



El Camino College

Community News

Fall 2014

Volume XVII No. 1

Classes Added for Spring 2015!



Student Ambassadors 2014
Schedule a campus tour today!
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Scholarship Office ...310-660-6541
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El Camino College is situated on a beautiful and spacious
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Schedule a tour with an outstanding
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El Camino College Community Newsletter
Fall 2014 / Vol. XVII, No. 1

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Community News is a publication of the El Camino Community College District, Office of Public Relations & Marketing, Ann M. Garten, Director, Community Relations. For more information about El Camino College, visit our website: www.elcamino.edu.



Message From the President

This fall El Camino College welcomed hundreds of new students to the campus. In addition, 20 faculty, 23 staff members, and two managers were hired at the college. We continue to add more classes each semester, helping students achieve their educational goals.

The recently state-funded Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) is an important focus for all community colleges. SSSP essentially sets parameters of success for students from the time they decide to apply for college through their completion of a degree or certificate. By completing the four steps to enroll, students will be given a priority registration date. High school seniors of in-district high schools will continue to receive a higher priority registration upon completion of the four steps to enroll. More information about the four steps to enroll may be found on the back cover of this newsletter.

This edition of "Community News" features stories about students who are creating new career paths through a variety of academic programs designed around their schedule as "working adults." Through evening and online classes, students find the education and training needed to make significant career changes leading to high-paying jobs.

Feature stories in this edition also include El Camino College students and alumni who are achieving in their chosen fields. We are proud to be a part of their success and appreciate the community support we have received since El Camino College opened 67 years ago.

Thomas Fallo

Apply beginning November 1 for summer and fall 2015

All new students are encouraged to begin the four steps to enroll at El Camino College as soon as possible:

APPLY – New and returning students must complete an application.

PREPARE – All new students must participate in an orientation session and are encouraged to take practice placement tests.

TEST – Assessment testing must be completed prior to registering for classes.

PLAN – Students must see a counselor prior to registration to develop an education plan.

Apply online today at www.elcamino.edu!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



PV PENINSULA HIGH CLASS OF 2011

After graduating from high school, **Reina Iguchi** decided the best route to the university of her dreams was El Camino College. Attending ECC allowed Reina the opportunity to stay close to home, save money, and earn an associate degree in English. She graduated from ECC this past spring and is now continuing her studies at UCLA.

"El Camino College provided me with the tools I needed to be academically successful," said Reina, a 2011 Palos Verdes Peninsula High School grad. "My instructors were invested in my success. The programs and experiences I received from ECC have changed my life completely. El Camino College was one of the best decisions I have ever made."

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

HTP Students Shine at Annual Conference

A group of 20 ECC Honors Transfer Program (HTP) students attended the annual California Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC) Student Research Conference at UC Irvine this past spring, where they made presentations and brought home scholarships. Jerry Hernandez and Andy Bangash both won the HTCC Exemplary Student Scholarships at the conference, two of only 25 students in the state to win this award.



Andy Bangash and Jerry Hernandez are presented with the HTCC Exemplary Student Scholarships.

This conference is designed so that community college honors students can present their research in a university setting. In addition, most students will have their abstracts printed in a UC Irvine publication.



Honors Transfer Program students assemble after an outstanding showing at annual conference.

For more information on the El Camino College Honors Transfer Program, go to: www.elcamino.edu/academics/honorstransfer.

The new Center for Applied Technology (CAT) will house programs including welding technology, automotive repair and painting, and air conditioning.

FACILITIES UPDATE

Under Construction: Facilities Progress Continues

**Watch for Grand Openings
in early Spring 2015!**

Facilities improvements continue across campus. This fall, construction of the Athletic Education and Fitness Complex project (phase 2), including a new stadium and various support facilities, is well underway, with concrete foundations and columns being poured and the installation of underground utilities in progress.

Students are scheduled to move into a brand new Center for Applied Technology (CAT) and a renovated Industry Technology Education Center (ITEC) beginning with the spring semester. Industry and Technology Division programs will occupy the ITEC building, as well as the Information Technology Services office.

These improvements are made possible by funds from the 2002 Measure E facilities bond and will provide updated technology and equipment for student use. Future 2015 projects include repairs to the Channel Parking Lot F, the design phases of a new five-level parking structure at the north end of campus and the Student Services Center replacement project.



