



Board of Trustees Report

October 2019



Honors Meet and Greet

About 65 students attended the fall 2019 honors meet and greet. In addition to get-acquainted and team building activities, students heard from Debbie Bogh from Counseling, Mariana Moreno from the Transfer Center, and Nick Reichert from Tutoring. They finished off the event with sandwiches, potato salad, and cookies provided by the Crafton Hills College Foundation.

Honors Ambassadors. R to L: Adam Virani, Kristy Beck, Victoria Karalun, Christopher Buffington.



9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

On September 11 we paused at Crafton Hills College to remember the victims of the 9/11 terror attacks. Volunteers placed 343 flags to honor the New York Firefighters who died on 9/11/01. Crafton Hills College students Steve Rodriguez and Stephen Kredel, both Student Veterans of America (SVA) reps and Army veterans, raised the flag in a silent ceremony. Thank you to the Veteran's Resource Center, Paramedic Class 93, the Fire Tech Club, and the Office of Student Life for collaborating to make this remembrance effort a success. We are grateful for our campus community for their part in commemorating this tragic event. We will never forget.



Crafton Hills College Celebrates EOPS Program's 50th Anniversary

Helping students unlock their “aha moments” is what Rejoice C. Chavira enjoys most about her job. For nearly 30 years, Chavira has worked with the Crafton Hills College EOPS program, which supports students where they need assistance - from providing one-on-one peer counseling services to financial assistance. The program - known as the Extended Opportunity Program and Services - celebrated its Golden Anniversary on September 12, 2019. “To see a program like EOPS still standing is amazing because it was the first student equity program when it was established and is the longest-standing social justice equity program in the State,” she explained.

Chavira, who currently serves as Crafton’s EOPS Director said the EOPS at Crafton is akin to an “extended family,” as the entire department works together to address every student’s needs. Often, the services provided through EOPS are

the only support a Crafton student will receive as they pursue higher education. “We help students discover their passion, and sometimes asking a student what that is - where their heart is - takes a lot of digging. But when you persevere, it is those types of discoveries that help each student get their ‘aha moment,’ which then helps them realize what they can accomplish,” Chavira said.

The event served as an informal reunion for program alumni. The department invited current and past students served by EOPS to attend, and included meet-and-greets with Crafton officials and remarks by former Crafton EOPS participants who have gone on to be successful in their career fields of choice.

Photo: Standing from left to right, Kashaunda Harris, Rejoice Chavira, Racquel Schoenfeld. Seated from left to right, Nati Rodriguez, Troy Hall

CHC Water Polo

On Wednesday, September 11, 2019, the Crafton Hills College Women's Water Polo Team played their inaugural game against Chaffey College. The exciting game ended with a tied score of 9-9 taking them into three rounds of over-time with an eventual 11-10 sudden death win for the BTR (Big Tough Roadrunners!) The stands were filled with faculty, staff, administrators, parents, students, and the Men's Water Polo Team cheering, chanting, and even doing a wave.

Come cheer on our Roadrunners at an upcoming game:

Oct. 9 vs Mesa @ CHC

Oct. 23 @ Palomar

Oct. 30 vs Southwestern @ CHC

Nov. 8-9 PCAC Championships @ Southwestern

Nov. 14-16 So-Cal Championships @ Riverside

Nov. 22-23 State Championships @ Golden West

Go Roadrunners!



Club Rush

A Masquerade-themed Meet and Greet Club Rush event filled the quad Wednesday, September 4. Over 15 clubs were on campus to recruit members and encourage students to get involved. A second Halloween-themed club rush is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 30 clubs expected to participate.



How a Trip to Mexico Helped One Crafton Student Connect with His Roots



Ocampo, an anthropology major at Crafton, was one of close to 175 students from California who participated in the program, all of whom were of Mexican descent.

Mirsha Ocampo was browsing Instagram one day when he came across an ad calling for students of Mexican descent to spend the summer exploring their roots.

Sponsored by Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Institute of Mexicans Abroad and in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate of Sacramento, the trip's itinerary called for participating students to spend five weeks soaking up Mexico's culture through volunteer work and interactions with its people.

But before the trip could happen, interested students like Ocampo had to meet a few requirements, including having roots – either through their parents or elders – in one of six states of Mexico such as Jalisco and Puebla.

“The more I looked into it, the more I wanted to apply,” said the 20-year-old Crafton Hills College anthropology major. “To be able to spend over a

month diving deeper into my culture and see what (Mexico) has to offer, how could I not want to?”

The trip began July 8 in Mexico City where students took part in a welcome celebration and program orientation. From there, students traveled to one of several states “to engage in a variety of educational activities, cultural and environmental site visits, and placement in community-based volunteer projects,” according to the program's website.

Close to 175 students took part in the trip, including Ocampo's group of 32, and were students from all over California. Ocampo stayed in the capital of Jalisco, Guadalajara, in a hotel with “an incredible view of the Cathedral of Guadalajara, which was surrounded by four plazas, each one offering a traditional piece of what Jalisco had to offer,” he said.

Each day offered up different cultural experiences, including volunteer opportunities scattered throughout the trip. Ocampo said a big highlight was connecting with people who shared a mutual love of the country.

“Getting to go to all the different towns, getting to see all the art and beauty and culture that Jalisco has to offer, meeting all the wonderful people, it was all so beautiful and magical,” explained the Calimesa resident. “Never have I connected so deeply to a group, all tethered together by our love for Mexico. Those connections I have with them feel like they transcend lifetimes.”

