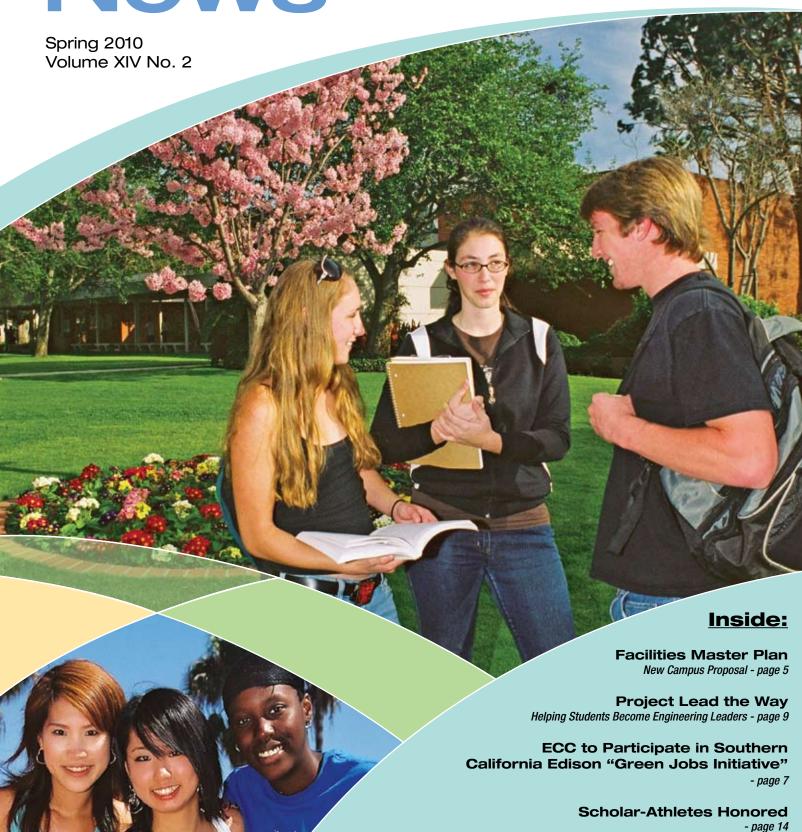
EL CAMINO COLLEGE

Community News







To Change a Life

Join thousands of El Camino College alumni and other supporters in providing scholarships to students in need through the Osher California Community Colleges Scholarship Endowment.

"Having this scholarship means someone out there is willing to help me make it through school."

 Chris Craig, psychology major, with a minor in vocal performance. He will travel with the El Camino College
 Chorale to perform in Carnegie Hall this spring.

Be a part of this historic scholarship program that helps students reach their goals. Contact the El Camino College Foundation: kgleason@elcamino.edu or call 310-660-6040.

Contact Us!

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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. For more information about El Camino College, visit our Web site at www.elcamino.edu.



Message From the President

As our 2009-10 academic year draws to a close, we are eager to share our student success stories with our community.

Although the ever-changing budget scenario from Sacramento continues to challenge us, we continue to provide exemplary programs and services, while providing outstanding academic opportunities and high-quality student services.

During the spring, we look forward to our annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony — a time to reward students for their hard work and diligence. This year, the El Camino College Foundation Scholarship Program awarded more than 300 scholarships totaling about \$310,000 to students attending ECC or transferring to the four-year college or university of their dreams. Our commencement ceremony follows on June 11 — a celebration of all student accomplishments.

Our student success stories remind us that we are succeeding — from the classroom to student support services and from facilities to student activities. We are especially proud of students like Juwarat Kadiri, an ECC grad who is now excelling at Harvard Medical School, and Fernando Reyes, an ECC electrical engineering major who is participating in a JPL internship this spring. Both students say the college's Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program has been critical to their success by providing additional support while enriching their educational experience (read their stories on pages 10 and 11). In addition, we are continually impressed by the achievements of our award-winning journalism, forensics and athletic teams — the dedication and hard work of our students, faculty and staff shows.

We invite to you read this newsletter to learn more about these exemplary students, as well as other great news happening on the El Camino College campus.

