

# The SEES Informer

The Science Educational Enhancement Services

2015-2016

## Welcome to SEES!

Dora Andersen SEES Administrative Coordinator

For the past 29 years, SEES (Science Educational Enhancement Services) has been engaged in increasing the number and quality of underrepresented minority (URM) STEM students at Cal Poly Pomona.

SEES continued its strong tradition of supporting our underrepresented minorities and first generation students with services that support our mission of increasing retention and graduation rates. Scholarships, research internships, Academic Excellence Workshops, Textbook Loan Program, and Mentoring Program and Teachers in Training are some of the methods used to promote academic success. One of the biggest challenges we face is the limited space we have. Use of SEES space includes access to electronic

equipment, networking with other students in their major, a quiet space to be able to study with other students, and tutoring services. To better provide our students' needs we have improved Wi-Fi access, acquired new student chairs, and installed electronic Smart Boards to provide a better learning environment.

One of the thrills of working here is hearing director Steve Alas share his ideas for improving the quality of services SEES provides to our student community. His ideas are innovative and can lead to some frantic, yet controlled chaos. More often than not I meet these ideas with excitement, then some fear of working out the logistics, a lot of hard work, but ultimately the execution of these ideas is the most

## Upcoming Events

- May  
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SEES & LSAMP Banquet
- June  
2017 Commencement
- Summer 2017  
SEES Discovery Camps



rewarding part. Executing these ideas may leave us exhausted, but with a great sense of accomplishment. In this issue of the SEES Informer you will read about the STEM Success grant work that was done this past summer to the colleges of science and engineering freshman during Orientation sessions.

# Commencement 2016

On Saturday, June 11, 2016, thirty-two SEES students participated in the 2016 commencement ceremony. Throughout the academic year, many of these SEES seniors could be seen studying at the late hours to pass the last midterms, the last finals, and the last classes toward their degree. Not even the gloomy weather that morning could have stopped these SEES students from taking those final steps to successfully obtain a Bachelor's degree from the College of Science. This particular class of SEES seniors

demonstrated what it means to be a member in the SEES Program. They strived for excellence in their classes and research, juggled responsibilities from both in school and out, and overcame any struggles that came their way. This next academic year their accomplishments and departure will fuel and inspire those beginning and those continuing in our home away from home, the SEES Program. Now, they march off to conquer what life has in store for them next. Congratulations Class of 2016!! You did it!

## 2015-2016 Graduates

Antonio Aguayo  
Gloria Alvarado  
Alison Arce  
Simon Avila  
Estefani Ayala  
Yvonne Campos  
Crystal Carter  
Jessica De Los Santos  
Eric Del Cid  
Renee Estephan  
Emily Farias

Angela Fuller  
Lauren Gamboa  
Natalie Garcia  
Gabriela Garza-Vazquez  
Gloria Gonzalez  
Kimberly Herrera  
Gabriel Martinez  
Edith Mederos  
Vallen Nicholas  
Arlen Prosser  
Miguel Reyes

Monica Rios  
Robbie Roberson  
Adam Rodriguez  
Fany Salazar  
Brianna Santos  
Janice Spradley  
Michael Torres  
Daniel Vallejo  
Davon Webb  
Shavette Williams



## RECENT GRADUATE NEWS

- **Alberto Herrera** – PhD program at City of Hope
- **Eduardo Renteria** – Claremont Graduate University, Teacher Credentials and Masters of Education Program; he was awarded the Claremont Colleges STEM Initiative NSF/Robert Noyce Teaching Fellowship
- **David Afework** – MD Ross University School of Medicine
- **Emily Farias** – MD Medical College of Wisconsin
- **Fany Salazar** – PhD University of Arizona
- **Adam Rodriguez** – MS CPP
- **Ashlee Spradley** – MS CSU Long Beach
- **Daniel Vallejo** – PhD University of Michigan
- **Arlen Prosser** – MS CP SLO
- **Angela Fuller** – BSN West Coast University
- **Stephanie Hernandez** – Credential Program CPP
- **Timothy Batz** – MS CPP
- **Christian Garrido** – PhD Wright State University
- **Lisa Munoz** – Credential Program CPP
- **Renee Estephan** – PhD City of Hope
- **Stephan Riedel** – MS UC Irvine
- **Mark Alonzo** – MS CPP
- **Diana Gonzalez** – MS Program Portland State University and Oregon State University
- **Michael Luzuriaga** – PhD Program UTexas

