



# Research & Planning Newsletter

October 2011

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## Who Are Our Students? El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center Enrollment Trends

*By Carolyn Pineda*

A total of 35,418 students attended El Camino College during the 2010-2011 academic year. Fifty-two percent of the student population is female. In the last five years, there has been a steady growth in the Latino student population. During the same time frame, traditional-age college students (ages 20-24) also grew progressively. This may be due in part to students who were diverted to El Camino College by enrollment constraints at the UC and CSU campuses.

Student enrollment at the El Camino College Compton Center was 16,189 in the 2010-2011 academic year, 25% higher than the previous year. ECC Compton Center has a large female population with the student population comprising of 62% females. African-American and Latino students represent the largest ethnic groups on campus. In regard to where these students reside, a greater percentage of ECC Compton Center students live outside the district service area. Enrollment constraints at the UCs, CSUs, and other community colleges have likely contributed to the increase in out-of-district students. To learn more about our students, look for the El Camino College and ECC Compton Center [Annual Factbooks](#) later this fall.

## Why Are Program Plans Due Six Months Before They Are Implemented?

*By Arvid Spor*

With the fiscal year beginning in July for California Community Colleges, it may seem strange that program plans for the coming year are due by December 31. Why is this necessary? The short answer is that the annual planning process takes time to work its way through collegial consultation. Before delving into why this process requires six months, let's begin with a definition of what a program plan is and who creates the plan.

### *Who Creates a Program Plan?*

All plans are entered into Plan Builder (our planning software) by a plan leader. The plan leader works closely with key stakeholders - faculty, staff, and managers - to create, edit, develop and ultimately sign off on a plan.

Please see *Planning* on page 3

## Homeless not Hopeless: Housing Uncertainty Among ECC Students

By Irene Graff

Nearly 7,000 persons were estimated to be homeless in the South Bay this year, a number that has climbed more than 50% since 2009 (LAHSA, 2011). College-age persons (aged 18-24) make up 3.7% of the homeless population.

Although few homeless students successfully navigate the higher education process (Hallett, 2010), many facing housing uncertainty enroll at ECC. In a [recent student survey](#), nearly 4% reported that they had “no permanent housing arrangement.” Just over 4% of ECC Compton Center students responded similarly. Keythema Bush, a recent ECC graduate, faced housing uncertainty for many years, but received her associate degree last spring (Zazueta, 2011). Ms. Bush, who was planning to transfer to Clark Atlanta University this fall, is one of the success stories, receiving support through EOP&S and other programs. But researchers found (Hallett, 2010) that faculty and staff can help simply by demonstrating greater awareness and sensitivity to those struggling to meet basic needs while setting sights on higher goals.

Hallett, R. E. (2010). Homeless: How residential instability complicates students' lives. *About Campus*, 15(3), 11-16. doi:10.1002/abc.20023

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (n.d.). Homeless Data & Demographics: Select Results. Retrieved on October 3, 2011 from [http://www.lahsa.org/homelessness\\_data/results.asp](http://www.lahsa.org/homelessness_data/results.asp).

Zazueta, Alma (2011). Homeless in College. *Warrior Life*, Spring 2011. El Camino College Student Publications.

## Cross Campus Enrollment

By Joshua Rosales

Since the partnership between El Camino College and the El Camino College Compton Center began, the number of students utilizing both campuses has grown dramatically. Some students utilize both locations in the same term as they try to fulfill the requirements of their courses of study. During the Fall 2010 term 1,293 students were simultaneously enrolled at both campuses. This was a huge increase from the 77 who used both campuses during the Fall 2006 term.

Not all students who use both campuses do so in the same semester. Several “jump” from one campus to the other depending on course offerings and convenience. Of the 3,697 first-time students who began college since the Summer of 2008 who used both campuses, there were 1,997 who began at El Camino College exclusively. Over 75% of those students enrolled in their last term at ECC Compton Center, suggesting that El Camino College is feeding ECC Compton Center’s growth to some extent. More information can be found in the most recent [Institutional Research BRIEF](#).



Where should I go—the Torrance campus or ECC Compton Center?

*Planning from page 1*

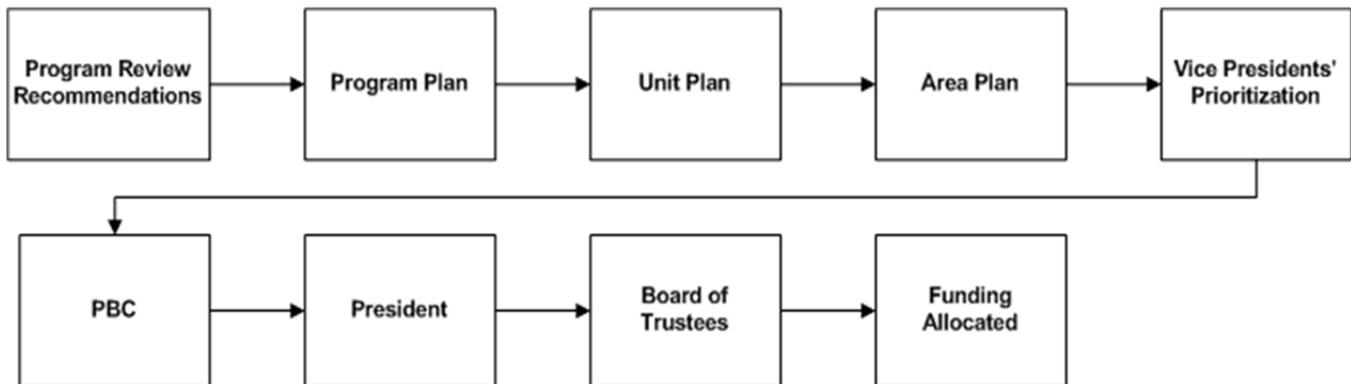
*What is a Program Plan?*

A program plan is a document which describes the purpose and direction an academic discipline or support service is projected to take during the next year for short-term plans and up to five years for long-term plans.

