Campus Times

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Parchamazad was ahead of his time

Margaret Contreras
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Iraj Parchamazad, professor emeritus of chemistry at the University of La Verne, died on June 4 in Tallahassee, Florida. He was 86, and he had suffered from Parkinson's disease and dementia.

Dr. Parchamazad taught at the University from 1987 until he retired in 2018, after serving as department chair for many years.

Dr. Parchamazad earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry, Technology and Solar Energy from Aix-Marseille University in France in 1968. Then he returned to his home in Tehran, Iran, and began teaching at the University of Tehran. He met his wife, Shahin, during his time there.

Ahead of his time, Dr. Parchamazad made his mark in climate research with fuel cells as an alternative to fossil fuel energy years before electric and hybrid cars became popular.

He also worked with his students from the University to research Zeolite, a water purification system using solar energy.

"Dr. Parchamazad was a great teacher, a kind person and a high-level researcher," said Yousef Daneshbod, associate professor and chair of mathematics. "When I got hired at the University back in 2006, he approached me as a fellow Iranian. He was very supportive and always happy to help."

Dr. Parchamazad is remembered as a great teacher, full of kindness for his students and colleagues. He was also a forward-thinker and researcher in chemistry and climate change, who wanted to help the environment for a more sustainable world.

Daneshbod said that Dr. Parchamazad was instrumental in bringing the W.M. Keck Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer at the University in 2006.

"Because of him we have the machine in Founders Hall," Danishbod said.

Sharon Davis, professor emeritus of sociology, remembers Dr. Parchamazad for his kindness and friendship.

"We've been friends for about 35 years," Davis said. "We connected over food, me and my partner and Iraj and his wife would go to Orange County to a Persian nightclub to eat and dance."

"The entire family was in science," Davis added. "Shahin was a high school chemistry teacher. Their children graduated from the University of La Verne and became chemists for pharmaceuticals."

In his free time, Dr. Parchamazad enjoyed dancing. He knew the French waltz, traditional Iranian dances, and salsa dancing. He was fluent in French and would visit France whenever he could. He also had a passion for Persian literature and poetry.

"I remember one of the first times we had a conversation about religion he quoted the great mystic Persian poet Rumi," said Jonathan Reed, professor of religious studies.

"I first met him in 1992, with other members of faculty over coffee. It was my first week at the University."



Jolene Nacapuy

Dr. Iraj Parchamazad, professor emeritus of chemistry, died in June after battling Parkinson's disease and dementia. He is remembered by loved ones as a kind, caring teacher and a great researcher, and he is most known professionally for his research in zeolite and fuel cells.

"He was smart and cutting edge," Davis said.

"He was also so kind and warm. He cared so much for his students and for the faculty," Davis said. "He was one in a million."

Dr. Parchamazad and his wife moved to Tallahassee, Florida, when he retired from the University to be closer to their children. He is survived by his wife, Shahin; his son Payam, daughter Patty; and his grandsons, Justin and Austin.

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Wu remembered for expertise, enthusiasm

Alexander Hernandez
Staff Writer

Dr. Heng Wu, assistant professor of computer science at the College of Arts and Sciences, died unexpectedly during a family trip on July 17. He was 51.

Dr. Wu was born and raised in rural China. From a very young age education was at the center of his life. Dr. Wu chose to work as a teacher at a small village elementary school just after graduating from high school.

He eventually attended the Changsha Institute of Technology, now known as the National University of Defense Technology, in Kaifu, Changsha, Hunan, China.

There he received a bachelor of science in computer application and a master of science in computer science and technology.

Wu went on to study in the United States, at the age of 35, earning a Ph.D. in computer science at Texas Technical Institute in Lubbock, Texas.

He joined the University of La Verne's faculty in 2024, when he became an assistant professor in the computer science and computer engineering department.

At the University for just a year, Dr. Wu made a lasting impression with colleagues and students both inside and outside of the classroom, notably in the Wilson Library makerspace.

"A couple projects he (was) doing were so advanced, but now the projects are being put on hold because we don't have the expertise," said Amy Jiang, professor and interim co-dean of the library and learning commons. "We will miss his expertise and knowledge."

Dr. Wu specialized in artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, and he made his classes accessible to students in various majors.

"Nobody was attending the computer club because they were all engaged with Dr. Wu and his research," said Seta Whitby, chair of the computer science and computer engineering department. "He literally transformed the department."

Continued on page 3

On the Cover

La Verne junior forward Kevin Arreola faces a crowd of Vanguard defenders with the help of Juan Manzano, La Verne junior center midfielder, to cut into the Lions' 4-0 lead Tuesday at Ortmayer Stadium. The Leopards came away with a 5-0 defeat. / photo by Ronald Banks

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Convocation sets tone for new year

Spirit Bell rings in the semester

Karina Rodriguez
Sports Editor

The University of La Verne held its annual convocation ceremony on Aug. 20, at the Morgan Auditorium to welcome Leos back into the 2025-2026 school year.

