

## IN THIS ISSUE

**President's  
Message**

**Interim Athletics  
Dean Selected**

**Board Meeting**

**Rio Hondo College Ranks in  
Top State, National Polls of  
Associate Degree Producers**

**Construction Update  
for August 2010**

**Summer Bridge Program  
Designed to Prepare Students  
for College Experience**

**New Courses for Fall 2010  
Offer Even More Options  
for Students**

**Martinez Elected  
to Serve as  
SanFACC President**



## President's Message

### A Very Busy Summer



*Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr.*

There's nothing 'lazy or hazy' about the summer at Rio Hondo College for those of us who are on campus -- just ask faculty teaching a very full summer session! Some PE employees have already settled into their 'new' temporary quarters in the "L" Building (the former Library Tower) where we have facilities for wrestling and dance, in addition to faculty and administrative offices. We are working with construction management to complete the modifications of the fourth floor for a new Nursing Simulation site as well.

With the beginning of the second Summer session July 12, foot traffic picked up considerably as students learn new routes around construction detours as they find their way to class.

We are serving more than 12,400 students this summer, an increase of 11 percent in head count over last year.



We are also welcoming new faces to campus: Gary Van Voorhies is an IT consultant who will be with us for a year to assess the overall operation in that department. Two new consultants, Karen Durley and Robin Thorne, will share responsibilities of Risk Management and Emergency Preparedness.

Finally, we bid farewell to John Bryant, Director of Information Technology, to Alice Tirre, Senior Administrative Assistant in the Office of Academic Affairs, and to Dr. Andy Howard, Executive Director of the Rio Hondo College Foundation, who are retiring. Beginning August 2, Reneé Gallegos, Administrative Assistant in the President's Office, will be assuming Senior Administrative Assistant duties in the Office of Academic Affairs. We welcome Reneé to her new position, and thank John, Alice and Andy for their years of service.

## Interim Athletics Dean Selected

Steve Hebert was recently selected to serve as Interim Dean of Physical Education for Rio Hondo College. He will be replacing Rory Natividad, who accepted a position at El Camino College in Torrance.

Hebert has served as the Head Coach for the Men's Basketball team since 2001. In that time, he has also served as a full-time professor, teaching classes such as Personal Health and Contemporary Issues in Sports and Athletics. He has also participated in several committees (Curriculum, Academic Senate, Academic Services Subcommittee, Foothill Conference Voting Rep) while working at the College and currently is President Elect (2011-2013) of the Executive Board for the California Community College Men's Basketball Coaches Association.

Prior to working at Rio Hondo College, Hebert served as the Athletic Director for Don Lugo High School in Chino. He has worked in the California public education system since 1985.



## Board Meeting

The Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, July 14.

Board of Trustees President, Angela Acosta-Salazar presented Sylvia Southerland with the College's Distinguished Service Award for 2010. This award honors an individual selected by the Board of Trustees in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the community. One award is given each year. A plaque will be displayed with the Sylvia's name in the hallway outside the President's Office to honor her years of distinguished service and commitment to Rio Hondo College.



Rio Hondo College Foundation Associate Director Anne Turner provided a presentation to the Board of Trustees to update the efforts and progress the Foundation has made during the past year, including information on scholarships, the Golf Tournament and Gala as well as the Foundation's goals and strategies for the 2010-11 year.

Government & Community Relations Director Russell Castaneda-Calleros and Staff Development Coordinator Katie O'Brien provided an update to the Board of Trustees on the Leadership Academy. They shared information on how the Academy held focus groups, explained what the Academy's mission and purpose is as well as what benefits it will bring to the College in the development of future leaders.

# Rio Hondo College Ranks in Top State, National Polls of Associate Degree Producers

Each year, *Community College Week*, in association with the U.S. Department of Education, releases its list of the Top 100 Associate Degree Producers in America. The report includes Top 50 lists for various degrees by disciplines and by populations served. *Community College Week* is a national, independent trade publication reporting on community colleges.

The 2009 report lists Rio Hondo College as 53rd in the nation for awarding associate degrees in all disciplines, total minority; 96th in the nation for all disciplines, Asian, and all disciplines, Hispanic. Additionally, Rio Hondo College ranks in 9th nationally for associate degrees in Security and Protective services (second in California); 13th in the nation for Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences (fifth in California); 28th nationally for associate degrees in Criminal Justice and Corrections (third in California); and ranks in the top 100 for Nursing total minority.

"While these outcomes do compare Rio Hondo College with other community colleges," said Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D., "they are important because they show us firsthand how we are doing in terms of helping our students reach the academic finish line. We hope Rio Hondo College will be included on even more of these important lists as a measure of institutional and student success. That's yet another good reason to pursue the addition of new degree programs for our students to pursue."

