



LOS ANGELES  
MISSION COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S  
N E W S L E T T E R

Dr. Adriana D. Barrera

COLLEGE TO RECEIVE \$16,500  
IN NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

The New Year has turned out to be a great one so far for Mission College. Not only have we opened our new classroom building, we've also received word that we are recipients of more than \$16,000 in new scholarships.

Four separate "friends" of Mission College have donated generously to endow the 23 scholarships, which range from \$500 to \$1,000 each.

A very generous contribution comes from CompuCredit Corporation with headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. The company is providing 10 scholarships, each for \$1,000, to Mission College students under the company's **aspire** (Aspire to More) scholarship program. CompuCredit created the program to increase educational opportunities for college students in predominantly Hispanic communities. We will select 10 recipients based on their goals for the future, academic achievement, and economic need. They will be selected with the spirit of the scholarship in mind, which recognizes the qualities of perseverance and of "giving back" to the community.

I thank David Hanna, chairman and chief executive officer of CompuCredit Corporation, for selecting us as the first college in Southern California to receive an Aspire a Más scholarship. Carlos Nava, vice president for student services, and Jose Luis Ramirez, associate dean for student services, are to be commended for their work in coordinating this scholarship.

This is the largest scholarship ever awarded to Mission College. Consider this: Last Spring, at our Scholarship Breakfast, we awarded to 20 outstanding students scholarships totaling \$7,000. To have a single

endowment exceed that amount is progress beyond our wildest wishes.

We are similarly enthusiastic about 10 scholarships awarded to us by The East Los Angeles Community Union



(TELACU) Education Foundation, in partnership with the Mission College Foundation. Ten students each will receive a \$500 scholarship. These awards also include counseling, mentoring, leadership training and other opportunities.

Instructor John Morales, who once worked at TELACU, and ASO president Jose Oliva played key roles in convincing TELACU to bring this opportunity to students in the northeast San Fernando Valley. Special thanks also go to Gary Bombalicki, president of our Foundation, which is providing matching funds for the scholarships.

Another generous friend is the Times in Education program. We have partnered with the *Los Angeles Times* to provide copies of the newspaper for educational purposes to thousands of local high school students. As a result of this commitment on our part, Times in Education has endowed three \$500 scholarships. One of the scholarships will be awarded in each of the next three years to a high school student who will be attending Mission College. I extend thanks to Andrea Troutman, north region manager of the Times in Education program, for making these scholarships possible.

These four partners will be invited to our Scholarship Breakfast in May so they can share in the joy that they will bring to some very deserving students.



DISTRICT TEAM VISITS GEORGIA SCHOOLS

A team that included Mission College articulation officer Madelline Hernandez and counselor Clive Gordon has returned from a tour of colleges in Georgia, excited about the possibility of transfer agreements with the schools.

Last year, the district's Board of Trustees recognized "a growing need for community colleges to encourage their students to consider black colleges to complete their four-year degrees." The result was a memorandum of understanding that paved the way for the establishment of articulation agreements between the district and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. (CONTINUES ON BACK)





LOS ANGELES MISSION COLLEGE

### LOS ANGELES MISSION COLLEGE

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## calendar of UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
3/21	Transfer Center visit to CSUN, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
3/21	College Council meeting, 1 p.m., CC 1
3/25-30	Spring Break
4/1	Cesar Chavez Holiday, Campus Closed
4/5	Spring Honors Ceremony, 4 to 6 p.m., Quad
4/16-17	ASO & Student Trustee Elections, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., South Atrium
4/17	LAMC Foundation meeting, 8 a.m., CC 4
4/18	High School Senior Day, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Various locations
4/19	ASO-sponsored HIV Workshop, 12 p.m., site TBA

## GEORGIA COLLEGES (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

This month's whirlwind visit to eight colleges in Georgia was part of the process to work out details of those agreements.

Hernandez and Gordon returned from the trip highly impressed with the Georgia schools.

"The colleges are all small and it's very one-on-one," said Hernandez. "Most of the classroom ratios are about 15 students to one teacher."

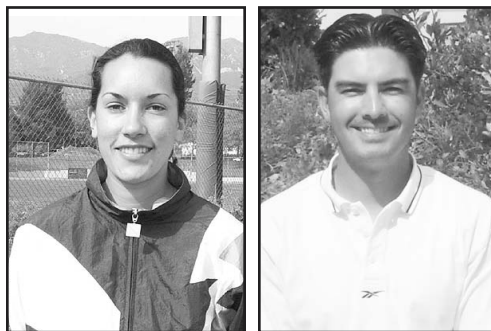
"When students miss class, the professors go look for them to find out why," said Gordon. He returned convinced that Mission College students, particularly African Americans, would benefit from attending one of the colleges.

Colleges visited were Albany State University; Clark Atlanta University; Fort Valley State University; Morehouse College; Morris Brown College; Paine College; Savannah State University; and Spelman College.

Hernandez and Gordon agreed that the trip was highly productive, but for Gordon, who is African American, it held special significance. The tour included a visit to the grave of Martin Luther King, Junior, to the church where he preached, and to his boyhood home.

"We went into the backyard where he had played; we saw the swing on the porch where he had sat," said Gordon. "It was a very touching experience...an incredible feeling."

## focus on MISSION PEOPLE



Athletics director **John Klitsner** has announced the hiring of a men's baseball coach and a women's softball coach. Named to coach the women's team is **Kelly A. Lovato**, currently the varsity softball coach at Royal High School in Simi Valley. Selected to coach the men's baseball team is **David C. Mallas**, assistant baseball coach and physical education instructor at Los Angeles Harbor College since 2000. In addition to her duties as coach at Royal High, Lovato is also a private pitching coach in Simi Valley and has played softball professionally in Italy. She is currently working towards her Master's degree in kinesiology at California State University, Northridge. Mallas also was an assistant baseball coach at Metropolitan State University in Denver. He holds a Master's degree in education from Azusa Pacific University, and a Bachelor's degree from California State University, Chico. He played on the CSU

Chico team that won a national championship in 1997.

Professional golfer and former Mission College student **David Berganio, Jr.**, is featured in the March 1, 2002 issue of The Tidings newspaper. A moving article about the PGA pro describes his troubled youth growing up in the northeast San Fernando Valley, and how he overcame poverty and dyslexia to become a top earner on the PGA tour. Berganio played golf for Mission College, but his eligibility was threatened by poor grades. An English instructor discovered he had dyslexia. She and then-golf coach **Terry Bommer**, currently the accounting department chairperson, worked with Berganio to overcome the problem. His eligibility remained intact, Berganio won the state championship and the rest, as they say, is history.

Photo courtesy of The Tidings - R.W. Dellinger



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