## DR. PAUL HIEMENZ AND DR. BARBARA BURKE AWARD

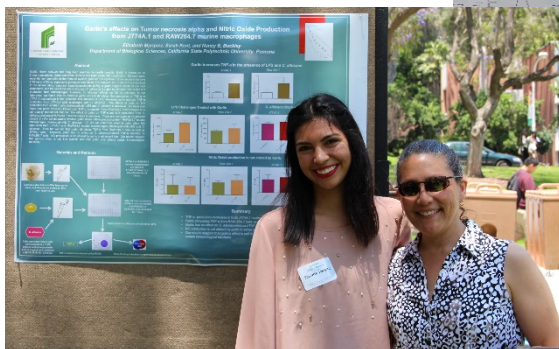
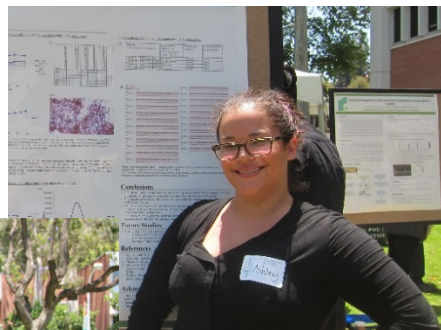
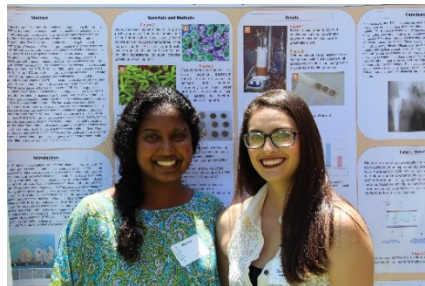
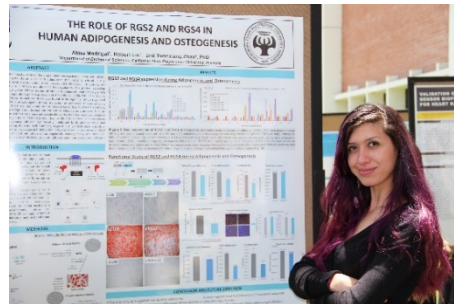
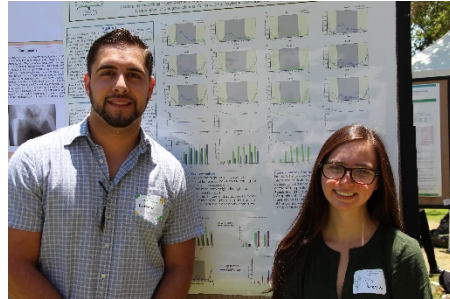
Dr. Paul C. Hiemenz, the founding director, and Dr. Barbara Burke, the second director of SEES, have contributed a great amount to the SEES Program over the years. Through the Dr. Paul Hiemenz Scholarship and the Dr. Barbara Burke Scholarship, their legacy is being passed down to those SEES students whom over their years in SEES have demonstrated exemplary characteristics. These SEES students have been role models that exemplify the spirit and ideals of SEES, as well as leaders that have contributed to enhancing the SEES Program. Congratulations Michael Torres (left; Hiemenz) and Daniel Vallejo (right; Burke). Everyone in the SEES Program wishes you the best for the future.



# Presenters at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual CPP Student Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities Conference

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Christian Garrido  
Michael Luzuriaga  
Giselle Hernandez  
Jade Lolarga  
Zachary Kyzar  
Obed Villalpando  
Phelicita Bell  
Michell Aranda  
Pablo Unzueta  
Michael Huluf  
Miguel Reyes  
Lilliana Ochoa  
Glen Morrison  
Gabriela Garza-Vazquez  
Hansini Vitharanage  
Jennifer Lopez  
Natalie Eulogio  
David Afework  
Crystal Carter  
Rachel Wampler  
Fany Salazar  
Jose Flores



# 11<sup>th</sup> Annual COS Research Symposium

SEES members that participated in the 11<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Science Research Symposium  
College of Science held on May 27, 2016.