The former Math & Computer Science Building will be completely renovated to house Industry & Technology programs.

ECC Partner in Multi-Million Dollar Grant: Pathways to College/Careers

El Camino College is a partner in a recently awarded multi-million dollar grant to bring engineering education to area high schools, while also creating a pathway to college and career opportunities. ECC is part of the five-college Consortium for Advanced Manufacturing, which secured a \$15 million grant from the California Department of Education through the California Career Pathways Trust, a \$250 million competitive grant program. Long Beach City College will serve as the fiscal lead on the grant project that also includes Cerritos College, Harbor College, and Pasadena City College.

El Camino College's share of the grant is approximately \$2.8 million, which will be used to implement its highly successful engineering technology pathway – known as Project Lead The Way – at Long Beach City College, Harbor College and Pasadena City College.



For more information, go to www.elcamino.edu/academics/cte/pltw.asp or contact ntokuda@elcamino.edu.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

ECC/NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION PROGRAM OFFERS EDUCATION AND TRAINING LEADING TO JOBS

A new program through El Camino College and Northrop Grumman Corporation offers students education and training to join the workforce and land good-paying jobs.

With the pace of the nation's economic growth steadily rising and the job market gaining momentum, many businesses and manufacturers are actively searching for skilled employees. Through the ECC/Northrop Grumman collaboration, students are offered for-credit training in the electronics assembly and test lab at the company's Space Park facility in Redondo Beach.

The training program is a result of some changes to Northrop Grumman's traditional "pipeline" process of hiring, training, and retaining workers.

Of the eight students to complete the training, jobs were offered to five, training was cut from six months to two months, buy-in was created from top-end operators and engineers, and an intentional "culture shift" has begun in the lab.

The partnership with Northrop Grumman is an important part of a student's education, offering real world experience that can't be duplicated in a classroom setting.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Mother/Daughter Team Pursue Career Paths at El Camino College

ECC student Joanna Rivera, 27, recently completed a pioneering pilot program with Northrop Grumman, gaining college credit, training, work experience – and a job. The timing was perfect, because after several years of working at a call center, she was ready to try something new.

The change came when she enrolled in El Camino College. Beginning with general education courses, Joanna soon found out that she liked computers, technology and electronics. Classwork soon led to the Northrop Grumman program.



Marlene and Joanna Rivera are a mother/daughter team who both went back to school for a career change.

"I started that job right out of high school when I wasn't sure what I wanted to do with my life," said Joanna, a Hawthorne resident. "But I wanted a change. I wanted something more exciting, something with more opportunity, something to make more money – I just wanted to change everything, especially moving from a job to a career. I had the best experience at El Camino College and at Northrop Grumman. I'm looking forward to more classes and a great career."

Marlene Rivera put off higher education for years to raise her five children, work a full-time job, and run her household. Now that that her kids are grown, she decided it was her turn to go to college.

"I wanted to do something that I wanted to do," said Marlene, who continues to work full time. "My daughter's friend was taking welding classes at El Camino College, and I thought that I would try it out. I'm so glad I did, everyone has been so helpful. I really like welding, and I am on my way to a good paying job."

Marlene now has a Certificate of Achievement from the ECC welding program, has passed prerequisite tests, and is preparing for her certification. Eventually, she would like to become an inspector.

Evening and Online Classes Lead to Degrees/Certificates

Many El Camino College students are working to increase their earning potential with a degree or certificate. By combining evening and online courses, working adults are able to complete a degree or certificate in numerous programs without interfering with work and family obligations.

A study by the Center on Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University points to plenty of career opportunities for those who earn an associate degree or certificate. In fact, the report lists about 29 million jobs that pay middle class wages and don't require a bachelor's degree. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that occupations that require an associate degree will grow by 18 percent through 2020.

