

Citrus

Spring 2013

CollegeNewsMagazine



Automotive Technology Program

Welcome

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

For nearly 100 years, student success has been part of the culture at Citrus College. Every day, our faculty and staff come to work with the unspoken objective of making a difference. As a declaration of this commitment to academic achievement, Citrus College adopted a "College of Completion" theme for the 2012-2013 academic year. During the past several months, the entire college community has been enthusiastically engaged in implementing new strategies to help students advance on their paths toward academic and professional attainment.

In this issue of the *Citrus College News Magazine*, we are focusing on one such path: earning a career/technical certificate. The importance of career/technical education cannot be understated. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, middle skill jobs currently comprise nearly 50 percent of all job openings in the United States. This means that almost half of the nation's employment opportunities require more than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year college degree. In addition to equipping students with the academic knowledge and career skills needed to compete in today's workplace, career/technical education also provides a solid foundation for advanced education.

To see the benefits of a career/technical education, one needs to look no further than the Citrus College Automotive Technology Program. As one of the longest-standing career/technical options at Citrus College, automotive technology has many success stories – several of which are featured in this publication. From the outstanding faculty and staff who have established Citrus College's program as one of the top in the nation, to the inspirational alumni who have made it their goal to give back to the community, Citrus College's Automotive Technology Program has been preparing students for a wide variety of career paths for over 50 years.

The employees, alumni, and students profiled in this issue are all shining examples of why college completion is so important. A college education, whether it is a career/technical certificate or a college degree, is the key to a promising future. It is also an achievement that should be celebrated at every opportunity.

I am pleased to share these stories with you. Thank you for your continued support of Citrus College and the students we serve.

Sincerely,



Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President



Spring 2013



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For the Record: In the winter 2013 edition of Citrus College News Magazine, Pasadena was listed as the city where Citrus College alumna Linda Bermudez resides. Ms. Bermudez is an Azusa resident.



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Automotive Technology Program Prepares Students for Careers

by Stacy Armstrong

According to recent U.S. Census Bureau data, Californians rank 10th in the country for having the longest commute times. In addition, the automotive industry publication, CarMD.com, reports that California was the third highest state in the nation in terms of car repair costs. As a result, the individuals who keep these vehicles in good working order play a pivotal role in the state and the regional transportation industry.

Enter the Citrus College Automotive Technology Program. As one of the college's oldest career/technical programs, Automotive Technology has been responsible for jumpstarting many careers. However, the "auto mechanic" courses of the college's early years were nothing like today's offerings. Course titles such as "Automotive Electrical/Electronic Systems," "Automotive HVAC Service, Diagnosis and Repair," and "Engine Performance Enhancements and Tuning," reflect the increased technological proficiency that the field requires.

While Citrus College's Automotive Technology Program isn't the only one around, it is definitely the most unique. "What makes our program so special is the distinction of being sponsored by Toyota, and the fact that we have a team of faculty who work so well together and have a real passion for the subject matter and the students."

Citrus College is one of only six California community colleges to boast a Toyota Motor Sales factory sponsorship. This sponsorship manifests



Instructor Dennis Korn (center) with students.

itself in the form of the Toyota T-TEN Program, which trains and develops quality technicians by combining classroom study with hands-on dealership experience. Students work with the latest technology, tools, and equipment to gain factory-level training for servicing Toyota, Scion, and Lexus vehicles. "This is a two-year program that covers the entire vehicle and trains students to become skilled, entry-level technicians," Clark said. "Students leave the program with Toyota certifications."

T-TEN is just one of several unique educational options provided by Citrus College in the area of Automotive Technology. Another option is the High Performance Institute, which is a series of classes leading to a certificate in Research and Development. "There are very few community colleges equipped to the level of Citrus College. We have the capability to provide training in the performance enhancing areas of automotive technology," said instructor Dennis Korn. "From Engine Design, Cylinder Head, and Block Development to Advanced Tuning classes, this program takes the application of automotive theory to a higher level."

The Technicians Education Cooperative (TEC) and Medium and Heavy Duty Truck Technology set of courses round out the educational offerings of the Citrus College Automotive Technology Program. Separately, each option provides in-depth training that prepares students for entry-level employment. Together, they create one of the strongest Automotive Technology programs in the nation.

