



NEWS

El Camino College | Public Relations & Marketing Department
16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | FAX: (310) 660-3946 | Contact: Ann M. Garten

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El Camino College Foundation Board Adds Eight New Members

The El Camino College Foundation recently added eight 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 Vivian Amezcua of Torrance, Dr. Thomas Cohenno of Pasadena, Wilma Hairston and Cliff Meidl of Hawthorne, Richard Montgomery of Manhattan Beach and Judy Gibson, Michael Goguen, and George Nakano, all from Torrance.

Vivian Amezcua is the 2007-2008 ASO president at El Camino College and is the student representative on the Foundation Board. Amezcua is in her first year at El Camino College and is a member of the championship speech and debate team. She is majoring in political science and plans to transfer to the University of California at Berkeley.

Dr. Thomas Cohenno is the manager of the Learning and Development Transmission/Distribution Business Unit at Southern California Edison in Rosemead. He is responsible for approximately 5,600 employees and budgets in excess of \$1.3 billion. Cohenno served in the United States Navy from 1978-83 and was an adjunct instructor at Fullerton College. He holds a number of degrees and in 2006 he obtained an EMBA from Claremont University.

Judy Gibson has a long history in the Torrance community. She serves on the Torrance Planning Commission and has served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for eight years as well. Gibson is a founding member and past president of the Torrance Education Foundation and serves on the boards of Switzer Center, RSVP, H.E.L.P., and the South Bay Children's Heath Center. She is a member of the El Camino College Women's Hall of Fame, was Woman of the Year of the South Torrance Lion's Club, received the PTA Torrance Council Continuing Service Award and the Honorary Service Award for West High School. Her past affiliations include the ExxonMobil Community Advisory Panel, Torrance Sister City Association and the American Heart Association. She is president of Strategic Technology Sources, Inc.

Michael Goguen is a financial adviser with Edward Jones Investments. He is responsible for investment planning with products and strategies to reach financial goals; specializing in pre and post retirement planning and college planning. He is a member of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and the Torrance Rotary, where he is the secretary. He is also an alumnus of Leadership Torrance and an ambassador for the Chamber of Commerce.

Wilma Hairston is an administrative assistant for Learning Resources at El Camino College. She has been at El Camino College since 1995 and is active on campus as a mentor for Project Success, a diversity representative, and a member of the Professional Growth Committee.

Cliff Meidl graduated from El Camino College in 1989 and was named the 2003 ECC Distinguished Alumni of the Year. In 1986 Meidl was severely injured when he jack hammered into a buried power line that sent 30,000 volts of electricity shooting through him. He endured more than 15 surgeries and several years of rehabilitation. As part of his rehabilitation, Meidl began canoeing and kayaking. He quickly excelled in these sports and went on to compete in two Olympic competitions. In 2000, Meidl was the flag bearer for the U.S. Olympic team in Sydney, Australia. He now shares his inspirational story with audiences across the country.

Richard Montgomery is a local business owner in Manhattan Beach and is the Mayor Pro-Tem of Manhattan Beach. He is a 20-year resident with a long and varied history of service to the City of Manhattan Beach. He is the former president of the Manhattan Beach Old Hometown Fair, former member of the Planning Commission, Leadership Manhattan Beach and current board of director member of the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce.

George Nakano is a former Assembly member for the 53rd District, which encompasses the southern coastal region of Los Angeles County. He is an alumnus of El Camino College and California State University, Los Angeles where he received a master's degree in education in 1977. He served as an educational administrator in the Inglewood Unified School District until retiring in 1991. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1998. Nakano's community activities include the Torrance Education Foundation, and service as director emeritus of the Salvation Army Advisory Board, and the Board of Directors of the United Way. Nakano also founded the Torrance chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League in 1983. He is currently serving on the advisory board for the Pediatric Therapy Network and the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation. Nakano holds a 5th degree black belt in kendo. George and his wife Helen have lived in the South Bay for 46 years.

The El Camino College Foundation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to enhance El Camino College's ability to excel in providing educational opportunities to its diverse community and students by promoting the college, identifying and developing community resources, and building internal and external partnerships.

For more information about the El Camino College Foundation or the Alumni Association, call the Foundation Office, 310-660-3683.

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