

# News

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## **Pilar Pacheco, Associate Director of the Center for Community Engagement, California State University, Channel Island, Named California Campus Compact's 2014 Richard E. Cone Award Recipient**

*CSU Channel Island's Pilar Pacheco, Associate Director of the Center for Community Engagement recognized for her impact on service-learning and community-campus partnerships throughout Ventura County and the California State University system.*

January 9, 2014

**Palo Alto, CA** – California Campus Compact has selected Pilar Pacheco, M.A., as the recipient of California Campus Compact's 2014 Richard E. Cone Award for Excellence & Leadership in Cultivating Community Partnerships in Higher Education.

California Campus Compact developed the Richard E. Cone Award in response to the recommendations of service-learning practitioners throughout California who expressed hope that creating such an award would inspire all higher education institutions to consider ways to deepen their efforts to institutionalize and sustain authentic community-campus partnerships.

“I have had the honor of knowing and working with Pilar for many years. In addition to being a passionate and skillful community leader, she is a humble individual who has worked quietly and tirelessly behind the scene to promote service-learning and community engaged scholarship to administrators, faculty, students and community partners, with impressive results,” said Elaine Ikeda, Ph.D., Executive Director of California Campus Compact. “We are grateful for Pilar's leadership in furthering our work in California and we are pleased to recognize and highlight her exemplary work in the field of service-learning and civic engagement by presenting her with the 2014 Richard E. Cone Award.”

Ms. Pacheco holds a Master of Arts in Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Child Development from California State University, Northridge. She began at the Center for Engagement at CSU Channel Islands as a research associate, managing community partnerships and training in the First 5 Ventura County funded programs. Since 2006, she has been the Associate Director, providing campus leadership and coordination for special initiatives and projects related to service-learning and civic

engagement as developed by state and national organizations of interest, the CSU Chancellor's Office, University President and Provost. She has developed CSUCI's campus infrastructure for academic and co-curricular service-learning programming, set the vision for service-learning campus strategic planning and developed and fostered university-community partnerships. In addition, she is the liaison between departments, faculty and students across the campus to bring significant programs to campus aimed at underscoring social issues. Ms. Pacheco has written articles and provided a variety of presentations on education, service-learning and community engagement.

Ms. Pacheco's leadership was evident when she obtained the Smithsonian Museum approval for CSUCI as one of only 15 locations nationwide to host the Bracero Oral History Project traveling exhibit. She developed a holistic educational approach involving CSUCI faculty, students, local middle and high schools, and local community groups. She created and planned nine related educational events during the two month long exhibit, which led to over 2,000 campus and community members participating in the exhibition and its related events.

"Pilar is not only passionate and committed about community partnerships, she is also a strategic and innovative program designer. She constantly seeks to identify and promote high impact practices associated with community engagement – through recognition programs, supporting research, and sponsoring workshops," stated Associate Professor Dennis J. Downey, "To summarize, Pilar is passionate, committed, innovative and well-organized. Her focus and skillset work well together to serve the goal of community partnerships. All of us at CSUCI and in our regional community benefit from that daily in seen and (mostly) unseen ways – and she deserves to be recognized."

CSU Channel Island's President Richard Rush wrote, "Pilar's leadership has brought honor and recognition to the University and, more importantly, has facilitated students' civic learning and reinforced the importance of education for the greater good. I nominate her without hesitation or reservation, for she will bring honor and additional respect to the award, just as she would receive its affirmation."

#### About the Richard E. Cone Award for Excellence & Leadership in Cultivating Community Partnerships in Higher Education

Richard E. Cone, Ph.D., has been a voice in the national dialogue on experiential education, civic engagement and service-learning since the 1970s, and has provided a guiding spirit and voice in the development and evolution of California Campus Compact since its beginnings more than 20 years ago. For 25 years, he directed the much-lauded Joint Educational Project (JEP) at the University of Southern California from which he retired in 2002. In 1999, California Campus Compact presented Dick Cone with the first Richard E. Cone Award for Excellence & Leadership in Cultivating Community Partnerships in Higher Education. Since then, the award has been bestowed annually upon an individual who has made significant contributions to the development of partnerships between institutions of higher education and communities – partnerships through which student learning and the quality of life in communities are simultaneously improved. For more information on the Richard E. Cone Award and a list of past honorees, please visit [www.cacampuscompact.org/html/initiatives/coneAward.html](http://www.cacampuscompact.org/html/initiatives/coneAward.html).

#### About California Campus Compact

California Campus Compact is a coalition of leading colleges and universities that works to build the collective commitment and capacity of colleges, universities and communities throughout California to advance civic and community engagement for a healthy, just and democratic society. Through innovative programs and initiatives, grant funding, training and technical assistance, professional development and powerful research studies and publications, California Campus Compact each year

invests in and champions more than 500,000 students, faculty members, administrators and community members involved in diverse and ground-breaking activities that support and expand civic and community engagement throughout California. For more information, please visit [www.cacampuscompact.org](http://www.cacampuscompact.org).

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