



## Welcome

Greetings to the students, alumni, and friends of SEES. We hope that everyone had a great and fabulous summer. Within this issue of The SEES Informer, you will find important key events that occurred during the previous academic year, as well as important news and friendly reminders about our upcoming activities. To our graduates: The hard work paid off, congratulations! To our continuing students: Our motivation is to continue and our goal is to succeed. To the bright new faces of SEES, we are delighted to have you join our family! We hope everyone finds this newsletter both informative and enjoyable.

For any comments or suggestions about the newsletter please contact Dr. Burke . \*\*\*baburke@csupomona.edu\*\*\*

Sincerely,  
Nereyda Donoso  
Editor in Chief

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## Commencement 2008

The fifty-second annual Commencement of Cal Poly Pomona was held Sunday, June 15, 2008. The soon to be graduates made their way to the stage with their heads held high, as the audience cheered at a job well done. Each student proudly completed their academic journey thanks to their hard work and the support of family and friends. We would like to congratulate each graduate and wish them the best of luck in all of their future endeavors.

*"Graduation is a time of completion, of finishing, of an ending, however, it is also a time of celebration of achievement and a beginning for the new graduate." Catherine Pulsifer*





The following students are the graduates of 2008:

- |                  |                  |                    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Cristian Aguilar | Rahel Demisse    | Rose Lara          |
| Genaro Avila     | Eddie Lee Diaz   | Consuelo Loverme   |
| Clarice Barron   | Angelica Estrada | Airek Mathews      |
| Jessica Bergara  | Wendy Fajardo    | Benjamin Moreno    |
| Abiye Briggs     | Dario Garcia     | Arlene Ocampo      |
| Jose Chavarria   | Elysse Gatdula   | Johan Orozco       |
| Brittany Collins | Nina Gudiel      | Raymond Rodriguez  |
| Walther Colon    | Silvia Hernandez | Denise Rodriguez   |
| Desiree Daniels  | Cindy Jackson    | Juan Romero        |
|                  |                  | Carissa Valenzuela |

*Awards and Scholarships*

The 2007-2008 Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship was awarded to:  
Cynthia Castillo

Honorable Mention Award

- |                     |                    |                     |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Gerald Angel      | • Ulysses Gatdula  | • Demetreana Ofurie |
| • Cathryn De Guzman | • Lina Hernandez   | • Lauren Quiros     |
| • Rahel Demisse     | • Sandra Hernandez | • Diego Santillana  |
|                     |                    | • Chris Tashjian    |

The Boeing Company Scholarship for academic excellence in science was awarded to:

- |                     |                    |                     |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Gerald Angel      | • Rahel Demisse    | • Demetreana Ofurie |
| • Dennis Ankrah     | • Elysse Gatdula   | • Matthew Pasos     |
| • Priscilla Antunez | • Ulysses Gatdula  | • Lauren Quiros     |
| • Mayra Cervantes   | • Sydney Henderson | • Diego Santillana  |
| • Cathryn De Guzman | • Nina House       | • Damion Walters    |
| • Kim De La Peza    | • Erica Johnson    |                     |

\* CSU AMP Scholarships for 2007-2008 were awarded to:

Consuelo Loverme & Wesley Smith

\* Cal Poly Student Poster Competition winners :

Ge'Yanni Polk

Honorable Mention: Priscilla Antunez



- \* Presidents Council Scholarship was awarded to:  
Priscilla Antunez
- \* Hilda Solis Scholarship was awarded to:  
Priscilla Antunez
- \* Edward T. Roche Res. Assistant Scholarship was awarded to :  
Dennis Ankrah
- \* David F. Steele Pre-Professional Scholarship was awarded to :  
Rahel Z. Demisse

## Building 3

One of the oldest buildings on campus has become the pride and joy of the College of Science. The renovation of building 3 is complete! After making building 4 our home for two years, SEES will be moving back to building 3 fall quarter 2008. A fresh new room means a new start and new adventures for SEES students. Our new SEES room will be located in building 3-2117 and 3-2117A. Dr. Burke's office will be located in building 3-2132A and Dora's office will be located in building 3-2123. We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.



