

## Welcome

Greetings to the students, alumni, and friends of SEES. This newsletter highlights events that have occurred during the 2004-2005 academic year. We hope everyone finds this bulletin both informative and interesting.

Please share with us any comments you have about the newsletter (baburke@csupomona.edu).

We sincerely hope everyone enjoys this and future newsletters.

Sincerely,  
Anjelika Thompson  
Editor in Chief

## Graduation

As the sun began to set on June 10, 2005, the pathway leading to the quad was full of students ready to start a new chapter in life. Each student prepared themselves for their final moment of being known as a Cal Poly Pomona Undergraduate. Family members watched from the audience, as well as around the world via internet, as each student crossed the stage to collect their diplomas. We would like to wish each graduate a good luck in all their future endeavors and a Thank You for making SEES a better program. The SEES graduates of 2005 are as follows:

- Christopher Aguilera
- Crystal Alcantra
- Claudia Amador
- Hiutzilo Arriaga
- Irene Cabrera
- Richard Calvo
- Ingrid Carleton
- Derrek Caranza

- Heidi Castellon
- Tinashe Chapfika
- Aide Cueva
- Cherry Dam
- Alma De Anda
- Erika Denton
- Alejandro Escalante
- Obianuju Eze
- Alicia Gamez
- Kalimba Harris
- Francisca Herrera
- Jesus Jimenez
- Bertrand Kengni
- Alicia Martinez
- Beverly McDowell
- Sandra Morales
- Katie Morin
- Vanessa Munoz
- Kristine Nodarse-Hernandez
- Janet Ochoa
- Raymond Oropeza
- Fabiola Pelayo
- Gricelda Pena
- Marisol Pena
- Milton Ramirez
- Carleton Reed, Jr.
- Brandon Roybal
- Silvia Taylor
- Justin Troup
- Dianne Tungol
- Jonathan Villena
- Diana Zarate



2004 Graduates

## Awards and Scholarships

**W**e congratulate the following SEES students:

- The fifth Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship was awarded to Alma De Anda and Kristine Nodarse
- Kristine Nodarse was awarded first prize at the SACNAS poster session in the field of Bioinformatics from research conducted at Yale University (summer 2003)
- Anjelika Thompson received the People of the Earth Scholarship from the Native American Outreach Committee.
- Alicia Gamez, Alex Nisthal, Darryl Daugherty, Kristine Nodarse, Jesse Rivera, Jere Wilson, Patrice Kiiru, Christopher Luevano, Minter Stallworth, Renee Espinosa, Pablo Cortez, Andrew Martinez, Andrea Ortiz and Brandon Blanco received the Boeing Company Scholarship.

**The Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship recipients Kristine Nodarse and Alma De Anda**

## SEES UPDATE

**S**EES has been most fortunate to have Dora Nyborg-Andersen as our Administrative Assistant for the past five years. Although Dora is with us half a day, she keeps our SEES office running smoothly. She has a sparkling personality and she makes everyone who visits the SEES office feel welcome. We all appreciate her dedication and hard work!

Noel Ramirez, Cal Poly Pomona SEES alumnus (B.S., 2003), left to medical school in San Diego, California. He oversaw the mentoring program that is offered to SEES students. Thanks Noel for everything you did for us, you will be missed!

Alma DeAnda is the new mentoring coordinator for SEES. Her job will be to pair incoming freshmen with junior/seniors and supervise day-to-day operations of the mentoring program. She will also have to make sure that the students are meeting with their mentors.

SEES offers students the chance to team with a Cal Poly Pomona Professor as an advisor. Each year the professors spend countless hours with the students they are advising. They help SEES students to focus on their academics and on their career goals.



The Boeing Company Scholarship recipients.



We greatly appreciate and acknowledge this most important work. Thanks so much!

With the beginning of every school year comes the anticipation of the SACNAS (Society For Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science) Conference. SACNAS was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico from the 2-5 of October 2003. SEES students that participated in summer programs were able to display their research during the conference. Ray Oropeza, Andrea Ortiz, Suzette Meraz, Kristine Nodarse, Yanine Garcia-Quezada, Crystal Lewis, Alex Nisthal, Esperanza Sandoval, Jere Wilson, Alma De Anda, Victor Cisneros, Tania Urrutia, Kershawna Avila, Dawit Berhanu, Gerard Beard, Nubia Chinchillas, Francisco Del Muro, Ricardo Garcia, Nichola Maggio, Alrene Ocampo, Miesha Payne-Reid, Jozabeth Silva, Raul Sotelo, and Steven Bravo all attended the SACNAS Conference. We hope to see as many students attend this year's SACNAS Conference, which will be held October 21-24 in Austin, TX.

members participated in the event, helping out with different tasks.

The 2003 Christmas party was a great success. It was a time for everyone to catch up with friends and talk about the future. May this year's Christmas party be as much fun as last years.

Dr. Barbara Burke, the Director of the SEES program is always there for all the students. She works tirelessly all year round to help and guide the participants. She has also been known to oversee them in their graduation endeavors. We would like to thank her for giving her time and energy to make us all succeed. Thank you Dr. Burke!

## Summer Programs

The summer is a time for students to advance their knowledge through research and enrichment programs. SEES students were fortunate to travel to outside universities to gain more experience this summer.

