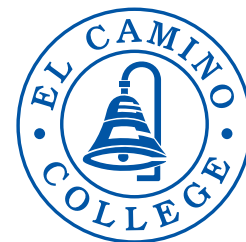
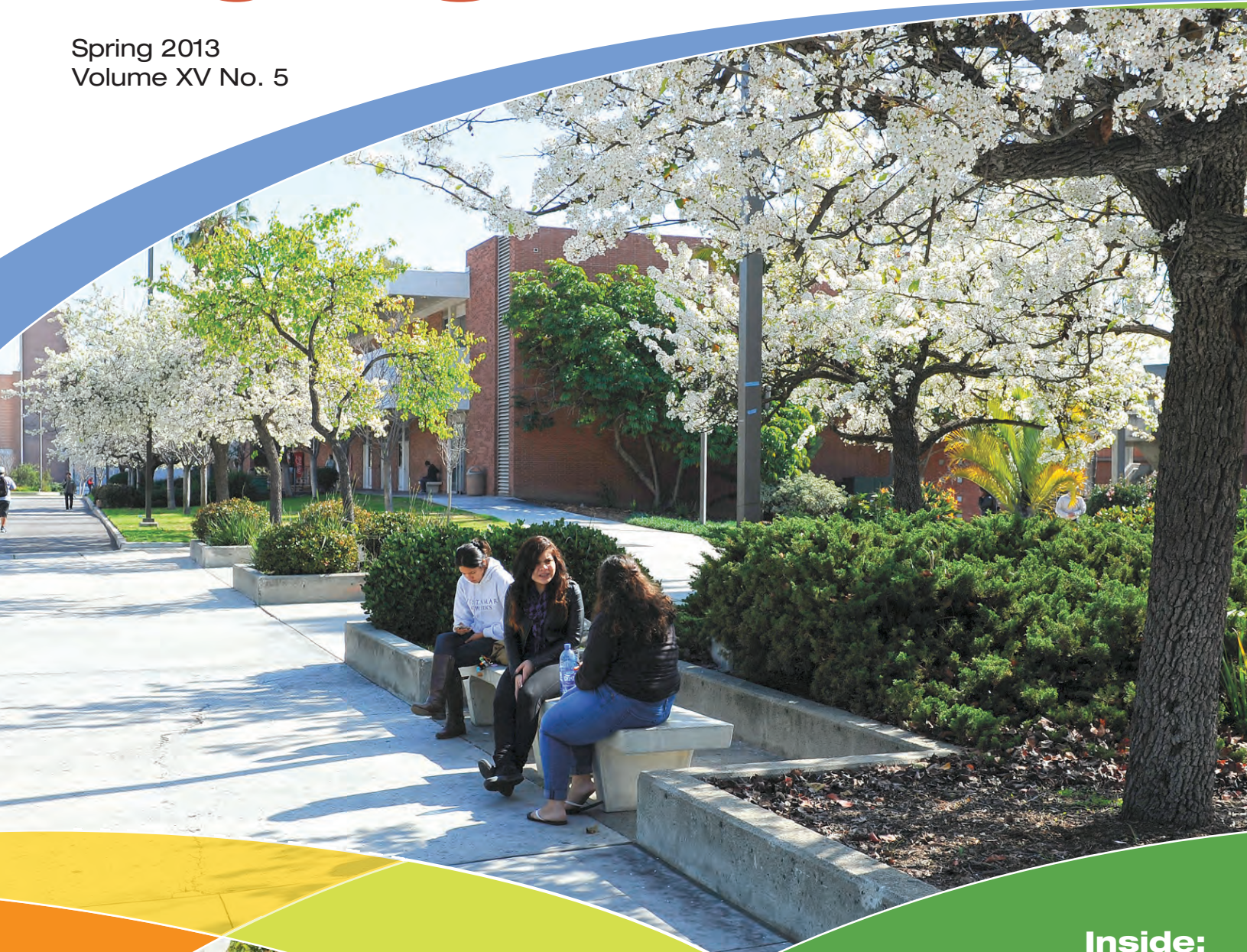


EL CAMINO COLLEGE

Community News



Spring 2013
Volume XV No. 5



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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

Every El Camino College student is on a path to success. Whether that means transferring to the university of their dreams, landing a job in an exciting career or upgrading on-the-job skills necessary to meet the needs of today's employers.

