



Report to the Community 2013

A Pathway to Student Success



President's Message



Thanks to the dedication of Rio Hondo College's hard-working and talented staff and faculty, the College has made tremendous strides in moving forward to help achieve its ultimate goal: Setting students on a pathway toward success. That pathway to success doesn't begin and end on Rio Hondo's main campus, nor is it a straight line from Point A to Point B; the pathway toward Student Success is built step-by-step by everyone who has a hand in the growth of the educational centers, services and programs. Each step is just as essential as the next in order to assist students in reaching their destinations.

Through several years of economic downturn, things are slowly but surely looking up. Rio Hondo College has been able to maintain robust course offerings and was one of the few community colleges in the area to offer a varied menu of summer courses. Thanks to the passage of Proposition 30 – which gave everyone in the community the opportunity to fund education – and the governor's commitment to higher education, the state provides more funds to enhance community college Student Success programs.

Rio Hondo College takes pride in serving one of the most diverse student populations in the state, reflecting the diversity of the surrounding communities and the region. Rio Hondo College students consistently report a welcoming and warm atmosphere from staff and faculty, a supportive environment and a feeling of "family" on campus. As our list of Associate of Arts for Transfer, Associate of Science for Transfer, and other degree programs increases, students are offered a variety of rigorous academic courses of study leading to successful transfer. The College has also earned a solid reputation for our exemplary career and technical programs in alternative energy, automotive technology, and nursing, as well as for our regionally acclaimed fire and police academies and homeland security training facility. Students from throughout the region choose Rio Hondo to heighten their skills, and to earn certificates and degrees that best prepare them for their future in the workforce. Rio Hondo is also dedicated to offering services that attract students who seek personal growth and are committed to lifelong learning.

It has been an outstanding year at Rio Hondo College with so many changes that are bound to help students achieve their academic and career goals. I want to thank all of the faculty, staff, administrators, Board of Trustees and communities for enabling the College to offer the best service possible to students and solidifying Rio Hondo's reputation as among the best.

Sincerely,
Teresa Dreyfuss
Superintendent/President
Rio Hondo Community College District



Mission Statement

Rio Hondo College is committed to the success of its diverse students and communities by providing dynamic educational opportunities and resources that lead to associate degrees, certificates, transfer, career and technical pathways, basic skills proficiency, and lifelong learning.

Board of Trustees

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

02

2013 Highlights

07

Goal 4 – Lifelong Learning, Partnerships, Responding to Community Needs

11

Goal 8 – Provide Outstanding Leadership, Faculty and Staff

15

Goal 12 – Rio Hondo College Will Offer Increased Educational Opportunities for Students

04

Goal 1 – Excellent General Education and Associate Degree Completion

08

Goal 5 – Student Centered Climate

12

Goal 9 – Meeting Technological Needs

16

Rio Hondo College Foundation Information and 50th Anniversary

05

Goal 2 – Preparing Students for Cutting-Edge Careers

09

Goal 6 – Meeting the Region's Educational and Training Needs

13

Goal 10 – Enhance and Provide Outstanding Learning Environment

18

Looking Ahead

06

Goal 3 – Innovative Instruction and Opportunities in Basic Skills

10

Goal 7 – Maintain Fiscal Solvency

14

Goal 11 – Provide Engaging and Rewarding Campus Life

20

Student Success Profiles



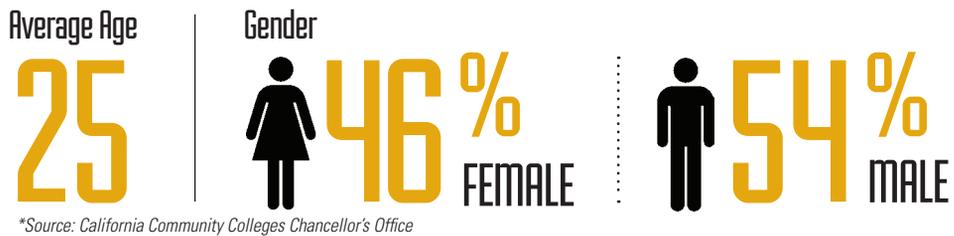
Vision Statement

Rio Hondo College strives to be an exemplary California community college, meeting the learning needs of its changing and growing population and developing a state-of-the-art campus to serve future generations.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

Rio Hondo College is committed to meet the post-secondary needs of its diverse community by providing a high-quality college experience. Each semester, Rio Hondo College provides comprehensive academic, career and technical programs for nearly 20,000 students, many of whom seek an associate degree, transfer to a four-year university, or want to earn a certificate. Each day, more than 1,000 employees, including faculty, counselors, staff and student workers assist students in attaining their educational goals by promoting rigorous academic standards, providing relevant courses and engaging in consistent student support.