Thomas M. Fallo



Facilities Master Plan: New Campus Proposal

Concept proposals for the college's new Facilities Master Plan were recently released, with open forums welcoming campus input. Proposals were presented by the architectural firm HMC, which worked in collaboration with our Facilities Steering Committee to create this document that details facilities plans through the year 2020.

The "preferred option" shows a student-centered campus where academic areas are organized in a unified grouping of buildings connected by landscaped pathways.

The instructional buildings along Crenshaw Boulevard, for example, would become an academic corridor, featuring lecture and lab classrooms. Student services would be housed along Manhattan Beach Boulevard, allowing for easier student-access as well as convenient parking options. Also in the plan is a proposal for a new art complex near Marsee Auditorium; athletics programs and facilities would likewise be positioned together in a unified cluster.

The proposal focuses on a campus that has increased green space, with plenty of places for students to gather, study and socialize.





Current Projects

Bookstore Renovation: This complete remodel will upgrade the building infrastructure and improve accessibility.

Budget: \$7.7 million Completed: May 2010

Infrastructure Phase 3: This project extends hydronic piping, electric conduits, data conduits and water piping to the southern part of campus.

Budget: \$12.174 million Completion: June 2010

Humanities Mall Landscaping & Food Service Venue: This project will provide hardscape, landscaping, and a food service venue in the area bounded by the MCS Building on the north, the Library Building on the south, the Humanities Building on the east, and the main north/south walkway on the west.

Budget: \$2.424 million Completed: April 2010

Math, Business & Allied Health Building:

This project includes the construction of a new building at the site of the former Business Building and will be a four-story structure, approximately 105,000-square-feet in size. Landscape and hardscape improvements are also part of the plan. The Math and Business divisions will occupy the new building along with the Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, and Radiological Technology programs.

Budget: \$20.6 million Completion: Sept. 2011





































Assignment: Sierra Club Logo

A group of El Camino College design students recently took on a real-world assignment and learned what it takes to create a great logo and marketing materials. Creativity and style top the list, but as the students soon found out, it also takes teamwork.



"I learned early on that I am not doing this on my own – to be successful, you need to be able to work with other people, so this was a real learning experience," said student Eddie Won, who plans to transfer to the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena this fall.

Students worked with the Sierra Club's Zero Waste Committee to create a logo mark to be used on various items, including the "Southern Sierran," a regional Sierra Club newsletter with a 48,000 distribution. Students also created camera-ready art for more than 100 different postcards. The objective was to provoke thought on reducing waste through recycling, using less energy and raising awareness of environmental issues.

"I am so impressed with the quality of work and the quality of the presentation these students put together," said graphic design instructor Andrea Micallef, who coordinated the project. "It is wonderful to offer a real-world working experience like this. The outcome was just remarkable – I am really proud of them."









ECC to Participate in Southern California Edison's "Green Jobs Education Initiative" Program to Fund Scholarships

El Camino College is one of 10 California community colleges to participate in the newly launched Green Jobs Education Initiative sponsored by Southern California Edison (SCE).

The \$1 million Green Jobs Education Initiative is designed to fund sustainable or "green" education and job training for college students. SCE will provide \$100,000 to El Camino College, which will then invest the funds in the California Community College Scholarship Endowment to receive an additional \$50,000 match from the endowment's lead benefactor, the Bernard Osher Foundation.

Green Jobs Education Initiative funding will provide scholarships for dozens of students – each will be awarded \$1,000 per year for a minimum of two years. The funding will support students

with financial need who are enrolled in green job workforce preparation areas such as solar panel installation, water and wastewater management, transportation and alternative fuels, biofuels production and farming, environmental compliance or sustainability planning.



ECC STEM Career Conference



High school and middle school faculty, counselors and administrators participated in an innovative STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Conference in May. They joined together in an interactive workshop to discuss the future of today's students and the emerging economy. Attendees also had the opportunity to gain information about El Camino College's academic and support services, and attend a student services resource fair.

The guest speaker was Jim Brazell, a 26-year leader in technology and innovation, who discussed California's emerging technologies, evolving occupations, and effective educational strategies. Brazell also conducted a two-part workshop, integrating the latest in STEM teaching and career forecasts.

