13th Annual Scholarship Dinner
By Omero Siller

Mr. Jimmie Parnell was awarded Alumnus of the year for his hard work and dedication. He thanked his wife and his parents for their support and said “My Mother is my Wonder Woman”.

On May 12, 2017 the 13th Annual Scholarship dinner was at the Renaissance Blackstone Hotel located at 636 S. Michigan Ave. The Renaissance is a beautiful place with historic meaning. Al Capone used to conduct meetings in the ballroom where we had our dinner.

This event was to raise funds for future scholarships for East-West students. There was a silent action and a raffle as well. For the silent auction pieces of art were sold to the highest bidder. There were also many more items like sports memorabilia and concert tickets for the symphony among other fabulous pieces of art.

The key-note speaker was Ms. Iram Shah. Her bio provided in the dinner program states: “Ms. Iram Shah is a global corporate executive with a career across multiple industries and countries. Currently, she is Senior Vice President at Schneider Electric, a global leader in energy management and automation. ... She has worked for big brands like Gatorade, Coca Cola, BP, and Zurich Financial. Her experience range from marketing, business development to general management, specializing in growth, customer management and cultural transformation. Ms. Shah obtained her MBA from UFC Booth School of Business and Advanced General Management Program Degree at Harvard Business School. She has won several awards and accolades, including the 100 Most Influential People award in the UK in 2005 and one of the top 11 international Woman Leader in Chicagoland by Chicago Women Magazine in 2017.” Ms. Iram Shah told the guests how her daughter Sonja traveled to a remote Pakistan village which did not have a school for girls. Sonja Shah started a school there and supported education for girls. When Sonja died in a car accident, Ms. Iram Shah continued her daughter’s non-profit and humanitarian work. Her bio states “Ms. Shah is very involved in non-profit activities. She runs the Sonia Shah Organization which focuses on educating and empowering underprivileged girls and was started by her late daughter. She has also served on several other non-profit boards. Currently, she serves on the Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity board.”
Celebrating Our Graduates

“Don’t live your life like you are a lump of flesh”

By Jesus Cruz, Electronics Engineering

I am a student at East West University majoring in (EET) electronic engineering technology. When I think about what I’m about to accomplish, it makes me feel nervous and excited at the same time. I never thought I would go to college, especially at the age of 41.

I went to Benito Juarez high school and during my sophomore year at Juarez I signed up for Autoshop; by the time I was a junior I was rebuilding engines on my own. I went to UTI (Universal Technical Institute) in 1990 and after UTI I worked for a couple of shops like Goodyear, Midas and American Taxi. All the while I was working on cars on the side in my own residential garage. Five years later I decided to go to COT - College of office technology; it was only for a few months but I wanted to do something other than work on cars and trucks. After COT I went on to work in Hospitality at the Hyatt Regency as a front desk agent and then at the Palmer house in the housekeeping department. In 2008 I attended The Chicago Regional Carpenters to start an apprenticeship in concrete form building. In 2008 when I was about to begin my apprenticeship for concrete form building, the real estate industry took a nose dive and there were no cranes moving, so nobody was building anything.

For the next 9 years I went to temp agencies and bounced around from job to job while still working on cars on the side. In 2013 I was working for a O&K American, a steel company by midway airport. I was working 10 hour shifts and 6 days a week. I wanted a better paying job, so I decided to take a 6 week course that was being offered at Westside Tech to get a certificate to work as a CNC (computer numerical control) operator. While I was at westside tech, I was persuaded to go to college if I was serious about wanting to improve my life with a better career. I was told that a CNC certificate would not get me much more money than what I was already making.

I was interested in mechanical engineering and I was told that Wright College was the college I should be going to. But at the time I was going to register I was told that I was too late and that I had to wait till next year to register. Eastwest University gave me a call and asked me if I was interested in starting school sooner than waiting for Wright College. At the time Eastwest called me I was ready to begin without putting much thought into what I was really getting myself into.

