Rio Hondo College celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2012-2013. Fifty is a wonderful milestone for any organization. We can only wonder if those civic-minded advocates who championed our cause in the 1960s had imagined that the ‘college on the hill’ would soar to the important regional resource it is today.

Longevity is itself hardly a virtue. It is the future that counts, and organizations must renew themselves. Rio Hondo College has evolved into a vibrant community with new ideas, cutting-edge curriculum, and a solid commitment to opportunity and service.

We invite you to join with other Rio Hondo College alumni and friends as we celebrate this historic year. Learn more at www.riohondo.edu/foundation.

1960
Area voters established a Junior College District.

1962
Area expanded to include El Rancho Unified School District, necessitating election of a separate Board of Trustees.

1963
Dr. Phil Putnam hired as first president.

May 1963
Board selected ‘Rio Hondo’ as college name. Other contenders were: Westlake; Junipero; Valencia; Bartolo; Santa Gertrudes; Don Pio Pico; Hillview; Highland; Friendly Hills; Richard M. Nixon.

September 1963
First classes held at Sierra and El Rancho high schools.

October 1963
$12 million construction bond issue passed to construct a college for 4,000 students on the Pelissier Ranch property, the present location of the RHC main campus.

1964-1965
Classes held at former Little Lake School in Santa Fe Springs.

Fall 1966
Rio Hondo College campus opened with an enrollment of 3,363 daytime students and 2,682 evening students.
President’s Message

As the Interim President of Rio Hondo College, I am honored to serve in this important position and am mindful of the enormous work at hand.

As the College moves into its 50th anniversary year, we can celebrate the many recent successes, including the construction of numerous new buildings, a positive accreditation, and a stronger financial footing than other area colleges due to fiscally conservative practices. As a member of the Rio Hondo community for 25 years, I am committed to maintaining the wonderful forward momentum that the College has enjoyed, serving our students and supporting our community by providing a strong, efficient academic program.

Like all community colleges in California, this year’s budget will challenge us, with the state calling for additional cuts, and we will have to implement bold and intelligent measures to remain fiscally solvent. I believe it is critical that we maintain our work in promoting strategies for student success and retention, implementing the recommendations made by the Student Success Task Force, while also beginning the preparation for the College’s next Self-Study for Reaffirmation of Accreditation set for 2014. And, as a college community, we will forge ahead with the search for a permanent President/Superintendent, working collaboratively to find a strong, competent, fair-minded person who can lead the College and serve our community.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Board of Trustees for this honor and for their trust in my abilities. To this end, I look forward to this opportunity to contribute to the Rio Hondo community and appreciate the support and kind words I have already received from many on campus and in the community.

But none of us works alone. We are fortunate to have talented and dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators on our team who will be vital to promoting ongoing success that is tangible and measurable. We have thousands of students on our campus who seek knowledge and inspiration in our classrooms on a daily basis. Given the strength evident at every level of our team, there is no question we will continue on the positive trajectory our Board has set and our community expects.

On July 1 Teresa Dreyfuss took the helm as Interim President of Rio Hondo College, following the retirement of Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. A native of Taiwan, Ms. Dreyfuss first came to the College in 1987, and most recently served as Vice President, Finance and Business. She has also served as Chief Financial Officer, Controller/Business Manager, Business Manager, and Senior Accountant.

Dreyfuss has been instrumental in guiding and managing the $245 million facilities construction program, known as ‘Measure A’ which is nearing completion and which has transformed the aging hilltop campus into a modern institution with new educational centers to provide access for underserved areas of the Rio Hondo College service area.

Ms. Dreyfuss holds an MBA from the University of La Verne and a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Chinese Culture. She has worked as a part-time instructor at both Rio Hondo and Los Angeles City College, teaching accounting and business classes for 10 years. She has also worked at Riverside Community College District as Director of Business.

