



El Camino College Compton Center

Community News

Spring 2013

**Message from
El Camino College Compton Center
Vice President
Barbara Perez**

Welcome to the spring 2013 semester! The second half of the academic year is underway and El Camino College Compton Center is pleased to announce the addition of 22 sections of high-demand courses this spring to help students get the classes they need.

At ECC Compton Center, we are committed to facilitating student success. In fact, the Center's 2012-2013 academic goals involve strengthening quality educational and support services to further promote student success. Faculty participates in promoting student learning through the assessment of student learning outcomes and using the results to improve their teaching.

At the end of 2011-2012, nine faculty members retired after serving students in the Compton Community College District for decades. Fortunately, future students still have the ability to learn from these instructors even as they start a new chapter in their lives.

For the 2012-2013 academic year, six new faculty members were hired, including a new First Year Experience program coordinator and a Learning Resource Center instructional specialist all centered around improving student success. Several changes have occurred in Student Services. Ricky Shabazz, who previously worked with local high schools as the director of Outreach and School Relations at ECC Compton Center, was recently hired as the new dean of student services. ECC Compton Center has also welcomed a new director of Admissions and Records and Enrollment Services this semester.

ECC Compton Center is proud of the caliber of faculty, staff and administrators here who have dedicated their careers to education and helping students reach their academic goals. When speaking to students about their experiences here, most will name at least one professor or counselor, and credit him or her as being an inspiration and mentor—someone who was instrumental in helping that student make their educational dreams come true!

Single Father Finds Success as an El Camino College Compton Center Student



Carlos Ornelas graduated from Lynwood High School in 1997, but it would be years before he eventually enrolled at El Camino College Compton Center in 2011. Once Ornelas, a single father, made the decision to return to school, he jumped in with both feet. Currently, he serves as vice president of the Associated Student Body (ASB) and is looking forward to transferring to University of California at Berkeley; Davis; or Irvine; or UCLA in fall 2013 to continue his studies in English.

Ornelas initially began college as an audio engineering major, but quickly realized that changing courses to study English would fulfill his lifelong passion for reading and writing. Ornelas penned two first-place entries in the latest *Voices of Compton* literary journal, an annual compilation of students' written and artistic work. His piece "Underdog" won best poem, and "Children of the Universe" earned him top honors in the spoken word category.

Ornelas has relied heavily on a variety of ECC Compton Center services and resources to ensure his success as a student after taking several years off to work and raise his daughter. Specifically, Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOP&S) and services at the Transfer Center have made the transfer process manageable for Ornelas every step along the way.

"The Transfer Center has not only been instrumental in helping me decide which schools to apply to, but also in providing information on deadlines and scholarships," said Ornelas.

Ultimately, Ornelas would like to earn both a bachelor's and master's degree in English, and return to ECC Compton Center to teach. "I am so appreciative of the opportunities that have been given to me," said Ornelas. "Nothing would make me happier than to serve the community that has served me by helping other students discover their academic potential."

SPRING 2013 CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS

| | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Academic Awards Tea | Sunday, May 19, 3 p.m. | Student Lounge |
| First Year Experience Celebration | Tuesday, May 21, 1 – 2 p.m. | Student Lounge |
| Transfer Center Admit Celebration | Friday, May 24, 12 – 2 p.m. | Student Lounge |
| EOPS /CARE Spring Banquet | Thursday, May 30, 12 – 2 p.m. | Student Lounge |
| Nursing Pinning Ceremony | Tuesday, June 4, 5 p.m. | Gymnasium |
| Commencement | Thursday, June 6, 5:30 p.m. | Football Stadium |
| Associated Student Body Banquet | Wednesday, June 19, 6 p.m. | Student Lounge |



Process to Accreditation Update

In July 2012, a Process to Accreditation document was published that provided the framework for El Camino College to submit an accreditation eligibility application for El Camino College Compton Center. In following the timeline of this document, the Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC) and subcommittee members have spent this past year researching, reviewing and developing a narrative that describes ECC Compton Center's status in meeting the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges' (ACCJC) 21 eligibility criteria.

Although much progress has been made in many of the 21 eligibility criteria, ECC Compton Center program reviews and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are not yet at a sustainable level. Additionally, the Compton Community College District financial audit for the year ending June 2012 showed improvements in several critical areas. However, there are remaining key items that must be addressed before applying for accreditation eligibility.

Therefore, according to the Process to Accreditation timeline for spring 2013, the ASC co-chairs have recommended and the decision has been made to postpone submitting the eligibility application, by one year. This will provide the opportunity for those areas in the 21 eligibility criteria not yet meeting the standards, more time to prepare.

