

Fresno State awarded for innovative programs

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Written by Business Journal staff

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The American Association of State Colleges and Universities announced two awards to Fresno State recently in honor of its excellence and innovation in some major areas of campus life and leadership. The annual awards will be given out to seven colleges this year that have made great advances in the areas of student success and college completion, regional and economic development, leadership and diversity and international education.

Among them, Fresno State will be awarded with the Christa McAuliffe Excellence in Teacher Education Award for working with Central Valley school districts to improve achievement among K-12 students as part of its Partnership for Exemplary Teachers.

The award, also being given to Hunter College in New York, was established in 1987 to honor the first teacher in space, who died in the 1986 Challenger disaster. It recognizes exemplary models of teacher preparation that link professional training to students' learning outcomes.

Fresno State will also be honored with the Leadership Development Award for its development of an initiative to train a diverse pool of leaders ready to step into higher administrative posts on campus.

The initiative, known as the Regional Education for Achievement in Leadership program, also included California State University, Bakersfield and California State University, Northridge to impart leadership skills and knowledge of effective practices to 30 participants over the course of a year.

Fresno State will accept the awards during the [American Association of State Colleges and Universities](#) ' annual

meeting Oct. 19-21 at the Fairmont Hotel in Washington, D.C.