

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message

FLEX Days Offer Professional Development for RHC Faculty

July 2009 Board Meeting

RHC Prepares for Library and Learning Resource Center to Open

Henry Gee Honored with Prestigious Alumni Leadership Award

AccessRIO to Provide One-Stop Online Convenience

RHC Roadrunner Wildland Firefighting Crew Work On Call, Whenever Needed

Telemundo Highlights RHC Police Academy

New Campus Map Shows All Roads Open at Rio Hondo College



President's Message



Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.

As we look toward our Flex Week activities and opening day of fall classes next month, it is evident that our summer is passing rapidly. However, we are serving more students than ever during summer sessions, and may reach the 12,000 mark by the time our last class is over August 14! It is clear that our classes are in demand, and I do appreciate everyone's efforts to keep our service exceptional, even while pressed by the calls and walk-ins who are seeking assistance with enrollment and registration for fall semester.

We have been working to help prepare the college to meet upcoming fiscal challenges presented by the significant cuts in the State budget. Examples include the series of meetings of the Cost Savings Task Force, chaired by Vice President Teresa Dreyfuss. This group, composed of a cross section of campus employees, collected and analyzed a series of recommendations for consideration and possible implementation. Everyone will soon receive a list of cost savings strategies, some large and some small, that we can all implement as individuals and as departments.

Remember, even little savings add up.

Closely aligned with the focus of the Cost Savings Task Force is the ongoing work of the Enrollment Strategies Subcommittee. This group has spent time analyzing our enrollment and FTES patterns. Their work will result in recommendations for our consideration.

The Accreditation Response Team is in the final stages of preparing the response to the recommendations we received from the Accrediting Commission. The document will be ready for Board review at the August board meeting. Latest updates and information is posted and always available on the Public Drive. My continuing thanks to co-chairs JoAnna Downey and Katie O'Brien for their coordination, and to all the faculty and administrators who have worked diligently to prepare the document for submission.

The truly good news is that our new Library and Learning Resource Center will soon be open. Everyone will receive information about where offices and individuals have been relocated from the old Library tower. Remember, some offices will not be moving, so it is always good to check. Students may not be familiar with the new location, so please be sure to help guide them those first confusing days of class. The Information Booths will be especially important during this time. I applaud and thank those who volunteer to assist!

FLEX Days Offer Professional Development for RHC Faculty

Mark Your Calendars for August 20-21!

FLEX Days are designed to provide RHC faculty the opportunity to participate in developmental activities related to staff, student and instructional improvement. This year's FLEX period is extended to a 1-and-½-day-period, August 20-21.

FLEX Days are contractually-agreed to events that require all full-time faculty to attend. Part-time faculty is also invited and all staff/administrators are welcome as well.

The agenda for this year's FLEX Days is currently being finalized. According to RHC Staff Development/FLEX Coordinator Katie O'Brien, the day will include welcoming remarks, campus updates, facilities and construction updates and budget information. Everyone is invited to an all-campus BBQ at noon in the Library Breezeway, hosted by the President's Office and the Rio Hondo College Foundation. Afterward, participants will be able to attend various workshops/sessions in the afternoon.

O'Brien said she anticipates having approximately 350 faculty members attend this year's FLEX Days. For more information on RHC's FLEX Days, please contact FLEX Clerk Teresa Martinez at ext. 3210.

July 2009 Board Meeting

The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting July 8, 2009 on the College campus.

A Sabbatical Leave Report presentation was made by Instructor Mary Rivera to the Board of Trustees.



Dr. Andy Howard provided an update to the Board of Trustees on the Rio Hondo College Foundation. The presentation offered information on the Foundation's Mission Statement, its Board Members, accomplishments made during 2008-09, such as providing more scholarships to students, as well as shared photos from the President's Gala. It also provided information to the Board of Trustees on the Foundation's major initiatives and highlighted its vision for the future.



Both Director of Information Technology Services John Bryant and consultant Jack Raubolt shared information with the Board of Trustees on AccessRIO Implementation Program (Banner). They discussed how the program would benefit both students and college staff. The program will be in full swing in October and ready to accept student applications and registrations for Spring 2010.

continued on next page.

RHC Prepares for Library and Learning Resource Center to Open

When students, staff, and faculty return to RHC for the Fall semester, they will have access to and use of the huge new structure that has been under construction and largely shielded from view by construction fences for nearly two years – the Library and Learning Resource Center (LRC). The largest single element in the Measure A construction program, this new building is the size of two football fields and will be a modern signature structure for the college, literally and figuratively the 'heart' of the campus.

The facility will have a modern library, training and meeting rooms, writing and reading labs and a rooftop garden on the second floor. Located on the former site of the Putnam Center, the 94,000 square-foot two-story building anchors the south end of the central campus area.

Throughout the college community, excitement has been growing over this new facility and how it will better serve students and faculty. The College asks, however, that everyone show patience during the first few weeks of school as there may be unexpected changes in class locations.

