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President's Message



Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.

We made it! Together we launched the class of 2010 onto the next step in their journey. Commencement is always a wonderful celebration, and our college's 47th was certainly one to remember as Dr. Cuellar inspired us all with his address, "Tomorrow Morning," and we conferred the Fellow of the College honor on Dr. J. Manuel Baca.

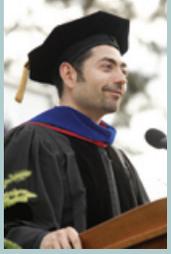
My special gratitude to our classified employees in facilities, grounds and maintenance who do so much to make our end-of-year events special. I also appreciate the work of those classified staff who assist with the commencement ceremony itself, helping guide graduates through the ceremony and assist in a myriad of ways. We also appreciate the talents of Angela Rhodes and Dr. Walter Jones who assisted with announcing the names of the graduates as they crossed the stage.

Everyone has no doubt seen the huge banners and other notices about the inauguration of the electronic wait list email notification feature of our AccessRio registration system for summer session. After seeking input from faculty and others, we decided to 'go live' with email notifications in order to acclimate our students to the process earlier rather than later, which will give us the opportunity to work out any unforeseen kinks while there are fewer students enrolled. This approach will enable us to have a smoother registration and waitlist process in the fall. Waitlists are very important for students, as well as for planning, as we evaluate demand and scheduling.

Thanks to our entire community for working together to complete and celebrate our 47th academic year at Rio Hondo College. Fall's Flex Day will come soon. If you will be taking a summer break, I hope it is restful. If you will be with us for all or part of the summer, I look forward to seeing you on campus.



Commencement Speaker, Tino Cuellar Inspires Graduates



The newest class of Rio Hondo College graduates walked across the stage at the 47th Annual Graduation Ceremony, May 27. Offering the event's commencement

address "Tomorrow Morning" was Mariano-Florentino (Tino) Cuéllar, Special Assistant to the President for Justice and Regulatory Policy for the White House Domestic Policy Council.

On leave from Stanford Law School, where he is a Professor and Deane F. Johnson Faculty Scholar, Cuéllar has vast experience in the public and legal fields. He served at the U.S. Department of the Treasury as Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary for Enforcement during the second term of the Clinton Administration. He also chaired the Initiatives Subcommittee of the U.S. Attorney General's Council on White Collar Crime.

Since then, he has worked with, or served on, the boards of numerous organizations including Asylum Access, the Stanford Center for International Security and Cooperation, the Haas Center for Public Service, and the San Francisco Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. He has testified before Congress on separation of powers, served on the Silicon Valley Blue Ribbon Task Force on Aviation Security, and is an elected member of the American Law Institute. Cuéllar co-chaired the Obama-Biden Transition's Immigration Policy Working Group, and earlier advised the Obama campaign on criminal justice policy as well as immigration.

A graduate of Calexico High School, in rural Southern California, Cuéllar holds an A.B. magna cum laude from Harvard University, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Stanford.

Congratulations, Graduates! Rio Hondo Commencement 2010



Board Meeting

The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting May 12.

Board of Trustees President Angela Acosta-Salazar provided commendations to faculty who were retiring this year after providing years of service to Rio Hondo College students. "All of you will be missed here," she said. Retiring faculty served a cumulative total of 160 years of service.

Board of Trustees President Angela Acosta-Salazar provided commendations to Rio Hondo College athlete teams and athletes who had successful fall and spring seasons. Softball, Track, Men and Women's Soccer as well as other sports were represented as well as student athletes of the year. "It is amazing to have such athletes here this evening," said Acosta-Salazar. "Rio Hondo College is proud to be a part of their academic journey."



Rio Hondo College's Journalism Team was also commended by the Board of Trustees and recognized for their success at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) State Convention in Los Angeles recently. At the Convention, El Paisano and La Cima staffers combined to win 12 awards, including the award for

New Student Center Complex and Quad Renovation Marked with Groundbreaking Ceremony

Rio Hondo College shared its plans for the latest campus enhancements by holding a groundbreaking ceremony on May 5 to celebrate the beginning of construction of the long-awaited Student Services Building and the Student Union Building, as well as the renovation of the College's Central Quad Plaza.

The brief ceremony showcased three important projects in the renovation of the campus: a new Student Services Building, which will be centered in the upper campus, will house the offices of student service programs for Rio Hondo College. The project will consist of three floors, each having a distinct function with departments such as Student Financial Aid, Counseling, Admission and Records, Veterans and several federal, state and local programs and more. The 35,000-square foot project is expected to be completed in June 2011 and has a projected cost of \$12.5 million.

