

FOCUS ON RÍO

October 2022

President's Message



Dr. Marilyn Flores
Superintendent/President

Hello Río Hondo College community,

At Río Hondo College we are proud to have staff and faculty members who work tirelessly to ensure the continued success of our students and community. I would like to take the time to give them all a heartfelt thank you for all of their hard work, ongoing dedication and unending passion for supporting our students and improving the community.

We are lucky to have so many dedicated classified staff members and faculty members who have spent decades at Río Hondo College. Their tenure shows a level of commitment that is unparalleled and inspiring.

I love seeing how so many of our faculty and staff members choose to stay at Río Hondo College because they know their work means a better future for our students. Truly, many of our longtime staff members are seen as institutions – providing priceless guidance and advice to not only students, but new employees as well.

I want to thank all our classified staff and faculty for their commitment to Río Hondo College, including their tireless work during the COVID-19 pandemic, their flexibility, their steadfastness and their determination.

Thank you.



Undocumented Student Action Week Brings Advocacy, Understanding

Río Hondo College's Undocumented Student Action Week (USAW) is a collaboration between the Chancellor's Office, Foundation for California Community Colleges, and Community College League of California. USAW provides an opportunity to uplift the inspiring stories of undocumented students and share them with local, state and federal policymakers.

This year's USAW was held from October 17 – 21 with the theme "Juntos Podemos (Together, We Can): Collaborative Ecosystems that Support Undocumented Students." Río Hondo College honored the week with a combination of in-person and virtual events.

Continued on page 2

RÍO HONDO COLLEGE
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Undocumented Student Action Week Brings Advocacy, Understanding..... 1

Río Hondo College Professor to Serve on Advisory Committee for California Energy Commission..... 3

Río Hondo College Celebrates Police Academy Class 213..... 3

Great ShakeOut Teaches Earthquake Preparedness at Río Hondo College..... 3

Río Hondo College Welcomes 50 College Corps Fellows Onto Campus..... 4

College Updates..... 5

Visit from Senator Bob Archuleta..... 5

Río Hondo College Accepting Careers for a Cause Applications..... 6

ACCT Announces Newly Elected, Re-elected and Appointed Board Members and Officers..... 6

California Trustees Elevated to the National ACCT Board and its Committees..... 7

Wild Movement in Lower Part of State Top 25 Women's Volleyball Rankings.... 7

Río Hondo College Community, Local Leaders Welcome New Superintendent/President..... 8

Río Hondo College to Offer Study Abroad Program in Madrid, Spain..... 9

Save the Date..... 9



Undocumented Student Action Week Brings Advocacy, Understanding

Continued from page 1

The week started with “Embracing the Undocumented Identity through Advocacy” on October 17, which was a partnership with San Diego Mesa College and The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, also known as CHIRLA. Students from both colleges were able to learn ways to be proud of their heritage while also becoming advocates for other undocumented students.

On October 18, Río Hondo College held a “Get to Know Your commUNITY!” event on campus for students, staff and faculty members to demonstrate their allyship with the undocumented community on campus. The College allocated time for everyone to network with campus partners where they can seek direct support and ensure they are welcome.

On October 19, the Dreamers’ Resource Center hosted its annual UndocuFamily Night. For current Río Hondo College students and local high school students. More than 80 individuals gathered for an informative evening to discuss immigration law updates and mental health topics and support.

On October 20, in collaboration with Mt. San Antonio College, the College had students and staff participate in a live YouTube stream called “Undocu101: Essential UndocuResources.” The session included how to open a bank account, obtain an ITIN, apply for a CA driver’s license, obtain a consulate ID card, and more. The acquisition of these personal identification and financial accounts are essential to the survival of our students and their families.

Lastly, on October 21, the College continued to collaborate with San Diego Mesa College to facilitate the “UndocuSuccess Panel: Educational And Career Journey.” During the panel, four graduate students shared their experiences about how they managed to navigate the educational system and their careers as undocumented individuals. The panel included a current law school student, a UCLA Ph.D. candidate, a master’s in counseling student, and a CSU employee.

Río Hondo College Professor to Serve on Advisory Committee for California Energy Commission

Río Hondo College Alternative Fuels/Electric and Fuel Cell Vehicles Professor John Frala will serve as the academic advisor for the California Energy Commission's (CEC) Clean Transportation Program, providing guidance on how to communicate educational matters to the public.

