

# College Assistance Migrant Program

SACRAMENTO STATE

FALL 2010 / SPRING 2011

## Message from the Director...

On behalf of the CAMP program, I would like to congratulate our freshmen for completing their first year of college, our continuing students for getting a step closer to graduation and our many CAMP graduates who obtained their bachelor's degree or master's degree this year. For 30 years now, CAMP has helped thousands of migrant students accomplish their educational goals. Beyond solely obtaining a college degree, CAMP strives to help all students become leaders and active participants in their communities. This was an exceptional year. CAMP students were involved in many activities that fostered their academic, leadership and personal growth including: the CAMP Statewide Leadership Conference; One Book Program Series Event: Crossing Borders to College Attainment; CAMP Scholars Internship Program; Career Center Etiquette Dinner; and Cesar Chavez Community Service Day—just to mention a few. In addition, many of our students were recipients of various awards, recognitions, scholarships and fellowships including: Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF); the Intel Service Learning Scholarship Project; Anthony J. and Soulas Leones; Duccini/Pasquini/Traversa; and the Chevron Scholarship. We look forward to the upcoming 2011-12 academic year, a year that celebrates our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Sacramento State.



Viridiana Diaz

## CAMP Intel Service Learning Scholarship Project



In an effort to increase the representation of Latino students in the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Intel, a world leader in computing innovation, awarded a \$20,000 grant to CAMP. Funding from Intel provided 10 CAMP students access to additional tutors and a \$1000 scholarship to assist with the expenses associated with earning a degree in

STEM disciplines, such lab fees, textbooks, calculators, and other specialized equipment. Scholarship recipients completed 40 hours of service by tutoring math and science to underserved elementary students at Ethel I. Baker Elementary School—a Title 1 school in South Sacramento with a student population of 63 percent English Language Learners and 60 percent who are Latino. The goal of the CAMP/Intel Service Learning Scholarship Project was to increase the number of migrant students pursuing degrees in the STEM disciplines by increasing access to science and mathematics tutoring and providing supplemental financial assistance. Approximately 20 percent of CAMP students declare a STEM discipline as their major.

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## Alma Zamora: Duccini/Pasquini/Traversa Scholarship Recipient

Growing up in seasonal migrant camps, settling down in one place was never an option for Alma Zamora and her family. The housing camps only opened for 6 months of the year, and then her family had to move to follow the crops. Alma's parents always insisted that she and her siblings continue their education, rather than work long hours in the agricultural fields as they had done all of their lives. The strong support and motivation enabled Alma to foster a goal of one day attending college. As a CAMP first generation migrant college student, Alma, the oldest of three, has endured all the experiences of attending college on her own. With the help of the CAMP

program she has continued in her pursuit of attaining a B.S in Nursing. Despite a heavy class load, she often volunteers her time at the various hospitals in Sacramento and in her hometown of Watsonville, CA, with the intent of gaining valuable experience in her desired field of study. Now in her fourth year of college, Alma continues to be an example to her younger sibling and peers as well as her community. Financial aid and this scholarship made it possible for Alma to continue with her educational goals. She is humbled by all of the assistance she has received from CAMP, Sacramento State and the generous donors of the Duccini/Pasquini/Traversa scholarship.



## Chevron CAMP Scholarship Recipient: Julio Ramirez

With CAMP's help, Julio Ramirez began his college education at Sacramento State in 2006. Upon admission, Julio was undecided on which field of study to chose. However, his fundamental interests in engineering developed further as he completed classes in mathematics and design. Julio is now an Electrical Engineering major on his way to graduation. Julio came to Sacramento State from Linden, CA, a small town outside of

Stockton. Linden's vast fruit fields and the demand for agricultural workers provided steady employment for his parents. Fortunately, their humble income was enough to support the family, allowing Julio and his younger brother to focus on completing high school and going to college. Julio serves as a mentor to his peers by tutoring current CAMP students in mathematics and was an excellent candidate for the CAMP Chevron Scholarship. Julio's kind, yet persistent strength has been especially remarkable this year as he continues his studies despite the sudden loss of his father to illness. The way he views these difficult times, "he is doing exactly what his father wanted . . . for him and his brother to pursue higher education and never step foot in the fields."



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## CAMP Higher Education Migrant Conference: Award of Excellence

*“It was the most rewarding thank you card or hug I could have received for the work I do!”*

During the CAMP Higher Education Migrant Conference: Developing Leaders within Our Migrant Community, High School Counselor, Yadira Zuñiga from East Union High School in Manteca, CA, was presented with the 2010 Award of Excellence. This award recognizes high school counselors who consistently go above and beyond the line of duty to assist migrant and seasonal farm worker students.

