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President's Message



Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.

Not only are we in full construction mode on campus just now, we will also soon celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony for our final Measure A project, the El Monte Educational Center. The South Whittier Educational Center has been operational for a full year, and has proved to be popular with the residents of the nearby communities whom it was established to serve. We are confident that the populations of El Monte and South El Monte will embrace the new community-based center there as well.

I would like to reiterate my appreciation to staff and students alike for patience with the temporary adjustments we needed to make to the parking configurations of Lots B and C to accommodate necessities of construction taking place in the center of campus: the Student Services Complex and the Upper Quad. Later this fall, we will all enjoy the new facilities and landscape to the fullest! We will however, continue with ongoing construction of the PE Complex.

In addition to the construction and parking adjustments, we are managing to serve nearly 14,000 students, even while many other colleges have eliminated or drastically curtailed their summer sessions. My thanks to faculty and staff for helping these students 'finish faster' in the face of economic and construction impediments.

Our July series of Family Nights for parents and new students are going very well. By month's end, there will have been four such sessions (including one for Spanish-speaking parents) to help acclimate new students and their families to college. Thanks to the committee and staff from several Student Services units, as well as academic program representatives, for their efforts to make these events informational and meaningful.

Fall 2011 FLEX Day is approaching. Please join us in the Wray Theatre August 18 for the official kick-off for the 49th academic year at Rio Hondo College. The Staff Development Committee is planning a morning session to share the latest in college updates, including special topics of safety and emergency preparedness; budget; the State of the College Report; facilities and construction; and planning. We will also have focused breakouts on Developmental Education and more on Emergency Preparedness. Breakout sessions will include a full range of topics designed to inform and intrigue.

Rio Deans and Administrative Assistants Learn CPR



Board Meeting

The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting July 13.

- Dean of Arts and Cultural Programs, Joanna Downey, presented the Board of Trustees information about the Children's Touring Program. This project takes the talent of the Rio Hondo College Arts and Cultural Programs student performers to local K-12 classrooms for their observation and entertainment.

"The key to making such a concept successful is to have talent and students who are willing to share it," she said. "At Rio Hondo College, we have both." Downey then introduced five students, who are a part of the touring program. The group performed for the Board of Trustees and for those in attendance.



- Dean of Institutional Research and Planning Howard Kummerman recognized one of his staff members, Research Specialist, Dr. Annel Medina.



She was recently selected to receive an Association of Institutional Research Presidential Scholarship award. "This award is a testament to Annel's experience and knowledge along with her desire to continuously improve her research skills," said Dean Kummerman.

New Interim Dean, Athletic Director Selected



The Board of Trustees also appointed Larry Mercadante as Interim Dean of Physical Education/Athletic Director at its July 13th meeting.

Larry brings more than 40 years of administrative leadership, teaching experience and coaching history to Rio Hondo. Prior to joining the Roadrunners, Larry worked at Cypress College and Santiago Canyon College.

He earned both a bachelor's degree in History/Geology and a master's degree in Education/History from the University of Redlands.

New Dean of Public Safety and Director of Police Academy Named

The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees appointed Ygnacio Flores, Ed.D., as the Dean of Public Safety, and Lester Mesa as the Police Academy Director. The appointments were made during the July 13th meeting of the Trustees.



As Division Dean, Dr. Flores will oversee both the academic programs in the Administration of Justice and Fire Technology curriculum as well as the college's public safety academies, including police, fire, and homeland security.

He brings more than 33 years of professional experience to his new position. Dr. Flores most recently served as the Associate Dean of Public Safety and also as the Director of Public Safety. Prior to Rio Hondo College, Dr. Flores was a Lieutenant Commander in the US Navy. He served as the Senior Law Enforcement, Physical Security and Antiterrorism Officer for Commander, Pacific Fleet in Honolulu, Hawaii; he also served two command tours for the Naval Criminal Investigative Services Law Enforcement and Physical Security Assistance Unit in San Diego from 1999 to 2002 and the Seattle based Deserter Apprehension Program from 1990 to 1993. Dr. Flores also served as the officer in charge of several other law enforcement and public safety related positions throughout Asia, the Mediterranean, Saudi Arabia, and Africa. Dr. Flores holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from National University, a graduate certificate in Command and Staff Leadership from the Naval War College, a master's degree in International Relations from the University of San Diego, and a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California.



Lester Mesa was appointed to a new position within the Public Safety Division. He will be the new Police Academy Director. He will be directly responsible for oversight and operations of the Rio Hondo College Police Academy, relationship with the California Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST), and regional law enforcement entities.