In his role, Frala will work to ensure that community colleges, colleges and universities receive funding to train future clean energy technicians to support Gov. Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-79-20, which states that 100 percent of in-state sales of cars and trucks will be zero-emission by 2035. Frala said his role on the committee is to advocate not only for Río Hondo College students, but all students who wish to have a career in the transportation industry.

"I am a very passionate energy instructor that believes in using energy efficiently," Frala said. "I want to make electricity and hydrogen

the number one goal to improve the public's knowledge of energy development and usage in our great state, and I feel this is key to workforce development in our current students for their long-term economic growth."

The California Energy Commission provides access to data on energy production, consumption, research, conservation and use in California, while the Clean Transportation Program provides funding to support innovation and accelerate the development and deployment of advanced transportation fuel technologies.

Frala has been working with and has received funding from the CEC for some 16 years and said that now more than ever, the Committee is paramount to ensuring student workforce success and the safety of the environment.



Río Hondo College Celebrates Police Academy Class 213

Río Hondo College celebrated the graduation of 39 police academy cadets in Class 213 on October 5, praising each graduate's courage, commitment and determination in completing the College's rigorous training program.

The celebration noted that each cadet had completed more than 950 hours of training over the course of 27 weeks in 42 different learning domains, including constitutional law, domestic violence, human trafficking, mental health issues, firearms training and de-escalation training. The 39 cadets will serve approximately 20 communities in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

In addition to the friends and families of the graduates, the ceremony hosted LAPD Officer Rosalyn Curry, a presentation of colors by the El Monte Police Department honor guard and remarks from the Director of Río Hondo College Police Academy Walter Allen and Superintendent/President Dr. Marilyn Flores. Allen dedicated the ceremony to fallen El Monte Police Department Sergeant Michael Parades and Officer Joseph Santana, who both died in the line of duty on June 14, 2022.



Great ShakeOut Teaches Earthquake Preparedness at Río Hondo College

Río Hondo College participated in the Great ShakeOut on October 20, joining more than 9.4 million Californians in this important Earthquake drill. Thank you to all the students, faculty and staff for practicing the "drop, cover and hold on" technique in the event of an earthquake, and the evacuation drill that occurred immediately after the ShakeOut.



Río Hondo College Welcomes 50 College Corps Fellows Onto Campus

Superintendent/President Dr. Marilyn Flores and Vice President of Student Services Dr. Earic Dixon-Peters welcomed Río Hondo College’s 50 Fellows to kick off their service agreement for the new California Volunteers College For All College Corps program on October 7. Río Hondo College Fellows will work alongside students from Cal State LA, ELAC, Cal Poly Pomona, as part of 47 campuses across the state focusing on food insecurity, K-12 educational support, and climate change.

College Corps is a statewide paid service program that provides meaningful work to college students, helping them graduate on time and with less debt while benefiting the local community.

Río Hondo students started their placements on the week of October 9 at a variety of partner sites including the Boys & Girls’ Club, City Net, LA Food Bank, Interfaith Food Council, Whittier College, the RíoSource Room and local middle and high schools. The College Corps program provides opportunities for Pell-eligible and AB540 students to earn up to \$10,000 while completing 450 hours of service learning and gaining transferrable employment skills and experience.

“Part of the California way is giving back to help uplift others, and that is a core principle of the #CaliforniansForAll College Corps,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said. “College Corps is about restoring the social contract between government and its citizens. This public investment builds upon California Volunteers’ army of service members, which is larger than the Peace Corps and exemplifies the spirit and idealism I see in young people across California.”

College Corps Fellows will dedicate the academic year to tackling the biggest issues facing California. Fellows will work in their communities to tutor and mentor low-income students, distribute meals to those facing food insecurity and address climate change.

Over the next four years, College Corps will engage 13,000 California undergraduates to make a positive difference in their communities. This service and career development program will help build a diverse class of leaders set to transform California for the better. Funding was made possible by the efforts of Gov. Newsom and lawmakers.

College Updates



PSCFA Warm-Up

The Río Hondo Forensics Speech and Debate team competed in three tournaments in October: PSCFA Warm-Up held at El Camino College, Norene Hokett Invitational and the Travel Tournament at Point Loma Nazarene University. During these three tournaments, the team won nearly 30 awards ranging from individual to overall team excellence. The team would like to give a special thank you to its coaches Patricia Hughes, Alex Cadena and Edward Minasyan.