An adjacent companion building is the new Student Union Building, which will also be located in the upper quad area, will house the Student Union Offices, the Activities Center, a new Campus Dining Commons and an outdoor space for dining. The 12,000-square foot project is expected to be completed in October 2011 and has a projected cost of \$7 million. The former student union facility, known as The Putnam Center, was demolished to make way for the new Learning Resource Center.

The renovation of the Central Quad Plaza will provide expanded opportunities for student and faculty interaction, new areas for outdoor dining and additional space for organized functions. The 170,000-square foot project is expected to be completed in Fall 2011 and has a projected cost of \$3.75 million.

The celebration included a welcome by Rio Hondo College Superintendent/President, Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. as well as remarks by others involved in the project, a student representative and construction high-lights of the projects.



Board Meeting

continued from previous page.

General Excellence, the highest honor given by the JACC, in both the newspaper and magazine categories.



Associated Student Body President, Sammy Castillo, provided his State of the Students speech to the Board of Trustees.

Director of Financial Aid, Scholarships and Veteran Services, Elizabeth Coria, provided a presentation to the Board of Trustees on financial aid at the College. She included information on AccessRIO and how students can access their financial aid information independently with the online tool as well as financial-aid data.



Lisette Rhi, coordinator for the Rio Hondo College Forensics Team also presented to the Board of Trustees on the art of forensics and debate and how it is taught at Rio Hondo College. She also shared information on student participation in tournaments and had a Rio Hondo College student improvise a debate as an example.



Please remind all YOUR students:

The long-awaited AccessRIO email waitlist notification is now LIVE.

Students only have 72 hours after the day and time they are notified to add their classes. Please remind YOUR students to check their emails and not lose their classes!



“Sold Out” Cyber Security Workshop for Local Business Shared Threats and Benefits of New Technology

As one of the many ways it serves both its students and the surrounding communities, Rio Hondo College sponsored a workshop presented by Texas A&M University, entitled Cyber Security Workshop. The workshop was at capacity with 65 participants.

The two-day workshop helped educate participants on the threats to business, education and home Internet users and presented hardware, software and user policy solutions for reducing cyber risks. Topics included current cyber threats, network and firewall configuration recommendations, post-intrusion responses, suggested user policies, wireless network vulnerabilities and other subjects related to cyber security.

The workshop was held on May 19 and 20th. It was free and open to the public.



All 42 Graduating Fire Academy Cadets Hired by Los Angeles National Forest Fire Academy Graduates Cadets

The Rio Hondo College Fire Academy graduated 42 cadets from its “Wildland Fire Academy, Class #12” Saturday, May 22. Every graduate of Rio Hondo College’s “Wildland Fire Academy, Class #12” has already been hired by the Angeles National Forest. They will each be working the 2010 Wildland Fire Season as paid employees.

“Especially during tough economic times we are gratified that each graduate is immediately employed upon graduation,” said Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. “Not only is our academy among the best in the nation, but our graduates are obviously in demand. This is a winning combination for them and for our region’s public safety organizations.”

Each of the graduating cadets completed 360 hours of Wildland Training, CPR and first aid as well as hazardous material training at Rio Hondo College. One cadet, Mikeal Gartner, who is on the Los Angeles County Search and Rescue Team, went to Haiti to assist after the giant earthquake there. He will be honored for his efforts at the graduation ceremony.

Rio Hondo College has an aggressive Fire Technology program. The Academy, which ranks as the 5th largest fire academy in California, specializes in wild fire fighting techniques and prevention.



‘Team Rio’ Participates in Revlon Cancer Walk

Students and faculty represented Rio Hondo College at the recent Revlon Run/Walk, which honored all women who have battled or are battling cancer.

Nursing Program Receives Approval of Accreditation

The Rio Hondo College Associate Degree Nursing Program has received continued approval of its Pre-licensure Nursing Program (RN) for the eighth straight year. The program was once again given approval following a site visit in February. A special thanks to the faculty association for their part in the contract negotiations that assisted in this approval.

Congratulations to faculty and staff in the Health Science Division for all their hard work and dedication!

College Celebrates Graduates and Transfer Students At End-Of-The-Year Event

As commencement day approached, a combined celebration among the College Student Support Programs took place to honor more than 80 graduating and transferring students.

The second annual end-of-the-year event celebrated students receiving either their associate degrees, certificates and/or transferring to four-year universities, who were also involved in Student Support Programs. The night was co-sponsored by the following programs: CalWORKs, Disabled Students Program and Services (DSP&S), Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOP&S), the Honors Transfer Program, MESA, the Transfer Center and the TRIO Program.

