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## **Silicon Valley SBDC staff recognized as State Star**

SAN JOSE — Silicon Valley Small Business Development Center's Gail Buettgenback has been recognized by the National Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC) for her outstanding performance in 2010/11.

Every year Small Business Development Centers throughout the country nominate their peers for innovative programming and excellence in service to their respective business communities. During its annual conference in San Diego in September, ASBDC announced that Silicon Valley SBDC Business Services Coordinator Gail Buettgenback was awarded the State Star designation.

Buettgenback accepted the award on an evening cruise around the San Diego Bay and said the entire experience was a surprise and an honor.

"Having served the Silicon Valley SBDC for 6 years, I have had an opportunity to meet many of our region's staff, and it was amazing to be chosen among such a group of gifted and seasoned SBDC veterans," she said.

The Silicon Valley Small SBDC is part of the Northern California SBDC Regional Network, with 10 centers serving 14 counties along the North Coast of California from the Oregon border to Monterey. Since 2008, the NorCal SBDC region has served more than 11,000 small businesses and their services contributed to the increase of nearly \$221 million in sales and the creation and retention of more than 7,900 jobs.

"Gail is a tireless advocate and champion for the small businesses in Silicon Valley," said NorCal SBDC Deputy Director Bob Judevine. "She has a remarkable track record of helping entrepreneurs grow and succeed in their ventures."

The SBDC, funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), provides free business advising and free and low-cost seminars aimed at helping entrepreneurs build their businesses and contribute to economic development of their local communities. Nationwide SBDC clients generate \$4.16 in new tax revenue for every \$1 spent on the SBDC program.

To find out more about the Silicon Valley SBDC, go online to [www.svsbdc.org](http://www.svsbdc.org), or call (408) 351-3600.