Through the use of stackable certificates, Citrus College students can take advantage of all aspects of the Automotive Technology

“We have the capability to provide training in the performance-enhancing areas of automotive technology.”
–Dennis Korn, automotive technology instructor

Program – or just a few. These certificates provide multiple exit points along the career pathway. The program offers beginning, intermediate, and advanced certificates, with the requirements of the lower certificates being included as part of the requirements in the more advanced certificates.

“In automotive, we have two smaller certificates that lead to occupational outcomes. Each of these certificates is then embedded into an advanced certificate for which the educational outcomes lead to greater wages and to careers in areas that are in greater demand,” explained Jim Lancaster, dean of curriculum, career/technical, and continuing education. “The requirements of this advanced certificate are then included in the requirements for the associate degree and for transfer to a four-year college or university.”

As if certification is not enough to secure a successful occupational future, Citrus College has also begun to offer internship opportunities for the students in its Automotive Technology Program. “The program is small and we are still in the process of making it sustainable, but the idea is that students need to experience the field they are training for before they actually complete their education,” Clark said. “These internship opportunities are made possible through relationships with our local businesses.”

Relationships have been pivotal to the success of Citrus College’s Automotive Technology Program. Not only has the partnership with Toyota Motor Sales led to a framework for training, it has also resulted in support such as the use of vehicles and industry information for instruction. A partnership with Lucas Oil has provided the program with lubricants for use in instructional vehicles. Additional partnerships include those with local automotive businesses. “They provide us with feedback to help our program remain current while we provide them with the skilled technicians who help make their businesses more profitable,” Clark said.

Many of these local businesses are represented on the program’s advisory committee, which has approximately 50 members. The committee meets four times a year: twice for main meetings, once for curriculum review, and once for equipment review. “The committee gives us feedback regarding our students, the changing industry, the skills we need to include in our curriculum, and the equipment we need to have for our students to train on,” Clark said.

Automotive Technology may receive input from community businesses, but it also gives back to the community as well. One way it does this is through the Automotive Physics Engineering Experience, or APEX. This unique educational opportunity aligns intermediate school math and science standards with the engineering of a car (*see pages 10-11 for more on the APEX program*).

Another outreach activity that the program hosts is an annual open house. “Our faculty started this event,” Lancaster explained. “Both current students and alumni participate. We have about 7 to 8 alumni who speak about the program and their experiences, and we also give visitors a chance to see the facility and all we have to offer.”



The Citrus College Automotive Technology Program is housed in two structures that comprise The Technology Engineering Building and the Technician Development Building. The 15,047-square-foot Technology Engineering Building includes office space, classrooms and a conference room. The 16,642-square-foot Technician Development Building features 31 automotive bays with laboratory areas for engine management and emissions, brakes, tires and suspensions, and drivetrain systems. It also includes an engine laboratory and an emissions testing station.

The program's facility, course offerings, and services will soon be under review. The National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) recently changed their certification requirements and Citrus College is currently seeking recertification at these newer standards. "We will be required to have a self-evaluation conducted by members of our advisory committee. Then, we will be required to participate in an on-site evaluation led by an Evaluation Team Leader selected by NATEF," said Korn, who is responsible for coordinating the process. "We are not required to seek recertification, but we realized that it would be best for our program and for our students."

Every year, approximately 200 students are enrolled in the college's automotive technology classes. "The typical automotive student is a hands-on learner and has great motivation to learn the new technology. They feel a sense of accomplishment when there is a tangible result of



Instructor Jeremy Clark (center) leads a student tour.

their work," Clark said. "They are fun to watch as they work their way through problems and find solutions."

The program has produced many successful students over the years. Graduates have gone on to hold positions such as service directors, service managers, parts managers, shop foremen, lead technicians, and even educators.

Gene Morrill, owner of Certified Automotive Specialist in Glendora and an adjunct instructor in the automotive technology program, is one such successful graduate. "This program provides a great foundation for an automotive career path," he said. "The dynamic instruction provided by the professors helped give me direction for my career."

According to Clark, that is what Citrus College's Automotive Technology Program is all about.

"Working with students and watching them realize they have learned a new, marketable skill is what I enjoy most," he said.

Faculty & Staff



Dean Has Roots in Automotive Field

Jim Lancaster is an idea generator. It is a skill that comes in handy in his role as Citrus College's dean of curriculum, career/technical, and continuing education. "Creating new programs and changing current ones is exciting," he says. It is this passion and initiative that has helped the Citrus College Automotive Technology Program become one of the best in the state.

Lancaster began working in the automotive field at the age of 15. After earning an associate degree from Cerritos College, he became a master technician. However, a call from a former instructor changed the course of his career. "I was asked to return to Cerritos College and teach an automotive course," he recalled.

In 2000, Lancaster found himself at Citrus College. After eight years as a full-time faculty member, he was selected as dean. "I have really great people that work in my division," he said.

In addition to his associate degree, Lancaster holds a bachelor's degree in vocational education from California State University, Long Beach and a master's degree in industrial and technical studies from California State University, Los Angeles. He is currently working towards his doctor of education degree at California State University, Fullerton.

Counseling Faculty Help Students Plan Careers



Claudia Castillo

Claudia Castillo says the best part about her job is working with students. As a counselor for the Citrus College Career Technical Education Program, she helps develop educational plans and encourages college completion. "It is difficult to choose only one highlight of my career," she says. "However, being able to work with our students and inspire them to attain their educational goals is definitely a privilege."

Castillo, who holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's degree in career counseling, has been working in higher education for nearly 20 years. She began as a student worker in the Financial Aid Office at California State University, Fullerton. She then went on to work for Fullerton College in a variety of positions; including outreach recruiter, financial aid specialist, program supervisor, and adjunct counselor.

She was hired as a full-time counseling faculty member for Citrus College in July 2004. During the past nine years, Castillo has strengthened her abilities as a counselor and student advocate. "My experiences at Citrus College have allowed me to develop my skills."

When she isn't working, Castillo spends time with her husband and two daughters. They enjoy camping, hiking, going to the beach, and visiting museums and amusement parks.



Grace Kim

Grace Kim never chose to become a Career Technical Education (CTE) counselor. Instead, it chose her. "I've always had a desire to work in counseling and when the opportunity to join the CTE team arose last year, I was happy to take it," she said.

As a CTE counselor, Kim meets with students from the various career and technical programs, including Automotive Technology, and provides academic guidance. "The greatest highlights for me are when students beat the odds and become academically and professionally successful," she stated.

Although Kim has only been employed at Citrus College for a year, she has a background in education. A former community college student herself, she also holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and social behavior, a bachelor's degree in environmental analysis and design, and a master's degree in college counseling and student development. Kim also has worked at a wide variety of colleges and universities. In fact, she currently works both as an adjunct CTE counselor at Citrus College and as a career services coordinator at Claremont Graduate University.

When she isn't working, Grace enjoys snowboarding, hiking, playing tennis, and occasionally reading a good biography.

Automotive Technology Program Alumni Program Success

The Citrus College Automotive Technology Program boasts many successful graduates who have established lucrative and rewarding careers. Among these alumni are three individuals who have made significant contributions to the automotive industry and to Citrus College: Gene Morrill, business owner, adjunct faculty, and automotive program advisor; Mark Ferrari, business owner, academic program supporter, and Citrus College Foundation board member; and Priscilla Ruiz, ASE Certified Automotive Technician, auto design engineer, and educator.

Gene Morrill

Gene Morrill has a unique relationship with Citrus College. Not only is he an alumnus, he is also an adjunct faculty member and is active on the Automotive Technology Program's advisory committee. In addition, Morrill has been known to hire Citrus College students to work in his automotive repair shop, Certified Automotive Specialists. After all, that is how he got his start. "In 1978, Certified Automotive Specialists was owned by three Citrus College automotive professors," Morrill remembers. "They were hiring students to help them, and I was lucky enough to be one of those students."

