

Spring 2013 Events

We have lots of great activities for you this semester. Workshops led by your peers, field trips and visits to universities, writing assistance in the CAN Center each Friday, and all the great counseling and advising to which you've become accustomed. Take advantage of these opportunities to learn new skills and see new sights. Check our CAN event website frequently for updates as dates, times and locations are subject to change (hancockcollege.edu/can/events).

January

iCAN Transfer: What's Next? - Workshop	1/17
How to Study: Work for A's - Peer Workshop	1/25
How to be an effective tutee - Peer Workshop	1/31

February

Student/Faculty Mentor Program Meeting	2/1
Student Advocacy & Rights - Peer Workshop	2/6
CSU Los Angeles University Trip!	2/8
Goal Setting - Peer Workshop	2/19
Cen-Cal Student Leadership Conference @ COS	2/22

March

Student/Faculty Mentor Meeting	3/8
LACMA & LaBrea Tar Pits Field Trip!	3/16
Professional Development Week	3/25

April

California Lutheran University Trip	4/5
Happy Hour	4/10
iCAN Transfer: I'm Going - Workshop	4/19

May

CAN Recognition Ceremony	5/17
AHC Commencement	5/24

TGIF!

Get professional writing assistance for any paper in any subject on **Fridays** in the CAN Center. Call to sign up for a 30 or 60-minute slot.

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EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It

Visit these peer-recommended websites...

What does it take to achieve your dreams?

Check out these websites to get the specifics on the career you are considering including career qualifications, job growth, average pay, educational requirements, and more!

bls.gov/home.htm eureka.org nces.ed.gov

I need money for college!

Financial assistance from the FAFSA alone doesn't always cover all your education expenses. Take advantage of additional opportunities to pay for your education. Ask us about AHC "Take Flight" and check out these scholarship websites:

fastweb.com	gmsp.org
scholarship.org	reaganfoundation.org/scholarships
hsf.net	hacu.org
latincollegedollars.org	coca-colascholars.org
collegescholarships.com	gocollege.com

Textbooks

The Allan Hancock College Bookstore is a convenient, affordable, and accurate way to ensure you get the textbooks you need each semester. You can sell back books and return as needed. They also support the Associated Student Body Government and are a part of the campus community. On the chance that you decide to purchase books outside our wonderful bookstore, be aware of the online resources you use such as: cheapesttextbooks.com, chegg.com, bookprice.com, campusbooks.com, and half.com.

Be aware that when you use these sites they will not: solve matters immediately; purchases are not refundable; you might not receive shipments on time; and textbook editions might be incorrect. If you purchase textbooks online, purchase with caution. Reliable online textbook shopping sites include: Amazon.com or Half.com. That is because these sites will provide very helpful information to help you purchase from a reliable seller. Important things to look for are Rating Percentage (shop only from those over 90%), number of ratings (best stay over 500), and other good material such as the book's condition and from where it will ship.

Remember: There are a lot of online thieves who prey on students, so if it looks too good to be true, it probably is a scam. Textbooks.com and craigslist.com are common sites for scam artist to post. Chegg.com has been pretty pricey and will definitely charge a student late expenses once a student is a minute late.



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Student Feature: Nicolas Barrera

Nicolas Barrera is a silent warrior and education is his sword. He fights to secure a good future for himself and his family. However, his quiet, humble disposition may lead you to believe otherwise. Nicolas comes from a large family of eight children, four boys and four girls. He was born in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico. He lived in Oaxaca until 6th grade, after which he came to the United States. Nic had to remain in elementary school to learn English. "English was a great barrier for me all throughout my time at Miller Elementary and Arellanes Jr. High Schools," he says. He feels he faced a lot of challenges and some discrimination due to the difficulty he had with the English language. There were times when the discrimination was subtle but he was aware of it and chose to take the high road and simply ignore it. When Nic enrolled at Santa Maria High School (SMHS) he began to feel more comfortable speaking English, which built the confidence he needed to pursue his own version of the "American Dream."

With the help of a SMHS instructor, Nicolas decided to enroll at Allan Hancock College after high school. It was a challenge for him to navigate the community college system since he is the first of his siblings to pursue higher education. "There was no one from my family to guide me," he says. But he successfully enrolled and is now pursuing a career in nursing. He finds medicine interesting because he is learning about the human body and disease prevention, which will enable him to help his family and others.

Nicolas never thought he'd be able to achieve what he has thus far. He is proud that he made it through grade school, high school, ESL courses and, most recently, English 101 at Allan Hancock. Nicolas has been participating with the College Achievement Now (CAN) program for more than a year and has been able to get the resources he needs to move closer to achieving his goals. As for his future, he wants to stay and work in the Santa Maria area to be near his parents and seven siblings, and then eventually start a family.

"It [education] also helps you defend yourself because some people may see you as ignorant..."

Education has become very important to Nicolas. He declares, "It is important that we each take advantage of educating ourselves because it helps us live with more knowledge to help those that may not be able to take advantage of the educational opportunities many of us do have. It [education] also helps you defend yourself because some people may see you as ignorant but you can have just as much knowledge to prove those people wrong."

"We must go beyond textbooks, go out into the bypaths and untrodden depths of the wilderness and travel and explore..." – J.H. Franklin



The Transfer Experience

Former CAN scholars who transferred last year share their university experience.

"I love it here! The pace is a lot faster than a semester since we are on quarter system, but then again it's good since you are always busy, and focused on your classes. At the end it's amazing to look back and realize all the knowledge you have learned in just 10 weeks! It's wonderful. Time is a different currency here, what I mean is, a week goes by so fast, but you get so much done in just a short amount of time, which is great. The opportunities are endless also, there exists anything and everything, so at the beginning it can seem a little overwhelming, but then again, you will adjust."