The event included an awards ceremony and dinner for honored students and their families as well as RHC staff and faculty.



Rio Hondo College's Student Newspaper El Paisano and La Cima Magazine Make Mark at JACC Journalism Awards

Student writers and editors for *El Paisano* and *La Cima*, respectively the official newspaper and magazine for Rio Hondo College, recently attended the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) State Convention in Los Angeles. At the Convention, *El Paisano* and *La Cima* staffers combined to win 12 awards, including the award for General Excellence, the highest honor given by the JACC, in both the newspaper and magazine categories.



At the JACC Southern California conference in November, held at Cal State Fullerton, Rio Hondo College students won another 13 awards, including the award for General Excellence in the newspaper category.

"These students have worked so hard and continue to demonstrate excellence in their journalistic pursuits," said Rio Hondo College Journalism Instructor John Francis. "I can't remember when we've ever won top honors for both the newspaper and magazine at the same conference, and I've been at Rio Hondo for 44 years."

The State Conference was attended by approximately 620 students and faculty from around the State and featured a number of workshops and competitions throughout the weekend. The competition portion of the Conference saw an average of 70-80 students compete in each category, with only four places, and four honorable mention awards, given in each category.

For more information on the JACC please visit www.jacconline.org. For more information on *El Paisano* and *La Cima* please visit elpaisanonewspaper.com.

Rio Hondo College Foundation Award and Scholarship Reception

The Rio Hondo College Foundation recently hosted *Celebrating Academic Excellence*, a special event to honor the 2009-2010 Outstanding Students Awards and Scholarship recipients. The event, which took place on May 13 at the Clarke Estate in Santa Fe Springs, honored approximately 170 students, 119 of whom were awarded with scholarships for their outstanding efforts.

"It is both humbling and gratifying to see so many of our students honored," said Angela Acosta-Salazar, Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees President. "Rio Hondo has so many hard working and talented students who deserve recognition. I am truly thankful to the Rio College Foundation for doing just that."

During the Outstanding Students Awards portion of the evening, 51 students were honored across 10 academic categories; Arts & Cultural Programs, Business, Career Technical Education, Communications & Languages, Health Sciences, Mathematics & Sciences, Public Safety, Physical Education, Social Science/Humanities & Philosophy, and Special Programs/Student Services. Additionally, 170 Rio Hondo Students were awarded with scholarships spanning 46 separate categories. Scholarship Committee members Ada Brown, Dennyse Clark, Scott, Dixon, Nadia Elahi, Jesus Gutierrez, Sergio Guzman, Don Mason, Sondra Moe, Lydia Okelberry, and Julius Thomas selected scholarship recipients.



Scholarship donors include Rio Hondo College Counselors' Re-entry Student Scholarship, Rio Hondo College Counselors' Transfer Scholarship, Rio Hondo College Counselors' Vocational Education Scholarship, Rio Hondo College Emeriti Association, Rio Hondo College LVN to AND Scholarship, Rio Hondo College Management/Confidential Council, Sandra & Alfred Sanchez Scholarship, Santa Fe Springs Heritage Kiwanis, Ted Snyder Scholarship, The Bernard Osher Foundation, Tomorrow's Teacher's School, Veterans Book Scholarship, Veterans Educational Scholarship, Veterans Enrollment Fee Scholarship, Veterans Nursing Scholarship, Wetsman Family Anthropology Foundation, Whittier Rotary, David Bilar, Ada Brown, Jeanie Caldwell, Dorothy Carras, Dr. Alfred Forrest, John Francis, Judi Henderson,

continued on next page.

Rio Hondo College Baseball Team Wins Regional Title, Places Third in State Championships

The Rio Hondo College Baseball Team recently played in the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) State Championship Final Four for the first time in school history. The Roadrunners, who finished the regular-season with a 30-10 record, advanced to the State Tourney after winning the CCCAA Southern California Regional and Super Regional Tournaments. The team was eliminated from the Final Four in the final elimination game on Saturday, May 22.

On the road to the State Championship the Roadrunners swept the Western State Conference Southern Division champion Los Angeles Valley College in the Southern Regional to advance to the Super Regional for the first time since 2006. In the Super Regional the fourth ranked Roadrunners beat Bakersfield College in the opening round and moved on to defeat top ranked Santa Ana College in the semifinals and Cuesta College of San Luis Obispo in the finals.

"This team has battled hard all year long," said head coach Mike Salazar. "The regular season was a bit up and down for us but the playoffs are where a team's true character shows.

