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SFCC Appoints Guzman President

The Santa Fe Community College (N.M.) Governing Board has named Dr. Ana Margarita "Cha" Guzman of San Antonio, Texas, as the institution's seventh president. Guzman will officially begin her duties Sept. 4. Guzman has been president of Palo Alto College in San Antonio for the past 12 years. A leading voice for Hispanics in education, she is currently on the governing board of the Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities. The U.S. Senate confirmed Guzman in June 2011 to a four-year term on the National Security Education Board (NSEB). She has a BS in education from Stout State University in Wisconsin, an MA in sociology from Texas Southern University in Houston and an Ed.D. from the University of Houston.



UNT Names Flores Niemann New Senior Vice Provost

The University of North Texas (UNT) recently appointed Dr. Yolanda Flores Niemann senior vice provost. Flores Niemann had been a professor in the psychology department at Utah State University where she was vice provost from 2010-11 and dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Service from 2008-10. Prior to joining Utah State, she was department head and special assistant to the dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Washington State University. Flores Niemann has a bachelor's degree in psychology, master's in education psychology, master's in psychology and doctorate in psychology with a minor in management, all from the University of Houston.



New York Cuban Cultural Center Recognizes de la Vega for Contributions to Classical Music

Aurelio de la Vega, California State University-Northridge music professor emeritus and internationally recognized composer, was honored by Centro Cultural Cubano de Nueva York with the Ignacio Cervantes Medal, the organization's lifetime achievement award for excellence in classical music. De la Vega was born in Havana, Cuba, in 1925 and studied law at the University of Havana and music composition at the Conservatorio Ada Iglesias. He was a cultural attache at the Cuban Consulate in Los Angeles and toured the United States as a lecturer from 1952 to 1954 before settling in Los Angeles. De la Vega joined the faculty of what was then San Fernando Valley State College, now Cal State Northridge, in 1959.



Lozano Featured in National Report Highlighting Immigrant Patent Holders

Dr. Karen Lozano, the Julia Beecherl Endowed Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Texas-Pan American, is one of several foreign-born faculty and research staff members from colleges and universities across the United States featured in a report released by the Partnership for a New American Economy, a group of more than 450 Republican, Democratic and Independent mayors and business leaders who support immigration reforms that will help create jobs for Americans. Patent Pending: How Immigrants Are Reinventing the American Economy shows that 76 percent of patents from the country's top patent-generating universities in 2011 had a foreign-born inventor. Lozano has master's and doctoral degrees from Rice University.

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Jimenez Selected as City Tech's 2012 Salutatorian

New York City College of Technology recently chose Keila Joann Jimenez as its 2012 salutatorian (second in her class). The college chose Jimenez in recognition of her hard work and 3.92 grade point average, as well as the values and ideals she has exemplified. Jimenez, who has a keen interest in the lodging operations industry, received a bachelor's degree in hospitality management, summa cum laude, at City Tech's June commencement.



President Obama Names S.F. State Math Professor a Top Young Scientist

San Francisco State University (Calif.) Associate Professor of Mathematics Mariel Vazquez has been selected to receive the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the U.S. government's highest honor for researchers in the early stages of their careers. Vazquez is a pioneer in an emerging field called DNA topology, which applies pure math to the biological mysteries of DNA. She has a bachelor's degree from Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico and a doctorate from Florida State University.



Marquette Names Octavio "Cas" Castro VP of Human Resources

Marquette University (Wis.) recently announced that Octavio "Cas" Castro has been promoted to vice president of human resources from assistant vice president and director of human resources. Castro will be charged with leading efforts to attract and retain top talent, demonstrate best practices in employee relations, benefits and compensation management, and enhance Marquette's reputation as a top workplace. Castro has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and a senior professional in human resources certification. He is a current Board of Directors member and past president of the Society of Human Resource Professionals and an active member of the Society of Human Resource Management.



Moya Becomes Campus Operating Officer at Berkeley College

Berkeley College has announced the appointment of Will Moya as campus operating officer, New York City location. Moya, who has been at Berkeley since 2002, will oversee day-to-day operations, space management and staff and student retention, among other responsibilities. He also will monitor policies related to personnel, including training and professional development programs. Moya has an AAS in office systems management and a BBA in information systems management, both from Berkeley College, and an MBA from Nova Southeastern University. He is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



Chiquito Named Hispanic Scholarship Fund's Student of the Year

California State University-Los Angeles (CSULA) junior Jonathan Chiquito was named "Student of the Year" at the Hispanic Scholarship Fund's (HSF) Second Annual Leaders in Education Awards Luncheon, held in May. The award, presented by Toyota, includes a \$5,000 scholarship. HSF, the nation's leading provider of college scholarships to outstanding Latinos, honored Chiquito for being a "champion for education" in his community. Chiquito is currently working on his bachelor's degree in finance, along with a minor in economics. A Dean's List student, Chiquito has been recognized for his academic achievements, having garnered the United Latin Students Academic Excellence Scholarship, the CSULA Alumni Association Scholarship and the Adelante Fund Scholarship.



Perez Chairs NHCSL Business & Economic Development Task Force

The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL) earlier this year announced California Assemblymember V. Manuel Perez as chair of the Business and Economic Development Task Force. With the support of his newly appointed vice chair, Rep. Jenniffer Gonzalez

Colon, speaker of the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico, the Task Force's primary goal is to develop policy platforms that will advance the economic needs of millions of Latino families across the nation. Perez graduated from the University of California-Riverside and has a master's degree in education from Harvard University. For more information on NHCSL, visit www.nhcsl.org.



NASA's First Hispanic Astronaut Visits NECC

Dr. Franklin Chang Diaz, the first Hispanic NASA astronaut, presented a Northern Essex Community College (Mass.) White Fund lecture titled "My Personal Journey Through the American Dream" in April. When Chang Diaz arrived in the United States in 1968 from Costa Rica, the 18-year-old had \$50 in his pocket and couldn't speak English. By 1977, he had earned his Ph.D. in applied plasma physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1981, he became the nation's first Hispanic NASA astronaut. He went on to become a veteran of seven space missions logging more than 1,600 hours in space, including 19 hours in three space walks.

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