

CORO ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Coro Sacramento Reception**
– Tuesday, March 7th, 6 p.m.,
California State Chamber of
Commerce in Sacramento.
Contact Edward Headington
(ehheadington@coro.org or ext
15 for more information)
- **Fellows Program Selection
Day** - March 11th, 8 a.m.,
University of Toyota
Contact Stephanie Stone
(sstone@coro.org, ext 16)
- **Youth Leadership Program
Santee Summit** – March 24th,
4pm - 6pm. Santee High
School
Contact Anne Reisinger
(areisinger@coro.org or ext.
17)
- **Coro's 31st Annual Public
Affairs Awards & Scholarship
Dinner**, April 20th, 6pm,
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
honoring Supervisor Don
Knabe, Johnny Grant, Cynthia
Telles and Bob Hertzberg

ALUMNI UPDATES

*If you are interested in
letting Coro know what
you're doing, please email
corosocal@coro.org with
your information.*

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CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- **Music Center Speaker Series
2006:**
3/1 – Salmon Rushdie
4/4 – Paul Ruseabagina
4/5 & 4/6 – Bill Clinton
4/10 & 4/11 – Colin Powell
4/27 – Carlos Fuentes
5/16 – Thomas Friedman
For more information, call (213)
972-3494
or visit www.musiccenter.org.

JOB,

January/February 2006 Edition

In this Issue:

- **Partner Profile: [What is our commitment to higher education? The case for Campaign for College Opportunity](#)**
- **Coro Program Updates - [Fellows Program](#), [Neighborhood Leaders](#), [Health Leadership](#)**

What is our commitment to higher education? The case for Campaign for College Opportunity.

By Angela Wannberg, The Rogers Group

As a freshman, Jamie Kim had difficulty getting into the classes she wanted at University of California, Irvine. "Every quarter takes a lot of work to get into classes," Kim says. "I have to run around from one class to another, trying to find open classes." She also explains how many of her classes are overcrowded and students are forced to sit on the floor. Kim is just one student, but there are thousands of students with stories like hers. More and more students are becoming frustrated and this frustration won't let up anytime soon. In fact, if student populations continue to grow at the same rate and institutions are unable to increase capacity, between now and 2013, nearly 1.8 million qualified students will be turned away from California public institutions.

So what is the solution?

The Wall Street Journal reported last month (Jan. 19), in an article titled "States Boost Budgets for Colleges," that states (including California) have put more money into higher education this fiscal year. Is this the answer? The Campaign for College Opportunity doesn't think so and is digging deeper to find more long-term solutions. Reaching out to more than 2,000 of California's local leaders in business, labor, education, civic and religious arenas, as well as parents and students, the Campaign is actively looking for solutions to this fast-approaching problem.

Brainchild of David Wolfe and Coro alumnus Steve Weiner, the Campaign's "Invest in the Future Tour" has received much needed support for three proposed solutions below – born from a first-of-its-kind Return on Investment Study, which found for every dollar the state spends on higher education, it receives three dollars back:

- 1) To improve efficiency – To help students reach their educational goals, individual campuses should make the most of their resources and determine innovative ways to organize instruction. The Campaign encourages coordination between community colleges and public universities for better transfer rates.
- 2) To increase education funding – To meet the needs of California's future college enrollment growth, the governor and Legislature must develop a long-term financing plan based on projected state revenues. Increased state spending must be tied to increasing the number of students enrolling in and completing their educational goals.
- 3) To increase tuition revenue and financial aid – California's boom-and-bust fee policy creates uncertainty for students. It would be better for students if legislators developed a predictable fee schedule with modest increases year to year allowing for students to predict costs over four years.

Since students are the workforce of the future, the Campaign

INTERNSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Now, you do not have to wait! Job listings are updated on the website throughout the month! The most recent are below:

- Richstone Family Center - [Director of Development](#)
- Amateur Athletic Foundation (AAF) - [Manager, Grants and Programs](#)
- Little Hoover Commission - [Executive Director](#)
- Center for Media and Democracy (CMD) - [Project Editor](#) (based in Madison, WI or Washington, DC).
- Pacific McGeorge School of Law - [Director of Major Gifts and Capital Campaign](#) (Sacramento, California)

Coro Graduates are job hunting. If you know of any open positions please forward them to corosocal@coro.org.

Other News of Interest

Rest in Peace. Former Councilmembers Marvin Braude and Ernani Bernardi passed away since we last published E-Connections.

California Journal, a must-read by legions of Coro alumni, finally shuttered its operation for good in December after financial difficulties. During its 35-year history, several Coro alumni contributed articles and time to the publication known for its reputation for examining California policy issues in a nonpartisan manner. Lou Cannon, famed Reagan biographer and acting president and CEO of the magazine, said "It's a decision we all regret, but we had no other realistic choice."