Antonio Aguayo  
Hector Alarcon  
Stephen Alatorre  
Asseneth Berbeo  
Lauren Briggs  
Brenda Calderon  
David Contreras  
Mariana De Leon  
Don Dixon  
Cole Fraizer  
Haleh Golestani  
Giselle Hernandez  
Brandon Lam  
Jacqueline Lara  
Jade Lolarga  
Jennifer Lopez  
Ashley Magin  
Elizabeth Marquez  
Danielle Mc Haskell  
Jose Monroy  
Glen Morrison  
Elizabeth Munguia  
Chatrthip Nasongkla  
Carmel Pearson  
Sidney Perez  
Stephanie Salas  
Fany Salazar  
Martin Sanchez  
Benjamin Soto  
Nicole Tronske  
Pablo Unzueta  
Rachel Wampler  
Davon Webb

# SEES SCHOLARS

## SEES - NSF S-STEM scholars

19 NSF S-STEM Scholars

STEM Scholarship Program was established to support academically successful junior/ senior STEM students with financial need



Desiree Brazeau

Erin Bullard

Crystal Ellis

Jesse Garcia

Jacqueline Guadarrama

Kimberly Herrera

Gabriel Martinez

Chidozie Olumba

Arlen Prosser

Annah Ramones

Fany Salazar

Shirleen Simargi

Noel Somoza

Janice Spradley

Michael Torres

Daniel Vallejo

Hansini Vitharanage

Carlton Walter

Davon Webb

## SEES - LSAMP scholars

295 LSAMP Participants

13 LSAMP Research Participants

Jennifer Lopez

Glen Morrison

Stephen Alatorre

Giselle Hernandez

Jose Monroy

Stephanie Salas

Miguel A. Reyes

Elizabeth Marquez

Jackie Lara

David Contreras

Brenda Calderon

Michael Luzuriaga

Don Dixon

## **SEES - McNair scholars**

Mark Alonzo, Biology  
German Lagunas-Robles, Biotechnology  
Borman Quinonez, Botany Biology

## **SEES - BioTiER scholars**

### 11 Bio-TiER Scholars

The BioTiER (Biological Training in Education and Research) Scholars Program is designed to prepare young, developing scientists for today's demanding work environment. The program integrates sector-specific career skills into the graduate training of scholars so they may exceed workplace demands in industry and academia on completion of their MS degrees.



Eileen Asseneth Berbeo  
Jesus Cepeda  
Marina De Leon  
Elizabeth Munguia  
Cole Frazier  
Haleh Golestani  
Brandon Lam  
Ashley Magin  
Chatrathip Nasongkla  
Carmel Pearson  
Nicole Tronske



## **SEES - RISE scholars**

Pablo Urzueta  
Danielle McHaskell  
Timothy Batz  
Gabrielle Garza-Vazquez  
Christian Garrido  
Natalie Eulogio  
Uriah Sanders  
Ben Soto  
Nicole Lynn

## **SEES - Achieve scholars**

Renee Estephan

## **SEES – LSAMP PROUD Scholars**

Renee Estephan  
Hansini Vitharanage  
Liliana Ochoa  
Obad Villapand

# SEES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The SEES Annual Christmas Party was held at the Kellogg Mansion on December 11, 2016. There was plenty of Christmas joy throughout the night as SEES members, friends, family, faculty, and staff members talked and reminisced about the good times this holiday season. The night holds many traditions for the SEES Program. It began with Dr. Alas, the current SEES Director, welcoming everyone who joined us on that special night. We are grateful that the founder of the SEES Program, Dr. Paul Hiemenz, comes to celebrate with us and continues to inspire current SEES students. Once dinner had finished, everyone gathered in the living room, where the SEES students accompanied by the pianist Jack Hamm, sang Christmas carols. Each year on a night like the Annual Christmas Party, it reminds us that even when we are busy

with school, work, family, and obligations, it is our responsibility to stop, take a breath and reflect on all the blessings that happen in our lives.

If you have the chance this December, come join us. It will be a joyous occasion.



