For Immediate Release

El Camino College Compton Center
Welcomes New Deans for the Fall Semester

August 26, 2008

The flurry of activity and the sight and sounds of students throughout the campus signify the official start of the fall semester at El Camino College Compton Center. It also marks the first full semester for three new deans.

Dr. Jane M. Harmon is the new Interim Administrative Dean of Academic Affairs. She received her doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin in Higher Education Administration where she was a Kellogg Fellow with the Community College Leadership Program. She was also honored as an Outstanding Graduate of the university in 1999. Dr. Harmon's career spans 25 years in community colleges in Minnesota, New York, and California as a tenured faculty member, vice president of instruction, vice president of student services, and as a college president. She describes her position at Compton Center as “… a wonderful opportunity to work with dedicated faculty and staff; and to create a positive learning community for all.”

Dr. Susan Dever, Dean of Academic Programs, has spent the past 37 years at El Camino College and the University of Southern California (USC). Among her leadership roles at El Camino College, Dr. Dever was the faculty coordinator of the Learning Resources Center, the assistant director of the California Virtual Campus Professional Development Center and president of the academic senate. During her tenure at USC, where she received her master of arts degree in Applied Linguistics and her doctorate in Instructional Technology, she served as an instructor of English as a second language and as assistant director of the Humanities Audio Visual Center. Most recently at ECC, she worked closely with Compton Center academic senate for over two years and came to “care deeply for the Center, its employees, and the students we serve.” She enjoys working with Compton Center faculty and staff in providing the highest quality educational opportunity to students from Carson, Compton, Paramount, Lynwood, North Long Beach and neighboring communities.

Mr. Rodney Murray is the new Dean of Vocational Education. He has held various sales and marketing positions in the private sector and is a seasoned teacher of business courses for the past 14 years on the Compton campus. He received his bachelor’s degree in science and business and his master’s degree in business administration from the University of Redlands. He has his ABD from Capella University in criminal justice and is working on his thesis. Mr. Murray indicates that his primary goals include ensuring a solid foundation for all of the current programs,
growing the department’s advisory board and renewing relationships with local feeder schools. He maintains a focus on providing programs to train students for well-paid positions by keeping pace with employer needs, new technology and the environmental industry.

El Camino College Compton Center is open, accredited and ready to serve all! Students are able to earn an associate degree, transfer to a four-year university or receive career training. Fees are only $20 per unit. The college catalog, class schedule and weekend college offerings are available in-person or on-line at www.compton.edu.