

FOCUS ON RÍO

February 2022

President's Message



Teresa Dreyfuss

Hello Río Hondo College community,

We have completed another successful month, and Río Hondo College students are continuing to excel in their education and their careers by working together, supported by our dedicated faculty and staff, as well as our community.

The Río Hondo College community includes the family and friends who believe in the success of our students, help them find childcare on campus at the Child Development Center, balance their work and school schedules and motivate them to complete their education. By joining together with their support systems, our students are able to achieve what they once

thought was impossible.

The faculty, staff, and administrators at Río Hondo College also play a significant role in student success – encouraging growth and instilling the belief that every student can rise to great heights. Achievement is also possible through the strength of our College's various partnerships. By collaborating with institutions, elected officials and employers, our students can achieve the next step in their education or career.

By working together, the Río Hondo College community will meet daily challenges, so that every student can achieve their full potential.

Río Hondo College Partners with Arizona State University for Transfer Pathway Program

Río Hondo College has established a Universal Articulation agreement with Arizona State University (ASU), providing students with a reliable and rigorous



academic preparedness transfer program to guide them toward earning bachelor's degrees.

The agreement was approved in the fall of 2021 and launched February

23. The program, called [MyPath2ASU™](#), provides students with course-by-course guided pathways, course applicability for transferable credits, personalized communications with ASU and guaranteed admission to ASU if all requirements are fulfilled.

"The impact of this partnership can be far reaching. Most of our students transfer to California public universities, but private and out-of-state universities are very viable options," said Lisa Chavez, Río Hondo College's Dean of Counseling. "With ASU online, students don't have to worry about paying

Continued on page 2



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Río Hondo College Partners with Arizona State University for Transfer Pathway Program.....	1
College Updates.....	2
Cultural Exchange Program at Río Hondo College Recognized by Capital City of Taiwan.....	2
Is Online Learning as Good as Face-to-Face? Where It Shines and Doesn't.....	3

Infrastructure Money will Bolster Carpentry Work for Women.....	3
Electric Cars are the Future and Auto Students are Preparing.....	4
College Hosts Cash for College Workshop.....	4
Men's Basketball: Lara, Herrera Named First-Team All-SCC.....	5
SCC Baseball Teams Return After 2-Year Absence.....	5

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Opens for RHC Students.....	6
Río Hondo College Hosts Winter Bootcamp.....	6
CPTP Advisory Council Fall 2021 Convening Data Report.....	7
Río Hondo College Receives Board of Governors' Exemplary Program Award.....	7
Save the Date.....	8

Río Hondo College Partners with Arizona State University for Transfer Pathway Program

Continued from page 1

out-of-state tuition. Also, the newly opened ASU Local center in downtown Los Angeles offers students the opportunity to connect with other ASU students and receive services such as career coaching, study groups and more."

A major feature of the MyPath2ASU™ program will be the Business Administration degree from the W.P. Carey School of Business. This pathway will enable students to gain a breadth of knowledge and skills needed for managing business operations.

"Through our new partnership with Río Hondo College, we are committed to

developing supportive environments for transfer students to achieve their academic goals seamlessly," said Cheryl Hyman, ASU Vice Provost, Academic Alliances. "MyPath2ASU™ offers new guided pathway options through transfer navigation technologies that help students maximize their transfer credit to achieve associate and bachelor degree completion."

Chavez said this pathway is perfect for guiding students through their associate and bachelor's degrees and into careers in management, equipping them to step into jobs such as administrative services manager, business manager, sales manager and development manager.

College Updates

During Río Hondo College's Board of Trustees meeting on Feb. 16, the Board listened to and approved the following resolutions and items.

- Professor of Theater Arts William Korf gave a presentation outlining his sabbatical, where he virtually visited theater teachers and did research to make improvements to Río Hondo College's theater department in terms of equity, sound, makeup and more.
- A resolution to express support for Assembly Bill 1746 – the Cal Grant Reform Act. The Board cited its support based on a variety of reasons, including rising inflation rates and lost wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A resolution supporting redistricting for the Río Hondo Community College District. This approval was based on the need to review boundaries of the five single-member Trustee Areas based on Federal Census data. The Board also noted that it scheduled a calendar of public hearings, and posted the proposed maps on the College website and in the Board of Trustees agendas on December 8, 2021 and January 12, 2022.
- A resolution to recognize International Women's Day as March 8 to celebrate the historical, cultural and political achievements of women.