Yadira was born in Caracas, Venezuela and raised in Puerto Ordaz. As a college student she was awarded a full scholarship from the University of the Pacific, where she earned a Masters Degree in Special Education. She has worked for Migrant Edu-

cation Region 23 for the last ten years. Her goal in life is to help migrant and seasonal farm worker students prepare academically for high school, graduation and a postsecondary education. Yadira’s greatest satisfaction is seeing her students attend college, graduate from college and become successful professionals.

She summed up her appreciation by saying, “When my students from East Union High School presented me with the CAMP Higher Education Award of Excellence; it was the most rewarding thank you card or hug I could have ever received for the work I do!”



**Yadira Zuñiga**  
Migrant Education  
Counselor, Region 23

## CAMP Statewide Leadership Conference



Ten incoming CAMP freshmen students were selected through a competitive process to participate in the CAMP Statewide Leadership Conference. They spent a weekend networking and practicing their leadership skills with other CAMP students from the surrounding eight California CAMP programs. This year, the conference was hosted by the CAMP program at Mendocino Community College. CAMP students attended workshops and

took part in activities aimed at developing confidence, teambuilding and leadership skills. Students were encouraged to reflect on how their daily actions influence outcome and ultimately impact their future. The students returned to their respective colleges energized with new ideas on how to put into practice what they learned. Many of them are now planning to get involved in student organizations, leadership and government.

# CAMP Toy Drive



*“The joy of bringing a smile to a child’s face was priceless”*

The holiday season is a time of giving and reflection. This year, the CAMP program gave back to migrant children by implementing a toy drive. In collaboration with the Yolo County Community Resource Center, CAMP partnered with the Head Start Program. CAMP’s toy donation targeted pre-school aged children. The toy drive was announced to our students and other campus community members. Goal markers were placed around the office and were changed daily as the number of toys increased. With the hard work of CAMP’s dedicated students and the campus community, the goal was nearly tripled and over 200 toys were collected. The children at the pre-school selected their favorite toy and were extremely appreciative. The joy of bringing a smile to a child’s face was priceless and motivated CAMP students and staff to continue this tradition.

## One Book Program Series Event: Crossing Borders to College Attainment



Crossing a border, whether it is physical or mental, brings forth hardships on those undergoing the journey yet provides an opportunity for new possibilities. For the CAMP students in Ethnic Studies 94, that journey began the moment they stepped foot on to campus at Sacramento State. Their focus for the class was a culminating event inspired by this year’s One Book

*The Devil’s Highway* by Luis Alberto Urrea. Using Urrea’s theme of crossing a border, the students reflected on their own journey as they cross a variety of borders to become students at Sac State. For the majority of them, being the first in their family to attend college presented a border crossing experience itself. Collectively, the students expressed their journey using a diversity of expressions as some students read personal essays about their college experiences, others created a mural that portrayed the meaning of their journey and the rest expressed their journey by creating a personal digital story. This event provided the students with the opportunity to share with peers and the campus community their personal experience crossing the border to college attainment. Overall, the event presented a powerful representation of the college experience of migrant students at Sacramento State.

# Dia de los Muertos



**CAMP Altar at Dia De Los Muertos Event**

On October 18, 2010 the College Assistance Migrant Program Organization of Students (CAMPOS) participated in the campus Dia de los Muertos Celebration sponsored by the Sigma Phi Alpha Sorority. Dia de los Muertos is an indigenous holiday that can be traced back to the Aztec empire which celebrates life by honoring the dead. This celebration includes cultural offerings such as marigold flowers, candles, sweet bread, sugar skulls, mole, tortillas, and any other favorites loved by the deceased. Campus groups were invited to participate and build their own altars in honor of the deceased loved ones in their lives. CAMPOS members created an altar in honor of migrant leader Cesar Chavez. This theme was selected to embrace and educate the campus community about the

migrant experience.

The CAMPOS Altar consisted of the U.S. and Mexican

flags combined to represent a hybrid identity.

Grapes were laid out on the altar to represent the United Farm Workers (UFW)

great grape boycott of the 1960's.

The student's hard work paid off as they received 1<sup>st</sup> place for the best decorative altar.



**Jessica, Alejandro, Ulises and Rosana at Dia de los Muertos Celebration**

## Dining Abroad: CAMP Etiquette Dinner



In an effort to prepare CAMP students for career opportunities, CAMP hosted its very first Etiquette Dinner for students on April 13, 2011 at the University Restaurant. The goal of the evening was to prepare CAMP students to enter the professional world by providing them with etiquette do's and don't's. The event incorporated presentations on networking skills, etiquette dining and the various cuisines across the globe. Students not only familiarized themselves with the common dining styles in the U.S., but with those in other countries. CAMP students enjoyed the opportunity to practice their new skills as a well as the delicious three course meal.