## Mentoring Program Update

The SCI 110 and SCI 111 courses give first year SEES students the opportunity to learn about different careers of study in their major. The class is a great way for students to get to know one another,

improve communication skills and to form study groups. SCI 110 is an integral part of the HHMI mentoring program; which has completed its fourth year. The year was a great success, with nine upper division student mentors and twenty-nine new mentees. The 2007-2008 Mentoring Coordinator position was held by Elysse Gatlula, fifth year student majoring in Biology. Her position consisted of overseeing all of the upper division students and their assigned mentees as well as being in close contact with the mentor Professors; we appreciate her time and dedication to the program. Our new Mentoring Coordinator for the 2008-2009 year will be Rosemary Camarena, Congratulations!



2007-2008 HHMI Mentees

## Research Symposium

On Friday May 23, 2008 the College of Science held the third annual Research Symposium. The following undergraduate students participated in the poster presentation.

- Ankrah, Dennis
- Antunez, Priscilla
- Diaz, Lee Eddie
- Gutierrez, Dennise
- Hartono, Stella
- Klomhaus, Arthur
- Kim De La Peza
- Orozco, Fernando Johan
- Mvuemba, Sonia



## Summer Programs

Each summer brings new opportunities for students to do what they love most. Some students take on summer jobs, attend summer school, participate in internships or in a summer research program! Research programs are a way for students to gain more knowledge in their field of study. Some students travel out of state, where they are able to test their independence. This summer, several SEES students traveled to other universities, while others participated in the McNair Scholar Program at Cal Poly.

- Nicole Berry: McNair Scholar
- Kevin Gardner: REU program, USDA Forest Services, Missoula MT
- Annette Hernandez: McNair Scholar
- Trang Lu: McNair Scholar
- Kailah Martin: Gene Black summer Medical Career Program
- Michael Peralta: REU program in Chemistry, University of California, Riverside
- Ge'Yanni Polk: REU program in Marine and Coastal Ecology, University of Alaska Southeast
- Lauren Quiros: UCLA Pre-medical Prep Program
- Kristin Spaulding: Gilead Internship in Chemistry
- Ryan Valles: REU Mathematics program, Willamette University, Oregon

## Christmas Party

The annual SEES Christmas Party was held at the Kellogg Mansion on November 30<sup>th</sup> 2007. It was a night for students and family to create lasting memories and enjoy a wonderful holiday dinner. It was great seeing everyone come together for such a special time of year. The beautiful decorations all around provided everyone with a holiday spirit. The talented Jack Hamm entertained guests by playing the piano; as everyone joined in by singing Christmas carols. It was a night to remember! We would like to thank everyone who attended. Hope to see you and your family this year.



Edgar Rodriguez, Wendy Avila and Cynthia Castillo singing Christmas carols.

## LPMSA

LPMSA is the Latino Pre-Medical Student Association here at Cal Poly Pomona. This organization functions as a moral and academic support group. We inspire our members to reach their dreams with distinguished science speakers who are invited to share their professional experiences. Speakers such as Dr. Guillermo Camacho (dentist), Dr. Juan Campos (veterinarian) and Dr. Una Morris (radiologist) visited the club.

This was a very busy year for LPMSA. They held a boom ball competition, bowling night, scary movie night, traveled to the UC San Diego School of Medicine and attended the Body Worlds museum in San Jose. The End-of-the-Year banquet at Acapulco Restaurant was a great success. After dinner awards were presented as well as the introduction of the new E-board for the next school year. This year there



was a surprise twist in the election for president, Congratulations to co-presidents Lauren Quiros and Edgar Rodriguez. We are sure that having you both work together will result in a year no one will ever forget. Good luck to the new E board!



Body Worlds 2008

The 2007-2008 E-Board consists of:

Co-Presidents: Lauren Quiros & Edgar Rodriguez

Vice President: Chris Tashjian

Secretary: Cynthia Castillo

Treasure: Demetrea Ofurie

Club Representatives: Trang Lu & Alfred Villaseñor

Historian: Ulysses Gatdula

Social Chairs: Lina Hernandez & Kai Feng

Good Luck E-Board members!

