



# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **El Camino College Honors Students Win Top Awards at Research Conference** *High-performing students to transfer to UCLA, UC Berkeley, among other universities*

El Camino College honors students took home more scholarships and awards than any other college at the annual Honors Transfer Council of California Student Research Conference. The conference at the University of California, Irvine draws hundreds of students from throughout the state to present original research.

Twenty-five students in the El Camino College Honors Transfer Program (HTP) presented research and gave oral presentations; four students presented research posters. Morgan Holubets won first prize for her research poster, and Samar Al-Haqab and Crystal Johnson won third-prize awards for their posters. The recognition marked the first time the ECC program received more than one poster award at a conference.

In addition, ECC students Hayden Butler and Curtis Wang earned Exemplary Achievement awards. The annual conference gives students in community college honors programs an opportunity to present their research in humanities, sciences, arts, social sciences and pre-professional programs.

“The Honors Transfer Program continues to be the leader in quality and quantity of presentations and posters at this statewide conference,” said HTP co-director Joe Holliday. “We are the role model for other college honors programs when they endeavor to have such a high level of student success at the student research conferences. Our HTP program at El Camino College has reached an unprecedented level of success and quality.”

ECC’s HTP is one of the largest and most successful in the state in preparing highly-motivated students for transfer to a four-year university. Students learn enhanced reading, writing and study skills; have access to priority registration and smaller class sizes; and take core courses with other HTP student members.

The HTP also features the Transfer Alliance Program (TAP), which offers counseling, guidance, and priority admission consideration to UCLA. This year, 79 ECC Honors Transfer Program students were admitted to UCLA via TAP, an increase from 57 students last year and the highest number in the last five years. This year’s 85 percent admit rate to UCLA is also impressive and significantly higher than the state average of 76 percent for honors students.

In other transfer news, three ECC Honors Transfer Program students were accepted to the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley for fall 2017, one of the most selective schools in an extremely selective university. The HTP averages one acceptance every few years, but this year, a record number of three students were accepted: Eman Dalili, Nicole Mardesich, and Prince Obah.

Applications are now available for the fall 2017 El Camino College Honors Transfer Program. For more information or to apply, view: <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/honorstransfer/>.

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**Photos available online:**

<http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/publicrelations/photos/2017/HTCCHQHaydenandCurtis.jpg>

El Camino College students Hayden Butler and Curtis Wang earned Exemplary Achievement awards at the recent Honors Transfer Council of California Student Research Conference.

<http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/publicrelations/photos/2017/HTCCHQMorgan.jpg>

El Camino College student Morgan Holubets won first prize for her research poster at the recent Honors Transfer Council of California Student Research Conference.

<http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/publicrelations/photos/2017/HTCCHQSamarandCrystal.jpg>

El Camino College students Samar Al-Haqab and Crystal Johnson won third-prize awards for their posters at the recent Honors Transfer Council of California Student Research Conference.