For more information on the El Camino College STEM program: www.elcamino.edu/academics/stem/ or 310-660-3593, ext. 3243.

MESA -Helping Students Achieve

Internships, scholarships, leadership development, research experience – all add to the academic environment MESA has created



to enhance students' studies. El Camino College's MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) Program offers students the support they need to complete their studies in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) disciplines so they successfully transfer to four-year universities, such as MIT, Cal Poly Pomona, UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Irvine and others.

Academic Excellence Workshops, specialized counseling and transfer planning, tutoring, financial aid advising, special lectures and field trips, leadership and professional development opportunities and summer research projects come together to offer MESA students a solid program of support and enrichment.

The MESA Center (MCS 100F) is the central location where math, engineering, and science students create a collaborative study environment and continue to foster the networking community that can help them succeed. The MESA Center is open 60 hours per week and serves over 160 students daily.

For more information about the MESA program, contact Arturo Hernandez at 310-660-3887 or e-mail mesa@elcamino.edu.

MESA Alumni (left to right) Oscar Perez, Marlon Medina, Steve Lopezlavalle, Arturo Hernandez (MESA Director), Ana Orellana, and Gerardo Sandoval reunited at the MESA Spring 2009 Transfer Dinner.



Project Lead the Way: Helping Students Become Engineering Leaders



Two new grants are helping students gain valuable experience in engineering studies, while offering a glimpse into college and career environments. El Camino College's Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is supported

by these grants, which has offered thousands of students free "Engineering Technology" courses, most with high school and college credit.

One grant comes from Chevron and supports PLTW Inc., which is funding El Camino College's efforts to help two additional high schools implement the program. Over the past three years, ECC has used grant funds to bring PTLW to seven area high schools: Hawthorne, California Academy of Math and Science, Lennox Academy of Math and Science, Redondo Union, City Honors, and Palos Verdes Peninsula high schools. In addition,

about \$174,000 from a \$1.1 million grant goes directly to help El Segundo and DaVinci Charter high schools get started. Funds also cover bus transportation from Environmental Charter High School, Lawndale High School, and Hawthorne Math and Science Academy, so students can take PLTW classes at ECC. Funding will support robotics classes, training for high school teachers, and start-up equipment and supplies, as well.

Another grant comes from Northrop Grumman, which has funded approximately \$63,000 to ECC during the past two years. This is the second grant received in two years toward robotics and PLTW courses at local high schools. Funding supports robotics kits, components, and software, as well as 24 laptop computers. Start-up costs for approximately five to seven high schools were also funded, in collaboration with other grants.



Science Student Success

Juwarat Kadiri

- ECC 2006
- UC Berkeley 2008
- Harvard Medical School current student

El Camino College graduate Juwarat Kadiri is excited about her latest project – she is working with others to open a medical clinic offering free/low-cost access to those who do not have insurance. Definitely an ambitious undertaking, Juwarat takes it in stride, working it in among her studies as a first-year student at Harvard Medical School.

"It has been a wonderful experience at Harvard – it has been a dream come true," she said. "The teachers and administrators know that we want to do well in school, but we also want to be involved in our community at the same time."

Juwarat was introduced to community and college involvement during her time at ECC. She was a MESA tutor, participated in student government, and volunteered for other programs. Her dedication to her latest project, the medical clinic at Harvard, will also prepare her for her career.

"After I transferred to Berkeley, I noticed that there is a difference when you take those fundamental science courses at a community college," she said. "At El Camino, teachers are focused on making sure everyone knows the material – there isn't this sense of competition among all the other students – we were there to learn, and professors were there to help.

"At the clinic, medical students will work with other professions and gain experience and training, while also helping patients who really need it," she said. "I am keeping my options open right now, but I am leaning toward a career helping women and children. Being involved at school is what makes the experience worth it."

Juwarat credits El Camino College with giving her the solid academic foundation she needed to excel at UC Berkeley, then Harvard.

"One of the people who helped put me on the right track was ECC counselor Ken Gaines. He called me aside one day, and I talked about what

I wanted to do. He drew out a plan for me, showing me what classes I should take and when."