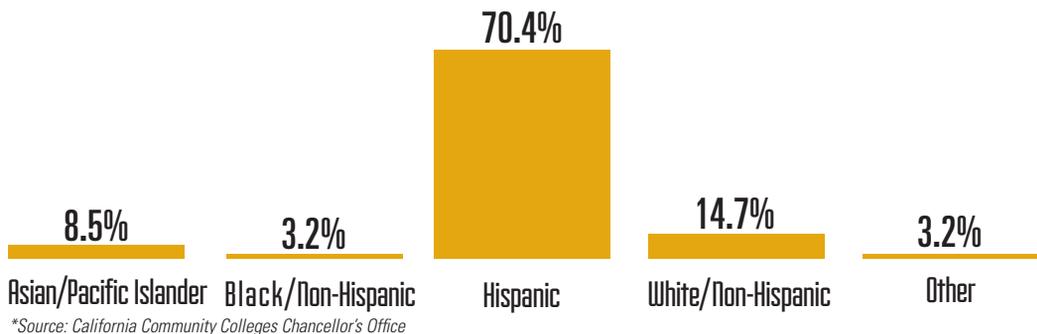
STUDENT PROFILE



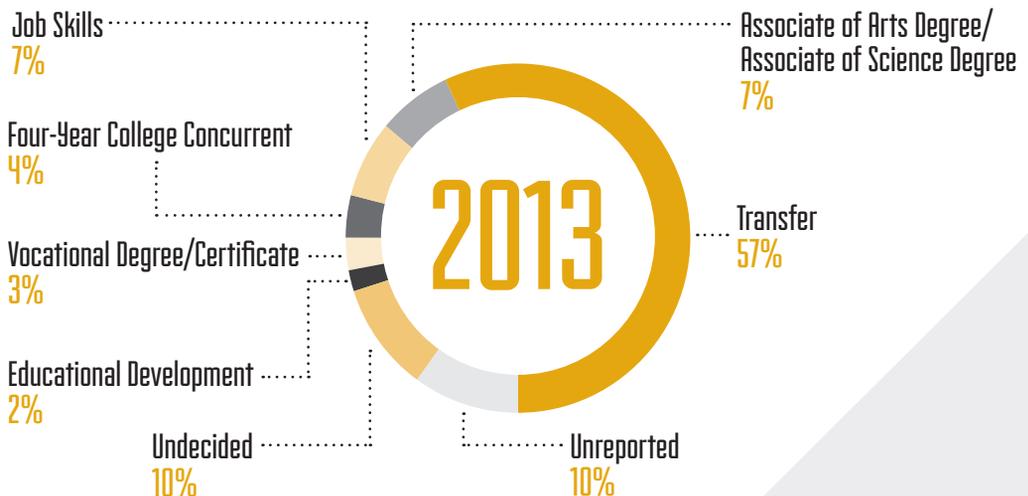
STUDENTS SERVED



ETHNICITY PROFILE



STUDENT GOALS





Rio Hondo College Celebrates 50 Years

Since Rio Hondo College opened its doors in 1963, the College has provided a rigorous post-secondary education for more than one million students. To celebrate this milestone, the College hosted an array of events, including a campus-wide celebration and the placement of a time capsule; RioFest; a community-wide gala featuring entertainment and awards; and a recital featuring 50 years of dance. The yearlong celebration concluded with the College's 50th Commencement Ceremony in May 2013. Dignitaries, lifelong community members and students past and present took the opportunity to celebrate Rio Hondo and the profound impact the College has had on the community.

Board of Trustees Appoints New Leader



After an extensive nationwide search to find a leader with the financial acumen and institutional knowledge poised to be Rio Hondo College's next superintendent/president, the Board of Trustees selected Teresa Dreyfuss in May 2013 to start on July 1, 2013.

A native of Taiwan, Dreyfuss first came to the College in 1987 as a classified staff member and a part-time community college instructor.

She most recently served as Interim Superintendent/President and Vice President, Finance and Business. She has also served as Chief Financial Officer, Controller/Business Manager, Business Manager, and Senior Accountant.

She has been instrumental in guiding the \$245 million facilities construction program, known as 'Measure A' that is nearing completion and has transformed the hilltop campus into a modern institution that includes two off-site educational centers to provide access for underserved areas in the College's district.

Dreyfuss holds an MBA from the University of La Verne and a Bachelor's degree from

the University of Chinese Culture in Taipei, Taiwan. She has worked as a part-time instructor at both Rio Hondo College and Los Angeles City College, teaching accounting and business classes for 10 years. She has also worked at the Riverside Community College District as Director of Business.

Dreyfuss serves on several boards including Workers Compensation JPA, Dental & Vision JPA, General and Product Liability JPA. She was a member of the Chancellor's Office Facility Task Force and Chief Business Officials California Community College. She is also Vice Chair of the City of Whittier's Sister City Committee.



As Superintendent/President, Dreyfuss is committed to ensuring that Rio Hondo College remains fiscally strong while focusing on student success. She is helping to guide the preparation for the upcoming Institutional Self Evaluation Report for Reaffirmation of Accreditation.



State-of-the-Art PE Complex Opens

Rio Hondo College officials hosted a grand-opening celebration in October of the new Physical Education Complex, a state-of-the-art athletic center that features a fitness center, classrooms, weight room, pools, tennis courts, dance studios and renovated soccer and softball fields. At 41,000 square feet, the PE Complex is one of the largest and most widely used community college physical education facilities in the state.

GOAL 1

EXCELLENT GENERAL EDUCATION AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE COMPLETION

Rio Hondo College will provide excellent instruction in general education and major requirement courses leading to increased student degree completion and successful university transfer.

- ▶ The 2013-14 Rio Hondo College Catalog included **1,632** courses and offered **56** associate degree programs and **51** certificate programs of study.
- ▶ Nearly **1,300** students earned an associate degree or certificate in 2013, helping Rio Hondo College rank in the **Top 100** list of associate degrees awarded in all disciplines to minority students, **39th** for degrees awarded to Hispanic students and **29th** on the **Top 50** list of colleges awarding associate degrees in homeland security, law enforcement, firefighting and related protective services.



