

Citrus

Fall 2013

CollegeNewsMagazine



Transfer: The Next Level of College Completion

Welcome

During the past two years, Citrus College has made tremendous strides in its commitment to become a College of Completion. Graduation numbers are up for the third consecutive year, and more Citrus College students are earning degrees and certificates and entering the workforce than ever before. For many Citrus College students, however, crossing the completion finish line will only take place when they earn a baccalaureate degree at a four-year college or university. For these students, completion at Citrus College means reaching the next level in their educational journey—transfer.

Transfer is one of the core missions of the California Community Colleges, and as you will learn from this issue of the *Citrus College News Magazine*, preparing students to transfer is one of the most exciting things that community colleges do. Successful transfer requires more than just arming prospective transfer students with college catalogs and hoping they figure it out—it takes the support of the entire college community. As a College of Completion, Citrus College faculty and staff have committed to keeping transfer students on track and successful in reaching their academic goals.

In an era of skyrocketing college tuition, completing the first two years at a community college and then transferring to a four-year institution is a wise economic plan. The Community College League of California estimates that a full-time community college student pays fees of approximately \$1,380 per year, while students at California State Universities pay about \$7,017 per year. And, those fees increase to more than \$13,000 for students attending the University of California.

Perhaps the best part of facilitating the transfer goals of students is that the rewards are great. Stories about successful Citrus College transfer students, like Jay Mubiala, Dalvina Henrich and Chloe Perry, are inspiring, and they illustrate the important role that Citrus College has had in making their dream of a college education a reality.

Whether you are a Citrus College alumnus, a community member, a Foundation donor, or one of the college's many friends, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our institution. It is a critical component of our success.

Now, please enjoy and be inspired by this issue of the *Citrus College News Magazine*.

Sincerely,



Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President



FALL 2013



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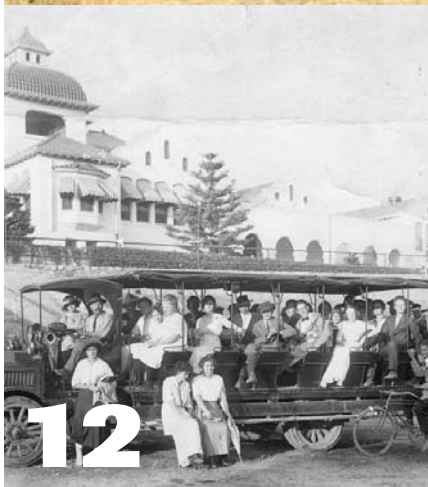


A group of Citrus College students celebrate their transfer to four-year institutions.

The **Citrus College News Magazine** is an official publication of Citrus College. Your comments and suggestions are welcome. Please e-mail correspondence to Foundation@citruscollege.edu. Citrus College Foundation, 1000 W. Foothill Blvd., Glendora, CA 91741-1899.

If you would like to sponsor this magazine or make a donation to Citrus College, contact the Citrus College Foundation at (626) 914-8825.





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Career/Transfer Center Offers Information, Resources

by Stacy Armstrong

Like most students finishing high school, Jennifer Pino was looking forward to attending a four-year college or university. The Azusa resident eagerly applied to several California State University (CSU) institutions during her junior and senior years of high school. However, her dreams were soon shattered.

“I didn’t have the grades to get into any of the schools I applied to,” she remembers. “I think my parents were disappointed that I wasn’t accepted into any of the state schools, and I felt really bad about that.”

Following her high school graduation in June 2010, Jennifer knew she had only one option: community college. Her need for independence led her to Citrus College.

“Most of my friends were going to other colleges, but I wanted the opportunity to find myself at my own school,” the 21-year-old admits. “That is what brought me to Citrus.”

Three years later, Jennifer was graduating from Citrus College with an Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) degree and preparing to continue her education at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona). It was a feat



made possible, in part, by the Citrus College Career/Transfer Center.

From its humble beginnings as a pilot program funded by the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office nearly 30 years ago, the Citrus College Career/Transfer Center has become a hotbed of student success. Constantly evolving to meet the needs of the student body, the center serves the dual roles of supporting career development and facilitating the process of students transitioning from a community college to a four-year college or university. A variety of tools are used to fulfill these roles—including a resource center, counseling, academic planning assistance, and career assessment. However, one of the Career/Transfer Center’s most effective tools is collaboration.

“Many California community colleges have Career/Transfer Centers, and we all share the same mission. However, each center has their own approach as to how they go about accomplishing this mission,” said Raul Sanchez, coordinator of the Citrus College Career/Transfer Center. “At Citrus, it takes an entire college to help a student transfer. Collegial partnerships established throughout the campus have aided and enhanced student success. The same can be said for the close partnerships we have developed over the



years with numerous four-year institutions.”