El Camino College and ECC Compton Center are very proud of the accomplishments to date, and eager to complete the 21 eligibility criteria for spring 2014.

The Process to Accreditation document may be found here: <http://www.compton.edu/campusinformation/accreditation/docs/CEC-Accred-10-24-2012.pdf>

Compton Community College District Board of Trustees

Thomas Henry – Special Trustee
Lorraine Cervantes – Area 1
Charles Davis – Area 1
John Hamilton – Area 2
Andres Ramos – Area 3
Deborah LeBlanc – Area 4
Anesa Nelson – Student Trustee

Message from Compton Community College District Interim CEO Keith Curry

In keeping with the goal of enhancing and expanding community engagement, I have continued to meet and talk with groups and organizations throughout the Compton Community College District. At the beginning of the 2013 calendar year, the community presentation was updated to reflect accomplishments and new or revised goals for the District. In February, I presented this updated information to the Compton City Council. The following outlines the CCCD goals for the 2012-2013 academic year and the achievements the District has made related to each of the goals.

1. Continue to Support the Partnership with the El Camino Community College District

The CCCD is committed to working collaboratively with the Special Trustee for the Compton Community College District, the leadership at El Camino College, and the vice president of El Camino College Compton Center in order to continue providing the programs and services needed for student success. The Partnership Agreement is one component of the overall goal of student success. A proposed updated agreement was presented to the Special Trustee and the El Camino College Board of Trustees for a first reading in February 2013.

2. Support El Camino College Accreditation Efforts

2014 El Camino College Self Evaluation Report

The Compton District must actively participate and support the 2014 El Camino College Self Evaluation Report and the El Camino College Compton Center Accreditation Eligibility Application. Subcommittees, which include co-chairs from both El Camino College and Compton Center, have been established for each of the standards.

3. Communication with Students, Employees and the Community

One of the District's missions continues to be ensuring that everyone – internally as well as our external communities – is regularly informed of our progress made and where we still need to improve. Last fall, my CEO Roundtable discussions covered an overall update on the Compton Community College District. This spring, the CEO Roundtable presentation is dedicated to an update on progress made by the District toward accreditation eligibility.

For information and scheduled meetings for the Special Trustee Advisory Committee and the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, please go to: www.district.compton.edu.

As part of the CCCD redistricting process completed in 2012, the Special Trustee adopted new trustee area boundaries for the District. This adoption followed a thorough process and recommendation by a community-based committee. Reviewing and revising the trustee area boundaries is part of a legally required redistricting process that occurs every ten years in conjunction with the national census project. All five CCCD Board of Trustee seats will be up for election in November 2013.

The Sixth Progress Report from the Fiscal Crisis Management and Assistance Team (FCMAT) was released in November 2012; the full report is available online: district.compton.edu/fcmat.asp. The next FCMAT visit is scheduled for April 15-26, 2013.

4. Fiscal Stability for the Compton Community College District

The Planning and Budget Committee reviewed the five year Budget Assumptions to help direct the budget priorities for 2012-13. The five-year budget revisions include the 50 Percent Law projections and long-term obligations including: general obligation bonds, notes payable (line of credit), compensation absences, early retirement incentive, claims liability and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB).

5. Address Facilities Needs

The District recently held two groundbreaking events—for phase one and two of the infrastructure upgrade project. Additionally, the upgraded MIS/Data Server Building recently opened. Remodeling of the Allied Health Building is set to begin this year; and a timeline has been established for the completion of the Learning Resource Center (LRC), with a goal of opening in spring 2014.

Thank you for your support – and for your contributions to the success of the Compton Community College District and the ECC Compton Center – where every student is a success story!



Faculty Spotlight Counselor Promoted to Brigadier General in United States Air Force Reserves



Dr. Alexander My, a counselor for Compton Center's Extended Opportunity Program & Services (EOP&S), was promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Air Force Volunteer Reserve (USAFVR) on January 12, 2013. With this promotion, he becomes a one-star general for the 9th region, USV-JSC command in Long Beach, Calif.

My has worked in the EOP&S program for six years. He started as a counselor in the Career and Technical

Education division in 1989, and was the Vocational Technology Counseling chairperson in 2003-2004. In addition to his work at ECC Compton Center, he spends Saturdays working at the Long Beach Veterans Administration Hospital.

As an EOP&S counselor, My helps low-income and educationally-disadvantaged students achieve their educational goals. The program encourages the enrollment, retention, and transfer of students who are challenged by language, social, economic, and educational disadvantages. The goal of EOP&S is to facilitate the successful completion of goals and objectives at ECC Compton Center for students that may not otherwise have access to valuable resources.

