



# President's Briefing

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## Cerritos College Celebrates its Largest Graduating Class



Cerritos College honored its graduates during its annual commencement ceremony on May 19. More than 3,000 students received degrees and certificates, making the Class of 2017 the largest graduating class in the 60-year-old campus' history – a 20 percent increase from 2016.

The College also saw a drastic 36% uptick in awards to students who earned an Associate Degree for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T) from 2016 to 2017 with 908 degrees awarded. The AA-T/AS-T degree guarantees admission for eligible students to transfer to the California State University system. The College currently has 27 AA-T/AS-T degree programs.

Our students will be transitioning to some of the nation's top colleges and universities, including Columbia University, Stanford University, University of Chicago, University of La Verne, Loyola Marymount University, USC, UC Berkeley, UCLA, among other notable schools. Additionally, 92 percent of students in our Scholars' Honors Program were admitted to UCLA this year, a 20 percent increase from 2016.

## Three-Peat for Women's Track Team

Our women's track team recently won another state championship for a third year in a row. The women's team belongs to a small club of campuses to win three back-to-back championships in the state. The team also broke several track records during the meet.

## Space Grant Partnership to Enhance STEM Education

The College was selected for the California Space Grant Consortium's Competitive Opportunity for Community College Partnerships Program. The program aims to enhance the STEM preparation at 10 California community colleges and increase graduation rates and greater enrollments in STEM disciplines. Cerritos College is among 10 colleges selected.

## \$1 Million for Clean Transportation Training

Our Advanced Transportation Technology and Energy Center received \$1 million from the [California Energy Commission](#). The grant will allow the College to develop clean fuel training programs for high schools in underserved communities, regions impacted by poor air quality and those serving minority populations.

## Our Students Defy the Odds to Succeed

Richard Bautista was only 12 years old when he was shot in the head on his way home after a Dodgers game. Doctors told his parents Hector and Ramona that



he wasn't going to survive, and if he did, he would be a vegetable. Twenty-two years later, Richard graduated from Cerritos College with honors. See his story featured on Fox 11 News: <http://www.foxla.com/news/local-news/256188458-story>.

## Trustee Area #3 Vacancy

On May 31, the Board of Trustees will conduct a special meeting to review and select the finalists for the Trustee Area #3 vacancy. Interviews of the selected candidates will take place during the Board's regular business meeting on June 7. The selected candidate will take the oath of office during the June 21 Board meeting.