



## El Camino College COMPTON CENTER



# PROVOST NEWS

DR. LAWRENCE M. COX

JUNE 2009

### Message from the Provost

As my first year as Provost for the El Camino College Compton Center comes to a close, I am reflecting on the overarching goals we set forth one year ago. We identified three major achievements for our Center. First, to improve capacity by hiring permanent staff in key management positions; second to continue increasing our enrollment; and third to rebuild the credibility of our institution. We have made measurable progress in each of these areas.

During this past year we have hired permanent staff in all but one of our key management positions. We have on board a permanent chief business official, permanent deans in student services, academic programs, health and human services, human resources, and technical and industry programs.

This past fall and spring semesters have been very busy at the Compton Center. Enrollment is up significantly. Our spring 2009 enrollment was reported as the highest FTES (full-time equivalent students) for Compton Center so far. Our FTES enrollment is up 35% higher than spring 2008. The number of students attending Compton Center for spring 2009 was 4,247—a 49% increase!

The continuous increases we are experiencing in our enrollment are due to the diligence and commitment of our faculty, staff, managers, and of course our students. A key element in keeping our momentum going is to ensure that we always put our students first by working to provide the best possible customer service.

We continue our community outreach to area high schools, and various community groups and events. I personally, am continuing to meet with the representatives from throughout the Compton Community College District to bring our message that Compton Center is truly the place to obtain your degree or certificate and build your future.

We have had many celebrations of our students this year; some have graduated and transferred to a four-year university; some have completed a certification program and are now working in highly skilled careers; some remain with us to continue their education. We congratulate all of our students wherever their path may take them. We invite each and every one of you in our community to visit our campus and see what all the excitement is about.

## Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, at 6:00 p.m. in the boardroom at Compton Center. Closed session begins at 4:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to address the Board on closed session agenda items. The Board Agenda is posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting at [www.district.compton.edu](http://www.district.compton.edu) and [www.compton.edu](http://www.compton.edu).

## Congratulations Class of 2009!

Commencement is truly a special occasion for our graduates and their families, the administration, faculty and staff. The day will mark a great triumph for our students.

We are extremely honored to hear the motivational words of our commencement speaker, Cruz Reynoso, whose accomplishments are an inspiration to us all. He served as associate justice of the California Supreme Court from 1982-87, and was the first Latino to hold that position. He has dedicated his life to public service as a champion for civil rights, immigration policy government reform and legal services for the poor.

Reynoso's exemplary career in law and public service began at Fullerton College where he earned an associate degree. He received a bachelor's degree at Pomona College, and a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

Reynoso has received numerous awards and acclamations during his illustrious career, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton and the University of California, Davis Medal of Honor.

We look forward to the future accomplishments of our graduates and wish them much success as they continue their education, embark on a new career or go to the next level in their chosen field.

## More Graduates

Shirley Edwards, director of the Child Development Center, along with teachers and staff members had cause for celebration when 20 children graduated from the program to start kindergarten in the fall. A ceremony was held to mark this milestone for the children and their families.

## Academic Awards Tea

The annual Academic Awards Tea on May 17 was a chance to celebrate our honor students who have achieved a 3.5 or higher cumulative grade point average and to recognize our scholarship recipients.



Congratulations to all our honorees and their families!

### Honor students:

Annette Vaughan Anderson  
Gina Edina Caballero  
LaTonya Carter  
Jacqueline Marisol Garcia  
Fredwill Hernandez  
LaShon Denise Herdon  
Easter Velter Jimenea Masuecos

Cristina Mejia  
Nadia Yvette Morgan  
Laura Patricia Ojeda  
Jacquelyn Veronica Simms-Odeh  
Mario Guerrero

**Presidential scholar awardees:** Annette Vaughan Anderson, Anthony Hurley Bell and Cristina Mejia.

**Scholarship recipients:**

Victoria Azpeitia  
Mike Chatterton  
Luz Thomas  
Sergio Moglianesi  
Jeniffer Rivera  
Maribel Barron  
Theresa Clemente  
Dakota McMahan  
Anel Morguitia  
Terrance Stewart  
Muhammad White  
Pierre Burroughs  
Ebony Jones  
Sharon McMillon  
Daniel Ochoa  
Tracy Walters

Thanks to the staff in the Student Life office for their efforts in coordinating this memorable event.

## First Annual Athletic Academic Awards



Compton Center Tartar Athletics is going for the triple crown of firsts this year—its inaugural golf tournament, the hall of fame event scheduled for this fall and the first annual athletic academic awards ceremony. The ceremony took place on May 27 and was attended by approximately 120 people.

Genia Baker, athletic academic coordinator, who works with student-athletes to get them tutors when needed and assists with their class schedules, was taken by surprise by receiving a Tartar Award for her efforts. Our provost, Dr. Cox presented her with the award.

Genia also serves as interim cheer advisor, assistant women's basketball coach, and as head coach for cross-country and track and field.

El Camino College Superintendent/President, Dr. Fallo, presented Tony Moore with a Tartar Award, and Coach Olguin presented a Tartar Award to Alice Mitchell.

