ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA

**LOS ANGELES SOUTHWEST COLLEGE—STUDENT SERVICES**

**ASO OFFICERS ELECTED; UPDATED CONSTITUTION APPROVED; STUDENT REP FEE DOES NOT PASS**

Following the April 11th and 12th ASO election dates, four new ASO officers will assume their posts on July 1, 2011, including new ASO President Luciano Morales.

Among a field of four candidates for ASO President, Luciano Morales earned the most votes from registered LASC students. ASO Advisor Dean Oscar Cobian sent a message to the LASC campus commending all four presidential candidates - Ali El Krim, Victor May, Luciano Morales, and Antoine White. Cobian stated, “Each candidate ran spirited and cordial campaigns that demonstrated the best of LA Southwest College!”

In addition to Morales assuming the ASO President post, Theodore White will serve as Administrative Vice President, D’Joy Robinson will perform the duties of Executive Vice-President, and Melvin Villaver will act as Treasurer. (The ASO Secretary position remains vacant.)

Dean Cobian asked for members of the LASC community to “take the time to complement these students for caring so much about the future of their campus and their willingness to get involved.”

ASO students also voted on two ballot measures, with only one being approved. A one-dollar per semester Student Representation Fee was placed on the ballot, which would have supported governmental affairs representatives who would advocate for students before city, county, and district governments and before offices and agencies of the state government. 65% of the 647 students voting on this measure approved and 35% voted against. LACCD regulations require a two-thirds vote to pass ballot measures, so this item did not pass.

The second ballot measure consisted of Amendments to the ASO Constitution which included changes to eligibility criteria for ASO office (to align with LACCD policy) and also alterations to the scope of duties for the ASO Council. Of the 581 students voting on this measure, 85% voted in favor of the amendments while 15% voted against. This measure did meet the two-thirds vote needed to pass.

For more information about newly elected ASO President Luciano Morales, see a brief biographical feature on page 6.

**LASC FACULTY TO PRESENT AT SLO SYMPOSIUM**

A free LACCD-sponsored SLO Symposium is slated for Friday, May 6th at Los Angeles Trade-Tech College (TE Building, Room 107) from 9:00am to 2:30pm.

This event will be helpful for those interested in hearing about effective practices in the SLO world in preparation for the coming 2012 deadline set by ACCJC for proficiency in SLO identification, assessment, analysis, and reporting.

LASC’s own LaShawn Brinson and Angela Jenks will be among the poster presenters.

Bob Pacheco of the Research & Planning Group for California Community Colleges will moderate a panel of SLO experts from across Southern California in a discussion of effective SLO practices. Representatives from the various LACCD colleges will share some of the successful approaches currently in place to meet the 2012 requirements set by ACCJC. Event attendees can test their ability to identify strengths and weaknesses in case studies of community colleges in terms of the ACCJC SLO preparedness.

To learn more about this free, unique event or to register, go to http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1587529343

~ by Glenn Yoshida
DENIM DAY 2011

DENIM DAY 2011 was a great success at LASC!
There was a good turnout for the information booth, moment of silence, and panel discussion. Also, the Spanish presentations were well received. Many staff and students wore their Denim Day shirts proudly. Over $400 was raised from the sale of shirts. Proceeds from the event will be donated to a local women’s shelter.

Thank you to the hard-working & dedicated Denim Day committee and volunteers!

LA SOUTHWEST - MAY NOTES

LASC’s First Annual Nurse Week Event!
The LASC Nursing Department is sponsoring a Nurse Week Event on Wednesday May 11, from 10:00am until 1:00pm. Participants can get their blood pressure checked, view LASC nursing students in action, tour the Nursing Department, and view poster displays about nutrition and health.
The event will be held in the South-West Court yard and on the 4th floor of the LL Bldg. Light refreshments will be served. This event falls during National Nurses Week which is celebrated annually May 6 through May 12.

Sister 2 Hermana Workshop Series
Join moderators Mrs. Miller-Washington and Mrs. Turner-Odom for an exciting Discussion Group for Women. This ongoing group meets once a month and for the month of May, Sister 2 Hermana will meet Tuesday May 24th from 1:00 to 2:00pm in LL205. For more information visit SSB 209 or call 323-241-5397.

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New Bookstore Construction Continues
The LASC Bookstore, scheduled to move into its new home in the Student Services Building during Spring Break, will complete this process later than anticipated.
**Interview With Blasius Agum, Part 1**

This is the first installment of a two-part interview with 3rd-semester Nursing Program student Blasius Agum. The second installment will be in the June issue of the Student Success Newsletter.

