



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

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
- Claudia Amador
- Hiutzilo Arriaga
- Richard Calvo
- Renzo Cardena
- Alma De Anda
- Erika Denton
- Francisca Herrera

- Jesus Jimenez
- Robert Jones
- Bertrand Kengni
- Alicia Martinez
- Angela Miranda
- Sandra Morales
- Vanessa Munoz
- Kristine Nodarse-Hernandez
- Marisol Pena
- Dianne Tungol
- Jonathan Villena
- Diana Zarate



2005 Graduates

Awards and Scholarships

We congratulate the following SEES students:

- The sixth Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship was awarded to Jere Wilson. Honorable mention awards were made to Patrice Kiiru and Elysse Gatdula.
- The Boeing Company Scholarship was awarded to Cristian Aguilar, Andrea Astudillo, Alma DeAnda, Obianuju Eze, Elysse Gatdula, Kalimba Harris, Patrice Kiiru, Christopher Luevano, Alex



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

Nisthal, Argentina Ornelas, and Karina Vega.

- Argentina Ornelas was awarded a Pfizer Research Fellowship for summer, 2005, she is working under the guidance of Dr. Francis Flores.
- Obianuju Eze was awarded the 2005 Microbiology scholarship.
- The DOVE fellowship for graduate school was awarded to Alma DeAnda.
- Renzo Cardena was awarded a four-year scholarship to medical school.
- Tinashe Chapfika was awarded a four-year merit fellowship for dental school.
- Elyse Gatdula was awarded the President's Scholarship.

Biology in Spring 2005. In the Fall she will be starting her five year Master's Program for Ecology at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. We are very proud of Alma and wish her all the best. The 2005-2006 Mentoring Coordinator will be Jere Wilson. Her position will include overseeing all of the upper division students with the incoming freshman as well as being in close contact with the Professors who help with the program.



The 2005 Boeing Company Scholarship recipients.



The surprise good-bye party for Alma De Anda (top row, second from the right) was a success.

SEES UPDATE

This year marks the sixth year that Dora Nyborg-Anderson's worked as the Administrative Assistant for SEES. Through all of her work, she has made SEES the organized establishment that is today. We would like to thank Dora for being so patient and understanding with us all. Thank you, Dora.

The SEES Mentoring Coordinator position is held by an upper division student. This past year Alma De Anda held this position. Alma graduated with her B.S. in

The mentoring program is supported by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institution. As a part of the mentoring program, about 25 student mentors attended the Annual SCUPERB meeting in January. The keynote speaker was Dr. Ben Carson (author of Gifted Hands) and several students obtained his autograph. We were also there to cheer on our own Dr. Jill Adler (Biology Professor) as she received her research award.

Continuing in tradition, SEES students are given Cal Poly Pomona Professors as Advisors. Throughout each students time at Cal Poly Pomona, the students are able to seek advise and guidance from their advisors. We are more than thankful for all the time and effort that the professors give each student. Thanks!

The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

The end of each fall quarter in the SEES department means the annual SEES Christmas Party. The 2004 Christmas Party was held at the Union in the Ursa Major Ballroom. Things were a little different but everyone had a great time. The night came to a close after the caroling of the alumni and current SEES students commenced. The 2004 SEES Christmas Party will return to the Kellogg Mansion.



Denia Monjarrez (above) and Anthony Walker both shared their stories about being in SEES.



Past and present SEES members singing carols.

This year SEES had its first alumni reunion to celebrate the 17th anniversary of the SEES program. It was very successful with about 40 alumni in attendance. They all enthusiastically endorsed the idea to have an alumni dinner once a year. It will also be used as a fundraising event to help the SEES program. So far we have received nearly \$2000 in donations for the SEES Alumni Fund. We hope to see more SEES Alumni at the next reunion.

Over the past several years, it has become apparent that students have difficulty with the verbal parts of the GRE and the MCAT, MDAT, etc. One potential way to help students in this area is to have popular news publications continuously available so they begin to read more and improve their vocabulary and grammar. Most SEES students do not get these at home. This year SEES began to subscribe to the LA Times and Newsweek so students have continuous access to these publications.

To most students, the SEES program is like a second home. This home is held together by the hard work and dedication put forth by Dr. Barbara Burke. She is an advisor, professor of Chemistry and the director of SEES. To most students she is like a “Mom” away from home. She teaches each student to challenge themselves while striving to reach for their dreams and, of course, to network. We would like to say



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

Thank you to Dr. Burke for all that she has done.

In May 2005, Dr. Burke traveled to Washington D.C. to receive one of the nine national Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. Dr. Burke accepted this award on behalf of all SEES students, past and present. Special Thanks are due to Dr. Ed Walton who nominated her as well as to alumni Taujai Williams and Sara Martinez, graduating senior Kristine Nodarse-Hernandez, and Anjelika Thompson's parents Lloyd and Sherry Thompson, all of whom wrote letters of support.

The California Endowment for \$25,000 for "Addressing Native American Health Issues In LA County." The grant ended on February 28, 2005.



The Costanoan Rumsen Carmel tribe visited Cal Poly, to share their traditional dances.