Jason Wilcoxon and Collerean Randolph were each recognized with a Wall-of-Fame award. Dr. Jane Harmon presented the Dean of Academics Award to Jocelyne Molina, and Dean Keith Curry presented the Dean of Students Award to Zachery Contreras. Mytha Pascual, director of financial aid, presented a scholarship award to Sergio Moglianesi. Receiving the Scholar Athletes of the Year Award were Jason Wilcoxon with a G.P.A. of 3.1 and Jessica Rios with a G.P.A. of 2.8.

Shawn Fernandez, Compton Center football coach, remarked: "It was a great event because it has never happened before that athletics and academics share time. This will motivate our football team to step up academically."

Congratulations to all of the award winners.

## Transfer Center Tour Makes a Difference



An enthusiastic group of 21 Compton Center students participated in the northern California university tour led by Elizabeth Martinez, transfer center coordinator, during spring break. They visited University of California at Berkeley, Santa Cruz and Davis; and California State University, Sacramento, San Francisco and San Jose. Compton Center students met with students and representatives from each of the schools and learned about admission requirements, various majors, student support services, student life and received a tour of each campus.

The transfer center hosts representatives from many colleges and universities throughout the year. Four Compton Center students have been accepted at University of California schools—UCLA, UCSC, UCSP and UCI.

## Nurses are Pinned

The El Camino College Compton Center Nursing Pinning Ceremony took place on June 9. We congratulate the 23 graduates who earned associate degrees and the 13 students who have completed the certified nursing assistant/home health aide program.

### Associate Degree Nursing graduates:

Maria Acevedo	Erica Manzo
Claudia Cardenas	Marsha Martinez-Macksa
Dennis Carranza	Easter Masuecos
Nicole Cuellar	Bertrand Nojang
Jessica Dawson	Jacqueline Odquina
Cornelia Estell	Maria Perez
Annie Gibson	German Saquic
Christopher Gonzalez	Michael Tanglao
Drusilla Harmon	Cynthia Torres
John Hatfield	Aquanetta Walker
Nimneh Jackson	Chatta Whaley
Joana Leija	



### **Certified Nursing Assistant/Home Health Aide Completers:**

Erica Brown	Aaron Martin
Dominique Davis	Shaunta McClain
LaToya Fontenot	Deletta Moore
Esteban Garcia	Beverly Peeples
Darla Gilmore	Jazmin Smith
Porsche Manning	Melinda Thompson

Wanda Morris, dean of health and human services and assistant director of nursing, says: "I am very proud of the accomplishments of our nursing students and know that their patients will receive skillful, professional and compassionate care."

### **Academic Senate and Faculty Council for 2009-2010**

We congratulate the new slate of officers and members of our academic senate and faculty council, and thank them for their commitment.

The Academic Senate officers are Saul Panski, president; Estina Pratt, vice president; and Thomas Norton, secretary. Saul Panski will also serve as curriculum representative, and Jerome Evans will be the faculty representative to the Board.

The Faculty Council officers are: Saul Panski, chair; Estina Pratt, vice-chair; Thomas Norton, secretary; and Saul Panski, curriculum representative.

#### **Faculty Council Members**

Business and Computer Information Systems: Annaruth Garcia, Ahmad Manzoor

Career and Technical Education: Eugene Benson, Fred Lamm

Mathematics and Natural Science: Jose Villalobos, Leonard Clark

Humanities: Chris Halligan, Shemiram Lazar

Social Sciences and Creative Performing Arts: Saul Panski, Marjeritta Phillips

Counseling: Michael Odanaka

Library/Learning Resources Unit: Estina Pratt

Nursing: Shirley Thomas

Child Development: Pamela West

At Large: Jerome Evans, Thomas Norton

Adjunct Faculty: Darwin Smith, Art Flemming

### **Old Textbooks are Turning Green**

El Camino College Compton Center students have found a way to recycle outdated textbooks and improve literacy at the same time. The Tartar Speech Club, with Compton Center professor of communication studies, Ella Stewart, who serves as the club's advisor, have wholeheartedly taken on this project

You are encouraged to donate your unwanted college-level books published within the past 10 years or any book used in a college class, even those with highlighting and writing in them, to the club's book drive. The Compton



Center Tartar Speech Club has partnered with Better World Books ([betterworldbooks.com](http://betterworldbooks.com)) to host a book drive to benefit Books for Africa ([www.booksforafrica.org](http://www.booksforafrica.org)). The books will be sold online to raise a funds for Books for Africa or sent directly to Africa. Any books not sold will be recycled.

The Tartar Speech Club asks you to join their effort to promote literacy in Africa and stewardship of our environment by diverting as many books as possible from landfills. Large green and orange collection boxes are located in front of the Compton Center bookstore and the library. They will remain until July 31.

Ella Stewart says: “Many thanks to Robert Butler, director of student life for recommending the Betterworld Books project to me nearly a year ago. While it has taken time to get this project off the ground, it now has a life of its own thanks to some very committed students, faculty and staff.”

