

STEM-MÁS NEWSLETTER

MAXIMIZING ACHIEVEMENT IN STEM

SPRING 2026 PART 1

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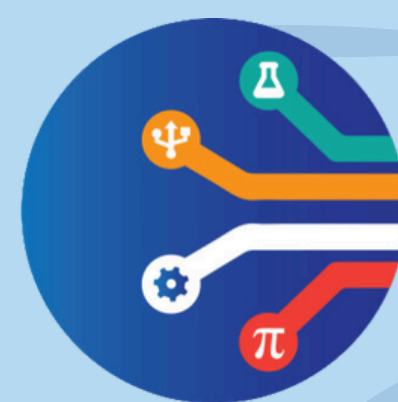
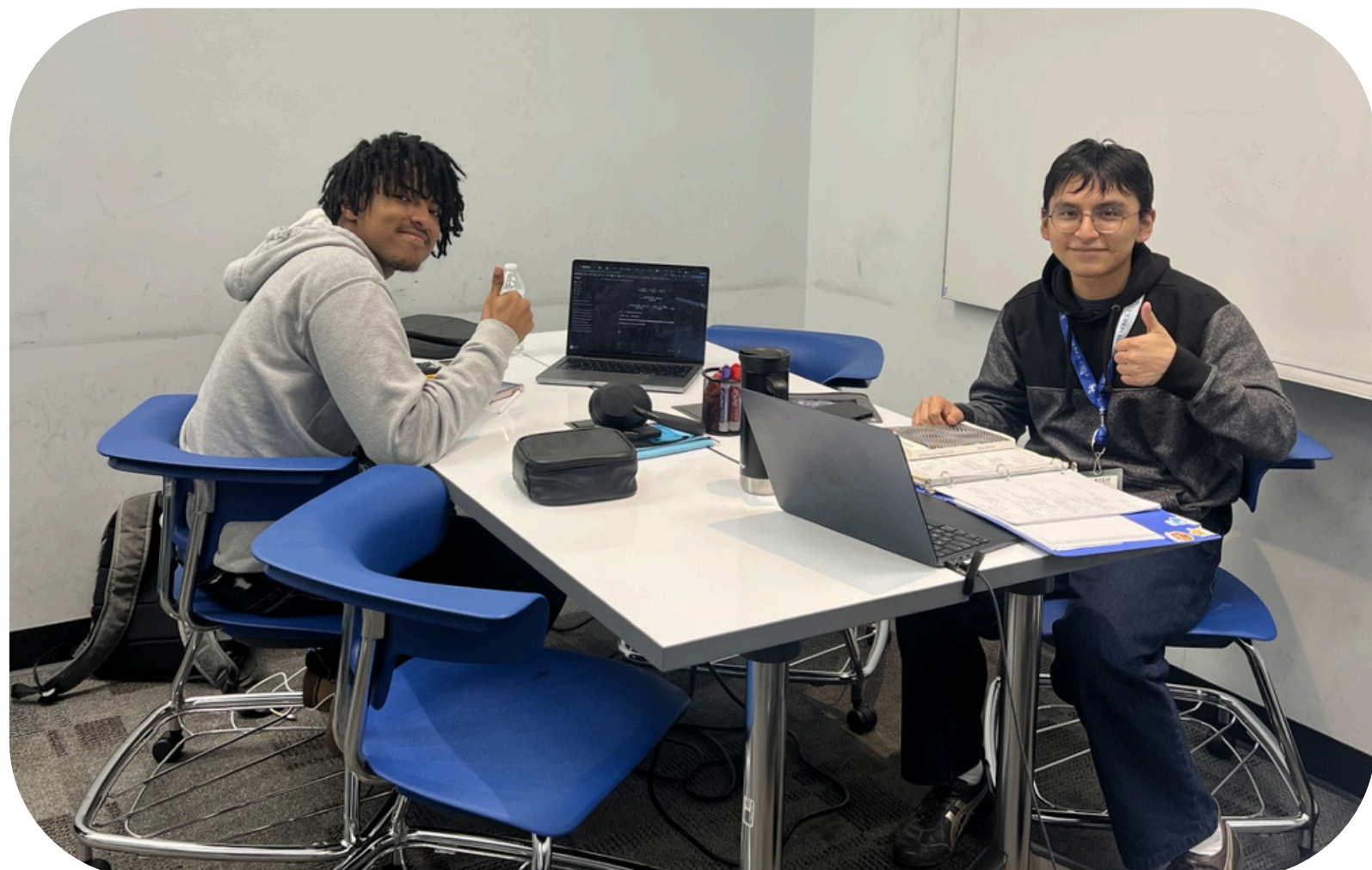
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Meet some of our mentees!



We encourage you to check your STEM Canvas regularly and to follow us on Instagram @smcstem for up-to-date information.



STEM

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Contact us!



(310) 434-3988



STEM@SMC.EDU



Drescher Hall
Room 302

Program Services

STEM Counseling

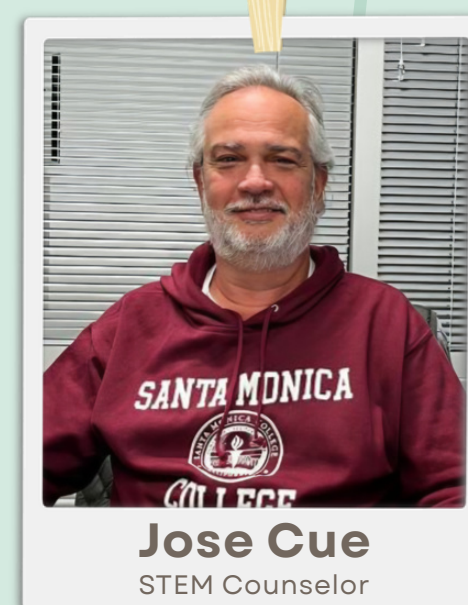
Appointments can be made by contacting us directly via email, phone, or through our [Appointment Request Form*](#).

*If you are already in the STEM program, you can make an appointment directly through your [Corsair Connect](#).

Program Requirements

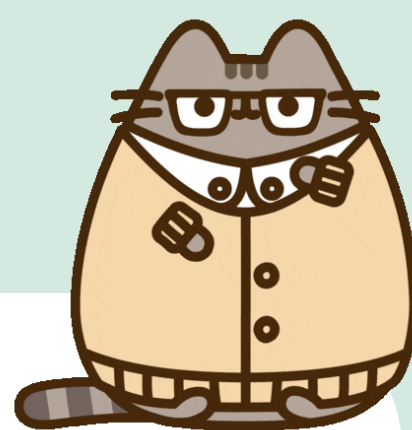
- 2 STEM Counseling appointments
- Attend at least one Peer Mentor workshop per semester
- Complete Counseling 12 & 15 & Science 10 within the first year of joining the program

Meet the Team



SI Sessions

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is an academic assistance program at SMC that provides free out-of-class sessions to students enrolled in specific courses.



STEM Lab Peer Mentoring and Tutoring:

Mon-Fri: 8am - 5pm
In person @ DH 302
& Remote via Zoom

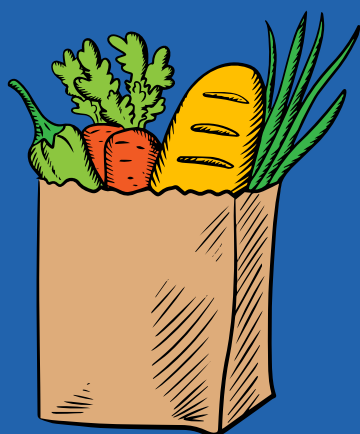
[Zoom Register](#)



RESOURCES



Bodega Food Pantry



Any currently enrolled student is welcome to come by during operating hours and receive non-perishable food items, fresh produce, and toiletries.

Monday	10 am - 2 pm
Tuesday	10 am - 2 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 2 pm
Thursday	10 am - 2 pm
Friday	10 am - 1 pm



15 SMC Bodega Bites locations that provide students with healthy snacks

Cosmetology Salon

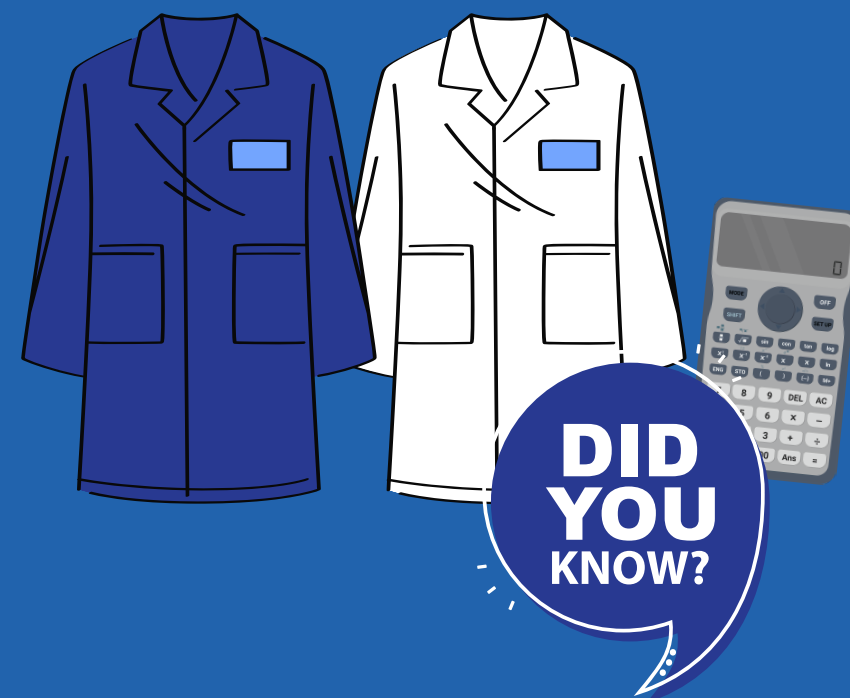
Hair Salon from \$10 with a valid student ID! More information at: SMC Cosmetology.



Lending Resources

Did you know you could borrow the following items from STEM?

- Lab coat (White - CHEM 9, 10, 11, 12, 31)
- Flame Retardant Lab Coat (Blue - CHEM 21, 24)
- Goggles for labs
- Scientific Calculator
- Graphing Calculator



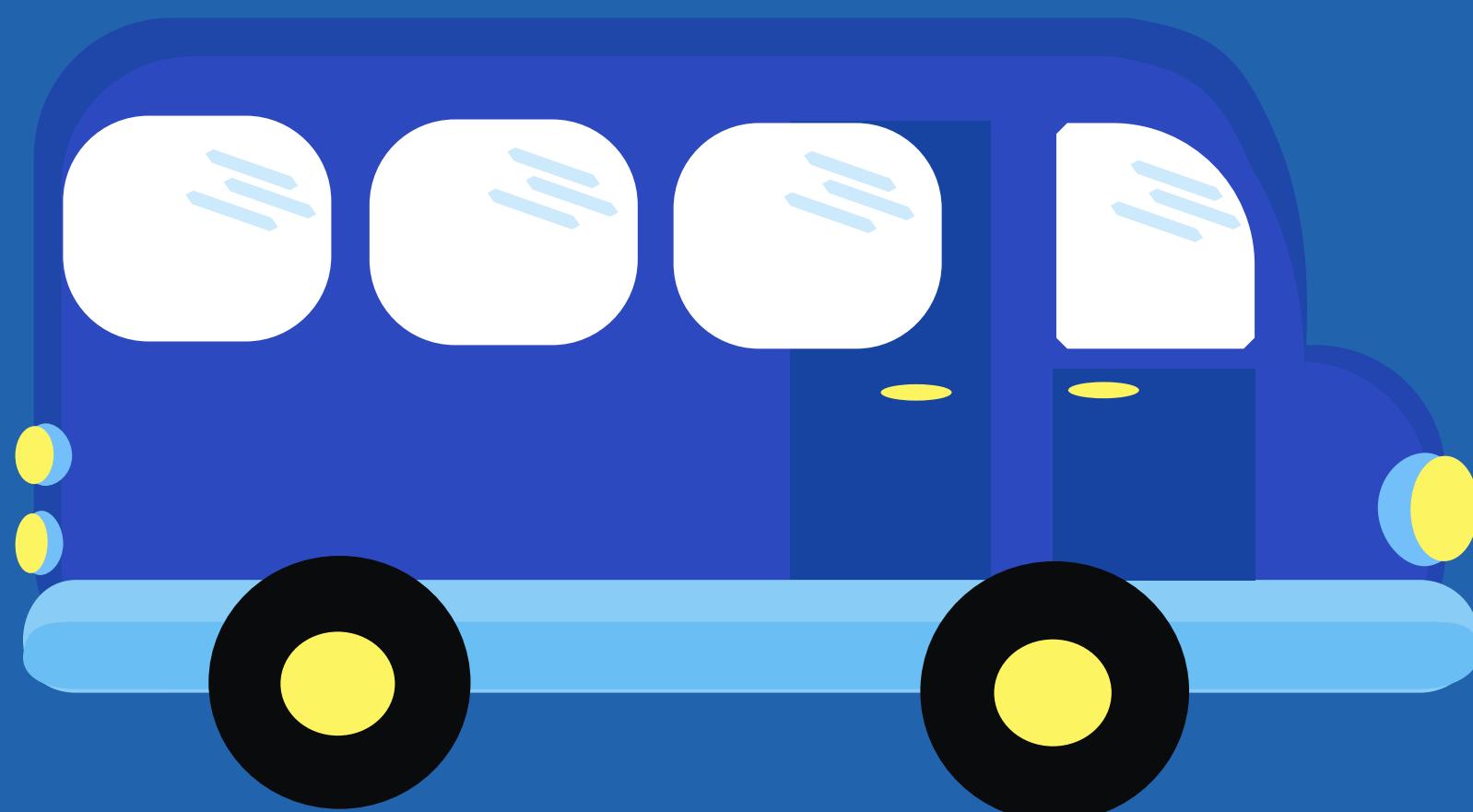
Housing Assistance and Resources



Need help finding an affordable place to stay or a housing agent? Find out at SMC Housing Security.

Get the GoPass

GoPass provides unlimited transit rides throughout L.A. Pay the student benefit fee and get your Tap card to access free rides!



STEM-TUNITIES

FREE CONFERENCE!

UCLA Chicano Studies
Research Center

Latina
FUTURES
2050 Lab

UCLA College
Physical Sciences



QUEBRANDO BARRERAS: BREAKING BARRIERS IN STEM CONFERENCE

UCLA California NanoSystems Institute
Friday, April 17 – Saturday, April 18, 2026

Quebrando Barreras: Breaking Barriers in STEM 2026 Conference aims to establish, strengthen, and promote research collaborations between scientists committed to broadening participation in STEM.



Professors, postdoctoral scholars, and students are invited!
Registration is free, and catered meals are provided!
We ask attendees to arrange and fund their own travel & lodging.
Limited registration!
<https://tinyurl.com/UCLA2026QBSTEM>

Two conference tracks offering unique programming:

Quebrando Barreras:

- Focus on chemistry & biochemistry and related fields
- Research presentations for collaborations
- Navigating the academic pipeline
- Fostering mentorship and community
- Supporting student success
- Networking & professional opportunities

Latina Futures 2050 Lab:

- Thematic focus on Latina STEM experience
- Careers in industry and academia
- Navigating graduate school as STEM Latinas
- Building mentor relationships
- Holistic well-being and family expectations
- Challenges & strategies in the STEM pipeline
- Networking and professional opportunities

Check out our [confirmed speakers](https://tinyurl.com/26QB-Speakers) (<https://tinyurl.com/26QB-Speakers>)!

STEM-TUNITIES

STUDENT POSTER SYMPOSIUM

SAVE THE DATE!



STEM

Student Poster Symposium

SMC Students: You are invited to present your STEM research at our inaugural STEM Poster Symposium. Share your STEM research from your class projects, independent studies, internships, or research experiences with your peers, faculty, staff, and more. Awards will be presented to recognize outstanding posters and research.

Individual and group projects are welcome. Participants must work with an SMC faculty mentor or if presenting off-campus research, submit written approval on official letterhead from your research supervisor/PI allowing participation. Apply by April 24, 2026.

Participants are also invited to attend our:

Poster Design Virtual Workshop

Thursday, April 2, 2026 from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Learn how to design a clear, compelling, and visually engaging research poster

Poster Design Drop-in Sessions

Scheduled sessions providing confirmed participants feedback on draft posters with final poster files due for free printing (48" x 36", landscape) by May 8, 2026.

For additional information, please contact stemposters@smc.edu.

MAY 15, 2026

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM - Welcome Remarks
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM - Poster Presentation
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Awards and Closing

**MATH
SCIENCE
BUILDING
(MSB)
LOBBY**



**APPLICATION FORM
QR CODE**

APPLICATION FORM DEADLINE:

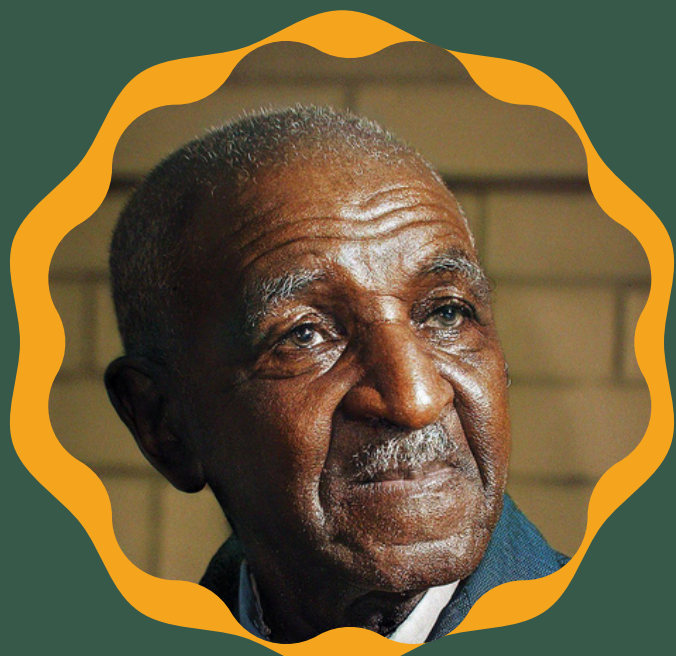
APRIL 24, 2026

<https://forms.office.com/r/KbhhwxFnmy>

Presented in collaboration with SMC STEM Academic Departments, the STEM MÁS Program, and the Career Services Center, with funding from the SMC Foundation Northrop Grunman/Elkin Chair of Excellence in Physical Science and the STEM MÁS grant.

Black History Month

During the month of February, we celebrated Black History Month and have highlighted several Black STEM pioneers as part of our spotlight series.



GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

One of the most known African American inventors. Best known for coming up with about 300 uses for the peanut. Some of these included flour, paste, paper, soap, shaving cream, and even medicines.



DR. MARIE M DALY

First Black woman to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry in the United States. Much of her work contributed to what we know today about high cholesterol and its relation to heart disease.