Professor Mirmira was the first professor to inspire me. I will always remember him say “you should work hard, communicate and get involved. Don't live your life like you are a lump of flesh”. He spoke to the class with words of inspiration and truth. He helped me believe that I can really do this.

Dr. Polski is one to put a lot on your plate and send you off and running. I had the pleasure of attending Humanities and Senior seminar with the one and only Dr. Polski. I owe important life lessons to her, e.g. time management and asking for help. I remember I had an assignment to do on Neil Postman which involved doing a presentation. I had wasted time on thinking how to do it instead of just asking, but finally went to her and told I was afraid of doing the presentation. No sooner I told her that we were sitting in her office going over each step on how to do a presentation. I will always remember that.

I learned a great deal about myself and many different backgrounds and different cultures. I met a lot of great people along the way; it was an awesome experience.

When I started here at Eastwest I didn't think twice about what I was getting myself into - as a matter of fact I got exactly what I needed.

Aside from the wonderful professors and staff at Eastwest, I would have never made it this far without my loving family.

This is one one of my best accomplishments at the age of 45. Thank you all for your support during my four year endeavor.
Last Semester
By Chaurita Davis, Computer Information Science

My name is Chaurita Davis and I am approaching the final days of my college years. I am excited to be receiving my bachelor’s degree in CIS and also kind of nervous about my classes. I have been here at East West University since, I want to say the middle or end of 2012, which seems like forever. I am very hopeful and thinking positive.

I have been through a few deaths in my family from 2012 to 2014 but I am still holding on strong. Furthering my education and receiving my bachelor's is my biggest accomplishment yet. Most people probably would have given up hope after experiencing what I have experienced, but I have not, which proves that no matter what you are going through in your personal life, there is always hope and I am determined not to let my personal losses get the best of me even though there are days where I just feel like what is the point of achieving my goals if the people that I love and want to see me succeed is no longer with me, then I say to myself that they are still with you in spirit and watching you and they are very proud of you for doing what you have to do in order to make a better life for yourself, so that is what keeps me going.

After I finish school and I will finish, hopefully I will find me a decent, well-paying job that I will enjoy getting up and going to every morning and I can make a better life for me and my loved ones. I believe that I will achieve my goals no matter what life throws at me.

Mom the College Student
By Xavier Swader, Behavioral Sciences

Being a mother is an important role that contributes to society. One of the biggest gifts in life is being able to procreate and give life to another human being. Some children come unexpected, while others are planned pregnancies, either way children are a huge responsibility that should be giving as much love as possible.

Some moms lack support when it comes to raising their child/children, causing them to have to put off their goals and dreams to raise their child/children. Some may never pursue their dreams, while others are determined to live out their dreams. It is a struggle sometimes to balance work, school, and motherhood all at the same time.

I have had the pleasure of talking with some of the students that are moms here at East-West who believe in achieving their goals no matter how long it took them to reach their goal. Moms that work full time jobs, Moms that are currently pregnant, that all share the same goal and that is to finish college.

In honor of Mother’s Day, I salute all the women including myself that never gave up on their education. With strength, dedication, and determination, regardless of any obstacle that you may have faced, you are not just a mom - you are a college mom aiming towards success.
My Experience here at East-West University

By William Taylor

In spring of 2015 I transferred to East-West University, after spending two years at the Illinois Institute of Art - Chicago - The Art Institutes where I was studying the art of Audio Production. I transferred to East-West University in hopes of a chance to sharpen my skills in my field of choice. I settled on pursuing my degree in the field of Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting.

Since I came to East-West University without knowing anyone, I was excited but also nervous because I’ve always been more on the quiet, reserved side. Through this experience, I learned a lot about myself. I learned that while being quiet isn’t a bad thing, sometimes it’s necessary to voice my opinion or idea to others, even if others may not agree with it. From time to time I need to push myself out of my comfort zone and try new things or do something spur of the moment because it may be worth it in the end. Sometimes dreaming big and being ambitious does lead to change, no matter what others may say. Looking back, I am so happy that I decided to go out of my comfort zone and attend East-West University.

