



President's NEWS

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The mission of El Camino College is to meet the educational needs of our diverse community and ensure student success by offering quality, comprehensive educational opportunities.



Accreditation Eligibility Granted for ECC's Compton Center

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) has granted accreditation eligibility status to El Camino College's Compton Center. A formal letter outlining next steps will be sent to President Fallo within one week. The Eligibility Application marks a significant step in the process for ECC Compton Center to become an accredited college. The next step is to prepare the initial Self-Evaluation for Candidacy based upon a timeline developed by the ACCJC. An updated version of the "Process to Accreditation" document is available [here](#). Thank you and congratulations to everyone who contributed to this success, both at El Camino College and ECC Compton Center.

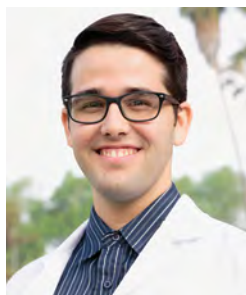
Vice President of Academic Affairs Appointed

Please congratulate Dr. Jean Shankweiler as the incoming Vice President of Academic Affairs, effective May 1. Dr. Francisco Arce will retire as VP Academic Affairs on April 30, after serving in the position since 2005.

Dr. Shankweiler joined El Camino College in 1988 as a chemistry professor. In 2007 she was appointed Dean of the Natural Sciences Division. During her time at ECC, she has been dedicated to student success, serving in many capacities including club adviser, coordinator for the UCLA CARE-Bridges Program, board member of the Onizuka Memorial Committee, and as director of the college's highly successful Honors Transfer Program. Dr. Shankweiler recently served as the accreditation chair for the ECC self-study process. For her accomplishments, she was honored with the El Camino College Distinguished Faculty Award in 2001 and the Women of Distinction Award in 2006.

After earning a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the College of Mount Saint Joseph in Cincinnati, Dr. Shankweiler completed a doctorate in organic chemistry from New Mexico State University.

Student Success: Adrian Menendez



Adrian Menendez is a straight-A student who is on his way to a four-year university and a promising career in dentistry. He recently finished a prestigious program at UCLA for pre-med students. Adrian's academic success is the result of many years of hard work, yet he is quick to say that he didn't do it alone. Adrian moved to Torrance from Cuba five years ago, knowing very little English. Despite his struggles with learning a new language while taking challenging coursework, he graduated from Torrance High School in 2012 and enrolled at ECC right away. He soon joined the college's First Year Experience, Honors Transfer, and MESA support programs.

“El Camino College set the foundation for my educational career now and into the future,” said Adrian, biology major. “I took advantage of every resource possible. I'm a first-generation college student – my parents didn't go to college, so being in those programs gave me the tools I needed to succeed.”

Space Science Day 2015

El Camino College's annual Onizuka Space Science Day 2015 was a great success, with more than 1,000 youngsters visiting the campus to participate in science workshops and activities. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Astronaut Koichi Wakata delivered the keynote address in Marsee Auditorium. He told the students that Ellison Onizuka inspired him to pursue a career in space flight years ago, and that he was honored to speak at the ECC event. Visiting students then tried their hand at various scientific experiments, investigating a variety of concepts such as aerodynamics, chemical reactions, and satellite control and command. The free event was open to the public and sponsored by ECC and American Honda Motor Company.



Cherry Blossom Festival



2015 Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Scholarship recipient Rafael Torres (center) with American Honda Motor Company representative Karin Baker, and Don Hata.

El Camino College's 15th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival brought the campus community together for a celebration featuring music, dancing, and poetry. The Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Scholarship was also awarded at the event to student nurse Emma Nazario and radiologic technology student Rafael Torres. When Dr. Hata was undergoing cancer treatment, she was so impressed with the El Camino College graduates she encountered in the fields of nursing, respiratory care and radiologic technology that she decided to

support future students' academic endeavors. This \$1,000 scholarship is now awarded to up to two deserving students each year. The festival also featured original haiku from students in English instructor Clint Margrave's poetry class, as well as taiko drummers and a lion dance performance from the Taiko Center of Los Angeles.

Women's History Month

Events celebrating Women's History Month are planned throughout the month of March. This year's theme, "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives," presents the opportunity to share the compelling stories of women's lives, while highlighting the intricacies and interconnection of these women. The celebration began with the film "Women Who Make America", earlier this month and continues with the Women's History Month Luncheon, scheduled from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. March 30 in the East Dining Room.

Another Women's History Month highlight is the ECC Tea Hat Garden Party, set for 1:00-2:00 p.m. March 31 in the North Library Wing, exterior patio. Women's History Month events are sponsored by the El Camino College Office of Professional Development, Staff and Student Diversity, and the Women's History Month Committee.



This year's Tea Hat Garden Party honors event founder, the late Maria Brown.

Equipment, Furniture, and Supply Funds Allocated

Through the college planning process, approximately \$500,000 has been prioritized to fund projects that support instruction and student support service programs. In one project designed to enhance teaching and learning, several classrooms in the Music Building will undergo a rewiring that will allow instructors to adjust light levels so that PowerPoint presentations, films and other visual images and information can be viewed by students. The Anthropology Museum will also receive a lighting upgrade. In addition, the MBA Building, Behavioral & Social Sciences Division, and the Fine Arts Division will receive new furniture and equipment. The funding is part of a planning process that included input from students, faculty, staff and managers. Allocated funds are the end result of the linkage between planning, budgeting and the program review process. All of the equipment was identified through program plans and via program review recommendations.

Fine Arts Open House

The ECC Fine Arts Division will sponsor an open house from 5:00-8:00 p.m. April 24. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet faculty, see student work, check out musical performances and studio presentations, and take a tour. Events will take place in and around the Art and Music buildings, as well as the Library Lobby. Tours will be provided by ECC's student ambassadors and Fine Arts clubs, including the Society of Music and I.D.E.A.S. An exhibition of student work in the Art Gallery, a bronze pour in the sculpture foundry, a screening of student films in the state-of-the-art editing lab, and vocal and instrumental performances by faculty and students are just some of the activities planned for the open house.

Campus Calendar

March

- 28 Planetarium Show
- 31 Priority registration deadline

April

- 2 ECC Spring Dance Concert
- University Transfer Fair
- 13 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 14 Career & Majors Fair
- 15 Academic Awards/Presidential Scholars Ceremony
- 16 Scholarship Awards Ceremony
- 17 Last Day to Drop with a "W"
- 18 "Night of Resident Artists," Dance
- 18-19 "Bye Bye Birdie"
- 24 Fine Arts Division Open House
- Planetarium Show
- 24-26 "Bye Bye Birdie"
- 25 Polli Chambers-Salazar & Christopher Brennan, Piano
- 26 ECC Concert Band
- 28 FYE Year-end Event
- Faculty & Staff Appreciation Day

Click [here](#) for more info about these and other events at El Camino College.

