



Advancement Via Individual Determination

NEWS RELEASE

February 10, 2014
AVID Center

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AVID Alumni Association Launched

SAN DIEGO—AVID Center is excited to announce the formation of the AVID Alumni Association. Six universities including the California State University San Marcos (CSUSM), Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, San Diego State University (SDSU), Spelman College, and the University of California-Santa Barbara (UCSB) have established AVID Alumni Association chapters on their campuses that will impact the college success of more than 4,000 students within the first two years of implementation.

The Alumni Association was created to provide a network of support for all AVID students, connecting them in ways that enhance their academic and professional success. The association provides students with a system of campus support to ensure a smooth transition to college. It offers social and academic connections for former AVID students, who share a familiar background with a focus on increasing persistence rates. AVID alumni will network with working professionals in a variety of career fields and benefit from other opportunities available on their campus. It also provides AVID schools and districts a pipeline for potential tutors and guest speakers who can relate to their students.

“AVID’s Alumni Association is an ideal extension of the AVID System as it will complement AVID Center’s efforts of continuing relationships with past students,” said AVID CEO Sandy Husk. “The Alumni Association is actively working with AVID for Higher Ed college campuses to expand and continue the academic and social support beyond students’ secondary education.”

AVID Alumni Coordinator Cynthia Arellano, a graduate of California State University San Marcos and current AVID teacher at Meadowbrook Middle School in Poway USD, asserted, “It is my commitment to AVID’s mission, the passion of AVID staff, and the ambitions of underserved youth that connected me with the AVID Alumni Association.”

Plans are underway to expand the Alumni Association beginning in the fall semester of 2014 to five additional institutions of higher education. The new implementation colleges and universities will work with the AVID Alumni Steering Committee to develop benchmarks based on aligned missions and goals of the respective higher education campuses and the AVID Alumni Association.

For more information, contact Barbara Smith, AVID Vice President of Governmental Relations and Equity at bsmith@avid.org.

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ABOUT AVID

AVID is a non-profit, proven college readiness system that closes the achievement gap. Today, AVID is implemented in approximately 4,900 schools in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries/territories and impacts more than 700,000 students in grades K–12 and in 41 postsecondary institutions. The AVID College Readiness System transforms a school’s academic culture to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges and succeed in higher education and training.

For more information visit www.avid.org.