

THE SEES INFORMER

Volume XI 2008-2009 Academic year

Welcome

Greetings to the students, alumni, and friends of SEES. We hope that everyone had a fabulous summer. Within this issue of The SEES Informer, you will find important key events that occurred during the 2008 academic year, as well as important news and friendly reminders about our upcoming activities. To our graduates: We admire your spirit and dedication for your pursuit of excellence. 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. Barbara Burke.

baburke@csupomona.edu

Sincerely,
Nereyda Donoso
Editor-in-Chief

Upcoming Events

September 2009

Fall Quarter begins on Sept. 24th

October 2009

SACNAS conference

November 2009

ABRCMS conference

December 2009

Annual Christmas party, Dec. 4th

January, 2010

CSUPERB

February 2010

SUMMA conference at Stanford

May 2010

LPMSA Banquet, SEES Alumni Dinner

Commencement 2009

On a beautiful spring day, Cal Poly Pomona graduates and their proud families, friends and professors gathered at the University Quad to celebrate their academic achievements. The fifty-third Annual Commencement ceremony was held on Friday June 12, 2009 at 4:00pm. Commencement is a long awaited time of celebration for our College of Science students. Over 1,200 guests attended the ceremony this

year, it was a magnificent turnout. Graduation provides students and their families the opportunity to celebrate all their achievements throughout their university career and to reflect on the time they have spent at Cal Poly Pomona. We are extremely proud of our SEES graduates; they are a prime example to our undergraduate students. A total of thirty-six SEES students graduated from the College of

Science during 2009; two of which graduated Magna Cum Laude. We would like to congratulate each graduate and wish them the best of luck in their future careers. "You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world." Tom Brokaw.



The Graduates of 2009



- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| DENNIS ANKRAH | RICARDO GARCIA | VERIDIANA NORIEGA |
| PRISCILLA ANTUNEZ | ERIKA GARDNER | LAURA OSUNA |
| ADRIANA ARAUJO | SERGIO GONZALEZ | GEYANNI POLK |
| KERSHAWNA AVILA | KIMBERLY GOODMAN | SHAINA POULARD |
| KATHERINE BLANCO | STELLA HARTONO | JAMIE RIVERA |
| DENISE CACERES | NINA HOUSE | WESLEY SMITH |
| CHARLOTTE CALDWELL | AHMAD KHEDRAKI | MOE SYED |
| ROSEMARY CAMARENA | JACKSON LAM | KYLE UYEMURA |
| DONNA CHAU | CHRIS LOERA | RYAN VALLES |
| CHRISTOPHER DETTMAR | TRANG LU | LONG VUONG |
| AMANDA ELIAS | NATALIE MATEO | ROBERT WASHINGTON |
| JANAYE ERVIN | DANIEL MUNOZ | |

Awards and Scholarships

2008-2009 Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship recipients:

Rosemary Camarena & Sandra Hernandez

S-STEM Scholarship recipients:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Gerald Angel</i> | <i>Trang Lu</i> | <i>Lauren Quiros</i> |
| <i>Priscilla Antunez</i> | <i>Michael Peralta</i> | <i>Gary Seun</i> |
| <i>Erica Johnson</i> | <i>GeYanni Polk</i> | <i>Kristin Spaulding</i> |
| <i>Jackson Lam</i> | <i>Carol Quach</i> | |

2008-2009 CSU LSAMP Scholarship recipients:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Priscilla Antunez</i> | <i>Kristin Spaulding</i> |
| <i>Kevyn Gardner</i> | <i>Ryan Valles</i> |
| <i>Ge'Yanni Polk</i> | |

Cal Poly Pomona Robert Noyce Scholarship recipient:

Ada C. Cueva

Boeing Company Scholarship for Academic Excellence in Science:

<i>Gerald Angel</i>	<i>Cathryn De Guzman</i>	<i>Michael Peralta</i>
<i>Wendy Avila</i>	<i>Jonathon Henry</i>	<i>Mario Pineda</i>
<i>Francisca Cabrera</i>	<i>Carla Noguera</i>	<i>Lauren Quiros</i>
<i>Mayra Cervantes</i>	<i>Demetreanna Ofurie</i>	<i>Damion Walters</i>



2009 Boeing Company Scholarship



Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship

2008-2009 Distinguished Teaching Award

Congratulations Dr. Burke!

