



The SEES Informer

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Volume VI

2005-2006 Academic Year

Welcome

Greetings to the students, alumni, and friends of SEES. This newsletter highlights events that have occurred during the 2005-2006 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

- Karina Cunningham
- Renee Espinosa
- Gabriel Gomez
- Alejandra Gonzalez
- Eli Lafromboise
- Joel Lopez
- Patricia Lopez
- Andrew Martinez
- Rachel Melogno
- Suzette Meraz
- Alex Nisthal
- Argentina Ornelas
- Andrea Ortiz
- Linda Ostos
- Cristina Pinedo
- Matthew Prescott
- Griselda Ramirez
- Jesse Rivera
- Anjelika Thompson
- Steven Viramontes
- Jere Wilson
- Griselda Zuccarino

Graduation

The 50th Commencement of Cal Poly

Pomona began Friday, June 9, 2006 at 4 pm with the College of Science. This day, for most students, marks the culmination of long nights and stressful days. As the music began, the soon to be graduates of 2006, joyfully made their way through the sea of family and friends to their seats. By the end of the ceremony, each student had successfully finished this chapter of their lives. We would like to congratulate each graduate and wish the best of luck in all of their future endeavors. Thank you for participating in making SEES a better and brighter program. The following students are the graduates of 2006:

- Emelia Agahzadeh
- Aileen Arias
- Pablo Cortez
- Rosalba Covarrubias





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2006 Graduates

Awards and Scholarships

We congratulate the following SEES students:

- The seventh Paul C. Heimenz Scholarship was awarded to Elysse Gatdula. Honorable mention awards were made to Gerald Angel and Erica Johnson.
- The Boeing Company Scholarship was awarded to Alex Nisthal, Christopher Luevano, Andrea Astudillo, Elysse Gatdula, Gerald Angel, Rahel Demisse and Erica Johnson.



The 2006 Paul Hiemenz SEES Scholarship recipient, Elysse Gatdula.

SEES UPDATE

The 2005-2006 SEES Mentoring Coordinator position was held by Jere Wilson. Jere graduated with her B.S. in Biology in Spring 2006. This fall Jere will begin the Post Bac program at UCI. We are very proud of all of Jere's accomplishments and we wish her the best. To continue in the tradition of an upper division student being the Mentoring Coordinator, Elysse Gatdula will be the 2006-2007 Coordinator. Elysse



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will be in charge of overseeing the upper division mentors with their freshman participants as well as keeping close contact with the professors who help the program.

The mentoring program is in its second year of the grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institution. The program consists of about 25 first year students. This year Dr. Ed Walton, Dr. Nancy Buckley and Dr. Peter Seigal were the advising professors. We would like to take this time to thank them for all of their dedication.

In the 2nd quarter of the mentoring program, all of the mentees and mentors traveled to San Jose for the CSUPERB Conference. This conference was used as a tool to show each student their endless possibilities in the field of science. They were able to listen to talks about Biotechnology, Human Embryonic Stem Cells and Alzheimers to name a few. The students gained the most from the poster session where they were able to see some of the mentors presenting.



CSUPERB 2006

To avoid students being surprised by registration dates, SEES has each student visit an assigned advisor. The advisors are professors from each department of the College of Science. Advisors help in the decision making process of which classes to take while at Cal Poly Pomona. SEES would like to thank each advisor for sharing their wisdom and knowledge with each student. Thank you very much!

The annual SEES Christmas party was held at the Kellogg Mansion. It was a great night; those who attended had a wonderful time mingling with new and old friends. Beautiful decorations hung all around the mansion and put everyone in the holiday spirit. The talented Jack Hamm entertained everyone by playing the piano. SEES students and alumni ended the evening with Christmas carols, it was a night to remember. This year, the party will be held a week earlier than usual. It will take place on December 1, 2006 once again at the beautiful Kellogg mansion. Hope to see everyone there.



(from let to right) Abiye, Elysse, Ray, Jamie, Dr. Burke and Jesse. Having a great time at the Christmas Party.

One of the oldest buildings on campus will now become the pride and joy of the College of Science. The renovation of building 3 has now begun! The construction will have a significant impact on students, especially SEES. The new building means a new SEES Room. The SEES room which was once located in building 3 room 224 has been moved to building 4, 4A-609. The office once located in building 3 room 222 has also been moved to building 4, 4A-609. The new location is sure to be a success with new and old students. We look forward to seeing you at our new location next fall.



Building 3 Mural

To the world of Cal Poly Pomona, Dr. Barbara Burke is known as a professor of Chemistry, the Director of SEES or an advisor for the Chemistry Department. To SEES students and alumni, Dr. Burke is a god send. She has truly been our saving grace in every situation. Whether you need advising, information about a scholarship, information about summer internships or information about getting yourself out of trouble, she always has the answer. We would like to thank Dr. Burke for all of her guidance and time. Thank you very much Dr. Burke!

