



The International Trade Education Program's 2007 summer interns.

Harbor Interns

■ Port hosts "culmination" reception for 53 in growing program.

HARBOR — On Aug. 29, more than 240 people attended the Port's seventh Summer Internship Program Culmination Reception, honoring the 53 participants of the Summer 2007 program and held at Rec and Parks Banning's Landing Community Center in Wilmington.

When Harbor's Martin Chavez developed the Summer Internship Program seven years ago, little could he have imagined that it would grow so quickly from 14 students in 2001 to the 53 students during this past summer. The 53 students are participants of the International Trade Education Program (ITEP) at Phineas Banning High School in Wilmington. Returning to assist Martin for a second summer was college intern Brenda Espinosa, a Banning and UCLA graduate who completed a double major in history and Spanish in June. Brenda spent time preparing the students to compete for an internship and identified potential employers and workshop presenters for the summer program.

To have an opportunity to interview for jobs, the students must pass the assessment examination — Test of Adult Basic Education; have maintained academic and attendance standards; prepared a personal statement, a résumé; and "survived" an interview with Martin and Brenda. The students selected had an opportunity to interview with at least five of 22 participating employers. Employers included California Cartage Company; Conoco-Phillips; Sims Metal; Moffatt & Nichols Engineers; Halcrow HPA; Essentia Management Services; Computer Consulting Operations; Spirit Cruises; Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority; the U.S. Coast Guard; Price Transfer; Tra-Pac; SSA-Marine; Matson; Pasha Stevedoring; Zupke Insurance; Los Angeles Maritime Institute; Watson Land Company; and The Port of Los Angeles.

The event was hosted by Martin Chavez, who shared his assessment of how much the students

matured during the summer and how impressed others were of their professional demeanor. One of those impressed was Ricardo Hoang, the Mayor's Representative to the Harbor Area, who had witnessed during an evening meeting the students' commitment to making their community a better place and had attended a Friday afternoon meeting with the students who shared their concerns for bettering Wilmington and the Harbor area. Ricardo shared his experience with the audience and brought the Mayor's well wishes to the students. Dr. Linda Del Cuento, the new Superintendent of Los Angeles Unified School District, District 8, thanked the students for being great ambassadors for the LAUSD and marveled at how well they spoke and their professionalism. She also admired the work Martin and Brenda had done in preparing the students and appreciation to the employers for their support of the students and for providing them with a valuable experience. Dr. Del Cuento was followed by Banning's new principal, Robert Lopez, who looked forward to the students sharing their experience with other Banning students.

The City Employees Club sponsored the student awards. The Outstanding Student Award is presented each summer to the student who had exceptional attendance, participated in every workshop, and displayed professionalism throughout the program, was awarded to Scott Olomanu, who has a 3.83 grade point average. Scott spoke about the students having to achieve standards to be considered for the internship program, the experiences of having a job and the responsibility of having to be there on time and ready to contribute. The Workshop Excellence Award is based on the Friday workshops, when students are given exams in vocabulary, mathematics, reading comprehension and essay/research assignments. The Workshop Excellence award was earned by Arlina Sanchez (4.0 g.p.a.). Each student received movie tickets and a gift card for their outstanding efforts.

Congratulations and all the best to the ITEP Interns in their future!



The celebration cake was designed by the Banning High School culinary students.

Congratulations



Amanda Arvizo (center), who worked with the Port Police, is with Capt. Martin Renteria, Julie DiTucci, Nathan Ewert, Claudia Romero and Cadet Christine Pina, a former summer intern.



Jacqueline Sanchez spent her summer working with the U.S. Coast Guard.



Araceli Mota enjoyed her summer job with the Harbor's Human Resources Division.



Dr. Linda Del Cuento expresses her admiration of the students' poise and professionalism.



Scott Olomanu receives the Outstanding Student Award from Martin Chavez, Harbor, Club Member. The award was sponsored by the Club.



Martin Chavez, Harbor, Club Member, presents the Workshop Excellence Award to Arlina Sanchez, a 4.0 student. The award was sponsored by the Club.



From left: Evelyn Garcia, Anakaren DeLeon and Eduardo Antonio worked with Nancy Richardson at the Los Angeles Maritime Institute.



Richard Hoang, Mayor's Aide, shares the mayor's congratulations with the interns.



Banning High School Counselor, Ret. U.S. Navy Capt. George Kolarov, addresses the students about their upcoming senior year.