

## EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

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## ELAC Student Shannon Wu to Intern at Washington D.C with Congresswoman Judy Chu for Hilda Solis Internship Program

MONTEREY PARK -- East Los Angeles College has proudly announced its decision to send Shannon Wu to Washington, D.C. for the Hilda Solis Internship program this summer. This internship has awarded five students the opportunity to work in the nation's capital directly with members of the House of Representatives. "Students will be housed at the George Washington University dormitories and room and board, round-trip airfare to Washington D.C., and a stipend will be provided by our foundation", stated Paul De La Cerda, Dean and ELAC Foundation Executive Director.

Shannon is a student and community activist. Her time at ELAC has inspired her to become an advocate for education and she takes great pride in being a member of her diverse college community. "I hope to implement what I learn about the legislative process in my community and hope to promote political awareness and activism among my fellow peers," said Wu.

Shannon will intern in Representative Judy Chu's office. Chu represents the CA 27th Congressional District, which includes the greater San Gabriel Valley communities of Monterey Park, Pasadena, San Marino and San Gabriel, among others. She is the first Chinese American woman elected to the U.S. Congress. Representative Chu currently serves on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, which oversees legislation pertaining to taxes, revenues, Social Security, and Medicare. She also serves on the House Small Business Committee, which has oversight of the Small Business Administration. Chu was elected Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, which advocates for the needs and concerns of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community across the nation. Chu has a strong connection to East Los Angeles College, as a former professor of the College and now its representative in Congress, she has been a staunch supporter of ELAC. "Internships like the Hilda Solis Internship Program expose talented youth to the inner-workings of Congress and prepare them to enter the workforce and to succeed in positions at the highest levels of government," stated Chu.

The Hilda Solis Internship Program is a great opportunity for students interested in pursuing a career in government service and gives them a rare look inside the workings of our legislative, political and administrative systems. Students will gain the skills tracking and researching bills, attending committee hearings and briefings, handling constituent inquiries, and providing legislative support. "It is an honor to sponsor such a talented group of ELAC students. The Hilda Solis Internship Program is one more outstanding ELAC program that exposes our students to opportunities that continue to educate, inspire and connect this inaugural 2017 class of interns to our nation's government," said Marvin Martinez, President of East Los Angeles College.

Currently Shannon is a student at ELAC and is President of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society Club. Eventually Shannon plans to attend law school and become involved in the political system.