The counselors and staff of the Career/Transfer Center serve as liaisons between Citrus College and baccalaureate-level colleges and universities. Together, these groups develop and coordinate transfer programs, plan college fairs and cross-enrollment activities, and communicate regarding admission policies and transfer requirements.

Maintaining these relationships has been crucial to the success of the Career/Transfer Center. In late November 2012, a report issued by The Campaign for College Opportunity named Citrus College one of the “strongest leaders across the community college system” in fulfilling the mandates of the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (STAR).

The report, entitled “Meeting Compliance, but Missing the Mark,” reviewed the progress that California’s 112 community colleges made towards implementing the historic transfer reform legislation designed for students transitioning into the CSU system. Success was determined by assessing the number of associate degrees for transfer that have been developed, or are currently in progress, at each individual college. At the time, Citrus College was second only to Fullerton College in terms of transfer degree offerings.

More recently, Citrus College became one of only five community colleges in the state to successfully meet its target in developing new transfer degrees. In fact, the college not only met its goal of 13, but has exceeded

it by creating a 14th and a 15th degree.

With an AA-T or an Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degree, students are guaranteed admission to colleges within the CSU system with junior status—a fact that has led to an enthusiastic response at Citrus College. In 2012, 42 students received AA-T or AS-T degrees. A year later, that number jumped to 258. This was an increase of 514 percent!

“Citrus College is proactive about contacting students who are pursuing transfer degrees,” said Dr. Lucinda Over, dean of counseling. “We work closely with Admissions and Records to provide early graduation checks for students pursuing these degrees. We also work with the Office of Academic Affairs to ensure students have the classes they need to finish their degrees. Together, we help to increase the number of students who transfer with AA-T and AS-T degrees.”

New transfer degrees are not the only way that Citrus College students can guarantee admission to their colleges of choice. The Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) offers qualified community college students guaranteed admission to one of seven participating University of California (UC) campuses: Irvine, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Davis, Merced, Riverside, and Santa Cruz.

Another option for students is the Transfer Alliance Program (TAP) offered by the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). With TAP, students are certified after completing the Citrus College Honors Program and given priority consideration for admission to UCLA.

Throughout the year, the Career/Transfer Center offers numerous events that enable students to learn more about the transfer process. From the college fairs, featuring representatives from dozens of CSU, UC, and private universities, to the university rep visits that allow students to meet one-on-one with people from their colleges of choice, the center is committed to helping Citrus College students make educated decisions about their academic future.



Nearly 60 colleges and universities participated in the 2013 Fall College Fair, allowing students to receive information from college representatives.

“I utilized every resource available through the Career/Transfer Center and absorbed every bit of information that I found useful for transferring,” said Glendora resident Taylor Zepeda, a recent transfer to UC San Diego.

The center’s resources are indeed plentiful. In an effort to keep students informed, the Career/Transfer Center hosts numerous workshops throughout the year that address issues such as transfer degrees, TAG agreements, UC personal statements, CSU applications, art portfolios, and more. They also facilitate group tours of several four-year colleges and universities.

The staff is always looking for ways to enhance the services they provide. Plans for the future include modifying the Citrus College transcript to improve transfer advising, providing campuswide training on important transfer issues, and enhancing collaborative relationships with other college departments.

Of course, their primary goal will always be to help students complete college.

“I never thought about moving on to a four-year university until I spent my years at Citrus College,” said Azusa resident Rubi Carrasco, a recent transfer to San Diego State University. “The people here have pushed me to become a better, more accomplished person than I ever thought possible. They helped me believe in myself.”



“I utilized every resource available through the Career/Transfer Center and absorbed every bit of information that I found useful for transferring.”

– Taylor Zepeda

Class of 2013

Transferred to UC San Diego

Faculty & Staff

Counseling Programs and Services Facilitate Transfer Success

For every Citrus College student's transfer success story, there is a backstory involving the Counseling Programs and Services Division. When a student enrolls at the college, the counseling division staff guides him or her through the procedures and programs that will help them achieve their educational goals at Citrus College.

Every counselor provides advice to students who want to transfer, which maximizes institutional resources and reaches the students who express an interest in transfer. Invariably, these students utilize the specialized services of the Career/Transfer Center, which has served an average of 9,100 students per year over the past three years.

"The students greatly benefit from the services and interventions offered by the Career/Transfer Center, which are specifically tailored to their needs as prospective transfer students," noted Raul Sanchez, the center's coordinator.

