

# El Camino College gets a big boost for green jobs

## From staff reports

The El Camino College Foundation recently received a \$100,000 contribution from Southern California Edison as part of the Green Jobs Education Initiative.

This donation is the second and final installment to the college, which is part of a larger \$2 million scholarship program to support green jobs technology in California.

El Camino College is one of 10 California community colleges participating in the Green Jobs Education Initiative, designed to fund sustainable or "green" education and job training for college students.

The contributions will be invested as part of the Osher Scholarship Endowment Fund, which will kick in an additional \$100,000 for a total of \$300,000, thus funding 15 \$1,000 scholarships for El Camino College students every year in perpetuity.

Southern California Edison has been a significant contributor to the Osher Initiative and other community college programs throughout the state.

"This generous donation from Southern California Edison promotes student success and provides education and training for environmentally friendly careers that are in the forefront of industry today," said Thomas M. Fallo, El Camino College president. "We appreciate this support for students to achieve their goals."

Green Jobs Education Initiative scholarships will support students with financial need who are enrolled in green job workforce preparation. This includes training programs or study of solar panel installation, water and wastewater management, transportation and alternative fuels, biofuels production and farming, environmental compliance or sustainability planning.

In May 2008 The Bernard Osher Foundation contributed \$25 million to the California Community Colleges system to fund scholarships throughout the state. California's 112 community colleges were challenged to raise an additional \$50 million in funds by June 2011.

To date, El Camino College has raised a total of \$1,085,215 in gifts and pledges, which exceeds the original goal of \$973,977.

The Osher Foundation has lifted the cap on funds that may be submitted for the matching program through June 30, 2011, and the El Camino College Foundation will continue to raise money for scholarships. Once completed, the Osher scholarships will add an additional \$100,000 in annual awards each year.

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