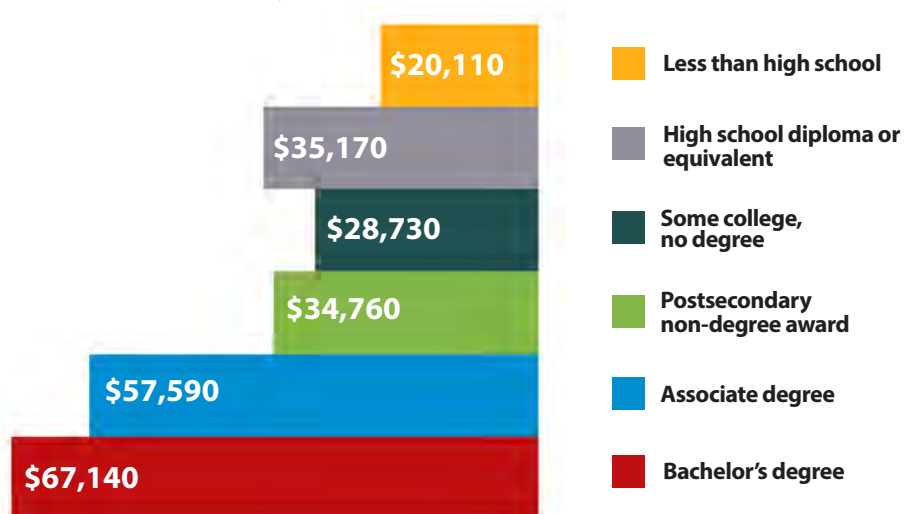
El Camino College has a long tradition of serving the South Bay community with outstanding academic programs and student support services. Today, earning a degree or certificate has never been easier. Through evening and online classes, students can create a flexible class schedule that meets the demands of work and family life. Classes are available when students need them – after 5:00 p.m. weekdays and online.

Career counseling, tutoring in a variety of subjects, financial aid, scholarships, basic skills courses, and services for students with disabilities are also offered.

For more information on these and other academic programs at El Camino College, visit www.elcamino.edu/eveningclasses.

Occupations that typically require postsecondary education for entry have higher wages

Median annual wages, May 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections Program and Occupational Employment Statistics Survey.

HIGHER EDUCATION PAYS!

As the nation's economy recovers, manufacturers and businesses are growing again and many are looking for potential employees with the skill set they need. In response to feedback from area business and industry leaders, El Camino College offers education, training, and student support programs designed to bolster the workforce and steer students toward careers in high-demand fields.

Consider this...

- Skilled workers are needed in manufacturing, engineering, and a variety of STEM fields, both immediately and into the future.
- Research points to numerous career opportunities that pay middle class wages for those who earn an associate degree or certificate.
- U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics project occupations that require an associate degree will grow by 18 percent through 2020.
- Completing an educational program demonstrates qualities—such as initiative, willingness to learn, and organizational ability—that employers value.

2014 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

El Camino College celebrated its 26th Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Dinner Ceremony this past spring, honoring players, coaches and those involved with ECC athletics through the years.

The 2014 El Camino College Athletic Hall of Fame inductees included: Nick Carr, 1978-81, cross country/track; Sylvia Gurrola, 1980-82, volleyball and softball; Dennis Hansen, 1960-61, cross country/track; Tike Karavas, 1956-59, basketball; Heidi Nelson, 1999, swimming; Scott Provin, 1983-84, football; Chuck Shaffer, 1980-present, football (meritorious); Kenny Talanoa, 1991-92, football; and the 1963 State Champion Golf Team.



2014 Hall of Fame Inductees

Student honorees included the 2014 Athletes of the Year: Roy Powell, volleyball, and Crystal Lizaola, track & field. The Norm Verry Scholarship, honoring ECC scholar athletes, was awarded to Liliana Lopez, track & field and Clarizzah MacAtugal, basketball.

Membership in the Athletic Hall of Fame is a tribute to athletes, coaches, and other distinguished individuals who deserve recognition for their outstanding accomplishments and for their support of the El Camino College athletic program.

El Camino College has enjoyed a tradition of athletic excellence since the campus opened in 1947. More than 200 outstanding athletes and supporters have been inducted into the El Camino College Athletic Hall of Fame since the inaugural event in 1988.

For more information about the El Camino College Athletic Hall of Fame, go to <http://www.elcamino.edu/athletics/hallfame.asp>.

ECC Scholarship Program

The El Camino College Online Scholarship Application recently opened, offering students awards of \$500 to \$2,000 to help pay for tuition, books, and fees. Through the Foundation, ECC offers a diverse scholarship program with criteria including: academic achievement, financial need, leadership and community service, organizational and campus club affiliation, and more. This past spring, approximately \$500,000 in scholarships was awarded to more than 500 ECC students at the annual Foundation Scholarship Awards Ceremony.