GOAL 2

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR CUTTING EDGE CAREERS



Rio Hondo College will provide instruction in career and technical education, leading to certificates, degrees and job placement/job enhancement.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)



Students seeking a career in tax preparation received real-life professional experiences when the Accounting Department offered Rio Hondo College's first Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Service (VITA) in February 2013, which

allowed them to help community members prepare their taxes for free.

To become certified tax-preparers, students attended classes during the fall and took the Internal Revenue Service certification test. Once they passed the exam, they progressed to the lab portion, which included volunteering for VITA and preparing returns.

Students in the program prepared a total of 140 tax returns, yielding \$119,000 in returns and roughly \$27,720 in savings for community members who received the service at no cost.

Collaborative Model of Nursing Education Program

Students taking nursing courses at Rio Hondo College had the opportunity for a smooth and timely progression from the associate to the baccalaureate degree of nursing as a result of the California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) School of Nursing having selected Rio Hondo College as one of its partners in its Collaborative Model of Nursing Education program.

The first cohort of students to participate in the program, which was made possible by a two-year \$300,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Academic Progression in Nursing Program, started taking CSULA courses in the summer of 2013. The students accepted into the program completed prerequisite courses at Rio Hondo College and gained a solid foundation of nursing, passed the NCLEX-RN exam and completed their Associate Degree in Nursing.

Honda Professional Auto Care



Building on its increasingly progressive and evolving curriculum, the Rio Hondo College Division of Career and Technical Education launched a new associate degree in Honda Professional Auto Care Training

(PACT), which will help students to jumpstart their auto service careers and earn competitive wages. The initial course toward the degree, Introduction to Honda/Acura Service (AUTO 102), began in the summer and was taught by an Automotive Service Excellence certified instructor. Students had access to the Honda network and training materials. Rio Hondo College has partnered with American Honda to develop the two-year PACT program. The program conforms to stringent guidelines and gives students hands-on experience with Honda's advanced technology and products. The program requires an internship/mentoring program within a dealer environment to experience how the dealership network operates.

Public Safety

The Division of Public Safety has the highest enrollment count of all divisions within the College with students preparing for careers as police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians. The division ranks among the top 50 protective-services associate degree producers in the country.

In 2013, the Police Academy hosted its first graduation ceremony since its reopening, with 13 cadets receiving their California Commission on Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) certificates.

The Division of Public Safety has also increased its collaboration efforts with the community, including providing training space for local SWAT teams, increasing opportunities for cadets to volunteer and fostering community outreach. The division also boasts several enterprise programs with California Health and Rescue, National Testing Network, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Pinkerton Government Services, U.S. Army Reserve, Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Motor Vehicles and Angeles National Forest.



GOAL 3

INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTION AND OPPORTUNITIES IN BASIC SKILLS

Rio Hondo College will provide excellent and innovative instruction and other learning opportunities in basic skills leading to increased completion of basic skills sequences.



Student Motivational Conference

The inaugural Student Motivational Conference in November, which was themed “Achieve Higher Education: Actively Pursuing Your Dreams,” featured workshops designed to inform students about many pathways to transfer, address basic skills challenges and help students create a blueprint for success. The goal of the conference was to motivate students to be persistent in pursuing their college degrees and instill in them the value of higher education for their personal and professional pursuits and educational goals.

Fast Track Math

Promoting academic achievement among entering college students in a supportive, integrated and innovative learning environment, the Division of Mathematics and Sciences began the implementation of the Fast Track Math Sequence, a program designed to increase completion of developmental math students.

Summer Bridge

Nearly 280 incoming freshmen representing 45 high schools attended the fourth annual Summer Bridge college-readiness program, the largest cohort to date. The program comprised of four week-long sessions that included math and English basic skills reviews, orientation to academic support and student service programs, a programs fair with representatives from various programs and clubs, and opportunities to hear from Rio Hondo College faculty and administrators. A follow-up workshop was also held in the fall, and a similar program, “Spring Board,” was launched for students starting their first semester in the spring.



GOAL 4

LIFELONG LEARNING, PARTNERSHIPS, RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

Rio Hondo will offer a stimulating curriculum that fosters lifelong learning and serves community interests.

New Education Center Serves El Monte/South El Monte Communities



In a move to bring the option of higher education to more people in the community, Rio Hondo College opened the El Monte Educational Center, a satellite campus built to serve the El Monte and South El Monte communities.

In early April, Rio Hondo College offered the inaugural curriculum that offered career and technical education and continuing education, as well as classes geared toward transfer and basic skills. More than 200 students enrolled in the 10 initial class offerings, citing convenience of location as a major factor in choosing to attend the Center. The satellite educational center was made possible through Measure A Bond funds endorsed by voters in 2004.

'School is Cool'



Nearly 100 San Gabriel Valley families received backpacks and school supplies for their children at the seventh annual "School is Cool" event at Rio Hondo College. Representatives from the College's CalWORKs program and Child Development Center offered information on their programs, particularly careers in child development with a special focus on preschool. Other community organizations were also available to hand out information to parents about resources available to families throughout the upcoming school year, including vaccination referrals, mental health services and more. The Rio Hondo College Office of Government and Community Relations partnered with CARIÑO Partnerships for Families Collaborative, which is spearheaded by Skills for Prevention, Intervention, Recovery, Individual Treatment and Training (SPIRITT) Family Services and funded by First 5 LA, to host the event.