El Camino College employees embrace the opportunity to help students reach their goals and take advantage of the opportunities a college education provides for their future. We are united with the mission to help students succeed.

In this issue of Community News, you will meet students who have met and exceeded their goals, including Tracy Amaya and Lee Jones. The El Camino Fire Academy graduation is also featured, highlighting the training graduates receive in preparation to serve their communities. In addition, several of the college's alumni are highlighted – true success stories and a testament of how a college education can change lives.

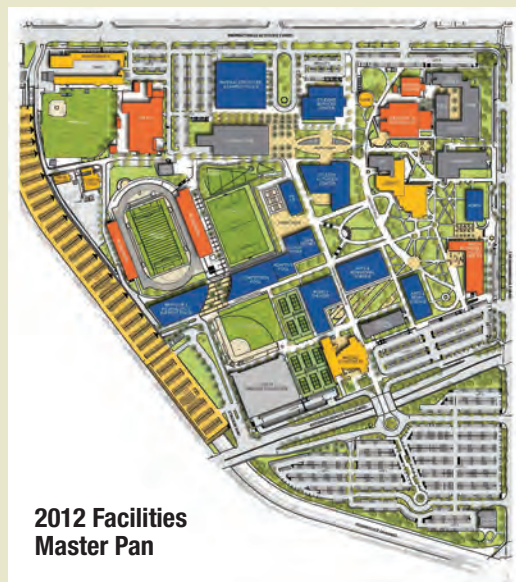
Through this publication we hope you will learn more about all of the great educational and training options available at El Camino College. Thank you for supporting El Camino College and for recognizing the value of the education we provide to the community.

Thomas Fallo

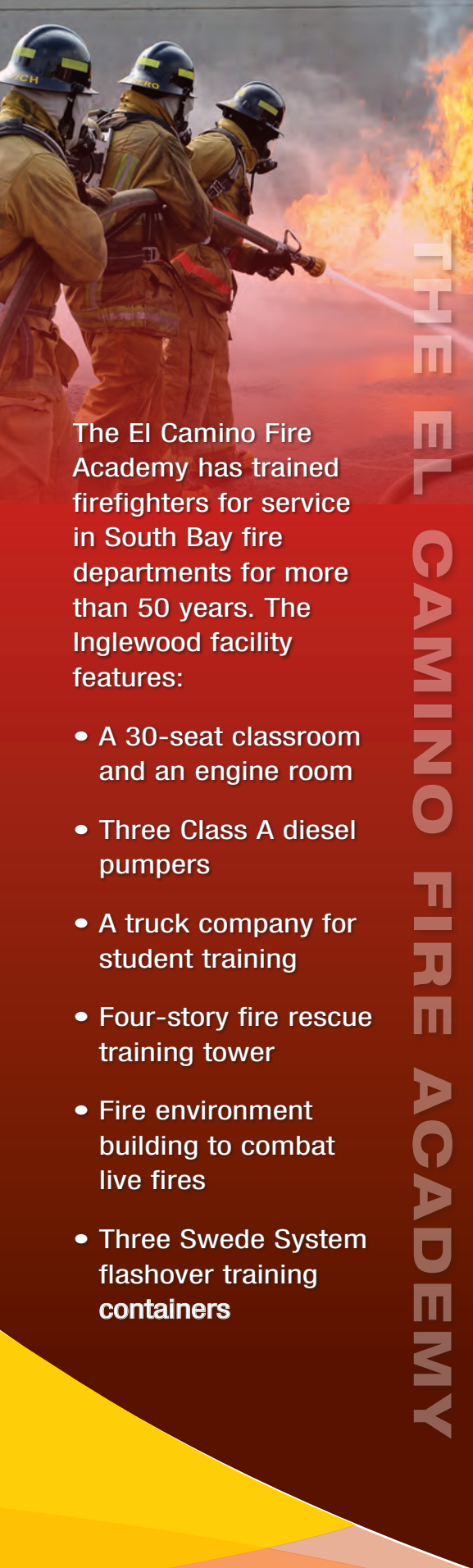
Voters Overwhelmingly Approve Measure E

A sincere thank you to all who participated in the successful passage of Measure E on November 6, 2012. Students, contributors, board members, citizens, faculty and staff joined in a grassroots display of common unity in educational excellence. Measure E was supported by 68.2% of the voters, or 129,939 "yes" votes. The \$350 million bond measure will provide funds for safety, technology, and energy-saving improvements to classrooms, labs, and other instructional facilities.