Deadline to apply is December 5, 2014.

For more information about El Camino College Scholarships, go to: www.elcamino.edu/student-services/fao/main_scholar.asp.

EL CAMINO COLLEGE YOUNG SCHOLARS

Summer science enrichment for high school students

A summer program at El Camino College changed the academic outlook of two Leuzinger High School graduates. Both attended ECC's STEM Young Scholars program and participated in a month of workshops, guest speakers, field trips, and interactive lab activities.

This year, students from Da Vinci Design High School, Da Vinci Science High School, South Gate High School, Leuzinger High School, Charter Environmental High School, Lawndale High School, and Lennox Academy participated in the program.

Victoria Navarro is attending Syracuse University this fall, with outstanding grades and scholarship support. She admits that she wasn't exactly dedicated to academics during the early days of her high school career, but all that turned around after being a part of the STEM Young Scholars.

"I realized that I needed to step up my game and it proved to be worthwhile," said Victoria, a Hawthorne resident who is majoring in advertising with an emphasis on graphic design and policy studies. "It was really pivotal for me, attending Young Scholars at El Camino College. I learned what it takes to be college bound and realized that it wasn't too late to change. I got my wake-up call – I still had three years to do my best."



Leuzinger High School graduates Daniel Salas and Victoria Navarro.

Daniel Salas attended the Young Scholars program at El Camino College after his sophomore year. He is attending UC Berkeley this fall and said the Young Scholars program guided him toward majoring in biology and started him on his way to becoming a doctor.

"This program gave me insight into what careers or majors were available," he said. "I knew what I wanted to do; I just didn't know how to do it. I really liked the guest speakers – they were all enthusiastic about their careers and that motivated me to do well in school. I'm the youngest in my family and I am the first to go to college. I didn't even know what UC Berkeley was at first. The Young Scholars program was amazing."

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

STUDENT ENHANCEMENT TEAM ASSISTS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



Dozens of area high school students have a better grasp of their math and science homework and improved grades, thanks to the El Camino College Student Enhancement Team (SET), a program that places ECC students as math and science leaders at area high schools.

SET is funded by a STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) grant, and is designed to provide El Camino College students with the opportunity to develop leadership skills by offering a collaborative near-peer teaching environment. The goal of the program is to reinforce instruction, increase positive student interaction, and improve the educational climate of mathematics and science for high school students.

The program launched in 2010 with two South Bay high schools and a handful of students. It has since grown to include eight area high schools, serving a total of 4,481 students.

For more information on SET, go to: www.elcamino.edu/academics/stem/set.asp

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



UCLA, CLASS OF 2014
ECC, CLASS OF 2011

Brett Lopez graduated from El Camino College in 2011 as an aerospace engineering major. He continued his education at UCLA, where he earned a bachelor's degree. This fall he began a master's program at MIT in the aeronautics and astronautics department. Lopez credits the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement program (MESA) and the Student Support Services for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (SSS-STEM) program as keys to his success.

"El Camino College's MESA and SSS-STEM program helped me tremendously," said Lopez, who also received support in the form of scholarships at ECC, such as a \$10,500 award from the MESA-National Science Foundation.

"Through MESA and SSS-STEM, I could study and interact with students who had similar interests. I also found information and advice about courses, transferring, and handling the pressures of being a scientist or engineer."

2014 Distinguished Alumni Awards

El Camino College honored four outstanding alumni at the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Awards on October 4. Honorees for this prestigious award include:



2014 Distinguished Alumni Major General Megan Tatu, CHP Captain Ryan Stonebraker, Dr. Gregory Rafijah and Monica Fredericks.

Monica Fredericks attended El Camino College after high school and returned later to enroll in child development courses. She currently serves on the Torrance Education Foundation Board and has worked with students with a diagnosis of autism for more than a decade at the Torrance Unified School District

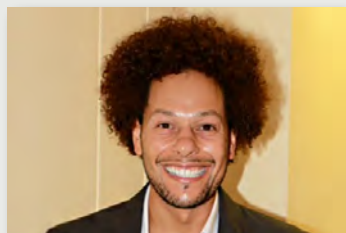
Dr. Gregory Rafijah is an assistant clinical professor at UC Irvine School of Medicine's Department of Orthopedic Surgery. After ECC, Rafijah transferred to UC Irvine as a NCAA Division I track star. He earned a medical degree from the Chicago Medical School and then returned to the South Bay for residency training in orthopedic surgery at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) **Captain Ryan "Stoney" Stonebraker** is the commander of the CHP Truckee area. After ECC, Stonebraker earned a bachelor's degree in business management and a master's degree in negotiation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Over 22 years, he has worked in several CHP field offices, was a member of a violent gang suppression task force and was also an internal affairs investigator.