Parent Education Conference



Rio Hondo College partnered with the Hispanic Outreach Taskforce (HOT), Whittier College and several area school districts to host the Parent Education Conference, which for the first time featured a Student Leadership Conference. Rio Hondo provided student volunteers who helped welcome visitors and provided an information table with literature about Rio Hondo College. Staff also hosted a workshop that focused on how parents can help their children prepare for college. The 15th annual conference, themed "Empowerment through Education," is intended to curb high school dropout rates among Latino students by giving parents the tools they need to help their children graduate from high school and receive their college degrees. The conference also connects parents with college recruiters and helps them better understand college application and financial aid processes.

GOAL 5

STUDENT CENTERED CLIMATE

Rio Hondo College will promote a student centered climate that contributes to increases in retention and persistence, and improves student success through collaboration that values diversity.



Freshman Success Center

Rio Hondo College's commitment to the Student Success Initiative moved officials to open the Freshman Success Center in Fall 2013, serving more than 1,000 students in the first semester. The Freshman Success Center offers first-time college students resources to help them thrive in their first year, which is crucial in a student's overall academic success. Such services include counseling, and assistance with registration and financial aid, as well as developing a two-year educational plan.

Veterans Service Center

As Rio Hondo College continues to serve an influx of student veterans, school officials are ensuring they will receive the highest level of assistance as they continue their education. The Veterans Service Center certified for disbursement more than \$1.5 million in veteran student benefits, as well as an additional \$75,000 to pay book grants. Nearly 20 veteran students received up to \$300 in short-term student loans provided through the Rio Hondo College Foundation and grant from Vons. The Center served more than 1,000 students in 2013.

Forensics Speech and Debate Team

After a remarkable season, the Forensics Speech and Debate Team capped their successful year at the 2013 Phi Rho Pi National Tournament, where the team competed with students from more than 70 colleges and universities. Each team member fared competitively through various rounds in several event categories. Steven Villegas won first place Gold Speaker in Prose Interpretation and Vanessa Cazares earned Bronze Speaker in Prose Interpretation, plus another Bronze Speaker in Dramatic Interpretation.

El Paisano Newspaper

Eleven student writers and editors from the El Paisano newspaper attended the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) conference in Sacramento, where Robert Sanchez won first place in on-the-spot editorial cartoon and Sean Armstrong received an Honorable Mention for on-the-spot opinion writing.

Child Development Center



The Rio Hondo College Child Development Center offered a California State Preschool program for the 3- and 4-year-old children of students, staff, faculty and the local community in 2013. The California State

Preschool program has required state learning standards that prepare children for kindergarten and track the progress of all children as they participate in the program. During the year, children and their families had an opportunity to participate in a Pumpkin Festival and Snow Day during the fall semester, a children's art show and field trip to the California Science Center during the spring semester and an "Off to Kindergarten" celebration during the summer.

Rio Hondo child development/education and nursing students observed and interacted with the preschool children for more than 5,000 hours while supervised by a faculty coordinator and center staff. Almost half of the parents with children enrolled in the program were attending Rio Hondo classes. Some of these student parents also completed work study hours. The other half of the families came from the local Rio Hondo community.



Arts and Theater

The Division of Arts and Cultural Programs presented 27 events throughout the year, including events in the Art Gallery and Wray Theater, ranging from theater productions and variety shows, to dance productions and art exhibits. In September, the division also partnered with the Office of Student Life and Leadership to produce the College's first Latino Heritage Celebration open to the community.

GOAL 6

MEETING THE REGION'S EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING NEEDS

Rio Hondo College will respond to the region's educational needs and contribute to its economic future through service to the community and partnerships with public, private and non-profit organizations.



Rio Hondo College Police Academy



The Rio Hondo College Police Academy completed one full iteration of the Basic Extended Course certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) in the spring and graduated 13 cadets. The Regional Law Enforcement

Training Center provides training for more than 45 agencies in California.

Collaborative Crisis Scenario



Cadets from the police and fire academies, as well as students from the nursing and emergency medical technician programs, participated in a Collaborative Crisis Scenario, a simulated accident drill at the Regional Homeland Security Training Center

in an effort to learn how to work collaboratively in an emergency situation. The Center has a rubble pile, store-front property, a collapsed building, confined structures and various search-and-rescue props.

Regional Fire Technology Training Center



In 2013, the Rio Hondo College Wildland Fire Academy graduated 43 cadets, all of whom became firefighters with other agencies. The Roadrunner Fire Crew 77 was called out to help fight two severe wildfires, including the Carpenter 1 Fire north of Las Vegas and the Rim Fire in Yosemite.

The basic Fire Academy also had 57 graduates in 2013 and at least 39 obtained jobs in fire departments and private ambulance companies. Five went on to paramedic school and two were hired at police departments.

Lastly, the Fire Academy program tested 1,579 candidates for the City of Long Beach for the physical abilities firefighter tests. The program also tested 1,490 people for the cities of Beverly Hills, San Jose, Long Beach and Ontario fire departments for the written firefighter testing.

Nursing Receives Grants to Bolster Program



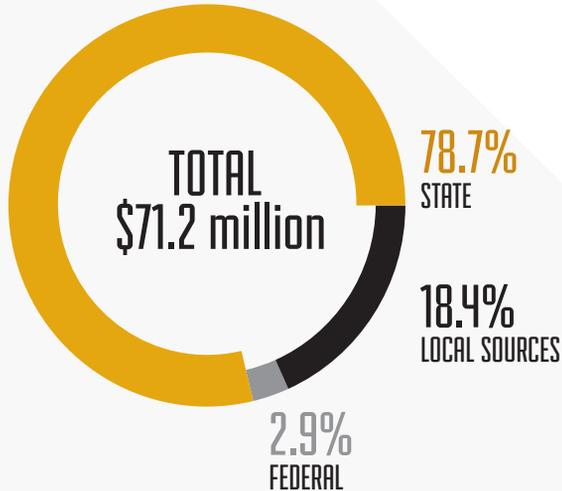
The Division of Health Science and Nursing has been awarded more than \$811,000 in grants, which includes funding geared toward adding nursing courses; tutoring, mentoring and counseling; nursing transition projects; and collaborative programs with other institutions, including California State University, Los Angeles.

