



NEWS

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El Camino College Honors Transfer Program Students Win Scholarships, Present Research Projects at Annual Conference

El Camino College student Jerry Hernandez could feel the energy just walking the hallways at the University of California at Irvine during the recent statewide Honors Transfer Program research conference.

“A vibe full of knowledge and ambition radiated through the halls as I walked into the building,” said Hernandez, a graduate of Mira Costa High School who plans to graduate from ECC next spring. “The HTP conference was an incredible experience for me.”

Hernandez was one of 20 students in the El Camino College Honors Transfer Program (HTP) who attended the California Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC) Student Research Conference at UC Irvine. He and classmate Andy Bangash both won the HTCC Exemplary Student Scholarships at the conference, two of only 25 students in the state to win this award. Along with the students, eight faculty members and two administrators also joined the conference.

“Being exposed to other community college honors program students and faculty is an incredible eye-opening experience to the amount of highly motivated students in other community colleges,” Hernandez added. “On top of that, it was an outstanding honor to be called up on a stage in front of the whole conference to receive a scholarship award from the HTCC.”

This conference was created by ECC Natural Sciences Dean Jean Shankweiler when she was HTP director and many community colleges from all over California participate every year in the daylong event. ECC always sends one of the largest contingents of student research presenters. The conference is designed to allow honors students at community colleges to present their research in a university setting. In addition, most of the students will have their abstracts printed in a UCI publication.

El Camino College Honors Transfer Program students have access to priority registration, academic and social interaction with other highly motivated students, smaller class sizes, designation of HTP on El Camino College transcripts/degrees, and enrichment seminars.

The HTP offers a unique learning environment that stresses scholastic excellence. The major objective of the program is to better prepare highly-motivated students for transfer to a university by focusing on enhanced writing, reading and study skills.

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