MESA Facts

- Since MESA was established in 1999, the program has assisted more than 266 students in transferring:
 - 95 students have transferred to the CSU system
 - 144 students have transferred to the UC system
 - 26 have transferred to private and out-of-state universities
- Since 2004, 22 students have been awarded a MESA National Science Foundation Scholarship for a total amount of about \$285,000.
- More than 60 students have participated in summer research programs at UC Davis, UCLA, UC Irvine, CSU Los Angeles, CSU Chico, Stanford University, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), and the Kennedy Space Center, among others.
- About 110 students have participated in enrichment programs at local universities.



who will

Opportunity of a Lifetime



Fernando Reyes

ECC student Fernando Reves is participating in a prestigious JPL (Jet Propulsion Laboratory) internship program this spring. An active member of MESA, Reyes is an electrical engineering major who plans to transfer this fall to Cal Poly Pomona.

"I am very excited for this amazing internship opportunity that was presented to me and am thankful for the support of MESA that made this opportunity possible," he said. "I cannot put into words the impact that this internship will have on my education and life - JPL will open the doors to a better future."

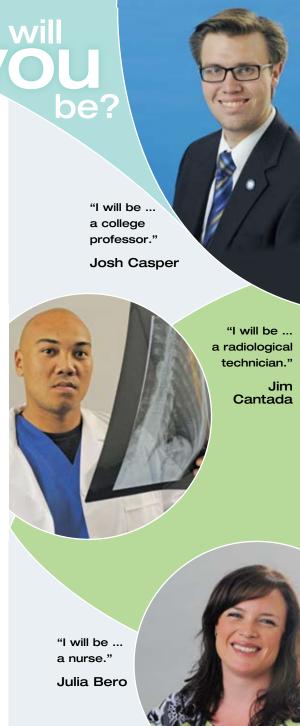
Reyes will participate in the JPL SIRI (Student Independent Research Intern) program where he will work on the research project: NEXUS: A Network Testbed for Future Spacecraft Interconnects with a mentor, gaining real-life work experiences.

Science & Teamwork:

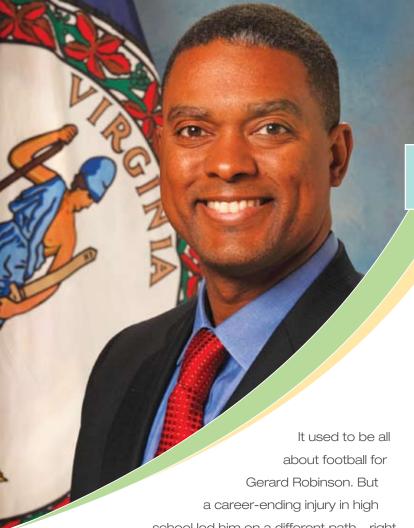
El Camino College STEM Student Enhancement Team (SET)

A new program aims to improve math and science instruction by training outstanding ECC students to be tutors in area high schools. El Camino College's STEM Student Enhancement Team (SET) will work with Hawthorne, Leuzinger, and Environmental Charter high schools, offering help to students who are struggling with math or science classes.

Strengthening math and science skills at high school and college levels will encourage more students to teach and/or enter these career fields. Through this program, ECC students will have the opportunity to reinforce class lessons and improve the mathematics and science support system for high school students.







Gerard Robinson

Alumni Spotlight

"I always say that all this would not be possible without El Camino College," he said. "When I arrived at El Camino College in August of 1984, no one would have said that I would one day be the secretary of education. But I had great mentors, teachers and friends who gathered around me during certain points of my education; they saw something in me and encouraged me to complete my long-term goals."

He is currently focused on charter schools and school choice, especially for urban black families, and is president of the Black Alliance for Educational Options. He also served as a senior research associate for the School Choice Demonstration Project at the University of Arkansas from 2006 to 2007, and as a senior fellow at the Institute for the Transformation of Learning at Marquette University from 2004 to 2006.

Robinson is on the board of the many committees and organizations, including the Policy Advisory Council at the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools; and the U.S. Department of Education's National Charter School Resource Center.

school led him on a different path – right to El Camino College. Though not the model student, he attended classes while working at a grocery store and happened to meet the dean of instruction while on the job. Raymond Roney, who has since retired, inspired Robinson to take charge of his future. And he did.