On May 24 more than 1,100 students marched across the Rio Hondo soccer field to receive their diplomas at the College’s 49th commencement ceremony, making it one of the largest graduating classes in the College’s history.

The increase was the result of focused efforts to help students complete their programs more efficiently, and to recognize the importance of seeking an associate degree, even if they plan to transfer.

Commencement speaker and Rio Hondo alumnus Eric Rodriguez encouraged graduates to follow their dreams and always learn from their failures. Rodriguez, a veteran of the Iraq War, also talked to students about growing up with his family surviving on welfare and food stamps.

Mary Ann Pacheco, professor of English and literature, who is retiring, was honored during the ceremony by the Board of Trustees as a Fellow of the College.

Class of 2012 Celebrated 49th Annual Commencement

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When Jacqueline Hernandez came to Rio Hondo College in 2008 upon graduating from El Rancho High School, she was unsure of her direction. With mostly Cs in high school, she didn’t have lofty academic goals. Michelle attended school part-time while working at a retail store. Math classes for her were difficult and discouraging, but she got through with help from her teachers. After a couple of years, Jacqueline discovered her passion – she decided to become a speech pathologist. With a clear goal in mind, Jacqueline left her job and dedicated herself to full-time studies. Soon after Jacqueline achieved straight As while taking 18 units. She was on the Deans Honor List for both the 2011 Spring and Fall semesters. She says that she never thought she could do something like that, but at Rio Hondo College she learned she was capable of doing better. Now Jacqueline has achieved a degree in Social Behavioral Studies. Accepted to Cal State Fullerton, Cal State Long Beach and Dominguez Hills, she will transfer to Cal State LA, the next step on her path to eventually earning a master’s in Speech Pathology.

Antonio Landgrave credits the forensics class he took during his first semester at Rio Hondo for putting him on the road to academic success. Antonio, who graduated from Santa Fe High School in 2010, had never participated in forensics before but Professor Libby Curiel saw his potential and persuaded him to join the team. Antonio says the things he learned during his two years competing on the forensics team helped him in all his classes. He became a better communicator and through competitions had the chance to travel to other colleges and universities around the state. Antonio worked part-time as a stock/cashier associate to finance his education throughout his time at Rio Hondo. Still, he graduated in exactly four semesters, earning an associate degree in General Studies: Social Sciences. Antonio is transferring to San Jose State University this fall to double major in history and communications. Anthony says he achieved his goals by making good use of the many available resources at Rio Hondo. He frequented the Career and Transfer centers put to use the time management skills he learned in his Counseling 101 class.

Michelle Vigil had her challenges as a full-time nursing student, balancing responsibilities as a single parent to two young children and caregiver to her ill grandmother. But Michelle persevered. After all, it was her schoolwork at Rio Hondo that helped her rebuild her sense of self-worth after a two-year struggle with drug addiction. Determined to turn her life around Michelle came to Rio Hondo in Spring 2009. After just two semesters she was accepted into the LVN nursing program. Resolute in achieving her goal, Michelle and her children eventually moved in with her grandmother so she could care for her. She spent hours on the bus everyday traveling between her various responsibilities and campus. Michelle recently lost her grandmother, but she has gained a sense of confidence and achievement she never thought possible. She will take her state board exams in August and is preparing to transfer into an RN program next spring. She is certain she will see through her long-term goal to become a successful nurse practitioner. Michelle says she knows other students here have similar troubles and obstacles, but if she can realize her full potential, so can they.

If you’ve taken even one class at Rio Hondo College, you can proudly say you’re an alumnus, a distinction that includes such former students as 91-year-old Barbara Hudspeth. A member of the first class, Hudspeth joined the four-year-old alumni association just last year. “I had a good education at Rio Hondo and just wanted to help out,” she says.

Joining the Association has its advantages: beyond the opportunity to stay connected to the Rio Hondo family and network with other alumni, you have access to both the Fitness Center and Learning Resource Center.