**Why did you decide to become a nurse?**

Two experiences influenced this decision. The first experience was when I was 14 years old, living in Cameroon [in West Africa], and I suffered from a hernia. This nurse named Emmerencia stayed with me, watched over me, and was just so caring. I needed an operation and she was the last person I saw before being anesthetized and the first person I saw when I woke up after the operation. I trusted her and I remember asking her what I could do to be a nurse, even though I was studying Accounting and Marketing at the time. This experience gave me the idea that I could go to school and do something to help people, a job that didn’t just involve making money. The second experience that influenced my decision was when my brother had head surgery. I thought that I could lose my brother. The nurses were so careful when they cared for my brother and they also took care of me. I wasn’t sick, but I was so worried and I couldn’t eat—the nurses were very encouraging. So, I reflected on what the nurses did to help my brother and I, and thought about what I could do to help people.

**The Nursing Program is challenging and nursing seems difficult—do you ever doubt your decision?**

I have no doubts. I am extremely proud of my decision. I have completed over 300 hours of nursing volunteer work to make sure I was making the correct decision, and I know that I’ve made the right choice. Just to help take care of someone and to see them smile... Back in Cameroon, hospitals can be quite far away. If people had medical care with doctors and nurses, they could live better and sometimes not die. I have lost family members to diseases that were preventable, so I am quite certain of the work I would like to do.

**What are the significant challenges for students in the LASC Nursing Program?**

Students need to prepare themselves financially and psychologically for the program. Financially, books are quite expensive and can cost hundreds of dollars. It can also be difficult to work more than part-time hours while enrolled in the program because you need to set aside so much time for classes, studying, clinical requirements, and so on—I ended up quitting my security job so I could do my clinical. More than anything, students need to prepare themselves psychologically so that they can put in the time necessary to succeed. I think some people underestimate what it takes—it’s difficult to have a big social life while you’re in the program or to lead another life. Before this interview, my friends Dorcas and Antoinetta spoke to me about time-management and procrastination being major issues for nursing students. With so much to do in so little time, the workload seems overwhelming and students might be tempted to put the work off and cram before tests. This does not work—you must be proactive to succeed and you’re better off doing your work all along the way. There will be plenty of time for a big social life later.

**What has it been like for you in the LASC Nursing Program so far?**

The program here has improved greatly. We now have teachers that are ready to help and administration that supports the students. Department Chair Catherine Azubuike has made improvements to our schedule and has improved the pass rates. We now have Dr. Ried and regular laboratory hours. We have a regular Nursing Counselor, Monica Lanier. Professor Nkonye Ezeobah brings clinical experience as a Nurse Practitioner and Professor Rosa Song is a truly outstanding teacher. And we have one Nursing Program tutor (myself) with another on the way. [TO BE CONTINUED...Hear more about Professor Song’s and Professor McClellan’s teaching and the challenges facing Nursing students in next month’s issue!]
Passage Program Brings William Allen Young to LASC

**AWARD-WINNING ACTOR**  **INSPIRATIONAL TEACHER**  **USC GRADUATE**  **TELEVISION DIRECTOR**  **MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER**  **COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY LECTURER**  **RECIPIENT OF THE NAACP OUTSTANDING SOCIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**WILLIAM ALLEN YOUNG**

**TUESDAY MAY 3, 2011, 12:30 P.M.**

LASC Little Theatre

For more information, contact James Mackey, Passage Program Coordinator, at (323) 241-5389

‘L.A. Youth At Work Initiative’ Comes To Southwest

**HIRE LA’S YOUTH JOB FAIR!**

Brought to you by

Los Angeles Southwest College  
in partnership with the  
Economic Development Department

**TUESDAY MAY 24TH, 2011—10:00AM TO 2:00PM**

GYMNASIUM BUILDING (ENTER FROM IMPERIAL & DENKER - LOOK FOR SIGNS)

COME DRESSED FOR AN INTERVIEW  
BRING COPIES OF YOUR RESUMÉ  
WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO BRING YOUR WORK READINESS CERTIFICATES

Call LASC at 323.241.5406 or 323.242.5527 for more information.
ATTENTION STUDENTS!

Are You Ready to Register for Classes?

