
ESPERANZA

LATINA LEADERSHIP NETWORK OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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President Maria Ramirez's Message

Bienvenidas to an amazing network of Latina women.

Our unifying motivation is your success in education, employment, and life. We know the depth of your yearnings, your secret dreams and aspirations, your numerous untapped talents and abilities, your strengths and resilience, your deep faith and spirituality. How do we know? Our indigenous Mayan elders taught us, we are you—In Lak'ech'.

As we enter our 21st year, we find ourselves re-energized by the dynamic, new generation of Latina leaders, both employees and students in the community college system, who stepped up at the conclusion of our last conference, to join our circle/network and thereby strengthen our vision and commitment to a better future.

Our annual retreat for executive board members gave us the opportunity to bond as we revisited some of the founding principles of our organization, which are as timely today, as they were in 1987. Our retreat was facilitated by Dr. Yolanda Ronquillo. She utilized porvida teachings, which are referred to in our Plan of Action, towards culturally relevant paths to knowledge, leadership and balance.

So yes, there is much to do this upcoming year, but if the photos in this issue are any indication, we do love life, we love to laugh in spite of adversity, and we face these challenges with wit, renewed vitality and intelligence. As your President, I encourage you to help us expand the membership in your respective community colleges this year, so that our spring conference in Los Angeles in March of 2009 will have one of our largest attendance.

QUE VIVAN LAS MUJERES DE LATINA LEADERSHIP NETWORK!!!

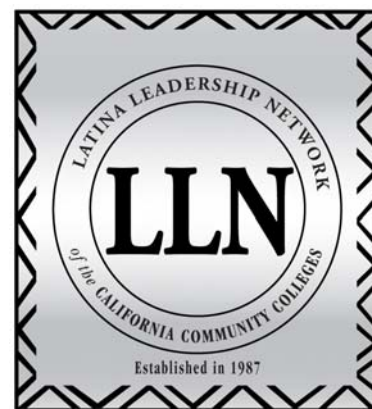
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Photos of the Conference
- 3 E-Board Retreat
- 4 2008-09 Executive Board and Region Information

Our Vision:

LLN envisions a strong network for Latinas within the California Community College system guided by diverse leadership at all levels that supports and fosters exemplary and equitable educational and employment opportunities.

Visit our website for more information at Latina-leadership-network.org



2008 Latina Leadership Network Conference A Gallery of Reflections



Chancellor Diane Woodruff's remarks...
"You created such a warm loving atmosphere for women to thrive and grow in...including me!"



LLN honoree Dolores Huerta sharing her sentiments...*"believe in yourselves but also focus on the need for service to others."*



Cabrillo College students and staff with workshop performer, Maria Ramirez.

The theme of LLN'S 21st annual statewide conference, RESTORING the BALANCE-in our LIVES, our COMMUNITIES, and our WORLD, became a guiding force for the San Jose/Evergreen LLN planning committee. Energized by the strong support of their Chancellor, Rosa Perez, and followed by strategic sponsorships, State Chancellor Dr. Diane Woodruff, the first woman ever to head the office and premier Latina philanthropist, Carmen Castellano, served as speakers and presenters.. The two day event was kicked off with a golf tournament and gala reception followed by the conference, and dance. Highlighting the conference were an all inspired group of Latinas who served as workshop presenters and role models in a variety of topics for the sizeable student population that attended. A unique feature to this year's conference was the colorful registration bags provided to each attendee. The artistically constructed bolsas were a reflection of the solidarity our indigenous sisters in Ecuador have with their North American sisters.



Madrina award winner, Janet Florez with her Cuesta College supporters.



Chancellors Rosa Perez and Dr. Diane Woodruff



Student Scholarship Awardees



Cynthia Muñoz, LLN 2007-08 President

E-Board Retreat Led by Dr. Yolanda Ronquillo



Work on Present and Future LLN Goals



Remembering Who We Are



Executive Board Retreat

The 30 member Executive Board of the Latina Leadership Network met for a weekend retreat at Asilomar on June 6-8, 2008. Considered a valuably "wonderful" and a "rejuvenating" experience, the following are some noted reflections of the retreat:

[The retreat] was inspirational, energetic and productive...I got back home with so much optimism of what we can accomplish in the coming year.

Most of all the experience gave me the courage and ganas to be able to ask for money for the organization, something I never considered EVER getting into.

So the process we went through in these two days infused me with the "poder que si puedo y lo haré!"

"As a Pocha, LLN has introduced many things to me...songs, philosophies, ceremonies--and let's not forget my debut of blowing la conch!"

"I really enjoyed...the corazón, riqueza y cariño de la cultura Mixteca...combined with strategic planning needed to move forward."

