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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.

This Holiday Season is a time to celebrate with our families and friends, and to set personal goals as we approach a new year.

Our role as a change agent in many lives is more important now than ever. We see enrollment grow because we are a route for so many who need to develop skills necessary to survive and to develop productive futures. Although times are challenging, we should take comfort in knowing that so many depend upon us to help them make it through.

When we return to campus in January, we will announce dates for groundbreaking events for the AOJ building and the South Whittier Center. Progress is possible because our bond funding, evidence of the trust our community has placed in us. As we work together to transform our physical learning environment, we are also working collegially to advance our plans for our institution's future and to assure that our students have every opportunity to succeed. We will have a busy 2009.

Enjoy a safe and restful break, wonderful holidays, and a healthy and Happy New Year.

Joint Presentation Focus of Participatory Governance Workshop

Mark Wade Lieu, president of the statewide Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, and Scott Lay, President of the Community College League of California presented a forum "Participating Effectively in District and College Governance". The presentation included information about the law (AB1725) as well as regulations and guidelines.

The Board Room was full, as representatives of RHC stakeholder groups were present, along with all others interested, with everyone hearing the same message and interpretation of AB1725. They described the "10-plus 1" list of Academic and Professional matters in which the college is required to consult collegially when adopting policies and procedures.

The presentation also included information regarding the role of staff and students for effective participation in governance processes.

The session was recorded and is available on the RHC website in the About RHC menu under "Board of Trustees."



December Board Meeting

The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees held its Annual Organizational meeting December 10. Trustee Andre Quintero, shown at right in photo below, was elected President, Angela Acosta-Salazar will serve as Vice-President and Gary Mendez will serve as Clerk for the 2009 year.



Angela Acosta-Salazar, Andre Quintero

The Board of Trustees recognized Joanne Haskins' retirement. Ms. Haskins was hired at Rio Hondo College in July, 1976, and served since that time as professor of Nursing. She earned a B.S.N. from California State University Los Angeles, a Master's in Education from Whittier College and a Masters of Science in Nursing at Azusa Pacific University.



Joanne Haskins, Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.

The Rio Hondo College Vocal Ensemble provided holiday music and spirit. For more information about the vocal programs that the College offers visit <http://www.riohondo.edu/arts/musicpage.html>

Rio Hondo College students will be joining students from Mt. SAC, Chaffey College, Citrus College, Glendale College and Pasadena City College, as well as other Southern California Community Colleges to address the student perspective on the upcoming budget cuts at Pasadena City College February 27, 2009.

RHC Students Excel, Advance To Round 2 of International 'Imagine Cup'

The Imagine Cup is the World's Premier Student Technology Competition sponsored by the Microsoft Corporation. The competition draws students from around the world and the competition is intense during three rounds of international cyber-based competition.



Forty Rio Hondo College students who enrolled in Computer Information Technology courses in *C++ programming* and *Java programming classes* participated in the first round, and 25 have been advanced to the next level. According to instructor Shin Liu, "Rio Hondo students represent an impressive proportion of the students from the United States who are advancing to level 2 competition, which will take place in the spring. Finalists invited to level 3 will travel to Cairo, Egypt, for that competition later in 2009. Expenses will be underwritten by Microsoft.

The Imagine Cup encourages young people to apply their imagination, their passion and their creativity to technology innovations that can make a difference in the world – today. Students are challenged to develop, deploy, and maintain information technology (IT) systems that are elegant, functional, robust and secure. This demanding competition requires students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in the science of networks, databases, and servers. They also need to

show their analytical abilities and make tough decisions in IT environments. Now in its sixth year, the Imagine Cup has grown to be a truly global competition focused on finding solutions to real world issues.

The Imagine Cup provides students an opportunity to compete with other IT professionals in a formal world competition environment. The competition integrates the faculty, students, parents, and community members as a big family. Ron Christie, the Dean of Business, Economic Development and Community Services, was at the competition to encourage students to give it their all and to lend support. The CIT instructor, Shin Liu organized the students so that they could compete and Van Vuong and Huy Nguyen of the Information Technology staff at the College were hired as the team consultants.

