

The CAN Center asked three CAN TRIO scholars to share about their experience and involvement at Allan Hancock College. These students have benefited significantly from their participation in CAN and their involvement. Achieving leadership, self-efficacy skills, professional and peer networking, and scholarships.



**Gabriel Zepeda** who is from Buellton, CA. Gabriel has been attending Hancock for one year and will be transferring fall 2018.

**1. What is one tip you would give to incoming freshmen?**

Stay on top of your homework and classroom assignments. This will help you keep the information you learned fresh in your memory.



**2. How did you pick your major?**

I was always interested in building and designing. In middle school, the teachers had us research different majors and colleges. However, it wasn't until high school when I was in AVID and a drafting class that I knew I wanted to major in landscaping architecture.

**3. Are you part of any clubs/ organizations at Hancock?**

I am part of the CAN and Architecture Club, Men's Support Group, and I am open to more.



**Mitzi Meza** is from Santa Maria, CA. She has attended Hancock for a year and will be transferring fall 2018.

**1. What is one tip you would give to incoming freshmen?**

Enroll in the Personal Development 101 class (PD 101)! This class helped me with college information that I did not know before attending Hancock. This class taught me about vocabulary used at the college, clubs, events, and resources.

**2. How did you pick your major?**

I was an accounting major when I entered Hancock because I love math. However, my sister got me interested in sociology when she started talking to me about social issues and how social work is in high demand. As a result, I started taking sociology classes and I really enjoyed it. Now I am a sociology major.

**3. Are you part of any clubs/ organizations at Hancock?**

I am part of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Club, or also known as the Honors Society, and CAN.



**Jesus Nuñez** is from Santa Maria, CA. He has attended Hancock for two years and will be transferring fall 2018.

**1. What is one tip you would give to incoming freshmen?**

Take advantage of financial literacy and make a budget plan. When you are in college it is easy to lose track of spending, especially when you eat out.



**2. How did you pick your major?**

I am part of Bridges to the Baccalaureate (BttB) program. While I was interning at Cal Poly, SLO as part of BttB, we got to do research. We were in labs and I really enjoyed that. That is how I picked biology as my major.

**3. Are you part of any clubs/ organizations at Hancock?**

CAN, Bridges to the Baccalaureate and MESA.



**This past year many CAN students received scholarships from different sources. Here are some testimonials regarding these students' successes:**

**Allan Hancock Foundation scholarship:**

"Last year was my first time applying to the AHC foundation, I wasn't really sure if I would receive any funding but I ended up getting the Ann Foxworthy Scholarship. It was really fun to meet my donor and talk with them about who they are and why they chose me. I will definitely be applying again this year."

– Emma Bell

**Santa Barbara Scholarship Foundation:**

"The scholarship process was really easy. Although it was long, the scholarship process was definitely worth it. I was pretty sure that I was going to get funding, but was still surprised by the amount of money I received. I am going to apply again next application period."

– Leonardo Cornejo

**G.I. Bill:**

"At first I didn't want to apply to the scholarship, but the CAN peer mentors encouraged me to apply anyway. The scholarship requirements were easy, and the application didn't take very long to complete. I was awarded \$500 and it only took me a day to complete my application. I will apply again this next application period because of how simple the process was."

– Rosalinda Medina



**Last spring, 40 students from CAN were given the opportunity to go on a field trip to Stanford and San Francisco State. Here is some insight into the overnight trip:**

**1. What was interesting about the two universities?**

"I learned that although it may be hard to get in to Stanford, if you make it in you receive full financial aid if your family make less than 100,000 dollars a year"

–Rosalinda Medina

**2. What was the most valuable part of the overnight trip?**

"I really appreciate the opportunity to visit other schools that would not be possible otherwise. It was really fun to explore fisherman's wharf in San Francisco and get food."

–Rosalinda Medina

**Several CAN students also participated in the Mentorship Program on campus in order to align themselves with, and learn from, leaders in our community. Here is some information on what the process looks like and how it has benefitted one of our students:**

"Mentorship program helped me meet and be close to a professional. This is something I probably wouldn't have been able to do on my own. Having a mentor who has tons of experience helped me gain more knowledge about universities and what life is like in a university. Furthermore, being close with my mentor, I am able to talk to him about my personal life. He mentioned a lot of sources I could use to succeed in my major, which is biology. For instance, he told me which universities have a great biology program, what programs I could use to help me prepare when I transfer, and gave me names of people that could give me more advice."

–Jerico Leynes

**CAN has also been able to provide several volunteer opportunities to our students. Here is some information on the kind of experience you can expect when participating in CAN community service:**

"This volunteering event helped me meet new people, see what's going on in my town, and finally, my favorite part, is that I made a difference. No matter how small it is, it still feels good to see the smile of the people receiving our help."

–Jerico Leynes

