ARC has developed a **distance education planning** document and its Distance Education Substantive Change proposal was approved by the Accrediting Commission (WASC).
- The district wide program placement committee has worked to **place more than 117 new degree and certificate programs** throughout the district.
- The district's Office of Institutional Research has continued to provide faculty with important information learned through **program follow-up research** that studies former students of various programs to determine how well they were prepared for the world of work.

As we have expanded programs and facilities, built new educational centers, and offered students greater access to our colleges through services as the Universal Transit Pass, enrollment has increased at a rapid pace. From Fall 2004 to Fall 2008, enrollment grew by more than 18,000 students—a 26% increase. Here are a few of the things we have done to increase access to our colleges.

- We created the **Educational Centers Concept**. The Natomas Center opened in 2005, the West Sacramento Center is scheduled for completion this December, the Davis Center will soon be under construction, land has been purchased for the Elk Grove Center and negotiations are underway to purchase land for the Rancho Cordova Center.
- We passed a local **\$457 million facility bond** measure in November 2008. This along with the \$265 million bond measure approved by voters in 2002 has allowed the district to **add nearly one million additional square feet** of facilities at our colleges and to **modernize another 173,322 square feet** of facilities.
- We implemented a **financial aid awareness campaign** that significantly increased the number of students receiving financial aid.
- The Los Rios Foundation implemented a **Student Emergency Fund** to help students meet emergency financial obligations so they can remain in college.
- ARC and SCC created **partnerships** with Center Unified and West Sacramento Unified School Districts to establish Early College High Schools in underserved areas.
- We implemented **Version 9 of the PeopleSoft** student system significantly enhancing the registration process for students.



"I couldn't have done this without the academic foundation and emotional support I received at CRC."

CRC grad Robert Taylor now has a PhD in Biochemistry.

Population & Enrollment Growth