Approximately 150 students, staff and faculty attended the event.

Convocation kicks off the new academic year and brings the University community together.

Students gathered before the event in the University Quad near the University seal for President Risa Dickson's call to the community and ringing of the spirit bell.

Provost and Vice President of Student Affairs Ken O'Donnell led the convocation ceremony.

"We want to first recognize that as we gather here today at the University, we are on the traditional land of the Tongva people," O'Donnell began.

"We honor the land itself, and the generations of Tongva people, past and present who have served as its stewards," O'Donnell said.

Senior psychology major Angelina Alvarez sang the national anthem accompanied by pianist and piano instructor Jason Lo.

University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner led a prayer for the success of the new academic school year. Wagoner then said a prayer for students.

"I invite you to take a moment to bring your full presence here, maybe even take a deep breath, look around, see a few colors, perhaps notice the ground beneath you supporting you," Wagoner said. "May you be blessed and empowered to bring your full authentic self here, your story, your perspectives, and the wisdom of your own life."

Instructor of accounting and finance Rick Hasse, the 2025 recipient of the Excellence in Teaching award, also spoke at Convocation.

Hasse spoke about the amount of students in the University of La Verne community.

"A special welcome to our 494 first-year students. Welcome!" Hasse began.

Hasse spoke about the importance of being involved within the University of La Verne community.

"Become an active student at La Verne," Hasse said. "Question faculty. Question administrators and student leaders."

"You believe something is wrong?" Hasse said. "Ask why and help to solve the problem. Remember, staff and faculty work for you."

Dickson spoke about the pillars upon which the University was founded.

"It's a place that was founded on the principles of justice, peace, and service to the community," Dickson said. "Today, these values are reflected in the core values of the institution."

Dickson also spoke about the importance of a college degree in today's world.

"In a time of rapid change, the values of intellectual resilience and adaptability in lifelong learning have never been more important, and that should be clear to all of us," Dickson said.

Student speakers included Evan Lyons, president of the Associated Students of the University of La Verne, and Eric Dezevin, president of the graduate and adult student government.

The event seemed to land with the community who attended.

"It just grows our spirit," Maximiliano Martinez, Junior international business major said. "We are a much smaller school than the schools around us but I feel like we still have a good amount of spirit."

Junior computer science major Sergio Sandoval, who attended the ceremony, said he was inspired.

"It's definitely a refreshing restart and will definitely push myself to be involved on campus more every year," Sandoval said.

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Mia Byington

Tony Revier, chairman of the University of La Verne Board of Trustees, speaks at Convocation on Aug. 20 in Morgan Auditorium. Outside of the University, he is president and CEO of Uyemura USA, a subdivision of Uyemura International Corp.

Wu...

Continued from page 2

Gerard Lavatori, associate dean of the college of arts and sciences, elaborated on Dr. Wu's expertise and impact.

"He was an active scholar, participated in many conferences and delivered research," Lavatori said. "He was a very dedicated professor, dedicated to his students."

Jozef Goetz, professor of computer science, said Dr. Wu was a warm and positive addition to the department.

"He was a remarkable colleague, collaborator," Goetz said. "Always approaching his work with enthusiasm, and genuine desire to advance our department's mission. His dedication to his students and the University of La Verne was truly inspiring."

Dr. Wu is survived by his wife, Susan Xie and his daughter, who reside in Charleston, West Virginia.

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Research could promote sustainability, health

Jordan Alcasas
News Editor

Hou Ung, assistant professor of chemistry, shared his research into chemical compounds – and the importance of funding faculty and student research projects Tuesday in the Quay Davis Boardroom in front of an audience of about 30.

Ung was the 2025 recipient of the La Verne scholar award, which comes with a grant for newer faculty whose research shows promise.

Ung's research involved constructing and experimenting on molecules for various purposes. One of the main ones was for recycling, as constructed molecules could, in theory, deconstruct plastic polymers that are found in water bottles and bottle caps.

"I can't speak about the funding, but what I can look at instead is, I always break it down to the individual component," Ung said. "I use it as a building block for something else."

In a lab, these polymers can be broken down, so the goal with this research is to help make recycling and breaking down these polymers easier. He explained that bottles and bottle caps are all made of different polymers that have different molecular construction. For example, polyethylene terephthalate, or PETE, is what you find in a standard water bottle.

"We're trying to find a better way to break P-E-T-E apart," Ung said. "In organic chemistry, later on we'll teach you how to break it apart in a lab."

He elaborated on how building different types of molecules in a lab could also help to treat disease such as cancer because those constructed molecules can help break down cancer cells.

