Los Angeles Harbor College, CSU Dominguez Hills and Port of Los Angeles Team Up on Global Logistics Education Program

New curriculum and internships expand pipeline of qualified students ready to enter maritime careers

By Maria Iacobo

Los Angeles Harbor College (Harbor), California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) and the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop and enhance global logistics curricula at both campuses, and provide internship opportunities to help prepare students for new and emerging trends in port operations.

“Helping our students align their studies and career interests is critical to prepare them to work in a global economy,” said Otto W. K. Lee, Ed.D., president of Los Angeles Harbor College. “This new partnership with Cal State Dominguez Hills and the Port of Los Angeles is another way to ensure our students are job-focused and career-ready.”

The agreement is also designed to assist Harbor to develop programs which are needed to support the labor trade groups that help build world-class infrastructure at the Port. Harbor is one of the nine colleges within the Los Angeles Community College District.

“To effectively compete in a global maritime industry, we’ll need to continue building a highly trained workforce, matching relevant skills with the evolving needs of the maritime industry,” said Gene Seroka, executive director at the Port of Los Angeles. “Tapping into the expertise and knowledge of our local institutions of higher learning makes perfect sense for helping us build that capacity.”

The MOU creates a comprehensive partnership among all three entities. Harbor and CSUDH will collaborate to align global logistics curricula at Harbor with undergraduate courses at CSUDH, as well as review and refine global logistics and related courses on an ongoing basis. POLA staff will update both campuses on new and emerging topics to be integrated into their courses. The MOU also develops a pathway for Harbor students majoring in global logistics to transfer to CSUDH.

Both campuses will consult with POLA annually regarding new and emerging topics that will be integrated into their courses, and will collaborate on an articulation agreement that will provide a formalized and “seamless pathway” for Harbor global logistics students to transfer to CSUDH.

Paid internships will be offered annually for five Harbor students. POLA employees will also serve at both campuses as guest lecturers for select global logistics and related courses.

Los Angeles Harbor College promotes access and student success through associate and transfer degrees, certificates, economic and workforce development and
basic skills instruction. Its educational programs and support services meet the needs of diverse communities as measured by campus institutional learning outcomes.

The Port of Los Angeles is America’s premier port and has a strong commitment to developing innovatively strategic and sustainable operations that benefit Southern California’s economy and quality of life. Port operations and commerce facilitate more than 133,000 jobs (about one in 14) in the City of Los Angeles and 479,000 jobs (or one in 18) in the five-county Southern California region.

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