These interactions build positive relationships with students, and the time invested in their future success as transfer students does not go unnoticed.

"Counselors like Raul Sanchez, Natalie Desmoine, and Stephanie Yee were such a blessing to me. They all helped guide me through my time at Citrus College," recalled Glendora resident Christina Osuna, a recent transfer to Woodbury University.

As dedicated professionals, the Counseling Programs and Services staff continues to offer opportunities for students like Chester Hsu to achieve their educational goals.

"The resources here at Citrus College are truly remarkable," says Hsu, a Claremont resident who graduated from Citrus College with honors and currently attends UCLA. "The professors and counselors truly care about their students' success."



Support Staff Guide Students Through Transfer

The transfer process at Citrus College involves employees whose work enables students to advance to the next level of higher education. Faculty teach; counselors and educational advisors inform; and other staff organize and process the activities and information critical to a successful transfer.

Peggy Amundson (l.) and Jody Barrass (rt.) guide and facilitate the transfer process. Described as "integral to transfer success," they handle a variety of assignments that include staff support, event planning, graduation certifications, and transfer verifications. Although their job descriptions vary, they enjoy helping students succeed.

Amundson, a full-time college employee for 16 years, is a transcript evaluator in Admissions and Records. She certifies documentation required for associate degree conferrals and issues the verification letters required for acceptance to students' transfer institutions. "I enjoy my job," she says. "The workload has grown a lot, but I enjoy handling the details."

Barrass believes the people are the best part of her job. The Career/Transfer Center secretary, who has worked at Citrus College for six years, helps plan the center's events and workshops, in addition to her office management duties. She holds a special affinity for students. "I genuinely enjoy assisting and interacting with the students," she says. "They inspire me!"



Members of the Citrus College counseling faculty at Commencement.

Students Achieve the Next Steps: Bachelor's and Master's Programs

The dedicated and collaborative efforts of Citrus College's faculty and staff have fostered a culture of completion, where students gain both the knowledge and the confidence to pursue higher levels of educational achievement. Dalvina Henrich and Jay Mubiala represent a generation of Citrus College alumni who, like students before them, benefitted from the college's academic and student services that have enabled them to enter bachelor's and master's degree programs at the University of La Verne.

Dalvina Henrich, Class of 2013

Dalvina Henrich entered Citrus College immediately after graduating from high school. "I thought having fun was more important than my education, so I moved away and didn't even finish my semester finals," she recalls. The San Dimas resident would eventually return to Citrus College, this time as a young mother of two children with a desire to complete her college education.

"I chose to attend Citrus College because it was a great school to get a jumpstart on furthering my education," Henrich said. "It was the only logical choice for me."

One of the first things Henrich discovered upon her return to the college was that academic records are permanent. "Little did I know that 14 years later I would have to face the low GPA I earned so many years ago," she said. "With a lot of hard work, greater wisdom, and more dedication, I raised my GPA to a 3.5." In addition to her efforts, she also took advantage of the resources provided by the Career/Transfer Center.

"The Career/Transfer Center played such an important role in my success at Citrus," she noted. "Any time I had a question or a concern, they were very eager to help me resolve the issue. There was always someone in my corner rooting for my success."

Henrich graduated from Citrus College in 2013 with an Associate in Arts Degree for Transfer (AA-T) in psychology.



She currently attends the University of La Verne as a psychology major and describes her new college as a community where "everyone on campus is enthusiastic about helping you further your education and advance in your career." Henrich's career plans include using her psychology degree to "better the lives of as many people as possible." Her goal was inspired by her experiences with the professionals who care for her son, who was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome.

"I want to affect people the way these professionals do with my son," she stated.

While she has moved on to the next level of her educational goals, Henrich still holds an affinity for Citrus College.

"I would like to thank Citrus College for the wonderful opportunity and experience I had. As an older student coming back to further my education, they were always eager to help me in any way possible. It was a great way to start my extended education."



Jay Mubiala, Class of 2009

Jay Mubiala's decision to attend Citrus College was an easy one. "My cousin was attending the college, and I was hearing from others how great Citrus was," he explained. Mubiala soon discovered that those he had listened to were correct, and he had made a wise choice. "Citrus is a great place to start your academic career. It prepares you for a four-year institution."

As a Citrus College student, Mubiala served as president of the Black Student Union and worked at the college part-time as a security officer. He received awards of achievement from Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOP&S) and the Career/Transfer Center. "The years I spent at Citrus helped me grow not only academically, but socially as well," Mubiala said.