Creating these molecules could help form better chemical bonds, such as those between Guanine and Cytosine, two of the major building blocks found in DNA. If those bonds are of the same charge on both sides, then they can flip, which would cause difficulty in constructing these molecules used to treat cancer.

"My goal is to design a type of molecule that can bond to the left or the right side no matter which flips," Ung said. "By having this molecule, it can still be connected in this way. If you have two of the same color, it will repel."

Ung said that he also had many collaborators on his research to help with resources he may not have had access to. He even employed freshmen during his research to run computations for him as a way of involving them.

"These are novel compounds not commercially available," Ung said. "Luckily, I have friends at other universities… I have a collaborator in New York who does computations with me…Without funding, we cannot purchase these compounds."

Questions and discussion followed the formal part of Ung's lecture. And the discussion led back to the topic of funding.

"We want to be as resourceful as possible at the University," Provost Ken O'Donnell said. "Money is tight these days… so taking advantage of collaboration is the only way forward."

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Event showcases clubs and orgs

Olivia Russo
LV Life Editor



Joseph Nocero

Courtney Cecil, junior education studies major; Hailey Garcia, junior creative writing major; and Erin Fleming, senior theatre arts major, greet visitors at the Community Involvement Fair on Wednesday at Sneaky Park. They were encouraging students to join Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honor Society, with a Wizard of Oz themed booth.

The Office of Student Engagement and Leadership hosted the Community Involvement Fair for students to walk around and get to know what different clubs the University of La Verne has to offer. The event was held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday in Sneaky Park.

About 350 students attended, walking past the many tables set up welcoming them back to the school and urging them to join their club.

"We hope that each person that comes to the Involvement Fair, each student that comes to the University, is engaged in one thing," said Cindy Vallejo-Victoria, director of Student Engagement. "Whether that is clubs, organizations, or an athletic program."

Each welcome week has a theme set by the Campus Activities Board for clubs to follow. This semester's theme was children's and teens' books.

Once students' event passes were scanned, they got a free clear bag and a meal ticket for the Habit Burgers food truck, which they could access after getting signatures from three club officers showing they'd visited three different clubs and organizations' tables.

Numerous clubs were on hand, including those for music, education, athletics and those specifically offering a safe space.

"The Coalition is a community-based club that's designed to create inclusive spaces for all of our queer folk on campus," said Matthew Marquez, junior psychology major and member of the LGBTQIA+ Coalition. "We want to partner with our community to kind of bring notice to these identities and to help create spaces where everyone feels safe and can be free to express themselves."

For many clubs, the fair is a great way to bring in new members. The History club used the involvement fair to promote their upcoming Halloween-themed event.

At around noon, many of the music clubs began to perform. The ULV pep band and the music collective each played a few songs, providing entertainment and enticing others to join their clubs.

At their booths, music clubs left out instruments for those walking around to pick up and play.

Other booths hosted games, such as trivia and darts for prizes, in addition to the other raffles going on during the day.

Besides promotion of clubs, the fair gave students a sense of community and belonging.

"It just shows you how truly involved everyone is," said Nathan Garcia, senior sociology major and member of the LGBTQIA+ Coalition. "We are such a small school it can sometimes seem like only a few people are involved, but when you come to events like this… we're a bigger community than it seems on the outside."

"I think it's fun to see what's going on and all the different things offered even if you don't care to join," said Aidyn Hosire, junior international business major.

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Engagement day sends food packages overseas

ULV helps families in Philippines

Cassidy Diaz
Staff Writer

The Office of Civic and Community Engagement held the 14th annual FLEX and New Student Community Engagement Day on Saturday.

Roughly 100 students and faculty volunteers worked together to prepare packaged meals for communities in need. This year the La Verne volunteers partnered with the local Hillcrest Senior Living Community and non-profit Rise Against Hunger.

"The first part is getting involved," said Julissa Espinoza, director of the University's Community Engagement office. "That's how you begin the social change."

Rise Against Hunger is an international relief organization that coordinates food distribution in developing nations.

Espinoza shared the importance of students' participation.

"The kind of outcomes that we see…is a lot of those students get that sense of community," Espinoza said. "They understand how other people are living, and they understand their own position, power and privilege."

The Saturday volunteers worked in the Hillcrest senior living community's ballroom, in assembly lines packaging, weighing and sealing meals to send off to the Philippines.

"That is part of our learning … through community service, understanding of reciprocity," Espinoza said.

Hairnets and gloves provided by Rise Against Hunger prepared volunteers to create a sanitary environment and workspace.

Tubs of rice, soy, vitamin packets and dried vegetable mix filled packages, each designed to feed a family of six.

The group prepared 13,000 packaged meals in all.

