

KHC NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of the Kellogg Honors College,
Cal Poly Pomona



A KHC Origin Story

BY DR. CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS
DIRECTOR, KHC



Recently, I had the opportunity of speaking at length with Dorothy Fleck and learned a bit more about the origin of the Kellogg Honors College as we reflect on our 20 trips around the sun. Dorothy, Director of the Transfer Center, worked as an advisor to many students at Cal Poly Pomona. While advising students she was inspired by their incredible academic ability. At the time (the late 1990s or early 2000s), there was no honors program to support and challenge these amazing students.

Dorothy got to work. She took a team to visit the well-regarded Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University. This became the starting point of our CPP Honors Program. From its very inception, the goal of the honors program was to be inclusive, the talented students came from all different backgrounds and for her, it was important for the program to serve the diverse community of Cal Poly Pomona. She wrote a grant for \$100,000 and submitted it to the CSU Chancellor's Office. It was funded. A planning committee chaired by an Associate Dean from the College of Engineering and composed of a faculty member from each CPP college plus the Director of Financial Aid and Dorothy met weekly for several months. After much work and academic senate approval, the honors program was born. The KHC is unique also in that it has a strong representation of STEM majors including engineering. During the early years of the program, Interim Director, Dr. Sara Garver and Dorothy Fleck worked tirelessly to make the KHC serve our campus making adjustments to support the success of our specific community. What the KHC has become is a product of its intentional design and amazing leadership in the years that followed. We are so lucky and grateful for Dorothy's vision and example of how incredible advisors can change the course of an institution and student success.

KHC 20th Anniversary Lecture: Save the Date!

BY DR. CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS
DIRECTOR, KHC



I am excited to announce that on **October 19, 2023**, we will be holding the **KHC 20th Anniversary Lecture** at CPP. Our invited speaker is Ms. Katye Echazzareta, an electrical engineer and science communicator. She will be speaking to our Cal Poly Pomona community about her journey to space--a journey that began with migration from Mexico to the US. To learn more about our speaker...

[CLICK HERE](#) 

This Issue:

A KHC Origin Story

PAGE 01

KHC 20th Anniversary Lecture:
Save the Date!

PAGE 01

Knitting Community with the Poly
Purlers

PAGE 02

ASI Elects Two KHC Student
Leaders

PAGE 03

KHCC News

PAGE 03

Celebrating the Class of 2023

PAGE 06

KHC Undergraduate
Research Highlights

PAGE 09

Two KHC Students Study
Abroad in Geneva

PAGE 10

Current KHC Students Shine

PAGE 11

KHC in the News

PAGE 13



Poly Purlers, Madison Sarmiento, Nolan Edwards, Jose Ortiz, Julia Portales, Kylee Alinder



Knitting Community with the Poly Purlers

BY KARLA MACEDO
KHC, STUDENT VOLUNTEER

Named after a knitting technique, the Poly Purlers is a club started by KHC student Haily Rubia in 2017-2018. Then the Covid-19 pandemic hit and meetings had to be moved online--attendance quickly declined. During the fall of 2023, the Poly Purlers finally started meeting in person once more. Haily, an animal science major, took up knitting to strengthen her hands for veterinary practice. Current president, KHC Student, Julia Portales notes that crochet has been an excellent way to manage stress. It has also helped her build concentration for lecture classes strengthening her learning in class. Julia is amused and delighted that so many students have started knitting and crocheting in the Honors Commons. While crocheting and knitting is a great hobby, it teaches lessons far beyond purling. The top three lessons that Poly Purlers can take away from this wonderful hobby are:

Patience: “not only with myself ,but with other people” said Julia. Patience is essential with crocheting because you need patience for the long-term rewards of this craft; **Teaching:** When it comes to teaching new members, Julia notes “It is a skill to teach just as it is to learn.”; **Leadership:** Taking on the role of president of a club is a huge commitment, and with that comes with a learning process as well.



Julia Portales, Poly Purlers President



ASI Elects Two KHC Student Leaders

BY KARLA MACEDO
KHC, STUDENT VOLUNTEER

The Associated Students Incorporated conducted its yearly elections this last spring semester. Honors Students Nouyan Li ran for Vice President, Esperanza Lopez was on the ballot for Agriculture Senator, Megan Shadrick ran for Student Interest Council Senator At-Large, and Ilke Suzer was a candidate for President. We are proud of all of the KHC students who ran for office and appreciate their engagement in student government. Megan Shadrick won her bid for Senator at large, and the new ASI president for the next academic year is none other than KHC student Ilke Suzer! Congratulations!



