In the spirit of collaboration and community building, San Jose City College (SJCC) and UCSC have partnered to establish the Cultivamos Excelencia program. The Cultivamos program has the opportunity to increase the retention and graduation rate of Latino/a students by fostering a sense of belonging and transfer receptive culture between institutions through mentorships, research instruction, and transfer advising. The Cultivamos program enrolled 22 SJCC Undergraduate Scholars for the 2016-2017 academic year.

**WELCOME & LIBRARY VISIT**

On Friday, Oct. 7, UCSC faculty, staff, and students will welcome the second cohort of SJCC Cultivamos Scholars on their one-day visit to UCSC. The day will include a Welcome reception followed by a visit to the McHenry Library. The objective of this visit is to establish scholars’ sense of belonging to the UCSC campus and informing them of the transfer and undergraduate research opportunities available. The Welcome will include greeting remarks by Dr. Judith Estrada (Director of El Centro), Professor Emeritus Catherine Cooper and Assistant Professor Rebecca Covarrubias, Sally Lester (STARS Lead Coordinator), Yulianna Ortega (Director of STEM Diversity Programs), and Sara Sanchez (Coordinator of Undergraduate Honors and Research Opportunities). Students will also be greeted by Melissa Vergara, former 2016 Cultivamos Scholar, Rubi Reyes, Melissa Vergara, Wilfredo Hernandez Flores, and Juan Ruiz Cortes, transfer students who will share their knowledge on transitioning to UCSC. The Welcome will be followed by a two-hour McHenry Library Exploration workshop with Undergraduate Research Experience library staff, Kenneth Lyons and Deborah Murphy. The Research Support Services has been able to grant Cultivamos scholars unprecedented access to library databases and resources essential for their research projects.

**RECRUITING GRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORS**

The Cultivamos Excelencia program is now accepting applications for several Graduate Research Mentor positions. Graduate research mentors will be paired up with two SJCC or UCSC students to guide them in developing research skills relevant for their discipline and career objectives. In an effort to prepare
Cultivamos Excelencia
Organizational Chart

graduate students for an increasingly diverse student body, graduate mentors will receive culturally relevant mentorship training as part of their professional development.

Graduate students interested in this position should log into https://www.careercenter.ucsc.edu/ers/ersstudent/login/index.cfm search Job #: 8040. Please email egonzal5@ucsc.edu or call (831) 459-5681 for more information. Deadline: Oct. 16, 2016.