GOAL 7

MAINTAIN FISCAL SOLVENCY

Rio Hondo College will act responsibly, ethically, efficiently, and in an accountable manner, including actively seeking outside sources of funding, to preserve fiscal solvency.

Revenue



With the successful passage of Proposition 30 and despite a slow economic recovery, the state budget has been more favorable toward Rio Hondo College as the governor's 2013 budget reduced community college deferrals from \$961 million to \$592 million. Even though the cash deferral would not affect the state apportionment, it provides the cash to smooth the College's operations needs.

The economic position of Rio Hondo College is closely tied to the State of California; 79 percent of the total District's general fund revenue is from the state apportionment, state categorical programs and grants. Total revenue during the year was approximately \$71.2 million, including about \$2.1 million from federal sources, \$56 million from the state and \$13.1 million from local sources.

Measure A Bond Funds

To ensure Measure A Bond funds have been expensed properly and effectively according to the project list approved by the voters of the College building program, Rio Hondo completed an independent financial and performance audit executed by accounting firm Vasquez and Company LLP.

The external audits conducted on Rio Hondo College's Measure A Bond Funds showed all funds were properly accounted for with no deficiencies in the internal control and no instances of noncompliance were reported. Total bond expenditures at fiscal year-end were \$10.3 million. Bond year-to-date expenditure since inception is \$154 million as of June 30, 2013.

Citizens' Oversight Committee:

Bottom row: Verna De Los Reyes, left, Superintendent/President Teresa Dreyfuss and Lois Czuba. Top row: Toby Chavez, left, Fernando Centeno, Richard Garner, Dr. Joe Rivera and Dr. Francisco Hidalgo.



GOAL 8

PROVIDE OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP, FACULTY AND STAFF

Rio Hondo College will recruit, hire, develop, retain, train and support highly qualified and diverse administrators, faculty and classified staff.

CAPED Teacher of the Year Award



Based upon a long history of ensuring access and participation for students with disabilities in her physical education classes, including her efforts to maintain a wheelchair accessible path of travel to the Fitness Center and other Physical Education (PE) facilities during the lengthy PE Complex construction project,

the California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability (CAPEd) presented its Teacher of the Year award to Kathy Pudelko. She is the first physical education instructor to receive the honor in the organization's 39-year history.

The award recognizes an outstanding instructor or teacher (outside disabled student services) who recognizes his or her role in the education of all learners and has made extraordinary efforts to meet the needs of disabled learners in the classroom through the use of innovative instructional techniques and accommodations.

Rio Hondo College Leadership Academy



Members of the Rio Hondo College Leadership Academy cohort kicked off the year by volunteering their time to help set up for the August grand opening of the Interfaith Food Center in Santa Fe Springs. The cohort, comprised of 11 Rio Hondo faculty and staff, experiences a yearlong program designed to enhance employees' capacity to be leaders at all levels. Some graduates of the Academy have received promotions, earned graduate degrees, volunteered for community service or accepted leadership positions off campus. In the program, staff members learn about conflict management, ethics and values, team building and more.

Faculty Development Day

The Office of Student Success and Retention hosted a one-day professional development event for Rio Hondo College faculty, which featured a series of dynamic and interactive sessions conducted by guest consultants from Santa Ana College and Citrus College. The sessions focused on faculty teaching in the Rio Hondo College Learning Communities program, which represents interdisciplinary collaboration and integration among nine disciplines. The event also included a special session for administrators, including vice presidents and deans, to discuss issues regarding the administration, support and the direction of the Rio Hondo College Learning Communities program.

GOAL 9

MEETING TECHNOLOGICAL NEEDS

Rio Hondo College will meet the ever-changing technological needs required to support the educational process and to enhance student access and success.

Rio Hondo College App



Information on everything from Academic Counseling to the Veterans Service Center is now available in one convenient, streamlined and pocket-sized place – on any smart phone or tablet. The new Rio Hondo College app, which launched in the fall, contains hours and contact information for several student services, a calendar for campus programs and events, College resources such as AccessRio

and Rio Café, and – most importantly to many commuters – a feature that locates where students parked their cars. The app is part of the Student Mental Health Awareness and Support Program, which was created with a \$245,000 grant from the California Mental Health Services Authority. The grant, which is being dispersed over two years, has funded wellness education workshops, online access to social service referrals, peer-to-peer mentoring programs, and mental health awareness events.

Imaging of Admissions and Records Files

Nearly 950,000 Admissions and Records documents were scanned into Rio Hondo's imaging system. The paper files that were scanned include records from all 50 years of the College's existence. These documents are now easily accessible online to Rio Hondo personnel, making it easier to find and manage student records.

OpenCCCApplly

Students looking to attend Rio Hondo College will find it a bit easier. The College changed its online application process to the new OpenCCCApplly system introduced by the California Community College Chancellor's Office in 2013. The new system modernized the look of the application for students and made a number of other enhancements to assist colleges with the processing of student applications.