The RHC Foundation is planning a reception for members of the President's Circle Thursday, August 13, which will feature a State of the College Address by Rio Hondo College Superintendent/President Ted Martinez, Jr. Ph.D. and provide a preview tour of the new LRC.

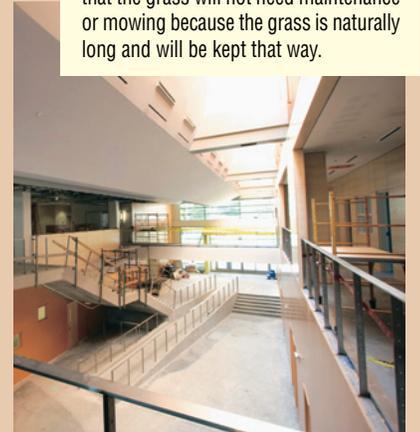
The purpose of the reception is to increase awareness of RHC's facilities projects among members of the President's Circle and allow them to preview the outstanding new facility. The President's Circle is composed of members of the community and campus who support the Rio Hondo College Foundation at a specific contribution level.

The College also plans to host a campus-wide grand opening for the new LRC once the building is fully occupied and in service in September.



QUESTION: *Why is there a lawn growing on the top of the new LRC?*

ANSWER: The grass growing on a portion of the LRC's roof is just another part of the "green" (environmentally-friendly) aspects of the project. A "green roof" reduces solar heat gain, which is good for both the building and the environment. The area on the roof where the grass grows is also visible from the second-floor offices, making it even more pleasant to look at! It is interesting to note that the grass will not need maintenance or mowing because the grass is naturally long and will be kept that way.



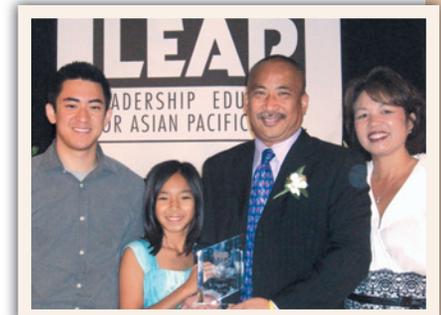
Henry Gee Honored with Prestigious Alumni Leadership Award

RHC's Vice President of Student Services Henry Gee was recently honored with the David R. Barclay Alumni Leadership Award at the 21st Annual Leadership Awards Dinner hosted by the Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc (LEAP).

This award is presented annually to a former LEAP graduate, who exemplifies through professional or community involvement, the values that David Barclay was committed to: equal opportunity, social justice, diversity and inclusion, integrity and servant leadership. Gee is the second recipient of this award, and Mr. Barclay's family attended the dinner to present the award to him.

Gee is a graduate of the Inaugural Leadership Development Program for Higher Education (LDPHE), which is sponsored by LEAP. He has also participated in the program since his graduation, serving as its co-facilitator for the past nine years. Henry has also been previously acknowledged by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) with the Shattering the Glass Ceiling Award in 2003, and was inducted as a Pillar of the Profession in 2004. He also received the Inaugural Outstanding Mentoring Award in 2008.

Congratulations!



BOARD MEETING

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RHC's Dean of Arts and Cultural Programs Joanna Downey shared information with the Board of Trustees on the College's Cultural Arts Program. A performance by the RHC Singers also took place for everyone's enjoyment.



AccessRIO to Provide One-Stop Online Convenience

Greater campus connectivity and computer access is just around the corner!

This October, RHC will unveil its new AccessRIO student information system. This highly-anticipated system will centralize information access for students. It will also serve as a one-stop online resource for admission, registration, personal records and much more. In making this change, the College will increase efficiency, improve services and provide access to real-time information. Staff members have been hard at work for more than two years to build the system and input data necessary for the transfer of records and course data.

Once the system is active, students will be able to:

- Apply for admission
- Check application status
- Check registration status
- Add/drop classes anytime within published deadlines
- Print a schedule of classes
- Pay fees by credit card
- Obtain grades
- Print an unofficial transcript
- Update personal information



Additionally, students will be able to search for open classes, be placed on waiting lists for full classes, update/access student email accounts, request records and more. The system is user friendly, secure and password protected and will be available 4 a.m. to midnight.

Beginning with the Spring 2010 term, students will need to use AccessRIO, as telephone registration will be discontinued. In order to access the system, students will only need their student name and student identification number. The system is user-friendly, but anyone requiring additional assistance will be able to receive help at the registrar's office.

There is a full-page ad in the Fall, 2009 class schedule announcing the upcoming Access Rio system for Spring 2010. Students will also receive additional information as the date approaches.

GREAT NEWS!

Coming for Spring 2010 Registration



New AccessRIO Computer Info Program Begins October, 2009

AccessRIO is your one-stop online resource for admission, registration, your personal records and much more! You'll save time while you accomplish your educational objectives online when YOUR schedule permits. No more waiting in annoying lines.