PSCFA Warm-Up

Open Informative

4th Ethan Sepulveda

Novice Prose

2nd Brandon Torres
3rd Jose Lara
4th Cassy Molina

Open Prose/Poetry/Program Oral Interpretation

3rd John Gonzalez

Excellence in Novice Impromptu

Brandon Torres

Norene Hokett Invitational

Top Speakers

3rd John Gonzales
4th Leanet Fandino
5th Kal El
7th Matthew De Haro

Novice IPDA

Gold - Kal El
Silver - Leanet

Open Interpretation

2nd Place Cassy Molina
3rd Place Dulce Santana

Open Impromptu

3rd Jose Lara

Travel Tournament

Top 2-year School

1st Place Río Hondo College

Top Speakers in NPDA Open

1st John Gonzales Parli
4th Ethan Sepulveda

Top Speakers in NPDA Novice

4th Destinee Yopez
6th Cassy Molina
10th Evan Andrade
11th Kal El

Semi Finalists in Parli Debate

Elvia Maravilla and Evan Andrade
Destinee Yopez and Kal El

Quarter Finalists in Parli Debate

Cassy Molina and Miguel Castro
Ethan Sepulveda and John Gonzales

3rd Place in POI

John Gonzales

2nd Place in Prose

Cassy Molina



Visit from Senator Bob Archuleta

On October 13, Senator Bob Archuleta visited Río Hondo College's Administration of Justice Annex (AJA) complex to be briefed on how the state funding he secured in the last state budget cycle has helped the College's Administrative of Justice students.

Superintendent/President Dr. Marilyn Flores, Public Safety Dean Mark Yokoyama, Police Academy Director Walt Allen and a team of support staff guided Senator Archuleta through his visit to the simulation training room in which new software and equipment has been set up for cadets and officers to be trained in real life scenarios.

Senator Archuleta, who graduated from the Río Hondo Police Academy and has served as a reserve officer with the Montebello Police Department, underwent several drills to experience the simulator firsthand. To wrap up the Senator's visit, Dr. Flores, Dean Yokoyama, and Director Allen presented Senator Archuleta with a plaque of appreciation and showed him other areas in which the College intends to ask for his support in the coming years.

Río Hondo College Accepting Careers for a Cause Applications

The Río Hondo College Careers for a Cause (C4C) Social Services Employment Training Program is now accepting applications through January 4, 2023.

C4C is an eight-week training for individuals with lived experience in homelessness, re-entry, or other experiences of marginalization. Individuals accepted into the program will receive a weekly stipend, free computer, case management, and supportive services to ensure successful training completion and job placement in the homeless or social services industry.

The C4C training will be held in person from January 30, 2023 - March 24, 2023 at the following location:

Río Hondo College- Pico Rivera Educational Center
3426 Marjorie Street, Pico Rivera, CA 90660
(Classes held Monday - Friday)

The Río Hondo College C4C application is available on the <https://www.ajcc.lacounty.gov/> website. To access the application from this site, click on JOB SEEKERS, then in the left column click on GENERAL PLACEMENT SERVICES, then click on INTERNSHIP & APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS and scroll down to click on the C4C application link.

Careers for a Cause (C4C)

Care First, Community Investment & Jails Last Initiatives

BACKGROUND

C4C American Recovery Plan (ARP) is a collaboration between Los Angeles County Departments of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Human Resources (DHR), and Mental Health (DMH), Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), Community Colleges, and Community Based Organizations to geographically expand the program from one LA County Supervisorial District to all five Districts and to enhance training outcomes by adding new supportive and employment services. The program goals are to ensure that persons facing marginalization are workforce ready and able to become economically self-sufficient, thus reducing homelessness and recidivism.



Program Description

Careers for a Cause (C4C) is an eight-week employment training program that supports individuals, with lived experience in homelessness and/or the justice system, build skills and connect to career pathways in the homeless services and social services field. Program participants must be 18+ years old and have a passion for helping underserved communities.

Program Components

- Engagement with Multiple Homeless Services Employers
- Connected to Current Homeless Services Job Opportunities
- Supplied with Personal Computer for Training and Job Search
- Mental Health First Aid Certificate of Completion
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Certificate of Completion
- First Aid/CPR Training and Card
- Paid Internship Availability
- Dedicated C4C Support Staff:
 - Occupational Therapist
 - Case Manager
 - Job Developer/Retention Specialist

Community Based Organization (CBO) Partners

The program will be delivered through Los Angeles County homeless services CBOs, Amity Foundation, Fathers & Mothers Who Care, and St. Joseph Center. These agencies provide C4C program coordination, HMIS software training, career counseling, case management, supportive services, housing assistance, job development services, mentorship, paid internships, and job placement/retention services.