Summer 2011 registration takes place online and in person April 11 through July 8, 2011. An Add Permit is required to add classes from July 5 through July 8, 2011. You may view the summer 2011 schedule of classes online at www.lasc.edu, or view the printed version in the Office of Admissions and Records. This is the last term that enrollment fees will be $26.00 per unit.

Fall 2011 registration takes place May 2 through September 12, 2011. An Add Permit is required to add classes from August 29, 2011 through Monday, September 12, 2011. You may also view the fall 2011 schedule of classes online at www.lasc.edu, or view the printed text version only in the Office of Admissions and Records. Effective Fall 2011, enrollment fees will be $36.00 per unit.

► You are encouraged to register as soon as possible on or after your assigned registration appointment time. You will not be able to register for classes before your appointment time.

► Not sure of your registration appointment date and time? Log into the student information system using your student I.D. number and PIN, and click on the menu option “View Your Registration Appointment”. You should program this date into your phone to be sure that you do not miss your start date.

► You should also make sure that all holds are cleared before your registration appointment. Many students still have Health Fee or Enrollment Fee holds from the current or a prior term. Go online now to view your holds, and clear them so that you will be able to enroll in classes without being blocked.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS IN THE STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, ROOM 102.

~ Kimberly Carpenter
Dean’s Honor List

Each semester an Honor List is composed of students who have satisfactorily completed 12 or more units in a given semester with a 3.5 or better GPA, or who have completed 6 to 11.5 units with a 3.5 GPA and have completed a cumulative total of 12 or more units with a 3.5 GPA in all work attempted. In recognition of this scholastic achievement, each student is honored and awarded a Dean’s Honor List certificate.

In the Fall 2010 semester, 139 full-time students and 305 part-time students made the Dean’s Honor List!

Congratulations to all those on LASC’s Dean’s Honor List!

These students will be honored at a Recognition Ceremony on May 26.

President’s Honor Award

Students who have met the requirements for the Dean’s Honor List for three consecutive semesters qualify for the President’s Honor Award.

The following full-time students were awarded the President’s Honor Award in Fall 2010

Kevin Adams  Pauline Aririguzo  Meleane Baker
Logan Baughman III  Rogelio Bonales  Wesley Bucknor
Thomas Cardenas  Maria Del Cid  Trisha Gonzales
Johnny Lewis  Alejandra Marchand  Luis Perucho
Bruce Pitcairn  Gwendolyn Smith  Patrick Stewart
Cedric Tchoumbou  Racquel Thompson  Aaron Torres

The following part-time students were awarded the President’s Honor Award in Fall 2010

Jessica Aguilar  Walter Akwagoh  Regina Anthony  Carlos Batres
Charlisse Bennett  Lakeshia Burns  Tracy Davis  Deborah Golden
Teresita Hernandez  Libertad Iniestra  Esche Jackson  Latrisha Jackson
Yolanda King  Jacqueline Leiva  Andree Llerena  Esmerelda Martines
Joseph McChesney  Petra Meza  Michelle Mitchell  Michael Monday
Tichina Newton  Anthony Thomas  Paola Vasquez  Lolita Wallace
Vanessa Yancey

These students will be honored at the President’s Honor Awards Reception on Tuesday, May 24th, 4:00pm in the Art Gallery.
Newly elected ASO president Luciano Morales, 26, has been a student at LASC since summer 2009. The father of two young children ages four and six, was born and raised in South Los Angeles. The experiences he lived through during his childhood and youth have motivated Luciano to make it his life goal to help those in need in his community. Having faced several adversities as an adolescent, Luciano understood the impact that education would have on his future. Los Angeles Southwest College is the place that has given Luciano the opportunity to nurture his vision.

Luciano knew embarking on this new venture would be challenging. However, he knew that the only option he had to fulfill his goals would be to make a commitment to himself that he would “go all the way.” With plans to graduate and receive his A.A. in Psychology from LASC Spring 2012, he also aspires to transfer to Loyola Marymount University to earn his B.A. Ultimately, his goal is to receive his Ph. D. in Psychology from USC and to establish a non-profit that will address the unique needs and complacent behavior that permeate the South Los Angeles community.

As an LASC student, Luciano has sought every opportunity to amplify both his academic and individual growth. He credits programs such as EOPS and TRIO Scholars for assisting him with the tools to become a scholar. Realizing the importance of being a successful student, Luciano has maintained a 3.5 G.P.A and is currently a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Furthermore, his grades earned him the President’s List honors during the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters. His leadership experience includes his current position as president of the Latin American Student Association (LASA). Last year, Luciano was one of five students selected to represent LASC in the Hispanic College Quiz, a national competition held in Chicago. This opportunity propelled his desire to motivate other students to participate in these unique opportunities.

