FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Los Angeles Harbor College Celebrates Opening of New Library Center

New $28 million, 30,000 square foot building houses Library and Special Programs and Services departments, features a state-of-the art library, a computer lab, and is built to high sustainability standards

November 17, 2014 (Wilmington, California) -- Los Angeles Harbor College today celebrated the opening of its new Library Learning Resource Center, which is providing state of the art library facilities for the college’s students. The building was paid for, designed, and constructed by the voter-funded $6 billion District Building Program.

The 30,000-square-foot, two-story Library Center includes traditional library space, a computer commons with over 100 computers, a library circulation desk, reserves collections, microfiche archives, and checkout. The LLRC also includes four learning centers, designated tutoring spaces, group study/testing rooms, offices, and a periodical room. The Special Programs and Services area consists of a high-tech classroom, other classrooms and offices. The main floor also has two main entrances, an atrium lobby, a dedicated staff entrance, photocopy/print facilities and automated book drops.

“As a former community college student, I know that the library is the heart of any college campus, and our building program has delivered a beautiful one for Harbor College,” said Board of Trustees President Scott Svonkin. “As Board president, I am totally focused on student success, and new buildings like this library center will give our students the resources they need to achieve their goals.”

Built for sustainability, the Center’s rooftop is covered with heat island resistant white roofing and approximately 70kW of photovoltaic (PV) panels. The immediate landscaping around the building is drought resistant, part of the overall campus landscaping plan.

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“Our new library will be the center of academic life here at Harbor College,” said Dr. Otto Lee, president of Harbor College. “In addition to the traditional library functions, the LLRC will provide a full spectrum of facilities and services to enhance our students’ learning experience.”

Also speaking at the ceremony were:

The Hon. Mona Field, member, LACCD Board of Trustees
The Hon. Nancy Pearlman, member, LACCD Board of Trustees
Dr. Francisco C. Rodriguez, Chancellor, LACCD
Jonathon Lee, Division Chair, Library
Dr. John Nixon, Leadership Coach, Achieving the Dream
Emily McNabb, associated Students Organization

The ceremony was followed by photos in front of the building (available upon request) and guided tours of the new facility.

About Los Angeles Harbor College
Los Angeles Harbor College officially opened in September 1949 from an enrollment of 400 students to a current enrollment of approximately 10000 students. LAHC offers a broad range of programs geared toward helping students prepare themselves for life in the 21st Century and especially for the demands of the rapidly changing marketplace.

About the Los Angeles Community College District
The Los Angeles Community College District, the nation’s largest community college district, serves one-quarter million students a year in more than 36 cities in Los Angeles County at its nine colleges. The District covers nearly 900 square miles and has educated and trained the region’s diverse workforce since 1969.

About the LACCD Building Program
LACCD’s Building Program is a 15-year, $6 billion program funded mostly by taxpayer-approved bonds, supplemented by additional funding from the state of California. With more than $4 billion spent so far, the LACCD’s nine colleges are benefiting from brand new and renovated academic buildings, sports facilities, arts complexes, administrative buildings, child development centers, and parking structures. The Building Program has completed hundreds of separate projects, with hundreds more in the planning or construction stages. For more information on the LACCD’s construction program and a list of awards the District has received for its environmentally responsible projects, visit www.laccdbuildsgreen.org.

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