# SEES ANNUAL AWARDS RECEPTION

On May 13, 2016, SEES held its first annual Scholarship Award and Alumni Banquet at the Cal Poly Pomona at the Kellogg House. This event presented scholarships to SEES & LSAMP members for their hard work and dedication to their studies. We welcomed back SEES alumni to help celebrate the amazing achievements that current SEES & LSAMP members have been able to accomplish. There were a total of six scholarship presented: Paul C. Hiemenz, Barbara Burke and four LSAMP PROUD awards. In addition, the awarded students received graduation sashes to represent the amazing organizations. The scholarship awards help make paying for college a little easier, allowing for more students to help reach and accomplish their life-long goals. Each awarded recipient thanked SEES and those people in their lives that they could not have accomplished their goals without. Not only were their speeches a way to relish in their academic successes, but it was a time for them to remind us just how important programs like SEES, LSAMP, and people, such as Dr. Paul C. Hiemenz and Dr. Barbara Burke really are. These programs help give a sense of community and togetherness to minority students out in the “real world” in the STEM fields. The program structure also allows each student to be a part of a larger team that wants nothing more than to see success in every individual by working together and lifting each other up. So, in all, we thank everyone who attended and contributed to the first annual SEES & LSAMP Scholarship Award and Alumni Banquet. We can't wait to host it again next year and honor even more students and their successes!







## CLUB PRESIDENTS

Carlos Gomez – President of Microbiology

Sidney Perez – President of Fermentation Club

Chidozie Olumba – President of SMACCS

Daja Kinney (Not in photo)

Daniel Vallejo – President of Science Council (Not in photo)

Ashley Spradley – President of Association of Black Students in Science



## RESEARCH ON THE HIGH SEES



One lucky SEES student had the incredible opportunity to experience “SEAS” in a way few ever get to. Our student, Oscar Prado, embarked on a unique two-week long experience traversing from the San Diego coast to the Hawaiian Island of Honolulu on a research vessel. This was the very first of many STEMSEAS (STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships) explorations to come. “We were the guinea pigs, the first to ever set sail as STEMSEAS participants and I am happy to say that did not make the experience any less remarkable, just a little more special.”

Oscar remembers, “Taking this trip was definitely a leap into the unknown. I had never sailed on a boat but I knew this was a lost childhood dream I had to explore.” Participants were lectured throughout the trip and applied many of the same material to the activities performed during the trip. “The amount of material we

covered felt like an entire quarter worth in a matter of two weeks. I know this may sound

unappealing but because I was always engaged and able to experience the material first-hand, I enjoyed every second and learned more than I have ever in such a short amount of time” explained Oscar. One of the many activities the participants performed was obtaining gravity cores from the bottom of the ocean and analyzed them. These cores were taken from depths of up to 5000 meters under sea level.

“Analyzing the soil was one of my favorite parts of this trip. We used high powered microscopes and looked though the calcareous nannofossils and foraminifer in the samples.”

Oscar recalled the best part of the experience and responded, “Choosing the best part of the entire experience is difficult to

do but if I had to choose, I would surely choose finding myself on a close quarter situation with extremely interesting people that were all relatable and just as passionate to science as I am.”



## URIAH SANDERS – PRESIDENTIAL MATTERS

“I understand what it means to go without enough food, or reliable transportation,” says SEES student and Cal Poly Pomona ASI President Uriah Sanders. “I want all students to know that I am impassioned to make a difference on our campus and beyond. I want to save the world.”

Uriah Sanders is the first SEES student to ever serve as Cal Poly’s Student Body President. If you have ever had the pleasure of meeting the third-year biotechnology major, his statements come as no surprise. He is passionate, focused, ambitious and motivated to make a difference. His current path seems natural for him, but he would be quick to point out that his motivation did not always come easy for him.

Growing up, Sanders did not like school. He didn’t mind the classes, he just struggled outside the classroom. Being only one of two African-American students in his school, he found himself on the wrong side of misplaced blame and frustrated teachers. This led to a belief that education was not necessary, or for him.



Despite his lack of interest in learning, Sanders surprisingly did relatively well his freshman and sophomore year of high school. Unfortunately, before the start of his junior year his family had some life struggles and were forced to move. This move, alongside Sanders changing school, resulted in him not trying to do well in his classes.

