This report is a compilation of the outreach and recruitment activities for Los Angeles Harbor College for the fiscal year of July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 coordinated by Mr. Robert Barker, Student Recruitment Coordinator. The activities outlined in this report, however, are not inclusive of all College outreach activities performed by other personnel or other categorical programs.

Introduction

The Los Angeles Harbor College (LAHC) academic year 2005-2006 reflected well-organized and intensive outreach and recruitment activities.

As a result of these efforts, the college again maintained and increased its visibility in the community, strengthened the working relationships with new educational and community resources, and maintained renewed contacts with feeder high schools.

Internal Activities

Accreditation Activities

Robert Barker is a member of the Accreditation Steering Committee for the current cycle.

Ambassadorship Program

The Student Recruitment Coordinator, in conjunction with Nina Malone, Associate Dean of Student Life, and Yvonne Pueblos, the Honors Counselor, have conceptualized and implemented the beginnings of a Los Angeles Harbor College Ambassadorship program. Student Ambassadors would have the opportunity to assist in the recruitment and outreach efforts of the College. Activities may include assisting in high school outreach, college fairs, classroom presentations, information booths, and other activities as needed.

Students would have the choice of taking either Political Science 187 for one unit of transferable credit, Political Science 287 for two units of transferable credit, or doing service points for the Political Science 41 class. There is initial training of at least four
hours in length, then the Ambassadors begin participating in supervised activities.

The fall semester only had one ambassador, Melissa Mendez. The spring saw four student ambassadors, Byron Emerson, Brenda Perra, Susan Sanchez, and John Swain. All trained at the Information Desk and performed a variety of outreach functions, including high school visits and college fairs, in anticipation of the opening of the Welcome Center in the summer of 2006.

**First Year Experience Program**

The idea for the First Year Experience program came as a logical extension of the expanded services that incoming Los Angeles Harbor College students are receiving. For the last 4 years, graduating high school seniors coming to Harbor College for their freshman year in college have, by school, had an entire day at the College. They have been provided with the assessment evaluation, an orientation, campus tour, and lunch.

The issue has been students that are unprepared to succeed at the college level. For example, 179 students were assessed for the five senior days in the spring of 2005, and 103 students, 58%, of these placed below college level on the assessment in math and/or English. All 103 of these students were given an invitation to participate in the First Year Experience pilot program.

The initial planning meeting for the First Year Experience committee was held on July 20, 2005 in the faculty cafeteria. In attendance were Present: Joan Thomas-Spiegel from Title V, Joy Fisher, who is the Chair of the Counseling Department, Ramon Baltazar, an adjunct Business teacher, Abbie Patterson, the Vice President of Student Services, Steve Hirsch, an E.O.P.&S. counselor and previously did award winning work on retention at USC, Sally Fasteau, from the Curriculum committee and Disabled Learning Specialist, Susan McMurray, English professor and President of the Academic Senate, Evelyn Portis, the Director of the Learning Assistance Center, Sheila Millman, the Financial Aid Director, Charles Bossler, the Dean of Student Services, Bonnie Burnstein, the Director of the Life Skills Center, Carol Stevenson, Director of the Student Health Center, and Robert Barker, the Student Recruitment Coordinator. The discussion centered on the activities for the program, with emphasis on the initial invitational meeting. It was resolved that the participants and their families would be invited to a reception to be held in the Seahawk Center.
Planning meetings were held on 7/20, 7/28, 8/4, and 8/20. Discussion included the format of the reception, services that were going to be offered to participants, and possible funding streams. It was decided that the reception would be an introduction to the program, and would include resource tables from counseling, EOP&S, financial aid, and the Life Skills Center. Bonnie Burnstein has allocated her entire staff of interns to assist in the program, and they were all present at the reception. They circulated an entered into one-on-one discussions with the participant’s families. They will also be available to mentor participants as the program unfolds.