Currently, Luciano is a math tutor in the TRIO Scholars Program and finds great satisfaction in assisting his fellow students grasp the mathematical concepts he once had difficulty understanding. His desire to help students succeed is so strong, that he committed himself to spend time during Spring Break to tutor students who needed the extra help. Luciano has also made the commitment to enhance his communication skills by participating in Toastmasters International. On the weekends, he also finds time to volunteer at Driftwood Health Care Center in Torrance where he assists staff in providing social activities for the residents.

Luciano’s hobbies are diverse; they include reading, meditating, exercising, and videotaping the streets of South L.A. He enjoys listening to classical music, drawing, and rollerblading at the beach.

As ASO President, Luciano will implement a strong student volunteer base to assist both students and the college community. His focus will be to help minimize the impact of the upcoming fiscal challenges that LASC may face. In addition, he will also attempt to create a culture of unity to ensure that students, faculty, and staff work together to provide a well-rounded education and enhanced college experience for all students. Most importantly, he vows to listen to the voices of all LASC students and support them as they take ownership of their college campus.

Luciano Morales looks forward to assuming his position as ASO president on July 1, 2011.
Recently, the LASC International Student Club joined the Pierce College International Student Club for a Beach Day—how was that event?

It was great. About 28 students went to Santa Monica beach, including 7 from LASC. We had a volleyball circle and tried not to drop the ball, a few people tested the water but it was pretty cold, and we talked a lot. I never thought I’d have the opportunity to meet people from so many different cultures—there were German, Asian, and Arab students, just people from so many different places in the world. I’m from Mexico and had a great conversation with another student from Mexico about where he’s from and what he’s doing in school. Overall, I loved the environment—everyone saying “hi” even if they don’t know you. The Vice President of the Pierce College International Student Club told us it was wonderful for LASC students to come to the Beach Day and that they hope to join us at our upcoming International Food & Dance Day.

Can you tell us a bit about the LASC International Food & Dance Day?

It will happen on Wednesday May 18th from 9:30am until 2:00pm in the Quad. I chose May for this event because it’ll be after mid-terms and right before we go into a stressful time of the semester. We are going to have dance performances and hopefully lots of different foods. We have Florklorio dancing scheduled and hope to have hip-hop and Belizean dancers as well. We’d like to make tacos and sopes and have a barbeque as well, and we’ll sell bracelets we made to support the International Student Club here at LASC.

What is a florklorio dance performance?

My mom used to be in a folk dance group and this made me think about how Cinco De Mayo, which is held in May, traditionally has dancing. So, I recruited my mother’s group and they will perform for about 30 minutes. I just love watching them perform. I feel very proud knowing that these dances have come from my and my mother’s culture and that she has been dancing them since she was a small child. It’s the same with mariachi music. When my mother puts on this music, I get goosebumps because I am attached to my culture. And I sing a little mariachi music too.

What is it like being President of the International Students Club?

It’s my first time as President of any club, but I feel like I have lots of support. Club members get excited about ideas and offer to help with activities. What’s a club without activities? I really enjoy doing this.

Why do you think you enjoy this work?

I’m social but it makes me even more social. I get to meet people from other colleges, like we did at Beach Day, and I like to recruit people to help with activities.

What are you studying here at LASC and why?

I’m going to school to be a nurse and am in Pre-Nursing right now. I would like to transfer to Long Beach and become an RN with a minor in Nutrition. As a little girl I wanted to be a doctor, but I like the work that nurses do and I like the idea that I could sort of serve as the nurse to my family and friends. I’d love to be able to help people and give them advice while I have the knowledge and science behind that advice.
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<td>Fall 2011 Registration Begins</td>
<td>Passage Program Event: Guest Speaker William Allen Young (Little Theater, 12:30)</td>
<td>Career Center: Apply For LACCD Intern Positions (SSB 228, 10-12)</td>
<td>Cal State Northridge Representative On Campus (SSB Lobby, 10:30-1:30)</td>
<td><strong>SLO Symposium</strong> (LATTC, 9-2:30)</td>
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<td>DSPS, EOPS, &amp; Veteran Students Register May 2-4</td>
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<td>Career Center: Apply For LACCD Internships (SSB 228, 10:00-12:00)</td>
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<td>Hire LA’s Youth Job Fair (Gym 10:00-2:00)</td>
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