Counseling Updates September/October 2012

Student Spotlight: Sol Nunez

The Transfer Center is pleased to share that second-year student Sol Nunez participated in the highly competitive and prestigious Cal Summer Experience program at UC Berkeley this past summer. This three-day residential program is housed on the UC Berkeley campus and provides campus tours, academic seminars, personalized assessment, early application preparation and review.

Sol was one of 75 students selected among two thousand applicants to participate in the Cal Summer Experience, and one of only two community college students. A political science major and honors student, Sol recognizes the rich experience afforded to her and is proud of her Rio Hondo College roots.

Thanks to the Transfer Center Staff for your part in helping one of our star students move forward with her academic endeavors!

Congratulations Sol!

Counseling & Student Development Updates

Notes from the Dean of CSD

Historically, whenever fiscal times get tough many colleges and universities throughout the country search for ways to operate leaner; oftentimes Student Services is called upon to take cuts. The reason stems from the notion that the academic departments sometimes see their role as driving the mission of the institutions. There is truth in that. However, without comprehensive student services, especially those falling within the matriculation process, student would be lost; without orientations and Counseling courses we go backwards as it relates to the college’s goal of fostering academic success.

The SSTF suggests that Counseling in particular should become more prevalent in the coming years. It is my hope that it will.

The Politics of Student Success

Fall 2012 promises to be a grand stage for the politics of our colleges, the state and the country. The presidential election is huge in terms of the direction our Washington policy makers will judge the value and vitality of education in the United States given the direct and collateral damage caused by the current budget crisis.

In California, the challenge of balancing the budget and maintaining educational quality has taken center stage. The political shift in community college education has seemingly moved from an emphasis on "Access" to that of "Student Success."

The Taskforce for Student Success, made up of representatives from community colleges throughout the state, have advanced SB 1456, the Student Success Act of 2012. This legislation is ambitious and focuses heavily on the role Counseling can play in helping students succeed. The challenge for the bill, which is currently on the Governor’s desk, will be how to fund the changes and ensure equity from college to college.

Of course, funding for colleges is the specter that looms above all the efforts educators engage in to help students succeed.

Fall Transfer Fair
Student Leadership Institute
Matriculation Committee
All Counselor Program Plan Due

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LVN/
Career & Transfer
Sol Nunez in the RHC

USC Counselor
UCR Conference
UC Counselor
Pasadena City College
Counseling Updates
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20/12

September is Latino/Chicano Heritage Month

- Fall Transfer Fair – September 12
- All Counselor’s Meeting – September 24 SS305
- LVN/ADN Deadline date October 1
- Student Leadership Institute – October 5
- CSD Meeting – October 8 SS305
- Matriculation Committee – October 10 SS305
- Career Transfer Conference – October 19
- Program Plan Due – October 19
- All Counselor’s Meeting – October 29 SS305

Special Note
Counseling & Student Development is interested in collaborating with academic departments and other program on campus. If you are interested in making a presentation or you have information you would like to distribute contact Aracely Tamayo (interim department Secretary) at extension 3467

Counselor Profile
Nancy Maffris
Over the summer CSD honored the retirement of veteran Counselor Nancy Maffris after 25 years of service to RHC. She will continue on in the department as an adjunct Counselor in the 2012-2013 year.

The massive Proposition 30, Sales & Income Tax Increase is the barrier that stands between our schools and colleges and a $6 billion shortfall for this year. For Rio Hondo this means a cut of about $5 million and a drastic reduction in course offerings and program services.

For Counseling & Student Development this represents a reduction in counselor availability, limited assessment services, and reduced transfer & career services. For the college it may represent the elimination of up to 500 course sections if the bill is not passed on the November ballot.

It is in the hands of Californians and our representatives for whom our payroll deductions support to spread the word about what is best for the future of education in the state. It is the obligation of college educators to openly discuss the politics of Student Success and the directions certain political decisions and platforms can lead our students.

We must stay vigilant in our efforts to probe into the intent of our leaders through a free exchange of ideas and collegially.

