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El Camino College Foundation Gains Four New Members

The El Camino College Foundation recently added four new members to its board of directors to help further its mission to maintain and expand the college's educational programs and community involvement.

New members are Kelly McDowell of El Segundo; Ron Riggs of Torrance; John Tootle, of Torrance; and El Camino College student Johanna Zamora.

Kelly McDowell is an attorney, public affairs consultant, and political campaign consultant based in El Segundo. He served as mayor of El Segundo from 2004-2010 and was a city council member from 1998-2004. During his tenure with the city, he was instrumental in settling environmental litigation with LAX, leading a successful regional effort to retain Los Angeles Air Force Base in El Segundo, and working to win a first-ever award from the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation as the most business-friendly city in the county.

Ron Riggs was a vice president of Bank of America, serving the entire Long Beach branch offices until his retirement. He also served as an account executive and manager at other area financial corporations. A graduate of El Camino College, Riggs went on to earn a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Phoenix. In the community, he is a board member of the Southern California Region Occupational Center, and is a member of the California Association of Mortgage Bankers and the Bay Harbor Board of Realtors.

John Tootle is the corporate counsel for the California Water Service Company; his career experience also includes more than 20 years of service as a chief financial officer. He has a bachelor's degree in economics from Occidental College and attended the Graduate Accounting Program at Cornell University before becoming a certified public accountant. He also has a master's degree in computer science from Loyola Marymount University and a law degree from the University of West Los Angeles. In the community, he is a past president, treasurer and board member of the Torrance Rotary Club.

Johanna Zamora is the student representative to the board. She is a graduate of the California Academy of Mathematics and Science (CAMS) and is majoring in civil engineering at El Camino College. She plans to graduate in spring 2010 and then transfer to a four-year university to complete her bachelor's degree in civil engineering. Earning a master's degree is also in her educational plans. In addition to serving as the student representative to the Foundation Board, she also serves as the student representative to the El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees.