

AGS Spring 2023 Newsletter
Santa Monica College
Alpha Gamma Chapter

VOLUME XXXII (ISSUE 2 OF 4)

ALPHA
GAMMA SIGMA
HONOR SOCIETY



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Manuela Concha



Kind greeting to my AGS family and all those who's eyes lead through a sequential pattern across the screen, eager to learn about our events and community. Before we embrace our journey into this March themed newsletter, I encourage you to transport yourselves into each and every article that our team has developed with enthusiasm, kindness and dedication. As your new editor in chief, I welcome you all.

A month into our spring semester, things are starting to take on a quicker pace. Our AGS honor society has finally fallen into place and we continue receiving incoming members while developing multiple socials, workshops and events so all of our members can participate, feel at home and have fun.

As we are just starting, you will encounter articles about events which have taken place throughout the past couple of months, days of extreme importance to our community and events which are still yet to come. Take a peak and don't miss out!

My team and advisors for this first newsletter have made it possible to submit it on time as a gift to you all. Despite being in different parts of the world; compromise, passion and enthusiasm, made this all possible. We are constantly searching to learn, improve and become better at what we do.

I will not keep delaying you for much longer and hope you are safe and healthy from wherever you are reading this. Welcome once again to the first Spring 2023 newsletter. Enjoy!

Regards, all the way from Bogotá, Colombia

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

Kayla Rodriguez



Hi! ¡Hola! I am honored to say, welcome to Alpha Gamma Sigma! We are super happy and delighted that you considered joining AGS as a member for the Spring 2023 semester. If you are a new member, we are super excited to introduce you to many fun and engaging events, opportunities, etc. And if you are a returning member, thank you for rejoining AGS. We can't wait to see you put your part in for AGS again. I really do hope you have an incredible semester with AGS!

Just a quick introduction from me, my name is Kayla Rodriguez and I am currently in my second year here at SMC and my fourth semester at AGS. I joined AGS back in Fall 2021. I started off as a general and Banquet Committee member. I continued to be a general and Banquet Committee member until Spring 2022. By Fall 2022, I became the Internal Vice President and led the Banquet Committee. And now for my last semester here at SMC, I decided to run and become the Co-President of Spring 2023! If it wasn't for my friend who told me about AGS back in Fall 2021, I would have never grown and maintained the new skills that AGS brought out in me. I have learned how to manage my time, graphic designing, and a bunch of more skills that I never knew that I had. AGS made me realize that I can uphold any position and to not be afraid of being a leader. I have met some amazing people along the way which has been the best part. I truly hope I inspired you to interact and engage with AGS along your AGS journey.

You might be wondering? How can I engage with AGS? AGS has so many opportunities that will help you explore your skill sets and interact with other members. AGS offers many social activities, informs you about workshops hosted by SMC, various volunteer events, and especially has many leadership opportunities offered to you. Now that this semester is officially hybrid, AGS will have many in-person opportunities, so don't be afraid of signing up! I encourage you to participate in them and make connections with one another. Before I end this message, I do want to congratulate you for your hard work and accomplishments. AGS is about acknowledging members who balance both school, extracurriculars, a job, and life in general. Just remember that you are enough already and you should be proud of yourself. Please don't be afraid of reaching out to AGS! We are here to support you and help you out along the way. Again, Congratulations! ¡Felicidades!

TRANSCRIPT NOTATION REQUIREMENTS

1

**10 VOLUNTEER HOURS
(IN PERSON OR VIVOS)**

2

**COMMITTEE CREDIT
OR 2 FUNDRAISERS**

3

**ATTEND 5 MEETINGS
(2 IN PERSON)**

4

**ATTEND 2 SOCIALS OR 2
SMC WORKSHOPS
(1 IN PERSON)**

5

**CUMMULATIVE 3.0 GPA
AND 6 SMC UNITS**

6

**DO NOT RECEIVE 3
NEGATIVE 1'S**



MEET THE BOARD!