Classes that helped shape my education experience at East-West University:

1. INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS with Mr. K. Gaines
2. ADVANCED MARKETING MANAGEMENT with Dr. Carolyn Stevenson,
3. SOCIAL MEDIA IN TODAY’S WORKPLACE with Dr. Carolyn Stevenson,
4. PSYCHOLOGY OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE with Dr. Beverly A. Carnes

First, Mr. Gaines is a hard-nose take no prisoners teacher. He stresses the importance of being on time but also the practical use of taking care of Business. In my time at East-West I have valued every class where Mr. Gaines was my instructor. He is a wealth of knowledge instrumental to succeeding not just in school but also in life. Dr. Stevenson is one of those teachers whose classes are undervalued by the student body. She provides her students with real-world hands-on applications not only to achieve a passing grade, but also to train skills/trait that employers are actually eyeing. She is another valuable aspect to shaping student understanding of oneself. Next, Dr. Carnes is a Professor you yearn for. She inspires her students to put their best foot forward to enact change and understanding of the potential that they have within them.

In summary, my time at East-West University has enhanced my life in many ways. It has provided me with the necessary tools to heighten my skills more, exposed me to valuable knowledge about this diverse world and people and concepts in general and eventually will enable me to hopefully become more successful in life when I finally graduate (spring of 2017) and get my degree. East-West University also has stressed to me the importance of thinking critically and asking questions in many situations. All these aspects of East-West University have also made me better-rounded as a person.

And in the end …

By Ms. Annie Schultz

My experience teaching at EWU was nothing like I could have imagined when I began in 2014 as a starry-eyed, enthusiastic, fresh-from-grad-school ball of nerves. As a new educator, I had all of these ideas I would inspire. What I couldn’t have known would teach and inspire me. Many of you wear I’ve been humbled and inspired by your enthusiastic great adversity. Those of you who come from over-which has allowed me to revitalize my teaching and I have benefitted professionally, intellectually, and group of students. While I have taught at a number always hold great personal significance for me, as it both an educator and a person.

This quarter will be my last at East-West University. Policy Studies doctoral program at Loyola University not be where I am today without the support and the mentorship and friendship of fellow adjunct fac-braved the feat of applying to PhD programs if it were not for the inspiration that comes from working with extraordinary students every day. It’s been a wonderful journey. Here’s lookin at you, East-West! -Annie Schultz

In the fall, I’ll be joining the Cultural and Educational Chicago. But, I can say with confidence, that I would guidance of mentors like Dr. Gorman and Dr. Polski, ulty members, and, most importantly, I wouldn’t have
After The Long Journey  
By: Mary T. Vann, Biology

I enjoyed my experience at East West University. I am graduating with class of 2017 with a Bachelor's in Biology. It has been a growing experience.

I started off here as an neurotechnology student back in 2013. I had the opportunity to start in a field related to psychology and the brain, which I was always interested in. In November of 2013 there was an annual neuroscience conference that I participated in at Advocate Christ Hospital. I later did clinicals at hospitals throughout the city. I left to pursue employment in neurotechnology. I came back in 2016 to finish in biology lab. I am pleased with my area because it is the study of life and organisms.

I grew in other areas as a whole, even in poetry, and I did a board on Indian culture for Dr. Polski, for which I won a prize and came in second place. I met new people and learned new things in education and life.

The biology department did traveling for outside activity, we did museum visits and also hands on labs. I did several dissections from a cat and a shrimp to the brain. I also did microscope slides of various tissues and organisms.

Biology is my reward for finishing at East West. Biology fits my personality, I enjoy observing, making predictions and solving problems and researching different ideas. That is what biology is all about!

Society needs people with manifold minds  
By YiWen Tong, Business Administration

College life is a very important period in everyone’s timeline. We translate ourselves from teenagers to adulthood. We had to face more choices, deal with social working and undertake responsibilities.

I will graduate from East-West University in 2017. Several years ago, I watched a movie named The Graduate. I couldn’t understand why the graduate guy looked so thoughtful and indecisive about his future, even though he is a good student with many diverse medals. Now, I become the graduate, and I can feel his stress from family and society. However, I believe no one can defeat me -- only when I choose to give up.

As an international student, I experienced more struggling to deal with my academic study and my life. I started my studying in East-West University only 4 days after arriving in USA. I was so excited to get in a new environment, but also had a difficult time with my English. I couldn’t understand the professors’ points (Try to imagine the professor speak important contents using the language from Mars), but also shy and timid to ask for help.

I felt depressed but eager to overcome the language problem. I spent lots of time on reading textbooks, doing homework. At the same time, I continued reading lots of literature, and found a part time job. Life is busy but also “rich”.

There are many young people complaining why we need to go to college? why can’t we only focus on studying what our job requires instead of diverse subjects? Only when we go out of college, we can clearly understand that the society need the people who have manifold minds. We are not only economic man. Life also needs poems to decorate it, math can help us calculate the amount when we shop. What we learned today all have their potential value. When we start our career, most of us will realize what we purchase is money, we spent lots of time on working, establishing different relationships for our career, and family. One day, you may get bored about your life, and miss your college, the utopia where you grew your dream, studied with friends in school library, had an intensive debate in class, experienced a stressful final exam. All these experiences can be an irreplaceable memory in your whole life.

My college experience teaches me, never stop studying until the end of life. Knowledge is the power which can defeat troubles.
After graduating from East-West University in 2013 with a Bachelor's in English & Communications, I enrolled at the Illinois Media School (formerly called Illinois Center For Broadcasting) to learn more about being a radio personality.

At IMS, they teach you everything about television, web, and radio broadcasting, both on-air and behind the scenes, all in less than a year. I learned how to film commercials, music videos, and a newscast, record my own radio show, build my own website, and so much more. Even better, I took what I learned from East-West and implemented my writing skills into the scripts we had to write.

As a student, I was a production intern for IMS’s radio station WindyCityUnderground.com, in which I recorded voiceovers for the station, worked on a voiceover demo, and did a radio show with my classmate. I realized then that I loved doing production more than being on the air and I continued the internship until a month before I graduated in August 2014.

My experience at IMS was great and I accomplished so much during the program. I definitely learned a lot from them! At the moment, I work there as a graduate assistant tutoring students, answering the phone, performing administrative work, and so much more. Outside of my job, I am also a videographer and editor, which are what I really want to do now. Every Monday afternoon from 12:00 PM-3:00 PM, I film a sports radio show called Mac & Read at IMS’s sports station ChicagolandSportsRadio.com, where the guys talk about many things trending in sports and the entertainment worlds. I also serve as the editor and the quiz writer for their trivia segment.

It's always a rewarding experience watching these students grow and learn so much through our program and get their jobs in their desired field. I recommend Illinois Media School to anyone who is interested in radio and/or television production! If you'd like to learn more about IMS, call at (312) 884-8000 for more information.

Thank you East-West University for your support through my four years there and helping me shape me into the person I am today. I also want to thank the English Department for their support, teaching me the fundamentals in writing and helping me create my own style of writing and so much more!

Best wishes from Vienna, Austria

By Galya Dimitrova

Dear Dr. Polski,

This is Galya, the Bulgarian student [former Phantom Press editor] and writing lab worker who graduated in 2010. [...]
Lorenzo McCray’s Life after Graduating
By Lorenzo McCray

After graduating from East West in 2014 with a Bachelor's in English and Communications I started volunteering as a Kindergarten teacher’s assistant for Chicago Public Schools (CPS) in September of that year and later had a part-time position as a lunchroom assistant. And with the following school year I was a recess monitor for grades 3rd - 8th which required me to monitor students during playtime and work out disputes among them, with the task of still being a teacher’s assistant. The teacher’s assistant job required me to tutor in reading, phonics, and writing with 5 and 6 years old who were struggling in these subjects.