To join the Rio Hondo College Alumni Association, contact rhcfoundation@riohondo.edu or call the President’s Office 562-908-3403.

The grant received through the ChargePoint America program was made possible by a grant funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through the Transportation Electrification Initiative administered by the Department of Energy.
Regional Homeland Security Training Center
A Capstone of Collaboration

Rio Hondo College is home to one of the state’s premier community college-based Public Safety programs that includes the Fire Academy, Wildland Fire Academy and now the new Regional Homeland Security Training Center, which opened in Santa Fe Springs with great fanfare last January.

The new three-acre facility allows Los Angeles County first responders to receive coordinated training to uniformly respond to natural disasters or terror events. It houses training ‘props’ for regional agencies to conduct trainings to respond to a variety of disaster scenarios. Currently, more than 145 first responder agencies train at Rio Hondo College, up from 85 just two years ago.

The regional training facility, under construction for three years, is the newest of six regional training centers in Los Angeles County; it was the first to receive a certification of review in August 2011, which was conducted by a team of California Emergency Management Agency (Cal-EMA) and California Fire Marshal Office specialists. The Santa Fe Springs Fire Department and Rio Hondo College share the facility.

The facility is result of the excellent collaborative relationship between the College and the California Fire Services, as well as regional fire agency partners, relationships that extend back many decades.

The project began when the Department of Homeland Security selected Rio Hondo College as a homeland security regional training center to serve Los Angeles County and deliver training to area first responder agencies.

Congresswoman Grace Napolitano secured $300,000 in federal appropriations funding to purchase site lighting equipment and live fire training props. She secured $580,000 in federal appropriations funding as well to purchase a clean-burning CNG bus for shuttle service on the college campus.

The building’s three floors of approximately 32,000 square feet provides needed housing for multiple programs within the College’s Division of Public Safety, including delivery of the associate degree and transfer programs for Administration of Justice, Corrections, and Fire Technology programs. The AJ Building is also home to the Police Academy.

The building has already been put to use as classroom facility for various Public Safety curriculum courses and Advanced Officer Training courses for law enforcement officers, and for commencement of Police Academy classes that started in June.

The building also features a weight training shower/locker facility, a staff dining area and an assembly area to be used for formation drills and outdoor training.

As a tribute to the 26 Rio Hondo alumni who have given their lives in the line of duty as law enforcement and fire service officers, a Memorial Wall, funded through private contributions, graces the building entrance.

Regional law enforcement representatives joined Rio Hondo College officials to celebrate the grand opening of its new Administration of Justice (AJ) Building with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 14. United States Marshall David Singer and Santa Fe Springs Fire Chief Alex Rodriguez both spoke to the significance of the AJ Building in training law enforcement officials for the region.

Positioned at the northwest corner of the Campus, the Administration of Justice Building is the “gateway” project for Rio Hondo College. With construction costs of about $10.9 million, the building was made possible by the local ballot initiative Bond Measure A, which provided a total $245 million for facility improvements and advancements. Groundbreaking took place in 2009.

The new Administration of Justice Building Opens

R
A major modernization and facilities construction program has transformed Rio Hondo College into a spectacular 21st century learning environment. The project began in early 2004 when administration developed a master plan to define the goals, budget, quality and schedule of the necessary improvements. The community expressed its support for the improvement program by approving Bond Measure "A".

The program focused on upgrading existing campus facilities and constructing new infrastructure and facilities to support the expanding school population; it also saw the construction of several new buildings to enhance learning for generations to come.

**RECENTLY-COMPLETED PROJECTS**

**Learning Resource Center**

The 94,000 square-foot two-story building anchors the south end of the central campus area. The library features a huge book stacks area. The room and its adjacent reading room offer natural light through a continuous high thermal performance glass wall that affords a panoramic view of the San Gabriel Valley. The building features energy efficient glazing, a green roof area and earned a Silver LEED certification.