LPMSA would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Burke and Dora Andersen for all of their support this past year. !



2008-2009 E-Board

## *Alumni Dinner*

The fourth Annual SEES Alumni Dinner was a great success! Thank you to all who attended. SEES would also like to thank the Alumni for all of the donations received. These funds are used to help SEES students whose needs do not fit into the ordinary funding categories available to the SEES program, they are much appreciated!

The SEES alumni dinner was held in May at Kellogg West. Thirty five alumni attended and each had their own special view of how important SEES was; not only to their success at Cal Poly, but also as they joined the scientific work force. It was great to see alumni, and their families come together on this special evening; which was made even more special when each alumni received their own SEES tote bag. The highlight of the evening was SEES alumni sharing stories about specific faculty (usually SEES advisors). Since there were also faculty attending, they of course, shared their own stories about SEES students. It was a very special evening of reminiscing about SEES and how great an impact it has had on both students and faculty.





# SEES Graduates

- \* Cristian Aguilar was accepted into the biology department Ph.D. program at the University of California, Irvine.
- \* Kim De La Peza was accepted into the Michigan State University School of Veterinary Medicine.
- \* Elysse Gatdula was accepted into the masters program in Biological Sciences at Cal Poly Pomona
- \* Nina Gudiel was accepted into the chemistry department Ph.D. program at the University of California, Irvine.
- \* Arthur Klomhaus was accepted into the Colorado State University School of Veterinary Science.
- \* Airek Mathews was accepted into the M.P.H. program at the University of California, Los Angeles.
- \* Benjamin Moreno was accepted into the LSAMP Bridges to the Doctorate program at Arizona State University.
- \* Sonia Mvuemba was accepted into the MS program in Health Sciences at the Western University School of Health Science.
- \* Andrea Pastor was accepted into the credential program at the Claremont Graduate School.
- \* Uju Eze was accepted into the graduate program for nursing at Azusa Pacific College
- \* Vanessa Munoz was accepted into the University of California, Los Angeles, Drew/UCLA Medical School.
- \* Kristine Nodarse was accepted into the Ph.D. program in public health at the University of Southern Florida
- \* Linda Ostos was accepted into the masters program in geology at the University of California Riverside.
- \* Tom Ramos was accepted into the MBA program at the University of California, Irvine.

## SEES Website

This year SEES has launched a new and improved website. It is a gateway of information and resources for new and old SEES students. Check out our new photo album and calendar at <http://www.csupomona.edu/~sees>



### Upcoming Events

- ★ **September 2008**
- ★ Fall Quarter begins on Sept. 25th
- ★ **October 2008**
- ★ SACNAS conference
- ★ **November 2008**
- ★ ABRCMS conference
- ★ **December 2008**
- ★ Annual Christmas party, Dec. 5th
- ★ **January, 2009**
- ★ CSUPERB
- ★ **February 2009**
- ★ SUMMA conference at Stanford
- ★ **May 2009**
- ★ LPMSA Banquet, SEES Alumni Dinner

### Keeping in Touch

Give us an update if you haven't been by SEES in the last year. Help us keep in touch with you! We are always glad to hear about what you are doing, and please, photos would be great too! You can email Dr. Burke at

[baburke@csupomona.edu](mailto:baburke@csupomona.edu)

We hope to see those of you in the L.A. area at the Annual SEES Christmas Party on December 5th, 2008 at the Kellogg Mansion; and next May for our Annual Alumni Dinner.



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We're on the Web!

[example.microsoft.com](http://example.microsoft.com)

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Your business tag line here.

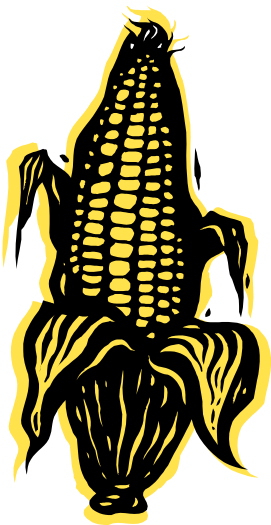
  
**Organization**

*This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.*

*It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.*

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## *Back Page Story Headline*



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*