“There was so much turmoil in my life, and I just did not see the value of education,” add Sanders. “During that time I poured myself into a new business endeavor that I thought was going to make loads of money. This new business forced me to learn programming and coding, which I spent all my time doing.”

Watching his grades drop, Sander’s mom was determined to not let her son slip away during this critical time in high school. In spite of their circumstances, she created a stable home for Sanders and did what it took to get him back on track. Although he temporarily lost his passion for school, his desire to help people did not.

After his mom finally took away all his distractions from school, Sanders realized than an education could provide him with the opportunity to make a difference. His senior year of high school, Sanders applied to Cal Poly Pomona to as biotechnology major.

Once accepted, Sanders quickly became involved in the Science Educational Enhancement Services (SEES) program, which is designed to help students succeed and excel in the College of Science. He credits the SEES program with providing him with the tools and resources he needed to do well academically.

Sanders soon discovered that his passion to help make a difference and his education aligned well together. "My major is solutions orientated. What I learn in the classroom helps me discover ways to tackle everyday problems, like chronic disease, and come up with workable solutions to solve and cure them."



"Uriah is a shining example of a successful SEES student," says Dr. Steve Alas, biological sciences professor and director of the SEES program. "Not only does Uriah help with the program, he also mentors and tutors other students. He is passionate about making a difference." This passion to change the world has translated in Sanders deciding to run for an elected position. Sanders credits Cal Poly Pomona's diverse population as a reason for him wanting to pursue student government.

"Uriah is a huge advocate for students," said Cora M. Culla, ASI Executive Director. "As 2016-17 ASI President, he will undoubtedly focus his leadership on genuine outreach to students and representation of their needs at the campus and system-wide levels.

I appreciate CPP's learn-by-doing philosophy as well as quality of education," adds Sanders. "The faculty and students continually teach me to not only think outside the box, but also the value of putting yourself out there to make a difference. I see this example every day on campus."

When not busy running student government, Sanders can be found in the biology lab uncovering plant genetics. He also runs a startup company called the Dream Factory, which maintains a website that connect customers with artisans who sell custom artwork.

"I want to be President of the United States," adds Uriah. "When I hear about ongoing problems happening in the world, I want to fix them. I want to serve, and being President would give the best opportunity to make this possible."

Written by Juliet Hidalgo

## NEW COMPETITION INSPIRES INNOVATION IN STEM STUDENTS

SEES created a new program at Cal Poly Pomona aimed at promoting innovation and supporting STEM students in their freshman year recently wrapped up for the academic year with a competition in which students unveiled concepts for an electronic companion, a computerized parking system, and an at-home test for viruses that make people sick.



The program, dubbed Cal Poly Pomona Shark Tank, is part of a larger CSU effort through the STEM Success program to improve retention among freshmen majoring in the STEM fields.

“The whole endeavor had to have two main goals,” says Dr. Steve Alas. “One was to engage the students early on because we know we lose a lot of STEM majors between year one and two. The other was to show them how interdisciplinary the STEM majors are.” Dr. Alas says a third goal was to encourage incoming students to become problem solvers and leaders.

“Part of STEM Success is a new freshman innovation program where students identify a societal problem,” he says. “They had to come up with a problem and figure out how to address it. The idea is to commercialize some aspect of science or engineering to solve or address that problem.”

This year’s cohort, which was the first, consisted of 10 students organized into three teams. The teams had three-and-a-half months to take their project from concept to a prototype that could be demonstrated to a panel of judges. The projects were:



- **Electronic companion:** The students programmed a miniature computer to hold conversations with humans. It is intended to help people with mental disabilities or illness by being embedded in an object of personal affection. “For kids it could be put in a stuffed animal, or for adults it could be put in a harness and put on a pet,” says Alas.
- **Parking system:** Students developed small sensors for parking spots that communicate wirelessly with a central system, and a mobile app. The user would be able to open the app and see where spots are open in a parking lot without driving around searching.
- **At-home virus detection:** The kit developed by the students would allow someone who was not feeling well to run a