"I think it's when you really start to bond while we do community work," said Kylee Ayala, a freshman who volunteered Saturday. "We have conversations that are meaningful so it's a way to learn through connections in the community," Kylee Ayala, freshman undeclared major, said.

Freshmen were encouraged to participate as part of the Freshman La Verne Experience, or FLEX.

"There are a lot of good people in the world with good intentions," Ayala said.

"At times it can be hard to see that in our world and with what's happening in our government. It's a sign of hope for humanity and that there is still goodness in the world."

"There are a lot of people who do need food and a lot of people don't know that," said Leah Kuo, freshman education major.

"It's good to help people who are in need."

"I learned to be more grateful because I get three meals a day," said Madison Lakkees, freshman psychology major. "And here we are having to package meals for kids who don't get that."

The next major community engagement service day will be the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service in January 2026.

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Roughly 100 students and faculty volunteers worked together to prepare packaged meals for communities in need.

Leos decorate diaries and socialize

Cool treats beat the heat

Marina Bravo
Arts Editor

The Campus Activities Board kicked off the first week back from summer break by hosting various events for students.

Among them, Diary of a Wimpy Leo, was a way for students to keep cool outside of their dorms and classrooms.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on August 21, on the Citrus Lawn, students were able to customize their own diaries provided by CAB.

This event was accompanied by grilled cheese provided by Bon Appétit and a scoop of Bruster's Ice Cream.

Students got to decorate their diaries with stickers, gems, markers and pieces of fabric to make it their own.

About 60 students participated in this event, which had a mix of new and returning students.

Returning students said these events are not just about free goodies.

"I think it brings more … community to the University," senior business administration major Vanessa Wyatt said.

"It makes people feel more comfortable."

Others said such events push them out of their comfort zone.

"I remember freshman year, I was in the dorms and I would get bored out of my mind sometimes," Sofia Magno-Garcia, junior international business and language major, said. "I just was like, 'OK, we have something to do now'."



Marina Bravo

Michelle Powell, senior psychology major, and Sofia Magno-Garcia, junior international business and language major have a laugh over a scoop of Bruster's Ice Cream at the Campus Activities Board Diary of a Wimpy Leo event Aug. 21 on Citrus Lawn. Students enjoyed the ice cream to stay cool during the summer heat. Students were able to decorate their own diaries.

"The ice cream…it reminds me of home," said Michelle Powell, senior psychology major.

"I'm from…Tennessee, and so this is like (an) ice cream spot there."

CAB event coordinators also enjoyed themselves.

"I remember when I came here, I did not know anybody," said Maximiliano Martinez, CAB spirit coordinator and junior international business major said. "I'm from a …totally different place."

With these events, Martinez added: "You get to meet people you probably would have never met."

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Ice cream event introduces students to mission

Margaret Contreras
Editor-in-Chief

The Office of Student Engagement and Leadership hosted an ice cream social Tuesday on the Ludwick Center Lawn.

For Get Involved Week, the event was for students to get to know the new Associate Vice President for Inclusive Excellence and Mission Integration Marquisha Frost.

Frost started her position Aug. 4, just before the fall term started, previously coming from a non-profit, the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and was an adjunct professor for the University in 2016.

"I'm excited to work alongside the students," Frost said. "Having students interested and actively want to make a change. I want the University to be the best version."

The ice cream flavors ranged from fruity Outshines, Oreo ice cream sandwiches and Häagen-Dazs Almond bars.

There were free stickers, information flyers and rubber bracelets on the table next to the ice cream.

By the stand up tables, there was a large Connect 4.

"To be honest," said sophomore biology major, Eden Engebretsen. "I came just for the ice cream, I feel like the free food entices students to come to events like these."

Students near the Ludwick Center would flow in and out of the event between classes.

One moment, the three stand up tables were full of students enjoying their icy treat.

"I like the type of events that ULV sets up," junior criminology major Sharon Lance said. "It's easier to get to know new people."

A few faculty were also in attendance.

They wanted the students to know they are there if they ever need help.

"I just want them to know (Title IX) offices exist even to have advice," Chadwick Best, assistant vice president of civil rights compliance and title IX coordinator, said.

"People fear the unknown, they can come to the office for advice."

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CC Flaherty

Jim Brooks, international student advisor, talks to Sorin Huemer, junior computer science major, about the study abroad program at the Ice Cream Social on Tuesday in front of the Ludwick Center. The University offers study abroad opportunities every semester and students are able to pick from destinations on six continents. Students got to pick their flavored of ice cream.

College of Arts & Sciences Dean's List, Spring 2025

The following students in the College of Arts and Sciences earned a grade point average of 3.75 or better during the Spring 2025 semester. Congratulations from Dean Shannon Mathews and Associate Deans Ngoc Bui and Gerard Lavatori.

