On Thursday, May 1, 2014 the Dedicated to Educating, Graduating, and Retaining Educational Equity Students (DEGREES) Project will be hosting the Affirming Success and Applauding Achievement Recognition Ceremony for underrepresented minority students with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. It will take place at the Alumni Center from noon to 1 p.m.

Marcellene Watson-Derbigny, DEGREES Project Principal Investigator and Associate Vice President for Student Retention and Academic Success believes that it’s altogether fitting for the campus community “to recognize, and showcase our students’ many successes.” She’s particularly proud that “the program brings together faculty, staff, and administrators to honor the DEGREES Project Scholars.” This will be the first time that these students are recognized for their academic achievements, aside from commencement.

DEGREES is designed to connect students to services necessary to succeed in college.”

Jessica Arauza will be graduating next spring with a double major in Women’s Studies and Communications Studies, and serves as the DEGREES Project Lead Coach. She reflects upon her own college achievements by stating that: “through my college experience I have found that the key factors to my success have been my engagement on campus and participation in equity programs. I know other students have not taken part in the same opportunities, and as a project coach it is a privilege to help others learn what services are available and help them navigate these services.”

Sac State’s underrepresented minority students, include 1,901 students with a 3 to 3.49 GPA, 1,002 with a 3.5 GPA or higher, and 111 with a 4 GPA.