AccessRIO

- Available 4 a.m. - 12 midnight
- Apply for Admission
- Check your Application Status
- Check your Registration Status
- Add/Drop classes anytime within published deadlines
- Print your schedule of classes
- Pay your fees by credit card
- Obtain your grades
- Print an unofficial transcript
- Update personal information

Advantages include:

- You'll be able to search for open classes
- Wait lists for full classes
- Student e-mail accounts
- Self-service records request
- Secured system, password protected
- On-campus registration labs and assistance available



NOTE: Beginning with the SPRING 2010 term, Telephone Registration and In-Person Registration will be discontinued.

RHC Roadrunner Wildland Firefighting Crew Work On Call, Whenever Needed

The Rio Hondo College Roadrunner Wildland Firefighting #77 Crew take a moment for a photograph near the Oregon/California Border after being called out to fight wildland fires at the Six Rivers National Forest.



Members of the RHC Roadrunner Fighting Crew are available and on-call to the National Forest to fight fires whenever needed.

This internship/work-experience program allows them to go wherever need in the country to fight fires. The #77 Crew stayed in Northern California for 14 days not only fighting the fire at Six Rivers, but also rehabilitated areas where the fire occurred and worked to prevent additional fires by creating fire breaks in needed areas. The National Forest pays these RHC firefighters for their hard work and courage.

RHC would like to commend everyone involved in this program, and is very proud of the Roadrunner #77 Crew!

Telemundo Highlights RHC Police Academy

After visiting the RHC campus recently, KWHY-TV aired a 30-minute segment highlighting Rio Hondo College's Police Academy July 19-20, as part of its "Chili y Limon" LA Lifestyle program.

The show's two hosts, Carmina and Gabi, were 'cadets' for three hours during filming at the Police Academy. The program also shared information on the RHC's "Prepare for Success" program, which helps potential cadets get ready to succeed in the academy.

A special thanks to Joe Santoro and the Academy staff for accommodating the program's requests and helping increase awareness among our communities of the great work they do daily to keep the region's public safety agencies supplied with superior employees.



Photos by Cyrus Fields

New Campus Map Shows All Roads Open at Rio Hondo College

After two year's worth of construction and detours, ALL ROADS ARE OPEN! In an ongoing effort to ensure students, staff, and faculty are able to get around RHC's campus smoothly, we have updated the campus map to keep everyone apprised of ongoing changes. This most current version details the fact that ALL roads are currently open throughout the campus, including Staff Parking Lot B.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

RIO HONDO COLLEGE
 AUGUST 22, 2009 - SEPTEMBER 20, 2009
 3600 WORKMAN MILL RD.
 WHITTIER, CA 90601-1616
 (562) 692-0921
 WWW.RIOHONDO.EDU

TRAM STOPS

- Lot 2
- Lot 4 & Tram Way
- Lot A/Pedestrian Bridge
- South Rd. (across from PE)
- Science Building

Roads and areas closed for construction

- Portion of South Drive Road Closed August 22, 2009 - September 20, 2009
- Current tram route
- 2-way road
- 1-way road

Free Parking in Student Lots only August 22, 2009 to September 6, 2009

Revised: 07/08/2009

STUDENT drop off area

Staff Parking 20 Stalls

Disabled Parking Available in Lots A, B, C, and D

Lot B Entrance - (Staff Parking)

Lot C Entrance - (Student Parking)

Lot D Open - (Staff Parking)

Child Development Center Entrance and Exit

Temporary Student Parking with permit behind the gym August 24, 2009 to October 2, 2009

STUDENT PARKING

STAFF PARKING

WORKMAN MILL ROAD

CONTINUOUS CAMPUS TRAM SERVICE
 Monday-Thursday 6:30 AM - 10:30 PM
 Friday 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Construction related to the Rio Hondo College Building Access and Excellence building program is underway!

During Construction, the College will issue campus maps on a regular basis which show roads and areas temporarily closed due to construction, as well as updated tram routes/stops. This campus map is for the period of August 22, 2009 through September 20, 2009. Please consider these changes when planning your route to the campus and your parking plans. Directional signs will be placed around the campus to ensure safe circulation. The Campus Tram will not be stopping at Lots H from February, 2009 through April, 2010. Updates can be obtained on the web at www.riohondocollege.info

BUILDING CODES
 Class and other locations are abbreviated as follows:

- A Administration
- AG Art Gallery
- AJ Administration of Justice
- B Business
- CI Campus Inn/CalWORKS/Student Activities/Community and Educational Services
- CD Child Development Center
- CP Central Plant
- CT Courts (Tennis/Racquetball)
- FC Fitness Center
- G Gymnasium
- HS Community Services/RH PMT/Administration of Justice classrooms
- L Library
- LR Learning Resource Center
- M Music
- MN Maintenance
- O Observatory
- PB Information Parking Booth
- S Science/Math
- SP Swimming Pools
- T Technology
- UQ Upper Quad
- W Way Theatre
- WH Warehouse