The Glendora resident began attending Citrus College after high school. "When I enrolled in the college's automotive classes, I quickly knew that I had found my career," he said. Morrill attended Citrus College from 1978 to 1979, but soon entered the workforce. He returned in 1982 and earned his associate degree. "It took me a few years to graduate, but Citrus College gave me direction," he said.

After graduating, Morrill purchased Certified Automotive Specialists in 1985. During the past 28 years, the shop has grown into a highly-acclaimed business. "I think almost everyone would like to try their hand in owning a business and my chance came early," he said. "I made it happen."

Morrill also continued his education after leaving Citrus College. In addition to his associate degree, he



holds an accredited automotive manager certification from the Automotive Management Institute and a master technician certification from the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence.

Now, Morrill strives to use his knowledge to give back to the community. "What I enjoy most about the field is helping young people grow into master technicians. I also enjoy sharing my knowledge with other shop owners," he said. "Above all, my goal is to ensure professionalism in the automotive industry."

umni Enhance



Mark Ferrari

Mark Ferrari, like Gene Morrill, has leveraged his education at Citrus College to establish a successful career as a business owner. The former Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and graduate of the college's Collision Repair Program has owned the Ferrari Brothers Body Shop in Monrovia for 30 years.

Mark is also an enthusiastic supporter of Citrus College's academic programs. His company's recent contributions to the college's Automotive Technology and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) programs will enable the college to provide an educational tool that allows students to prepare for the workplace and for the college to promote itself in the community.

Citrus College's 1916 Chevrolet 490, manufactured one year after the founding of the college in 1915, received bodywork and a custom paint job, courtesy of Ferrari Brothers. Mark donated all of the materials and labor needed to refurbish the Chevy, which is housed and maintained in the Automotive Technology Department. The vintage automobile has occasionally participated in local parades and was displayed at the Glendora Centennial Celebration in 2011.

In addition, Ferrari Brothers donated its services to restore an ambulance that is used to train EMT Program students. The ambulance, which was donated to the EMT Program by Schaeffer Ambulance in 2010, received new bodywork and wheels, and it was repainted in Citrus College's colors.

"Ferrari Brother's individual and collective efforts have saved the college thousands of dollars in bodywork and painting," said Dr. Cliff Hadsell, the college's EMT instructor.

Mark's generous contributions to Citrus College, however, are not limited to the Automotive Technology and EMT programs. He has been a member of the Citrus College Foundation Board since 2007 and served two terms as a member and Chair of the college's Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee.



Priscilla Ruiz

As a first generation Mexican-American from humble beginnings, Priscilla Ruiz says she owes it to her parents to realize "The American Dream." "This will not be achieved until the generations after me continue the educational legacy I have begun," she says. "Essentially, life needs to get better from generation to generation. This is what my parents have always worked towards."

The Citrus College alumna began her educational journey at Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra. It was there that she first heard about Citrus College. "My auto shop teacher guided me to Citrus College's Automotive Technology Program," she says.

Ruiz enrolled at Citrus College in 2000 and quickly emerged as a star student. "I really enjoyed learning in a practical environment," she says. "The talented staff and advisers encouraged me to explore the industry and learn about the vehicle from the inside out."

After her graduation from Citrus College in 2002, Ruiz earned a bachelor's degree in industrial design and engineering from California State University, Los Angeles. She also earned a California industrial studies teaching credential. She is currently working towards a master's degree in education.

At age 30, Ruiz already has an impressive career history. For eight years she worked as an Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certified Master Technician and as a design engineer. However, she found her real passion in 2009. "That is when I began working as an automotive technology teacher at Bonita High School in La Verne," she says.

Ruiz credits much of this success to her time at Citrus College. "It gave me the push I needed to realize a future in the automotive field," she said. "My education can never be taken away from me. I will always be more valuable because of it."

Students

APEX: A Fun Science and Math Program for



The Citrus College Career, Technical, and Continuing Education Division was searching for a way to reach out to the community and get children involved in learning. At the same time, automotive instructor Jeremy Clark was working on a project at home with his own children. During a brainstorming session, these two worlds collided.

"I was fixing an old off-road kart for my kids and was having a great time redesigning and making it better," Clark said. "I realized that I was using a lot of math and science to develop the parts. It was that experience that served as the catalyst for the APEX program."