"We had great pitching and timely hitting throughout the playoffs and we really cracked down and worked hard to get as far as we did. This is the first time in school history that we made it this far, all the way to the State Tournament, and I couldn't be more proud of this team."

The State Championship Final Four was played at Fresno City College. Rio Hondo entered the tournament as the No. 2 seed in the South. After a win on Friday, the team lost back-to-back games to Ohlone College and College of San Mateo on Saturday, effectively ending their post-season run. The Roadrunners finished the post-season with a 6-2 record.

Congratulations to the Rio Hondo Baseball team on making it to the State Championship Tournament for the first time in school history!

Foundation Award and Scholarship Reception continued from previous page.

Kay Hudnall, Edward Ibarra, Janye Iberri, Mike Javanmard, Barbara & Don L. Jenkins, Jean Korf, Margaret McIntosh, Maurice Meysenburg, Owen Newcomer, Gil Puga, Betty Putnam, Beverly Reilly, Arely Rodarte, Judge Carlos Rodriguez, Dan Rubalcava, Dr. Alex A. Sanchez, Judy Sanders, Kathleen Symons, Glenn Waggoner, Marybeth West, Adam Wetsman, Carolyn Wray Wilson, and Gwendolyn Wyatt.



Congratulations to all of the 2009-2010 Outstanding Students Awards & Scholarship recipients!

Classified Employee Recognition Week

The Rio Hondo College community found several ways to recognize and honor our classified employees during Classified Employee Recognition Week, including a Resolution from the Board of Trustees noting the importance of the week and the work these vital employees perform all year long. The President's Office hosted a kick off breakfast for classified staff; and the Faculty Association hosted an event as well.

Congratulations to our Classified Employees!



RHCFA End-of-Year Celebration

Rio Hondo College recently recognized the following individuals for their dedicated years of service to the College and its students.

2010 RETIREES

- Doreen Kaller
- MarSue Ratzke
- Larry Scher
- Rod Sciborski
- Patrick "Rick" Shields
- Lemuel Williams

YEARS OF SERVICE

30 Years

- Jay Sunyogh
- John Francis
- Doreen Kaller

20 Years

- Barbara Keith
- Yvette Garcia
- Chris Acuna-Hanson
- Adele Enright
- Carley Mitchell
- Jim Newman
- Linda Hawley

- Steve Katnik
 - Pat Gallego
- #### 10 Years
- Jose Duran
 - Faye Daryoush
 - Jeannette Duarte
 - Gil Puga
 - Warren Roberts
 - Blanca De los Santos
 - Hector Gonzalez
 - Robert Botello
 - Jon Whitford
 - Mike Salazar
 - Fran Cummings
 - Allen Leung
 - Vern Padgett
 - Van Priest
 - Robin Babou
 - Julie Huang
 - Stephen Koelle
 - Adam Wetsman



Clockwise from top left: Celebrating 10 years: Robin Babou, Van Priest, Fran Cummings, Hector Gonzalez, Vern Padgett, Warren Roberts and Adam Wetsman.

Retirees Larry Scher and Doreen Kaller.

Celebrating 30 years: John Francis, Doreen Kaller and Jay Sunyogh.

Celebrating 20 years: Adele Enright, Chris Acuna-Hansen, Barbara Keith, Jim Newman and Pat Gallego.

We Get Letters

Dr. Vann Priest Receives Prestigious Recognition from UCI

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Division of Undergraduate Education

611 Aldrich Hall
Irvine, CA 92697-5670,
(949) 824-3291
(949) 824-2161, FAX

April 8, 2010

Dr. Vann Priest
Rio Hondo College
3600 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601

Dear Dr. Priest,

We asked our most academically successful first-year transfer students to name the instructor or counselor at their community college who had the most significant impact on their academic performance and successful transfer to the University of California, Irvine.

I am delighted to inform you that your former student, Cunxiang Mi, has identified you as that individual. You have dedicated yourself to helping students establish a strong personal and academic foundation. We are delighted that Cunxiang selected UCI.

To celebrate your commitment to fostering these qualities in your students, we invite you to be among our honored guests at our Educator Recognition Reception, on Wednesday, May 19th from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the University Club on the UCI campus. We have also invited Cunxiang to the celebration. Enclosed you will find an invitation to the event and a map.

Kindly respond to Tenley Dunn at tdunn@uci.edu or 949-824-2422 by April 23rd. Your name will soon be added to our web "wall of fame" at <http://www.uci.edu/walloffame>.

Congratulations on your outstanding contribution and on having been recognized by your student. I look forward to celebrating with you on May 19th!

Best,

Sharon V. Salinger, Dean
Division of Undergraduate Education

cc: Department chair