Hassan Abdul-Qawi
Tess A. Adlam
Mario A. Aguayo
Sydney V. Aguilar
Katheryn A. Aguirre
Marynieves Aguirre
Elijah B. Akande
Abdulla E. Al-Sulaiti
Aaliyah Alamillo
Haley Albertson
Emily L. Aldana
Srivalli Alla
Emma Alvarez
Isabella Alvarez
Jadan Alvarez
Jaidynn M. Alvarez
Janessa Alvarez
Naseem Amiraslani
Sakara I. Anderson
Arleen Anguiano
Jose E. Apodaca
Danny Bill J. Arabejo
Madison Arbid
Vladimir Arzadon
Jose E. Asuncion
Cherie C. Atalor
Jennifer Avelar-Cobian
Sandra G. Avila
Annabelle H. Baggio
Xyrah Mae R. Balangue
Aidan Balderas
Bella R. Barrera
Aiman Begum
Layla R. Bell
Monique A. Belton
Camrin Bermeo
Collin B. Bermeo
Bianca Bernal
Jenieva E. Black
Ethan M. Bodell
Raquel S. Bojorquez
Anthony R. Boothby
Lily Bower-Moore
Keira R. Brennan
Angie D. Brindis
Kathryn A. Broadwater
Cadence S. Burdwell
Christopher J. Burket-Thoene
Jason Ryan T. Bustos
Madisan M. Calleros
Orion T. Campos
Victoria Cardenas
Anette Carlos
Kenya Carrillo
Emily M. Casillas
Marvin X. Casillas
Diana R. Castaneda
Wendy G. Catalan Lopez
Katherine G. Catano
Leilani I. Chacon
Gelsey L. Chan
Eric A. Chelette
Ruthanne C. Chipeta
Annamarie R. Ciani
Maya M. Coles
Anthony R. Correra
Fidel T. Cortez Herrera
Joanne Cosina
Logan T. Cruz
Christopher A. Cummings
Brooklyn E. Daley
Dylan Damico
Charity C. Davis
Helen Davtyan
Sara G. Dawidian
Stephanie Del Rio
Maya S. Dihom
Ashley D. Dinkins
Anna C. Doyel
Miles O. Dripps
Gina D. Ehlenburg
Noah R. Ehlenburg
Leila El Sabbagh
Maximus D. Elder
Eden M. Engebretsen
Vincent Engel
Emilia E. Enriquez
Kimberly Equihua
Angelina R. Esquibel
Jeremy G. Evans
Kayla T. Farro
Eman Fasih
Anais Felix
Sannai Fitts
Erin M. Fleming
Yadhira Flores-Gomez
Kolten L. Ford
Rylee D. Fournier
Samantha D. Franz
Emily Freeman
Taylor Fukunaga
Meena Furutan
Rachel B. Fuston
Benjamin Galaz
Aidan C. Galindo
Lorelie C. Garces
Alejandra D. Garcia
Erika L. Garcia
Hailey R. Garcia
Joshua Garcia
Nathan M. Garcia
Victoria R. Gaspar
Jazlyn K. Gholizadeh
Thatiana A. Gibbs
Alexander Gomez
Natalie I. Gomez
Ricardo Gomez
Tadeo S. Gomez
Garrett S. Gonzales
Mia M. Gonzales
Audrey M. Gonzalez
Shelby A. Gonzalez
Brooke M. Good
Kayla N. Gozun
Zachary A. Grech
Matthew Guajardo
Gabriela Guzman
Lindsey L. Habegger
Isaac F. Hall
Alex Handley
Elizabeth M. Hansen
Madison S. Harris
Reuben D. Hermsdorf
Arely J. Hernandez
Emily V. Hernandez
Janira L. Hernandez
Merari Hernandez
Raul Hernandez
Brisela Herrera Alba
D'Lonte T. Hill
Rachel E. Hinojos
Caydance J. Hook
Dylan A. Horowitz
Miranda V. Huemer
Sydne Humphrey
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Kelly N. Jackson
Emma S. Jacobson
Jaden J. Javier
Sophia A. Jeter
Maria G. Jimenez
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Kevin L. Ortega
Ryan A. Ortega
Taiz Ortega
Alexis Ortiz
Isabelle Ortiz-Luis
Analuisa R. Overman
Audrie D. Pagano
Shanel Palacios Sotelo
Kyle Palmer
Dhruv M. Patel
Haley B. Pham
Brenden Y. Pi
Grace W. Pollock
Evelyn N. Ponce
Marin B. Porter
Jasmine E. Prajitno
Justine E. Prajitno
Adrianna B. Procida
Dalya Qahtan
Michael A. Quirarte
Wendy Quiroz-Cervantes
Sarah Ramos
Makena Aloha P. Ramos-Kamaka
Daniel J. Rasmussen
Yvonne Resendiz
Eden C. Reyes
Joseph A. Reyes
Seungman Rho
Xavier M. Rice
Jonathan M. Rivera
Gabriel J. Robinson
Michael G. Roccia
Ricardo Rocha
Charlie S. Rodriguez
Isbeth Rodriguez
Jacob R. Rodriguez
Christopher T. Rogers
Gabriela A. Rojas
Michelle A. Roldan
Jacob J. Romaine
Priscila R. Romero
Allyson N. Romo
Annette L. Ruiz
Olivia M. Russo
Mario Sabry
Melanie M. Saenz
Nicolas Saenz
Andrew F. Salaiza
Angel D. Salazar
Kelly S. Sanchez
Maya C. Sanchez
Juan C. Sanchez Ruiz
Kimberly Sandoval
Sergio A. Sandoval
Eric Santamaria
Marbella A. Santiago
Talar Sarkissian
Michael T. Scherer
Roxlynn W. Schott
Lily A. Schubert
Spencer Scott
Ashley M. Sepulveda
Isaac C. Serrano
Aseel M. Shalabi
Sophia T. Sharifi
Alaa O. Shilleh
Madison W. Silva
Logan P. Simmons
Aditya R. Singh
Zachary Smail
Autumn L. Smith
Kolani M. Smith
Yvonne Solorio Ramos
Hector Solorzano
Kyla J. Stubbs
Zhigang Su
Madelyn M. Sugita
Shirley R. Tan
Tayiah L. Tapia
Maylah C. Taylor
Julia L. Thomas
Ethan C. Thompson
Gino Torres
Joaquin H. Trinidad
Allie M. Tucker
Alexa M. Urbina
Elizabeth E. Valdes
Emily K. Valdez
Johanna I. Vargas
Jasmine Vazquez
Mariela Velazquez Cortes
Natalie Vidarte
Zarah V. Vidriezca
Reiniery A. Villalta
Ashlee C. Viveros
Alfred F. Vonhundley
Yijia Wang
Taylor A. Ward
Darian M. Warhop
Lucas B. Watts
Nathan C. West
Lauren E. Williams
Natalie T. Wong
Madison J. Xie
Austine Xu
Imunique T. York
Ryenn Zerbel
Christen Ziska

