



AUGUST  
2019



# NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST GATE NEWSLETTER

I hope you enjoy our newest CHS GATE publication: a monthly newsletter. Inside you will find out about our amazing GATE students and learn about exciting events and opportunities on our campus and beyond. Look for the newsletter in your email the last week of each month!

-Hollace Brayer  
*GATE Coordinator, Chaffey High School*



## COLLEGE ADULTING 101 WITH COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

August 10, 2019

**Claremont McKenna College** hosted a college readiness workshop for recent graduates and high school seniors. The college students lead **information sessions on academic,**

**professional, and personal life in college.** After mock interviews, discussions of Imposter Syndrome, and some excellent tips on studying, the students enjoyed pizza in the summer sunshine.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### GATE CLUB MEETINGS

- **Wed, 8/21, 3:15 SB02**
  - Officer nominations
- **Wed 8/28, 3:15 SB02**
  - Officer elections



### FIELD TRIP WITH C.L.Y.L.P

- **Tuesday, 9/3**
  - Dodgers v Rockies



### COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

- **Wednesdays starting in September, SB02, 3:15**
- College/Career help for Chaffey juniors and seniors



### ROAR-ING FOR COLLEGE

- **Sat, 9/14, 8-12:00 SB2, SB5, SH30**
- Get help with college application essays select ROARs in the fall

# AP AND HONORS PLACEMENT: OPENING DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY

Spring of 2019 saw a large change in how we enrolled students in our AP and Honors courses at Chaffey. Over the past few years, we had noticed a trend: enrollment in advanced courses school-wide was decreasing. We wanted to change that trend and make sure that our eager, prepared students had the opportunity to take more classes. The goal: increase course offerings and AP enrollment.

## The Process

Over first semester in meetings with students, counselors, teachers, and administrators, we identified several problems: students were not aware of course offerings, qualified students were intimidated by advanced coursework, and students did not know how to balance their workload. We formed a GATE Task force consisting of honors students and faculty and took a

hard look at our application and placement process. Then we put a team together during 3rd period Academy to create an action plan.

## The Reboot

Students and teachers worked together to create an overview of course offerings at Chaffey. All interested students took a **survey** to learn more about the AP and Honors programs. Then, they **met with their counselors** and enrolled in the AP or honors courses that fit their interests.

Every student who registered for any AP or honors course was invited to an **orientation**. Parents and guardians learned about the GATE program and course offerings while students attended information sessions about courses and workload. The AP and honors students **upperclassmen offered sage advice** on time management, handling stress, and the value of



2018-2019 GATE TASK FORCE

taking advanced coursework. **More than 300 families** attended orientation sessions! Finally, in May students **confirmed or modified** their course selection based on their grades at the end of the semester.

### The Results

Our goal was to increase enrollment and increase course

offerings, and we were extremely successful!

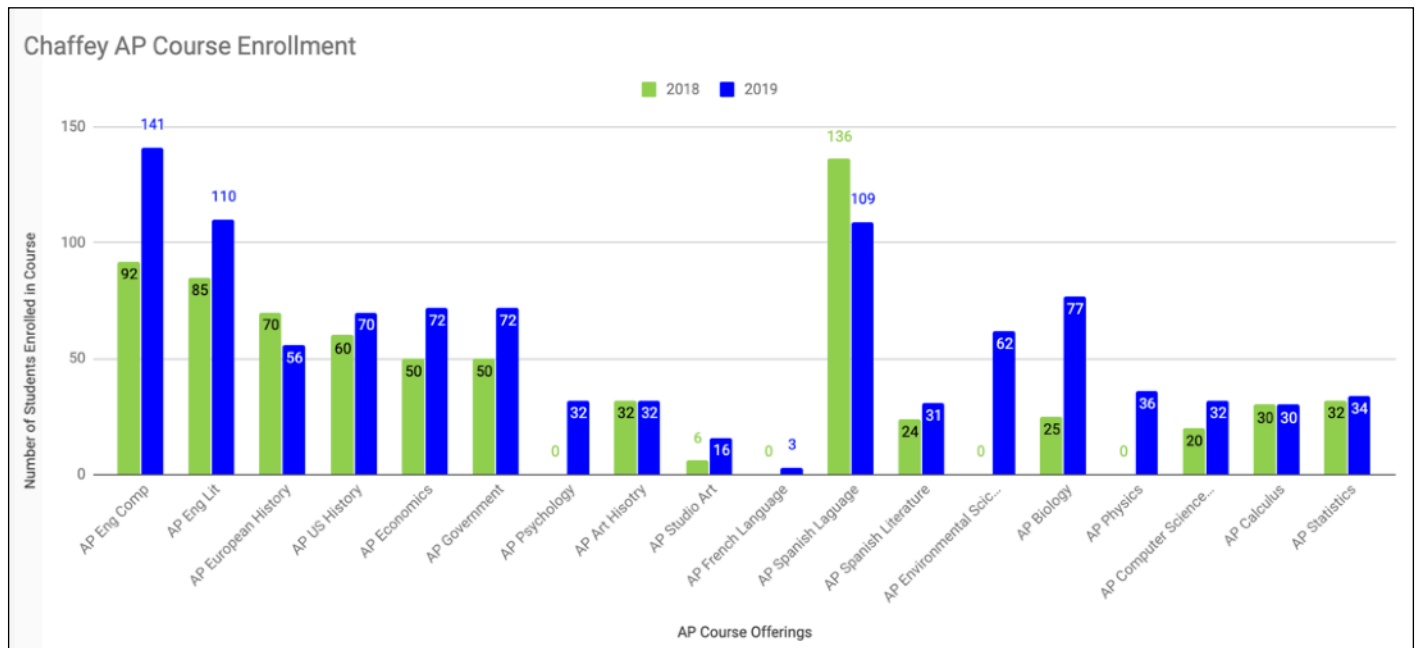
This year (2019-2020) we more than doubled our AP course offerings in science, added AP Psychology, increased sections of AP English Literature and AP English Language, and increased enrollment in most other areas. Increased enrollment in AP courses means that

