

# FOCUS ON RÍO

July 2021

## President's Message



**Teresa Dreyfuss**

The start of the fall semester means new opportunities, new dreams and new horizons for everyone at Río Hondo College. Our new students are joining our top-notch College and discovering their passions while building a better future for themselves, while our returning students continue their path towards their goals.

Now is the time to embrace what college has to offer – an opportunity to try new things and meet new people who will motivate you to achieve your personal and academic goals. At Río Hondo College, we encourage you to discover new things about yourself, expand your

world views and challenge your beliefs – all of which help us become well-rounded individuals.

Río Hondo College is thrilled to offer many rigorous and fun classes, programs and clubs that will help define your careers and personalities.

I would like to welcome our Río Hondo College family to the fall 2021 semester, and I hope that everyone aspires to take on new opportunities to not only better themselves, but our community as well.

## Río Hondo College Receives \$28.8 Million in Relief Funds During Congresswoman Sánchez Visit

Río Hondo College and its students will benefit from \$28.8 million in relief funds, presented by Congresswoman Linda Sánchez during her visit to the College on July 8.

The financial relief stems from the American Rescue Plan, which provides funding to local colleges through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III). Authorized by the American Rescue Plan, HEERF III provided \$39.6 billion to help higher education institutions serve students throughout the pandemic recovery process.

"Colleges, universities, and students have faced unprecedented challenges over the last year," Sánchez said. "As we recover from this pandemic, we must ensure our local colleges and universities safely reopen for in-person learning while giving students the resources they need to continue their education. This funding, which I voted for as part of the American Rescue Plan, will do just that. I am glad to be here to highlight the \$28 million Río Hondo College received through this relief package."

Half of the relief funds will go directly to Río Hondo College students in the form of grants, while the other half will be used to purchase upgrades, including Wi-Fi hotspots, computer hardware and software, hand sanitizers, masks, gloves and safety shields.

HEERF III has provided some \$5 billion for schools across California. In addition to Río Hondo College, seven institutions including Southern California University of Health Science, Biola University, NTMA Training Centers of Southern California, Presbyterian Theological Seminary in America, Cerritos College, Whittier College and ABC Adult School will benefit from this funding. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3e1BJGM>.



During her visit, Sánchez and the Board of Trustees spoke about the College's recent graduation ceremony, Sánchez's sponsorship of the U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021 and plans by the Associated Students of Río Hondo College to improve the basic needs of students via housing, financial aid and promoting equity.



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# Student Athletes Earn Scholarships for Higher Education

Río Hondo College is celebrating eight of its volleyball team members for earning scholarships to various four-year colleges and universities.



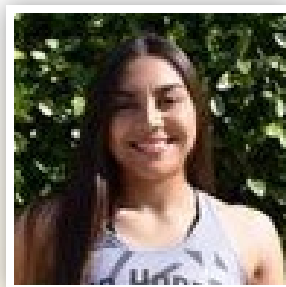
**Janine Coria**

- Indoor & Beach Volleyball Scholarship-Westcliff University, Irvine CA
- AA in Early Childhood Education
- Member of Río Indoor/Beach teams 2018-2020
- South Coast Conference Honors 2018 & 2019
- Río Hondo Dean's List Fall 2018



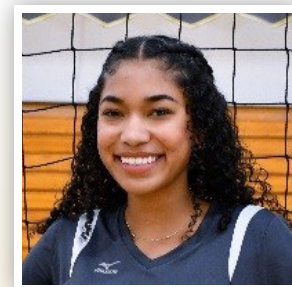
**Nicole Vasquez**

- Volleyball Scholarship-Providence Christian College, Pasadena, CA
- AA degree from Río Hondo College
- Member of Río Indoor/Beach team 2018-2020
- South Coast Conference Honors 2019



**Stephanie Perez**

- Beach Volleyball Scholarship-Hope International University, Fullerton, CA
- AA degree in Psychology
- Member of Río Indoor/Beach teams 2018-2020
- Río Hondo Dean's List Fall 2018



**Katherina O'Brien**

- Volleyball Scholarship-Providence Christian College, Pasadena, CA
- AA degree in Communications
- Member of Río Indoor/Beach teams 2018-2020



**Mara Sanchez**

- Beach Volleyball Scholarship-Hope International University, Fullerton, CA
- AA degree in Psychology
- Member of Río Indoor/Beach teams 2018-2020
- Río Hondo Dean's List Fall 2018