**Applied Technology Building**

The existing 40,000 square-foot facility was renovated and expanded to meet the curriculum requirements for training tomorrow’s automobile technicians. The completed facility provides the ability to train students in alternative fuel technologies such as hybrids, electric and future hydrogen powered vehicles.

**Central Plant and Campus Infrastructure**

Improvements included installation of new chilled water, new hot water and new fiber cable throughout the central campus area. The fiber optic cable backbone provides high speed internet, data transmission and phone service throughout all buildings.

**South Whittier Educational Center**

This facility offers various educational programs to the community. The annex adds three classrooms, an office for the counselor and a lounge for students, faculty and staff.

**Regional Public Safety Training Facility**

The existing facilities were renovated to provide additional classroom and faculty office spaces. The six-acre site was also augmented with a number of training props including a confined space, urban rescue, hazardous materials, tank car, tank truck and roof access simulators.

**Student Services and Student Union Buildings**

The Student Services Building houses various student programs, clubs, organizations and other student service programs, as well as Admissions, Counseling and Financial Aid. The ground floor of the two-story 14,000 square-foot Student Union Building contains a new cafeteria and kitchen. A new student lounge occupies the second floor. The two buildings are linked with open bridges and are connected to the campus via bridges to the Upper Quad.

**Blue Light Emergency Phones**

These 27 special phones provide direct contact to campus security in the event of an emergency, enabling prompt response of aid.

**Pedestrian Bridge**

The Pedestrian Bridge connects lot “A” to the Applied Technology Quad, giving pedestrians easier access to the Science building second level and Upper Quad.

**IN CONSTRUCTION**

**PE Complex**

The 41,000 square-foot PE Complex will feature weight training, team rooms, a new locker facility and staff offices. Two new swimming pools will replace the existing aging swimming pool.

**Lower Level Parking Terrace Stairs**

A series of concrete stairways and pathways are designed to separate pedestrian and vehicular traffic through all levels. Students parking in these areas will be able to transit to and from the campus in a safer, more relaxed manner.

**El Monte Educational Center**

The four classroom educational center will offer informal educational space as well as a public meeting area.
Emerging data show Rio Hondo students are clearly reaping benefits from the targeted efforts to boost student success and retention within basic skills courses. Basic skills are foundational skills in reading, writing, mathematics, learning and study skills, and English as a Second Language, which are considered necessary for students to succeed in college-level work. These programs have become key components of Rio Hondo’s comprehensive student success model, which recruits, guides, places, and supports students from pre-matriculation through completion. For instance, incoming students who participate in the four-day Summer Bridge program are more likely to take and pass math in their first semester than incoming students who don’t, and 97 percent of students who take and pass math in their first semester than incoming students who primarily serve. Program highlights include:

First Year Experience Program (FYE): Promotes academic achievement among entering college students in a supportive, integrated and innovative learning environment. Students are placed in the same math and counseling classes for the academic year. Ninety-seven percent of these students persisted through their first year of college.

Gateway Tutoring Program: Trained tutors work with specific instructors, attending their classes and facilitating group study sessions for students. Currently 30 course sections use Gateway tutors per semester, serving upward of 1,000 students. Eighty-four percent of students who attend tutoring sessions pass the target class with passing grades, which is 10 to 20 percent higher than those not participating.

Early Alert Program: The program helps faculty identify students who are experiencing attendance and academic difficulties; identified students then receive support services. All basic skills courses are included in this program.

Summer Bridge: Incoming students who participate in the four-day extended orientation are more likely to take and pass math in their first semester.

Fast Track Accelerated Learning Program: Serious and committed entering students are placed in the same English and reading classes. Rio Hondo expanded the number of cohort learning communities from one serving 29 students during fall 2011 to five cohorts serving 113 students during spring 2012. Generally retention rates were higher across the board when comparing the ten different Fast Track courses to the same non-Fast Track courses.