Mubiala transferred to the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). He enrolled as a pre-psychology major, but discovered a new interest in sociology. "UCSB has one of the best sociology departments in the country," he says. "I really enjoyed the classes, so I switched my major to sociology and added a history minor."

Mubiala described his time at UCSB as "a beautiful experience, overall." He admitted to experiencing an adjustment period having transferred from a community college, and he praised UCSB's support systems that help transfer students adjust to the UC culture. "I am really fortunate to

have graduated from such a good school while having a full college experience," he commented.

Mubiala graduated from UCSB in 2011 and currently attends the University of La Verne, where he is working on his master's degree in business administration, with a concentration in Leadership and Management. His return to Southern California also included reconnecting with Citrus College by returning to Campus Safety as a part-time officer. Mubiala's long-term goal is to work for a major corporation in the areas of technology and digital media. "I have always been fascinated with how digital media affects people, especially in the social and entertainment areas." His career plans also include starting a consulting company to help other organizations discover their management styles.

Like many other alumni, Citrus College has made a significant impression on Mubiala's life. "Citrus helped me build proficient learning skills that allowed me to perform well at the university level," he says. "I am very grateful to all who encouraged me to reach where I am today."

Students

Honors Program Prepares Transfer Students



Brian Waddington, history instructor and Honors Program advisor (left) with Citrus College alumnus Joshua Gaglia, a former Honors Program student who transferred to UC Berkeley.

According to Citrus College Honors Program coordinator Brian Waddington, “the honors program is pretty much all about transfer.” In addition to attracting highly motivated students who want to transcend the boundaries of regular classroom instruction, the mission of the Honors Program is to present courses that are designed to meet transfer requirements for any California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) campus, as well as many private institutions.

Today, students attempting to transfer into competitive colleges need every edge they can get, which the Honors Program helps to provide. The program’s emphasis on research provides students with a head start in acquiring those skills, which are very important for students transferring to universities, such as UCLA, UC Berkeley or the University of Southern California. In addition, Citrus College’s Honors Program has special transfer agreements with a number of public and private four-year colleges and universities.

Waddington, a history instructor, began teaching in the program shortly after it was created in 2002. He became the program’s coordinator about nine years ago. His enthusiasm for the Honors Program and its amazing students is evident—in addition to being a vociferous supporter, he has mentored and coached honors students for countless hours, helping them write research papers and preparing them for conferences and competitions where they have excelled. Waddington estimates that student

“I joined the Honors Program at Citrus College and encountered instructors who provided me with helpful information and wise counsel. In particular, Professor Brian Waddington took extra time to mentor me.”

– Joshua Gaglia
Class of 2011

Except from “My Citrus Story”

by Marilyn Grinsdale

ents to Excel

participation in the Honors Program has more than doubled since the program was established. More impressive, however, is the increase in the number of students who have completed the program. For example, 12 students completed the Honors Program in 2006. In 2013, that number had increased to 43.

The Honors Program also offers opportunities for its students to demonstrate their ability to be successful in the upper division coursework they will encounter at a four-year institution. The Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC) Research Conference and the Bay Honors Consortium Honors Research Symposium, in Northern California, have helped Citrus College honors students gain experience in research. The students who attend these events research and write a paper, then present their research in an academic setting.

Students in the college's Honors Program have fared well at these conferences. At the spring 2013 HTCC Research Conference, papers by Citrus College participants Kevin Belcher, Merhawi Ghebrecristos, and Toni Wilkinson were selected for publication in "Building Bridges: Outstanding Abstracts of the 2013

HTCC Undergraduate Research Conference." In 2012, Citrus College alumnus Joshua Ramirez received the prestigious Juan Lara Scholarship that is awarded at the conference each year.

What makes the Honors Program unique? Honors classes are limited to 20 students per class, compared to 30 to 45 students in regular classes, creating a closer student-teacher learning environment. Over the years, Honors Program classes have been expanded to include a variety of subjects. According to Waddington, "We have added both lecture and lab science courses, as well as honors psychology, kinesiology, and world history classes."

While each honors class is distinctive, courses focus on seminar-style, student-led active learning. "Flipping the classroom," an increasingly popular teaching technique, is something that Citrus College's honors classes have been doing for years. Teaching in that format means there is little in the way of instructor lecture, and instead, the instructor helps guide the students as they identify and analyze information.

Citrus College is proud of its honors students who have been

successful in transferring to prestigious colleges and universities. Many have commented on how valuable they found their Citrus College honors experience in helping them transition to upper division coursework and earn a baccalaureate degree.