The Automotive Physics Engineering eXperience (APEX) was introduced at Citrus College in July 2012. On the surface, the program was designed to introduce 16 students from Northview Intermediate School, in Duarte, to the joys of building a go-kart. However, the real purpose of APEX was to align math and science standards with the engineering of a car.

"The middle school teachers identified which students they thought could benefit from a program like this one," Clark said. "We were looking for those who may be struggling a little with math and science. Or, more importantly, we were looking for students who might be asking, 'Why do we need to learn this stuff?'"

For three weeks in July 2012, students explored a wide range of topics that included simple machines, torque and horsepower, geometry, Pascal's Law, Ohm's Law, Watt's Law, chemistry, gear reduction and ratios, friction, Boyle's Law, the Venturi Effect, mass and inertia, aerodynamics, and heat.

"The program involves taking a go-kart that is stripped apart and building it from the ground up," Clark explained. "It is all about taking the abstract math and science that we learn in school and relating to something real and cool."

On the first day of the program, each student was assigned to a team and each team received a crew chief.



by Stacy Armstrong

for Middle Schoolers

“We used current Citrus College automotive technology students as crew chiefs for each team of junior high students,” Clark explained.

On the first day, the students also learned about an important aspect of the program—competition. The teams were tasked with earning points that they could exchange for performance upgrades or high-performance add-ons for their vehicles. The more points they earned, the better their go-karts would perform.

The homework assignments were another aspect of the program. For example, the students’ first assignment was to locate simple machines around their houses, explore the physics of those machines, and determine how the mechanics of each machine applied to the go-karts they were working on.

“The truth is that there is math and science in everything we do,” Clark said. “If you can relate a math or science concept to something that you love, then you will learn the subjects better and will grow to love them.”

Throughout the three weeks of the program, the students installed roll bars, rack and pinion steering systems, engines, double wishbone suspension, and other features on their go-karts. They also learned about automobile safety, seatbelts and HANS (Head and Neck Support) devices, and the properties of oil. The program even touched on the finer points of driving.

“Dennis Korn, Citrus College automotive technology instructor and resident racecar driver, provided each team with racing instructions,” said Jim Lancaster, dean of career, technical, and continuing education.

Students learned about the meaning of the racetrack’s flags, the impor-

tance of track safety, driving through a corner, corner entries, corner exits, and the critical role tires play in relation to braking, cornering, and acceleration.

On the final day, the teams raced their go-karts.

“Race day was superb!” Lancaster said. “Each team began the program with only a frame and by the end of the program they had engineered high performance go-karts. Not a single team suffered any mechanical difficulties, which was a true testament to their mechanical skills, understanding of engineering, and the involvement of their watchful crew chiefs.”

The program was a huge success. “We knew we were doing something right when we saw the smiles on the students’ faces, even when they were in the middle of solving math problems,” Clark said.

Since its conclusion, the program has been receiving rave reviews.

“I was so impressed at how many branches of science and math were related to a fun activity,” the mother of one participant wrote on the event’s Facebook page. “My son came home each day feeling exhausted and hungry, but with a sense of accomplishment.”

The feeling was shared by others. “What a great program,” another parent wrote. “I am so supportive and so proud of the innovative teaching going on at Citrus College.”

Because of this success, the APEX program is scheduled to return in summer 2013. Once again, it will be made possible by a Career Technical Education grant, donations from Lucas Oil, and the involvement of the Technician Development Center at Citrus College.

Woman on The Move



Talia Reyes
Citrus College Automotive
Technology Student

Talia Reyes didn’t panic when her car recently broke down during her morning commute. “Luckily, I had my tools in the trunk and was able to jump out, fix what was wrong, and continue on my way to school,” she said. “It was such an empowering feeling. I remember that people kept slowing down to see what I was doing.”

Being a female student pursuing a career in a male-dominated field isn’t easy. “It is almost like I have to constantly prove myself,” Reyes admits. “However, every single instructor in the automotive technology program has been beyond encouraging. I am held up to the same expectations as everyone else, which means I’m guaranteed a quality education.”