CO PRESIDENT
KAYLA RODRIGUEZ



CO PRESIDENT
HOLLY STIBEL



EXTERNAL VP
HANNA BOZORGZAD



INTERNAL VP
WENYU E



ASSISTANT EXTERNAL VP
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ASSISTANT HOURS SECRETARY
KAIFENG LI



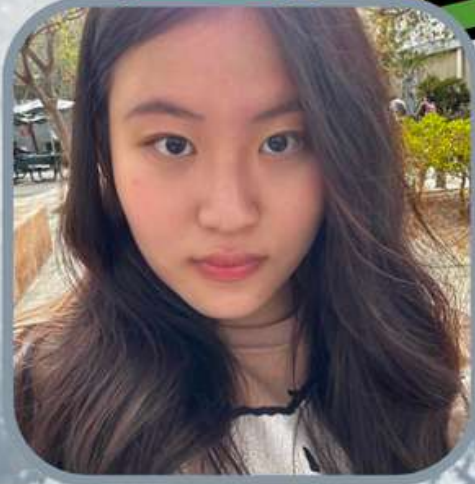
RECORDING SECRETARY
NOEMI ALVARADO



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MEET THE BOARD!



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JIN LIU



NEWSLETTER EDITOR
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ZOE MEDINA



STUDENT RELATIONS OFFICER
SEMIA BEJI



EVENTS SECRETARY
WAI HUN SANN



ASSISTANT EVENTS SECRETARY
ESMERALDA HERNANDEZ

COME TO THE AGS STATE CONVENTION THIS APRIL!

PROFESSOR TERRY GREEN

The 97th annual Alpha Gamma Sigma State Convention will be held on April 28th -29th via Zoom and hosted by Santa Monica College's Alpha Gamma Chapter! More than 40 chapters from all over the state of California will be attending and the attendance is expected to be somewhere between 200 and 400 students. We want all members of our chapter to attend and meet fellow AGS honor students from different parts of California!

The convention planning committee (consisting of co-presidents, Kayla Rodriguez and Holly Stiebel, and advisors, John Quevedo, Terry Green, and Betty Wong) have been working diligently the last several months planning the workshops and events that will happen on April 28th -29th.

We really want every member of our chapter to attend that weekend!



A quick preview of what exciting activities to expect: On Friday night, there will be a Game Night hosted by Professor Brian Rodas which should be a fun event. On Saturday morning our college president, Dr. Kathryn Jeffrey, will give opening remarks to start the day. Following Dr. Jeffrey's welcome, the Roll Call will have all the attending chapters introduce themselves via cheers on videos. Students will then have the opportunity to attend a variety of workshops during two morning sessions. A professor from the UCLA MARC (Mindful Awareness Research Center) will be speaking on how to improve one's wellbeing through meditation. Previous presidents from our chapter will be telling what it is like to transfer to UCLA or Berkeley. We will have some of the finest SMC professors leading workshops such as simplifying the transfer process to a university, practical approaches to personal finance, applications of probability and statistics in finance – risk and return and much more, budgeting & saving.



97TH AGS SPRING CONVENTION 2023

"PURSUING EXCELLENCE THROUGH ADVERSITY!"

HOST CHAPTER: ALPHA GAMMA, SANTA MONICA COLLEGE
REGISTRATION CHAPTER: PI, L.A. PIERCE COLLEGE

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH AT 7PM

OPENING CEREMONY & ENTERTAINMENT



SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, 8:30AM - 3PM

WORKSHOPS | CONTESTS | SCHOLARSHIP CEREMONY

REGISTRATION FORM (ADVISORS ONLY):

[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/222806740113144](https://form.jotform.com/222806740113144)

STUDENT AGREEMENT FORM:

[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/222806497359165](https://form.jotform.com/222806497359165)

ADDITIONAL CONVENTION INFORMATION
WILL BE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.AGSHONOR.ORG

Our current presidents, Kayla and Holly will lead an Officers Roundtable to talk about leadership in our chapters throughout the state. SMC member Tenecia Harris, and a member of the AGS State Board of Trustees, will be discussing the AGS Statewide Project for this upcoming year. At midday our keynote speaker, Nat Trives, who is known as Mr. Santa Monica, will talk about his volunteer experiences as he belongs to 32 different community service organizations! It is going to be a great Saturday opportunity for you to learn about a host of topics!

In the afternoon, approximately \$40,000 in scholarships will be awarded by the statewide organization to outstanding students from AGS chapters throughout the state of California. As the host college, Santa Monica College will have an extra candidate to compete for recognition in the areas of outstanding service, outstanding academics, and outstanding academics and leadership. Santa Monica College's candidates are Holly Stibel, Harley Le Thuy, Kayla Rodriguez and Ky Fernandez. It will be your chance to cheer for our four SMC candidates who all could win scholarships that afternoon! Let us hope we go four for four!

And we have not forgotten the rest of you in attendance! Throughout the day, members will have the opportunity to win e-certificates as prizes—just another reason to attend the upcoming convention! So put a Save the Date on your calendar for April 28th-29th and come to our general meetings to find out how to sign up to attend the AGS State Convention!



SUPPORTING STUDENTS DURING PRE-FINALS WEEK

PROFESSOR BETTY WONG



One of the most stressful times in the life of a college student is the week before or during final exams. On some campuses, this period is known as “Dead Week.”

Understanding that feeling , Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society secured funding from the Associated Student Board

to serve packaged El Pollo Loco food items (burritos, chicken bowl, chicken quesadilla, pozole) from various designated areas around the Math Complex over a five-day period in the Fall 2022 semester from December 5 to December 14. As students left the Math Lab preparing for final exams or classrooms having just taken a final exam, they were able to visit a nearby classroom or were met out in a MC hallway alcove and offered their choice of one of the food items to sustain and uplift them as they studied. Staffing the serving line were AGS members and advisors working different shifts involved with setting up, serving with mask and plastic gloves, and general cleanup afterwards.

All in all, this was a huge success! Thankful students walked away with a smile on their faces with knowledge of an upcoming hearty meal and ready to tackle preparing for their next exams.



Wellness

SUPPORT!

FOOD!!!



SMC START-UP EVENT

NATALIA ZELEDON

Newsletter Staff

On Thursday March 2nd Santa Monica College held the first Start Up event of the semester! SMC Startup is an annual event held at the beginning of each semester where clubs and organizations can promote themselves to the entire student body. Alpha Gamma Sigma members and officers had the pleasure to attend this event, and there was no rain so it was held outdoors in the beautiful quad area! AGS was provided with a designated table where students could approach with questions regarding what AGS is about, becoming an official member, requirements, and getting connected! Many students were very interested in what AGS has to offer to members and were eager to sign up and attend the first meeting of the semester!

I had the pleasure of interviewing Esmeralda Hernandez, Zoe Medina, and Sakunit, a few of our own AGS officers who got to attend the event in regards to their experiences! Emeraldalda said that her favorite aspect of the SMC Startup event was getting to interact with a lot of different students. She met new and returning students wanting to find a community on campus to make friends with and hopes AGS is that community for them.



**SMC
START
UP!**

02.28.2023

TUESDAY
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Main Campus Quad

**FREE FOOD
& FUN!**

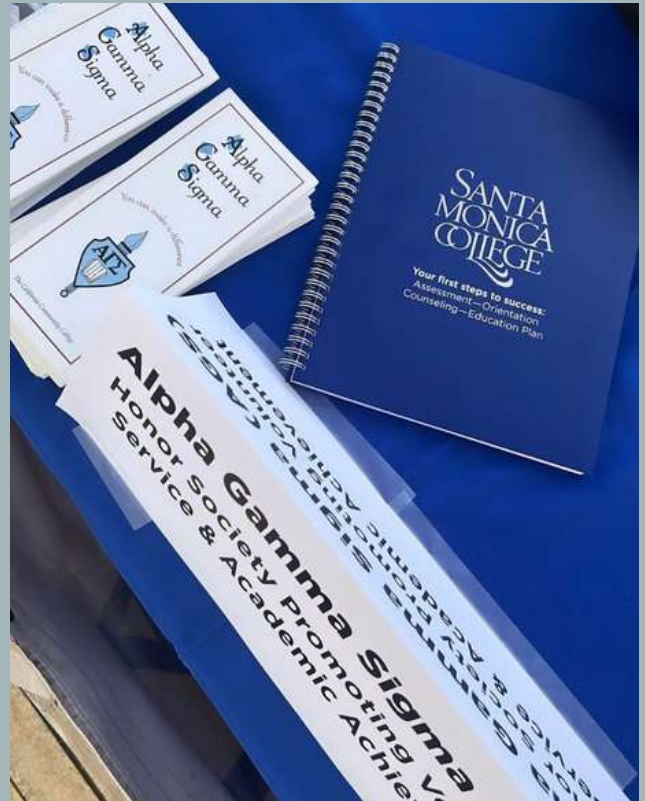
**POWER
106 FM**

Get Connected At SMC!
Proudly Sponsored by the SMC Foundation
smc.edu/startup

The poster features two circular inset photos: one on the left showing a woman smiling, and one on the right showing a group of people at an outdoor event.

Esmeralda went on to mention the importance of events like this in how it allows students to ask questions in person and learn about everything SMC has to offer to support students.

Zoe said that she felt that the goal of expanding the AGS community was met and how it was such a rewarding experience. From decorating the booth in AGS gear to talking to potential members, it was all worthwhile in the end.



She said that she spoke to at least 80 potential students throughout the event and that there was a lot of excitement to join one of the longest standing organizations at SMC! Zoe said that face to face interactions and engagement is super vital to maintaining engagement and retention within AGS, hence why events like these are very important for student clubs and organizations.

Sakunit said that her favorite aspect of the event was interacting with new and returning people that wished to be part of something at SMC. Which demonstrates the eagerness SMC students have and really shows that it is never too late or too early to get involved in something! She hopes that AGS can continue to be an inclusive environment that is welcoming and where anyone can find a sense of belonging. Sakunit mentioned that outreach events are super important to make students aware of what being an honors society actually looks like and get a glimpse of what being a leader is like as well!

Overall, it is clear that everyone had an excellent time and many students got connected to AGS this semester. We look forward to more outreach events in the future!

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S DAY!

MANUELA CONCHA

Newsletter Editor

HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY! On March 8th, we celebrated our incredible AGS Women. We constantly evidence their positive impact in our community, indicated by their increased participation in leadership positions throughout the history of our institution. In the last three semesters, about 65% of the board members have identified themselves as women. Correspondently, this semester, AGS is being led by our female co-presidents; Kayla Rodriguez and Holly Stibel, with a board composed of 12 women out of 16 members.

Every year, Women's History Month provides a theme to honor the empowered women which have impacted the world. The 2023 theme is "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories" according to the National Women's History Alliance.

Events which have taken place throughout history, have allowed us to learn, reflect and change. Those who continue telling the stories, don't allow these events to be forgotten to ensure the lesson is comprehended by an evolving society.



Since the past to the present, we have evidenced women who have broken the schemes of society, while guaranteeing a continued progress in mentality and, the development and evolution of a community.

As an example, Professor Wong has been one to break the schemes. She has entered an area of studies which is known to be male dominant and nevertheless, thrived and served as Assistant Chair of the Mathematics Department for many years and one year as Math Department Chair. Similarly, she has attested for multiple women who wish to break the stereotype and follow their passion.

We are the other half of the world. Every single one of us is constantly challenging the schemes, the stereotypes carried by an evolving mindset. Have you ever wondered where we would be without women?

Although we celebrate Women's Day on March 8th and Women's History Month, throughout the month, it is relevant to remember and praise all women who daily demonstrate their skills and strength to enhance progress and make a change.



AGS ADVISORS!

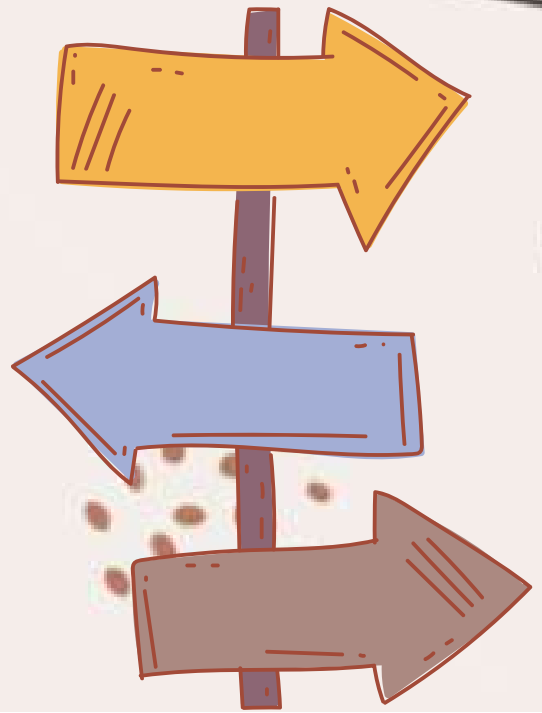
**JOHN
QUEVEDO**



**TERRY
GREEN**



**BETTY
WONG**



Thank You

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE ADVISOR:

Professor Betty Wong

SPRING 2023 AGS NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Manuela Concha

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE TEAM:

Natalia Zeledon



AGS MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the chapter shall be to foster, promote, maintain, and recognize scholarship among the diverse student body at Santa Monica College; to develop activities offering multicultural, academic, social, or enrichment experiences; to promote service to the college and community; to emphasize the development of leadership, character, judgment, respect, and care for others, and the environment.