Megan Shadrick,
ASI Senator at Large 2023-24



Click icon for
information on running for
student government office



Ilke Suzer, ASI President 2023-24

KHCC News

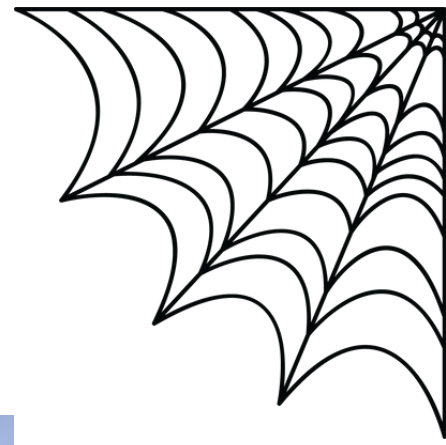
BY KARLA MACEDO
KHC, STUDENT VOLUNTEER



Click icon to read Ilke Suzer's welcome message to incoming Broncos on p. 4 of 2023-24 Bronco Guide Magazine

The Kellogg Honors College Club is our student organization in charge of programming and community building. This year the E-board was composed of Madison Sarmiento, Federico Parres, Karla Macedo, Roy Mouad, Sherwin Sathish, Hannah Herrick, and Joshua Salvador. This year's events included a Halloween Spooktacular party, a trip to Laserland, a Bob Ross Paint Night, and our formal, Floral Fantasy. The most well-attended events were the Laserland and Floral Fantasy Formal with each bringing together more than 50 KHC students! We look forward to more amazing KHCC adventures next academic year.





KHCC Halloween

Spooktacular



KHCC Bob Ross Paint Night





Best Dressed Honors Students



KHC Trivia Winners of the Prestigious Choi Trophy



KHCC Floral Fantasy Formal



Celebrating the KHC Class of 2023!

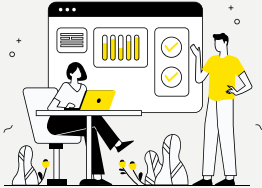
Honors Symposium & Convocation 2023

CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS
DIRECTOR, KHC

The celebration of the KHC Class of 2023 began on March 5, 2023 with the Kellogg Honors Symposium at the Research, Scholarly & Creative Activities Conference (RSCA) held yearly at Cal Poly Pomona. The conference is organized by the Office of Undergraduate Research. Graduating honors students presented their research projects after working all year long with dedicated faculty mentors, creating projects, and gathering and analyzing data, culminating with their research posters or presentations. It is always one of our favorite times of the year at KHC, getting a chance to see all of our honors students' hard work come to fruition. The spring semester ends for our seniors with Convocation, a chance to honor our students, celebrate with their families, and award graduation sashes to students that completed the KHC program. Click the icons below to see the Convocation Program and the research posters.



Convocation Program



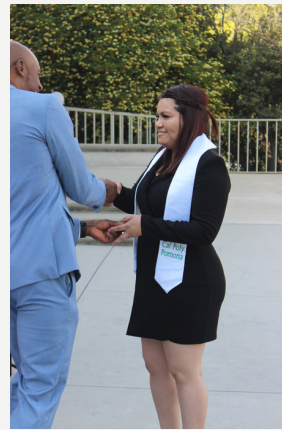
KHC Research Posters



Photos of KHC Research Symposium



Convocation 2023, Kellogg House, Cal Poly Pomona



Celebrating the KHC Class of 2023!

KHC Class of 2023 by the Numbers

CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS
DIRECTOR, KHC

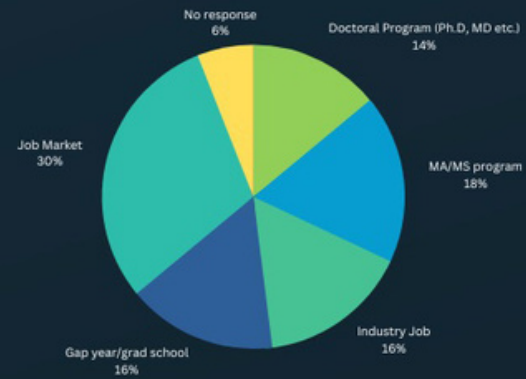


The overall GPA average of our graduating class was a 3.71.

