

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2007

## Contact: Salena Acox at +1-408-627-0917 Dr. Scott Myers-Lipton at +1-510-508-5382

## 43 CAMPUSES HOST NATIONAL POST-KATRINA COLLEGE SUMMIT: STUDENTS DEMAND 100,000 JOBS FOR GULF COAST RESIDENTS

SAN JOSE, CA – Today, students and faculty at 43 campuses across the nation simultaneously kicked-off the "National Post-Katrina College Summit," a week-long effort to raise awareness about the crisis in the Gulf Coast, and to promote federal legislation for a New Deal-style jobs program for the region.

Some of the leading campuses in the country, including NYU, Princeton, Michigan, Stanford, California, Tulane, Xavier, LSU, and San -R\p State, are hosting the National Post-Katrina College Summit. The attendance at the 40 summit events is expected to top 10,000 students.

Summit events taking place this week include a jazz procession across campus (Hamline University), documentary films (many campuses are showing Spike Lee's film "When the Levees Broke"), speakers (Lt. General Russel Honore, one of the heroes of Hurricane Katrina, is speaking at the University of Michigan), blood drives (CSU Fullerton), petition drives (every campus), and reading the names of the 1784 Katrina victims (SJSU and University of Nevada at Reno).

## Simultaneous Summit Locations :

- 1. Berea College
- 2. CIIS California Institute of Integral Studies
- 3. California State University at Fullerton
- 4. Columbia University
- 5. Endicott College
- 6. Hamline University Katrina Response Network
- 7. Hobart & William Smith Colleges
- 8. Howard University
- 9. Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
- 10. Lafayette College
- 11. Linfield College
- 12. Louisiana State University, Center for Community Engagement Learning and Leadership (CCELL)
- 13. Metropolitan State University

- 14. Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- 15. Moravian College
- 16. New York University
- 17. Nicholls State University
- 18. North Carolina State University
- 19. Northeastern University
- 20. Princeton University
- 21. San Diego State University
- 22. San Jose Staté University
- 23. Sequoia High School
- 24. Saint Mary's College of California
- 25. South Dakota State University
- 26. SUNY Stony Brook
- 27. Stanford University
- 28. Tulane University
- 29. Tusculum College
- 30. Union Theological Seminary
- 31. University of California, Berkeley
- 32. University of Massachusetts at Amherst
- 33. University of Michigan
- 34. University of Nevada, Reno
- 35. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 36. University of Pennsylvania
- 37. University of Ottawa
- 38. University of South Florida Lakeland
- 39. University of Southern Mississippi
- 40. University of Tennessee
- 41. Warren Wilson College
- 42. Whittier College
- 43. Xavier University

This summit has been initiated by the Gulf Coast Civic Works Project, which is the national effort to develop federal legislation for 100,000 WPA-like jobs for Gulf Coast residents to rebuild their communities. The cost of the program, which includes job training, is approximately \$4 billion.

The Gulf Coast Civic Works Project has received support from several key allies, among which are Congressman Bennie Thompson of Mississippi, Chair of Homeland Security Committee, and two of the major grassroots organizations in the region: Louisiana ACORN and All Congregations Together (ACT).

For more information, please see <u>www.SolvingPoverty.com</u>

The Gulf Coast Civic Works Project is the national effort to develop federal legislation to create 100,000 jobs to rebuild the region using Gulf Coast residents. #####