Dr. Burke's third project was faculty coordinator of the mentoring program supported by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. It is the first year of a 4 year grant.



To Barbara Burke
With love
2005

Dr. Burke with President Bush

Dr. Burke has always been known to take on numerous projects at one time. This past year, she split time between projects. Dr. Burke was co-PI with Dr. Pam Sperry on the three-year "Bridges To The Doctorate" program with the University of Minnesota funded by the NIH. This grant supports summer research for Cal Poly Pomona graduate students at the University of Minnesota to increase the number of Master's students who go on to get a Ph.D. They are currently in the third year of this three-year grant.

Dr. Burke's second project was spent being co-PI with Tony Cerda, tribal chairman of the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel tribe on a second, one-year grant awarded by

Summer Programs

Summer break is a time for some students to relax and soak up some sun. For others it is a time to experience new surroundings and further their knowledge in their field of choicel. This summer several SEES students were fortunate to travel to outside universities to gain more experience.

- Nina Gudiel- Yale University
- Wesley Smith- Yale University
- Elysse Gatdula- University of California, San Diego
- Jesse Rivera- California Institute of Technology
- Patrice Kiiru- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

- Griselda Zuccarino- University of London, UK
- Karina Vega- City of Hope
- Nydia Santiago- City of Hope
- Jozebeth Silva- University of Cincinnati
- Alex Nishtal, Obianuju Eze, Griselda Zuccarino, Steven Viramontes, and Alma DeAnda participated in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Apprenticeship program.
- Linda Ostos and Karina Cunningham are participating in the McNair Scholars Program.

Suzette Meraz as Committee Chair, Sophia Serrano and Christian Aguilar both as Science Council Representatives. We would like to wish the new e-board good luck.

CPMSA will be starting a new program called “SEES Alumni Seminar Series” conducted by Dr. Steve Alas. They will be held in conjunction with CPMSA meetings every first Thursday of each month. If there are any Alumni wishing to participate, please email CPMSA at cpmsa@versizon.net for further information.

CPMSA’s Activities for 2004-2005

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

During the year the club had events such as Beach Day, ice skating social, a blanket drive for the homeless, feed the homeless day, Thanksgiving Turkey Drive, various bake sales, valentine grams, Outreach day for Middle School students, and Casino Night. Casino Night is a fundraiser held by Science Council.

A major event for CPMSA was the adoption of a Battered Woman’s Family for Christmas. The adopted family consisted of four children plus the Mother. CPMSA were able to give gifts plus a Christmas tree and dinner.

Another special event was the CPMSA banquet. This year it was held at Tortilla Jo’s in Downtown Disney. The 2004-2005 e-board gave awards and praise to each other before introducing the new e-board. The 2005-2006 e-board consist of Elysee Gatdula as President, Nubia Chinchillas as Vice President, Jozabeth Silva as Secretary, Ricardo Gomez as Treasurer, Vanessa Montes de Oca as Club Representative, Aileen Arias as Historian,



2005-2006 CPMSA e-board

The Plans of SEES Graduates and What Former Alumni are doing

- Jonathan Villena (B.S. 2005) was accepted into Loma Linda Medical School
- Renzo Cardena was accepted into University of California, Irvine Medical School.
- Tinashe Chapfika (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the University of Connecticut Dental School.
- Alem Abraha (B.S. 2004) was accepted into the Pharmacy/



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

Pharmacology program at the University of Southern California.

- Alma DeAnda (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the Ph.D. ecology program at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.
- Alicia Gamez (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the Ph.D. biochemistry program at the University of California, San Diego.
- Kristine Nodarse-Hernandez (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the M.P.H. program at California State University, Long Beach.
- Ruth Yamada (B.S. 2004) was accepted into the P.A. program at Western University.
- Richard Calvo, Francesca Herrera, Justin Troup and Raymond Oropeza were accepted into the M.S. program at Cal Poly Pomona.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to you all!

Alumni-Where are You All?

The First Annual SEES Alumni Dinner was held on May 9, 2005. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to reconnect with their Cal Poly friends. Dr. Paul Hiemenz was our guest of honor. Everyone had fun reminiscing about the 'good old days' and the hours spent in the SEES room. Dr. Tomas Morales, Vice President and Provost and Dr. G Rainy, Associate Dean of the College of Science were also in attendance at this inaugural event on the occasion of the 17th Anniversary of SEES.

See you next May!

ALUMNI

Give us an update if you haven't been by SEES in the last year by e-mailing 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 9, 2005 at the Kellogg Mansion!



Barbara Garcia, 1992 SEES Graduate, and Family.

Upcoming Events

- September 22, 2005
Fall Quarter begins
- September 29-October 2, 2005
SACNAS Conference in Denver, CO
- November 19, 2005
Southern California Conference on Undergraduate Research in Riverside, CA
- December 5, 2005
Sees Christmas Party Reservations are due.
- December 9, 2005



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume V

2004-2005 Academic Year

Christmas Party at Kellogg Mansion

- January 13-14, 2006
CSUPERB in San Jose, CA
- May 2006
SEES Alumni Dinner