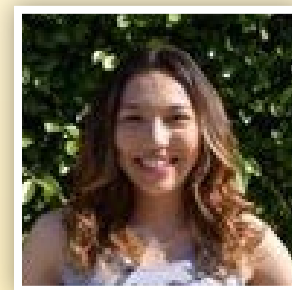
**Sierra Smethurst**

- Academic transfer-California State University, Fullerton, CA
- AA degree in Psychology
- Member of Río Indoor team 2018-2019
- Río Hondo Student Ambassador 2019-2020



**Evelyn Alferez**

- Beach Volleyball Scholarship-Hope International University, Fullerton, CA
- AA degree in Criminal Justice
- Member of Río Indoor/Beach teams 2019-2020



**Valerie Rodriguez**

- Academic Transfer-California State University, Long Beach, CA
- AA degree in Political Science
- Member of Río Beach team 2019-2020



**RÍO IN THE NEWS:**  
Read more about [Rio Hondo College athletics](#).

# Hernandez Named United Soccer Coaches Scholar All-American

Río Hondo College sophomore Alice Hernandez was recently named Junior College Women's Scholar All-American by United Soccer Coaches. Just 26 student-athletes nationwide earned the prestigious academic honor, including only three from the California Community College Athletic Association.

The United Soccer Coaches is an organization of American soccer coaches founded in 1941. It is the largest soccer coaches organization in the world, with more than 30,000 members. It offers training courses for both beginning and experienced coaches and a wide range of award programs.

Hernandez, originally out of Downey High School, earned a 3.91 grade point average during the 2020-21 academic year. She was also named to the California Community College Soccer Coaches Association (CCSCA) Scholar Athlete team.

Women's soccer head coach Jennifer Tanaka-Hoshijo has always stressed the importance of academics as well as the success on the field.

"We are so proud of Alice for being recognized by the United Soccer Coaches as a Scholar All-American," Tanaka-Hoshijo said. "Her academic and athletic achievements are a result of a commitment to do her best in the classroom and on the field. It is this type of commitment that has enabled the Río Hondo women's soccer program to transfer 90 percent of our sophomores."

Last year, Río Hondo earned its eighth consecutive United Soccer Coaches Team Academic Award.

On the field, Hernandez totaled 17 points during the Roadrunners' last action in 2019. She led her squad with 13 assists and scored a pair of goals. That season, Río Hondo was ranked as high as No. 10 in the nation and closed the year with a 15-2-3 overall record. The Roadrunners went a perfect 8-0 in South Coast Conference play to capture the SCC championship and made their sixth consecutive postseason appearance.

Hernandez and the Roadrunners are looking forward to finally returning to the field for competition this fall.



**RÍO IN THE NEWS:**  
Read more about [CCJ Digital](#).

# Fewer tools and techs needed for electric trucks but plenty of service challenges remain

Experts say that electric trucks have far fewer parts and require much less maintenance compared to internal combustion. Naturally, this translates to fewer tools, equipment, parts and even technicians required for service.

While personnel and inventories inside a shop may decline with Electric Vehicles (EVs), the shift will require new tools, equipment and company-wide practices to service these high-tech workhorses.

Few commercial EVs are in service today compared to internal combustion, yet optimism for fleet savings is strong, but shops accustomed to a robust level of service revenue are cautiously approaching the mandated technology as it slowly pulls into view.

"EVs are expected to require less maintenance and the industry will likely be doing more swapping of components versus rebuilding engines, which will likely result in less billable hours in a shop, and likely the need for less technicians, once EVs achieve critical mass in the market," said Jason Gildenmeister, vice president of fixed operations for TEC Equipment, a Volvo Trucks North America dealership group in Portland, Oregon.

TEC Equipment, which is headquartered in Portland and has locations in Arizona, California, Nevada and Washington sells and services Volvo's all-electric VNR day cab and sleeper. CCJ asked Gildenmeister if battery-powered trucks required fewer tools since they have less parts than conventional powertrains.

"That is correct," he said. "There are less engine-specific tools, as well as a reduction in certain types of shop equipment that would be required to service an EV truck. There is some EV-specific tooling required, but it is not as significant as what is required for a traditional internal combustion engine."

The all-electric 2022 Ford E-Transit and 2022 Ford F-150 Lightning claim to offer fleets a roughly 40% cut in total cost of ownership compared to conventional.

The reduction in TCO parallels a 40% drop in moving parts which will translate to some changes at the shop.