The future looks bright for Citrus College honors students and for the program itself. The college is currently creating an Honors Student Ambassadors program comprised of Honors Program students who will represent the college at campus and community events.

Alumna Maximizes Honors Program Skills

Chloe Perry

Citrus College Honors Program Alumna

Chloe Perry credits the Honors Program at Citrus College with preparing her to transfer to the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned a bachelor's degree in English in 2012. Perry says, "There were multiple aspects of the Honors Program that helped me transition to a four-year institution, but the most helpful aspect were my cohorts." Her interactions with other honors program students encouraged critical thinking and participation, which were necessary for upper level collegiate success.

Perry currently lives in Chicago and works with City Year, a national nonprofit organization that collaborates with public schools to decrease dropout rates.



Alumni News

Calling All Alumni to Celebrate the Centennial

The Citrus College community is planning the college's Centennial Celebration, a yearlong observance during the 2014-2015 academic year that will include events, activities, and programs. The Citrus Alumni and Friends Association is actively involved in the planning process, and they welcome the participation of fellow alumni.

The first public event of the Centennial will be the Homecoming Celebration, which will take place next fall on Saturday, October 11, 2014. The event will provide

entertainment, food, and activities, as well as an All-Class Reunion and the Homecoming Game. Details of the event will be announced through the Citrus Alumni and Friends Association, Citrus College, and the local media.

The Centennial Committee would like to borrow Citrus College photos and college memorabilia for the Centennial effort. For more information, please contact the Citrus College Foundation, 626-914-8825 or foundation@citruscollege.edu.



Students arriving on campus in 1915.

Save the date!



Saturday,
October 11, 2014

Centennial Homecoming Celebration



Keep in Touch!

Please email Alumni Updates to alumni@citruscollege.edu or call 626-914-8825.

Alumni Achievers

Distinguished Alumni Support the College Mission

In 1963, the Citrus Alumni Association instituted the Distinguished Alumni Award. The annual award is presented to former students who “have achieved success in their lives.”

“The Citrus Union High School and Citrus College alumni are, at first glance, a very diverse group,” noted Eric Magallon, president of the Citrus Alumni and Friends Association. “However, when you take a look at their achievements, you will notice that they share one quality—excellence.”

Last spring marked the 50th anniversary of the Distinguished Alumni Award. The Citrus Alumni and Friends Association selected three community leaders, Bernard “Bo” Bollinger and Laura Bollinger of Claremont, and Phyllis Fritz of Glendora, as the 2013 honorees. In addition to their personal and professional accomplishments, their service to the community is far-reaching and varied. Most importantly, the Distinguished Alumni are proud advocates and supporters of Citrus College’s mission, which is central to student transfer and completion.

In addition to his many community service activities, Bernard Bollinger, class of 1982, is president of the Citrus Community College District Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee (COC). Bollinger has been part of the excellent stewardship of the \$121 million bond program, passed by district voters in 2004, that has funded an ambitious facilities and construction campaign, changed the Citrus College

landscape, and resulted in five new buildings and facilities in a five-year period.

Laura Bollinger’s civic leadership encompasses areas such as literacy awareness and educational outreach programs. Bollinger, who also graduated from Citrus College in 1982, is a member of the Los Angeles County Fair Association. As one of 50 directors, she participates in the decision-making process that involves Fairplex events and venues, as well as Fairplex educational initiatives, such as its child development center; the elementary school field trips to the L.A. County Fair; the Junior Fair Board; and its post-secondary career and technical programs.

Phyllis Fritz has been an outspoken advocate for Citrus College students’ completion and success since she joined the Citrus College Foundation Board in 2002. An original member of the Citrus Singers, Fritz attended the college during the 1970s and went on to establish a successful career as a realtor and business owner. She was president of the Foundation from 2005-2007 and played a role in launching initiatives such as the Bright Futures scholarship program for incoming Citrus College students who graduate from Citrus Community College District high schools.



Bernard “Bo” Bollinger



Laura Bollinger



Phyllis Fritz

Foundation

Scholarship Reception Launches the New Academic Year

On August 15, 2013, the Citrus College Foundation hosted its fourth Annual Scholarship Reception. More than 180 Citrus College transferring and continuing students received scholarships to help offset their college expenses during the 2013-2014 academic year. Also in attendance were several donors who were recognized for their generosity and commitment to supporting Citrus College students.

The reception's theme, "Commitment to Completion," underscored the importance of the event to transferring students. Of the 80 scholarships awarded, several targeted transfer students. These transfer scholarships have been a mainstay of the Foundation's scholarship program for several years, providing one-time financial awards to students who are embarking upon the next phase of their educational journey at a four-year institution.

Kevin Belcher, Citrus College Class of 2013, is such a student. A first-generation college student and a recent transfer to UCLA, Belcher spoke to the audience about the journey that led him to Citrus College. He also expressed his appreciation for the Institute for Training Leaders Scholarship he received in 2012 as a continuing Citrus College student and for the Betty Holt May Scholarship, which is enabling him to continue his studies at UCLA.

"I know that each and every one of the students in this room can leave here today, knowing that he or she will never be alone in his or her academic dreams," Belcher said. "This is because of our donors, men and women like Dr. and Mrs. Michael Fay, Mrs. Betty Holt May, and the people who run this incredible college."



The 2013-2014 Scholarship Reception participants included (left to right), Christina Garcia, Citrus College Foundation director; Sabrina Rentchler, speaker and Institute for Training Leaders Scholarship recipient; Lillian Sass, scholarship donor and Citrus College Foster/Kinship Education Program Coordinator; Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.; Kevin Belcher, speaker and Betty Holt May Scholarship recipient; and Tom Gerfen, donor and president of the Citrus College Foundation.

New Scholarships Established

The Citrus College Foundation is grateful to the donors who established the six new scholarships that were awarded to students at the 2013-2014 Scholarship Reception. If you would like to receive information on how you can establish a scholarship, please contact the Citrus College Foundation at 626-914-8825.

- **Edison International-STEM/College of Completion Scholarship**
Awarded to students with a declared science, technology, engineering or mathematics major
- **H.O.P.E. Scholarship**
Awarded to a current member of the H.O.P.E. (Helping Find Opportunities in the Pursuit of Education) Club with a minimum 3.0 GPA
- **Pinky Hunter Memorial Scholarship**
Awarded to a student majoring in administration of justice with a minimum 3.0 GPA
- **Dr. Michael Hurtado Textbook Grant**
Awarded to a student with a minimum 2.5 GPA who is pursuing a degree in social sciences or behavioral sciences
- **Aileen McClain Memorial Scholarship**
Awarded to a student with a minimum 3.0 GPA who is pursuing a degree in engineering or mathematics
- **White Ribbon Scholarship**
Awarded to a student who has fought or is currently fighting cancer

Edison Supports STEM Students

In 2013, the Citrus College Foundation initiated the President's Circle, a recognition campaign comprised of businesses that support the College of Completion initiative. Eleven prominent, local businesses have joined the 2013 President's Circle. They offer an extraordinary level of support to Citrus College students in their efforts to earn an associate degree, transfer to a four-year institution or prepare for a career by earning a certificate.

In addition to the increased funding for student completion, a new scholarship was established by President's Circle member Edison International. Twenty-five Citrus College students who have declared a course of study in the science, technology, engineering or mathematics disciplines (STEM) were awarded a \$1,000 Edison International–STEM/College of Completion Scholarship at the Scholarship Reception on August 15.

The Edison Scholarship assists STEM students who are continuing their education at Citrus College. In addition to their coursework, the students who received the scholarship are involved in the extracurricular components of the college's STEM Program, such as tutoring, helping with K-12 school outreach activities, and participating in the prestigious Summer Research Program.

The monetary support provided by the scholarship is often a determining factor in a student's college completion. "The Edison scholarship has allowed students to enroll in and pay for additional classes," says Dr. Marianne Smith, director of the STEM Program. "This enables many of them to reduce their work hours, move towards college completion and transfer more quickly."

Waymon Ho, one of the scholarship recipients, strongly agrees. "It is through your support I am able to continue my studies in computer science," he stated in his thank-you letter to Edison. "Your scholarship will allow me to focus on my education by relieving a large financial burden."

The Edison Scholarship provides short-term and long-term benefits to students and donor. In order to broaden the opportunities for students to complete their education and pursue careers in STEM, Edison International granted \$2.9 million in scholarships to Southern California students in 2012. The corporation stated in its 2012 Community Giving Report, "Almost 50 percent of our funding goes towards programs that keep youth in school and provide opportunities for post-secondary education." This meets Edison International's long-term objective of creating its future workforce. At the same time, these scholarship recipients, including Citrus College's STEM students, are preparing to become professionals in their chosen fields.

Smith recognizes the strategic connection between her students' abilities and aspirations and the career opportunities that await them. "With the severe need for STEM graduates who are ready to work in an increasingly technical workplace, the Edison scholarship supports the national goal of increasing and diversifying the STEM workforce," she says.

Stacy Guzman, a biology major who views her career opportunities as "limitless," agrees.