Mesa brings more than 31 years of experience from the Brea Police Department where he was assigned to patrol, investigations and administrative divisions of the department; and held positions as a police officer, detective, and other supervisory positions. During that time, he had the responsibility of providing dignitary protection for the Nixon Presidential Library & Museum. He also served as the department's training manager for five years where he was responsible for maintaining POST Continuing Professional Training (CPT) and state mandatory testing. Mesa earned both a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a master's degree in Public Administration at California State University, Fullerton. Mesa also is qualified as a Master Instructor by POST.

"We are very pleased to fill both positions with such experienced and capable professionals," said Superintendent/President, Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr. This new leadership in the Division of Public Safety will further enhance our academic degree and career-focused Administration of Justice Programs. We are also positioned to further our ongoing efforts to restore the Police Academy certification with the California Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training's (POST), and look forward to resuming the 664-Hour Basic Course later this year."

Save-the-Date: Rio Hondo College to Host Groundbreaking Ceremony for New El Monte Educational Center



Foundation Names New Executive Director



The Rio Hondo College Foundation welcomes Kerry Lynn Franco as the new Executive Director. Kerry has extensive background

in scholarship development and leadership. She has worked for the Office of Foundation Relations at the Keck School of Medicine of USC as its Assistant Director of Development and Scholarship Manager. More recently, she held the position as Program Officer for Scholarships at the California Community Foundation.

Kerry earned both bachelor and master's degrees in Public Policy, Management and Planning and Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs from the University of Southern California.

Campus to Close at 5 p.m. August 1-12

Due to a reduced number of classes and/or activities on campus during the evening hours of August 1-12, Rio Hondo College will close at 5 p.m.



Employees, who have questions about their schedule and this temporary change, are welcome to contact their supervisors for additional information.

In Memoriam



Adeline Villegas

Clerk Typist III
Public Safety/AOJ
2000-2011

American Cancer Society Commends Basketball Coach, Student Athletes



The efforts of Rio Hondo College Basketball Coach Steve Herbert and student athletes were commended recently in a personal letter to Superintendent/President Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr., from American Cancer Society Chief Executive Officer, David Veneziano.

In the letter, Veneziano thanks Rio Hondo College for its participation in the California College Men's and Women's Basketball Coaches statewide, season-long effort to raise awareness and funds to fight cancer. A total of 55 community college basketball programs participated and raised more than \$20,000 toward cancer research. Methods for fundraising included donating gate receipts of the game, raffles, half-time activities, T-shirt sales and more.

Thank you to Coach Herbert and our student athletes for participating in this fine program and for helping raise funds for cancer research!

College Experiences a Robust Summer Session

To help new students transition, the 2011 Summer Bridge Program is being held this summer, serving more than 200 students. The Program, which is held in four sessions, provides students with an academic review of English and math, campus tours, team building opportunities and educational planning time with a Rio Hondo counselor.

The Summer Bridge Program is designed to help full-time, entering students, who are serious about their education at Rio Hondo, learn more about how the campus works as well as provide them with the support they need as they transition.

The Program is one of several student success projects implemented through the Office of Student Success and Retention, funded in part by the California Basic Skills Initiative and the Title V (IDEAS) grant. Additional information is available at the following link: http://www.riohondo.edu/Basic_Skills/projects.htm.



Mission Statement Posters Include New Value Statement



VISION

Rio Hondo College strives to be an exemplary California community college, meeting the learning needs of its changing and growing population and developing a state-of-the-art campus to serve future generations.

MISSION

Rio Hondo College is a collaborative center of lifelong learning which provides innovative, challenging, and quality educational offerings for its diverse students and community.

VALUES

Rio Hondo College values:

- 1 Quality teaching and learning
- 2 Student access and success
- 3 Diversity and Equity
- 4 Fiscal Responsibility
- 5 Integrity and Civility

Art Club Students Take on New York City!

Rio Hondo College Art Club students recently visited New York City as part of a their Art Club activities. Students visited the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the Empire State Building and much more.

Pictured back row left to right: Darrell Marks, Anna Martinez, Vanessa Delagarza, Megan Martinez, Albert Lopez, and Andrew Rodriguez. Front row left to right: Art Club Advisor Ada Broun, Irina Preciado, and Roberto Preciado.



Don't Miss This ...

ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING EVENT

3600 Workman Mill Road

Whittier, CA 90601

- PARKING LOT 4 -

SATURDAY – AUG 6TH
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM



ELECTRONIC ITEMS ACCEPTED



Televisions · Computer Monitors · PC Systems
Laptops · Plasmas/LCDs · Printers · Scanners
Stereo Equipment · VCRs · DVD Players · Cell Phones
Fax Machines · Telephones · Vacuums · UPS · Cameras



www.OneStopRecycler.com · 909-467-4800

FREE Drop-Offs