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## **El Camino College Honors Student Headed to UCLA this Fall**

College was a definite plan for Reina Iguchi after graduating from high school. She knew she was headed for higher education, but deciding which college to attend and figuring out the finances were difficult decisions to make.

After careful consideration, Reina decided the best route to the university of her dreams was El Camino College. This plan of action worked out perfectly, as Reina graduated with honors from ECC this past spring.

“I am attending UCLA this fall and I feel like I’m ready,” said Reina, a 2011 Palos Verdes Peninsula High School grad. “El Camino College provided me with the tools I needed to be academically successful. My instructors were invested in my success and I could go to them when I didn’t understand course content or I needed direction with my studies.”

Reina was born and raised in Japan for 17 years before attending school in the United States. Because all of her previous education was in Japanese, she faced enormous challenges in switching to English learning and instruction.

“Looking back, I can see that not only was El Camino College an excellent choice, it offered me more benefits than I ever dreamed of,” she said. “The resources at El Camino College really helped me out. Understanding that I could meet with my teachers one-on-one to isolate my weaknesses and develop a plan of attack also played a major role in my success.”

Attending El Camino College allowed Reina the opportunity to stay close to home, save money, and earn an associate degree in English. She is now prepared to continue her studies at UCLA, with plans to earn a bachelor’s degree.

Reina began her experience at El Camino College with First Year Experience (FYE), a program designed to assist new students transition from high school to college. She immediately made new friends and had access to counseling and guidance to help her navigate the college system.

“In short, the programs and experiences I received from ECC have changed my life completely,” she said. “El Camino College was one of the best decisions I have ever made.”