Average years to graduation:
FTF. 4.2
Transfer 2.1

48% had jobs or were attending graduate school, and an additional 16% would be attending grad school in the next 2 years.

KHC Class of 2023 Post-Graduation Outcomes



Graduate Programs Recruiting KHC Class of 2023



University of California, Riverside
California State University Fullerton
Loughborough University, UK
University of Southern California
Cal Poly Pomona
University of California Los Angeles
Oklahoma State
Keck Graduate Institute
University of California, Davis
Western University of Medical Sciences
University of California Santa Barbara
Cal Baptist University

32% will be attending mostly graduate programs in CA, but also other states, and Anna Jurado will study engineering in the United Kingdom.

16% had jobs lined up with top companies. Some of these jobs were secured after participating in a summer internship with the company, like Briana Rittle who interned and now works at Intel.

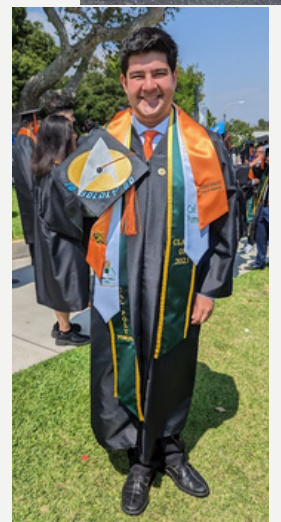
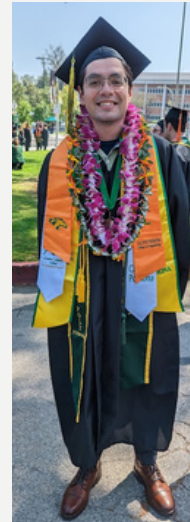
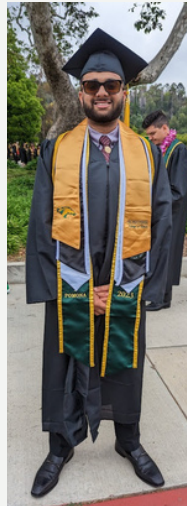
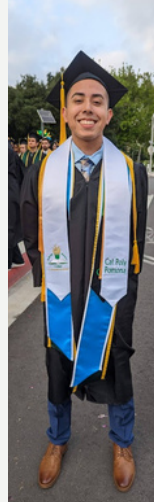
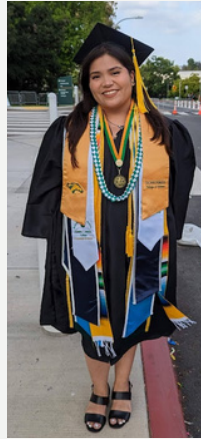
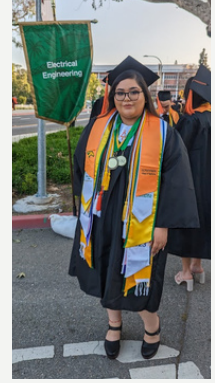
Terran Orbital
Paramount/Pluto TV
Accenture
Dick Sporting Goods
Disney
Intel
Mercer
Bain Consulting

Companies Hiring KHC Class of 2023



Congratulations KHC Class of 2023!

Commencement Highlights
Photos by Won Choi and Tom Zasadzinski

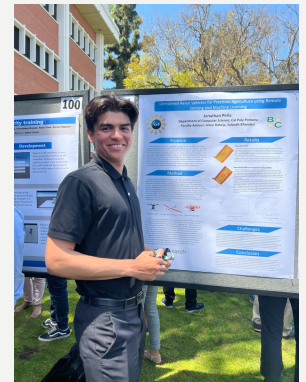
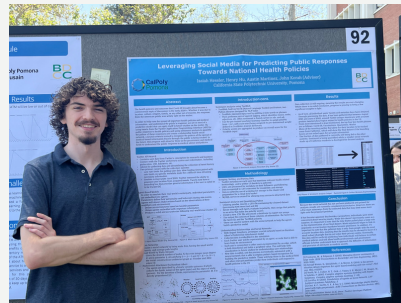
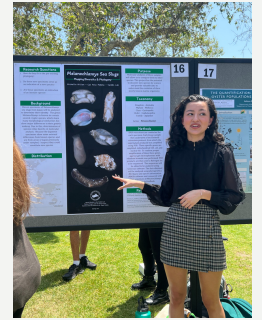
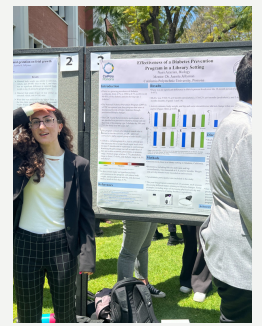
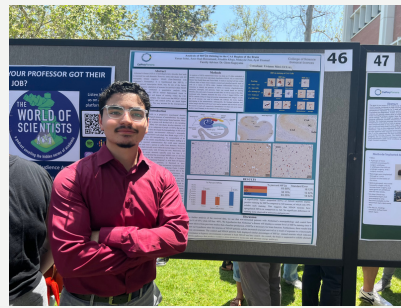