It is my hope that our future will see a balance between community college access and student success.
The fall transfer season is now in full swing with several key activities and events scheduled to keep our RHC transfer students right on track. The recent transfer fair was a hit, featuring more than 30 representatives from various colleges and universities. Special thanks to members of our campus community who got in the spirit by sporting alma mater gear and referring students to the event.

TAG workshops have begun and will continue throughout September. UC and CSU application sessions will be held in October and November for fall 2013 transfers. College and university representatives are scheduled to be available on campus to meet with students throughout the fall semester.

Please continue to refer transfer students to the Transfer Center for guidance and resources.

We're here to serve!

Transcript Center

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Important Deadlines:

- UC TAG September 30
- CSU Application October 1-November 30
- UC Application November 1-30

College Tours

UCSC September 28
CSUHD October 20
UCR October 26
CSULA November 2
UCLA November 9

Career Center

Blast Off to Your Future: The Transfer & Career Conference

The Transfer and Career Centers are partnering to offer students a wonderful opportunity to gain knowledge about both Transfer and Career issues at the conference identified below. The conference will be limited to the first 300 students who register.

Please consider offering your students extra credit for attending. They can register online at either the Career or Transfer Center websites.

Workshops will cover a variety of topics including transferring to CSU, UC and private universities, business networking, major selection and fine-tuning your resume among other topics.

If you are interested in serving as a workshop facilitator speak with Belen Torres-Gil, Counselor/Career Center Coordinator.

Registration for the conference online began on September 1 (go to http://www.rohon.edu/students/transfercenter/registration_form.asp to register).

Please remind all of your students to attend and visit the Career & Transfer Centers a swing with her a semester.

EOPS Book & Calculator Loan Program Helps Students

This fall 2012 semester we are serving 628 EOP&S students. 471 are continuing from spring 2012 and we accepted 157 new students.

EOP&S was able to assist 284 students. 45% of our students, with our Book and Calculator Loan Program. 38 of these students borrowed a calculator only; 62 students borrowed textbooks and a calculator; and 184 students borrowed textbooks only.

A total of 521 textbooks were borrowed and 100 calculators were borrowed with the breakdown as follows: 43/Scientific Calculators; 1/Accounting Calculator; 51/1-83 Plus Graphing Calculators and 5/74-84 Graphing Calculators.

The students served were those who were not eligible for the EOP&S Book Service program, or they only received half of the Book Service because they were new or they did not meet the requirements for the full Book Service amount.

Articulation

NEWLY ARTICULATED COURSES WITH THE UC

Once a year, every community college, including Rio Hondo, has the opportunity to submit courses to be considered for transfer credit to the University of California.

Seventeen Rio Hondo courses received UC-transferable status this year, to be effective fall 2012. Most were new courses, but a couple were existing courses that were previously only CSU transferable.

These 17 courses include ARCH 235, 236, ART 104, 234, BIOL 105, 206, COUN 210, 211, ECON/POLS 115, LIT 117H, 142H, MATH 190H, MUS 138, PE 253, SSR 153, 154, 159, and 174.

All of these courses can now be considered as part of the minimum 60 units required to transfer to the UC.

Let’s continue the work on courses and AAT/AST degrees! Please contact the Articulation Office, Sang Le Graham, if you have questions @ extension 7587.

For more information, visit the Career Transfer Centers or call Ext. 7010.

Puente Program Mentors Needed!

The RHC Puente Program is working towards establishing its Mentor Program component. We are seeking mentors from on and off-campus to help with our group of 28 students. Every constituency group on campus is welcome.

Michelle Bean (Communications & Languages) is the new Coordinator for the program and she is working with veteran counselor, Jose Rodriguez, to move the mission of student success forward in Puente.

Stay Tuned for the Puente webpage coming soon!

FALL MENTOR ACTIVITIES

Sept. 15—DEADLINE to APPLY to be a mentor

Sept. 26—MENTOR TRAINING at 6:30pm

Oct. 10—Students MEET MENTORS at 6:30pm

Nov. 16—Family and Mentor Student Portfolio Night at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Ext. 7010.