*Why Do Program Plans need to be Submitted Six Months before They Start?*

The full answer requires an explanation of the entire process which begins with the creation of the plan and works through collegial consultation and on to the Board of Trustees for approval (if funding is required).

The following flow chart represents the process described below.



Every fall, plan leaders begin working on their plans, updating the previous year's plans to reflect new program review information and priorities for the coming year(s). By the end of November, the program plan should be finalized, with key department personnel reviewing and signing off on the plan in time for a December 31 submission.

After submittal, the dean or division director assembles the program plan leaders to discuss and rank the most important objectives to send forward in the unit plan. Unit plans must be submitted by February 28, after which area vice presidents review, discuss, and rank program and unit plan objectives, due March 31st.

Finally, the vice presidents meet to discuss and rank the highest priorities from each area plan to recommend for funding and forward to an April Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) for review and discussion. By late May, the PBC forwards the committee's recommendations to the president for final consideration. In June, the president submits his recommendation to the Board of Trustees to approve and fund the highest ranked objectives. Pending the Board of Trustees approval, funding is allocated and the new plan year begins July 1.

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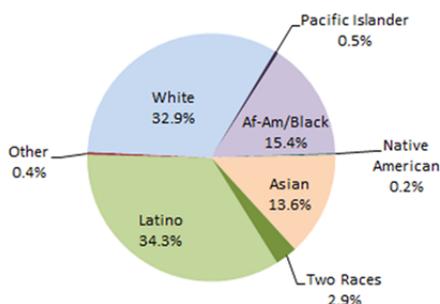
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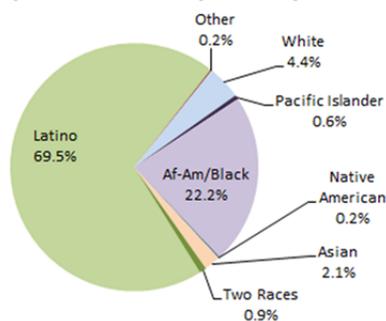
## Census Population Update: A Tale of Two Districts

By Joshua Rosales

**El Camino CCD Profile by Ethnicity**



**Compton CCD Profile by Ethnicity**



The 2010 Census gives us a look into the changing demographics of the El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center service areas. Since not all students come from within the district, we use a 7.5 mile radius around each campus to define our service areas.

The population of both service areas overall is getting older. Both service areas saw a 26% increase in people 45 and older since 2000. Conversely, the ECC service area saw a decrease of people under the age of 15 of 12.5% and the same group decreased by 15% for ECC Compton Center. This is somewhat related to a decline in people aged 25 to 44 who are most likely to have children in this age range. An aging population doesn't necessarily mean future enrollments will decline. As we have seen in recent years, UC and CSU policies are helping keep the demand for California Community Colleges high.

Another interesting demographic shift comes from changes in ethnicity within the district boundaries. Both districts have shown growth in the Latino population. Latinos now comprise a third of the El Camino Community College District and almost 70% of Compton's. A large part of this is due to in-migration of Latino people, particularly in the Compton Community College District. In both districts, there was a decline in the percentage of non-Latino Blacks and Whites. The El Camino CCD also saw an increase in the percentage of Asian residents.

## Tartar Student Athletes

By Carolyn Pineda and Lisa Wang

Who are our El Camino College Compton Center's student athletes and how do they perform academically compared to the general student population? The table below highlights key demographic and academic information, revealing that these students perform better academically compared to the general ECC Compton Center student population in 2010-2011.

	Overall ECC Compton Center Students	ECC Compton Center Student Athletes
<b>Demographics</b>		
<b>Gender</b>	Males: 37% Females: 62%	Males: 72% Females: 28%
<b>Age</b>	Under the age of 25: 62%	Under the age of 25: 91%
<b>Major Ethnic Groups</b>	African American (42%) Latino (38%)	African American (56%) Latino (34%)
<b>Service Area</b>	36% live within service area	79% live within service area
<b>Most Common Sports</b>		Males: Football and Baseball Females: Soccer and Softball
<b>Academic Performance</b>		
<b>Success Rate</b>	62%	62%
<b>Retention Rate</b>	77%	79%
<b>Persistence</b>	53%	74%
<b>Average GPA</b>	2.63	2.71
<b>Most Popular Majors</b>	Nursing and Administration of Justice	Liberal Studies and Physical Education

## Meet the Research & Planning Staff!



*Top Row from left to right: Mike Wilson, Irene Graff, Joshua Rosales  
Bottom Row from left to right: Marci Myers, Carolyn Pineda, Lisa Wang*

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## What would your dream job be if you did not work in IR?

**Irene Graff:** My dream job actually *is* institutional research. But if I were not working here, I would try my hand as a bike courier. I would love to be paid for riding my bike!

**Marci Myers:** My dream job would be a sports information director. It is a job that involves three things that I love: sports, fun facts, and statistics!

**Carolyn Pineda:** My dream job would still be doing research...from a beach on a beautiful tropical island. All I would need is a laptop and sunscreen!

**Joshua Rosales:** I would be a glass blower. I used to be really good at blowing bubbles but Bubblicious pops. I would like my bubbles to stand the test of time in glass.

**Lisa Wang:** I love to travel, experience new cultures, and eat! With that said, I would love to be a world traveler as seen on the Travel Channel.

**Mike Wilson:** I have loved flying since my earliest recollection and learned to fly at about 13 or 14 years old. My dream job would be an astronaut because they fly the highest of all.