

# What's Up With Honors?

## Rio Hondo's Honors Program 'in the news'.

### Special points of interest:

- Spring Schedule of Classes
- Rio Hondo Honors Program "In the News"
- UCLA gives Honors Program a "Thumbs Up"
- A message from the president of Rio's Honors Transfer Society (HTS)

Rio Hondo's Honors Transfer Program was featured in an article in the Whittier Daily News this past summer! The August 6, 2008 article highlighted the benefits of the Honors Program, and quoted various students who have graduated, and transferred on to such schools as UC Berkeley and UCLA. Here are some excerpts from the article: "I was never thinking Berkeley until I was in the Honors Transfer Program," said Ramon Quintero, 30, of South Whittier. "I was just trying to pass my classes, but just being in the program allowed me to have access to information that most

people don't get."

Rio's Honors transfer rate to UCLA is an impressive 92%. Students not only increase their chances of acceptance at UCLA, but Coordinator Rebecca Green stated the program's overall UC acceptance rate has always been high, above 90%.

The article went on to explain Rio's agreements with other 4-year institutions, including many Cal State schools, Chapman University, Loyola Marymount and Cal Poly Pomona. Another Rio student, Sebastian Jude, was also quoted in the

article: "The honors program is a wonderful program. The classes help prepare you for what is to come. The honors program at Rio does the job, and quite efficiently." It's great to see our Honors Program recognized by the Whittier Daily News!



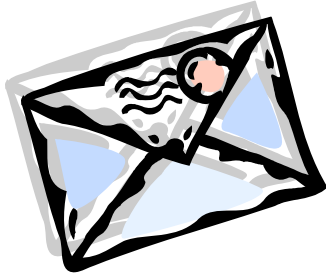
## UCLA—They came, they saw, they went away impressed!

Rio's Honors Transfer Program had a "site review" by representatives from UCLA. The review team spent the entire day on Rio's campus, interviewing honors faculty, staff, students and administrators. This visit, re-

quired every 10 years, culminated in the publishing of a report on the team's findings. Rio's Honors Coordinator and Counselor are pleased to report that the findings of the visiting team were **extremely positive**. We

can be especially proud of our transfer and retention rates, HTS, our strong focus on student success and our outreach efforts. Our program shines in UCLA's eyes—yea Rio!!

## A Message From a Former Honors Transfer Program Student, Teresa Caro



We recently received an email from **Teresa Caro**, 2008 Rio Hondo graduate who is now majoring in **Sociology** at **UCLA**. As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, Teresa was also one of the recipients of the Judge Carlos Rodriguez \$5,000 honors scholarship. Here's an excerpt from Teresa's email: "I would really encourage students to meet with the university reps., especially while they are working on their applications and personal statements, because I received a lot of

great feedback from the peer counselor from UCLA who came to Rio...There will definitely be times when classes and the workload may seem unbearable, but the honors program is well worth it and will really help and prepare a student. I also encourage students to get involved in extracurricular activities, because I found the networking and interactions with students and faculty to be a win/win situation. For example, being a member of HTS and AGS

not only allowed me to earn service points, recognition, and opportunities for scholarships, but it also allowed me to contribute through community service and participate in academic and social activities on campus." We wish Teresa all the best as she pursues her dreams at UCLA!



## Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Paul Parnell, Welcomes Students to the Program

**"Last year, 92% of our Honors students at Rio Hondo College that applied were accepted to UCLA."**



Congratulations on your selection to join the Rio Hondo College Honors Program. Your academic excellence is commendable. Benefits for participation in this program are numerous and include intellectual advancement, social networking opportunities, and professional advancement. Honors students enhance their

opportunity to transfer to both public and private universities of their choice through our many college transfer agreements. Last year, 92% of our Honors students at RHC that applied were accepted to UCLA. Through the Honors Program, you earn your AA degree with high quality instructors in your community with a great savings on tuition and room and board. We have a great supportive faculty in small classes with enriched curriculum and extra curricular activities. Here you will con-

nect with many other Honors students. Additionally, you will be more competitive for scholarships as a result of participating in Honors. We heartily welcome you to the program and look forward to following your academic success.



## HTS President—Carlos Flores Invites You to Join The Club!

Hello Everyone! Welcome interested honor students. The Honors Transfer Society (HTS) is an on-campus club that works hand-in-hand with the honors program. Last year HTS was privileged to be awarded the “club of the year” here at Rio. We were especially proud of hosting an Earth Day event which showcased the importance of conserving energy. Club members also participate in community service throughout the community. This year we will be

focusing on community service opportunities working with the elderly, tutoring kids, toy drives, and other service projects that will make a difference in our community. Students wishing to be a part of HTS must have a GPA of 3.0, attend an honors orientation meeting and be enrolled in at least one honors class in the current academic year. There is also a club dues of \$10.00/semester. This year we are committed to working with different departments on

campus to assist our members. For example, we will be working with the Financial Aid office to give our members the first word on scholarships and working with the transfer center to make the transferring process easier. We’re also looking forward to participating in the many club events on campus. If you have any questions, please email me at [honorstransfersociety@yahoo.com](mailto:honorstransfersociety@yahoo.com). Our meetings are Wednesdays at 1:00 in Room B105. Please join us!

