

HARBOR

# Harbor's Summer Interns

Port hosts finishing reception for international intern program.



The celebration cake was designed by a committee of the interns.



The 2008 summer interns.

On Aug. 28, the Port hosted a culmination reception for approximately 250 guests celebrating the International Trade Education Program's eighth summer internship class. During the two-month summer program, 52 students from Wilmington's Phineas Banning High School had an opportunity to work in jobs involved in the maritime industry. Martin Chavez of the Port's Human Resources Division, whose concept created the Summer Internship Program, emceed the reception at San Pedro's Crowne Plaza Hotel.

For the second consecutive year, more than 50 students participated in 2008. This year's college intern who prepared the students for their summer experience was Cynthia Jaime, mathematics major from California State University

Dominguez Hills (CSUDH). Cynthia spent six months with the students, conducting sessions on preparing their resumes, personal statements, and interviewing. Cynthia also had the responsibility of working with potential employers and coordinating their requirements with potential students to interview for those opportunities. Cynthia received assistance by Lucius Martin of Pacific Gateway.

Students in this program prepare for a chance to interview with an employer. Requirements include passing the Test of Adult Basic Education; composing a personal statement; writing a resume; maintaining competitive grades; and having a good attendance record in school. However, what every student in this program remembers the most is their

assessment interview with Martin, which they describe as an experience they "never will forget." Students had an opportunity to interview with companies including California State Lands Commission; Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority; Conoco Philips; California Cartage; Halcrow Inc.; Moffat and Nichol; Pasha Stevedoring; Tesoro Refining; Trapac; XRT Express; and divisions within the Port, including Risk Management, Contracts and Purchasing, Port Police, Wharfingers and Financial Management.

This year's interns conducted a supply drive for the San Pedro Marine Mammal Rescue Center and volunteered during the Festival of Sail. They also had an opportunity to visit the Conoco-Philips facility in Wilmington and tour the CSUDH campus after meeting with admissions staff who provided information regarding CSU and UC admission requirements and financial aid counselors who helped the students identify sources to assist with college costs.

During the reception, the interns were recognized for their efforts and received special awards, sponsored by the City Employees' Club of Los Angeles. The 2008 Outstanding Student Award was presented to Ana Cortez, who also plays first base for the Banning Softball team; Ana also garnered the Workshop Excellence Award. Other awards presented were: Workplace Professionalism to Ricardo Pimental, Christina Chavez, Brittany Layton, Jesus Vargas, Briana Verdugo, Grecian Chacon, and Daniel Gonzalez; Outstanding Professional Development, to Marina Zamora and Daniel Gonzalez; and Perfect Attendance, to Graciela Alonso.

These students had a summer in which they received an experience of what to expect upon graduation, and the encouragement to go further in their educations. They had an opportunity to work in a professional work environment along with a role model in Cynthia Jaime, who showed them how to achieve and provided them the tools to be successful. The world has been opened for these students; now they are prepared to take on tomorrow.

Our heartfelt wishes and all the strength for you to do well in your future. Congratulations to the 2008 ITEP interns!



The Port's Martin Chavez shares his stories about this year's interns with the guests.



Workplace Professionalism Award recipients (from left) Brittany Layton, Christina Chavez, Briana Verdugo, Daniel Gonzalez and Jesus Vargas with Lucius Martin and Cynthia Jaime.



Karen Saunders, LAUSD-District 8 Operations Manager, addresses the interns.



Port Police had three interns – Oscar Arredondo, Genesis Rios and Elizabeth Machuca.



Grecia Chacon worked in the Port's Financial Management Division with two former ITEP summer interns, Crystal Bergado and Gabriela Perez, who are now Harbor employees.



Ana Cortez receives the Outstanding Student Award from the Port's Martin Chavez.