Blackboard



Blackboard

The Virtual College staff successfully upgraded Blackboard to version 9.1 while helping an increased number of faculty use Blackboard to enhance student learning in their classes.

Blackboard is an online tool that allows faculty to upload resources and files for students to access online. Designed to enhance teaching and learning efforts, Blackboard works with PowerPoint, video, audio and animation.

Website Upgrade



The College began the process of creating a new website in 2013. This project involved a wide range of students, faculty and staff committed to providing better organization to the information that matters to Rio Hondo's stakeholders. The goals of the new website are to improve the presentation of information and update the look and feel of Rio Hondo's web presence. The new website will go live late Spring Term 2014.



GOAL 10

ENHANCE AND PROVIDE
OUTSTANDING LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT

Building/Project

Date Opened

El Monte Educational Center
Softball Field Renovation
Physical Education Complex

April 2013
September 2013
September 2013

FACILITIES REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Rio Hondo College will design, modernize and maintain a physical infrastructure, both on- and off-site, that meets the evolving needs of students, staff and the College's instructional and student support programs while valuing and enhancing the aesthetic beauty of the College.

El Monte Educational Center



The Rio Hondo College El Monte Educational Center (EMEC) is centrally located to serve the El Monte and South El Monte communities. Located at 3017 Tyler Avenue in El Monte, the EMEC contains four classrooms in two new state-of-the-art classroom buildings, a computer lab and an administration building. EMEC also includes a beautiful open courtyard and parking.

Softball Field Renovation



The Rio Hondo College Softball Field received a complete makeover in 2013. The new field meets NCAA-regulations and includes new dugouts and bullpens for the home and visiting teams, and new batting cages.

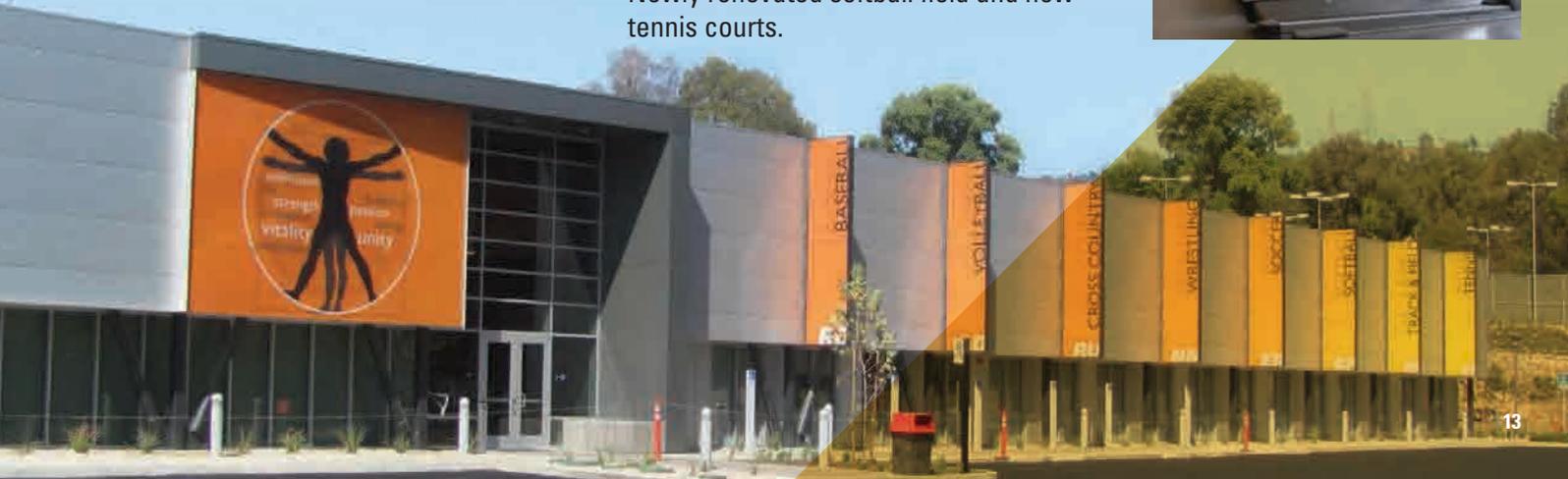
Parking

Repairs and re-stripping of the parking lots have helped increase parking spaces around Lot A, and three new Access parking stop locations and signage have been built to assist disabled students with their transportation to and from campus.

Physical Education Complex

The new Physical Education Complex has greatly contributed to a campus environment robust with students committed to their health and wellness. The state-of-the-art athletic facilities feature:

- An Olympic-sized swimming pool with rehab/workout pool;
- Brand-new electronic scoreboards for the softball field, baseball field and pool;
- Full-size fitness center and weight room;
- New men's and women's locker rooms with centralized access to sporting equipment;
- New athletic training room, dance studios, brand new offices, conference room, media room and classrooms;
- Newly renovated softball field and new tennis courts.



GOAL 11

PROVIDE ENGAGING AND REWARDING CAMPUS LIFE

Rio Hondo College will provide students and employees with an engaging and rewarding campus life.

MESA



Rio Hondo College's MESA/TRiO Student Support Services STEM Program was honored in October for being one of America's top programs that increase academic opportunities and achievement for Latino students. The MESA (Math Engineering Science

Achievement) Program was selected from among 165 competitors from 22 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico as one of 22 national finalists for the 2013 *Examples of Excelencia* recognition. Conceived and run by *Excelencia* in Education, this is the only national initiative to systematically identify, recognize and catalogue evidence-based programs that improve Latino success in college.