KHC Undergraduate Research Highlights

BY DR. CLAUDIA GARCIA-DES LAURIERS
KHC DIRECTOR

Undergraduate research is one of the most impactful activities that enhances the student experience and supports graduation rates, retention, and workforce readiness. Research teaches students critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, analytical skills, teamwork, oral and written communication, leadership, and so many other skills that prepare them for the future of work and prepares them for graduate school. Our program works very hard to provide opportunities for our students to engage in research and creative activities that will build their skills and enhance their resumes. KHC students across all majors have participated in and successfully presented their research at local and regional conferences.

In April of this year, KHC students traveled to Missoula, Montana to present at the Western Regional Honors Conference where honors students from the western region connect and share their research and creative activities. This provides an excellent networking opportunity. In addition, several honors students presented at the Annual College of Science Symposium held at the end of the Spring 2023 semester and other symposia, some even bringing home awards for their amazing work.



College of Science Research Symposium

Students Pictured: Yaman Sebai, Nairi Azazian, Raphael Napuinias, Michelle Milan, Isaiah Hessler, Jonathan Peña

KHC Student, Dinah Ramirez
Winner of the Lowell B. Overton
Undergraduate Research Symposium:
Best Poster Award



KHC @ the Western Regional Honors Conference, University of Montana, Missoula, MT

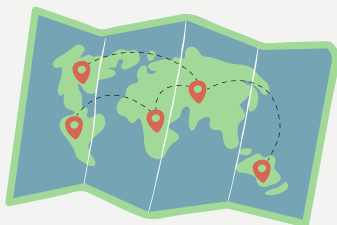
Left to Right: Won Choi (KHC Academic Coordinator), Dinah Ramirez, Nolan Edwards, Priscilla Mendieta, Zhong Ooi, Khan Doan, Dr. Marcus Elam (KHC Faculty Fellow), Jose Ortiz, Yaman Sebai, Maranda Hernandez, Maya Santos, Jaylyn Jiang, Cesar Valdovinos

Kyle Chao & Melane Olmedo Study Abroad in Geneva, Switzerland

Study Abroad March 22nd to April 2nd Paris, France and Geneva, Switzerland

Reflection by Melane Olmedo

The first two days in Paris were amazing. The food was amazing and the architecture was breathtaking. Day Two was packed with anything you would want to see in Paris. We were able to see all the amazing monuments in a single day. First, we visited the Palace of Versailles. Then we stopped off at the Eiffel Tower and saw the Arc De Triumph. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience to see the Mona Lisa and all the other works of art in the Louvre Museum. The train ride from Paris to Geneva was just as gorgeous as Paris. The first day in Geneva was spent at the student symposium with Webster University. We were able to learn and have healthy discussions with students from all over the world. The rest of the time in Geneva was spent at site visits with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's). Each organization was different and offered much to learn. The final full day in Switzerland was spent in the countryside. This is my first time traveling overseas, and it is an experience I will have with me forever. Thanks to the Kellogg Honors College for the financial support provided through an enrichment grant, and to Dr. Renford Reese for organizing this trip.



Photos courtesy of Kyle Chao & Melane Olmedo

Current KHC Students Shine!

By Won Choi

KHC Academic Coordinator

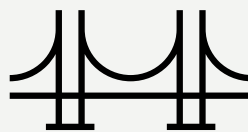
Honors students work throughout the year applying for various opportunities to lead clubs, start clubs, and conduct research among other high-impact practices. In our CPU2990H course, we teach students to search for opportunities for scholarships and internships on and off campus. These experiences help our students grow and become career ready. These are a few of the students who are shining bright this year. **Click the icons to learn more about the programs or organizations involved.**



Food Science Major, ShuTing Chen is conducting genomics research this summer at Washington University in St. Louis. She was also selected as part of the McNair Scholars program and received the Norman Williamson Jr. Scholarship.



