

UC OUTREACH PROVIDES BOTH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR CA TEACHERS AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ITS IMPACT

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UC ACCORD (a UC Outreach Project) Makes Benefits of the Puente Project's Work Visible

Through the support of a UC ACCORD research grant, we have been able to show that Puente (another state-supported UC Outreach Project) has benefits beyond improved student academic achievement. If it weren't for UC ACCORD's support, researchers and policy makers would be unaware of the multiple benefits of an outreach program like the Puente Project.

Puente Project (a UC Outreach Project) Provides Statewide Professional Development for Teachers

Over the life of the project, Puente has directly served over 50,000 students and over 380,000 students through the program's extended impact. In addition to its impact on improving student college-going rates for under represented students in California, the Puente Project has provided coherent professional development during the school year and in summer institutes for nearly 500 community college and high school teachers throughout the state. Eliminating funding for the Puente Project eliminates this important source of teacher professional development for California teachers.

Puente provides models of supportive school structures and professional training for teachers who teach inclusive and rigorous 2-year college preparatory English language arts classes. Puente's focus on solid teaching practices and regular examination of student work have resulted in a pass rate of 97% on the language portion of California's HSEE for northern California Puente students.

Puente Supports New Teacher Development

At the secondary level, statewide figures show that 15% of our teachers are in their first or second year of teaching; 42% of the teachers who participate in the High School Puente Project are in their first two years of teaching. Statewide figures also show that the average number of years teaching is 12.6. In Puente, that average is just 3.9.

Puente supports these new teachers who work in schools that serve students who have historically been underrepresented in higher education.

Puente Supports the Development of Teacher Leaders

In addition to supporting new teachers, Puente provides leadership development for more experienced teachers. Many of the teachers who have participated in Puente have become leaders at their sites in developing rigorous, inclusive curriculum and college-going cultures among students who historically have not attended four-year institutions. Puente teachers and counselors are also leaders in community outreach and partnership-building at their sites. Some Puente teachers have gone on to become supervisors and

cooperating teachers for university teacher preparation programs, BTSA coaches for their districts, district literacy coaches and administrators.

Recommendations

- Continue funding for UC Outreach programs like the Puente Project that serve the needs of students who otherwise might not have access to higher education in California and provide educational leadership development throughout the state.
- Continue funding for UC ACCORD, a UC Outreach program that provides funding for research on our state's progress toward equitable schooling.