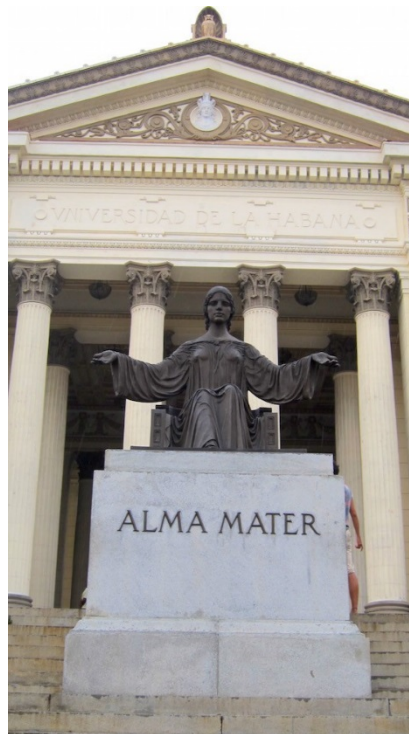
quick test to see if they have a viral infection. "They could customize it to something like influenza or HIV," Alas says.

The students performed well and impressed the judges, as well as CSU administrators who were in the audience for the event. He hopes this year's students will go on to participate in the CSU Innovation Corps, a similar-style competition that pits students from all 23 CSU campuses against each other. He also envisions Cal Poly Pomona Shark Tank growing much larger.

Written by Emily Velasco

## **SEES will be leading CSU students to Cuba for a Summer Research & Global Awareness Program**

The CPP-LSAMP program, which is run and coordinated by SEES, is creating a 2017 summer research program that will take California State University students to Cuba. The campus program is part of the larger CSU-LSAMP, a CSU system-wide program that works to increase the number of students from disadvantaged backgrounds who pursue degrees in science, mathematics. Each year, two among the twenty-three to This year, the system-wide office chose the program proposal as LSAMP campus coordinator at



disadvantaged backgrounds who technology, engineering and CSU campuses are selected establish international programs. as LSAMP campus coordinator at University of Havana's Center for which will focus on island ecology will get a chance to research largely been undisturbed by went to the University of Havana the program. "We will be the first lead science students into Cuba to do research. The students will take courses, visit various ecological areas around the island, and snorkel to collect specimens from coastal reefs. They will present their projects at the end of the program to the faculty in Havana. Everyone is really excited about this new endeavor and it's a matter of pride that SEES was able to bring this to the Cal Poly Pomona." The program will launch in June 2017.

University of Havana's Center for which will focus on island ecology will get a chance to research largely been undisturbed by went to the University of Havana the program. "We will be the first lead science students into Cuba to

Written by Melanie Johnson



# STEMPIRE

In 2016, the SEES program was put in charge of the STEM Success program at Cal Poly Pomona. Running STEM Success meant that SEES would have the opportunity to create a STEM-based orientation for the 1900+ incoming STEM freshmen. So, Dr. Alas and the SEES staff got to work and created the STEMpire. SEES produced a 7-minute animated movie based on the 14 houses of the STEMpire (House of Aerospace, House of Biology, etc). After the movie, the incoming freshmen were put through competitions, in which Houses competed against each other and accumulated points through the nine weeks of summer. Competitions included a laser maze relay and a catapult building challenge. The inspirations behind this creative endeavor were the worlds of Game of Thrones and Harry Potter.



This travel through time illuminated a forgotten age, a place for rivalry, scholastic feats and thrilling pageantry. Each House has a unique shield that students display and cheer for during the introductory procession. The shields donned with green and gold emerge from each house ready to battle over power. Each House desired to win the coveted STEMpire Cup.

“I wanted incoming STEM students to have a fun time meeting other students in their own majors,” says Dr. Alas “All of this is designed for student success. We lose a lot of STEM majors early on, so by encouraging students to form cohorts and communities, as well as to bond through competitions. We hope to retain these new students in the STEM majors by feeling more supported and to have one another to lean on.” This program has received nods from the CSU Chancellor’s office as a program they hope to unveil at other CSU’s.