Students Participating in Each Cohort

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Unduplicated Total* 113

* Four students participated in two cohorts.

Retention Rates by Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Spring 2012 Fast Track Participants</th>
<th>Students in Comparison Sections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL035</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL035W</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL101</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<td>ENGL201</td>
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<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL198</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIB101</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH050</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ023</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ134</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC101</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Retention means completing the course with any grade other than a “W”;

Success Rates by Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Spring 2012 Fast Track Participants</th>
<th>Students in Comparison Sections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL035</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL035W</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL101</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL201</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL198</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIB101</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH050</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>READ023</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READ134</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC101</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Success means passing the course with a grade of “C” or above.

Information provided by Dr. Krist Pierson, Dean, Communications and Languages, with data from Institutional Research and Planning.
Academic Schedule

Apply and register early to get the classes you want!

Fall Classes begin week of August 20, 2012
- Module A - Aug. 18-Oct. 12
- Module B - Oct. 13-Dec. 8

Open registration for new students begins Aug. 13. Enrollment fees for California Residents are $46 per unit, as established by the California State Legislature.

Degree and Certificate Programs
www.riohondo.edu

Check out Virtual College classes for online options!

Parking permits for all campus lots are required effective August 18.

Student Success & Retention

Ancillary Activities:

Students in the ESL 198—ENGL 101—LIB 101 Fast Track Cohort visited the university library of CSU Los Angeles with their instructors Tyler Okamoto and Judy Sevilla-Marzona. There they were treated to a tour of the library’s six levels and wealth of research resources, as well as a hands-on introduction to a few of the library’s 100+ online databases. The class also completed a research exercise and had time to apply for library borrowing privileges from CSU LA. CSLUs librarians Christina Sheldon and Deborah Schaeffer hosted the event.

The libraries of Rio Hondo College and CSU LA have a reciprocal agreement of mutual use privileges; currently enrolled students of Rio Hondo can borrow books from the CSU LA library and vice versa. To find out more about the reciprocal agreement call the library reference desk at 562-908-3484.

For more information on the Fast Track Accelerated Learning Program, call Sergio Guzman, Basic Skills Coordinator, at 562-463-3479.

Information provided by Judy Sevilla-Marzona, Rio Hondo College librarians.

MESA/TRio Student Support Services STEM Celebrates a Successful 2011-12:

Of the 171 students that were served during the academic year 40 received their AA/AS degrees.

Forty students are transferring to 4-year universities in fall 2012. These students finished major preparation courses in mathematics, chemistry and physics and all but two are transferring in a STEM major. The students are headed for University of California campuses at Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Santa Cruz, California State Universities campuses at Fullerton, Los Angeles, Stanislaus, and Humboldt State as well as California Polytechnic Universities Pomona and San Luis Obispo. One student will enroll at USC, one at the University of Arizona and one at Biola University.

In Spring 2012 the program was able to move into its new location in S205. The students spent 11,392 hours in the center studying in groups and on their own.

In major preparation courses in mathematics, physics and chemistry, MESA students made up 31% of all students in mathematics, 44% in chemistry and 70% in physics. Taking advantage of the MESA center, Academic Excellence Workshops (AEW); tutoring and other services such as the mandatory educational plan through transfer, educational and personal advising, financial education and more, the program participants outperformed other students again this year. AEWs are extra sessions which are designed to reinforce the material. These sessions led to mathematics success rates 13% higher for participating students when compared to those who did not.

New Roadrunner Mascot Logo

A new Roadrunner mascot logo is showing its face (or, in this case, beak) around campus. Rio Hondo College athletics have used various iterations of the desert bird since it was chosen as the College mascot during the first year of classes in 1963-1964. The updated look is used on athletic team uniforms, on Rio Gear sold in the Bookstore, and is incorporated in the new Rio Café signage. Student government has also adopted the new logo. Go Roadrunners!