- Alicia Gamez –Kings College, London, UK
- Linda Ostos- University of Colorado, Boulder
- Jesse Rivera- University of Colorado, Boulder
- Anjelika Thompson- University of Minnesota, Duluth
- Alma De Anda- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Suzette Meraz- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Patrice Kiiru- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Griselda Zuccharino- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Nydia Santiago- City of Hope
- Karina Cunningham- Michigan State University
- Angelica Arroyo- Yale University



**Kristine Nodarse, recipient of the Bioinformatics poster award at the SACNAS Conference.**

On March 6, 2004 CeeMast hosted the Science Olympiad. The participants participate in science contests. Many SEES

- Andrea Ortiz- Yale University
- Alex Nisthal- Iowa State University

**Christina Martinez, David Rocha, Wesley Smith, Ryan Valles, and Jose Vargas**

**BIOQUEST Facilitator:  
Ray Oropeza**

**Resident Advisors:  
Justin Troup and Kristine Nodarse**

## Bio-QUEST

Our Bio-Quest program went through dramatic changes this year due to lack of funds. We were able to hold a one week Bio-Quest program thanks to an anonymous donation by a friend of SEES. Bio-Quest is a summer program through the SEES department. It is devoted to preparing transfer and incoming freshman adapt to Cal Poly Pomona. This year marks the 5<sup>th</sup> year for the program.

In the spirit of keeping the program active, faculty donated their time to help prepare the students for the fall. This year 15 students participated in the week long program.



**BIOQUEST 2004**

**BIOQUEST Participants:  
Cristian Aguilar, Monica Ayala, Darrell Bush, Amanda Elias, Irene Esqueda, Kayla Fouse, Nicolas Garcia-Cid, Cynthia Gutierrez, Nathan Kamel, Chris Loera,**

## RISE II

In its third year, the RISE II program was again coordinated by Ms Joelle Opotowsky. Following their freshman year, the students participate in a summer program through which they gain an understanding of research, a working knowledge of research techniques, and experience in a biomedical research laboratory. The program this year was supported by the Chemistry Department. Because of lack of funds, students met only once per week during the summer quarter. Ms Opotowsky generously donated her time.

### RISE II 2004

**RISE II Participants:  
Nina Gudiel, Argentina Ornelias, Elysse Gatdula, Jamie Rivera, Chris Michaels, and Darshini Venkateswaran**

**RISE II Coordinator:  
Ms Joelle Opotowsky**



### CPMSA's Activities for 2003-2004

CPMSA is the Chicano Latino Pre-Medical Student Association here at Cal Poly Pomona.

During the school year CPMSA had three Bake Sales and a Valentine Gram sell to raise funds for various occasions such as the Revlon Run/Walk for Breast and Ovarian Cancer Awareness and for the adoption of a battered woman's family for Christmas.



As a continuing tradition between CPMSA and SAACS (Student Affiliates of American Chemical Society) an annual picnic took place on October 24, 2003. The event took place at Cahuilla Park Claremont. This event allowed members from the two clubs to interact with each other and play games, which included football and basketball. This also allowed students to interact with some of their professors outside of school because some of them were present at this event.

In 2003 Science Council came up with a new idea for an event that was called Casino Night. This event was a huge success. CPMSA members made the majority of the people who attended the event.

For the third year in a row, CPMSA participated in the Revlon/Walk for Breast and Ovarian Cancer Awareness on May 08, 2003. The event took place in and around the L.A. Coliseum. Many members helped raised funds and participated in the event.

CPMSA took donations of money, clothes, toys, blankets, and other items to give to a battered woman's family for Christmas. In the end it was a great success.



Following in tradition CPMSA attended to the UC San Francisco medical conference. Many people went to the conference, which was very educational and fun.

This year's banquet was held at the Spaghetti Factory in Anaheim on May 7, 2003. Alma DeAnda the CPMSA president for 2003-2004 spoke to all the people in attendance. She thanked everybody in attendance for coming and then introduced the new CPMSA e-board. The night finished with the presentation of the Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship that was awarded to Alma De Anda and Kristine Nodarse.

The new CPMSA executive board was inducted at the banquet also. The new executive board members are: Kristine Nodarse and Alma DeAnda are the Committee Chairs, Steven Viramontes and Argentina Ornelas are the Science Council Representatives, Pati Lopez is the Historian, Jon Villena is the Club Representative,



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Sophia Serrano is the Treasurer, Elysse Gatlula is the Secretary, Ricardo Gomez is the Vice-President, and Byron Barrientos is the President. May this year be full of excitement and hard work for them all.



2004-2005 CPMSA e-board

- Greg Sanchez (B.S. 2000) is working on his Ph.D. at USC.
- Sara Martinez (B.S. 2003) is in her second year of her Ph.D. program in chemistry at the University of California, Riverside.
- Taujai Williams (B.S. 2002) is in her second year at Wayne State University Medical School.
- Rashieda Hatcher is beginning her first year in the Ph.D. program at Baylor University School of Medicine.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to you all!

## The Plans of SEES Graduates and What Former Alumni are doing

- Noel Ramirez (B.S. 2003) was accepted into the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine.
- Darryl Daugherty (B.S. 2004) was accepted in the Ph.D. program in Mathematics at Binghamton University in New York.
- Analisa Vega was accepted into the Ph.D. program in Statistics at University of California, Riverside.

## Alumni-Where are You All?

Though time may pass, SEES Alumni are still considered part of the steadily growing SEES family. We are always happy to see each person-whether to chat or to come and present at one of the club or mentoring meetings.

### ALUMNI

Please fill out the enclosed card and drop it in the mail or e-mail 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 10, 2004 at the Kellogg Mansion!



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**Always a joy to have at every SEES  
Christmas party, Greg Sanchez.**

## **Upcoming Events**

- September 22, 2005  
Fall Quarter begins
- September 29-October 2, 2005  
SACNAS Conference in Denver, CO
- December 5, 2005  
Sees Christmas Party Reservations  
are due.
- December 9, 2005  
Christmas Party at Kellogg Mansion