The crew on the set of Chosen Foe Life
While working with CPS I sparked up a friendship with a security guard name Montel Williams who had a love for cinematography and was a self-proclaimed director who worked on the movie franchise Transformers and directed music videos for the Chicago based Hip-Hop group Sicko Mobb. At the young age of 23 Mr. Williams is the president and founder of Slay House Productions. This past summer I had the pleasure of working with Williams on his latest project: a short film called “Chosen Foe Life”. It’s based on a true story about a young man named Dashawn Miles who learned the hard way that love is not in the streets but right in front of you. During the production of the film I worked as the Script Supervisor which entailed me to keep note of the continuity of the scenes of the movie and also the actions of the actors.

Being a student at East West University has given me the opportunity to meet new people and learn new skills such as patience, critical thinking, and analytical resolution in situations, especially with working with children. I have been blessed in so many ways to be a part of this University that have professors that care about the enrichment and empowerment of their students and I will forever be indebted to this school.

Janet Rivera Undergrad Days
By: Janet Rivera

As I walk the corridors of East-West on my last days as an undergrad and reflect on the past years I can’t help but to feel nostalgia. I have spent some of the best years of my life and also some of my worst moments. I’ve encountered many great friends and colleagues. I’ve crossed paths with one of the greatest love of my life. I’ve been at my death bed (or so i think) with my health issues. I’ve seen dark moments, but I’ve also seen light in the process of crossing this tunnel. Just this morning I read an old post that came out in my memory for Facebook and it said, Imagine if you are given a list of people who made you into the person you are today and next to their name you can see the exact personality traits you have because of them. How incredible is it that I can personally name those on my list, if it was a reason, a season, or a lifetime and that somehow I have been part of some of you as well. I cannot stress how thankful I am to have came across every single person in my life because of you I have Identity Issues with Mexican traits. I’ve learned many life lessons beyond classroom work from professors that make me think outside the box. I love the person who I am today, and I love the person I am becoming, I wish the same for you all. I hope you enjoy the person you are becoming, I hope your dreams come true and the only fight you have is the one within yourself for yourself.
Some of us drive, some of us don’t. Regardless of it, we usually come across traffic signal lights. Perhaps, it is the most common experience we all share with each other. However, as common a thing as traffic signal lights, how many of us ever wondered how it works? We all know, how useful traffic control systems have been. Indeed, it is around for more than a century. Traffic signal lights first came between 1912 and 1914. So it might be a century old thing, but the question was worth answering. And we did. For the first time, Computer and Information Science and Electronics Engineering Technology Department collaborated together to explain the working of one of the most common public utility – traffic signal lights.

The event was organized on May 25th at Auditorium in the East building. For our part, we from Computer and Information Science department created a computer application that could replicate a real-world four way traffic signal. In other words, a simulation. We named the application “Traffic Signal Simulation”. The image you see below is the snapshot of it.

Written in C# (an object-oriented programming language), it is designed to imitate a real-life traffic signal scenario. It has four traffic signal lights, total of ten cars which follows the traffic rules, period of time (Morning, Afternoon, Evening, and Night), and traffic volume (Low, Normal, and Heavy Traffic). The application’s main purpose is to offer a realistic scenario, it begins with morning with heavy traffic and as time passes, it changes to different stages. All cars are programmed to follow traffic rules. Signal Lights are timed and can change its algorithm according to the traffic and the time period. While morning and evening are usually rush hour (runs 8 – 10 cars), afternoon and night will portray lower traffic (automatically runs only 1 – 4 cars) in the simulation.