ECC Compton Center Takes Guesswork out of Transfer Pathways

The Compton Commitment was established in 2010 and is providing a framework for increasing local student enrollment numbers at both ECC Compton Center, as well as CSUDH. Through a combination of workshops, campus visits and meetings with college representatives, the pathway to higher education is being illuminated for current high school and ECC Compton Center students.

ECC Compton Center believes that more initiatives and programs like this are needed to boost student success and transfer rates at community colleges. Another way ECC Compton Center is better preparing highly-motivated students to successfully transfer and complete a bachelor's degree is by offering Honors courses. Based on assessment scores, students are placed in select Honors courses to fulfill the requirements of the associate degree as well as to transfer to the UC, CSU, and most other universities. Students completing Honors courses have very specific admission and completion requirements, including a minimum cumulative GPA and a set number of Honors courses that must be completed per semester.

Part of the Transfer Pathway includes encouraging students to apply for ECC Compton Center's First Year Experience (FYE) program. The FYE program is designed to help students be successful in their first year of college by providing a unique learning community that includes essential educational and career services.

"We are looking for all types of students to make the commitment, those who are high risk and those who are high achieving," says Ricky Shabazz, Dean of Student Services at ECC Compton Center. "One of the jewels of the Transfer Pathway is that it provides a pipeline for us to work with high school counselors and teachers to identify students early on who would benefit from our FYE program."

Student Spotlight: Transfer Success



El Camino College Compton Center alumna Shelby White transferred to the University of Southern California this spring. During her time at ECC Compton Center, White took advantage of every opportunity to become

involved in extracurricular activities and make herself a strong transfer candidate.

"Since high school, my dream has been to go to USC. In order to make my dream a reality, I participated in the Trojan Transfer Plan in order to keep me on track with my course of study," said White.

White followed her mother's recommendation and enrolled at ECC Compton Center in the summer of 2011 after not getting accepted to USC right out of high school. "As a former employee of the Compton Unified School District, my mom had worked alongside ECC Compton Center faculty and staff and knew that I would be in good hands," said White.

Determined to transfer to USC, White decided to take a different approach to school at ECC Compton Center than she had as a student at Calvary Chapel Downey Christian School. White was reluctant to get involved in student activities in high school, but immersed herself in them at Compton Center. She has served as a student ambassador helping with Compton Center's Outreach Program; held the office of Associated Student Body Commissioner of Financial Aid; and participated in the First Year Experience program.

"ECC Compton Center's First Year Experience program really enhanced my ability to transfer to USC in a year and a half by helping me to get the classes and tutoring I needed," said White.

White encourages other students to explore the many programs, services and workshops that ECC Compton Center provides. "All of the resources really work and are in place to help students succeed," she said.

Once at USC, White plans to maximize her university experience by pursuing a double major in creative writing and film. "Looking ahead, I would like to work in film, but write on the side," said White. "My ultimate dream is to write a novel and have it turned into a movie."





El Camino College
Compton Center

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Welcome Class of 2013!

APPLY TODAY!

High school graduates will receive early registration!*



Scan with a SmartPhone for detailed "Steps to Enroll."
compton.edu/documents/ECC-CEC-One-Stop-Guide.pdf

*Early registration is available to 2013 graduates living within the Compton Community College District: Compton, Lynwood, Paramount and Willowbrook, as well as portions of Athens, Bellflower, Carson, Downey, Dominguez, Lakewood, North Long Beach, and South Gate.

High school graduates must apply, attend orientation and take placement test(s) by May 15 to receive early registration.

Please call 310-900-1600, ext. 2765 for more information.

Summer sessions begin June 17
Fall semester begins August 24

How to Receive Early Registration:

- 1 Apply Online Today!**
Summer/Fall 2013 applications accepted now
- 2 Attend Student Orientation**
Available online (MyECC), in the Counseling Office, or attend New Student Welcome Day in August
- 3 Prepare for the Assessment Tests –**
Practice Tests available online at compton.edu/student-services/support-services/assessment-center/
- 4 Call to make an Appointment with a Counselor**
310-900-1600, ext. 2076
- 5 Apply for Financial Aid**
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available online
- 6 Register for Classes**
Early registration begins Tuesday, June 4



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| Department | Extension | Department | Extension |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Admissions & Records..... | 2050 | ESL..... | 2136 |
| Assessment Center..... | 2830 | Financial Aid..... | 2935 |
| Athletics..... | 2949 | First Year Experience (FYE)..... | 2769 |
| Child Development..... | 2902 | Student Support Services..... | 2765 |
| Counseling..... | 2076 | Transfer Center..... | 2763 |