Written by Juliet Hidalgo



# Discovery Camps @ CAL POLY POMONA



This was the second summer of the Discovery Camps at Cal Poly Pomona. Eight weeks of camps varying with Discovery, Computer, Robotics, and Horse Camp. These camps with ages ranging from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – 8<sup>th</sup> grade, consists of team building activities, creative projects and general activities focusing on STEM. The Computer Camp has a primary goal of expanding the younger generations computer skills with knowledge of different 2D computer programming, such as java script, and exploring their creative minds through video production. There is also a camp for our next engineers, the Robotics Camp uses the Lego Mindstorm



EV3 programming accompanied with several activities to test the basic skills. For the next veterinarians, the Horse Camp is an excellent camp that introduces a curriculum comprised of basic equitation, horsemanship, grooming, tracking, nutrition, anatomy and humane education. All camps have their own unique curriculums and are taught by qualified counselors. The Discovery Camps follow the example of Cal Poly Pomona, “learn by doing”, which provides a fun and educational experience.



This following summer we will be expanding to camps with the Imagination Camp for children ages 5-7, the Leadership Camp for ages 12-14 and Entrepreneur Camp, partnering with Cal Poly Pomona’s Student Innovation Lab for ages 12-18. We are exciting and grateful to have the love and support of Cal Poly Pomona and many others. We hope for a bright and promising future here at the Discovery Camps.

*Come join us next summer! For more information feel free to visit our home page: <http://www.cpp.edu/~discovery/>*



# SEES was ready for its close-up

This year, the SEES program made a big effort to outreach to families from all cultures and backgrounds. Because many college students feel the pressure to cut their education short in order to work and help their families financially, Dr. Alas used the news media to speak to families about student support. The goal was to facilitate understanding by families regarding the investment their children are making in school to ensure a better future down the line. Our efforts aim to help families better comprehend their children's career goals, the effort they are putting into their future and the ultimate benefit of the sacrifice they are making.



Dr. Alas was twice interviewed on Spanish language television station, Telemundo, on the show "Enfoque" and the evening news. He was also featured on a segment of Time Warner Cable's "Local Edition." Dr. Alas motivated families to seek out campus programs that help with the transition to college and to identify the financial resources available to low-income students.



## SEES STUDENTS PRESENT TO THE CSU CHANCELLOR



The Chancellor of the California State University system came to visit Cal Poly Pomona to see some of the great things the University is doing for its students. The Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs for Cal Poly, Dr. Sylvia Alva, invited Dr. Alas and his students to present to the Chancellor on some of the programs that benefit STEM students on campus. It was the first time that the SEES program has had the opportunity to present to the leader of the entire CSU system. Students from SEES, MEP and LSAMP presented on mentoring programs, academic excellence workshops, campus research programs, and industry



internships that occur at Cal Poly. Dr. Alas gave a presentation on the new STEMpire program, run by SEES for the 1900+ STEM students who go through freshmen orientation each year.

The Chancellor was very impressed with the students and all the support activities we have at the University. With regard to the STEMpire orientation, he was delighted to see an innovative idea at Cal Poly Pomona that does not exist on any other campus in the country. At a public forum to the entire campus, he mentioned the STEMpire program and said “Wow!”, during his comments to everyone in attendance.



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

SEES has teamed up with the office of Undergraduate Research, Mc Nair, NIH RISE and NSF S-STEM to offer a series of UR Joint Workshop for professional development to science graduate and undergraduate students during the academic year. Among the topics covered:

- Graduate school application
- Picking The Right Graduate Program
- How to Get Started in Undergraduate Research
- GRE Workshop Analytical and Verbal
- The GRE and Me – What can I do right now to improve my future scores.
- Proofreading and Editing: Writing a conference worth abstract
- Understanding Funding for Graduate School – Scholarships, Fellowships, and Grants at Graduate level
- Resume, Curriculum Vitae
- How to prepare a professional presentation
- How to get the most of a research experience REU



# Alumni News

- **Jossue Loya Jimenez** – Postbacc at UCR, MCAT in August, Hopefully applying to Medical School in September
- **David Vega** – PhD Program at University of Arizona, Ph.D. in Optical Sciences programs
- **Monique Sobero** – Graduated with Master's in Polymer Science from University of Oregon
- **Mike Abi-Farah** – Summer research with Forest Service at the South West Research station in Pinecrest