Tarah Lewis, a student in Ms. Stewart’s evening speech class, has contributed over 250 books to the effort. Tartar Speech Club president, Luis Rosales, and treasurer, Juan Lopez, have visited several high schools and churches that have committed to donating books, and they are encouraging everyone to spread the word. Club members are preparing to box these books for shipment.

Ms. Stewart expresses her thanks to Debra Robertson, manager of the campus bookstore, and Estina Pratt, supervisor of the Learning Center, for supporting the club’s book drive. She says: “Books for Africa is off to a great start!”

For information, contact Ella Stewart, at [estewart@elcamino.edu](mailto:estewart@elcamino.edu).

## **Compton Center Golf Invitational**

Faculty, staff, administrators and friends of El Camino College Compton Center athletic programs will be participating in the Inaugural Compton Center Tartar Golf Open on Friday, June 12 at The Links at Victoria in Carson.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the “Program for Athletic Student Success” and the first Compton Center Athletic Hall of Fame. Our goal is to assist the student-athlete in developing strong academic skills, a commitment to community service and a competitive spirit while exhibiting good sportsmanship.

For information, contact Lefty Olguin at [lolguin@elcamino.edu](mailto:lolguin@elcamino.edu) or Alice Hawkins, athletics assistant, at [ahawkins@elcamino.edu](mailto:ahawkins@elcamino.edu) or by calling 310-900-1600, ext. 2940.

## **High School Reception**

Compton Center’s department of outreach and relations with schools once again welcomed local high school students to campus. The reception provided information about registration, concurrent enrollment, counseling, financial aid, the transfer center, career and technical education programs, EOP&S, CalWORKS and athletics.

The high school students heard about how they may attend Compton Center this summer and earn college credit.

Breakout sessions included: what Compton Center offers students, an application workshop, a CAHSEE presentation and financial aid assistance.

Thanks to the Outreach team!

## Women's Conference A Success



Approximately 180 students between the ages of 15 and 25 attended a women's conference entitled, "Yes I Can," on May 28 at Compton Center. The purpose of the event was to empower young women by providing them information about education and career opportunities and the resources available to them.

The young women at the event included students from Shields for Families, Los Angeles Adventist High School, Chavez/Tubman High School, Youth Opportunity Unlimited, Los Angeles County Office of Education and Guardian Scholars.

The conference provided presentations about financial aid, CalWORKS, and the transfer center, and included visits to the areas of auto technology, welding, nursing, fashion and childcare and child development. The attendees were treated to wonderful performances by students in dance programs at Compton Center.

Joyce Duren, outreach specialist, says: "We brought many students to Compton Center who had never been on a college campus to learn about the array of programs and educational opportunities that are open to them."

Kudos to all who contributed to the event.

## We Shared Rides and Cycled to Work

On May 14, Compton Center participated in Bike to Work Day (BTWD). This event encouraged employees to consider an alternative mode of transportation to work, school and for errands and leisure trips by riding a bike or carpooling. The credo for the event was "Biking our way to a better commute, a better environment, a better life."

According to Linda Coleman, personnel specialist and transportation coordinator for the event, "The BTWD activity promoted a healthier lifestyle by exercising and reducing employee stress levels. It encourages the District in doing our part to be "green" and addresses the high pollution problems in our communities. Cycling to work is easy and is a cost-effective way to start reducing these problems and create a better environment."

Compton Center's main entrance served as an official checkpoint for bike riders from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., dispensing water, refreshments, maps and information. Campus police Lt. Ramond Box says: "The rideshare program resulted in decreased traffic, using less fuel and providing exercise."



Bikers and supporters of the event were our provost, Dr. Cox; Linda Coleman, Lt. Box, Officer Wendell Haynes, Debra Henderson, Colleen Edwards, Art Smith, and Robert Scott, a first time biker who rode 18 miles from Torrance. Laura Carrillo, a Compton Center student and her son arrived on bikes. Alice Mitchell walked to work. The artwork on tee shirt created for the event was designed by Paula Van Brown.

In addition to the benefits, a good time was had by all.

## **Calling all Alumni**

Did you attend Compton Center or the former Compton College or know someone who has? We want to hear from you! The Resource Development Office invites all alumni of our Compton campus to register in our Alumni Database. Help us get the word out.

Registered alumni will have the opportunity to be informed of events and activities at Compton Center, receive invitations to alumni functions, participate in leadership opportunities, and much more.

The Resource Development Office looks forward to hearing from you. To register, please contact Nelly Rodriguez at [nrodriguez@elcamino.edu](mailto:nrodriguez@elcamino.edu).

## **Share Your News**

We want to keep you informed of the news in our campus community. We also want to hear from you. We know there is no shortage of good news at Compton Center—so keep us in the loop.

Know a student who won a scholarship? a professor who just published an article or a book or received an award? a staff member honored by a professional organization? someone on our campus who has been recognized for work in the community? Help us spread the good news!

Please e-mail your news items to Ann M. Garten, community relations director, at [agarten@elcamino.edu](mailto:agarten@elcamino.edu).