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa debuted his new electronic newsletter, called *Our LA*, earlier this year. *Our LA* features information on what the Mayor has done since taking office, discusses various issues, and invites residents to get involved. It also includes his response to newspaper editorials and surveys of what people think his top priorities should be. Find out more information by going to www.lacity.org/mayor.

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enlisted feedback on these solutions. Generally, businesses encourage a fee policy, labor groups push for access and knowledge of financial aid for their workers and education leaders are concerned with access and frustrated there aren't enough resources to offer the classes necessary for students to finish in four years.

"Local community support and feedback has played an important role enabling us to propose legislation," said Elisa Bongiovanni, Communications Director for Campaign for College Opportunity. "It is critical we move quickly to try and solve this problem, for the good of our college students, future workforce and the productivity of California."

The Campaign is based out of Oakland and has a local office here at Coro Southern California in downtown Los Angeles. Its Board of Directors is currently chaired by Coro alumnus Bill Hauck. To get involved or for more information please contact:

Campaign for College Opportunity
811 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1025
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 817-6034
info@collegecampaign.org
www.collegecampaign.org
www.nuestrofuturo.com

Coro Program Updates

Fellows Program in Public Affairs

Fellows Media Focus Week – The Fellows just wrapped up a full week of interviews talking to the media about their role in public affairs. Although there were several highlights, one of the more interesting ones was with Kevin Roderick of blogger fame. After the interview, he made a brief mention of the interview on his blog, www.LAObserved.com. For more information and a list of who they talked to, please contact Stephanie Stone at ssstone@coro.org or (213) 623-1234x16.

Fellows State Government Focus week – Fellows from Los Angeles and San Francisco will be in Sacramento from March 5th to March 9th as part of their State Government Focus Week. Leadership Southern California will also be there, bringing the number of leadership participants to over 60 people. The theme this year is infrastructure bonds and the Fellows have interviews lined up with elected officials, the media, lobbyists and members of the executive branch and its agencies. For more information and a schedule of the trip, please contact Edward Headington at ehheadington@coro.org or call (213) 623-1234x15.

Fellows Business Placements – The Fellows recently finished their business rotation and did their Group Presentation at the LA Chamber of Commerce. A special thank you goes out to LA Chamber Public Policy Director Brendan Huffman for making it possible. Below is a list of the rotations, the fellows, and who they are worked with.

America Learns – Lauren Chianese (worked with Gary Kosman)

Dakota Communications – Nicole Clark (worked with Kerman Maddox)

Concensus – Chelsea Correia (worked with Jennifer Labrado)

MWW Group – Karly Katona (worked with David Herbst)

Abernathy McGregor Group – Joshua Lawson (worked with Ian Campbell)

Horizon Research Corporation – Daniel Nieman (worked with Skye Stamey)

Orange County Business Council – Veronica Zimmerman (worked with Wallace Wallrod)

ABL, Inc. – Melissa Wu (worked with David Abel)

Kaiser Permanente – Juan Carlos Sanchez (worked with Marilyn Owsley)

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce – Hugo Salazar (worked with Brendan Huffman)

Southern California Edison – Alex Pugh (worked with Ken Chawkins)

Friends

In addition to alumni activities in cities with Coro Centers, Coro alumni and friends are connecting around the nation. Here are a few alumni groups you can contact if you are living outside of Southern California:

Boston Alumni Listserv

Join the Coro alumni in Boston group by visiting

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coroalumni-boston/>

DC Alumni Listserv

Join the Coro alumni in DC group by visiting

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CoroDC/>

National Alumni Association

If you would like to be involved with the Coro National Alumni Association, visit <http://www.coro.org/cnaa/index.html> and subscribe to the CNAA listserv

Neighborhood Leaders Program – The Coro Neighborhood Leadership Program is launching a new series of workshops for professionals living and working in South Los Angeles. Those working in the business, labor, government, non-profit and education sectors are encouraged to apply. Applications are due April 6, 2006 and the program begins May 4, 2006. For more information and a schedule of sessions, please contact Deanna Cherry at dcherry@coro.org or call (213) 623-1234x12.

Health Leadership Program – Coro's newest focus area, the Health Leadership Program, had a great program run in 2005 and recruitment is already under way for HLP II—set to start in June. The purpose of the program is not just to provide mid-career health professionals with leadership skills but also to empower them with the resources and networks necessary to face Los Angeles County's evolving health care system. For more information, please contact Edward Headington at ehheadington@coro.org or call (213) 623-1234 x15.

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