

# Spaceport America Cup

In June, the Clark Aerospace team launched its rocket, Little Penguin, at Spaceport America Cup competition in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

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## STEM Pathways Camp

Local high school students and some first-year Clark College students were immersed in hands-on experience in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math fields.

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## Engineering

Engineering students present their final term projects.

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## STEM scholars

The Mathematics Department is excited to announce the recipients of this year's Sigma Scholarship

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# **Computer Science and Electrical Engineering**

Engineering and Computer Science students preparing to graduate presented their projects in an expo in the STEM Collaboratorium.

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## **Women in STEM Tea**

Clark College welcomes four alumni to speak at annual Women in STEM Tea event.

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## **Rocket Breaks Record**

On April 28, the rocket "Little Penguin" traveled 11-miles, and was recovered by the club.

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## **Clark College newly certified by Bee Campus USA**

Just in time for Earth Day, Clark College was certified as an affiliate of the Bee Campus USA program on April 20, joining

165 other college campuses and 179 cities across the country united to make their landscape attractive to pollinators.

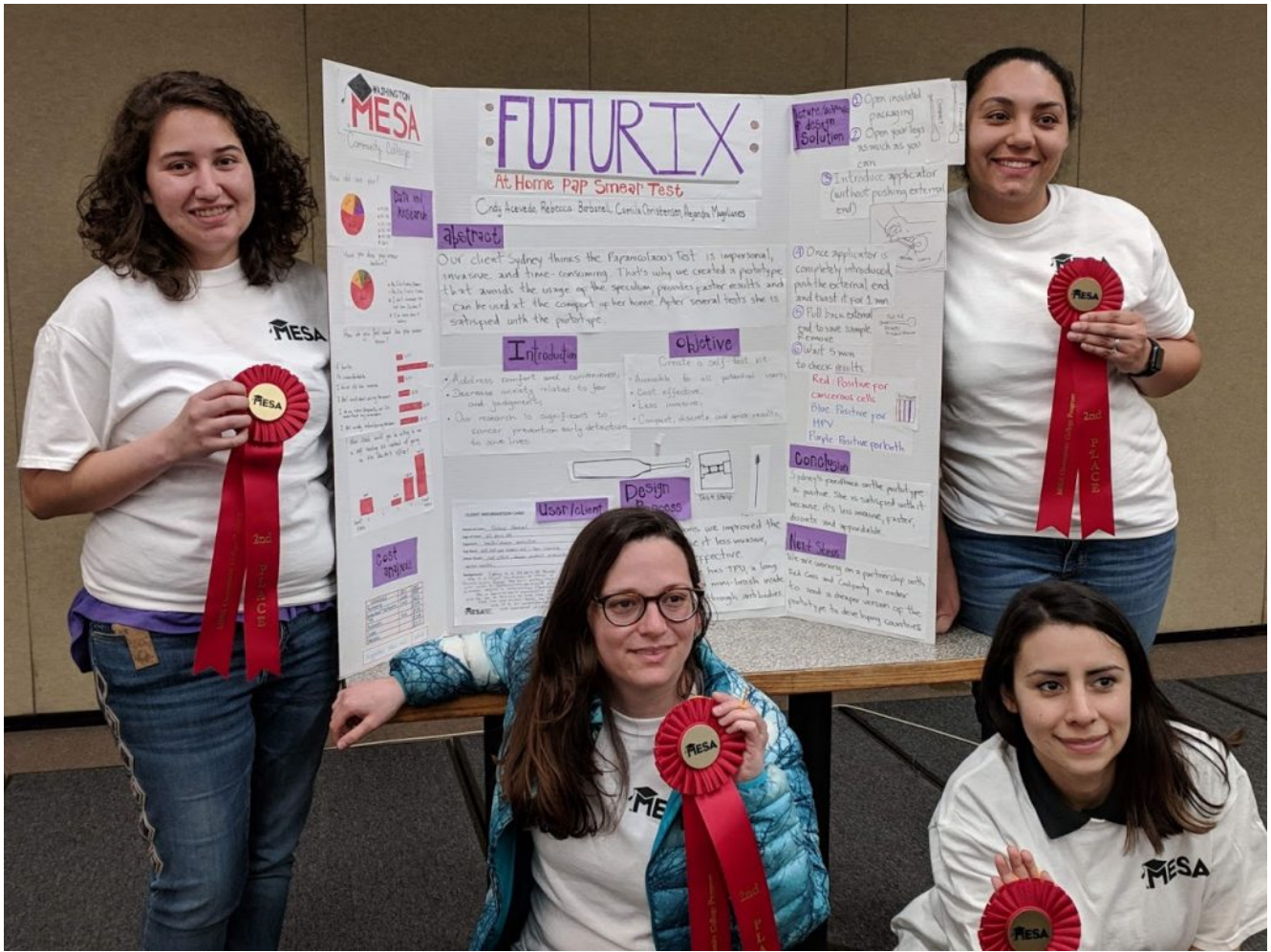
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## **Meet Warlock Carol Hsu**

Clark College Engineering Professor Carol Hsu is an immigrant, a woman of color, and a pioneer of sorts who pursued a mechanical engineering degree at a time when only 10% of engineering students were women.

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**MESA          students          engineer**  
**possibilities**



Clark student Alejandra Magallanes, *far left*, was part of a group that won second place in a competition for human-based engineering solutions at a recent MESA conference. Clark's MESA program is still in its first year, but already it's providing new opportunities for student success.

MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement) is a national program dedicated to encouraging under-represented populations to succeed in STEM fields. At Clark, this includes a dedicated space for studying and creating community, as well as opportunities for mentorship, assistance with books and fees, and conference participation.

This March, two Clark MESA students attended the MESA Student Leadership Retreat at Warm Beach Camp in Stanwood, Washington, along with students from 15 other MESA community college programs from Washington and California. Mai Lee Xiong and Alejandra Magallanes were able to participate in activities to boost their professional development and leadership skills.

They also participated in a competition for human-centered design solutions, breaking into groups to identify a problem, interview a potential user of their solution, and prepare a poster and oral presentation to explain it to others.



Mai Lee Xiong, *far left*, collaborated on a concept for a medical-translation app at a recent MESA conference. Xiong's group focused on health care disparities that arise from language barriers between health care providers and patients whose first language is not English. They proposed the development of an app to translate medical information into different languages—one that would include medical terminology not available through tools like Google Translate. The project was a perfect fit for Xiong, who is studying biology and plans to pursue a degree natural medicine after

her bachelor's degree.

Alejandra Magallanes's group also decided to tackle an issue related to healthcare: the availability and convenience of Pap smear exams to detect cervical cancer. They proposed a device that could be used at home to collect a sample of cervical cells. It could be used by people who have difficulty attending doctors' appointments or who may avoid Pap smears because of the uncomfortable nature of the exam—and in doing so, could increase the number of people who receive preventative care. Magallanes' group won second place in the competition, which includes proposals from more than 20 teams.

As with Xiong, Magallanes's project aligned well with her interests; like Xiong, she is studying biology and plans to transfer to a university for her bachelor's degree after graduating from Clark College in 2020.

"This experience really helped show the value of having the MESA program at Clark College," said MESA director Dr. Ellen Harju. "It was wonderful to see these two students be able to work and succeed with their peers in an environment that allowed them to be their authentic selves. I'm excited to see more of our MESA students get the chance for these experiences."

Clark's MESA program is located in the STEM Building rooms 206/208 and is open Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. More information about the program is available online at [www.clark.edu/cc/mesa](http://www.clark.edu/cc/mesa).

*Photos: Clark College/Ellen Harju*