

Juvenal Lopez, Engineering, 1977-79

Years Attended: 1977-79

Area of Study: Engineering



“I am Principal of Metro Tech High School, Phoenix Union High School District and have a BA in Secondary Education (ASU) and an MA in Educational Leadership (ASU). I feel I received an outstanding education throughout my two and one half years at Yavapai College. Larry Strom opened the doors of the outside world to me. I came from Mexico at the age of 6, and then grew up in Bagdad, Arizona. Larry was an amazing teacher that cared about his students. He took us on trips to California, VICA competitions in Phoenix, and treated us like his own sons & daughters. What a great mentor to have, and yes, his caring attitude and high standards for education have made a significant impact in my career and personal life.

For the first time in my educational experience, I realized that I had a direct and profound influence on the value of my learning. The more I put into my studies, the more I got out of the experience. No longer would I allow circumstances or other people limit my growth. I firmly believe that the lessons I learned in the classroom while attending Yavapai prepared me well for life, career and future studies. I never would have predicted that I would eventually become a teacher, principal and now an HR Director. My initial career choice was engineering. I give credit to the outstanding educational role models like Larry Strom that helped shape me as a learner. I now have the privilege and opportunity to guide and support young adults.

Yavapai is an outstanding institution of higher learning. My hopes are that the leadership of this college will continue to seek and hire outstanding and visionary educators like Larry Strom. And I need to add that the sports programs at Yavapai have a rich history of excellence on the fields and courts. Some of the best times we had as

young college students were sitting on the concrete benches just below the men's dorms watching the baseball teams. Go Roughriders.”