[The retreat] "brought home the message that everyone must begin by reflecting on one's self to clear the path for the future...there is a lot of pain in our world and we need to first recognize it, own it, and go on to put it in its place...we will always have to deal with obstruction, ignorance, and insecurity of others. Of course we try to educate ourselves and others so as to have a level playing field. However, we have our familia (some not blood related), our culture and some great history to support us along the way."

"As a "newbee" I was a bit nervous and unsure of the outcomes for the weekend. However, I quickly learned that part of the weekend was to serve the purpose of getting us all acquainted and to form "trust" with our own board...[the retreat and leadership style] was unique, energized and all about unity, which I appreciate and respect".

2008-09 Executive Board



COLLEGES AND REGIONS

REGION 1 - (NORTH) Cabrillo, Cañada, College of San Mateo, DeAnza, Evergreen Valley, Foothill, Gavilan, Hartnell, Mission, Monterey Peninsula, Ohlone, San José City, Skyline, West Valley

REGION 2 - (NORTH) Butte, Feather River, Lassen, Shasta, Siskiyou, Yuba, Woodland

REGIONS 3 - (NORTH) Chabot, City College of San Francisco, College of Alameda, Contra Costa, Diablo Valley, Laney, Las Positas, Los Medanos, Marin, Mendocino, Merritt, Napa Valley, Redwoods, Santa Rosa, Solano, Vista

REGION 4 - (NORTH) American River, Cosumnes River, Lake Central, Tahoe, Sacramento City, Sierra

REGION 5 - (CENTRAL) Bakersfield, Cerro Coso, Columbia, Fresno, Merced, Modesto, Reedley, Porterville, San Joaquin Delta, College of the Sequoias, Taft, West Hills

REGION 6 - (CENTRAL) Allan Hancock, Antelope Valley, College of the Canyons, Cuesta, Moorpark, Oxnard, Santa Barbara City, Ventura

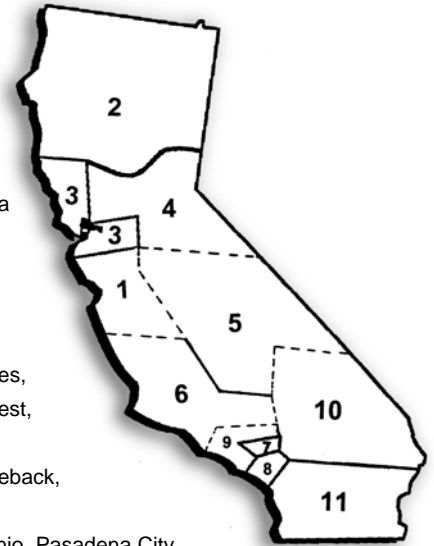
REGION 7 - (SOUTH) Los Angeles Community College District: Administrative Offices, East Los Angeles, Los Angeles City, Los Angeles Harbor, Los Angeles Mission, Los Angeles Pierce, Los Angeles Southwest, Los Angeles Trade-Technical, Los Angeles Valley, West Los Angeles

REGION 8 - (SOUTH) Coastline, Cypress, Fullerton, Golden West, Irvine Valley, Orange Coast, Saddleback, Santa Ana, Santiago Canyon

REGION 9 - (SOUTH) Cerritos, Citrus, Compton, El Camino, Glendale, Long Beach City, Mt. San Antonio, Pasadena City, Rio Hondo, Santa Monica

REGION 10 - (SOUTH) Barstow, Chaffey, College of the Desert, Crafton Hills, Mt. San Jacinto, Palo Verde, Riverside, San Bernardino Valley, Victor Valley

REGION 11 - (SOUTH) Cuyamaca, Grossmont, Imperial Valley, Mira Costa, Palomar, San Diego City, San Diego Mesa, San Diego Miramar, Southwestern



2008-2009 Executive LLN Board

President María Ramirez Ohlone College	President –Elect / VP South Marlene de Leon Palomar College	Vice President Central Martha Robles Modesto Junior College	Vice President North Carmen Pereida De Anza College
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Region 3 Representative Olga Arenivar Los Medanos College	Region 3 Alternate Vacant	Region 4 Representative Vacant	Region 4 Alternate Vacant
Region 5 Representative Monica Nolasco Madera CCC and StateCCD	Region 5 Alternate Estella Nanez Modesto Junior College	Region 6 Representative Martha M. Davis Cuesta College	Region 6 Alternate Vacant
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Region 9 Representative Cynthia Arellano Lavariere Cerritos College	Region 9 Alternate Lisette Rhi Rio Hondo College	Region Representatives 10 – 11 Vacant	