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CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Asian Pacific American Students Success Center opens at City College of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, California, October 4, 2004 — The City College of San Francisco Asian Pacific American Students Success Center (APASS) has opened. The Center's new office is in Room 208 of Batmale Hall on the 50 Phelan Avenue (at Ocean Avenue) Campus.

APASS will focus particularly on Asian Pacific American (APA) students on academic probation, but will offer help to all students who seek it. Services will include orientation, counseling, mentoring, transfer information, and tutoring.

The Center is the culmination of volunteer work by a committee of students, counselors, instructors, administrators and staff led by faculty member Laurie Wu McClain. The startling statistic that approximately 40 percent of the students are on academic probation at City College of San Francisco are Asian and Pacific Islander students prompted the formation of the center.

The ethnicity of CCSF students (Summer 2002–Spring 2003) is 35.5% Asian/Pacific Islander; White/Non-Hispanic 21.1%; Hispanic/Latino 20.5%; African American/Non-Hispanic 7.1%; American Indian/Alaska Native 4.0%; Filipino 5.0%; Other Non-White 1.3%; Unknown 9%.

The committee met with focus groups of Burmese, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Indonesian, Pacific Islander, and Vietnamese students for the purpose of gathering information about their experiences at the College and to determine how the District could help them achieve academic success. In all endeavors, APASS will coordinate its efforts with the College's existing academic departments, the Counseling Department, and the Learning Assistance Center.

APASS will open with one full-time and two part-time counselors, and tutors trained by the Learning Assistance Center. A full-time APASS director will be hired by spring 2005. The telephone number for APASS is (415) 452-5620.