*The Whittier Daily News recently highlighted these Community College Week honors by running the article (right) July 11, 2010.*



## Construction Update for August 2010

Construction continues in all points of the Campus during the month of August. The work in the central part of the campus on the Student Union, Student Services and Quad Renovation projects has undoubtedly caused the most significant impact in terms of physical change and noise generation. The program management team has caused temporary signage to be installed to help direct people around the construction zone in as expeditious a manner as possible. Safety is, of course, paramount and the pathways provided are configured to minimize conflicts with fencing or other temporary measures.



During August, the following construction activities are scheduled to take place:

### In the central campus area:

- The Business Building elevator will be out of service until August 3rd to allow relocation of the pump. A shuttle will be provided for those who need assistance to reach the Learning Resource Center from the Business Building side of Campus during that week.
- Demolition of the kiln tower and ramps will be completed.
- New disabled access ramps and paving in front of the LRC will be constructed.
- Foundations for the new buildings will continue.
- The first structural steel for the Student Union Building is scheduled to arrive and be installed.
- The crib wall will be completed.

### At the Administration of Justice Building:

- Construction of interior work including wall framing, mechanical ductwork and electrical conduit will continue.

### South Whittier Educational Center

- The building will be completed and open for classes on August 21st.

## Summer Bridge Program Designed to Prepare Students for College Experience

The new 2010 Summer Bridge Program was inaugurated in July. The program was developed through the Office of Student Success and Retention as part of the Basic Skills Initiative.

The purpose of this new program is to provide entering, full-time, students with the knowledge, skills, and preparation needed to thrive academically, at Rio Hondo College and beyond.



The free program offered two one-week sessions for students to attend, which both lasted from 8 a.m. to 3:15 pm. More than 100 students participated in the program.

The 2010 Summer Bridge Program offered students breakfast and lunch as well as counseling appointments and the following workshops/information:

- Team Building Activities
- Peer Mentoring
- Resource Tours
- Math Review
- English Review
- Educational Planning
- RHC Faculty Best Lecture Series
- Online Exploration and Training

## New Courses for Fall 2010 Offer Even More Options for Students

Our Faculty works to keep the College's curriculum fresh and up-to-date, finding ways to include new approaches and timely subjects. Here's a sampling of new classes to be offered for the first time during the Fall 2010 Semester.

**Positive Psychology** – this course explores topics in the field of positive psychology including but not limited to wellness, optimism, flow, happiness and positive thinking and is 3 units.

**The Mathematics of Money** – this course will focus on the mathematics of exponential growth and decay and the use of logarithms as they relate to investing and borrowing money including compound interest, credit cards and installment loans and is 4 units.

**Introduction to College Survival** – this course is intended for first-time college students in need of developing the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully transition into higher education and is 1.5 units.

**Online Newspaper Production** – this course is intended for students wanting to learn the production and management techniques of the college newspaper, *El Paisano*, as an online publication and is 4 units.

**Survey of Motion Picture, Radio and Television** (online) – this course will have students view or listen to numerous television shows, motion pictures, films, and radio programs in order to become familiar with various production techniques and methods of critically evaluating media presentations and is 3 units.

**Exploring Authors: The Works of the Bronte Sisters** – this course is designed for students who would like the opportunity to study the literary works of one author in-depth and is 1 unit.

**Exploring Authors: The Works of George Elliot** – this course is designed for students who would like the opportunity to study the literary works of one author in-depth and is 1 unit.

**Exploring Authors: The Works of Mary Shelley** – this course is designed for students who would like the opportunity to study the literary works of one author in-depth and is 1 unit.

**Self Defense** – this course is designed for all students interested in developing both personal safety and self-defense techniques through scenario and martial arts training and is 1 unit.

**Theory of Coaching** – this course is designed for all students interested in coaching individual and team sports and is 3 units.

**Advanced Athletic Training** – this course introduces the advanced concepts of athletic training, including instruction for evaluation and rehabilitation of common athletic injuries and is 3 units.



## Martinez Elected to Serve as SanFACC President



On July 1, 2010, Rio Hondo College's Superintendent/President Ted Martinez, Jr., Ph.D. was appointed as the Chair of the San Gabriel Valley-Foothill Association of Community Colleges (SanFACC) for the fiscal year 2010-11.

SanFACC was founded in 2007, and represents Chaffey College, Citrus College, Glendale College, Mt. San Antonio College, Pasadena City College and Rio Hondo College. As the new SanFACC President, Dr. Martinez will serve a one-year term.

While President, Dr. Martinez will be able to engage in many activities that will benefit Rio Hondo College and the entire consortium, including the following:

- Helping to set the agenda for the 2010-11 year.
- Spearheading SanFACC legislative advocacy efforts related to legislation and budget
- Writing op-ed pieces and/or letters to the editor on behalf of the SanFACC consortium
- Introducing innovative ideas on how SanFACC colleges can work better together
- Expanding the sphere of influence for Rio Hondo College into other parts of the San Gabriel Valley
- Strengthening existing relationships with key elected officials at the state and federal levels of government