Cástula de la Rocha College of Health and Community Well-Being Dean's List, Spring 2025

The following students in the College of Health and Community Well-Being earned a grade point average of 3.75 or better during the Spring 2025 semester. Congratulations from Dean Katy Tangenberg and Associate Dean Jerry Kernes.

Ysabel Abarca
Jacob Aguayo
Mariah Alarcon
Angelina Alderete
Angelina Alvarez
Branden Antiporda
Jasmine Armas
Casie Armienta
Hannah Baker
Vanessa Barajas
Claudia Barron
Zoe Bechtel
Kearstin Bell
Jacob Bodkins
Kenneth Bontempo
Adonis Borer
Alexandra Boutte
Madison Bravo
Bernardo Brito
Daniel Brodie
Deshawn Brooks
Sierra Brown
Kera Bush
Mallely Caceres
Nathaniel Campbell
Melissa Capacete
Charlotte Caraway
Anthony Carrillo
Michael Carter
Christopher Castillo
Cristina Castro
Sofia Chiovare
Chloe Chong
Anna Christie
Logan Ciszek
Zacqueline Coaston
Brandon Cole
Linda Cordoba
Aaliyah Cordova
Hailey Coria
Taylor Courtney
Brianna Cristin-Sanchez
Luna Cuevas
Tiffany Cuevas
Lana Dalati
Megan Davis
Nour Daylac
Jasmine De La Torre
Serenity De La Torre
Sarah Dennaoui
Kathleen Do
Porsche Double
Tuhlon Duncan
Roselyn Duran
Morgan Esebag
Angelique Espinoza
Mina Fairall
Julia Flores
Edward Foo
Anthony Funes
Ethan Galindo
Andres Galura
Michael Galvan
Giovanni Garcia
Nathan Garcia
Isabelle Getikian
Kasey Gillis
Isaiah Givens
Vivian Godinez
Mikaela Gonzales
Amber Gonzalez
Marcel Gonzalez
Katelyn Graham
Miranda Graham
Keilani Greer
Litzy Guerrero
Jasmine Gutierrez
Jaden Guzman
Fiyona Haile
Cecania Hajnal
Jacob Halczak
A'Yann Hekima
Ryan Heredia
Cindy Hernandez
Sean Hernandez
Paige Hien
Katrina Hitchcock
Marissa Howell
Logan Hundermark
Abigail Hunsicker Robles
Victor Huynh
Jordan Ihrig
Vanessa Javalera
Destinee Jimmerson
Janai Johnson
Lacey Jolly
Ahsha Jones
Elizabeth Joyce
Kailin Katena
Naomi Keets
Lorees Khoury
Alyssa Kinsey
Ashlee Lam
Kimberly Leon
Fredi Linares
Megan Llopis
Tyler Lokar
Sophia Lopez
Vida Lopez
Jazmine Madore
Jaylan Mahlstedt
Nicholas Malooly
Samira Marcelo
Matthew Marquez
David Martinez
Roger Martinez
Salma Martinez
Marvin Matamala
Justin McFadden
Arthur McCown
Trevor McCurry
Katie Medina
Rosalie Medina
Victoria Medrano
Jessenia Mejia
Chyna Mendoza
Jaden Mendoza
Perry Mentzer
Joshua Mezquita
Mercy Mgbemere
Craig Miller
Jan Meir Mitra
Hideharu Miyata
Marilyn Molina
Roseline Molinar
Ricky Moller-Avitia
Marisol Montada
Emily Morales
Lexi Mount
Jesse Munoz
Mallory Navarrete
Jonathan Navarro
Alexis Negron
Aaliyah Ocampo Rodriguez
Salah Odeh
Hailey Olea
Natalia Ortiz
Brian Payne
Lauren Peters
Noah Pimentel
Ryley Pittenger
Aliyah Pollock
Brandon Puentes
David Pycz
Keren Quintana
Tabasum Rahemi
Eliana Ramirez
Stephanie Ramirez
Dylan Reiner
Yvette Reyes
Salim Rizk
Diana Rocha
Gya Rodriguez
Jillian Rodriguez
Tiffany Rodriguez
Yasmeen Rodriguez
Joshua Rook
Destiny Ruiz
Mark Saad
Samantha Gielynne Sabal
Emily Saldivar
Juli Salhab
Lauren Sandoval
Janine Lee Brigette Sevillana
Tiffany Silvas
Alexandria Silver
Leanna Sims
Kristen Smick
Ellie Sorter
Ashlyn Marie Spilker
Alina Stannard
BiJohn Stevenson
Sam Tavallodi
Ashley Taylor
Ashley Tello