Political Science Major, Aakriti Adhikari is interning with the Forum for Women, Law and Development



Civil Engineering Major, Khan Doan was selected Co-Design captain of the Student Steel Bridge Competition team for 2022-23 Academic Year. The team placed second in regionals and 7th in nationals!



English Major, Nolan Edwards was selected to participate in the McNair Scholars Program.



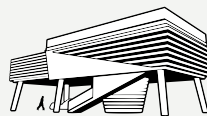
Kinesiology Major, Kaitlin Gomez will be interning at Pomona Valley Hospital in their Physical Therapy Department.



Chemistry major, Angela Gotinco was admitted to the NASA-JPL Summer Internship 2023, Earth, Science and Technology Division, was the recipient of the Chemistry and biochemistry Scholarship and the AAB Memorial Science for All Scholarship, and was accepted to the CPP Liquid rocket Laboratory-Bronco Launch Vehicle 1 Testing and Recovery Team.



Architecture major, Diego Herrera earned internships with the Southern California chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects and with architectural firm ZGF.



Kinesiology Major, Lauren Lamoreaux is interning with Vistendo and exercise science company.



Animal Science Major, Karen Hung attended the Animal Pre-Veterinary Medical Association national symposium and was elected to the national board.

Did we miss you? Current students and alumni click the icon to share your success and look out for us highlighting your achievements in upcoming issues of the KHC newsletter.



Current KHC Students Shine! cont.

By Won Choi
KHC Academic Coordinator

Click the icons to learn more about the programs or organizations involved.



Civil Engineering Major, Justin Mills received several scholarships including one through the Native American Tribal Services and secured a position at the Native American Student Center



Mechanical Engineering Major, Stephanie Strain received the Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship from the National Energy Technology Laboratory.



Psychology major, Lauryn Vaughn will serve as a research assistant in Dr. Vivian Seyranian's Transformational Research Lab.



History major, Madison Vaughn received the Teach for America Ignite Fellowship.



Civil Engineering Major, Kennedy Williams will serve on the Executive Board of the California Land Surveyors Association Student Chapter.



Electrical Engineering Major, Raymond Wong will intern at NASA-JPL in Pasadena, CA.



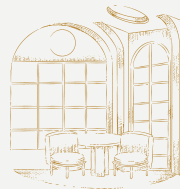
Kinesiology Major, Gabriela Rios was hired as an Emergency Medicine Scribe at Victor Valley Global Medical Center.



Chemistry Major, Jenna Surdzial will be traveling to Jülich, Germany to conduct research as part of the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst German Academic Exchange Service Research (DAAD) Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE).



Physics major, Olivia Walsh received an Summer Research fellowship in the Department of Physics at Stanford University.



Hospitality Major, Katie Wilson will intern at The Welk a Marriot Vacations Worldwide property in Escondido, CA.



Computer Science major Cleo Yau has a Cyber risk and financial analyst internship at Deloitte.



Computer Science major, Krista Zagarian has been interning with Northrop Grumman.



Astronomy major, Dylan Hope will be doing a summer REU at University of Wyoming and remotely at the Apache Point Telescope in New Mexico

KHC in the News

Click on the icons on the left to read about some of the newsworthy activities that KHC students and staff participated in.



CPP Computer Science Develops New Programs for Robot Spot

Poly Post, April 25, 2023--KHC Student Mark Haddad among those participating in this work



Political Science Graduate Embraces Opportunities to Learn and Do

PolyCentric--KHC Student Melane Olmeda featured in this story



CPP Graduate Jose Ortiz Reflects on Academic Journey

PolyCentric--KHC Student Jose Ortiz featured



Study Abroad to Geneva Provides CPP Students with Cultural Exchange, Career Opportunities

PolyCentric--KHC Students Kyle Chao and Melane Olmeda participated in this program with KHC support



Broncos Earn 13 All-America Awards at 2023 Nationals

Track and Field Athlete and KHC Student Jaelyn Thomas part of this award-winning team



Bronco Fashion, 2023 Bronco Guide Magazine (p. 59-60)

KHC student & Apparel Management Major, Andrea Avalos, campus fashionista

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Join the Bronco Mentoring Network!

The Cal Poly Pomona Bronco Mentoring Network is a career networking site specifically for Cal Poly Pomona students to gain access to hundreds of Alumni who have volunteered to mentor students like you! This is also a great opportunity to connect with KHC Alumni!

Learn more and sign up here: cpp.peoplegrove.com