At the reception invitees were asked to fill out an application for the program. The reception format included 30 minutes for eating and socializing, then an introduction from Dr. Linda Spink, President of the College, then a welcome address from Sally Fasteau on behalf of the Faculty Senate, a video speech from Abbie Patterson, VP of Student Services, and then Robert Barker outlined the program. The program included an in-depth orientation to be held on August 29 that would be co-facilitated by Joy Fisher and Bonnie Burnstein. At the orientation, mentors and interns told the students a little about themselves, and the reasons that they were willing to be mentors. Mentors included Ramon Baltazar, Carmen Carrillo, Chair of the English Department, William Loiterman, Political Science professor, Nina Malone, Associate Dean of Student Life, and Bonnie Burnstein and her 6 interns. There were 21 participants in the program, and roughly 20 showed up for the orientation session. Also, a series of ‘Brown Bag’ workshops, presented by Steve Hirsh, were suggested as part of the First Year Experience program.

At the end of the academic year, 17 of 21 participants, or 81%, had completed the spring 06 semester. Many have enrolled in summer and/or fall classes. Of a match group of students who were invited to the First Year program but were non-participants, 13 of 21 students, or 62%, were still enrolled at the end of the spring 06 semester. (Data checked on 7/17/06).

‘In-Reach’ Classroom Presentations

Classroom presentations on the programs and services available at the College were conducted on the week of September 12, and were done mostly for the daytime sections.
Welcome Days

For the first two days of the fall 2005 fall and 2006 spring semesters, the Student Recruitment Coordinator assisted in the Welcome Days event sponsored by the Student Services division at Harbor College. The event seemed helpful to incoming students as many were lost, or had questions on issues such as parking, adding classes, or financial aid status.

Open House

On Saturday, June 10, the College sponsored an Open House as part of the continuing and expanding efforts to assist students in transitioning into college. Open, campus wide meetings were held weekly for a period of one month prior to the event to determine the scope and activities of the day’s events. The day consisted of two general areas, matriculation services and academic information.

Matriculation services included the application process, as admissions was open. Also, the assessment center was open and performed walk-in assessments. The assessment center served 55 students during the course of the day. 36 students availed themselves of drop-in counseling with Gary Gonzalez.

The fair potion of the event was highlighted by participation from most of the academic departments and programs available at the College.

Your College Debut; Program and Reception

As both a follow up to the Senior Days, Open House, and the LACCD’s Bridge to College model, Harbor College implemented a program called “Your College Debut.” The model that came from the District included some sort of personal development class, combined with a basic skills level math and/or English class. The model was modified on the recommendation of the Student Recruitment Coordinator, who expressed concern that remedial math and/or English summer classes would not be attractive to non-high school graduates. It was suggested that a Personal Development 17 class, a Library Science class, and a Theater 200 class would be a more attractive package. To present the Debut package, over 500 invitation letters were sent out, along with a SARS call to invite prospective students to the reception on June 29. 26 students and families actually showed up. Of these, 5 enrolled in the P.D.17 and Library Science
classes that were created just for the bridge. The feeling is that what the College already has a program, and that with time a more viable summer bridge is within reach. The proof is that the third session P.D.17 class was full, as this was originally scheduled to be part of the First Year Experience program and there was sufficient time to recruit participants.

Totals (sections and units are for summer sessions only):

Senior Days: 151 students-58 sections for 142 units
Open House (Assessed): 55 students-38 sections for 95 units
College Debut Reception: 26 students- 13 sections for 23 units

(Records as of 7/17/06)

HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH EFFORTS

The ‘Big Five’ of District 8

Banning High School

Weekly visits began at Banning High on September 19. Robert Barker is the primary representative, and visits were held on Mondays. The dates for 05-06 were: September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5, 12; January 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13; March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 17, 24; May 8, 15, 22; June 6, 13. Banning High students came for the assessment field trip on May 18. Banning sent 48 students, and the day went flawlessly. Two sessions in the assessment center, with lunch, campus tour and the students all received counseling appointments before leaving for the day.