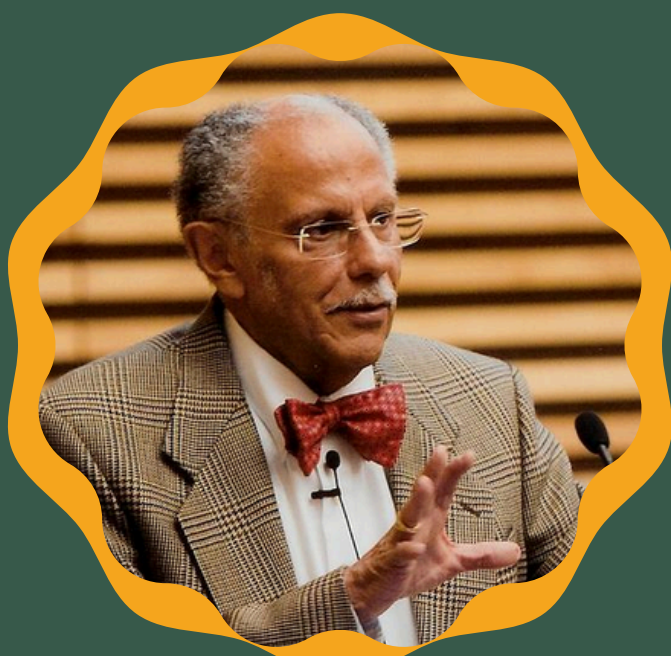
KATHERINE JOHNSON

Worked for NASA as a “human computer” where she would solve difficult math problems. She calculated the path for the Freedom 7, the spacecraft that put the first U.S astronaut in space!



VIVIEN THOMAS

He formulated a surgery that would successfully help save the lives of infants who were born with a heart defect that sends blood past their lungs. He went on to become the director of Surgical Research Laboratories at John Hopkins.



DR. WARREN WASHINGTON

Known for being an expert in climate research and has developed multiple computer climate models that show the impact of human activities on our future climate. He won the National Medal of Science in 2009.



LYDA NEWMAN

Inventor who patented a new type of hairbrush that was specifically for African American hair. She was only the third Black woman to ever receive a patent. She also was a significant women’s rights activist.

SMC STEM ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Anna Gumberg

Marine Biology, Pre-Veterinary, UCSD

Current employment:
Veterinary Student



What do you love about working in your field?

“When I worked in a veterinary clinic as a technician before vet school it was rewarding help. At first I was invested into how much I could learn skill-wise but then I saw the impact of being able to assist in treatments, reassure owners, or guide someone on whether their pet should go to a vet. Being a support in the human animal bond is extremely rewarding to me.”

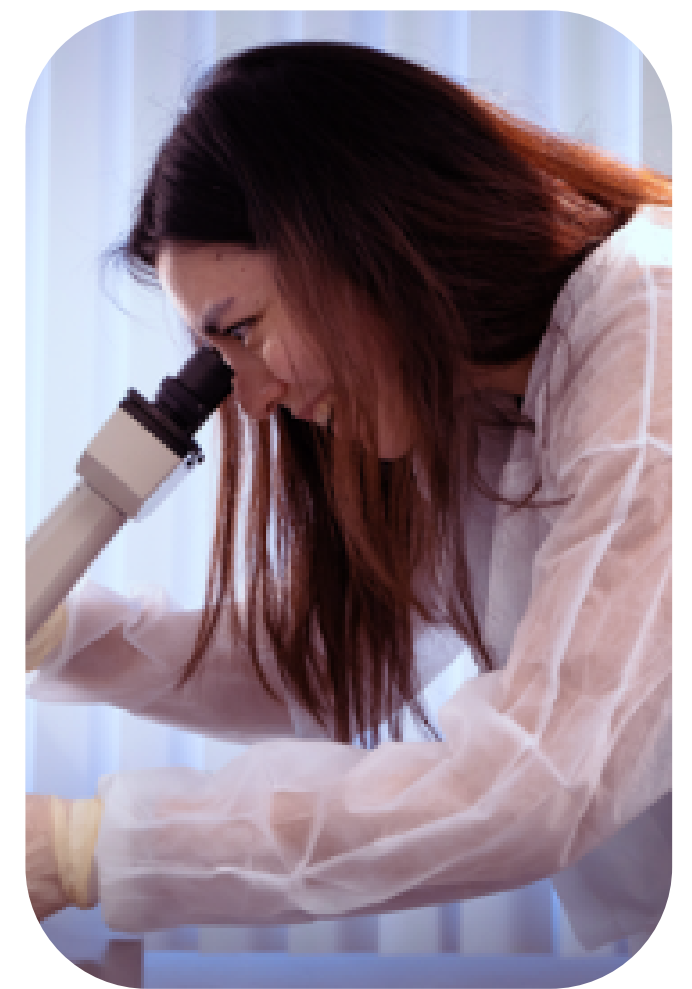
Maria Cabrera-Abad

Molecular Biology, UC Berkeley

Current employment:
Food Scientist, Power Brands Consulting

Any advice to an aspiring biologist?