Cultural Exchange Program at Río Hondo College Recognized by Capital City of Taiwan

Río Hondo College was awarded by the Culture Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Los Angeles, as well as the mayor of New Taipei City, for the success of the College's cultural exchange program.

During the celebration event, Río Hondo College, attended by Superintendent/President Teresa Dreyfuss and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Don Miller, and TECO adopted a plan for the Taipei-California International Cultural Exchange Project, with both parties signing a memorandum of understanding to mark a new year of international education.



"The Taipei-California International Cultural Exchange Project gives students a once-in-a-lifetime cultural experience abroad," said Dr. Shin Liu, Río Hondo College professor and supervisor of students teaching abroad. "Through the program, students can broaden their global experience, travel abroad, and sharpen their teaching and leadership skills." Liu, who is also a Cerritos College Board of Trustee member, was also accompanied to the event by Cerritos College President Jose Fierro.

Since its establishment in 2017, more than 70 Río Hondo College students have visited Taiwan to teach English, while several more have taught at remote education camps during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I want to show my gratitude to all the teachers," Lin Ko High School eleventh-grader Pei Chieh Lin said. "This English camp helped me learn more about the United States and California. The teachers were extremely patient. I want to tell you that you did a great job. Thank you for caring."

This year, Río Hondo College students will be providing International Education Camps for elementary and secondary students in Taipei City and they will also have the opportunity to complete a professional development Chinese language program provided by the University of Taipei.

RÍO IN THE NEWS:

To learn more about the pros and cons of virtual learning, visit [OnlineEducation](#).

Is Online Learning as Good as Face-to-Face? Where It Shines and Doesn't

When the pandemic began in the United States in March of 2020, one of the biggest and most immediate changes was the shift from in-person learning to distance education. According to the US Census, 93 percent of households with school-aged children experienced some form of distance learning because of Covid-19. College campuses across the country sent their students home for Spring Break, then swiftly made plans to move classes online.

At the time, Dr. Grant Linsell was working as the Dean of Arts and Cultural Programs at Río Hondo College in Los Angeles County. "In the space of three days, we went from having about 350 courses with an online footprint to 1,487 courses," he remembers.

Mikaela Doherty was a graduate student at Southern Oregon University when the pandemic altered her plans for her degree: "My program was a master's in outdoor adventure and expedition leadership. We had coordinated and developed this whole term called spring immersion in which we would have taken the undergraduate students out on five- to ten-day excursions. We had spent three months planning each trip, including budgets, travel gear, everything that we needed. And then three weeks before spring term, we got the news that it wasn't going to happen," she shares.

Dr. Linsell, as an administrator, knows that online education has come a long way in approximating the quality of face-to-face learning. "When online education first started as a thing, the success rates were 12 to 14 points lower than in-person instruction. More students were failing than in-person classes. But as we've kind of journeyed through learning how to teach online, those success rates are converging. We can look at some of the biggest data sets that we have, which in my case is the California Community Colleges system. We have 2.4 million students on 115 campuses and we can see that over the years, those two numbers have been coming together. Currently, on our campus, online instruction and face-to-face instruction are only one or two percentage points different as far as success goes," he shares.

In closing, Dr. Linsell notes that supporting teachers and professors through the transition to online instruction is essential to the success of distance-based learning: "Teachers have to be good at teaching online for it to work. They have to be deeply invested in learning the pedagogy. They have to spend time to become comfortable in that modality and learn the best practices. And if they aren't part of an institution that values that time, if they're not part of an institution that provides adequate professional development resources, it's just another thing that we asked teachers to do for free," he says.

RÍO IN THE NEWS:

To learn more about this training center, visit [The Sun](#).

Infrastructure Money Will Bolster Carpentry Work for Women



A Southern California-based union that trains women and others who were formerly incarcerated to become union carpenters is expecting an influx of work through the nation's recently passed infrastructure bill.

Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Norwalk, who recently toured the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters' training center in Whittier, predicts good things for the facility. The council represents more than 58,000 members in Southern California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado.

"The recently passed Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will invest in job training centers and apprenticeship programs like the ones we saw here today," Sanchez said. "That means good-paying jobs for the next generation of Californians."

Signed into law by President Joe Biden on November 15, 2021, the bill provides \$1.2 trillion in federal investment for roads, bridges, passenger rails, drinking water and waste-water systems. It will also expand high-speed internet and climate-related infrastructure.

The Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters is funded primarily through contractors who pay into the union's fund. It receives additional money for its training programs from a variety of community colleges that allow the students to earn college credits. The schools include Río Hondo Community College in Whittier, Riverside Community College, Rancho Santiago Community College in Santa Ana, Bakersfield College and Palomar College in San Diego.



RÍO IN THE NEWS:

To learn more about the electric vehicle tech push in colleges, visit [KCRW](https://www.kcrw.com).

Electric Cars are the Future and Auto Students are Preparing

Carmakers from BMW to Ford to Nissan are pledging to invest billions of dollars in the coming years for electric car manufacturing, while the state of California will ban the sale of new internal combustion gas cars by 2035. Yet with electric vehicles (EVs) making up only 1% of cars on the road in 2020, most car mechanics working today have had no training or experience with EVs. That's about to change.

Ten years down the road, "I think [you will] have to learn it if you want to be a tech," says Douglas Cook, an automotive instructor at Pasadena City College.

Local students are looking ahead. An introductory electric car repair course not required for the auto technician program at Pasadena City College has a waitlist, says Wendy Lucko, who updated the school's auto tech training program five years ago.

Joshua Warton, a student in the class, spent a recent morning learning how to safely disable a high voltage electric battery. Afterwards he was pragmatic about the new skills. The change to electric vehicles "is inevitable," he said. "Might as well embrace it."

These students "understand that they need to be comfortable with this because they probably will stay in LA, and they see the future," says Lucko.

In fact, demand for these skills is already starting to climb.

John Frala, who teaches courses on alternative fuel technologies at Río Hondo College in Whittier, says companies are calling him daily, saying they have job openings for techs they need immediately filled. "I can't train [students] fast enough to get them out of here."

College Hosts Cash for College Workshop

On Saturday, February 12, Río Hondo College partnered with the Office of Assemblymember Lisa Calderon to host a Cash for College workshop for prospective students, current students, and all who were interested in receiving assistance with their financial aid forms. Also in attendance was Superintendent/President Teresa Dreyfuss and Board of Trustees members Rosaelva Lomeli and Oscar Valladares.

Representatives from the College's Office of Financial Aid, Student Life and Leadership, and Student Success and Dream Center were present to answer questions regarding the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA).



Men's Basketball: Lara, Herrera Named First-Team All-SCC

Following the close of the 2021-22 Río Hondo College men's basketball season, a pair of Roadrunners were honored with South Coast Conference postseason honors. Freshmen Sebastian Lara and Chris Herrera were selected to the All-South Coast Conference North Division first team.

Lara, originally from El Rancho High School, led Río Hondo in scoring by averaging 16.7 points per game. On Feb. 16, Lara scored a season-high 32 points and grabbed 8 rebounds in a narrow loss to LA Trade-Tech.

Herrera, from Norwalk High School, put together a solid season by averaging 13 points and 3.4 assists per game. Herrera totaled 26 points 8 rebounds, and 4

assists in a close loss to Cerritos on Feb. 7.

Despite their roster being cut down to just five players for a majority of the season, the Roadrunners battled and won three of their final seven games to close out the season with a 4-24 overall record. Río Hondo finished in fourth place in the five-team South Coast Conference North Division with a 2-6 record.

RÍO IN THE NEWS: Learn more about the [Río Hondo College Roadrunners Men's Basketball Team](#)

RÍO IN THE NEWS:

Learn more about [Río Hondo College at the South Coast Conference Baseball teams](#).

SCC Baseball Teams Return After 2-Year Absence

They call it America's pastime, but the diamonds were empty for most South Coast Conference teams from March, 2020 through the beginning of 2022 due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Two seasons of South Coast Conference baseball were cancelled (one shortened) with 2019 the last time a conference champion was crowned.

In the early days of the 2022 baseball season, '19 state finalist El Camino College, along with Mt. San Antonio, Río Hondo, and Pasadena City, all experienced strong returns to the field after the layoff. In the just released CCCSIA State Top 25 Baseball Poll, El Camino (8-2) was rated #5, Mt. SAC (8-2) at #11, and RHC (8-3) ranked #18. PCC (6-3) received votes to be among the top 30.

