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History of the Institution

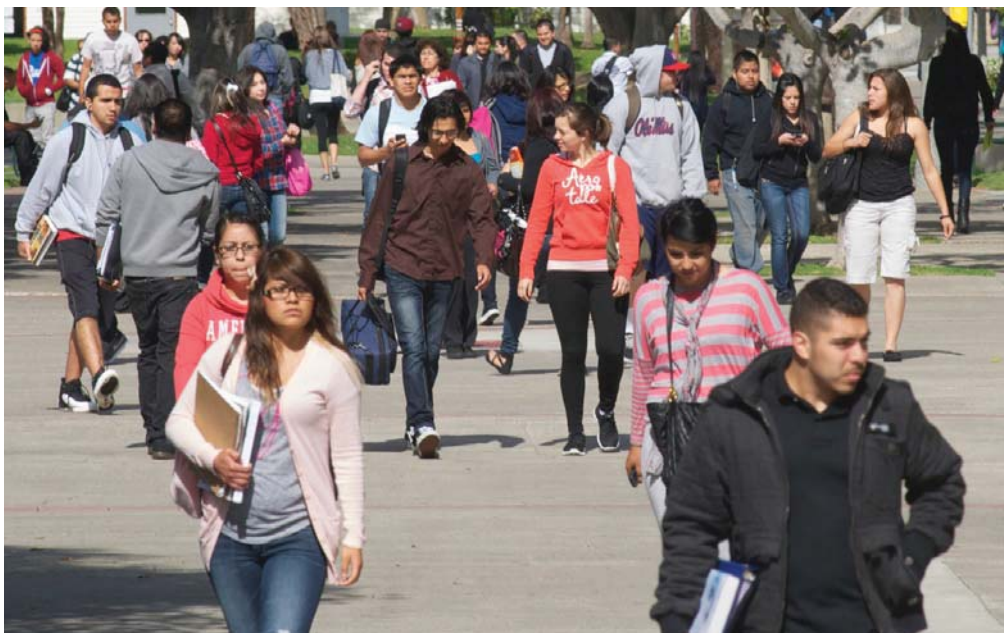
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INTRODUCTION

History of Santa Ana College

Background

Santa Ana College will celebrate one hundred years of service to students and the community in 2015 and will celebrate the 100th graduating class in 2016. As SAC draws near to this milestone, the college continues to be known for its tradition of educational excellence and community partnerships.

In 1915, Santa Ana College began as a department of Santa Ana High School with 26 students and 11 teaching faculty. It was the second junior college founded in Orange County and is the fourth oldest in all of California. The earthquake of 1933 required that the college relocate to a site on North Main Street, where it served 803 students with 34 teaching faculty. In 1947, it moved to a permanent campus at 17th and Bristol. The college continued to expand at this site and added sites across the community to increase student access. In 1971, Santa Ana College formerly separated from Santa Ana Unified School District. Shortly thereafter, the territory of the Orange Unified School District and portions of the Garden Grove Unified School District were added, and the new organization was named the Rancho Santiago Community College District.

Today RSCCD is one of the largest community college districts in California. RSCCD includes Santa Ana College, one of the state's oldest community colleges, and Santiago Canyon College, one of the newest. In fall 2012, RSCCD served 44,132 students (third week census): 27,910 credit students and 16,222 non-credit students. In fall 2013, RSCCD served 40,072 students: 25,138 credit students and 14,934 non-credit. In fall 2012, Santa Ana College served 29,318 students (unduplicated headcount): 18,764 students taking credit courses and 10,554 taking non-credit courses. In fall 2013, Santa Ana College served 37,005 students: 25,673 students taking credit courses and 11,644 taking non-credit courses. (Three hundred and twelve students are taking both credit and non-credit courses; this accounts for a duplicated total 37,317.) Of the students taking credit courses, 1,998 of these students were enrolled in non-traditional classes such as Fire Academy, Contract Management, Criminal Justice Academy, Quality Assurance, Business Seminar, and Distance Education.

Santa Ana College has always endorsed the state of California's open door policy to higher education for high school graduates and others over the age of eighteen by offering credit and non-credit (adult education) instruction. The college offers a full complement of general education, transfer-level, pre-collegiate level, and career and technical education classes leading to an associate degree or career/technical certificate.

The college also offers 21 Associate Degrees for Transfer (21 ADTs: 18 AA-T and 3 AS-T).

Santa Ana College's original 48-acre site was bounded by 17th Street to the north, Bristol Street to the east, Campus Road to the south, and College Avenue to the west. Although the core remains within this original area, the college expanded beyond the original boundaries to now include 66.6 acres which provides 503,380 assignable square feet of space, including Centennial Education Center, the Digital Media Center, and the Orange County Sheriff's Regional Training Center.

Santa Ana College continues to excel in academic achievement and maintain a spirit of innovation and responsiveness as new needs emerge. Overall, Santa Ana College ranks 8th in the nation for the number of certificates awarded to Hispanic students and 12th in the awarding of associate of arts degrees according to *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine*. The College was ranked 14th nationally amongst two- and four-year colleges and universities that enrolled and supported Hispanic students. Santa Ana College offers a rich array of career technical education and transfer programs. Several programs are separately accredited by professional organizations such as The American Bar Association for the Paralegal Program and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) for the Nursing Program. In addition, Santa Ana College has a large non-credit program with a central site at the Centennial Education Center. From this central site, SAC has expanded to provide academic and support services to over 100 other locations. Finally, the establishment of programs such as the ¡Adelante! Program and Upward Bound for veterans demonstrates the college's commitment to developing new pathways for students and serving new populations. Santa Ana College is committed to credit and non-credit instruction as it serves the needs of the community.

Santa Ana College Off-Site Credit and Non-Credit Centers

Today the Rancho Santiago Community College District is represented by two comprehensive colleges, Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College. Within the multi-college structure, there are four centers and approximately 40 sites under the aegis of Santa Ana College.

The Centennial Education Center (CEC): Centennial Education Center (CEC) serves as the administrative site for the SAC School of Continuing Education (SCE) programs, which are offered at approximately 40 locations in the community. The CEC facility, on leased space, offers almost 40,000 square feet of instructional space. It houses a full spectrum of continuing education classes for adult learners and a child development center. Enrollment in fall 2013 was 10, 050, with the largest portion enrolled in English as a Second Language courses. Other offerings include adult basic education (ABE), high school completion (Adult Secondary Education-ASE), parent education, and career technical education (formerly vocational training).

The Digital Media Center: The Digital Media Center (DMC), which opened in August 2006, is the first facility of its kind in Orange County, combining education and business in the digital media industry. The funds to develop the facilities came from the RSCCD Measure E Bond, the City of Santa Ana, and the US Department of Commerce through a community development block grant. The DMC was created to stimulate growth in