



NEWS

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El Camino College Journalism Students Win 20 Awards at National Conference

The highly successful El Camino College journalism department won 20 awards at the recent Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) annual convention in Sacramento. ECC journalism and photojournalism students competed in 15 on-the-spot competitions against approximately 500 students representing 45 community colleges from throughout California and as far away as Rhode Island.

The journalism department's student publications, the *Union* newspaper and *Warrior Life* magazine, each brought home General Excellence awards. Haipha Simon, outgoing JACC student president, was editor-in-chief of both publications.

The department also won the prestigious Pacesetter Award, given to colleges that "set the pace" for the rest. The Pacesetter was only awarded to four out of the 45 journalism programs represented at the convention. The journalism department previously won the Pacesetter Award in 2009.

In addition to the General Excellence awards, *Warrior Life* magazine staffers won the following mail-in awards for its spring 2010 publication: Samantha Troisi, feature story, honorable mention; and Sylwia Ozdzynski, magazine illustration, honorable mention.

Union newspaper staff also won the following mail-in awards for the fall and spring 2010 semesters: Sylwia Ozdzynski, photo story/essay, first place; Mihoko Sato, photo story/essay, fourth place; Fernando Jimenez, sports feature photo, second place; Haipha Simon, inside broadsheet page design, honorable mention; Eric Farrell, news feature story and news story, honorable mention; and Sylwia Ozdzynski, news photo, honorable mention.

On-the-spot awards were given to Joshua Sherman, news photo, first place; Mike Williams, bring-in photo, first place and feature photo, fourth place; Nelson Amaya, sports story, second place; Matt Simon, Twitter, third place; Jose Flores, editorial cartoon, honorable mention; Samantha Troisi, feature story, honorable mention; and Erika Maldonado, news story, honorable mention.

The recent victory for the ECC Journalism Department follows an outstanding showing at the regional conference this past fall, where students won 16 awards, competing against 26 community colleges from Southern California. El Camino College journalism advisers are Lori Medigovich and Kate McLaughlin.

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