"Pursuing a career in STEM will allow me to work in a field that will make the world a better place for generations to come."



2013 Edison International/STEM College of Completion Scholarship Recipients

2013 President's Circle

The Citrus College Foundation would like to recognize and thank the following generous business partners who enable Citrus College to provide additional completion resources to our students.



Athletics

Fighting Owls Achieve Transfer Success

One of the Citrus College Athletics Department's priorities is to ensure its student-athletes' matriculation to four-year colleges and universities—an endeavor that has become increasingly successful over time.

At the conclusion of the 2012-2013 academic year, 45 Owls earned athletic scholarships, and more than 60 student-athletes continued their education at four-year institutions. This represented a significant increase over the previous season, when 42 student-athletes earned athletic scholarships and more than 50 transferred.

These achievements reflect Citrus College's success in preparing student-athletes for transfer. Last year, the college matriculated more football players to four-year institutions than State Champion Bakersfield College. In addition, over a three-year period, nearly 30 Owls baseball team sophomores transferred with athletic scholarship offers, six more players compared to the previous three years.

Since the 2010-2011 basketball season, the Citrus College Women's Basketball Program has transferred 100 percent of their sophomores, with 10 of the 12 players earning scholarships. During a five-year period, nearly 98 percent of the Owls men's basketball team moved on to four-year institutions, garnering one of the best matriculation records in the state.

"We recruit Citrus' players because we know we'll be getting the type of student who succeeds in our program," said Head Men's Basketball Coach Ken Ammann of Concordia University, Irvine—one of the most successful coaches in the country. "Coach [Chris] Victor does a great job of instilling toughness in his teams and preparing his players for the next level."

Whether transferring student-athletes compete in intercollegiate sports or solely pursue their academic goals, the preparation and support they receive at Citrus College greatly influence their success.

One such student-athlete is former Owl Michael Guajardo. Guajardo ran both cross country and track from 2010 to 2012. He is currently a junior at UC Berkeley, where he is majoring in applied mathematics.



Michael Guajardo, Class of 2012

"Being a student-athlete helped with my discipline. It taught me to get things done on time and in an orderly fashion," Guajardo says. "When you're participating in a sport, you have to learn how to schedule your practices and meets around your class schedule. Even though I'm not competing now, it's helped me realize how to best prioritize my time with my academic work."

For Guajardo, participating in cross country and track while attending Citrus College was a positive experience. An honor student, Guajardo was a "Scholar-Baller," a national program that recognizes student-athletes who have a 3.0 GPA or higher. He was also named to the California Community College Athletic Association Academic All-State Cross Country Team in 2011. During Guajardo's freshman year, the *Citrus College Clarion* noted that he "has joined the Citrus cross country team with one goal in mind: success."

**by Andrew Wheeler
and Paula Green**

A vital part of Guajardo's success involved his taking advantage of the college's programs and services. "Citrus was a good experience for me," Guajardo says. "A lot of helpful people with many available resources helped me along my way."

The resources from which Guajardo benefitted are part of the Athletics Department's commitment to academic success and its policy that "in order to maintain eligibility, priority registration, and to move on to the four-year level, a student-athlete's academics must be kept in good standing." To ensure student success, the college employs a full-time athletics counselor, Alicia Longyear. There is also a study center, located in the Kinesiology Department, for student-athletes' use.

Currently in her ninth year as a counselor and her first year as head cross country coach, Longyear's responsibilities include enforcing the college's mandatory orientation and assessment requirements; referring student-athletes to the services and programs they need to ensure their success; and advising them in preparing their Student Education Plans (SEP). Student-athletes must complete an SEP each semester to maintain their athletic eligibility and to keep up with the changes in transfer requirements and athletic eligibility regulations.

Citrus College provided Guajardo with more than an opportunity to participate in sports and transfer to a leading university; it allowed him to mature and grow.

"I think running cross country and track really helped make me the person that I am now," Guajardo says. "It's helped with my sense of determination. It has instilled a good work ethic in me, and I know it will pay off in the end."



For the past three seasons, 100 percent of Lady Owls basketball team sophomores have matriculated to four-year institutions. (Left to right) Lady Owls transferring student-athletes Brianna Barfield (Cal State Fullerton), Julia Tani (California Maritime Academy), Yvonne Sanchez (Dominican University), and Jasmine Cox (Dominican University).

“We recruit Citrus’ players because we know we’ll be getting the type of student who will succeed in our program.”
– Ken Ammann
Head Men’s Basketball Coach
Concordia University, Irvine

Campus



Fall Semester Enrollment Increases

The passage of Proposition 30 in November 2012 enabled Citrus College to add more than 200 class sections to the fall 2013 schedule.