– **Hanne Wolff, UCSD**

"I'm loving the campus, classes, professors, and the city. However, there is a direct proportion in regards to the fun and hard work ratio of USF life. I'm having a blast but it is A LOT of hard work. My advice: you get what you put into it so work your butt off. The professors are brilliant but expect the best. For example, Midterm for EU Migration Policy: "Study the 15 authors we have read this semester, memorize a quote from each and be prepared to answer two essay questions in class with citations and proper quotations from memory. Bring a Blue Book. No notes, just your brain." You probably won't be getting any sleep so be prepared to be a partying, intellectual, punctual zombie. Start learning to cram and write an essay on a moment's notice now. Cheers!"

– **Anja Brabson, USF**

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Transfer Checklist

Transfer Students: Your application process has just started! Now that you have applied to a four-year, follow up work must be completed to guarantee transfer success. There is much to do, so refer to this **checklist of items to complete between now and July 15, 2013**. Some or all of these will apply to you. For future transfers who will apply next year or even the year after, this list will help you prepare for the work ahead of you. The College Achievement Now (CAN) program is here to walk you through these steps.

February 2013

□ If you haven't yet, file the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Filing period began January 1, 2013 and the deadline is March 2, 2013. *This is how you will get your money to pay for school.*

□ Submit **Additional Application Materials** for specific majors: Architecture, Art, Graphic Design, and Nursing. For example, students majoring in Art might be required to submit a portfolio by a stated deadline.

□ Schedule and attend **Admissions Rehearsal** for Performing Art majors like Dance, Theater, and Music.

□ Submit **On-Campus Housing Application**. If you are applying for on-campus housing, you can submit an application once you get your Student ID Number. *Most campuses have a first-come first-served procedure. Applications can be found on the school's housing web page.*

□ Meet with AHC counselors Hector Alvarez and Norma Hernandez to do the following:

- File and complete **General Education (IGETC or CSUGE) Certification**.
- File and complete forms to receive your **Associate Degree (A.A. or A.S.) or Certificates**: Your **Petition for Graduation** forms to participate in the Allan Hancock College Commencement (Graduation) on May 24, 2013, **must be completed by April 12, 2013**.

□ Receive **Admissions Decisions** from some California State Universities (CSU) campuses.

March 2013

□ Finish filing the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Filing deadline is March 2, 2013. *This is how you will get your money to pay for school.*

□ Go to your applied school Financial Aid web page and apply for **Scholarships**. Each campus you applied to (i.e. CSU/UC/Private) has a scholarship application available. For example, if you applied to UC Riverside go to **www.ucr.edu** and look for scholarships on their financial aid web page. If you need assistance please come by the CAN Center.

□ Search and apply for **Transfer Scholarships** like the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Sallie Mae Fund, Atlas Shrugged Essay Contest, Xerox Scholarship, MALDEF, CollegeFish, William Randolph Hearst Endowed Fellowship, Fastweb Scholarships, Microsoft Scholarship, DoSomething.org, Dr.Seuss' College Scholarship Program, and many more.



□ Receive **Admissions Decisions** from some University of California (UC) campuses.

□ Attend university **Open House** offered in March and April. Most universities will host an Open House to prospective students to display their campus, services, programs, faculty, and campus pride.

April 2013

□ Receive **Admissions Decisions** from all CSU/UC/private schools.

□ Attend a university **Open House**.

□ Receive **Financial Aid Packet** from most schools to which you applied. The financial aid packet will provide a detailed description of how much money you will receive for your universities.

□ Deadline to file **Petition for Graduation** for A.A./A.S. degree or certificates.

May 2013

□ Submit **Student Intent to Register (SIR)** to some California State Universities by May 1, 2013.

Congratulations! You are on Your Way to University!

□ Submit **13th Avenue: Take Flight II Contract** by May 15, 2013.

□ Attend the CAN Recognition Ceremony on May 17, 2013 in G106 (Student Center) from 9-11 a.m.

□ Attend YOUR GRADUATION! Allan Hancock College Commencement will be May 24, 2013 at 2 p.m.

June 2013

□ Submit **Student Intent to Register (SIR)** to the University of California and the rest of the California State Universities by June 1, 2013.

□ Receive **Admissions Decision** from the University of Southern California (USC) on June 1, 2013.

□ Attend YOUR University Orientation! Most orientations are held in June and July.

July 2013

□ Submit **Final Official Transcripts** to the University you are attending on July 15, 2013!

"My experience thus far at Sacramento State has been exceptional. We face many dilemmas when entering a four-year institution and I hope to help in your transition and give you a better picture of what to expect...First off, if you haven't visited your future school, I suggest you get a map and study where the buildings are located. If you have only Major courses left they will most likely be near each other, but most schools have mandatory prerequisites and knowing where you are supposed to be will help...Some classes hold in excess of 140 students and there is no shortage of students who want these seats. Once you get a seat I think standing out is imperative, in a class of 140 students you do not want to fade into the background. I emailed all my instructors weeks prior to the beginning of the semester for a couple of reasons: one, to get them familiar with my name and two, to ask for the syllabus... At times it's difficult to get one-on-one time with instructors, although they do take appointments and try to accommodate. For me, emailing questions and asking for clarification on certain thesis points, presentation ideas and essay topics helped..."

– **Eddie Triste, CSU Sacramento**