Robinson was recently named the new education secretary in Virginia, part of Governor Bob McDonnell's administrative cabinet.

After earning an associate degree at El Camino College, Robinson transferred to Howard University, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy and anthropology. He then returned to Los Angeles to teach fifth grade and help with a program in Compton. Robinson continued at Harvard where he earned a master's degree in education. He also taught at the community college level.



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Nursing Department Hosts High School Tour

Faculty members from our Nursing Department recently hosted 31 students from the Lawndale High School Biomedical Academy, offering tours of the college's Ella Rose Madden Simulation Center as well as insights into nursing careers. Instructors created special scenarios for the students, which covered patient assessment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and intravenous therapy.

Students were also introduced to "Noelle," the department's high-tech, wireless mannequin which can simulate the process of giving birth to a baby (Ella Rose) that breathes, has a heartbeat and cries. Noelle delivered her baby for the students (twice!), giving the high school students a first-hand demonstration of the sim lab's capabilities.

"Our trip to El Camino College gave students an inside look at exciting opportunities in nursing careers, and gave them amazing hands-on experiences in the Simulation Lab," said Molly Nellman, coordinator of the academy that serves to provide students with the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to pursue a career in the biomedical sciences.

"Many of our students were turned on to the field of nursing by this experience, either because of the stories told and experiences shared by the nursing staff, or by the incredible hands-on experiences in the simulation lab – or both!"

Scholar-Athletes Honored

Congratulations to the nearly 100
El Camino College scholar-athletes
who were selected this year as ScholarBallers. These students have achieved success in the classroom as well as on the fields,
courts, and pools and are honored for their

efforts by Scholar-Baller, an organization that recognizes athletes who are committed to academics. The term Scholar-Baller stresses the importance of a lifelong commitment to learning, and promotes willingness for students to accept the challenge of balancing academics and athletics.

Scholar-Baller Student Athletes 2009-2010

Baseball:	Jeff Brach, Garrett Cooper, Taylor Gelbrich, Tony Guerra, John Hein, Bobby Martin, Jeff Miera, Justice Peru & Nick Turner
Men's Basketball:	Eric Myles
Women's Basketball:	Javana Kizer, Carla Shaw & Alana Young
Men's Cross Country:	Joseph Bianchi, Ryuichino Enomoto & Patrick O' Rourke
Women's Cross Country:	Naomi Altamirano
Football:	Chris De Armas, Julian Garside, Troy Gravett, Steven Locke, Kyle McManus, LaFelton Traxler, David Tulikihihifo & Charles Wolfgramm
Golf:	Evan Echeverri, Ronnie Eljert, Robert Handy, Nathan Hill & Tobias Klingede
Men's Soccer:	Carlos Ruiz & Egdar Tejada
Women's Soccer:	Stephanie Hall, Samantha Hoffman, Jaymie Jennewein, Wendy Jimenez, Luz Ochoa, Mayra Orozco, KayC Wharton & Justine Zavala
Softball:	Shannon Brown, Rachel Kudron & Brittany Vedenoff
Men's Swim:	Kyle Atkins, Vincent Fiamnego, Pedro Quinones, Noah Rubke, Christopher Smith, Andrew Harmatz, Paul Hiney & Ramon Hurtado
Women's Swim:	Amanda Atkins, Diana Jenkins & Kaitlin Kiley
Men's Tennis:	Jonathon Bak, Usama Ehsan & Andrew Stier
Women's Tennis:	Justine McCauley, Carolina Mendoza & Eunice Na
Men's Track:	Jon Bartolazzi, Cody Dill, Vincenzo laia, Tatsuya Kurosawa, Eric Ledford, Chad Quintana, Joseph Bianchi & Ryuichino Enomoto
Women's Track:	Katelyn Boudweyn, Shale Garland, Camille Hove, Kara Kalmar, Jessica Lopez, Armani Moore & KayC Wharton
Men's Volleyball:	Nolan Imamura & Troy Gravett
Women's Volleyball:	Deja Dickerson, Ericka Kirby, Kiley Tamblyn & Courtney Wilson
Men's Water Polo:	Jose Bahena, Andrew Harmatz, Paul Hiney, Ramon Hurtado, Javier Molina & David Olson

