



At a Chicanos in Law meeting, (from left) John Garcia, Arturo Hines, and Keith Rodriguez discuss business matters, upcoming events, and budget issues.



Leti Escobar (left) donates time to raise money at a used book and bake sale.

What's in a name? For Chicanos in Law, a name holds more than identity. The organization's name pays tribute to the club's founders, who created the group in 1978 to inform prelaw students about law school preparation requirements and to encourage other minority students to consider law careers.

"Students are always concerned with the name, but to be true to the original intent of the club, we've kept the name," says Tony Garduque, the club's adviser. "These days there are more, but not enough women and bilingual attorneys. Chicanos in Law was formed to increase the number of Hispanics in the legal field, but it has never been limited to Hispanics."

To encourage minorities in the law field, Chicanos in Law supports activities such as the annual Law Day, where representatives from law schools visit the campus to provide information about admission, financial aid, and other aspects of their schools. Chicanos in Law also provides local internship program information, a suggested reading list for prelaw students, and field trips to various law schools in California.

Despite its name, Chicanos in Law's membership includes an ethnically diverse group of students.

"We have Southeast Asians, African Americans, and other minorities as well as non-minorities because," Garduque says, "Chicanos in Law is the only law organization on campus that has lasted."

"California, as a whole, is changing. It would be in the interest of everyone to know about other ethnic backgrounds."

Arturo Hines, chair of Chicanos in Law, on the benefits of involvement in a diverse organization