"From a technician's perspective, the amount of tools needed to service an EV is likely to be reduced, as there is less need for specialized engine, transmission or driveline tools," said Elizabeth Tarquinto, manager of technical support operations at Ford Customer Service Division. She also added that while overall fewer tools may be needed, new shop equipment will be necessary.

"Repair shops will have an investment in EV equipment in order to lift, move and charge the battery," she said.

While the need for conventional, wrench-wielding technicians may drop, other new positions will emerge to support EV service.

"Although EVs require significantly less maintenance, which results in significant operation and maintenance cost savings, the growth of EVs across all segments will also see a growth of a multitude of roles, such as technicians, customer support, driver trainers, electrical engineers and software developers," said Joanna Hamblin, senior marketing manager at Motiv, a California-based company that specializes in electrifying work trucks, step vans, shuttles and busses. "Also, new higher-skill work in facility-vehicle management is emerging to ensure reliable and optimized charging of EV's within the context of a facility that uses energy in increasingly diverse and complex ways," Hamblin continued.

## New tools, new methods

Professor John Frala, longtime alternative fuels training coordinator at Río Hondo College in Whittier, Calif., said a laptop has become the tool of choice for techs working on electric trucks.

"It's firmware basically and we can do all of that online," Frala said. "We can flash firmware while the trucks are parked sleeping."

## Connect with Us on Social Media



## Serving the communities of

- El Monte
- Santa Fe Springs
- South El Monte
- Whittier
- Pico Rivera

### and portions of:

- Norwalk
- East Whittier\*
- Downey
- South Whittier\*
- La Mirada
- West Whittier\*
- City of Industry
- Avocado Heights\*
- Los Nietos\*

\*Unincorporated communities within our District

## Mission Statement

Río Hondo College is an educational and community partner committed to advancing social justice and equity as an antiracist institution that collectively invests in all students' academic and career pathways that lead to attainment of degree, certificate, transfer, and lifelong-learning goals.

## Board Resolution Recognizes Juneteenth and Creation of a Presidential Commission on the Status of African-American Students

Río Hondo College's Board of Trustees approved a resolution at their Board meeting on June 14 to recognize and celebrate June 19, also known as Juneteenth, as a federal holiday to mark the anniversary of the end of slavery in the U.S.

The resolution states that Juneteenth symbolizes the faith, resiliency and strength of character demonstrated by enslaved and descendants of enslaved Africans who have overcome many barriers. It also serves as a reminder to the work needed to eliminate barriers to education, health and wealth.

Board members also resolved to create a presidential commission to follow the state of African-American students to explore factors impacting educational performance and achievement, support learning communities, events and academic scholarships and by prioritizing mental health support for black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC).



## Save the Date

**Monday, May 24 – Friday, August 20:**  
Open registration for Fall 2021 semester.  
More Info: <https://bit.ly/3a6Rj1L>

**Monday, September 6:**  
Labor Day – campus closed

**Wednesday, September 8:**  
Regular Board of Trustees meeting

**Saturday, August 21 – Saturday, December 11:**  
Full term dates for Fall 2021 semester

**Saturday, August 21 – Friday, October 15:**  
First half dates for Fall 2021 semester

**Wednesday, September 1:**  
Free COVID-19 vaccinations from noon – 4 p.m.

**Saturday, October 16 – Saturday, December 11:**  
Second half dates for Fall 2021 semester

**FREE COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**  
AVAILABLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY  
VACUNACIONES GRATIS DE COVID-19 DISPONIBLES EN SU COMUNIDAD

**WHERE - DONDE**  
RÍO HONDO COLLEGE – Parking Lot C  
3600 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601

**WHEN - CUANDO**  
**Wed., Sep. 1 – 12:00pm - 4:00pm**  
Miércoles 1 de septiembre – 12:00pm-4:00pm

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE**  
QUIEN ES ELEGIBLE  
Age 12 and up  
12 años en adelante

**PFIZER VACCINE**  
Please bring a government issued ID  
Recuerde traer una identificación con foto

**For more information please contact:**  
Para más información favor de contactar:

Office of Government and  
Community Relations  
**Ana Xulu**  
(562) 463-7268  
axulu@riohondo.edu



<https://www.riohondo.edu/vaccine/>

**No Appointment Necessary.**  
**Walk Ups Welcomed!**  
¡No se requiere hacer cita!  
Bienvenidos, sin cita!

**Vaccines are safe, effective and free!**  
¡Las vacunas son seguras, efectivas y gratuitas!