Although his relatives gave him some recommendations on places to explore and foods to eat prior to the trip, Ocampo said he didn't have a set agenda when it came to the experiences he wanted to take back with him to the states. Instead, he wanted to go in with an open mind and an open heart and take in whatever it would offer up.

Now back home, Ocampo is ready to start his final semester of school at Crafton before moving on to continue his studies in anthropology. He also

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How a Trip to Mexico Helped One Crafton Student Connect with His Roots



Crafton Hills College student Mirsha Ocampo spent five weeks in Mexico exploring the country's culture and its people. The trip - which ran July 8 through August 10 - was sponsored by Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Institute of Mexicans Abroad in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate of Sacramento.

hopes he can share his experiences with others and help squash stereotypes some have about Mexico and its people – a hot topic in today's political climate.

“One of the biggest misconceptions is that Mexico is just tequila, mariachi and tacos. What people don't take into account is that, yeah, it is those things, but those things are such a crucial part of Mexico's history along with so much more,” he said. “Jalisco is the birthplace of tequila and mariachi, and the culture behind it is held in such regard. There is so much art and skill that goes into cultivating the agave and transforming it into one of the most iconic drinks in not only Mexico, but the world.”

The art, he continued, the country's passion and beauty and are other things Ocampo hopes

to share with others. And should he ever be fortunate enough to return to Mexico, there are a few things he'd like to explore further. But saying goodbye was the hardest part of the trip. So was readjusting to life back in the states.

“I want nothing more than to go back,” Ocampo said. “I hope that I am able to return as soon as I can, and I will definitely be applying to the program next summer.”

To learn more about the program or to apply, go to <http://ime.gob.mx/intercambio/>.

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Transfer Fair

The CHC Fall Transfer Fair was held on Wednesday, Sept. 11. Students were able to meet with representatives from over 25 universities from California to out-of-state and as far away as Great Britain. All 9 of the UCs attended, as well as many CSUs and private

universities. Several hundred students stopped by the event and received answers to their questions about transfer, admission, programs available, financial aid, and more.



Trinity Alvarez

Trinity Alvarez attends Summit High School in Rialto and dreams of being a firefighter. During her visit to Crafton Hills College she shared that she would like to be a firefighter because “I want to help the community.” Three members of her family are firefighters, and one is a chief. Her family is incredibly supportive of her becoming a woman firefighter, “I would be the first!”

Rialto Explorers Visit Crafton

A group of eleven students from the City of Rialto Fire Explorer Program were on campus Thursday, September 12 to learn about our Public Safety and Allied Health Programs. Post Advisor, George Garay, a Morongo Valley Firefighter and former Explorer accompanied the group along with his younger brother, Andrew Garay, who serves the group as Head Explorer Chief. Bret Ramey introduced the fire cadets from Rialto to Crafton Hills College and the paths to become a Firefighter, EMT and Paramedic. He first taught about what it takes to become a firefighter. “It’s paying attention to detail.” He spoke about balancing the demanding work schedule and family life. Encouraging the female cadets, Bret explained that women firefighters are in demand and concerns they had could be addressed. Bret took the cadets to a FIRE 100 class in session and the cadets were able to ask the instructor and students questions. A thorough tour around the Fire Academy training area along with presentations from EMS and Paramedic programs gave cadets a broad view of the opportunities at Crafton.



Mike Orland Awards Scholarships

Mike Orland, retired Captain for San Manuel Fire Department and CHC Fire Academy #34 graduate returned to Crafton September 17 to offer advice and support. Mike spoke to the class of 30 cadets about the importance of striving for perfection knowing that it isn’t an attainable goal. He encouraged students to “put yourself out there” and presented checks and other gifts to seven students who submitted applications for his inaugural scholarship. In total, Mike donated \$6,800 to support the students and Academy including the entire cost of the program for Cadet Blum.



Scholarship Donor/Recipient Reception

A reception brought together recipients with their donors on Aug. 29 to celebrate the \$126,950 in scholarships awarded for the 2019-20 academic school year. Student speaker, Hanh Tran, who earned the Beaver Medical Clinic Radiologic Technician Foundation Scholarship, shared her story as a first-generation Vietnamese student. Tran said what got her through was her mother and “the hope that somebody believes in you.” Tran lost her mother to pancreatic cancer during her finals week at CHC.

Anthony Abate, the inaugural recipient of the Betty Jo Wood Memorial scholarship, was grateful to meet her family at the event. “This

allowed me to say thank you in addition to hearing more about the incredible woman Betty Jo was,” said Abate. “The stories I have heard about her have inspired me, and the impact she managed to have on so many is something I hope to one day have. For me, these scholarships aren’t a gift, but a loan, and I plan on reinvesting in the school and other students futures to the furthest extent I can.”

Eileen Verosik Commemorative Table



Eileen Verosik was a long time adjunct faculty for the EMS Department at Crafton Hills College. Friends, family, and colleagues have raised funds to place an inscribed table at the Public Safety and Allied Health building in her memory.

Any funds collected in addition to the cost of the table will be used to benefit students in the Emergency Medical Services Department. To make a donation, please visit www.craftonhills.edu/eileen

*Photo Left:
Eileen Mary Verosik
July 20, 1941 - March 22, 2019*

Upcoming



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| 10 / 11 | Legacy Wall Celebration
Crafton Center
2:30 p.m. |
| 10 / 17 | Great Shakeout
Campus-wide
10:17 a.m. |
| 10 / 23 | Hello Major, Hello Career Fair
Roadrunner Cafeteria
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. |
| 10 / 25
10 / 26 | California Classic Paralympic
Swim Meet
Aquatics Center
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (Sat only) |
| 11 / 1 | Friends Luncheon
Crafton Hall
11:30 a.m. |
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