The contest spans a year, beginning with local, regional and online contests whose winners go on to attend the global finals held in a different location every year. In 2009, the final round will be held in Cairo, Egypt with each contestant's expenses paid for by Microsoft. The intensity of the work brings students together, and motivates the competitors to give it their all. The bonds formed here often last well beyond the competition itself. The honor of participating and progressing in the competition is very prestigious as students participation is helpful as they begin to apply to four-year institutions and go out into the work place.



Women Take the Lead at Police Academy Graduation

When the Rio Hondo College Police Academy graduated Class 188 November 20, they made history with the first RHC academy class ever to have been led by two female cadets. Cadet Kimberly Jones of the Pasadena Police Department has served as President and Cadet Angela Torres from the Pomona Police Department has served as Vice President.

Jones and Torres were classmates at St. Lucy's High School in Glendora. They became classmates again when they entered the 22-week Rio Hondo College Police Academy. Both are ambitious and strive for excellence. Together they agreed that they would stand out as leaders among their peers and they did. At the 17-week point in their training all of the cadets are asked to write down names of who they would like as their President and Vice President. Jones and Torres were selected.



Angela Torres Kimberly Jones

Upon the election of officers, the responsibilities of the class transfer from the training officers to the elected officers. They work to keep the class together and to help combat "senior-itis." The President gives a speech at graduation and the Vice President leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

According to Dean Joe Santoro, "We are very proud of these two cadets and appreciate the dedication, can do attitude and the leadership they demonstrated during class 188. Congratulations on a job well done."



Surplus Books Go to Market

On December 3, the Upper Quad was filled with sale tables where students could browse among 1,600 titles of surplus books and paperbacks, ranging from text books to *New York Times* bestsellers for \$1.

Sponsored by the Rio Hondo College Library as a way to cull the collection by selling off books that have either been replaced or superseded by more recent editions.

Students are always offered the first opportunity to purchase the books, so the sale is designed to service the campus community and is not advertised to a larger audience. This year, in preparation for the move to the Library Learning Resource Center, students were encouraged to help cart away excess inventory at bargain prices. In the last hour of the sale students could get an entire bag of books for only \$1. The sale was a huge success raising approximately \$1,500 for the book fund.

The unsold books were donated to *Generation We* a program at Santa Fe High School which will take the unsold books and donate them to schools in Uganda. The library also donates surplus books to *Better World Books* who then converts the donated books into funding that promotes and supports literacy efforts throughout the world.

In this photo, from L-R: Rudy Martinez, Marco Carrillo, Judy Sevilla-Marzona, Dr. Loretta Cannett-Bailes (all of the RHC Library), Adrienne Karnofel, adviser to Generation We, a student officer, Lupe Pasillas (Generation We president), Karina Franco Hugh Rueda and faculty club adviser Chris Komer.



"Let it Snow" at Child Development Center

Annually, the Child Development Center at Rio Hondo College hosts "Snow Day" for children and their families to come and enjoy winter fun. On December 12, a large snow blowing truck arrived at the Rio Hondo College campus early to blow tons of snow onto the lawn and slope in front of the Center.

For the entire morning, children played in the snow, which for many was the very first time. They even had a toboggan run to slide all the way to the front door of the center.

Thanks to the giving spirit of the campus and the community, the \$1,800 needed for the event was raised. The Center (through its parents) raised the money with \$1 raffle tickets for gift baskets and the grand prize of an IPOD. Some local businesses donated gift cards for the raffle and everyone pitched in to make this event possible. The staff and the children of the Child Development Center are most appreciative.



Fire Technology Ceremony

Cadets Chris Klemm and Reid Davis from the Rio Hondo Fire Academy, Class 71, Award the Rio Hondo College cadre of instructors a plaque that bears #71 and signatures of all graduating cadets.



“Winter Wonderland” All Staff Holiday Luncheon

A large contingent of faculty, staff and administrators journeyed to Swiss Park for the All Staff Holiday Luncheon, “Winter Wonderland” organized by a campus committee, chaired by Martha Carreon. She was assisted by Debbie Duran-Wade and Sylvia Viramontes.

It was a lively event, with entertainment provided by students in the Dance Department, and a Christmas-themed Christmas quiz. (We learned that Oklahoma was the last U.S. state to declare Christmas a legal holiday – in 1907).