Carson High School

Weekly visits at Carson High started on Friday, September 23, and continued on September 30; October 7, 14, 21, 28; November 4, 18, 25; December 2, 9, 16; January 24, 31; February 7, 14, 21, 28; March 3, 10, 24, 31; April 7, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19; June
2, 9. Melissa Mendez, a student ambassador, assisted the Student Recruitment Coordinator for the fall semester, and Alex Padilla and Chris Spiegelman assisted in the spring semester. The Carson students came on May 17, and 15 students came for the field trip.

**Gardena High School**

Weekly visits to Gardena High began on Tuesday, September 20, and continued on September 27; October 4, 11, 18, 25; November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; December 6, 13; January 24, 31; February 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14; April 4, 25; May 2, 9, 23, 30; June 1, 2, 7, 9. John Swain, a student ambassador, attended the Gardena High career fair on April 7. 30 students came on May 25 for the assessment field trip.

**Narbonne High School**

Weekly visits to Narbonne High began on Wednesday, September 21 and continued on September 28; October 5, 12, 19, 25; November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; December 7, 14; January 25; February 1, 8, 15, 22; March 1, 8; April 5, 19; May 3, 10; June 7, 14. Also, on April 18, approximately 45 students from the Narbonne Health and Human Services Academy came for a campus tour. Narbonne sent 26 students for the annual Senior Day tour.

**San Pedro High School**

Weekly visits to San Pedro High began on Friday, September 23, and continued on October 4, 11, 18, 25; November 4, 18; December 2, 9, 16; January 23, 30; February 3, 10, 24; March 10; April 7, 21, 28; May 5, 19; June 2, 9. Ben Widner, a CGCA from EOP&S, assisted the Student Recruitment Coordinator in the fall semester, and the spring saw Brenda Perra, a student ambassador, and members of the ASO Senate assist in the San Pedro effort. San Pedro sent 37 students on May 16 for the assessment field trip.
DISTRICT 8 VISITS

NUMBER OF VISITS

Summary

The numbers of student contacts and District 8 visits have leveled off, mostly due to the one day a week visit schedule. The number of visits, and presumably student contacts, could increase with the addition of supplementary personnel. Also, the procedure of contacting students has changed somewhat, effecting student contacts. Most of the high schools now have peer counselors, and the job of these students is to survey seniors to assess post-secondary plans. Those students who express an interest in Harbor College are referred to the Student Recruitment Coordinator for services. This
saves time, as time is not spent interviewing students that have other post-secondary plans, but if the peer counselor system is not efficient, then contacts become somewhat affected. Banning High’s figures continue to rise due to the efficiency of the college counselor, Ana Maria Lopez, who trains and supervises the peers at Banning, and is a big supporter of Harbor College.

One of the capstone events of the year is always hosting the 5 District 8 high schools for a field trip. The Senior Day field trip consists of the assessment evaluation, an orientation, lunch, and a campus tour. This year, San Pedro High sent 37 students on May 16, Banning sent 43 students on May 18, Carson sent 15 students on May 17, Narbonne sent 26 students on May 24, and Gardena sent 30 students on May 25. This made for a total participation of 151 students. These students had all given The Student Recruitment Coordinator or one of the outreach team an application, and these were all graduation high school seniors planning to attend Harbor College for the summer and/or Fall of 2006 semesters. This was a coordinated effort from the counselors from the 5 high schools, EOP&S, who contributed personnel and paid for bus service, the assessment center staff, and the counseling staff.

The following are the assessment results:

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**School Functions**

**Banning Adult School**

On March 3, the Student Recruitment Coordinator presented to graduation students at Banning Adult School.
On the evening of April 27, the Student Recruitment Coordinator spoke to the graduating class at Banning Adult School on the programs and opportunities available at Harbor College.

On the evening of June 1, the Student Recruitment Coordinator spoke to the graduating class at Banning Adult School on the programs and opportunities available at Harbor College.

**Carnegie Middle School**

On Monday, June 5 Chris Speigelman went to Carnegie Middle School to speak to students there on the community college option, with the emphasis on Los Angeles Harbor College.