Community College Partners

The C4C social services curriculum is administered by community colleges that are located within each LA County Supervisorial District. Those colleges include Compton College, East Los Angeles College, Los Angeles Southwest College, Pierce College, and Río Hondo College. These educational partners collaborate with LA County and homeless services CBOs to ensure that C4C participants receive comprehensive supportive services and an optimal training experience.

department of economic opportunity
510 S. Vermont Ave, Los Angeles CA • 90020 • (888) 226-6300 • opportunity@lacounty.gov





CAREERS FOR A CAUSE

Social Services Pre-Apprenticeship Training

Careers For A Cause (C4C) is an 8-week pre-employment training program offered by Río Hondo College to prepare area residents to compete for careers in social services. Participants will receive a stipend and case management to support their participation in the training.

On Campus (in person) Classes

1/30/2023 - 3/24/2023
Mon-Fri (10:30 am - 3:00 pm)

Please Click the Link or Scan the QR Code to Apply

<https://bit.ly/RIOC4CApplication>



Application Deadline

January 4, 2023

Program Contact: cperez@amityfdn.org

department of economic opportunity
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

America's Job Center of California

Amity Foundation

FMWC

LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY
LAHSA

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
recovery. wellbeing.

Los Angeles County Human Resources

ACCT Announces Newly Elected, Re-elected and Appointed Board Members and Officers

Washington, D.C. - New officers and members of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Board of Directors were elected during the 2022 ACCT Leadership Congress in New York, New York on Thursday, October 27 and Friday, October 28. Río Hondo College's Oscar Valladares was elected as the Pacific Regional Director.

RÍO IN THE NEWS: Read more about the ACCT and for a complete list of officers on the [ACCT website](#).

California Trustees Elevated to the National ACCT Board and its Committees

Three California Community College (CCC) trustees were elected to the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Board of Directors, as announced at the recent ACCT National Convention in New York City. These trustees will voice California's needs and continue bringing our community colleges to the forefront of the national dialogue.

The Community College League of California (League) extends our congratulations to the following individuals on their commitment and dedication to advocacy on the national level:

- **Gilbert Wong**, Foothill-De Anza CCD – Appointed to serve as the ACCT Board of Directors Pacific Regional Chair through the coming year
- **Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg**, San Joaquin Delta CCD – Elected to serve as the ACCT Board of Directors At-Large Director
- **Oscar Valladares**, Río Hondo CCD – Elected to serve as the ACCT Board of Directors Regional Director (two-year partial term)

“On behalf of the League, I would like to offer my sincere appreciation and congratulations to Trustees Wong, Gomez-Heitzeberg, and Valladares on their elections to the ACCT Board of Directors,” said Marisa Perez, President of the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) Board and Trustee of Cerritos College. “We are pleased to have these three individuals representing California on the national community college trustee board. We appreciate their commitment to public service and are thankful for their leadership on behalf of the 1.8 million students in the California community college system.”

Currently, 21 trustees from California Community Colleges serve as members on various ACCT Board Committees. The ACCT will announce new committee members and finalize the 2023 Board Committee appointments on December 1, 2022. Appointed committee members currently serving must reapply if interested in serving next year.

Wild Movement in Lower Part of State Top 25 Women's Volleyball Rankings

While the first 20 teams of the CCCWVCA State Women's Volleyball Top 25 rankings have settled in with some ups and downs, it's the last 20 percent that has seen more seismic movement than detected at Cal Tech this week.

Four teams jumped on to the state top 25 thanks to direct upsets and other factors. Río Hondo College (8-5) joined the rankings for the first time at #21 with its second upset of a state #10-ranked team in taking down now #11 Mt. San Antonio in five sets. The Roadrunners, who beat #13 Pasadena City five days earlier, are paced by this week's SoCal State Player of the Week in setter Faith Wada (State POTW release).

Bakersfield (9-7), last year's #1 seed in the South, finally got back on the rankings at #22 after a sweep of Santa Monica, now tied at #25. Sierra (13-10) didn't do anything special in a 4-set loss to #7 American River, but due to losses by a number of other previously-ranked teams, the Wolverines track record was strong enough to grab the #23 spot. Finally, Golden West (9-7) used a 5-set upset over now #14 Santa Ana and a sweep over Saddleback to join SMC in at #25.