For more information on Measure E, go to www.elcamino.edu/bond/.



2012 Facilities
Master Plan



Fire Academy Recruits Celebrate Graduation

Congratulations to the El Camino Fire Academy recruits who recently completed the rigorous program and participated in a graduation celebration attended by family and friends. Graduates from Class No.135 showed the full scope of their training at the ceremony, from rappelling down a four-story building to controlling a fully involved vehicle fire.

To learn more about Fire Academy program, go to www.elcamino.edu/fire_academy/.



50th Anniversary: El Camino College Nursing Program

Saturday, June 1 at 11:00 a.m.

Please join the ECC Nursing Program in celebrating 50 years. Tours of the Nursing Department in the new Math Business Allied Health (MBA) Building will begin at 11 a.m. A luncheon will follow at 12:30 p.m. in the East Dining Room (2nd floor, Bookstore Building).

For more information, please call 310-660-3281.

SSTARS Celebrates 10 Years of Success

For the past 10 years, the El Camino College SSTARS (Student Success Transfer and Retention Services) Program has helped students focus on retention and success.

The SSTARS program was created to better serve students by bringing the college's various student services together, with the idea of supporting the collaboration, communication, and development of services for student success, transfer, and retention. The SSTARS program also celebrates student accomplishments and raises funds for the El Camino College Library Book Depot, scholarships, and other student needs.



2013 Galaxy of SSTARS Hall of Fame Awardees (l-r) Deyja Charles, Jonathan Lucas and Regina C. Lee.

Transfer Center – We’re Here To Help!

El Camino College has a long tradition of helping students meet their goals to transfer to a four-year college or university. Among the 112 California Community Colleges, ECC's transfer admission rate to UCLA regularly ranks in the top five in the state!

ECC also consistently ranks in the top 10 for transferring students to the University of California and California State University campus of their dreams.

Student support can be found at the Transfer Center, which offers students a one-stop location to explore transfer options and different careers. Counselors and staff are available to help students understand the university admission requirements as they work to become an eligible applicant to the university. Students can find assistance in looking at university options, making transfer decisions, and planning a road map to the university of their choice.

For information about Transfer Center services, activities, and university fairs, go to www.elcamino.edu/student-services/co/transfer_services/index.asp.

Student Spotlight Tracey Amaya

ECC graduate and former FYE student Tracey Amaya attributes her academic success to plenty of studying, hard work, and most especially – planning. Her detailed planning and organizational skills helped her earn an associate degree at ECC in 2011 and then transfer to the University of California at Berkeley where she is continuing her studies in sociology. On top of that, she also spent a semester in a Barbados study abroad program this past fall. When Amaya first enrolled at El Camino College after graduating from high school, she admits she felt a little confused. She had determination and goals but she didn't know where to start.

“That first semester I was a bit lost and then I met with a counselor who explained different programs I could join,” she said. “Soon, I was part of the First Year Experience, which guided me toward meeting my goals. I always tell everyone that the people I met at El Camino College have been so important to helping me get to where I am now.”

FYE Offers:

- Early Group Registration
- Orientation
- FYE Bilingual Counselor
- Learning Community Courses
- Strategies for Success in College
- FYE Faculty
- Field Trips

Facilities Update

MBA Building Grand Opening



El Camino Community College District Board Members Ray Gen, student trustee Jasmine Hormati, Mary Combs, Superintendent/President Thomas Fallo, Maureen O'Donnell, and Ken Brown.

The March 6 grand opening of the Math Business Allied Health Building drew community members, elected officials and other college supporters to celebrate ECC's newest instructional building. All 58 classrooms have wireless access and state-of-the-art "smart" classroom technology. Eleven computer labs outfitted with a total of 480 computers are also available. The first floor features a 3,000-square-foot computer lab and tutoring center, in addition to a spacious student lobby with study areas.

