This year the alumni group brought an idea to the table that HEM felt it needed to address—our past graduates have in effect “graduated” to a new stage in their lives with different needs.

In past years, a Reunion Beach Party brought all current & past participants together to share their rich experiences and encourage one another to continue their education. It was great summer frolicking in the sand & sun. All day playing and catching up with one another and hearing one another’s college experiences. However, because our alumni group has grown and many more of our alumni have now graduated college, work or have entered graduate school, we decided to move to the next level with a Networking Reunion!

Eddie Q, State Farm Representative and new member of the OCBF Associate Board of Directors, provided a workshop for all current and past participants on Networking. Graduates are finding out the importance of good networking skills when applying for jobs or applying to graduate school. Eddie shared many good tips and demonstrated how to approach a group, how to start conversations, develop a good self-introduction, and give a firm handshake and make eye contact. Participants were engaged and benefited from the demonstrations he shared.

Of course a Reunion is still about sharing rich college experiences so what better way than to hear from two of our alumni, Michelle Alferez, UCSB, spoke about her experience studying abroad in Brazil and Jenny Botello, UCI, shared her experience living in the dorms and working on campus. The event was held at the OCBF office on Wednesday, July 18, 2-5pm. Our students enjoyed the opportunity to learn something new while catching up with old program friends!

Additional workshops will be sponsored in the coming months! Keep in touch and keep educating yourself for a future so bright you gotta wear
Mentor Recognition

Mentors were invited to Avila’s El Ranchito on Friday, June 21, 2012 to thank them for their hard work and contribution to the HEM program. Below are some pictures of the event. Thanks! HEM Mentors.

Movie Night

On Thursday, June 28, 2012 the Higher Education Mentoring Program hosted Movie Night at OCBF. Senior students had the opportunity to network, share their senior year concerns and enjoy pizza. HEM 2012 Graduates, Erica Aleman (SAC), Dianne Botello (Vanguard), Kendy Hernandez (UCI), Lissete Montes (SAC) and John Carlo Meza (Allegheny College) shared their senior year experience and provided students with useful tips. For example, to start college applications early, use summer as an opportunity to research schools/majors and practice time management skills.

Students watched the movie College Road Trip with Martin Lawrence and Raven Symore. It was a comic eye opener for students to see how difficult it can be for a parent to see their child go away to college. The movie gave students the chance to think about sharing their colleges of interest early with their parents.

Scholarship Winners

The Orange County Bar Foundation Higher Education Mentoring Program awarded five scholarships this summer. The scholarships were sponsored by the College Access Foundation of California. HEM and the College Access Foundation have joined forces to help as many of our past HEM graduates as possible to complete their educational goals.

The Scholarship awards went to:
Monserrat Garcia, UC Davis
Jessica Reyes, CSUF
Edith Rocha, CSUF
Andrea Martinez, CSUF
Iliana Zepeda, UC Irvine

ATTENTION: MENTORS

Mentor Orientation

Thursday, September 20, 2012
5:30pm-7:30pm
At
Orange County Bar Foundation

Please confirm your attendance!