## Student News

- **Veronica Rodriguez** - Oral presentation at the Student Research Conference @ Cal Poly Pomona 2015. Presented a poster at the Astrobiology Science conference in Chicago June 2015
- **Michael Torres** – Awarded Dr. Burke SEES scholarship, NSF S-stem scholarship, and the Boeing scholarship
- **Marisol Torres** – Accepted in the McNair Scholars Program
- **Yessica Delgado** – Member in the Achieve Scholars and COPE health scholars program
- **Goodness Daramola** – Summer Intern as a Software Engineer at a summer research program with Hewlett Packard in Idaho
- **Susana Cano** – Accepted to the Organization for Tropical Studies Research Experience for Undergraduates Summer Program in Costa Rica
- **Daniel Vallejo** – Awarded SEES Hiemenz Scholarship and Wreck Chemistry Scholarship & Attended ERN 2016 Conference
- **Glen Morrison** - Accepted to a summer program at UC Riverside MSRIP internship with Amy Litt, PhD. & McNair 2015-16 (as a returning scholar) & Awarded the Service in Research Award from the Office of Undergraduate Research
- **Arlen Prosser** – Awarded the NSF S-STEM Scholarship
- **Don Dixon** – Accepted into CAMPARE Program
- **Timothy Batz** – Accepted to a summer program at Michigan State University 2015 & Awarded RISE Graduate Program Scholarship & Member in PLANTS Program from the Botanical Society of America
- **Veneese Brown** – McNair and Achieve Scholars Program
- **Fany Salazar** – Awarded the NSF S-STEM, and Dr. Emil Herzog Scholarship & participated in the PUMP-URG & Attended the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR); 2016 Joint Mathematics Meetings; Spring 2016 Meeting of the Mathematical Association of America SoCal-Nev Section; and 2016 PUMP Symposium
- **Jordan Berry** – Accepted into COPE Health scholars program & Co-op at the Metropolitan Water District in the Microbiology Compliance laboratory
- **Giselle Hernandez** – Awarded the Biological and Agricultural Sciences: Undergraduate Division at the Cal Poly Pomona 4th Annual RSCA Student Research Competition 2016. Attended the 4th Annual RSCA Student Research Competition at Cal Poly Pomona & 30th Annual CSU Student Research Conference at CSU Bakersfield
- **Renee Estephan** – Attended the Western Regional Honors Conference at UCR

- **Chelsea Dixon** – The Disney College Program
- **Benjamin Soto** – Achieve Scholars Program & attended SCCUR
- **Darionna Malone** – Project RISHI Program
- **Antonio Aguayo** – Awarded the President's Research Travel Award & the 2015-2016 Research Assistant Ed Roche Department Scholarship for Biological Sciences. Attended the Society for Research In Biological Rhythms. Presented research at the Circadian Neurobiology Conference in Florida & Annual College of Science Research Symposium. Co-Authored on a publication for the journal of Hormones and Behavior
- **Oscar Prado** – STEMSEAS (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Student Experiences Aboard Ships) Program
- **Maria J. Lopez Solis** – Awarded the Michael J. Ortiz legacy award
- **Stefan Riedel** – Accepted into a summer research program at Duke University & attended the ASM national conference
- **Mark Alonzo** – Accepted to the MBRS-Rise Intensive Graduate Program & attended the TriBeta Western Regional Conference
- **Brian Lopez** – Accepted into the CAMPARE program & attended a summer REU at the SETI Institute
- **Natalie Eulogio** – Attended SCCUR and RSCA
- **Jonathan Portillo** – Accepted as a Clinical Care Extender (Health Scholar) for Citrus Valley Health Partners
- **Daisy Escobedo** – Accepted into the COPE Health Scholars Program
- **Daniel McHaskill** – Accepted to the summer program RIOS REU at Rutgers University
- **Denise Suzanne Guevara** – Awarded the LRC Dawn Van Bruggen Scholarship Award
- **Diana Gonzalez** – Attended the Joint Math Meeting
- **Hector Alarcon** – Accepted into summer research for McNair
- **Michael Luzuriaga** – Attended SCURR and CPP Student RSCA conference
- **Marce Villa** – Awarded the office of undergraduate research & recognized as an achieve scholar for the academic year 2015-2016
- **Roy Guevara** – Fall quarter 2015 attended a semester in Costa Rica, sponsored by LSAMP

## Science Educational Enhancement Services

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