



July 2011 eNews

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APIASF Emphasizes Importance of College Completion at Second Annual Summit

As part of the ongoing Higher Education Summit Series, APIASF hosted the **College Completion Forum: Strengthening Institutions that Serve Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders** on June 27-28, 2011 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. This two-part forum brought together nearly 400 political leaders, higher education researchers and administrators, representatives from the private and government sectors, community organizations, foundations, and students, to generate an active dialogue on the national college completion agenda and its impact on the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

Highlights of the event included the presentation of new research by the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education (CARE), panels focused on increasing college completion for AAPI students, networking opportunities, and a special reception to recognize the work of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. [Click here](#) to see video coverage of the event.

The APIASF Summit also emphasized the critical role that Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (or AANAPISIs) play in supporting the degree attainment of AAPI students and in the broader college completion discussion. [Click here](#) for the recent article in **Diverse Issues in Higher Education** on AANAPISIs and degree attainment.

Video Highlights the Experience of AAPI Community College Students

According to a 2010 report by the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education (CARE), nearly 50 percent of all Asian American and Pacific Islander students enrolled in higher education are attending community colleges. Thanks to the support of the Walmart Foundation, APIASF was able to develop a scholarship program specifically for community college students.



Scholarship recipients had the opportunity to document their experience on-campus and share their stories using FlipCams. The footage was assembled into a new video

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Scholar Profile



"I know the impact of education and its great influence on achieving the dreams that I have. This gives me a lot of self-confidence and fortitude to face the challenges that I may have in the future. "

Joanna Nipal
2011 -2012 APIASF /
Farmers Insurance Scholar
Attending Temple
University
Majoring in Physical
Therapy/Kinesiology

Upcoming Events

November 1
APIASF Scholarship



that debuted during the AAPI Student Experiences and Support Panel at the Higher Education Summit.

The APIASF Community College Scholar Video provides a glimpse into the lives of these students and underscores the important role that community colleges play in supporting degree attainment for AAPI students.

To watch the video, [click here](#).

New AAPI Organization Launched at Summit

The Asian Pacific Islander American Association of Colleges and Universities (APIACU) launched during a special media briefing during the 2011 APIASF Higher Education Summit. The new national "umbrella" organization will advocate on behalf of all Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs)-minority-serving institutions (MSIs) designated by Congress that have at least a 10 percent enrollment of AAPI students and have a significant number of AAPI students who are Pell Grant eligible. APIACU will serve to help address the needs of the nearly 1.2 million AAPI students attending these institutions across the nation.

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., APIACU will support AANAPISIs in a manner similar to that which the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education serve Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), respectively.

For more information about APIACU, [click here](#).

Benefit

For additional information about this event, [click here](#).

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