Throughout her more than 35 years of active and reserve service, **Major General Megan Tatu** currently serves as the Commanding General, 79th Sustainment Support Command. After earning an associate degree at ECC, she continued her studies at UCLA, where she attended on an Army Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree. Tatu also completed the signal officer basic and advanced courses at Command and General Staff College, and earned a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

ECC Distinguished Alumni have shown outstanding achievement in their chosen career, service to the community, or area of endeavor, while gaining local, state, or national recognition for their involvement. The El Camino College Foundation chairs the selection committee and sponsors the biennial award ceremony.

Counselor Awarded Fulbright Grant



ECC counselor Yamonte Cooper was recently awarded a 2014-2015 Fulbright U.S. scholar grant. Through this prestigious program, Cooper will participate

in the 2014 Fulbright Seminar for U.S. Administrators in International Education in Berlin this fall. Cooper joined the El Camino College faculty in 2010. He has a doctorate in educational leadership with a concentration in higher education administration from USC, a master's degree in counseling and a bachelor's degree in sociology, both from California State University, Northridge.

ECC Students Join UC Berkeley Program

Six El Camino College students were invited to attend a weekend program at the University of California, Berkeley this past summer, where they were introduced to the academic opportunities and services available at UC Berkeley for transfer students. Students also took a campus tour, attended faculty lectures, and participated in workshops covering financial aid, career choices, graduate school, and transfer admission. The ECC students were also assigned a UC Berkeley mentor/counselor and received one-on-one advisement.

The Nutcracker

The nationally known South Bay Ballet returns to El Camino College's Marsee Auditorium for a creative interpretation of Tchaikovsky's classic "The Nutcracker."

Under the artistic direction of Diane Lauridsen and assistant director Elijah Pressman, the holiday classic will be presented at 2:00 p.m. December 20 and 21. Tickets are \$30 (children 12 and under \$20) and may be purchased online at www.centerforthearts.org, by phone at 310-329-5345 or toll-free at 800-832-ARTS.



Planetarium Shows for Fall

The community is invited to fall planetarium shows at El Camino College! The planetarium features an amazing Chronos projector, which projects the night sky from all over the world onto the planetarium dome. The shows are free and open to the public. Check show times at www.elcamino.edu.



UCLA Extension Courses @ El Camino College

UCLA Extension continues its collaboration with El Camino College, bringing an array of courses closer to you. Expand your prospects and career options with these courses:

- Spacecraft Attitude Control
- Fundamentals of Project Management
- Project Earned Value, Procurement, and Cost Management
- Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System
- Working with Boards and Volunteers
- Lean Operations

Connect with UCLA Extension's 100-year history of excellence.

Start the New Year by accelerating your career goals and enroll today! Courses may be credited toward UCLA-certificated programs.

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Classes Added for Spring 2015!

Continuing student registration begins November 18, 2014

New and returning student registration begins December 6, 2014

Applications for Summer and Fall 2015 Now Open!

Four Steps at El Camino College!

APPLY - PREPARE - TEST - PLAN

APPLY – New and returning students must complete an application.

PREPARE – All new students must participate in an orientation session and are encouraged to take practice placement tests.

TEST – Assessment testing must be completed prior to registering for classes.

PLAN – Students must see a counselor prior to registration to develop an education plan.

For more information on the Steps to Enrollment, visit:
www.elcamino.edu/steps

**Spring 2015
begins January 17**

Summer 2015
First six-week summer session begins May 26
Eight-week summer session begins June 22
Second six-week summer session begins July 7

**Fall 2015 begins
August 22**

South Bay High School Graduates Receive Priority Registration

Priority registration is available to 2015 high school graduates living within the El Camino Community College District (El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lennox, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and Torrance) who complete the four easy steps by March 31, 2015.

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