Students in the Nursing Program have access to a skills lab and a simulation lab featuring high fidelity mannequins that mimic the human body. The

Radiologic Technology and the Respiratory Care programs also have new lab areas. These four labs are all located on the fourth floor, adjacent to each other, to replicate a hospital environment.

The energy savings of the building are significant – it exceeds California energy standards (also known as Title 24) by a remarkable 25 percent. The building connects to the campus' Energy Management System, with the heating and air conditioning controlled by computer. Energy-efficient lighting includes day lighting and motion sensors.

ECC's New Noble Endowed Chair for Business

El Camino College announced the new Noble Endowed Chair for Business at the grand opening of the Math Business Allied Health Building. Elizabeth Noble, a dedicated Hermosa Beach philanthropist and wife of well-known humanitarian, the late Joe Boyd Noble, was honored for her extremely generous donation to the college. The endowed chair is only the second among the state's community colleges and the first at ECC. The \$2 million donation through the El Camino College Foundation represents the largest single gift to ECC in its 66-year history.

The Noble Endowed Chair for Business contributes to student success by funding a permanent teaching position via revenue from the endowment. This support continually ensures the faculty position, even in challenging economic times. The El Camino College Foundation will administer this restricted account, with net income paid as an annual charitable grant to the college.



President Fallo with Elizabeth Noble.

Measure E Projects – In Progress

The following projects are funded by the 2002 Measure E facilities bond with budgets and completion dates listed below. New construction incorporates energy conservation measures and modern technology and equipment. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance issues will also be addressed.

Phase One: New Kinesiology & Fitness Complex

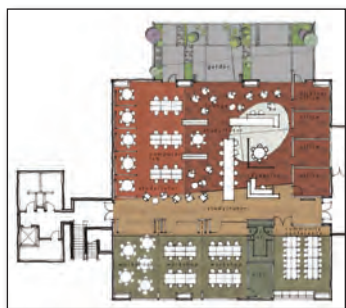
This phase includes the construction of an athletic practice field and venues for track and field events. The complex also provides a walking/jogging path for public use.



Completed: Spring 2013
Budget: \$5.1 million

New Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Center

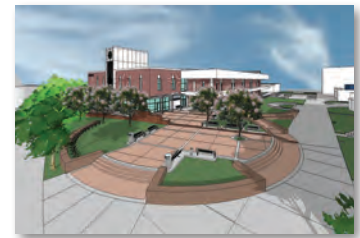
This project will convert the lower level of the Natural Science Building to house the programs of the Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Center. The space will contain group learning areas, tutoring areas, study areas, meeting rooms, faculty offices and new equipment.



Completion: Fall 2013
Budget: \$3.4 million

Industry & Technology Building Modernization

The former Math and Computer Science Building will be modernized and reconfigured to accommodate the needs of the Industry & Technology Division programs.



Completion: Fall 2014
Budget: \$36.9 million

New Shops Building

This project will construct a new building to house the Air Conditioning/Refrigeration, Auto Collision/Painting, Automotive Technology and Welding programs of the Industry & Technology Division. Hardscape and landscaping design, as well as a pedestrian walkway, will also be included in the adjacent area.



Completion: Fall 2014
Budget: \$31.8 million

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee is appointed by the Board of Trustees. The committee is charged with informing the public about bond revenue expenditures and to actively review and report on the expenditure of bond funds. For more information, go to www.elcamino.edu/administration/bond/.

“El Camino College provided me the stepping stone to higher education and prepared me well to pursue my degree, and ultimately my career, in communications. I am proud to be an alumna of one of the most comprehensive and well-respected community colleges in the State of California.”



Sherry Affeldt-Kramer
Manhattan Beach Resident

“I had a wonderful educational experience at El Camino College. Everyone, from counselors to professors, was available to help me be successful. Being involved with clubs on campus, paved the way for my career and community volunteer activities.”



LaShelle Harness Spann
Inglewood High School Class of 1978
Community Volunteer,
Healthcare Professional

“El Camino College provided an opportunity for me to gain a new perspective on life. I had just finished my European tour with the Beatles and had to reevaluate where my music career was going. ECC provided me the chance to restart my life, to further my education and give me new direction.”