Community College “Top 100” Lists Include Rio Hondo

Community College Week has just published its annual rankings for the nation’s top degree producing community colleges. This year’s lists are based on 2011 data from the U.S. Department of Education. Rio Hondo College ranks as 87th in the nation and 23rd in the state for associate degrees for all disciplines awarded to minority students; as 39th in the nation and 15th in the state for associate degrees awarded in all disciplines to Hispanic students; and as 29th in the nation and third in the state for homeland security, law enforcement, firefighting and related protective services.
Here’s a brief introduction to a few Rio Hondo College faculty members.

DORALI PICHARDO-DIAZ
Counseling professor Dorali Pichardo-Diaz is passionate about helping students find their way, through their college experience and into their lives.

“JENNIFER TANAKA-HOSHIJO
Jennifer Tanaka-Hoshijo is in her fifth year at Rio Hondo teaching health and physical education classes, lecturing in fitness and wellness and theory of coaching, and coaching the women’s soccer team.

Finding creative ways to encourage students to make their physical health and well-being a priority is Jennifer’s main focus. “It’s exciting when they recognize and embrace the connection between the mind and the body,” she says.

She enjoys witnessing the growth of the students in her classes and hearing of their progress in life. Graduation is her favorite day. “You see the joy in the faces of students and families and you hope you contributed just a little bit to that feeling for them,” she says.

Jennifer worked in the corporate world for eight years, traveling all over the globe as a director for a major sporting goods manufacturer before deciding she really wanted to work with students.

In addition to Rio Hondo, Jennifer has coached women’s soccer at El Camino College and Long Beach City College. In coaching education, Jennifer has successfully pursued the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) “A” License, USSF “National Youth” and National Soccer Coaches Association of America’s “Premier” in Brazil, the highest coaching education licenses available in the US. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology and social behavior from UC Irvine, a master's degree in organizational business leadership from Chapman University, and a master’s of science degree in physical education from Azusa Pacific University.

DANIEL Osman
Now in his seventh year teaching English Literature and English Composition at Rio Hondo, Daniel continues to find teaching literature fascinating.

“Fictional narratives are like Rorschach tests,” he says. “How we interpret them often says as much about us as the narratives themselves. I take a lot of pleasure in getting students to venture into strong, confident ‘readings’ of assigned literature.”

Daniel is just as impressed by Rio Hondo students themselves as by their reading adventures. “They have a hardworking work ethic and a kindness I haven’t encountered in any other student body,” he says.

Daniel earned a bachelor’s of arts in English from Wesleyan University and a master of arts in English from Cal State Los Angeles.

He has also been a lecturer at the University of Southern California, a teaching associate at Cal State Los Angeles, and an adjunct instructor at L.A. City College, West L.A. College, and Santa Monica College. He has also taught at TELACU’s Veterans Upward Bound program.

BRIAN T. BRUTLAG
In his four years at Rio Hondo, Brian Brutlag has taught a variety of sociology classes that range from Sociology 101 to Sociology 120: Perspectives of Sex and Gender.

To explain his intrigue with sociology, Brian refers to French Sociologist Pierre Bourdieu, who said “Sociology is a martial art, because it is the best self-defense against the absurdities of the world. If you want answers to the meaning life and the world, ask a sociologist.”

“The faculty and staff I work with at Rio Hondo are the most caring, supportive people that I have ever met,” says Brian. “They’ve welcomed me into the Rio Hondo family with open arms.”

He is especially grateful for Dean Rebecca Green, a fellow sociologist, Instructional Division Secretary Rene Tai, and his office mate Scott Dixon.

Brian has an associate degree from Waubonsee Community College and a bachelor’s degree in Sociology/Anthropology with a Criminal Justice minor from the University of Illinois Springfield. He received a master’s of arts from Northern Illinois University in sociology with an emphasis in inequality (sexuality, gender, race, and disability).