Grace Tessitore
Brady Thompson
Alex Tran
Annie Trinh
Tyler Trinh
Tristan Mark Trinidad Guzman
Stephanie Tubbs-Tostado
Khalea Turingan
Jon Uditsky
Christopher Valverde
Sophia Vargas
Briana Vasquez
Zayda Vera
Allyson Villa
Jesus Villegas
John Whisnant
Eva White
Shane Williams
Janelle Zacarias
Nataly Zepeda

Women's soccer starts off strong

Leos take victory over Firestorm

Miguel Navarro
Staff Writer

In this fast-paced battle between the La Verne Leopards and the Arizona Christian Firestorm, the Leopards prevailed, 2-0, Monday.

The energy was high at Ortmayer Stadium.

Despite the hot weather and physical play on both sides, the Leopards held their own from start to finish.

"The game of soccer is a contact sport, and I thought Arizona Christian came out hard defensively. The only way to defend properly is to be able to touch someone," head coach Lauryn Pehanich said. "We have to be able to match that intensity."

In the first half, the Leopards wasted no time getting their attack going.

The catalyst behind the aggressive play that helped change the trajectory of the match was junior midfielder Kailey Kolesar, who came up just short on a few turnovers.

Finally, 12 minutes into the game, it was senior forward Megan Llopis with the easy breakaway goal, putting the Leopards on top, 1-0.

"Something the forwards had been talking about was getting those goals quick, so my mindset was to make the right runs, put myself in a position to score and let it rip," Llopis said.

With the match being an exhibition for the Leopards it allowed them to make constant substitutions.

This allowed much of their roster to be involved in a game scenario to improve.

"For us as coaches to be able to see people in different positions, which we saw a lot of today. It really helps us," Pehanich said.

Despite a few failed opportunities to add on to the score, the Leopards stayed strong and continued to create chances.

As the game continued, the Leopards' opportunities for more goals were limited. However, they continued to control the time of possession heading into the second half with a 1-0 lead.

"The conversation with our women was if we have time and space, be able to drive and start to create pressure," Pehanich said.

After a much-needed rest during halftime, the Leopards came out on the attack.

Just a few minutes into the half, freshman midfielder Lexi Torres narrowly missed a potential opportunity to extend the lead.

A few more close calls would follow, keeping the Arizona Christian defenders and goalkeeper on their toes.

The Leopards continued to put pressure on Arizona Christian but the game remained close, with the Leopards' defense being a huge factor in maintaining the lead.

"As a defender, your mentality needs to be that you put everything into the ball, you block, you put your body through it, and I think we were very solid in the back line overall today," junior defender Ryenn Zerbel said.

The Leopards were finally rewarded for their effort on the attack when Kolesar found the back of the net for the dagger with just eight minutes left to play.

