

# CHISPAS

CHICANO LATINO STUDENT AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2015

Volume 35, Issue 1

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### Chicano/Latino Student Affairs

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## From the Dean

Dear Students,

Welcome to Claremont new and returning students. We are so excited that you are here! Your college years are an exciting part of your life and offer you the opportunity to enhance your intellectual, social and emotional development. New friends, challenging courses, great programs, and Chicano Latino Student Affairs (CLSA), all form a part of your collegiate journey. Your college experience will challenge you to take advantage of many resources that are available to you beginning with orientation and through graduation. In Claremont, learning begins the minute you arrive on campus, and continues throughout your time here. You are part of a very select group of Latino students who have chosen to attend the Claremont Colleges. I encourage you to take advantage of the friendship, knowledge and support that your CLSA Sponsor offers you.

For new students, participate in the New Student Retreat and make friends throughout the consortium. We will take the first 100 students that register on retreat, to a mountain setting that will serve as backstage for an interactive three-day experience that includes leadership development, meeting new friends, participating in community building opportunities and social events such as campfires, volleyball, basketball and gorgeous sunsets. In addition, please join us for the New Student Lunches that are designed to familiarize you with the resources and opportunities that are offered through CLSA.

You are all invited to the Open House scheduled for Friday, September 11 from 4-6 p.m. at CLSA. The Open House is the start of the celebration of Latino Heritage month and serves to provide the opportunity to meet the Latino community, and the CLSA staff

while you enjoy great food, in a relaxed and comfortable setting.

This is a very exciting time for Latinos in California, as the latest data from the Census Bureau confirms that 14.99 million Latinos now live in the state. This number surpasses the number of White residents which stands at 14.92 million. This is a demographic shift of epic proportions, and will have social, political and cultural implications. The Latino population now constitutes 55.4 million people in the U.S. California and Los Angeles County account for the largest number of Latino residents of any state or county in the nation. Our Latino Heritage programming will focus on this new landmark and the impact of the Voto Latino.

On behalf of CLSA, I welcome you and look forward to forming a part of your academic journey.

Best wishes,  
Maria Torres, Dean of Students

## New Workshop Series

"Adjusting to College Life" is the name of the new fall semester workshop to be led by Dr. Vilma Fuentes, Staff Psychologist, Monsour Counseling Center. This series of friendly conversations will

cover topics ranging from family expectations to long distance romantic relationships, financial concerns, culture shock, creating community in a new environment and many more.

Beginning September 22nd, the group will meet every Tuesday from 4:00 to 5:00 pm in the Tranquada Student Services Conference Room. Come, check it out and bring a friend!



# Planning for Life after College

As we begin an exciting new semester at the Claremont Colleges, I want to remind all of you to be on the lookout for opportunities that pertains to graduate school and summer research opportunities. For junior and seniors, the finish line is around the corner! This is the time to think about what's next. For freshmen and sophomores it's never too early to start planning your career and graduate school path.

This semester CLSA will be hosting events that pertains

on receiving graduate school fellowships from the National Science Foundation (NSF), successful tips in applying to graduate school, and how to be a successful applicant for summer research opportunities.

This past summer we had students conducting summer research at: UC San Diego, UC Irvine, UCLA, University of Illinois, UC Riverside, and UC Merced. Opportunities in all disciplines are available, but we need you to prepare early in order to be competitive. If you are

thinking about applying to graduate school, I encourage you to attend the California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education which will take place on November 7 at UC Santa Barbara. Details on this event will be forthcoming. Here is a list of upcoming workshops:

**NSF Graduate Fellowship Workshop: September 22**

**Writing a successful statement of purpose for graduate school: October 13**

**How to successfully apply to summer research program: November 5**

**California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education: November 7**

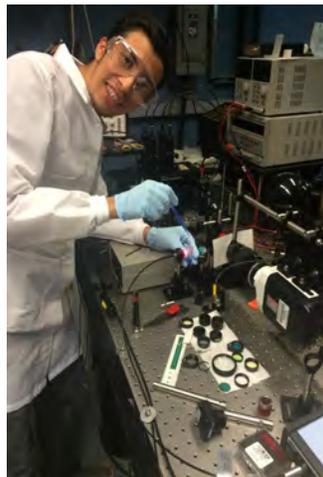
With such a comprehensive list of workshops and presentations, we want to make sure that CLSA has an accurate number of students that will be in attendance. Starting this year we ask students to register on line at the CLSA website (<http://w.cuc.claremont.edu/lisa/>). This will assist us with preparations for the event.

