

NEWSLETTER

Office of First Generation



Peer Mentoring Programs

Hello La Verne Community,

I missed being on campus! Running into colleagues as I walk down the campus center and having impromptu brainstorms or catching up with students is something that I needed, it certainly couldn't be replicated through the virtual environment. And while I was excited about our return, I realize that this sentiment is not shared by everyone.

Knowing this, I want to remind us of the impact the last 18 months has had on our lives. Some of us have experienced trauma through the pandemic, for some of us, our traumas were exacerbated. I also want to recognize that some of us found positive experiences through this pandemic. I don't believe that we can return to "things as usual", however, I do believe that we can use this semester to center our self-care and the way we express care and support for others. I hope that we can keep compassion and grace at the forefront of all our interactions.

I wish you all a safe and successful fall semester. I look forward to seeing you around campus and meeting our first and second year students in person!

-Aracely Torres

Director; Title III Grant and First Generation & Peer Mentoring Programs

Office of First Generation
&
Peer Mentoring Programs

Welcome back Leos! It's been so heartwarming to see you all on campus! I hope you all are transitioning into this new in-person setting smoothly, and if it's taking a little bit... know that's okay! I am right there with you. My name is Cassandra "Cassie" Godinez and I am the Peer Mentoring Coordinator for the Office of First Generation and Peer Mentoring. I am here to support any of your needs here as a first generation student or first year student on campus. I also assist mentors and their development in their roles, and assist mentees with getting connected to campus resources. I have an open door policy and you are welcomed to meet with me at any time. Wishing you all the best this fall semester! GO LEOS!

-Cassie Godinez, STEM Pathway Peer Mentoring Coordinator

Hello Everyone! My name is Tiffany De Leon and I am the Program Coordinator for the Title III Grant and Access Programs. Access Programs is our support services on campus for foster youth students. We are excited to be fully launching the program this year. I also support the work we do with First Generation Students, the peer mentor program and mentees. As a first generation student, I am passionate about supporting underrepresented students and pay it forward as many did for me when I was in college. It has been surreal to see you all on campus after months of seeing each other through a laptop. I am excited for what this year has to offer. Please stop by our office and say hi! We have an open door policy and would love to see you. We are excited to be part of your La Verne journey and support you in reaching your goals. Be safe, stay healthy and look forward to seeing you all around campus!

-Tiffany De Leon, Program Coordinator

Meet our Peer Mentors!

Mentor	Major	Year
Ariana Trinh	Psychology, Business Administration	Junior
Austin Rapp	Kinesiology	Junior
Litzy Silva	Criminology, Forensic Investigations	Junior
Maria Reynoso	Psychology, Criminology	Junior
Melody Arriaga	Biology	Junior
Miguel Lopez	Business Administration	Junior
Salma Mendez-Amador	Child Development	Junior
Sherly Aviles-Morgado	Psychology	Junior
Yadira Quintero	Anthropology	Junior
Yessica Rodriguez Soria	Psychology	Junior
Alexia Alvarez	Biology	Senior
Andres Camacho	Chemistry	Senior
Carina Baca	Psychology, Creative Writing	Senior
Citlally Grande	Kinesiology, Psychology	Senior
Desiree Nunez	Biology	Senior
Ian Mendoza	Business Administration	Senior
Jessica Carillo	Criminology, Psychology	Senior
Khiabet Corona	Biology, Spanish	Senior
Amanda Ontiveros	Psychology, Educational Studies	Senior
Anissa Shelton	Biology	Senior
Erika Arellano	Biology	Senior
Jennifer Trejo	Criminology, Psychology	Senior
Jesse Ramirez	Biology	Senior
Katarina Arce	Biology	Senior
Michael Rodriguez	Information Technology	Senior
Natalia Hernandez	Biology	Senior
Natalie Garcia	Sociology, Spanish	Senior
Stephanie Khatchadourian	Biology, Chemistry	Senior
Zion Grant-Freeman	Psychology	Senior

Faculty Spotlight

John and Linda Bartelt

WHAT SCHOOLS DID YOU ATTEND?

John: Alan Hancock College, University of La Verne, Chapman University, Alliant University

Linda: Citrus College, University of La Verne



WHAT DEPARTMENT DO YOU WORK IN?

John: Professor of Education, Educational Studies

Linda: Senior Adjunct Professor of Education, Educational Studies

FAVORITE SONG?

John: Almost anything by Ruben Blades, Obie Bermudez, Yes, Chicago, or Sara Bareilles

Linda: Always varies according to mood.

RANDOM FACT:

John: I grew up all over the world, had a career in the arts, and worked with medically fragile kids.

Linda: I waitressed, taught Kindergarten for many years, and am an avid knitter and crafter.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO FOR FUN?

John: Listen to music.

Linda: I'm a knitter and crafter.

ARE YOU FIRST GEN?

John: Yes.

Linda: Yes.

WHAT PEARLS OF WISDOM WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH FIRST GEN STUDENTS?

Both John and Linda: Live and let live, be the change you want to see in the world, and put as much love as you can into the world starting with yourself.

NEWSLETTER

September Calendar

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

First Generation Fridays

Open to all - Community Gathering!

Location: Johnson Family Plaza

Time: 9am - 10:30am



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

Real Talk Tuesdays: Advocacy

Open to all - Open and honest conversations about first year experiences

Location: EDR

Time: 10am - 5pm

ADVOCACY TIP!

You have the right to ask for help and resources that you need. It may feel awkward, uncomfortable and scary, but your professors , administrators, and policymakers want to see you succeed. Needing help is not something to be embarrassed about and asking for that help is not overstepping your bounds.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

Monthly Gathering

Mandatory for participants of the program

Location: Sneaky Park

Time: 12pm - 1pm

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

Real Talk Tuesdays: Using your Resources

Open to all - Open and honest conversations about first year experiences

Location: ACC 206

Time: 4pm - 5pm

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

Mentee Check-Ins

Mandatory for mentees of the program

Location: ACC 206

Time: 12pm - 1pm



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Office of First Generation



Peer Mentoring Programs

For general questions email us at firstgen@laverne.edu
For more specific questions about our office feel free to email our staff!



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**University of
La Verne**

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