news & notes

Forensics Team: Most Successful **Tourney in Program's History**

ECC's highly ranked forensics team recently had its most successful tournament in the its more than 25-year history. Competing against 37 colleges and universities including UCLA, University of Texas, ASU, University of the Pacific, Cal State Long Beach and the U.S. Air Force Academy, El Camino College was the top school in overall sweeps and debate. Additionally, the team finished third overall in individual events. On the first day of competition at Concordia University, ECC "closed out" the semifinal bracket of Novice Parliamentary Debate, meaning all four remaining teams in the tournament were ECC teams.

CITD Secures U.S. Department of Commerce Award

The El Camino College Center for Inter-national Trade Development (CITD) recently secured one of five U.S. Department of Commerce Market Development Cooperator Program awards. This \$392,155 award will contribute to the CITD's efforts toward helping U.S. industry get involved with China's increased demand for clean energy, sustainable building, and environmental technology.

ECC Professor Completes New Textbook



Italian and French professor Anne Cummings recently announced the publication of her most recent work, an Italian text titled "Immagina." The book features fully integrated text, technology, and media. Published by Vista Higher Learning, Inc., it also includes short films by contemporary Italian filmmakers; sidebars,

graphics, and diagrams for ongoing student support; and a fresh, magazine-like design. Cummings is a noted textbook author who has worked at El Camino College for 25 years.

ECC Students Win Prestigious Photo Award





Three advanced photography students are finalists in the Photographer's Forum Best of College Photography Competition. Congratulations to Khalia

Green, Ruby Gutierrez and Sylwia Ozdzynski, who entered this international competition, along with entries from two- and four-year colleges and universities. This competition regularly draws more than 20,000 entries; the top 5 percent are selected as finalists. The students' photographs will be published in The Best of College Photography Annual: 2010.



Journalism Students Win 16 Awards



Congratulations to our journalism department for winning 16 awards at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) Southern California Regional Conference at California State University, Fullerton. Of the

16 awards, the "Union" newspaper won a General Excellence Award, and six were on-the-spot awards. Approximately 415 students from 35 community colleges attended the event. Students competed in on-the-spot writing, editing, designing and photography competitions, in addition to attending workshops led by professional journalists.

The "Write" Stuff



Carolyn Almos, was recently nominated for a L.A. Stage Alliance Ovation Award for playwriting. Almos, who teaches acting and dramatic literature at ECC, was nominated for her work "Land of the Tigers." She was previously nominated in 2004 for Best World Premiere Musical

for her work "Focus Today." In addition to playwriting, Almos is an actress - recent roles include Lady Macbeth and Miss April in Ken Roht's "99 Cent Calendar Girl Competition." She is also a graduate of Whitman College and California Institute of the Arts.

VP Changes

The El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Ms. Barbara Perez as the Vice President of El Camino College Compton Center. The Board also approved Ms. Lynn Solomita as the Interim Vice President, Human Resources for El Camino College. In the new position of VP ECC Compton Center, Ms. Perez will work under the direction of El Camino College Superintendent/President Thomas Fallo. She will serve as the chief academic and student services officer at ECC Compton Center; and will also lead the planning, development, and implementation of the overall instructional program, student services program and support services.

ECC Anthropology Museum Presents Tibet Exhibit

Visit the college's Anthropology Museum for a look at "Tibet: A People's Dream, Past, Present, and Future," a student-created exhibit that explores the multiple dimensions of Tibetan culture. The exhibit displays exquisitely crafted historic religious art and artifacts from the Pieper collection and Pacific Asia Museum, and photographs taken by noted anthropologist Nancy E. Levine of UCLA. The exhibits document the varied peoples - nomads and farmers - of Tibet and their struggles and successes in facing the physical challenges of their starkly beautiful land. For more information, call 310-660-3593, Ext. 3580.



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El Camino College is also #3 among the state's 110 **community colleges** in the total number of students admitted to UCLA for Fall 2009.



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