Student Life and Leadership



In 2013, the Student Life and Leadership department continued its Student Leadership Institute with more than 100 participants and initiated the inaugural Hispanic Scholarship Fund Rio Hondo College Chapter. The department also hosted an array of events, including the "De-Stress Fest," which provided activities for students to help manage stress, including art therapy, hula hooping, an art exhibit and workshops focused on stress management, relaxation tips, wellness and coping with test-taking anxiety.



GOAL 12

RIO HONDO COLLEGE WILL OFFER INCREASED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

DREAM Act

Rio Hondo College successfully implemented AB 131, also known as the California Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. The DREAM Act allows children who were brought into the United States under the age of 16 without proper visas or immigration documentation to apply for financial aid if they have attended school on a regular basis or meet in-state tuition and grade point average requirements.



New Degrees



Rio Hondo College continues to offer varied curriculum and transfer opportunities for its students. In 2013, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office approved five Transfer Associate of Arts and Science degrees to be offered at Rio Hondo College in English, kinesiology, early childhood education, communications studies and physics. Transfer degrees, or "a degree with a guarantee," in arts and science are designed to provide California Community College students a clear pathway to a California State University degree major. Students can also work toward a four-year bachelor's degree.

Child Development Consortium



Nearly 50 students seeking a career working with children enrolled in the Child Development Consortium, which provides financial support and resources to students to help them meet the educational requirements to obtain Child Development permits.

The Rio Hondo College Foundation

The Foundation secures alternative funding through contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and non-profits to assist the College in meeting its commitment to educational excellence and access. The Foundation's mission is to secure financial assistance for scholarships, programs, equipment, and projects that meet the need of the College's growing student population.

Rio Hondo College Board of Directors

Officers / Executive Committee

Neal Welland
President

John Peel
Vice President/Treasurer

Sylvia Southerland
Secretary

Rich Casford
Immediate Past President

Teresa Dreyfuss
Superintendent/President
Rio Hondo College

Directors

Ellie Bewley
Madeline Shapiro
Don Mason
Terry Keller
Mohamed Rassmy
Brenda Wiewel





Medallion Honorees

Fellows of the College

* Merton G. Wray – June 1970
 * Moris C. Bergen – April 1971
 * Roland A. Beck – June 1972
 * Phil A. Putnam – June 1974
 * Chet Holifield – June 1975
 * Lois Wells – June 1976
 * J. Spurgeon Finney – June 1976
 * Harold R. Hoover – June 1978
 * Virginia Macy – June 1979
 * Leonard A. Grady – May 1981
 Dorothy M. Howard – June 1983
 * Clifford G. Dobson – June 1984
 * G. Robert Poitou – June 1984
 * Walter M. Garcia – June 1987
 Ted Snyder – May 1993
 Hilda Solis – May 1996
 Marilee Morgan – May 1997
 * Herbert M. Sussman – May 1997
 Yoshio C. Nakamura – May 1999
 * Ruben John Moreno – May 2000

Jean Prinz Korf – May 2000
 * Norman Lewis – May 2001
 John W. Hole Jr. – May 2001
 * A.L. Jessup – May 2003
 Don L. Jenkins – May 2004
 Dr. Susan Sellman Obler – May 2005
 * Jimmy Quiroz – May 2006
 David Singer – May 2006
 Patrick Boyle – May 2007
 Dr. Frank M. O'Kelly – May 2008
 Dr. Manuel Baca – May 2010
 Dr. Judith Henderson – May 2011
 Mary Ann Pacheco – May 2012
 * Ray Williams – May 2013
 * *Deceased*

Distinguished Community Service Award

* Douglas W. Ferguson – June 1974
 * William A. J. Emmens – March 1978
 Thelma Berry – June 1979

Vera Braham – June 1979
 * William J. Loehr – June 1980
 * Vic Lopez – June 1981
 Lenie Medina – June 1981
 John C. Rios – June 1982
 Mildred Krummell – June 1982
 Esteban E. Torres – May 1998
 Grace F. Napolitano – May 2001
 Dan Adams – May 2003
 Dr. Andy Howard – May 2004
 Juan Mireles – October 2005
 * Dionicio Morales – May 2007
 Linda T. Sanchez – December 2008
 Sylvia Southerland – July 2010
 Rich Casford – June 2011
 Owen Newcomer – May 2012
 Nick Solerno – May 2013
 * *Deceased*

President's Award Recipient

Dr. Joan King Chamberlain

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Scholarships

2013 Scholarship Awards Reception

\$198,400 total

313 awarded to 276 students

2013 Grants & Scholarships

- Ali Javanmard Scholarship
- Assistance League of Whittier Scholarships
- Associated Students of Rio Hondo College (ASRHC) Scholarship
- BVR Scholarship
- Claudia Arrebillaga Guerrero Scholarship
- Diane & Maurice Meysenburg Scholarship
- Dr. Alex Sanchez Scholarship
- El Monte Pledge Scholarship
- CDBG Grant & El Monte Promise Scholarship (Spring and Fall 2013)
- El Monte Old School Friends Scholarship
- Rio Hondo College Emeriti Scholarship
- Greg Garza Memorial Scholarship
- Kaiser Permanente Scholarship
- Osher Scholarship
- RHC Faculty Association Scholarship
- RHC Follett Bookstore Scholarship
- RHC Management & Confidential Scholarship
- Southern California Edison STEM Grant & Scholarship
- Yoshio Nakamura Scholarship
- Arthur Rupe Foundation Grant
- Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital Grant
- El Monte CBI Grant
- Sky Rose Chapel Grant
- Rotary Club of Whittier Grant



Veterans Memorial

The College will install a Veterans Memorial with a plaque recognizing the past, present and future Rio Hondo veterans, as well as symbols representing all five branches of the United States Armed Forces. The Memorial will also feature three flag poles for the United States, California and POW-MIA flags. The Veterans Memorial will stand in the lower quad area of the College.

