

## Presidents Message

Wow! Can you feel that? The buzz in the air...the energy within...feeling of a new adventure upon us! It's not the playoff or the changing of the leaves in New England, but the beginning of a new year for OC YMF and with that a changing of the guard. I am Mario Lomeli and it's an honor to represent you as your new OC YMF President this coming year. A brief background on me; I started with OC YMF as a Practitioner Advisor for Cal State Fullerton and later became the Student Activities Committee Chair which ultimately has brought me to this current position on the OC YMF Board. Having said that I have the great pleasure of introducing our new, Executive Board which consists of Vice President Josue Vagliente, Treasurer Brian Smolke, Secretary Edelyn Miguel and Past President Gary Gilbert. I am excited to work with this group of talented and dedicated individuals, all whom have been part of the OC YMF family for many years. This year will be an exciting and dynamic period for OC YMF. We plan on embarking on new academic and community-related adventures via tour, social events and outreach events. Through these events we hope to provide our members with many career and personal enhancing opportunities as well as continue to uphold our OC YMF tradition of successful contributions to our field.

As president, I want to continue building upon the success of previous presidents most notably that of Kathereen Shinkai's 05/06 term, when OC YMF won the distinction of being the best Younger Member Group in the nation. On that note I would also like to acknowledge and thank my predecessor, Gary Gilbert for his hard work and efforts during the 06/07 year which provided me with the experience to accept this current position. As you can see I have big shoes to fill but sharing the same passion and vision, I am confident that I, along with my board can lead OC YMF this year through another successful run.

Our main goals for YMF this year are as follows;

- Strengthen Community Relations. We already have an established relationship with Habitat for Humanity, with whom we plan to organize various activities. In addition we are also working towards establishing a joint working relationship with the Orange County Rescue Mission and explore opportunities for community service events throughout the year.
- Continue Outreach Events. Our current Outreach Committee for K-12 outreach was created to have members meet once a month and coordinate ideas and events such as school visitations, ACE program and our annual Popsicle Bridge Competition. We will continue our efforts to spread the word about engineering and YMF to local students and professionals.
- Increase Membership at Social/Networking Events. Adding more social events to encourage new members to come out and meet YMF members as well as networking is something we want to take a closer look at this year. Currently we are examining ideas for different venues and simply put ways to have fun this year.

My intent this year is to have a cornucopia of events if you will; enough for all folks to participate but not so many that we saturate your inbox with events of little interest to you. In my opinion quality not quantity is what will determine the value of each of our

events. In addition to our popular annual events some new social events planned are a Miniature Golf Tournament, Galaxy Soccer Night, and a Paint Ball tournament. I'd also like to invite you all to our upcoming events:

Happy Hour/Bowling Night

Where: Lucky Lane Strikes at The Block in Orange

When: Thursday, November 1 at 6pm

And

OC YMF Annual Wine Tasting Trip

Where: Temecula

When: Saturday, November 17

So keep your eyes peeled for our upcoming Project Partners announcement for all of our social and career-building events.

I'd like to wrap up my thoughts by saying that I do not believe this coming year is a transition or rebuilding year. I believe this year is one of continued success and one with the potential for all of us to work in a cohesive manner to make this a fun and outstanding OC YMF term.