Feather River (26-1) extended its Golden Valley Conference win streak to 48 matches and its overall win streak to 24 contests as the Golden Eagles have established themselves as the prohibitive #1-ranked team. Carissa Chainey has been on fire the last four victories in hitting an even .500 with 36 kills, including 17 in a win over Butte.

Orange Empire Conference leader and #9 Irvine Valley (13-4) swept Riverside CC and #17 Orange Coast to improve to 9-1 in league play. South Coast Conference first-place Mt. SAC (15-4) only dropped one spot despite the loss to Río Hondo and #13 Pasadena (13-5) avenged an earlier loss to El Camino by beating the Warriors in four sets. Santa Ana (14-3) fell two slots to #14 thanks to the GWC upset but did defeat #20 Cypress (14-6) in four sets.

RÍO IN THE NEWS: Read more from the [California Community College Athletic Association](#).





Río Hondo College Community, Local Leaders Welcome New Superintendent/President

Río Hondo College Board of Trustees, students, faculty, staff, business leaders and elected officials welcomed Superintendent/President Dr. Marilyn Flores to the College and the community with an installation ceremony, which heralded a new era of prosperity and achievement under her leadership.

Close to 200 guests attended the event, held Oct. 14 in the upper quad breezeway of the L Tower, to see Flores take the oath of office. Guests were also introduced to Flores’ goals for improving student success, boosting support programs and encouraging a College culture of inclusivity and anti-racism.

Associated Students of Río Hondo College President Matthew De Haro said he was thrilled to start his presidency alongside Flores, citing their similar goals in building a strong relationship between College administrators and students while also advocating for underrepresented groups and individuals.

“Dr. Flores has already demonstrated her commitment to being a leader

because she’s eager to help,” De Haro said. “She truly wants to enhance our College’s culture and boost morale and school spirit – which is one of my main goals as well. She’s also an advocate for student voices and input on subjects that affect the College.”

Flores was unanimously selected by the Board of Trustees and started her leadership role on July 1, 2022. Her professional experience includes 25 years of educational work at institutions such as Santa Ana College, Santiago Canyon College, Las Positas College and Riverside City College.

“I am so excited and grateful to have Dr. Flores here to be our 11th superintendent/president,” Board of Trustees President Vicky Santana said. “There’s a lot of work that Dr. Flores is doing to make sure that Río Hondo College offers the classes our students need at the times that they need them. We are also doing outreach to our local K-12 partners and also in our community to boost enrollment once again. We need to remind our community that we are a wonderful asset and that we will help them change their life trajectory.”

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
- 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.



Río Hondo College to Offer Study Abroad Program in Madrid, Spain

WHAT: Río Hondo College students will have the opportunity to expand their horizons through the new study abroad program, which gives students enrolled in 12 or more units the opportunity to study in Madrid, Spain during the 2023 spring semester.

Study abroad students will enroll in general education classes, taught by faculty from Río Hondo College, Citrus College and Cuyamaca College and will live alongside students from 11 other local California community colleges.

WHEN: Feb. 16, 2023 – May 13, 2023

WHERE: Madrid, Spain

DETAILS: For more information, please contact Professor Rebecca Green at rgreen@riohondo.edu.



Save the Date

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.,
Wednesday, November 9:**
Explore Río Hondo College
Resource Fair at the
Educational Center at Pico
Rivera

**6 p.m.,
Wednesday, November 9:**
Regular Board of Trustees
Meeting

**1 p.m.,
Thursday, November 17:**
RHCFA Faculty Awards
Ceremony
at the Campus Inn

**6 p.m.,
Wednesday, December 14:**
Annual Organizational
Meeting

Winter Term Classes

January 3-26, 2023

RÍO
HONDO
COLLEGE

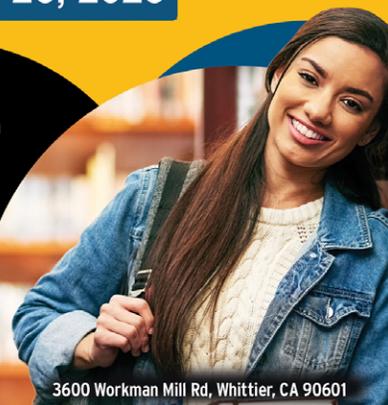


• Complete a CSU/
UC General Education
transferable course
in 4 weeks

• Catch up or
move ahead to
graduate earlier

• Complete a
prerequisite for
Spring

• Retake a class



3600 Workman Mill Rd, Whittier, CA 90601