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 final-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 continuing as faculty coordinator of the mentoring program supported by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. It is the second year of a 4 year grant. This grant

supports students and faculty, field trips, and travel for students to professional scientific conferences.

Another project of Dr. Burke’s is the SEES/ California Wellness Health Professionals Project that supports students whose career goal is the health profession. It provides support for student research, travel to meetings, prep courses for professional school exams, health professional school application costs and travel to health professional school interviews.

Dr. Burke is also director of the WEEA Mentoring and Professional Project. The goal is to increase the number of women graduating in chemistry, computer science, mathematics and physics.

Finally, Dr. Burke lent her chemical experience to the History Channel for its program on “Water” in its Modern Marvels series. It will air sometime this fall.



Summer Programs

As temperatures begin to rise and spring quarter comes to an end, the thought of “FREEDOM!” screams in each students mind. For some students this freedom allows the opportunity to advance their knowledge in their field of choice. This summer several SEES students were fortunate to travel to outside universities to gain more experience in their field of choice.



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- Andrea Astudillo- University of Michigan
- Airek Mathews- Yale University
- Ge'yanni Polk- Yale University
- Consuelo Mellen- University of California, Davis
- Sydney Henderson- University of California, Los Angeles
- Rahel Demisse-University of California , San Diego
- Jozabeth Silva- Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara
- Nina Gudiel- Pfizer Research Scholarship
- Argentina Ornelas- Pfizer Internship



2006-2007 CPMSA e-board

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

This was a busy year for CPMSA, they held a bowling night and a blanket drive for the homeless. As fundraisers this year, the students attended a television taping and sold Valentine's day candy grams. They also traveled to Stanford to attend the SUMMA conference. The year ended with the CPMSA End-of-the-Year Banquet, which was held on May 13, 2006 at Buca Di Beppos in Claremont. The 2005-2006 e-board gave awards and praise to each other before introducing the new e-board.

The 2006-2007 e-board consists of Andrea Astudillo as President, Elysse Gatdula as Vice President, Lluli Martinez as Secretary, Tanya Chavez as Treasurer, Onyeozi Onwusa as Club Representative, Wendy Avila as Historian, Charlene Senatin and Lauren Nelson as Committee Chairs, Sonia Mvuemba and Rahel Demisse both as Science Council Representatives. Good luck to the new e-board!

The Plans of SEES Graduates and What Former Alumni are doing

- Richard Calvo (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the School of Public Health at the University of Southern California
- Alex Nisthal (B.S. 2006) was accepted into the Ph.D. program at Cal Tech.
- Lisa Serrano (B.S 2003) was accepted into the Pharmacy program at the University of Southern California.
- Griselda Zuccharino (B.S. 2006) was accepted into Yale University.
- Pablo Cortez (B.S. 2006) was accepted into the MS/Ph.D. program at Boston College.
- Joel Lopez (B.S. 2006) was accepted into the P.A. program at Western University.
- Jere Wilson (B.S. 2006) was accepted into Post Bac program at University of California, Irvine.

- Victor Cisneros, 2006 was accepted into the Post Bac program at University of California, Irvine.
- Andrea Ortiz (B.S. 2006) was accepted into the University of Kansas.
- Adrian Gomez (B.S. 2003, M.S. 2005) was accepted into the OD program at Western University.
- Justin Troup (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the MS program at Cal Poly Pomona.
- Uju Eze (B.S. 2005) was accepted into the MS program at Cal Poly Pomona.
- Greg Sanchez (B.S. 2001) received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from USC this summer

children as gifts. Hope to see everyone 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 1, 2006 at the Kellogg Mansion! We also hope to see you next May for our 3rd annual alumni dinner.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to you all!

Alumni-Where are You All?

The 2nd Annual SEES Alumni Dinner was a success. Thank you to all who attended. SEES would also like to thank the Alumni for all of the donations received. To prepare for next years Annual Alumni Dinner slide show, please send in pictures of yourself. See you next year for the 19th Anniversary of SEES and the Annual SEES Alumni Dinner!

The second annual SEES alumni dinner was held on May 6, 2006 at Kellogg West. It was great to see alumni and their families come together on this special evening. The night began with a slide show of new and old SEES members. Pictures from the 80's shocked some professors while others remained looking the same. Cal Poly President Michael Ortiz gave a magnificent speech which left everyone feeling proud to be SEES alumni. The night ended with Cal Poly shirts given to the

Upcoming Events

- September 21, 2006
Fall Quarter begins
- October 26-29, 2006
SACNAS Conference in Tampa, FL
- November 18, 2006
Southern California Conference on Undergraduate Research at Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA
- November 24, 2006
Sees Christmas Party Reservations are due.
- December 1, 2006
Christmas Party at Kellogg Mansion
- January, 2007
CSUPERB at the Marriott in Los Angeles, CA
- May 2007