Dr. Barbara Burke has been recognized for her outstanding teaching methods. She has been honored by the College of Science with the 2008-2009 Distinguished Teaching Award. This award is special because nominations come from faculty, staff, as well as past and present students. Dr. Burke is a chemistry

professor, she teaches general and inorganic chemistry, SCI 211, SCI 110 and 111. She has been recognized for her ability to entice the mind of students in chemistry. Not only students majoring in science, but those in liberal studies who plan to become elementary school teachers. Dr. Burke also shares her love of chemistry with K-

12 students by putting on "Chemical Magic Shows" for local schools. Since 1999 Dr. Burke has been the director of SEES. She has helped her students transition into industry, graduate and professional schools. We would like to thank Dr. Burke for her hard work, dedication and for sharing the magic of chemistry with her students.



Dr. Barbara Burke

CSUPERB 2009

This year, the mentors and mentees attended the 21st Annual CSU Biotechnology Symposium. The symposium was held on January 16th and 17th 2009 at the Marriott Los Angeles Airport. It was a great opportunity for mentors and mentees to get to know one another outside of campus. Mentees were inspired to par-

ticipate in research programs after seeing their mentors at the poster session. This conference is engaging and retains students' interest in the life sciences. It provides students a great opportunity to network with professionals working in industry and shows students the endless possibilities in science. This year there was a

total of 570 attendees from the CSU system and 188 research projects were presented at the poster sessions!



CSUPERB 2009

Mentoring Program Update

The SCI 110 and SCI 111 courses give first year SEES students the opportunity to learn about different careers in their major. The class is a great way for students to get to know one another, improve communication skills, form study groups and learn to make connections in college. SCI 110 is an integral part of the HHMI mentoring program; which has completed its fifth year. We had

twenty-nine new students who were protégés of ten upper division students. The upper division students themselves were mentored by Dr. Steve McCauley, Dr. Nancy Buckley and Dr. Laurie Starkey; we would like to thank them for their time and effort to this program. This was a year to remember, the mentoring program held a variety of events that not only brought mentors and mentees closer to-

gether, but created lasting friendships. The year began with a mentoree park day at Shadow Oak Park in West Covina; CSUPERB in Los Angeles, Beach Bonfire in Huntington Beach and celebrated the end of a successful year with a pool party hosted by mentor Wendy Avila. The 2008-2009 Mentoring Coordinator position was held by Rosemary Camarena, a fourth year student majoring in

zoology. 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 would like to thank her for a job well done. Our new Mentoring Coordinator for the 2009-2010 year will be Cynthia Castillo; we are very excited to see what Cynthia has planned for the upcoming year. Congratulations!

Our mentees have come a long way; Mario Pineda and Carla Noguera received Boeing Company Scholarship awards. Monica Santander was accepted into the MODEL mentoring program.



2008-2009 HHMI Mentees



Beach Bonfire

Research Programs

CCRAA Research Apprenticeship Program participants:

- Sandra Hernandez
- Demetreanna Ofurie
- Vartan Tarshijan

CSULSAMP Research Apprenticeship Program participants:

- Nereyda Donoso
- Jonathon Henry
- Michael Peralta

The California Wellness Research Apprenticeship Program participants:

- Gerald Angel
- Francesca Cabrera
- Cynthia Castillo
- Demetreanna Ofurie
- Lauren Quiros
- Nicole Villegas

WEEA Research Apprenticeship Program SEES participants:

- Priscilla Antunez
- Kevin Gardner
- Kristin Spaulding
- Nicole Van Nas

Research Programs

**2009 McNair Scholars
Participants:**

- Nicole Berry
- Cathryn De Guzman
- Trang Lu
- Anna Zelaya

**2009 CSUF LSAMP
Global Awareness
Program; Innsbruck
Austria:**

- Wendy Avila

**2009 MSRI- UP
program, University of
California Berkeley:**

- Jonathon Henry

**2009 Rise program;
Cal Poly Pomona:**

- Elysse Gatdula
- Melissa Mendoza
- Carla Noguera
- Michael Peralta

Christmas Party

The annual SEES Christmas Party was held at the Kellogg Mansion on December 5th 2008. It was a night for students and their families to get to know one another and form lasting memories. It was wonderful seeing former and current SEES students come together for such a special time of year. The Kellogg Mansion was decorated beautifully with red bows, lights, wreaths, stockings and an immense Christmas tree covered

with ornaments. Everyone mingled with each other while enjoying a great holiday dinner. 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 and made the evening so special. The 2009 SEES Christmas Party will be held on December 4, 2009. We hope to see you and your family this year.



LPMSA

LPMSA is the Latino Pre-Medical Student Association at Cal Poly Pomona. LPMSA functions as a moral and academic support group which is committed to the success of all students. Distinguished science guest speakers are invited to LPMSA meetings to share their professional experience and keep students motivated to succeed. They inspire members to reach their academic goals by participating in activities that enrich

social, cultural and educational aspects of university life. This year LPMSA members attended the SUMMA and UCLA conferences, visited convalescent homes and skid row. They also held a variety of fundraising events including a carwash, broomball and bake sale. The end of the year banquet was held in Ursa Minor; it was a great success. Good luck to the new E-board!



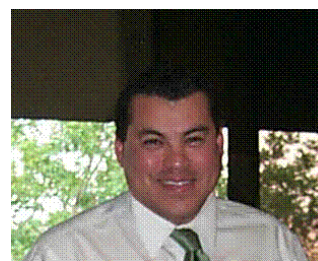
Alumni Dinner

The SEES alumni dinner was held May 11, 2009 at Kellogg West. Dr. Ortiz, faculty and former SEES student came together to reminisce about Cal Poly Pomona. Alumni shared their own experience of how SEES contributed to their success at Cal Poly, as well as when joining the scientific work force. It was great to see alumni, and their families come together on this special evening. The highlight of the evening was SEES alumni sharing stories about specific

faculty (usually SEES advisors). Faculty also shared their own stories about SEES students. It was a very special evening of reminiscing about the great impact SEES had on both students and faculty. 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!



Alumni Dinner 2009



As a result of his passion for mentoring youth and giving back to the community; our alumnus, Guillermo Camacho DDS, was one of three recipients of the 2009 California Wellness Diversity Award.

SEES Graduates

- Priscilla Antunez was accepted into the Ph.D program at the University of Southern California.
- Rahel Demisse was accepted into University of Southern California medical school.
- Eddie Diaz was accepted into the School of Pharmacy, Western University of Health Sciences.
- Stella Hartono was accepted to the MD-Ph.D. program at Mayo Clinic.
- Benjamin Moreno was accepted to LSAMP Bridges to the Doctorate Program at Arizona State Univ. Temple
- Sonia Mvuemba was accepted to the School of Podiatry, Western University of Health Sciences.
- Ge'Yanni Polk was accepted into the MS program in polymer science at Cal Poly SLO.
- Wesley Smith was accepted into the Ph.D. program in chemistry at the University of California, Irvine.
- Ryan Valles was accepted into the MS program in mathematics at Cal Poly Pomona.

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

For more information please contact:

Dr. Barbara Burke

Phone: 909-869-3664

E-mail: baburke@csupomona.edu

Dora Andersen

Phone: 909-869-3676

E-mail: dgandersen@csupomona.edu

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

We hope to see those of you in the L.A. area at the Annual SEES Christmas Party on December 4th, 2009 at the Kellogg Mansion; and next May for our Annual Alumni Dinner.

WERE ON THE WEB!

www.csupomona.edu/~sees