"It's really good to see everything come together, and I think it really sets the tone for the rest of the year," Kolesar said.

For the final minutes of the game, the Leopards were able to dribble and pass the ball around until the final seconds ticked off the clock.

The win gave the Leopards their first win of the season. They now set their focus to their next game at 10 a.m. on Friday against Cal State San Bernardino at Ortmayer Stadium.

Miguel Navarro can be reached at ***miguel.navarro@laverne.edu.***



Jesse Juarez

Cerritos freshman defender Ellablu Lopez and La Verne junior midfielder Kailey Kolesar, go head-to-head at Ortmayer Stadium Aug. 20 in a scrimmage game. The Leopards will take on Cal State San Bernardino at 10 a.m. Friday at Ortmayer Stadium.

Leopards kick off season against Westcliff



Antonio Ceniceros

La Verne freshman forward Kevin Arreola raises his hand as he prepares to conduct a corner kick. La Verne played an exhibition against Westcliff at Ortmayer Stadium on Sunday, losing 2-1, and will have their first game against Pacific on Saturday.

New coach strives for community

Rea takes charge of men's team

Rubbie Chavez
Staff Writer

At the University of La Verne passion, growth and success all play a key role in creating a new legacy for new men's soccer coach Drew Rea.

Rea, originally from Ireland, came to the U.S. as a child and created a name for himself in the soccer world.

Before starting here this season, Rea coached at Cal State Dominguez Hills for 11 years.

"The biggest thing that got me into coaching was obviously the love of the sport," Rea said. "My mom was a teacher. I never wanted to get into teaching, but I naturally had that teacher's mindset and that was a big trigger for me to follow that passion of education with my passion for soccer."

Rea's journey started when he moved to the U.S. as a child and began to play baseball and soccer.

"I just fell more for soccer and had an addiction to the game," Coach Rea said.

His love of the sport followed him to his college years where he played at Western Michigan for one year, then moved on to play at Cal State Bakersfield, where he became a two-time All-American. Rea then went back to Europe to play for the Glentoran Football Club in Northern Ireland.

On and off the pitch Coach Rea said he relies on his wife, Faith, and their two children Braydon, 6, and Emma, 4.

He said that creating a new community culture is one of his main goals this season.

"It's the four Qs: quality of education, quality of financial aid, quality of soccer and quality of the community," Rea said.

By incorporating his style of play into coaching, Rea said he hopes to utilize the technical skills of his players and improve them to work together as a team.

"Coach Drew clearly has a vision set out for us, and he's executing it very well," said Sebastian Gonzalez, sophomore midfielder.

> 'It's the four Qs: quality of education, quality of financial aid, quality of soccer and quality of the community.'
> *—Drew Rea, men's soccer coach*

"I think this is the first time I've been part of this program, and we had a coach that expected perfection out of us, which sounds crazy but it's something I know we can do," said senior defender Kaelem Walker

"He likes to get us in goal scoring positions and obviously as a midfielder those are the positions you want to be in" Alexander Bastidas, junior midfielder, said.

"Some of these guys are going to put their name in history and that's what we're hoping for to get their name on that banner," Rea said.

Rubbie Chavez can be reached at ***rubbie.chavez@laverne.edu***.



Aaliyah Alamillo

New men's soccer coach Drew Rea says that he hopes to bring his skills in coaching local club teams to the La Verne soccer program. Rea, born in Ireland and raised in the United States, brings more than a decade of coaching experience and ideas to his new position.

LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Women's Soccer, August 20
Arizona Christian - 0
La Verne - 2

Men's Soccer, August 24
Westcliff - 3
La Verne- 2

SCHEDULE

Friday
Men's water polo vs. UC San Diego @ Triton Tournament, La Jolla, 9:30 a.m.
Women's soccer vs. Cal State San Bernardino, 10 a.m.
Volleyball vs. St. Olaf @ Pacific Coast Classic, Claremont, 11:30 a.m.
Men's water polo vs. Long Beach State @ Triton Tournament, La Jolla, 2:50 p.m.
Volleyball vs. Buffalo State @ Pacific Coast Classic, La Verne, 5 p.m.

SCHEDULE

Saturday
Men's water polo vs. UC Santa Barbara @ Triton Tournament, La Jolla, 10:40 a.m.
Volleyball vs. Case Western Reserve @ Pacific Coast Classic, La Verne, 1 p.m.
Men's soccer vs. Pacific @ Santa Cruz, 1:30 p.m.
Men's water polo vs. San Jose State @ Triton Tournament, La Jolla, 2:40 p.m.

Monday
Women's soccer vs. George Fox, 10 a.m.
Men's soccer vs. Willamette @ Santa Cruz, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday
Men's soccer vs. Park University Gilbert, 7 p.m.