The application was designed and programmed by Jenish Kafle, a senior, and Rahil Vahora, a sophomore. The project was supervised by Dr. Injoo Kim, Program Director of Computer and Information Science. “Traffic Signal Simulation” is in its initial stage. It merely mirrors the outside world. In fact, the process of application development is perpetual. Hence in future, we do look forward to update our application such as adding more intersections, emergency vehicles, expressways, pedestrians signals and many more controls to the initial interface that we have created. Simulations are highly useful. They can be used to enhance our knowledge, skills, and attitudes. In fact, simulation-based learning is widely used by military and the aviation industry. By imitating real scenarios in a computer, we can reduce flaws and errors in our world. Thus, by working on it in the future, we expect the same from our application. If you feel to join us in making the application more interactive, we would like to request you to come and join the programming club of the Computer and Information Science Department with your unique ideas and skills through which we can make it more realistic as we see in our daily life.
Cinco De Mayo Celebration

By: Tiffany Mendez

On Thursday May 4th from 1-4 pm the L-Lounge held a Cinco De Mayo Celebration. The celebration included food, and a performance by Tamborazo Ojo De Agua. The event was hosted by Omero Siller, a CSA member. The food was donated by La Bahia De Acapulco.

The L-Lounge was decorated and East-West students were lined up to eat authentic mexican food. In regards of the food Siller stated, “The food was donated by La Bahia De Acapulco, it’s a restaurant located here on 47th street Back of the Yards. Basically they donated most of the food.” Streams of red, white, and green were hung up everywhere. Streams that were hand made by Janet Rivera a few years ago. Music was playing and people were conversating. Some professors even stopped by.

The band Tamborazo Ojo De Agua gave a top notch performance and only stopped playing music to enjoy some good Mexican food. When asked why he chose Tamborazo De Mayo Celebration Siller said, “I was a promoter before and I used this band because they’re great friends of mine. Not only that they play fairly well. And uhm I also used performer before but I don’t know if you on their music.” Top notch is right that group.

The atmosphere was loud but festive. East-West students enjoyed some hearty Mexican food: tacos, pico de gallo, and rice. Once students got their fill of food some dancing ensued. It started with 2 students, one of them being Janet Rivera. Then it grew to a group of students dancing in a circle with Dr. Polski dancing her heart out in the center. Janet Rivera was the first student to start dancing, and then more people decided to join. One of these people being Dr. Polski, who happened to be the center of attention in a circle of students.

Omero Siller had the joy of hosting of said event and when asked if he was happy with the outcome he responded with, “Not only did I have the joy but I’m actually the one who did most of the work to get the talent and the speaker here. Uhm Profesora Lopez was my former Spanish teacher that did this endeavor with me at Truman College as well.”

Though the celebration went along quite well, let’s ask the big question: Why is Cinco De Mayo so important? This day is not a day of celebrating independence. It is instead the celebration of Mexico's victory in the battle at Puebla on May 5th, 1862 during the Franco-Mexican war. It was an unexpected win and gave people so much pride that we still continue to celebrate it today. When asked personally why he chose to do a Cinco De Mayo celebration Siller answered with, “Cinco De Mayo for me...a lot of people think it’s Mexican Independence Day. I picked Cinco De Mayo because first of all Independence Day in Mexico is September 16th, and we don’t come into the University September 16th, we’re still off. It was a big turning point in Mexican Independence, so that’s why I picked Cinco De Mayo.”
Food & dining

In today’s time we are also on the go. We require everything to be quick fast and in a hurry. But if you are a foodie like myself who enjoys fresh and delicious and supports African American owned business, the following will satisfy your need:

1. Ain’t She Sweet Café 526 E. 43rd, Chicago, IL
   www.aintshesweetcafe.com
   Recommendation: Caribbean Jerk Chicken Wrap
   Marinated jerk chicken breast, lettuce, tomato, onions and shredded cheddar jack cheese smothered in our zesty jerk sauce. Try the Caribbean Jerk Chicken Wrap with a Spinach Tortilla. Wash the wrap down with a Tropical Breezer: A tropical blend of Peach, Strawberry, Pineapple and Mango plus a scoop of Raspberry Sherbert.

