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**Press Release**

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### **AWC & NAU-Yuma Awarded \$1.2 Million in Science Grants**

YUMA, Ariz. — Monday, February 23, 2009—The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded two \$600,000 grants to Arizona Western College (AWC) and Northern Arizona University-Yuma Branch Campus (NAU-Yuma).

The NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S-STEM) grant will provide scholarships to two groups of 15-25 incoming science students for both AWC and NAU-Yuma. Recipients of the 2-year scholarships can receive financial aid worth up to \$8,695 for AWC students and \$10,000 for NAU-Yuma students.

In addition to financial assistance, the students will also participate in science conferences, research-related field trips, scientific meetings and internships. A portion of the grant money will also be used to hire academic coaches who will serve as tutors to assist S-STEM scholars with selected courses.

Students will be selected for scholarships through a competitive application process. Eligible students will be incoming freshman for AWC and incoming juniors for NAU-Yuma, have declared a major in biology or environmental science, demonstrate academic talent and financial need, and be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Applications will be available March 15 through May 1, 2009.

For more information about the scholarships, please contact Dr. Tim Whittier for NAU-Yuma at [tim.whittier@nau.edu](mailto:tim.whittier@nau.edu) or Cecilia Vigil for AWC at [Cecilia.vigil@azwestern.edu](mailto:Cecilia.vigil@azwestern.edu).

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**NAU-Yuma**, a branch campus of Northern Arizona University, has been serving the southwestern Arizona and southeastern California communities since 1988. NAU-Yuma's

partnerships with Arizona Western College and Imperial Valley College provide students a direct path to complete four-year bachelor degree programs.

Designated a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education, NAU-Yuma offers undergraduate and graduate courses in a growing number of fields, including biology, business, criminal justice, education, environmental science, nursing, psychology, public agency management, social work, sociology and Spanish.

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