



A L A M O
C O L L E G E S

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Ginger Hall Carnes, Interim Director of Public Relations
vcarnes@alamo.edu, 210.486.3884 (o); 573.3922 (cell)

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Palo Alto College achieves first \$1 million scholarship endowment

Palo Alto College achieved a major milestone at the end by March by establishing its first \$1 million scholarship endowment.

The final amount was raised at the College's 25th Anniversary Celebración on March 30, and President Ana M. "Cha" Guzmán's announcement at the event was greeted with a rousing standing ovation.

Scholarships are critical to the success of Palo Alto College students. "We know the greatest impediment to our students is financial," President Guzmán said. "We were committed to raise funds so this impediment would be removed to be able to facilitate college for our students."

The U.S. Department of Education in the last few years has allowed community colleges receiving Title V grants to set aside some of the grant funds to build endowments with matching funds from the College.

"We went about this in a systematic manner because an endowment is powerful. It provides funds in perpetuity," Guzman said. With fund-raising events over the past two years and with two large individual scholarship donations earmarked for Palo Alto students, the College raised over \$600,000; and the grant matching funds totaled more than \$400,000.

The Celebración honored former San Antonio Mayors Lila Cockrell and Henry Cisneros for their leadership as Palo Alto College was born and current Mayor Julián Castro for his leadership in providing funding for physical enhancements on the campus, including additional acreage.

The College, one of the Alamo Colleges, opened in 1985 with 231 students and now serves more than 9,000. It was the first home for Texas A&M University-San Antonio as it started classes in 2000.

Palo Alto College is a fully accredited community college located on the Southside of San Antonio, and awards associate degrees, short-term certificates and offers non-credit continuing education classes.

The campus is located at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd. at I-410 South and Texas Hwy. 16 or online at alamo.edu/pac.

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