WE ARE KNOWN BY MANY NAMES: MOTHER, FATHER, SON AND DAUGHTER. WE ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL OF OUR COUNTRY IN TIME OF NEED. WE CHANGED OUR NAMES TO REFLECT OUR NEW ROLES, SOLDIER, MARINE, SAILOR AND AIRMAN. WE DID SO WITHOUT HESITATION. REGARDLESS OF THE PATH WE CHOSE, WE ARE NOW KNOWN AS A COLLECTIVE FAMILY - THE AMERICAN ARMED FORCES VETERAN.



IN RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE TO ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN OF RIO HONDO COLLEGE WHO SELFLESSLY SERVED OUR COUNTRY IN ALL BRANCHES OF THE U.S. MILITARY TO DEFEND THIS GREAT NATION IN TIMES OF PEACE AND WAR PRESERVING FREEDOM FOR ALL.



future ahead as the College continues to evolve of its students and surrounding communities.

Soccer Field Renovation

Plans are underway to renovate the existing soccer field. The new model will remove the field and track and replace with a field that meets NCAA-regulations with artificial turf and six-lane track with a synthetic surface; Musco lighting for evening events; new scoreboard; and bleachers to accommodate 132 spectators.



Student Success Profiles



▲ Miguel Banuelos

Miguel Banuelos never considered himself to be a “student.”

Kicked out of several high schools because of poor attendance, lack of interest, and behavioral problems, Banuelos never graduated from high school.

In 2006, however, his life changed course – he was left paralyzed after a motorcycle accident. After years of therapy and counseling, Banuelos decided to take a different life path and enrolled in adult school and earned a high school diploma in 2008. Later, he enrolled at Rio Hondo College.

Banuelos said college was difficult, but with persistence, hard work and supportive help from various Rio Hondo College student service organizations, he graduated with an associate degree in Business.

As a Rio student, Banuelos enjoyed his time as student ambassador for a Rio Hondo College Student Mental Health Grant and as treasurer and founding member of Active Minds, a club promoting mental health awareness. Miguel has been accepted into California State University, Los Angeles and is looking forward to completing a master’s degree.



▲ Maria Molina

After graduating from Mountain View High School in 1981, Maria Molina enrolled at Rio Hondo College to pursue her passion to help those less fortunate after being inspired by her work at Hope House, assisting with the care of disabled children.

However, after having two children, she decided juggling motherhood and school was too difficult and made the decision to leave college.

Molina always dreamed of working to help children and families, so 25 years later she decided to return to Rio Hondo College where she started from square one. She enrolled in the required general education classes, discovering along the way that math was very difficult and discouraging.

However, after working with her counselors and Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS), Maria got the help she needed to pass the state’s math requirement. As a proud Rio Hondo College graduate, Molina transferred to California State University, Los Angeles where she is pursuing a degree in social work.

“My time at Rio Hondo College was challenging, yet rewarding,” Molina said. “I am proud of overcoming many obstacles to realize my full potential.”



▲ Maleta Sok

Maleta Sok was born in Cambodia and moved to the United States with her mother and older sister at the age of 16, not knowing the language, culture or customs of the United States when she arrived.

While the transition was difficult at first, Sok always felt very fortunate and grateful for the opportunity to pursue education in the United States. She turned feelings of fear and isolation into commitment and determination to achieve “The American Dream.”

Sok worked on her English skills and decided to enroll at Rio Hondo College. She was accepted into the 2012 Summer Medical Dental Program and used the program in her quest to become a pharmacist.

Sok graduated with an associate degree in general studies with an emphasis in math and science. She applied to and was accepted into six University of California schools, but ultimately decided to transfer to UCLA where she is pursuing a degree in biochemistry.



▲ Jesus Lizarraras

After graduating from Montebello High School in 2006, Jesus Lizarraras did what many of his peers did – he went straight into the working world.

However, dissatisfied with his job with a national delivery company, Lizarraras decided to enroll at Rio Hondo College to further his interest in science and to meet new people.

Lizarraras became a serious student, joining the Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) program and completed a rigorous science and math curriculum.

Lizarraras was selected as the Jet Propulsion Laboratory Undergraduate Scholar for Rio Hondo College, nominated by his physics professor.

“I really enjoyed meeting other students with similar goals,” Lizarraras said, adding they pushed him to succeed. Lizarraras transferred to California State University, Long Beach and is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in engineering.



▲ Cindy Puga

Although an honors student at La Serna High School, Cindy Puga always thought college was out of reach.

As the daughter of a single mother and the first in her family to think about higher education, Puga thought college would be too expensive and didn’t know how to go about enrolling in school.

With the help of a close family friend who had attended Rio Hondo College, Puga signed up for pre-med courses. She liked how close Rio Hondo was to home and how helpful staff and counselors were in guiding her through the process.

Puga thrived at Rio Hondo College, becoming an active member of the Pre-Health Club and the Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) program. She completed an internship at UCLA and was selected for the Dean’s List.

Recently receiving the Outstanding Student Award in Chemistry, Puga transferred to UCLA.

“Rio Hondo College prepared me to be a student at a university,” Puga said.

RIO HONDO COLLEGE
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