more students have an **opportunity to get ahead** in their college-level coursework and **become more competitive applicants** to selective colleges.

### What's next?

The GATE Task Force continues to meet and add members. We will **refine our placement** process and we have set new goals. This

year, our focus is on **college access** and creating **enrichment opportunities** for GATE students. Look for announcements about field trips, guest speakers, and fun activities throughout the year!



“

**IF YOU SEE AN OPPORTUNITY, GO FOR IT BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH ONE OPPORTUNITY CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE. -SAMANTHA VALVERDE ('20)**

### FROM OUR BLOG: CHECKOUT OUR LATEST POSTS

- **Course Spotlight: Honors Anatomy** (post written by Elina Shibata, class of 2020)
- **Course Spotlight: AP European History** (post written by Gerardo Hurtado, class of 2020)
- **Tips and Tricks: Take Opportunities When You Can!** (post written by Samantha Valverde, class of 2020)



## GATE GOALS FOR 2019-2020

- Support Chaffey students with their **college application process**.
- Provide enrichment opportunities for GATE students including **guest speakers, field trips, and college visits**.
- Support AP and Honors students' **academic success**.

## 2018-2019: YEAR IN REVIEW

# GATE LEADERSHIP AND ENRICHMENT AT CHAFFEY

### UCR AP Readiness Workshops

This year we took **87** students to AP workshops at UCR. Students received **intense workshops** in their AP content area. Thanks to a grant from the San Bernardino County of Education, the workshops and the buses were free for all Chaffey students. The students found the practice invaluable.

### College and Career Newsletter

The GATE Task Force also started a monthly College and Career Newsletter for all Chaffey students. Student representatives attended counseling meetings and met with Ms. Wilson in the Career Center to gather and share information on **college preparation, summer programs, scholarships and more**. Check your email to get your copy every month!

### GATE PSAT Workshops for 9th, 10th, and 11th Grade Students

The GATE Task Force hosted three PSAT workshops in March. They met with 120 freshmen, 122 juniors, and approximately 600 sophomores to explain their **test results, resources, and next steps on the college/ career journey**.

“

**[AP READINESS] WAS AMAZING! I FEEL BETTER PREPARED FOR THE EXAM NOW.** -ELIZABETH REGALADO VELAZQUEZ, CLASS OF 2020

**DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR THE  
GATE NEWSLETTER?  
LET US KNOW!  
[HOLLACE.BRAYER@CJUHS.D.NET](mailto:HOLLACE.BRAYER@CJUHS.D.NET)**



CHAFFEY AP STUDENTS AT THE UCR AP READINESS PROGRAM



# TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES: SUMMER PROGRAMS THAT INSPIRE



## YATZIRI CARMONOA OCHOA: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

### **Bovard Scholars:**

Bovard Scholars is a program hosted by the University of Southern California for high achieving low income rising seniors who are looking to apply to top tier institutions. Throughout the three weeks, students are assigned to mentors who guide them in the college application process. Approximately one hundred twenty rising seniors are selected to participate from the United States.