## Natividad Chavez: Making a Difference in the Southern United States

Natividad Chavez left the small migrant town of Live Oak to begin her college journey at Sacramento State in 2008. With the support of CAMP, her family and new friends, Natividad transitioned into college life with ease. Through the CAMP Scholars Internship Program (CSIP), Natividad was placed in the office of Assembly Member Joe Coto. Her work in the Capitol inspired Natividad to continue building her experience in the public sector. She emerged determined to join the effort of improving the lives of migrant workers in California and the U.S. Through the CAMP Scholars Program, Natividad was introduced to Stu-

***“I emerged determined to join the effort in improving migrant worker’s lives”***

dent Action with Farmworkers (SAF), a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the conditions of farmworkers, and build diverse coalitions for social change. Natividad was selected by SAF to participate in a summer internship in North Carolina. Although she received training and information about the farmworker struggles in the south, she was unprepared for what she witnessed as an outreach assistant. For two months,

Natividad traveled to rural farms in the states of Arkansas,

Tennessee, and Louisiana to educate migrant workers about their labor rights. What she found were people living in desolate broken-down shacks with common narratives of unfulfilled promises made by employers. “Isolated miles away from the public, there is no protection by law enforcement and no health care if a worker gets sick or injured,” she stated. Because of her experience with SAF Natividad is able to appreciate the public resources available to migrant workers in California. The Cesar Chavez movement created ongoing awareness about the farmworkers’ plight and sustained improvements to migrant workers’ working and living conditions. Natividad now realizes that California is not perfect, but for migrant workers, it is a much safer place to work and live. Although Natividad has a few more years of studies as a Geology major, she plans to minor in Ethnic Studies and has not ruled out the possibility of returning to the south someday to continue the work she started.



## CAMP Community Day Encuentro



In commemoration of his birthday, CAMP students set out to honor the outstanding legacy of community service left by the late Cesar Chávez. The target at hand: a community garden, housed on the school grounds of the Language Academy of Sacramento. This once plush organic garden is filled with fruit trees, vegetables and an abundance of beautiful flowers, but was in dire need of helping hands. The group worked together to revitalize the grounds. The children and staff at the Language Academy of Sacramento appreciated these efforts and presented the CAMP students with an organic garden salad lunch made with vegetables picked from the garden during that same day.

# 2011 CAMP Summer Youth Leadership Institute



The 2011 CAMP Summer Youth Leadership Institute lasted from June 13 - July 2 and hosted 140 migrant students entering 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades. Participating students arrived from various areas in Region 2 and Region 23 and were housed in American River Courtyard and Desmond Hall as Sac State.

The program focused on English Language Arts and Math-ematic skills in order to prepare students for the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). In addition, the following topics were embedded throughout the curriculum: College Preparedness Series, Self Advocacy & Leadership Series, Cultural and Historical Series, *In the Arts* Creative Series, Recreation and Sports Series and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Series. CSYLI promotes early outreach and college readiness among young migrant students.





**SACRAMENTO STATE**  
College Assistance Migrant Program

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CAMP is the College Assistance Migrant Program, a unique educational program at Sacramento State that helps students from migrant and seasonal farmworker backgrounds succeed in college. CAMP Sacramento was established in 1981 and has helped thousands of students accomplish their educational goals. CAMP offers students pre-college transition and first-year support services to help develop the skills needed to stay in school and successfully graduate from college.

**CAMP Student's Academic Achievements**  
**Dean's Honor List**  
**Fall 2010—Spring 2011**

*Margarita Alvarez*

*Leticia Araujo*

*Yadira Beas*

*Cindy Calderon*

*Magda Cervantes*

*Emma Cruz*

*Lourdes Curíncita*

*Diana Félix*

*Guadalupe Ferreyra*

*Jennifer Garcia*

*Lucidalia García*

*Gabriela Garibay*

*Emilio Gasca-Pantoja*

*Isabel Gregorio-Flores*

*Manuel Meza*

*Laura González*

*Stephanie Gonzalez*

*Edgar Jacobo*

*Angela Lopez*

*Araceli Lopez*

*Benjamín Lopez*

*Lupita Montejano*

*Rocio Morales*

*Veronica Moreno*

*José R. Muñoz*

*Estela Navarro*

*Elizabeth Nieves*

*María Elena Nolasco*

*Jazmín Ochoa*

*Armando Oseguera*

*Mayra Palmerin*

*Leticia Perez*

*Mayra Ramirez*

*Enrique Rivera*

*Lizette Rocha*

*Gloria Rodríguez*

*Laura Salcedo*

*Eduardo Torres*

*Jose Villanueva*

*Alma Zamora*

*Rocio Zamora*