



NEWS DEPARTMENT--Week of April 14, 2008

Governor Awards \$102,040 Wagner-Peyser Grant to support Texas Campus Compact, Austin Community College Partnership

Austin, Texas — The Office of The Governor honors Texas Campus Compact (The Compact) and Austin Community College (ACC) with a \$102,040 Wagner-Peyser Grant for the development of a new educational model, the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Community Impact program (STEM in Action CI) beginning April 1, 2008.

Wagner Peyser grants are intended for workforce training projects. The Compact & ACC's premier training project, the STEM in Action CI program, will incorporate civic engagement and service learning into STEM curriculum at the high school, community college, and university levels, assisting our state in "Closing the Gaps," particularly among students pursuing careers within the STEM workforce.

According to State Representative Dawonna Dukes, "The implementation of the STEM in Action CI program model will positively increase retention rates of students enrolled in Texas institutions of higher education, ultimately, benefiting our state and workforce community. I commend Texas Campus Compact and Austin Community College for the creation of this innovative project and look forward to their replicating it on a statewide level."

Studies show that students who are more civically engaged, particularly first-generation college students and students of color are more apt to graduate from college. The STEM in Action CI program will impact 7,500 students throughout the greater Austin area. For more details about the STEM program visit www.TexasCampusCompact.org