### **Neubauer Family Adelante Summer Scholars:**

The Neubauer Family Adelante Summer scholars program is hosted by the University of Chicago for high achieving rising seniors involved in the Hispanic community. Throughout the three weeks, students are enrolled in a writing or biology class that can be exchanged for college credit. Approximately thirty five rising seniors are selected to participate from the United States.

### **Why did you apply?**

I really wanted to get a glimpse of college life and step out of my community. Prior to the Neubauer Family Adelante Summer program, I had never been out of state. I also wanted to be surrounded by like-minded individuals and have a support network throughout daunting senior year.

### **What did you enjoy most?**

I enjoyed the outings these programs hosted. The University of Chicago staff took us downtown Chicago to eat and visit hot spots. At Bovard Scholars, we went to Knott's Berry Farm, the Los Angeles Children's Hospital, and Santa Monica Pier.

### **What did you value most?**

Bovard Scholars provided me with a personal college admissions counselor which I am so grateful for. My college admissions counselor was an admissions reader at Princeton and Dartmouth so her advice is extremely valuable to me.

Thanks to her guidance, I feel more confident in the college and scholarship application process.

The University of Chicago also provided me with valuable college knowledge. I was fortunate enough to meet their admissions readers, financial aid officers, and dean. They revealed to me that if I were to attend the University of Chicago, I would have my full tuition covered. The staff at the University of Chicago gave me optimism about furthering myself through education.

### **Applications:**

[https://  
summer.uchicago.edu/  
programs/neubauer-  
family-adelante-summer-  
scholars](https://summer.uchicago.edu/programs/neubauer-family-adelante-summer-scholars)

[https://  
bovardscholars.usc.edu/](https://bovardscholars.usc.edu/)

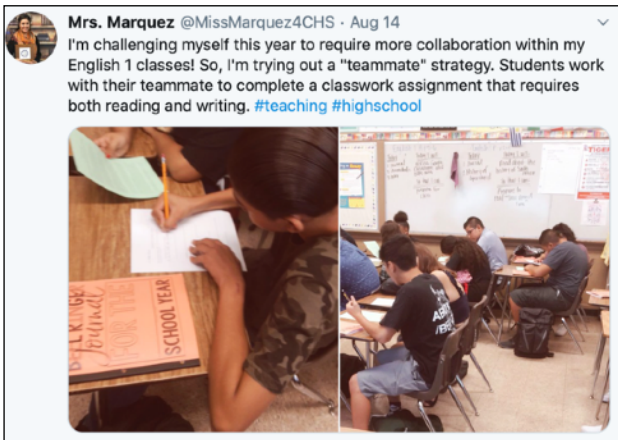
## GERARDO HURTADO: AMHERST COLLEGE

The **SCS Noonan Scholars Summer Academy** was by far the highlight of my academic career. They were six short weeks, but they were busy weeks, and I ultimately left the program with exponentially more confidence and knowledge of the college admissions process. I was surrounded by people who were motivated, hard-working, and determined to reach the ultimate goal of higher education at the school of their choice. And most importantly, **we were a - 100 person - family; we were a family united because we all understood what it was like to be an anxious first-generation student of color.** It was empowering to have advisors who were college students or shared similar backgrounds as first-generation students of color.

We visited Wesleyan University, Trinity College, Boston College, Harvard University, Yale University, Tufts University, Smith College (girls). Also attended "mock admissions"

seminars with schools like MIT, Cornell, attended informational seminars with schools including Princeton, Amherst, Bates, Brown, UChicago, Williams, and so many more. The college-admissions-process workshops were incredibly insightful, but that's not where it ended; being able to actually visit these institutions that we have always dreamed of was especially motivating, and meeting admissions counselors from these dream schools convinced me that although most of these private institutions were not originally built for people from disadvantaged backgrounds, my background was cherished and **I was valued as a prospective student at these highly selective institutions.** I didn't want to leave the summer academy because I knew all 100 of us would miss each other terribly. And I'm going to do it all over again next summer at USC, and for my four years in college I'll receive College Success mentorship.





## Classroom and Program Spotlights

Follow these Twitter accounts for a window into AP and Honors classrooms and enrichment programs at Chaffey:

- **Chaffey GATE:** @CHS\_GATE
- **Honors Anatomy:** @hellomysyang
- **Honors English I:** @MissMarquez4CHS
- **Honors/AP Biology:** @Cole\_ChaffeyHS
- **AP English Language:** @Chaffey\_Brayer
- **AP Psychology:** @APPsychCHS1
- **Chaffey Music:** @chaffeymusic
- **Chaffey Theatre:** @Chaffey\_Theatre
- **Academic Decathlon:** @acadecoach
- **CHS Entrepreneurs** @chsentrepreneu