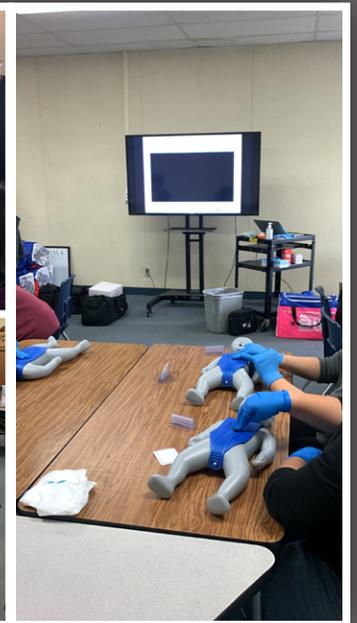
Río Hondo won six of its last eight games led by catcher Rafael Flores, who has hit safely in all 10 games, batting .523 with 4 HR, 16 RBI and a state-high 23 hits thru February 18.



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Opens for RHC Students

Río Hondo student volunteers are preparing tax returns for FREE for those who qualify within the scope of Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). If you or someone you know may benefit from this valuable service, walk in on the Fridays

our site is open to get your taxes done. The average cost to file a tax return can be upwards of \$150. For more information, please visit: www.riohondo.edu/business/accounting/vita-volunteer-income-tax-preparation.



Río Hondo College Hosts Winter Bootcamp

In collaboration with Mountain View School District, Río Hondo College's Career and Technical Education Division hosted the first Career Exploration Winter Bootcamp. Approximately 45 students participated in the four Saturday in-person events.

On January 22 and 29, and February 5 and 12, students selected from either the First Aid or Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/Drone Technology boot camps. In First Aid, students learned basic first aid skills such as CPR, use of AEDs, bandaging, and much more. In GIS/Drone Technology, students learned the use of

GIS in the public health sector, investigating public health issues via various maps of San Francisco, New York and Los Angeles. Students also learned how to fly a mini drone through a basic obstacle course.

Both boot camps introduced students to various careers within each field as well as programs offered at Río Hondo College. All faculty and staff involved would like to thank Mountain View School District for the incredible collaboration in facilitating an in-person, hands-on experience at one of their local schools.

**CPTP Advisory Council
Fall 2021 Convening
Data Report**



Center for Collaborative Education in partnership with Rio Hondo, El Camino, and Cerritos Community Colleges
Funded by US Dept. of Education SEED Grant

Teacher and student diversity in California 2018-19

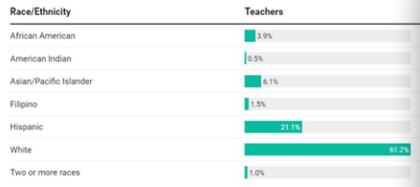


Table: Yuxuan Xia • Source: California Department of Education • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

TEACHER MENTORING NETWORK DATA

TMN Event Offerings:



TMN Overview	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
# of Events	10	13
Total Attendance	324	TBD
TOTAL TMN MEMBERS	1200+	

Sample of Survey taken at our last TMN JPL event:
99% agree or strongly agree with "I felt a sense of community"
100% agree that "attending this TMN session encourages me to continue in my growth in teaching"

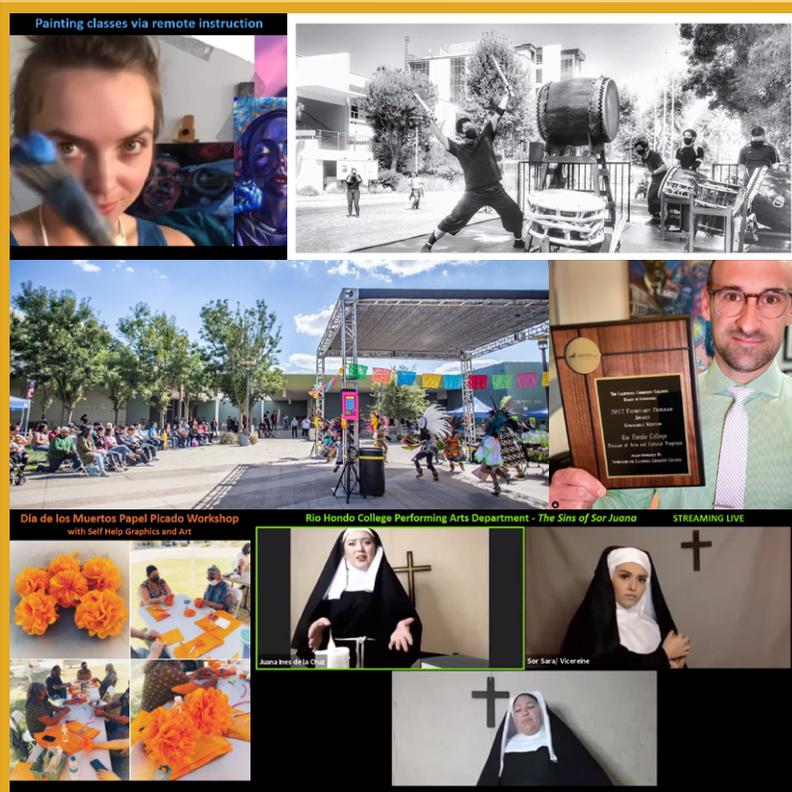
CPTP Advisory Council Fall 2021 Convening Data Report

