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## LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING SKILLS IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

Anaheim, CA. – Over 200 students and advisers representing 19 different school districts in NM recently participated in STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) at Family, Career and Community Leaders of America’s (FCCLA) 2011 National Leadership Conference.

This year New Mexico came home with 5 Gold Medals and 37 Silver Medals, in one of 28 national STAR Events available to FCCLA students. Please see attached list for details. The medals were presented at a recognition session honoring all participants at the Anaheim Convention Center on Thursday, July 14. More than 6,300 members, advisers, alumni, and guests from across the nation attended the meeting.

FCCLA’s STAR Events are based on the belief that every student is a winner. Competition, evaluation, and recognition all stress cooperation as the basis of success. Both youth and adults work together to manage the events and serve as evaluators of the participants.

The Leadership Academy, introduced at the 2011 National Leadership Conference, gives members the opportunity to gain leadership training and be recognized for their self-improvement efforts. Sessions began at the National Leadership Conference and continue through national meetings, state involvement, and online coursework. All of the New Mexico State Officers were able to participate in the Leadership Academy.

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Jessica Farkas, from Clovis High School served as a National Officer for 2010-11. She was Vice President of Parliamentary Law. She did an outstanding job as a national officer. We were proud to have her represent NM on the National officer team.

Throughout the year, FCCLA members tackle issues such as teen violence prevention, traffic safety, family issues, career exploration, and much more. FCCLA programs and competitions enrich student learning, improve self-esteem, and serve students with a range of ability levels, economic situations, and cultural influences.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has over 190,000 members and over 6,500 chapters from 50 state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities. Out of 87,994 students from across the country, 55% of students believe that FCCLA has a positive impact on their academic performance.

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The National Research Center for College & University Admissions engages in annual cooperative research with student organizations, educator associations and community-based groups. The direct benefit to students for participating in their inclusion in My College Options, the nation's largest personalized, free college planning program. Our research partners are able to reach millions of students and thousands of educators in ways that were cost and logistically prohibitive in the past.