



LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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**New Election Poll Workers Program Launched by  
Los Angeles Community Colleges,  
Secretary of State, LA County Registrar's Office &  
Los Angeles Community College AFT Faculty Guild**

Los Angeles... Members of the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District, the Secretary of State, Los Angeles County Registrar, the Los Angeles Community College AFT Faculty Guild, the California Assembly Speaker's Office, and a former community college student launched a new program today to recruit and train community college students to become election poll workers.

Speaking to students, faculty and staff at Los Angeles City College, Conny McCormick, LA County Registrar, called for 14, 000 more poll workers. "We have a national crisis in finding poll workers, " said McCormick. "The current average age of a poll worker is 72 years old. These people are dying off and we have no one to replace them. College students are the perfect choice! We'll pay them a small stipend and give them community service credits. "

"Community college students are a natural choice because they are voters themselves, they bring a familiarity for operating computers, as touch screen voting machines replace the punch card ballots, and they speak the multiple languages of a given community because that's where they're from," said Los Angeles Community College Trustee Warren T. Furutani, who originated the program. "Community college students of all ages will benefit by getting a personal experience with the democratic process and fulfill class requirements and/or get extra credit at the same time".

This innovative pilot program is the first in the State. The training for the poll workers will be handled by the LA County Registrar's office and will be a part of the Secretary of State's voter involvement initiatives. Secretary Shelley recently partnered with the statewide community college system to provide on line voter registration as students register for classes on line.

A number of students in the audience enthusiastically signed up before the program even began. Registration and training will go into full swing when Spring semester starts at all nine LACCD colleges on February 9, 2004.

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