To ensure that students filled the fall semester classes, Citrus College faculty, staff and students joined forces to inform potential students of increased enrollment opportunities. Student Ambassadors reminded students to pay for classes; telephoned Early Decision students who had not yet registered; and helped students with registration. Faculty enrolled additional students and worked closely with them to support their success.

As a result, the college reported its highest enrollment in three years. This fall, Citrus College reported 13,530 students enrolled in credit and noncredit classes, an increase of 13.9 percent over fall 2012.



College Hosts Social Justice Champion

As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Associated Students of Citrus College (ASCC) invited Dolores Huerta, civil rights activist and co-founder of the United Farm Workers, to speak at a forum in the Campus Center. The capacity crowd comprised of students, college staff, and community members listened with interest to her message about equal rights in which she emphasized equal opportunities for women.

Ms. Huerta spoke about the need for students and young people to get involved in the political process. She also spoke of her roots as a community organizer and labor activist with Cesar Chavez, and touched on the importance of providing opportunities for all people to receive a good education.



State Senator Tours the College

State Senator Carol Liu (third from left) visited Citrus College to tour the campus and learn more about the programs and services the college provides to students.

The visit was hosted by Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D. and members of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Eric Rabitoy, dean of natural and physical sciences and library services, and Ms. Ivon McCraven, coordinator of school relations, made a presentation on the Duarte Early College Program. The group then took a tour of the campus led by Student Ambassadors, which included the Nursing and Dental Assisting Programs, the STEM Center, and the Veterans Center.



Superintendent/President Honored by Rep. Chu

U.S. Representative Judy Chu of the 27th Congressional District selected Dr. Geraldine M. Perri as Educator the Year. Dr. Perri received the award at Congresswoman Chu's fourth annual DiverCities celebration, an event honoring the people, organizations, and businesses that foster and support cultural diversity in the cities and communities of the 27th District.

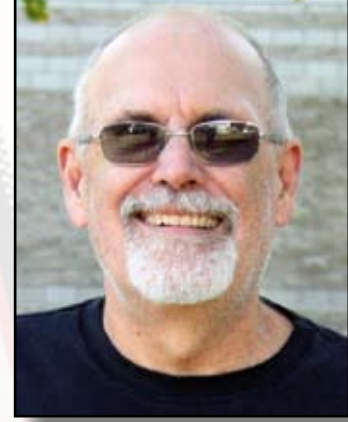
"All the awardees were carefully selected from nominations that were submitted by members of the community," Congresswoman Chu noted. "The selected groups and individuals received this honor because of the amazing work they have done in their fields, as well as their dedication to the community and the San Gabriel Valley as a whole."



Former Instructor, Alumnus Honored for Community Service

Recently retired Citrus College photography instructor Darrell Carr was honored as a "Community Dignitary" at the Duarte Education Foundation's annual "It Takes A Village..." fundraising event in October.

Carr, who grew up in Monrovia and has worked with the youth of Monrovia and Duarte, is a Citrus College alumnus and taught photography at the college for 23 years. He is also the founder of the Justin Carr Wants World Peace Foundation, which he and his wife established after their only child, Justin, died from an undiagnosed heart condition, called idiopathic hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (IHC). The organization's mission is to raise awareness of IHC and provide funding for youth programs.



Information Technology Support Specialist Honored

Ron Livingston, a 20-year Citrus College employee in the Technology and Computer Services Department, is the most recent recipient of the "Above and Beyond Classified Development (ABCD) Award." The information technology support specialist was selected for fostering an atmosphere of collaboration among his colleagues and his ability to "deal pleasantly and happily with the most difficult situations, while persistently staying on task until a satisfactory solution is reached."

The ABCD Award is granted four times a year. In honor of each recipient, a scholarship donation to the Citrus College Foundation is made by the Citrus College chapter of the California School Employees Association (CSEA).



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Samuel Stone

I chose to attend Citrus College because it was the most feasible option for me at the time. I received a Bright Futures Scholarship, and I was eligible for priority registration, which allowed me to get the classes necessary for transfer.

Attending Citrus College was a fun experience that enabled me to save money and to make an educated decision about my future. My goal is to earn a bachelor's degree in business administration with a minor in Spanish and, possibly, an MBA. Professionally, I would like to be in a position of leadership and authority. I plan to use my experiences from Citrus to become successful in my chosen field and to benefit others.

I am forever grateful to the faculty, staff, and counselors for all that they do. Citrus College has left a wonderful mark on my life's story.



Samuel Stone
Class of 2013



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