Chris Montez
Singer/Songwriter
Hawthorne High School Class of 1962
2012 El Camino College
Distinguished Alumnus

EL CAMINO COLLEGE

DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNI AWARDS



El Camino College's 2012 Distinguished Alumni Awards honorees were recognized at a reception and dinner attended by family and friends this past fall. The highlight of the evening was when honorees, along with those who nominated them, shared stories about their time at El Camino College, and how the college helped them achieve their goals.

Honorees for 2012 include: Col. Edward Michael “Mike” Fincke, NASA Astronaut; Michael Lacey, business owner, Comedy & Magic Club; Anita McLaughlin, artist/art director; Candace Messer, business owner; and Chris Montez, singer/songwriter.

For more information on the Distinguished Alumni Awards, go to www.elcamino.edu/foundation/alumni.asp.



Kevin Cody, accepting award for Mike Lacey, Chris Montez, Candace Messer, Anita McLaughlin, and Colonel Mike Finke.

Student Success Stories

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Finds Education, Career at ECC

When Lee Jones ended his active service with the U.S. Marine Corps, he knew he needed a college education to achieve his career goals. He enrolled at El Camino College one month after his service ended in 2008, and was concerned that his extended time away from the classroom would hinder his success. That concern did not last long.

“El Camino College helped me fit in by giving me the tools I needed for college, while adding on to my military experience,” he said. “My transition from military life to college life was smooth. I was not the greatest student in high school, but at El Camino College, I made the Dean’s List a few times and graduated with a 3.2 grade point average. I think that’s pretty good for someone who never attended college before.”

Now a commercial helicopter pilot in the South Bay, Jones earned an associate degree at El Camino College in 2010 and will continue his education at Embry–Riddle Aeronautical University, where he plans to earn a bachelor’s degree in professional aeronautics.

The transition from serving in the military to civilian life has its challenges, Jones said, especially dealing with his diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder. He credits ECC teachers, counselors, and staff from the ECC Veteran’s Center with helping him find out what he needed to do to move ahead both academically and personally. He attended ECC on the GI Bill and regularly visited the Veteran’s Center to ask questions or work on the computers provided to veteran students.

Jones joined the Marines right out of high school and served from 2002-2008, where he worked as a helicopter and jet mechanic and completed two tours in Iraq and a tour in Japan.

For more information on ECC Veteran Services: www.elcamino.edu/admissions/veterans.asp.



Nursing Grant to Provide Student Scholarships



The ECC Nursing Department recently received a \$2.6 million grant to provide scholarships for students in financial need. The grant is part of the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (SDS) Program, established via the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act of 1990. The purpose of the program is to increase diversity in the health professions and nursing workforce. Nursing students at both El Camino College and ECC Compton Center are eligible for the scholarships.

For Nursing Program information, go to www.elcamino.edu/academics/healthsciences/nursing/.

Physics Student to Participate in Prestigious Summer Research Program

El Camino College physics major Coty Spence has been selected to participate in a prestigious summer research program at the University of Arizona. During this 10-week program, Spence will join a research project focused on the structure of the Milky Way galaxy by studying molecular clouds. He will be stationed at the Kitt Peak National Observatory in the Quinlan Mountains in the Arizona-Sonoran Desert. This observatory site has the largest gathering of telescopes on the planet.

"I'm really looking forward to being away from city light pollution for two months so I can observe the stars on a nightly basis," said Spence, founder and current president of the ECC Astronomy & Astrophysics Club. He plans to transfer to the University of California at Santa Barbara this fall to continue his studies in physics.

Spence also received academic support through the El Camino College Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program. With tutoring and mentoring, extra study sessions, transfer counseling and study centers, MESA offers an environment that allows students to succeed in math and science and navigate the transfer system more easily.

For more information about the MESA Program, go to: www.elcamino.edu/academics/mathsciences/mesa/

Anthropology Museum Presents New Exhibit in Renovated Space

The ECC Anthropology Museum's latest exhibit explores the birth of the three great world religions. "Motherland of Religions: The Eastern Mediterranean in Late Prehistory" is now open in the newly refurbished Anthropology Museum. The exhibit is curated by students in El Camino College's museum studies class, under the supervision of Professor Blair Gibson. The exhibit is the first in the newly renovated museum, financed by the 2002 facilities bond. New cases constructed in mahogany and tempered glass were built for the space, and moveable wall panels were added so the museum's layout can be reconfigured for each exhibit.



