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Community Relations Department | 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506  
Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | FAX: (310) 660-3946 | Contact: Ann M. Garten

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## **El Camino College MESA Program Students Secure Scholarships**

Four students from El Camino College's MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) Program recently won prestigious scholarships from the national MESA program to continue their studies on the university level. The four scholarship winners from El Camino College were the most from any college in the state.

Oscar Perez, Estuardo Iriarte, Miguel Lima and Ana Orellana each received \$9,365 scholarships from the statewide NSF-MESA Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics Scholarship (CSEMS) program. These top students qualified for the awards because they were prepared to transfer during the Fall 2006 or Winter/Spring 2007 terms to a California university that has a MESA Engineering Program (MEP).

The CSEMS (Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics Scholarship) was established to provide an opportunity for talented MESA students to successfully navigate the demanding nature of math, engineering, and computer science disciplines at the university level. In recognition for their academic achievement and financial need, students are selected as a CSEMS scholar to receive a scholarship totaling \$9,375, which will be awarded over a three-year period at the university level.

In the past three years, NSF-MESA CSEMS has awarded 10 El Camino College MESA students scholarships with total amount of \$103,125.

Ana Orellana will major in aerospace engineering and Estuardo Iriarte will major in mechanical engineering, both at California State University, Long Beach; Oscar Perez will transfer to UCLA to study mechanical engineering; and Miguel Lima plans to transfer in spring 2006 to UCLA, UC Berkeley or Cal Poly Pomona.

Each of these students has maintained a GPA of 3.2 or higher and has been very active MESA members. Orellana participated for two consecutive summers in a Mathematics Summer internships program at California State University, Northridge. Iriarte and Perez recently participated in a Mechanical Engineering internship at Loyola Marymount University. Lima has participated in MESA and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineer (SHPE) conferences, among other activities.

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