“I would always aim for understanding overall concepts more than details, [and] this can help in becoming more creative when designing experiments! And for Food Science, experimenting with wild ideas is what can lead to innovative products!”



Julia Souza

Environmental Science and Management, UC Davis

Current employment:
Energy Consultant, CLEAResult

What is it like to now work in your field?

“Working a corporate job is not exactly what I envisioned doing right out of college but there are so many aspects of my job that I like. As an environmental science major I always dreamed about finding a job where I can have real impact in the world. Now I can do that by helping large businesses decrease their energy consumption and become more efficient and sustainable.”



GET TO KNOW YOUR PROFESSORS

We have a new series on our [YouTube Channel](#), “Getting to know your SMC STEM Professors!” Check out the [interview with Professor Catherine Haradon](#), who teaches Anthropology at SMC!



NEW

FREE MATH RESOURCES



Need more support in Algebra, Trigonometry, Statistics, or Calculus?

Add self-paced math modules for more resources!

Through these modules you have access to online textbooks, instructional videos, self-paced exercises and self-check assessments. To access these modules, you will need to self-enroll using the link below. Once you enroll you will have complete access to all the content/material in the modules.



**ALGEBRA,
TRIGONOMETRY,
AND STATISTICS
MODULES**

**[https://online.smc.edu/
enroll/JJB9JL](https://online.smc.edu/enroll/JJB9JL)**



**CALCULUS
MODULES**

**[https://online.smc.edu/
enroll/GWN3F9](https://online.smc.edu/enroll/GWN3F9)**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

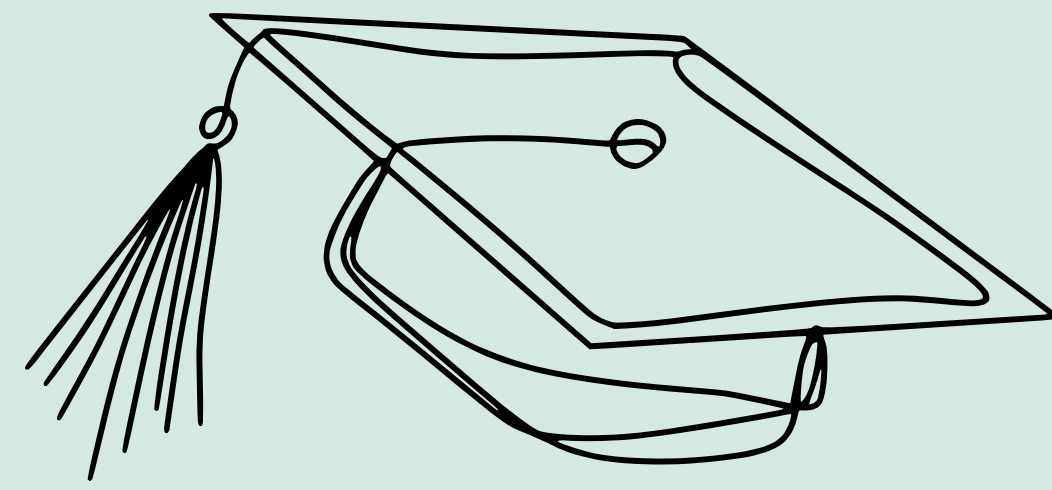


FAFSA/CADAA

Although the Priority Deadline has passed (March 2), you can still submit either applications to Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

[FAFSA Link](#)

[CADAA Link](#)



SAP APPEAL

If you have fallen below Financial Aid SAP Standards, we strongly encourage you to submit your SAP appeal early through your E-Docs. As part of your appeal, you will need to submit an *updated* counselor-approved educational plan. Make an appointment with a STEM Counselor today for assistance!

Last semester @ SMC?

Is this spring your final semester at SMC? If yes, make sure to meet with a counselor to determine any degrees, certificates and/or certification you may be eligible for! The online petition forms can be submitted at the start of the spring semester until April 15th.

Immigrants Rising

Find scholarships and fellowships that don't require proof of citizenship or legal permanent residency. Check out Immigrants Rising:

[Immigrants Rising Link](#)