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## Counselor’s Corner by Martha De La Mora

Have you taken classes at another college or University? Here’s some important information from our Honors Counselor:

Do we have all of your transcripts? Did you know that all official transcripts from other colleges should be on file with Rio Hondo? You can have the transcripts mailed directly to the admissions office at Rio Hondo.

Having all records here is required when filing an AA graduation petition, and all grades are calculated into your GPA. It is necessary for you to have

an overall GPA of a 2.0 in all work completed.

I am frequently asked “Can I just forget about the old work that was done? I am doing very well now” Unfortunately, the answer is “No”. All work must be included. You can however, look into policies such as Academic Renewal and Course Repetition at the campus where you took the original course. These can help improve your GPA.

This is also the case when you are applying to transfer. All coursework taken, no matter when

and where, has to be listed on your application. The application should match with the transcripts that you will be submitting later in the transfer process.

Please note that a **university reserves the right to rescind an admissions offer or even a degree** if a student did not provide all of the information of past work completed.

Let’s update your file and paint a complete picture so we don’t have any surprises in your AA application and transfer process.

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## Honors Students Receive \$20,000 in Scholarships!

One of the many benefits of the Honors Transfer Program is a student’s opportunity to apply for the Judge Carlos Rodriguez and Felicia Rodriguez transfer scholarships. The 2007/09 recipients of \$5,000 schol-

arships are highlighted here: **Teresa Caro**, was accepted to both UCLA and UCI. She has selected Sociology as her major. **Carlos Amelco** transferred to UCLA and is majoring in Political Science. **Sebastian Jude**,

Philosophy major, is studying at UCLA, and **Ramon Quintero**, a Political Science major, has transferred to UC Berkeley. Congratulations to each of these students on their exemplary achievements.



Planning to transfer to UCLA?  
 Attend the UCLA TAP/Transfer Conference  
 Friday, November 21, 2008  
 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
 Conference details available at  
[www.tap.ucla.edu/conference.htm](http://www.tap.ucla.edu/conference.htm)

- Learn about UCLA students' transfer experiences
- Attend practical workshops
- Talk with UCLA academic counselors and student program representatives
- Tour the campus

Workshops include:

- Preparing to Transfer
- Transfer Application and Selection Process
- Searching for Scholarships at UCLA
- Research Opportunities at UCLA



Are you proud of the work you've done in your Honors classes? How would you like the possibility of sharing what you've learned, gain professional experience, and have the opportunity for awards and scholarships?

Why not consider being a presenter at the 9th annual Honors Student Research Conference, February 28, 2009 on the beautiful campus of the University of California, Irvine. This research conference is unique in that only community college honors students are eligible to participate. Presenting a paper at a research conference is an incredible opportunity for you, and it looks GREAT on your college applications.

Speak to your honors instructor about mentoring you through the process. For more information, contact Rebecca Green, honors coordinator, Martha DeLaMora, honors counselor or the Rio Hondo liaison for the conference, Katie O'Brien. You can also visit [www.honorstcc.org](http://www.honorstcc.org) for more details.



Spring 2009 Honors Class Offerings

Sec.	Course	Day/Time	Instructor	Rm.
0606	ART 105H	MW/12:50-2:15	Lynch	A230
1030	ECON 102H	TH/7:00-10:10 PM	Elbiali	A225
0501	ENG 201H	MW/12:50-2:15	Reilly	A206
0493	ENG 201H	M/7:00-10:10 PM	Norton	A204
1009	HIST 159H	TTH/11:15-12:40	Lazaro	A224
0537	LIT 112BH	MW/9:40-11:05	Springer	A206
0810	LIT 145H	MW/2:20-3:45	Osman	A206
0521	LIT 146BH	MW/11:15-12:40	Eckstrom	A211
1713	MATH 130H	MW/11:15-12:40	Esquivel	S212
0141	PHIL 101H	TTH/8:05-9:30	Preston	A207
1710	SOC 101H	TTH/9:40-11:05	Green	A229
1716	SPAN 201H	TTH/9:00-11:05	De Los Santos	A202

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Check us out on the web at  
[www.riohondo.edu/honors](http://www.riohondo.edu/honors)

**Honors Transfer Program  
 knowledge to go places**



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