The Community Partnerships for Teacher Pipeline (CPTP) is a \$9 million federally funded grant under the Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) grant by the U.S. Department of Education. Along with Cerritos College and El Camino College, Río Hondo College has partnered with the Center for Collaborative Education (CCE), a non-profit organization serving as the fiscal agent dedicated to promoting innovative schools and increasing justice opportunities for all learners.

The core mission of the CPTP program is to increase the number of teachers of color. With 94% students of color and 74% mentors of color participating in the program, CPTP hopes to alleviate teacher shortages and diversify the teacher workforce in schools and surrounding communities.

The three-year grant has recently celebrated its first-year successes with 287 students in the program and 161 mentors participating from various school districts and community colleges in the Los Angeles region. Río Hondo served 157 prospective and aspiring teachers in its first year, with 127 students completing the program with the support of their mentors and holistic student support services.

This is a huge accomplishment considering the challenges in a remote learning environment. Mentors and students struggled to meet in person/remotely and stay in the program amid all the challenges and demands around them. Still, 80% of them pushed through with resilience and perseverance and completed the program in Spring and Fall 2021.



Río Hondo College Receives Board of Governors' Exemplary Program Award

Río Hondo College was one of just four schools among the 116 California Community Colleges to be honored with an Exemplary Program Award at the January meeting of the Board of Governors.

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) establishes annual themes for the award. Recipients of this year's award were selected for demonstrating excellence in delivering programs that address "Inequity in a Time of Crisis," this year's theme.

Río Hondo's Division of Arts and Cultural Programs was recognized for its commitment "to promoting equity and social justice through the visual and performing arts."

Dr. Grant Linsell, Division Dean of Arts and Cultural Programs, attended the January 24 Board of Governors meeting to accept the award on behalf of the division's faculty, staff, and student workers. Their combined efforts to deliver quality arts programming in addition to studio classes in visual and performing arts throughout the pandemic made it possible for students to meet with guest artists and performers, practice their skills, and showcase their talents for the entire community.

Connect with Us on Social Media



RHCRoadrunners



RioHondo_College



RioHondoCollege



Río Hondo College YT Channel



bit.do/riohondocollege



riohondo_college

Serving the communities of

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

and portions of:

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

*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.

**The Return of...
A TASTE OF RÍO**

RÍO HONDO COLLEGE
FRIDAY, JUNE 17
VIP PREVIEW 5:00 P.M.
GENERAL 6:00 P.M.

PRESALE TICKETS ONLY
\$75 GENERAL/\$125 VIP
NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT gorio.page/atasteofrio
Available Between April 1 - May 13

This popular and festive event brings together guests for an evening of delicious foods, fine wines and craft beers, delightful entertainment, and a silent auction. The evening raises funds to support scholarships to help students achieve their educational dreams.



Save the Date

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. April 8 and 15:
Free Tax Preparation Assistance

6 p.m. Wednesday, April 13:
Board of Trustees meeting

Monday, May 30:
Memorial Day

**Monday, March 28 -
Friday, April 1:**
Spring Break

**Saturday, May 21 -
Thursday, May 26:**
Finals week

**6 - 9 p.m. (5 p.m. for VIP)
Friday, June 17:**
A Taste of Río fundraising event

FREE TAX PREPARATION!



2022 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

IRS-Certified volunteers provide FREE basic income tax return preparation to qualified individuals & families who earn \$57,000 or less.

LOCATION, DATES & TIMES

FRIDAYS WALK-IN ONLY

EL MONTE EDUCATIONAL CENTER
3017 TYLER AVENUE
EL MONTE, CA 91731
Room #103

Fridays 9:30AM - 11:30AM

February 4, 11 and 25

March 4, 11, 18 and 25

April 8 and 15

(Closed February 18 and April 1)



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ITEMS YOU WILL NEED TO BRING.

QUESTIONS? Call the Rio Hondo College Business Division at **562-463-7359**.

Please follow us on Instagram for updates @riohondocollege_accounting