If you have any questions, please contact Assistant Dean Jimenez at: [tonyj@cuc.claremont.edu](mailto:tonyj@cuc.claremont.edu)

## Summer Experience with MSRIP at UCR

by Vicente Robles, Pomona Class of 2018

I had the opportunity to conduct research at the University of California Riverside (UCR) through the Mentoring Summer Research Internship Program (MSRIP). While at UCR I participated in GRE preparatory courses, attended professional development seminars, and created close friendships and mentors. My research project was in the field of mechanical engineering; a perfect match for my goal of pursuing a PhD in engineering. I worked



Vicente making new discoveries in the lab.

closely with a graduate student who not only taught me laboratory techniques, but also

answered my questions, and mentored me pertaining graduate school. Through him, my faculty advisor and the weekly seminars, I learned about funding sources, writing a stellar personal statement and even the steps to a dissertation and doctoral defense. The whole experience reinforced my decision to attend graduate school and study engineering. Apart from strengthening my goal to attend graduate school, this program has most importantly prepared me for that journey. I am continuing my studies for the GRE exam, preparing to present my

research in various conferences, and communicating more with my mentors. I highly recommend other students to apply for this program regardless if they are considering to attend graduate school or not. I would like to thank MSRIP for this opportunity, along with Tony and the rest of CLSA for support and encouraging me to participate.



## Drop-In Hour

**Vilma Fuentes**, Senior Staff Psychologist with Monsour Counseling Center, will resume her weekly drop-in

hour every Tuesday from 2:00-3:00 pm at CLSA. If you feel the need to speak with a

professional, please do not hesitate to drop by, no need to make an appointment.



**Vilma Fuentes**, Senior, Staff Psychologist, Monsour Counseling Center

## 2015-2016 CLSA Sponsor Team



They are the face of CLSA, true ambassadors representing the best of our community. This year's CLSA Sponsor Team consists of thirty-one leaders committed to assist the Class of 2019 have a positive first-year experience. They are: Diana Avellaneda, Kevin Covarrubias, Juana Granados, Emmanuel Hurtado, Karissa Muñoz, Kristen Muñoz, and Camilo Vilaseca from CMC; Viviana Bermudez, Omar Velazquez and

Willie Zuniga from HMC; Alyssa Alvarez, Hernely Bonilla, Priscilla Cobian, Vanessa Gonzalez, Maria Rivera, Samantha Ruiz, and Francisco Tejada from Pitzer; Jessica Manzano-Valdez, Nicolas Orozco-Valdivia, Selena Pacheco, Stephanie Reyes, Vicente Robles, Sarai Santos, Raul Sun Han, and Raquel Valdes from Pomona; Suzette Guzman, Francesca Palamara, Clarisse Salazar, Michall Singleton, and Aida Villarreal-Licona from Scripps College.

CLSA appreciates their

dedication and willingness to cut their summer short to undergo a week-long training. This energetic Sponsor Team will also provide their leadership and communication skills and share their experience by facilitating many of the sessions at the New Student Retreat. Thank you Sponsors, we know our first-year students are in good hands!



## Suzette Guzman Recognized

Scripps College sophomore **Suzette Guzman** will be recognized at Fall Convocation, September 1st, for the work she did through her summer internship with Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and the

Hawaiian Islands. Suzette interned in the Marketing and Communications Department for eight weeks where she translated organization brochures to Spanish. She also served as organization's professional photographer.



Suzette Guzman, SC '18

Suzette's experience with Planned Parenthood has been such a positive one that she has extended her services with the organization for another year.

## Graduate Student Research Highlighted

CLSA will host a brown bag lunch series this academic year to feature the research of Claremont Graduate University students. Scheduled to present this

Fall are Manuel Díaz and Rocío Mendoza. A doctoral student of Education, Manuel will be our first presenter of the series on the topic of **Masculinity Threat: Listening**

**to the Unheard Voices of Gay Latino College Men.** CLSA will provide dessert and beverages. Join us on September 24th at 12 noon.



Manuel A. Díaz, M.A.

## Scholarship Search Tool

The **Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF)** is the number one resource for college scholarships for Latinos. In addition to scholarships,



they also have a free search tool to assist Latino

students find additional resources to fund their college education. Register and answer a few questions at [www.latinocollegedollars.org](http://www.latinocollegedollars.org)

to learn more. For HSF sponsored scholarships, register at [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net).

# September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Good Luck, Fall Semester Begins	2	3	4 3:30 pm New Student Retreat Departure 7 pm Las Señoritas Mtg., CLSA	5
6 2:-00 pm Return arrival from New Student Retreat	7 LABOR DAY OBSERVED	8 12-1 PM HMC New Student Lunch, Shanahan #3481	9	10 11:30-1:30 pm Pitzer New Student Lunch, McConnell Living Room	11 4-6 pm CLSA ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE 7 pm Las Señoritas Mtg., CLSA	12
13	14 11:30-1:15 pm Scripps New Student Lunch, Hampton Living Room	15 11:30-1:30 pm Pomona New Student Lunch, Blue Room, Frank Dining Hall	16	17	18 12-1 pm CMC New Student Lunch, Parents Dining Room, Athenaeum	19 7 pm Las Señoritas Mtg., CLSA
20	21	22 12 pm NSF Workshop, Smith Campus Ctr, #201	23 4-5 pm Adjusting to College Life Series, Tranquada Conf. Room	24 12 noon Graduate Student Brown Bag Series featuring Manny Diaz, CLSA	25 7 pm Las Señoritas Mtg., CLSA	26
27	28	29	30 12-1:30 pm El Voto Latino: 2016 Presiden- tial Election, Dr. Adrian Pantoja, Pitzer Professor, CLSA.			