



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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El Camino College to Celebrate Official Opening of Renovated Social Science Building

An event celebrating the official opening of El Camino College's newly renovated Social Science Building is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. August 15 at the south entrance of the building, immediately adjacent to the parking lot near Marsee Auditorium. The El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees will cut the ribbon, officially opening the newly remodeled building. The building will be open to visitors.

The \$5.6 million renovated and modernized Social Science Building is one of numerous facilities improvements supported by funds from Measure E, in addition to state funding. All the building's systems have been completely replaced, with entirely new plumbing, electrical, air-conditioning, fire alarm and data/communication programs. The elevator was also upgraded to ADA compliance.

"We are looking forward to the new semester and are very optimistic that both faculty and students will enjoy the classroom environment that will enhance teaching and learning," said Gloria Miranda, dean of the Behavioral & Social Science Division. "I am very impressed and very satisfied with the results of this project. It's really a wonderful facelift to an older building."

All 21 classrooms have new technology systems enabling faculty to deliver digital media content. Each room features a presentation station containing a desk computer, digital document camera, video player, laptop connection, audio amplifier, media switcher, and lavalier microphone – all connected to a wide screen format multimedia projector.

Social science faculty will be the first at the college to use the newly adopted Utelogy AV Control System in a classroom environment. Utelogy is a flexible, pure-software solution for control and management of audio visual systems that includes a help desk and asset management feature. Technicians will be able to instantly communicate with faculty using video, voice, and chat; remotely diagnose and verify the status of equipment in the room; capture help calls in an integrated ticket system; and remotely control the room. The system will enhance security, provide cost savings, and allow for improved classroom support.

The building's energy-efficient features include dual pane glazing on the windows, which provide plenty of natural lighting; high efficiency air handlers; and the use of recycled and eco-friendly materials wherever possible.

The floor plan has been redesigned to increase classroom space; faculty offices, four large conference rooms, and security cameras are also part of the design. New fixtures and furniture are in place, along with assisted learning devices for special resource students.

The 34,081-square-foot Social Science Building is one of the first permanent structures on campus, built in 1960. Remodeling began in July 2010, following the opening of the latest completed project – the brand new Humanities Mall. The newly landscaped Humanities Mall area features Café Camino among a peaceful outdoor environment, perfect for studying and relaxing between classes.

The Learning Resources Center, a wing of the Schauerman Library, and the entirely new Humanities Building are additional projects completed in recent years. Among other upcoming projects is the brand new \$37 million Math Business Allied Health Building, currently under construction and scheduled to open for the Spring 2012 semester.

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