

Luis Herrera pictured with Mars' rover test vehicle.

Luis Herrera BSEEE, MBA

Assistant Professor, Adjunct Faculty, Electronics and Computer Technology, GCC

Mr. Herrera attended Glendale High School. Upon graduation he enrolled at Glendale Community College where he played college baseball for two years and took general education and electronics courses with the goal of transferring to a four-year university to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree. During his time at the college, he received a high level of education and advice from his instructors and the guidance and help from his counselors, in particular from the EOPS office.

Mr. Herrera transferred to Cal Poly, Pomona, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering. During his time at this school, he joined the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) as an Academic Part Time employee. Upon graduation he was promoted to Project Engineer and was given the task of automating the operation of all NASA's Deep Space Network antennas located in the U.S., Spain, and Australia. He was awarded the NASA's Group Achievement Award for his work and received the distinct honor of having his signature aboard both Voyager I and Voyager II spacecrafts.

Mr. Herrera became an adjunct faculty member at GCC in 1981. He taught numerous courses in analog and digital electronics during the evenings for a span of thirteen years. He presided over the Electronics and Computer Technology Advisory Committee (ECTAC) for two years. During this time he developed the committee's bylaws and provided program advice and equipment with the support and cooperation of prominent advisors from leading electronic companies.

In 1987, he received a Master in Business Administration from the prestigious Graziadio School of Business and Management at Pepperdine University. During the same year he was elected National Treasurer for the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). At the time SHPE was the largest professional and student Hispanic engineering organization in the U.S., dedicated to promote students in all fields of engineering.

Mr. Herrera has more than thirty years of design engineering experience, twenty-five of those as project engineer and nineteen as program manager. He has designed numerous digital and analog control systems for major companies in the aerospace and entertainment industries. He has been fortunate to work for companies such as Walt Disney Imagineering, where he designed animatronics control systems for several attractions at both Disneyland and Walt Disney World in Florida. His most recent major achievement took place back at JPL, where he was part of the management team that designed and successfully landed two Mars Exploration Rovers on the surface of Mars in 2003.

Mr. Herrera enjoys teaching and giving advice to students interested in the fields of electrical engineering and electronics technology. He also enjoys baseball coaching his two sons and taking vacations with his wife.