

EDUCATIONAL ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AAPIs



AANAPISI Newsletter — February 2019



White House Initiative on ASIAN AMERICANS and PACIFIC ISLANDERS

The White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (the Initiative) is co-chaired by U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao, and led by Executive Director Holly Ham. The Initiative works to improve the quality of life and opportunities for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders by facilitating increased access to, and participation in, federal programs where they remain underserved.

AANAPISI Spotlight: Los Angeles Harbor College



Photo courtesy of LA Harbor College website

[Los Angeles Harbor College](#) launched the [Asian Pacific American Student Success \(APASS\)](#) program in fall 2016 with the mission to support Asian American and Pacific Islander students in their pursuit of academic success. APASS serves Los Angeles Harbor College's diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) student population by providing culturally relevant, student-center services that support success. The program provides early intervention and effective support services; promotes individual growth and personal success through a culturally sensitive environment; recognizes cultural diversity within the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities; and fosters unity within the college community and beyond.

Los Angeles Harbor College wants APASS students to become advocates for themselves, their community, and their education. Partnerships with various resources seek to empower students by promoting healthy identity formation and a strong sense of community.

This past year, APASS has been outreaching and preparing students for the real world through counseling sessions, workshops, field trips, and at-large presentations. Every semester APASS participates in the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) chancellor's API advisory committee meeting to share stories of student successes and

obstacles. Through the help of the committee and community partners such as [Empowering Pacific Islander Communities \(EPIC\)](#), APASS is able to receive support through scholarships and collaborative programming.



APASS presenting in front of the LACCD Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Asian Pacific Islander Affairs. Photo courtesy - LA Harbor College.

EPIC is a national organization that supports the needs of Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities. Through its partnership with Los Angeles Harbor College, EPIC was able to host the [Pacific Islander Leaders of Tomorrow \(PILOT\) Summer Institute](#) for the past two years. The PILOT Summer Institute is a week-long intensive program that connects NHPI students throughout the nation to help them to fully realize their cultural identity and leadership skills, and seek mentors.



Award ceremony for the 2018 Pacific Islander Leaders of Tomorrow (PILOT) Summer Institute graduates. Photo courtesy - LA Harbor College.

From April 11-14, 2018, APASS students traveled to Oakland, California to attend the [Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education national conference](#). Students not only participated in workshops but also facilitated their own workshop titled “Visualizing our Dreams for Education and Beyond.” They had an enriching experience and were able to connect with similar students and professionals from across the nation.



APASS members presenting at the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education National Conference. Photo courtesy - LA Harbor College

To learn more about APASS at LA Harbor College, click [here](#).

Grant Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Education's Institute for Education Sciences' National Center for Special Education Research is now inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year 2019 for its Low-Cost, Short-Duration Evaluation of Education Interventions grant program. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply is March 7, 2019.**

The U.S. Department of Education's Education Innovation and Research program provides funding to create or take to scale entrepreneurial, evidence-based, field-initiated innovations to improve the achievement and attainment of high-need K-12 students. The unique three-tiered grant structure - early-phase, mid-phase, and expansion - links the amount of funding that an applicant may receive to the quality of evidence that supports the efficacy of the proposed project. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply is April 2, 2019.**

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education is accepting applications for its Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program. The program office of International and Foreign Language Education provides short-term study and travel seminars abroad for U.S. educators in the social sciences and humanities. Learn more [here](#). **Applications will be available online soon.**

The Geological Society of America (GSA) is accepting applications for its research grants for undergraduate and graduate student members. Grants are awarded by geographical section area. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to submit a proposal is April 1, 2019.**

The U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women expect to provide 45 awards through its FY 2019 Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking on Campus Program. This program addresses unique issues and challenges that colleges and universities face in preventing and responding to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply is March 14, 2019.**

Announcements

Internship Opportunities

Are you interested in working in the federal government? Are you passionate about AAPI issues? Do you want to make a difference? This is your chance to get involved and stay connected with The Initiative. We are calling all college students to apply to our Summer 2019 Intern Program. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply is March 15, 2019.**



NASA's Lucy Mission to Jupiter's Trojan Asteroids is currently accepting applications for its new student collaboration program, - *the Lucy Student Pipeline Accelerator and Competency Enabler (L'SPACE) Virtual Academy*. The 12-week program is designed to engage a diverse population of undergraduate college/university science and engineering students in STEM workforce development. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply is April 26, 2019.**

The Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program offers talented high school, undergraduate, and graduate students summer internship positions with the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Laboratories. Assignments involve scientific research or a focus on policy, business, and government relations. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply is March 31, 2019.**

The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) Internship Program in Environmental Studies is accepting applications. This opportunity is open to all undergraduate and beginning graduate students interested in the fields of environmental research and public engagement. Learn more [here](#). **Deadline to apply for summer projects is Feb. 15, 2019.**

Federal STEM Strategic Plan

On Dec. 4, 2019, the Trump Administration released a plan to strengthen science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. The five-year [strategic plan](#) seeks to ensure that all Americans have access to quality STEM education and safeguard America's place as a global leader in innovation and employment. The administration's goals include building a strong foundation of STEM literacy, increasing diversity in STEM careers, and preparing the STEM workforce of the future. The plan was collaboratively developed by the National Science and Technology Council Committee on STEM Education and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.