**Eagle Tree Continuation High School**

On Wednesday, February 1, the Student Recruitment Coordinator presented to a student assembly at Eagle Tree Continuation High School in Carson. The principle, Jackie Aiello, has long been a supporter of Harbor College.

**Harbor Adult School**

On Tuesday, November 22 a group of approximately 30 students toured the College. The focus of interest was divided between the Architecture department and the Job Placement Center. The students from HAS were mostly in the ESL sequence, and showed a good level of enthusiasm for the eventual transition to College.

**Harbor Occupational Center**

On Wednesday, December 7, the Student Recruitment Coordinator presented to approximately 45 students at Harbor Occupational Center. The students present were part of the ‘drop out school’ hosted by HOC, and the theme was the programs and services available at Harbor College.

On Wednesday, April 26, Chris Speigelman spoke to the graduating class at Harbor Occupational Center on the opportunities available at Los Angeles Harbor College.
Harbor Teachers Prep Academy

On August 15, the Student Recruitment Coordinator conducted tours of Harbor College for incoming freshmen at the Harbor Teachers Prep Academy.

South High School

On Thursday, December 15 the Student Recruitment Coordinator presented to two AVID classes at South High School at the invitation of the AVID coordinator. This is the second year that the College has been asked to speak to these 9th graders, and it is always a good experience.

Palos Verdes High School

On Thursday, February 9 the Student Recruitment Coordinator met with students at Palos Verdes High on the programs and services available at Harbor College.

On Thursday, April 20, the Student Recruitment Coordinator met with students at Palos Verdes High School.

Palos Verdes Peninsula High School

On Thursday, February 2 the Student Recruitment Coordinator met with interested students at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School.

On Thursday, April 27, the Student Recruitment Coordinator met with interested students at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School.

On Thursday, April 27, the Student Recruitment Coordinator met with interested students at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School.

Peary Middle School

On Monday, June 5 the Student Recruitment Coordinator assisted the Long Beach Talent Search program in presenting a college awareness workshop at Peary Middle School in Gardena.
Rancho Del Mar High School

On Friday, May 26 approximately 15 students from Rancho Del Mar High came and toured the campus.

Wilmington Middle School

On May 31, Wilmington Middle School sent approximately 65 students for a tour of the College.

EXTERNAL RECRUITMENT-OTHER ACTIVITIES

(Note: Events are listed in chronological order)

Beacon House Association

August 13 and 14 of 2005 saw Harbor College once again participating the annual Beacon House Block Party and Art Show. In addition to the Student Recruitment Coordinator, Ben Widner and Eric Shannon assisted in booth sitting.

the Student Recruitment Coordinator also has been conducting regular sessions on Wednesdays at the Beacon House Association.

Harbor Interfaith Shelter

On July 14 and August 4, Melissa Mendez represented Los Angeles Harbor College at the Harbor Interfaith Shelter in San Pedro. The College has enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship with this facility, and the monthly workshops continue to be an important part of the outreach efforts.
Harbor Area College Fair

Harbor College was once again one of the schools of interest in the annual Harbor Area College Fair, sponsored by the local District 8 high schools on September 24 from 9:00 A.M. to 1:15 P.M. the Student Recruitment Coordinator also presented at the panel on community college transfer information.

Hispanic Scholarship Fund Events

Harbor College again participated in the Hispanic Scholarship Fund’s two annual area events, the weekday Town Hall Meeting at Gardena High School on October 19, and this year the College hosted the day long Steps for Success Saturday. The Town Hall Meeting consists of a college informational presentation, and there is a small college fair at the end of the presentation. Steps for Success Saturdays are a day long series of college readiness and financial aid workshops. This year, along with hosting the event, many faculty and staff participated by acting as workshop presenters. Luis Rosas, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, gave the welcome and introductory speech. Teresa Gonzalez, Mica Murillo, Citlally Santana, Mercy Yanez, and Janice Ishikawa acted as workshop facilitators and assisted in setting up, serving lunches, and flow control. Approximately 300 students and parents attended the event.

