Student Success Equity Council
Request for Funding Form

Primary Contact Person: Lee Chen Ext. 2273

Program/Workgroup/Department(s): ESL Dept. / San Marcos Evening Program

Project Title: ESL Recognition Nights

(answer to #2)

ESL Recognition Night showcases student achievements and celebrate a semester's worth of learning with the students' family and friends. In the evening ESL program, student success doesn't come without pain. The majority of the evening students hold at least one job, and yet they defy all odds to still come to school to improve their skills in English after a day's hard work. The majority of them are Spanish-speaking. Those who stick to the end of a semester, pass the courses, and graduate from our noncredit CDCP Certificate program are definitely worth celebrating.

Also, given the relatively small number of our Hispanic students continuing on with their education at the college after they complete our noncredit program, it's only fitting that our event marks a milestone in their educational pursuit. The activities at the event will provide not only motivation for them and their families to see the importance of continuing, but also information (such as financial aid) and advising on the next step.

The event also serves as a conduit for exposing Latino community members to our ESL program and to Palomar College, with an emphasis that Palomar is everyone's college and it is affordable.

The event also fulfills a best practice for student success, namely, making students feel connected to the college. Too often, evening ESL classes operate in isolation. This event brings all the night classes together so that students share their experiences with peers from across different levels and connect with faculty from across different levels.