Joanne Haskins, who is retiring from the health sciences faculty after 32 years of service was honored. Students in the RHC Dance Program, under the direction of Alyson Cartagena performed.

Door prizes were provided by the Rio Hondo College Bookstore, the RHC Foundation and the RHC Faculty Association.

Baskets of Hope from RHC Students to Families in Need

The ASB Senate continued its tradition of putting together “Baskets of Hope” for Rio Hondo College students who are in need this holiday season. The campus community was invited to submit the names of students that might be struggling this season. In each of the 12 “Baskets of Hope” was a gift certificate for a ham or turkey and all the trimmings for a holiday dinner.



Another “Basket of Hope” project was sponsored by the nursing students, who identified needy families during their clinical experience.

Kummerman Appointed Interim Dean, Institutional Research and Planning



Howard Kummerman is serving as Interim Dean, Institutional Research and Planning, along with his continuing service as Director of Grant Development. Howard is “thrilled to support and lead the college functions of strategic planning, research, and institutional effectiveness; moving from a position in grants to planning and research is a natural progression seen throughout the state.”

Upon graduation from San Diego State University, Howard began a career in non-profit management and fundraising. He also holds a Master of Science in Executive Leadership from the Business School at the University of San Diego. Prior to joining RHC, Howard was the Chief Development and Marketing Officer at Jewish Family Service of San Diego. His civic involvement has included President of the Santee Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Santee Rotary Foundation and Rotary Club, AYSO Soccer Referee & Coach, Phi Gamma Delta Graduate Activities.

All Around Actors Take Scenarios to Class

Rio Hondo College students have the opportunity to ‘act out’ their education. Performing Arts Professor William Korf created the concept of ‘All Around Actors’ which combines the skills of acting with ways to enrich the curriculum in a variety of classes ‘all around’ campus.

Acting students are invited into other classrooms to present short rehearsed live scenes, speeches, poems or a readings based on what is being taught in that class at that time. Approximately 60 students participated in performances this year. Subjects ranged from Shakespeare to Hemingway, conversational English for ESL classes, and speech. For example, students prepared scenes for an ESL class, based on conversations in the course text. Scenarios included a dentist’s office and applying for a summer job.



In prior years, students have performed at the adult school off campus, the Child Development Center on campus and for the College Information Days.

The actors involved include both advanced and beginning students. Every performance is attended (and graded) by Professor Korf. The program has been up and running for four years and has been a great success. Professor Korf encourages all faculty interested in having students perform in their classrooms to contact him at ext. 7698.

Future Teachers Learn More About Next Steps



In early December more than 60 students enrolled in teacher preparation programs participated in a Teacher Preparation Transfer Panel, to learn about credential programs, pathways to teaching, and transfer preparation. Representatives from six transfer campuses, including Whittier College and UC Riverside participated. Thanks to the Transfer Center for organizing such a relevant program.

TRiO Students Send RHC Fire Academy Their Thanks

The TRiO Programs staff (Upward Bound and Student Support Services) sent a letter of thanks to the Rio Hondo Fire Academy and the cadets for an outstanding BBQ lunch provided during a visit they made to the academy facilities. The Staff used their visit to learn a great deal about the RHC Fire Academy.



EOPS /CARE Adopt-A-Child Annual Holiday Event

Every year the Rio Hondo College's Cooperative Agencies and Resources for Education program (CARE) hosts an Adopt-A-Child Holiday event during the Christmas season. CARE provides services for low-income and educationally disadvantaged students who are single parents with children 14 years or younger. There are nearly 100 students in the program and almost 200 children.

The CARE program invites members of the Rio Hondo College campus community to "adopt" the children of participants by selecting a picture of the child from a Christmas tree board in the EOPS office. On the back of each picture the child provides a wish list and often creates an ornament featuring their picture.

This year there were more than 100 children available for 'adoption' and at least 50 sponsors from the campus community (all the children were adopted). In fact Professor Angela Medina from Communications adopted 26 of the children herself!

The event culminates with a holiday luncheon in the Campus Inn on December 19, when the parents receive the gifts for their children.



Rio Hondo College Gets Involved in December

Senator Bob Huff Visits the Campus



Rio Hondo College Students Participate in World AIDS Event