2. Litehouse Whole Food Grill
   1660 East 55th St
   Chicago, IL 60615
   lighthousewholefoodgrill.com

3. Peach’s Restaurant
   4652 S King Dr, Chicago, IL
   Facebook.com@Peachson47th
   Recommendation: Peach’s Special

4. Two Fish
   641 E 47th St
   Chicago, IL 60653
   Recommendation: 1 Lb. Soft Shell Crab with a side of Red Potatoes/ Corn & Chicken Andouille Sausage

5. Truth Italian Restarant
   56 E Perng Rd
   Chicago, IL 60653
   truthitalian.com
   Recommendation: Spicy Grilled Chicken Alfredo Seasoned Chicken Served with Penne & Our Spicy Alfredo Sauce,Spinach & Fresh Tomatoes.

6. Mikkey’s Retro Grill
   5319 S Hyde Park Blvd
   Chicago, IL 60615
   mikkeys.com

Recommendation: THE NACHO CHEESE BURGER with Grilled Angus Beef Stuffed with Turkey Bacon, Grilled Onions, Jalapenos Tortilla Chips & Nacho Cheese, along with Lettuce, Tomato, Melted Cheese & Rico's Mild Sauce in between our butter toasted brioche bun and a side of hot fresh fries. Try it with Jerk BBQ Rico's Chocolate/Peanut Butter/ Real Banana Shake.

Mr. Kevin Sheridan, one of the University trustees, MC-ed the event. Mr. Sheridan has been a supporter and friend of East-West University for many years.

“Student ambassadors Moses Villanueva, Kisha Johnson and Lizette Baillon, guided by Ms. Barbara Abrajano, presented prizes to the winners of the dinner raffle and silent auction,” says Ghada Morar.

Dr. Madhu Jain, EWU Provost and CFO The ceremony ended around 10pm and everyone was happy with the turnout.

Jimmie Parnell was awarded Alumnus of the year for his hard work and dedication. He thanked his wife and his parents for their support and said “My Mother is my Wonder Woman”.

“Student ambassadors Rosalie Estrada, Karen Castaneda, Arely Palomino, Michael Howard and Kisha Johnson attended the event, where they helped to greet the guests, guided them through events and sold raffle tickets,” says Ms. Ghada Morar, one of the event organizers.
### Former President Barack Obama donates $2 million for Summer Jobs!

**By: Dominique Scott**

In order to combat the violence in Chicago and push summer youth programs, former President Barack Obama announced his plans to donate $2 million for summer jobs and apprenticeship for Chicago youth. This comes after announcing design plans for the Obama Presidential Center, a complex with a museum, library, and public park, which is to be built over the next four years in Jackson Park. The former President and first lady will be donating $1 million each to One Summer Chicago, the city’s summer jobs program, and the Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance, a collaboration of foundations and corporate funders focused on employment equity. 

With Chance the Rapper donating to Chicago Public Schools and Obama donating to youth summer programs, the city of Chicago is heading in the right direction.

Both contribute to keeping the youth safe by providing summer jobs. Money itself will not fully solve the violence in Chicago but giving donations will help push the programs that are trying to turn the city around. Without those donations to programs like One Summer Chicago and the Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance will not exist and there would be more young people at risk of falling victim to Chicago’s summer violence. If anything, we need more people to stand behind those programs so that we will be able to start somewhere. The donations are a start and hope for the youth.

### 15-Year Old African American Shot By Texas Police Officer

**By Jonathan Johnson**

The title above should get your attention for at least a minute or so, but I’m afraid it is a title Americans as a whole have become used to reading. This numbness that Americans have begun to feel towards Police brutality in America is disturbing and a bit regressive. The 15-year old Jordan Edwards, was shot in the head on May 2nd after leaving a party with his friends in Balch Springs, Texas. The 15-year old was unarmed and was shot in the head while inside of a vehicle that was exiting the party. There is something that must be done to help keep the fire burning under police officials across America, something that will cause everyone of them to reconsider before drawing their weapon. Who will be the voice of reason for the millennial generation and the generation to proceed after? The answer is, it’s time we as millennials stand up for what’s right so that our successors can follow suit. Then maybe, just maybe, positive change can have longevity. #DoSomething

