FROM THE DEAN

Dear Students,

Very special congratulations to the graduating students for completing their degrees. By attaining your undergraduate degree, you have joined an elite group of Latino professionals who can help provide leadership for our community. To celebrate your achievements, we are looking forward to Chicano Latino Graduation that is scheduled for Friday, May 13, at 7:00 p.m. in Garrison Theater, Scripps College.

For the rest of the students that are taking final exams, I know that you are deep into the books. These are stressful days so look for opportunities to clear your mind such as taking a walk or doing some exercise. To help you get through finals week, CLSA is hosting two study breaks the first is scheduled for Monday, May 9th, from 3 to 5 p.m. and the second on Wednesday, May 11th, from 3-5 p.m. Take a rest from your exams and join us for the study breaks.

As a community, we take great pride in celebrating the diversity of identities that our students represent. We believe that there is empowerment in racial intersections, multiple cultural perspectives, class differences, varying political ideologies, diverse religious beliefs, and gender preferences. As a Latino familia, we affirm the multiple identities that we live. Respect is the cornerstone of our strength. El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz.

Have a great summer.

Maria Torres
Dean of Students
2016 ALMAS UNÍDAS: NUESTRA VISIÓN

The annual CLSA chapbook project culminated with the “unveiling” reception of the 2016 Almas Unidas: Nuestra Visión. The ninth edition of this creative piece included powerful poetry, incredible manipulated photographs, wonderfully detailed drawings, and meaningful painting by the our talented students: Sergio Rodriguez and Noemi Ruiz, Pomona College; Elena Dypiangco, Cynthia Flores and Suzette Guzman, Scripps College; Patrick Hennessey and Edgar Morales, Claremont McKenna College; and Nick Flores, Pitzer College.

It was a privilege to hear the students describe to friends and family in attendance what precipitated their individual pieces.

CLSA is encouraging students to get involved and be part of next year’s 10th anniversary edition.

2016-2017 CLSA SPONSOR TEAM

At CLSA, we are extremely proud of our students, their accomplishments and their future endeavors. Here is just the tip of the iceberg:

The following students all received summer fellowships with the Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP) at the University of Illinois: Kristen Munoz, CMC ’17; Viviana Bermudez, HMC ’18; Nick Flores, Pitzer ’17; Francesca Palamara, Scripps ’18; Mark Lozano, PO ’17 and Victor Cuciahua Perez, PO ’18. Victor also looks forward to studying next year at Cambridge.

Janet Herrera, PO ’16, received a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship and will spend the next year in Peru. Vicente Robles, Jr., PO ’16, has been awarded the prestigious Cota-Robles Scholarship at the University of California, Riverside where he will begin the Ph.D. program in Mechanical Engineering. Karissa Muñoz, CMC ’16, also received a Cota-Robles Scholarship to study at the University of California, Irvine Ph.D. program in Molecular and Cellular Biology. After much deliberation, Kimberly Ona Ayala, PO ’16, has accepted to attend medical school at Yale University.

Lillian J. Horin, Pitzer ’17, has received a 2016-1017 Barry Goldwater Scholarship which recognizes exceptional students majoring in a STEM field. The Goldwater Scholarship is just one of many awards that Lily has received this year. At the Experimental Biology Conference earlier this year, she won the David S. Bruce Excellence in Undergraduate Research Award as well as the David S. Bruce Outstanding Undergraduate Abstract Award. Lily will also participate in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Exceptional Research Opportunities Program (EXROP) this summer. Through EXROP, the biology major will research retinal metabolism at Harvard Medical School. She’s unstoppable! Congratulations everyone!
Chicano Latino Student Affairs
Cordially Invites you to

CHICANO LATINO GRADUATION

Celebrating Graduating Seniors
and their Accomplishments

Friday, May 13, 2016
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

CEREMONY
Garrison Theater, Scripps College

RECEPTION
Garrison Theater Court, Scripps College

ALUMNI RECEPTION RECAP

Chicano Latino Student Affairs (CLSA) was bustling on Friday, April 29th with visiting alumni who came from far and wide. Some came for a short while before heading to their college reunions and others were with us all afternoon—enjoying lively conversation, scrumptious refreshments, rekindling old friendships and meeting current students.

During the course of the afternoon alumni viewed a video created by Mario Avila, CMC ’09, in honor of the 10th anniversary of Mariachi Serrano de Claremont. Maciel Hernandez, founder and CMC ’08, described her need to connect with her musical roots while studying at CMC. Starting in 2006, this talented 5-C multi-cultural musical ensemble has graced many CLSA events as well as performing various on-campus offices, programs and receptions and the local community. The camaraderie the group provides and their love for performing traditional Mexican music has withstood the test of time. Many members were in attendance and assisted in presenting CLSA a photo album commemorating their 10-year presence in Claremont. What a success story!

Another milestone celebrated was Ernie Mendoza’s 40 years of service to the Office of Admissions for Chicano Students and Chicano Latino Student Affairs. Ernie was surprised with a photo montage highlighting her time in Claremont since 1976. Alumni and current students, paid tribute for the impact she has made in their lives. Thank you Ernie for all that you do!

Lastly, Chicano Latino Alumni presented five book scholarships to current students and Aida Quevedo provided a scholarship in her father’s name, Edward T. Quevedo, who was the second Director of the Chicano Studies Center throughout the 1970s.

CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH

As students of Pomona Chemistry Professor Roberto Garza-Lopez, Sergio Ruvalcaba (PO ’19) and Joey Hernandez (’19) have the opportunity to contribute to his cutting edge research on how protein molecules fold and unfold. Why is this important? When a protein molecule folds improperly, it can be linked to certain types of cancers. Professor Garza-Lopez has received grant money from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to further research the early development of diseases such as Alzheimer’s, Huntington’s, and Type II Diabetes.

Sergio, Joey and other students working in Professor Garza-Lopez’ lab stay busy working on creating 3-D structures of some of the proteins in order to visualize the molecule's many folds.

Professor Garza-Lopez feels Sergio and Joey will be ready to make a poster presentation at the SACNAS (Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science) Conference which will be held in October in Long Beach.