Cash for College

Harbor College again participated in the annual Cash for College event at the Los Angeles Convention Center. This year the event was held on October 26 and 27, and there were day and evening sessions on both days. Mr. Barker presented a series of workshops, and Tim Mariner and Ben Widner assisted in attending the information booth for the College. Janice Ishikawa also presented at the evening workshops on October 27.

Taste of San Pedro

Los Angeles Harbor College attended this large, two day event for the fourth consecutive year. Supervisor Don Knabe donated the booth space this year. Ben Widner and Eric Shannon assisted the Student Recruitment Coordinator in booth sitting.
The Pyramid at CSULB

Harbor College was represented at the annual LBUSD sponsored college fair at CSULB on Wednesday, November 3 by two members of the counseling staff, Coni Juno and Elizabeth Conchelo. They reported approximately 10,000 students attended the event.

Girls Inc. College Fair

On Saturday, December 3, Ben Widner attended a college fair sponsored by Girls, Inc. The event was held at Mt. St. Mary’s College in Los Angeles, and was well attended by both students and presenters. Girls, Inc is an organization that assists middle school aged women with programs and mentors to assist in preparing for college.

Schedule Delivery

As usual, the Student Recruitment Coordinator delivered the Spring 2006 schedules to high schools in District 8, Torrance Unified, and Long Beach Unified School Districts. Also, some libraries were also included for schedule placement.

Free Cash for College

On January 21, Harbor College served as one of the eighteen host sights for the annual Spring Free Cash for College Financial Aid day. Sheila Millman and the Student Recruitment Coordinator teamed up to market and coordinate the day-long event. Approximately 160 people were in attendance, and the population consisted of students and parents interested in filling out the FAFSA in English and Spanish, and undocumented AB 540 students and parents interested in exploring scholarship recourses. Counselors from MALDEF assisted the individuals the AB 540 population, while the entire staff from the LAHC Financial Aid department as well as the Outreach staff and members from EOP&S participated. The event was co-sponsored by Unite LA and Mayor James Hahn’s office.

On February 16, Harbor College teamed with El Camino College, California State University at Dominguez Hills, and the Boys and Girls Club in San Pedro in a Cash for College FAFSA workshop. There were roughly 100 student and parent participants, and the event was deemed a success. Sheila Millman and her staff represented the College at this Cash for College event.
Torrance Unified School District College Fair

This event is one of the year’s largest and traditionally one of the best attended college fairs Harbor participates in. Torrance Unified has a very strong parents association, and that is evident in the planning, attendance, and response to this yearly event.

Boys and Girls Club, Harbor City

Chris Speigelman represented the College with an information table at the Boys and Girls Club’s College Fair. This event was held in the afternoon of April 6. Chris reported a light turnout of both students and college representatives.

Juvenile Detention Center

On Friday, April 7 Chris Speigelman and Melissa Mendez went to the downtown Juvenile Detention Center and participated in a college fair and workshops for incarcerated youth.

Summary

In addition to the abovementioned activities, the Student Recruitment Coordinator, along with support from financial Aid, finished production of a promotional CD. The CD highlights the College’s programs and services, gives step by step instructions on financial aid, and includes a video of the campus produced by Larry Heimgartner and the HCTV studio. A mailing of these CDs was done to Palos Verdes Peninsula High school juniors and seniors.

Also, the last week of June saw the opening of the new Welcome Center. The Center is in AD 133, and part of the mission of the Center is to provide better access to services for incoming freshmen. Currently, there are two TRIO grants that have been written and submitted, and if one or both of these grants are allocated to the College, then the Welcome Center will also house these programs.
It is refreshing to see the heart of the people that work at the College. For much of the First Year program, the Open House, and the upcoming College Debut program, many people volunteered their time to assist with these efforts. It is for this reason that this College stands in a unique class; a place where students really do come first. It is because of the heart and spirit of the people here that gives me the energy to do my best, because I know that for many of these incoming students, we are the best choice. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Submitted by:

Robert ‘Robbie’ Barker
Student Recruitment Coordinator
Los Angeles Harbor College