For more information about the Anthropology Museum, go to www.elcamino.edu/academics/behavioralsocial/anthropology/anthro_museum.asp.

Financial Aid CASH FOR COLLEGE

All students are encouraged to apply for financial aid. Begin by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It's online, it's easy, it's available 24-7.



Types of financial aid

The Board of Governors Enrollment Fee Waiver (BOGW) Program

Enrollment fees are waived for qualified students for the entire school year for qualifying students.

Grants

Grants are a type of financial aid that do not have to be paid back:

- Pell Grants, federal funds awarded to low-income students
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, for low-income students with exceptional financial need
- Cal Grants, funded by the state

Scholarships

A scholarship is funds given to a student based academic achievement and promise. Many scholarships are awarded based on merit; some also recognize financial need. Like grants, scholarships do not have to be repaid.

Work-study

Students earn money toward their education through part-time jobs.

News & Notes

Cherry Blossom Festival

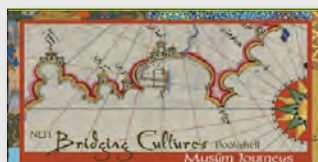


The 13th Annual Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Memorial Cherry Blossom Festival featured a Taiko drum performance and student Haiku poetry readings. The late Nadine Ishitani Hata was the college's vice president of academic affairs, and was instrumental in bringing the cherry trees to the campus, one of the many programs she supported during her 34-year career at ECC.

Professor Launches Non-profit Service Learning Program

English Professor Pete Marcoux traveled to Guatemala in January with ECC students to help teach English to students at an impoverished village school. The 20-day trip is part of a newly created service learning program founded by Marcoux that sends students to help others in underdeveloped parts of the world. Marcoux's non-profit, Global Service Learners, is an organization that offers opportunities for American students to study abroad. This summer: Costa Rica! For more information, check out www.gslearners.com.

Library Receives Muslim Resources



ECC's Schauerman Library recently received the book and DVD collection, "Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys," sponsored by the

American Library Association, in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Library is one of 843 libraries and humanities councils nationwide awarded this grant.

Debate Team: State Champs!

The dynamic ECC debate team swept the state championship, with student Jonny Deatherage named best speaker in the state. The team crushed the competition, with second place many points behind. This win marks the first state tournament championship in ECC history.



El Camino College championship Forensics Team: bottom row, from left: Mario Mejia, Joy De Guzman, Nicholas Bishop, Frank Masi, Harrison Shieh; middle row from left: Brooke Matson, Crystal Smith, Andrew Escalante, Lawrence Lan, Carter Beck; top row, from left: Abigail Watkins, Jonny Deatherage.

ECC Provides TSA Training at LAX

In response to the increasing need for additional security at airports around the country, El Camino College launched a new program to provide training for Transportation Security Administration (TSA) personnel working at Los Angeles International (LAX) Airport. LAX is one of a number of airports in the nation where TSA offers this kind of training, and runs the largest training program for TSA officers in the nation. Trainees are also offered career guidance and opportunities to continue their education to complete a certificate of achievement and/or an associate degree in El Camino College's Administration of Justice program. For more information on Business Training Center programs, go to: businessassist.elcamino.edu/home.html.

2013 Women of Distinction



Congratulations to the ECC Women of Distinction Award honorees for 2013! This award recognizes outstanding women from the El Camino College area, celebrating their work in the community. ECC Distinguished Women have made significant contributions to their communities in the areas of professional accomplishments, leadership and/or mentorship, and social, educational, or health services. Honorees for 2013 include: Antoinette Brown-Leon, of Gardena; Bonnie Jean Coronado, of Lawndale; Mattie Eskridge, of Gardena; Leslie Fletcher, of Torrance; Christina Gold, of Lakewood; Heidi Maerker, of El Segundo; Penny Rahmeyer, of Torrance; Lisa Raufman, of Long Beach; and Marna Smeltzer, of Redondo Beach.



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www.elcamino.edu/docs/ECC-One-Stop-Guide.pdf



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