



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Compton College's 2021-22 Associated Student Government President is Determined to Help Others as Immigration Officer

Compton College student and Lynwood resident Stephanie Leonor Del Cid immigrated to the United States at 13 years old when her family determined it was no longer safe to remain in their home country of Guatemala.

“When my family first arrived here, we were in a detention center and went through the whole immigration process to be able to live in the United States,” said Leonor. “I learned as a teen about all the opportunities available to get an education for free and this made me extremely motivated to take advantage of that. I learned English in one year while I was in the eighth grade. I believe it would be ungrateful to not make the most of everything offered to me since my family risked their lives to give me a better future.”

Leonor is on track to graduate from Compton College with three associate degrees (English, political science, and general studies) in June 2022. She plans to transfer to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) to continue her education as an English and political science major. She was elected to the position of Associated Student Government president by her Compton College peers during the spring 2021 semester after serving as commissioner of public relations during the 2020-2021 academic year.

“I was encouraged by my counselor and mentors at Compton College to take a student leadership role and participate in the Associated Student Government,” she said. “I am passionate about taking advantage of all the student services and resources Compton College has to offer and being in student government is a way I can help spread the word. Anyone can be successful in college; they just need the right people, tools, and programs behind them. My No. 1 goal is to help ensure all students have a clear pathway to access all available services at Compton College right from the beginning.”

She says the resources at Compton College “saved her.” One major lifeline she has utilized is the [Extended Opportunity Programs and Services \(EOPS\)](#) and Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) programs that provide additional financial and academic support to eligible students both with and without dependents. She has taken jobs on campus as a student worker and is especially grateful to the Transfer Center for guiding her through all the requirements to transfer to UCLA. During the pandemic, she used vital resources and referrals offered by Compton College, including housing resource referrals, the food pantry and free food distribution, and the Student Health Center for physical and mental health care. “For me, the best thing about Compton College is how inclusive this

college community is,” said Leonor. “I have always felt at home here; every single office [and staff member] has made me feel accepted and my professors have gone out of their way to help me.”

Leonor is a single mom and providing a stable life for her daughter is a major motivating force.

“Providing a better life for myself and my daughter is a priority and the reason I am so dedicated to completing my education at Compton College, which offers all the support I need to reach my goals,” she said.

She currently works as a part-time certified interpreter for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Department and is preparing for a career as an immigration officer to help others who would benefit from someone who understands the immigration process from both sides.

“Obtaining an education will help me increase my earning power and quality of life, as well as enable me to assist others looking to do the same.”

About Compton College’s Associated Student Government

Compton College students elect their Associated Student Government (ASG) officers annually. Through weekly meetings that are open to all students, the elected officers coordinate student activities, determine how ASG funds will be allocated, and represent student views on important Compton College issues.

There are currently some positions open on the student council for the 2021-2022 academic year! Compton College students interested in gaining valuable leadership experience are encouraged to email the Office of Student Development at studentdevelopment@compton.edu, or visit the ASG webpage to apply: <http://www.compton.edu/student-services/student-development/asg/>. The eligibility requirements to hold an ASG office include enrollment in 10 class hours per week, a minimum GPA of 2.0 and completion of fewer than 70 units.

“I encourage all students to reach out to members of the Associated Student Government for help and we can direct you to the services you need,” said Leonor. “From my experience, it’s great to have help from someone who understands you.”

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Photo available online:

http://www.compton.edu/adminandoperations/communityrelations/images/2021/Leonor_Stephanie.jpg

About Compton College

Compton College is the community’s education solution offering a full complement of transfer and degree courses, as well as career and technical education. Students may earn an associate degree or certificate, transfer to a four-year university or train for a career. Compton College is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.