



# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

**July 28, 2015**

## **El Camino College MESA/STEM Students Participate in Impressive Internships and Research Programs this Summer**

Three outstanding El Camino College students are participating in interesting internship/research assignments both in the South Bay and abroad this summer.

All three students are part of El Camino College's MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics) programs, which support students majoring in math and science.

Before Gabriela Moreno-Lopez transfers to UCLA to continue her studies in mechanical engineering this fall, she is working as an intern at Northrop Grumman. Gabriela graduated from ECC this spring, and had a successful academic year. She participated in the Summer 2014 UCLA-Chevron eight-week Transfer Student Summer Research Program, conducting research on "MRI Hydraulically activated System for Biopsy Position." She then presented her findings at the Fall 2014 Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR) at CSU Fullerton and also presented at the Honors Transfer Council of California Conference in UC Irvine. Her hard work was recognized as she received the Exemplary Student Achievement scholarship awarded by the Honors Transfer Council of California. She also received a \$7,000 National Science Foundation Achievement in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Scholarship (NSF ASEMS).

Hector Flores is transferring to UC Irvine this fall as a computer science major. He also participated in the Summer 2014 UCLA-Chevron eight-week Transfer Student Summer Research Program, conducting research on "Human Activity Recognition Using Accelerometer and Gyroscope Data on the Wrist." Hector subsequently presented his findings at the Fall 2014 SCCUR event. He is now participating in a summer internship with Verizon. Additionally, he was a recipient of a \$7,000 NSF ASEMS transfer scholarship.

Mariella Arias is another outstanding MESA/STEM student. She conducted research at Cornell University in Summer 2014 on "A Piezoelectric Material P(VDF-TrFE) Thin-Film Process Flow for Ultrasonic Transducers," then presented her findings at the SCCUR conference at CSU Fullerton in Fall 2014. Mariella is spending the summer conducting research in "Bioelectronic Textiles for Electrophysiology" in the bioelectronics department at the Microelectronic Center of Provence in France. She plans to transfer to a university as a biomedical engineering major in Fall 2016.

MESA/STEM programs provide support to community college students who are majoring in math, science, or engineering so they excel academically and transfer to four-year institutions.

At the 2015 El Camino College MESA and SSS-STEM Awards Ceremony, about 85 students were recognized for their achievements. In addition, NSF ASEMS Scholarship recipients for the 2015-2016 academic year were recognized for winning this prestigious financial award. This spring, MESA awarded a total of \$150,000 in scholarships to about 33 El Camino College students.