### 2 Police Officers Shot Near Back of the Yards

**By Liz Ruiz**

Tuesday at 9:00pm the police officers are conducting an investigation in back of the yards neighborhood council. when out of nowhere a car starts shooting at the police officers with heavy machinery. Both police officers are shot by 43 & Ashland. No ones knows who shot the police officers but they are still conducting investigations. They assumed it was related to gangs and now they have 3 suspects arrested. During this time a guy was being shot at by another car. The guy speeds to get away while he looses control of the wheel and hits two cars by the currency. The police think that both incidents are related. Up to today they have not found the vehicle that shot at the police officers.

According to the police the “Suspect vehicles are possibly a silver Dodge or Chrysler or Plymouth minivan and a tan Chevy Trailblazer — partial plate R24. R24 partial plate is on the Chevy Trailblazer. A gray Ford Silverado was the original victim’s car involved in a crash”. All offenders are reported armed with rifles. Suspects are believed to be related to the gang raza.

Days later in the search for the shooters the police officers found one of them called Angel Gomez. The police officers are in the search for the other people involved.

The police officers are scared of getting killed. The gangs are using assault weapons that penetrate the vest. The police say “It is not easy being a police officer”. It’s not fair that people innocent people are getting killed or badly injured. The violence and the rivalry of gangs needs to stop.
Ethics of Artificial Intelligence
By Eva Guadarrama

On May 17th, East-West university held an interesting discussion about the ethics of AI (artificial intelligence). The forum was hosted by the Artificial Intelligence class (taught by Dr. Julie Zhang) and Ethics and Society class (taught by Dr. Maria Polski). Students from different majors came, and asked several questions about whether Artificial intelligence is useful, or whether an AI should be considered its own person once it’s developed human-like qualities. Dr. Zhang and Dr. Injoo Kim gave examples of their scientific projects developing AI and explained how AI machines worked. During this discussion one of the participants, Jesus Cruz, engineering major, stated “Rush to the next frontier. I heard we don’t walk toward disaster, we run toward it. During today's discussion I heard the word slavery and it hit me. AI for mass production equals less human workers, and we are already experiencing it with Automotive Industries, self check out, MC Donald's and Starbucks, but who is going to buy products that are mass produced from AIs If humans are not earning a living? I think we should be skeptic about what’s ahead.” There were many people in the discussion who agreed with Jesus Cruz, that AI was not useful and would only take jobs from people. We already live in a world that is run by technology, so it’s possible that it could only make humans lazier. The idea of AIs being subjected to slavery was questioned. If we were to put AIs to work, would their creator be paid, or would the AI? What if AI developed emotions and personalities, would we not take that into consideration? Some argued that an AI cannot feel genuine emotions, and are only capable of what the programmer tells them to do. One of the participants, Professor Robert Creel, reminded the attendees of a fictional example in Star Trek the next generation where one of the AI characters was going on trial to see whether he was considered property or his own person. Jesus Cruz also stated “This reminds me of Jurassic park and bringing things to life without thinking about all the consequences, big or small. I wouldn't want to wait until we get to that bridge to find out. It may sound like a bit of a concern but there are some things that I don’t know about in this world that scare me.”

Nerf War
By Norman Russell

Ever had a week where it felt like you had assignment-after-assignment-after-assignment and so forth, and at the end of the week you just want to blow some steam off? Well this is how I felt going into the Nerf War. The war was held by Omero Siller and Julian Esquiliano in the back of the L lounge. It was designed to be a free-for-all styled event, where each player had to shoot their target while making sure they won’t get hit by the surrounding enemies. I played the first round with 6 other players. Everyone had to choose a nerf primary weapon as well as a side-arm. If a player were to get hit twice or get hit and don’t call it to the referee, the player would be out. Therefore, it is wise to follow the rules of the game, have fun, and respect the other players and weapons. Being that this was the first Nerf War held at East-West, of course it had mishaps, but overall I still enjoyed myself.