The Duarte resident is hoping to take this education and transform it into a successful career. “My goal is to become an Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certified Master Technician. I also want to go a step further and obtain my associate degree,” she said. “I feel extremely grateful to have found a career field that I am passionate about. Citrus College doesn’t just want you to succeed, they want you to succeed at what you love.”

Alumni News

In Memoriam: "Pinky" Hunter, Azusa's First Female Police Officer

Former Azusa Police Department Officer Margaret "Pinky" Hunter, a graduate of Citrus Union High School (class of 1934) and Citrus Junior College (class of 1936), recently passed away after a brief illness.

Hunter, who was born May 24, 1916 in Crawford County, Illinois, moved with her family to Azusa in 1919. She married her high school sweetheart, Jack Hunter, and they had a son, Jack Hunter II.

Although Hunter worked for Douglas Aircraft during World War II, she is known as a trailblazer in her chosen field, law enforcement. In an era when few women worked outside of the home, she began working for the Azusa City Clerk's office. After her son was born, Hunter joined the Azusa Police Department where

she worked with 43 male officers. She was later reclassified to sworn policewoman (as it was known at that time) and was promoted to the detective division. Hunter retired in 1972.

After her retirement, Hunter remained actively involved in the Women Peace Officers Association of California and served as the organization's president. She is reported to have missed only three meetings during her 35-year membership. In 1996, Hunter traveled to Great Britain to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from Women Police International.

Hunter is survived by her son, Jack, and his wife, Charlotte Williams Hunter.



Pinky Hunter
1916-2013



Former Student's Historical Narrative Becomes a Major Film

Ruben Quezada, Citrus College alumnus and current director of the Catholic Resource Center in Covina, is a renowned expert on the persecution of the Catholic Church in Mexico. He is the author of a book about a turbulent period in Mexico's history, "For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada." The historical narrative chronicles the events and the people involved in the Cristero War, Mexico's struggle for religious freedom during the 1920s. "For Greater Glory" is also the official companion to the 2012 film of the same name, starring Andy Garcia, Peter O'Toole, and Eva Longoria.



Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients Honored in College of Completion Effort

The Citrus Alumni Association has announced that every year beginning June 2013, books will be donated to Citrus College's Hayden Memorial Library in honor of each recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. The books will feature a bookplate stating the honoree's name and class year.

"The book donation is an excellent opportunity for the Citrus Alumni Association to present an enduring, perpetual gift in honor of our Distinguished Alumni," said Eric Magallon, the association's president. "We hope it will serve as an expression of our alumni's commitment to college completion and student success."

Keep in Touch! Please mail Alumni Updates to alumni@citruscollege.edu or call 626-914-8825.

Alumni Achiever

Bill Magnusson: Coach, Mentor and Leader

by Paula Green

Bill Magnusson, Citrus College alumnus (Class of 1980) and Fresno County's 2012 Educator of the Year, considers his life's work a "calling."

Magnusson has worked at Firebaugh High School, located near Fresno, his entire 28-year career. He teaches construction technology in the school's ROP program and also coaches varsity football and wrestling. Describing himself as one who "coaches in the classroom and teaches on the field," he readily admits that his passion for educating young people and mentoring young athletes is rooted in, and fueled, by his faith.

Although Magnusson's grandmother and mother were both teachers, "I did not think that I would become a teacher," he said. "I was going to get a degree and make a lot of money." While attending California State University, Chico (Chico State), it was his involvement with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, an intercollegiate sports organization, that led him to enter the teaching profession.

Before he would go on to become an honored teacher and coach, Bill Magnusson was a Claremont High School student who loved football and wrestling, and desired to participate in intercollegiate sports. "I knew I would get a college education, but I went to college to play football," he recalled.

There was a catch, however. The chance to play college sports is usually reserved for the biggest, the tallest, and the strongest. Magnusson did not fit that image. Nevertheless, his efforts led him to Citrus College where, under the leader-



Bill Magnusson
Alumni Achiever

ship of the renowned Coach John Strycula, Magnusson would demonstrate his strength on the Owls gridiron and learn the lessons that would define him as an educator, leader, and mentor.

Magnusson says he chose Citrus College because "I believed that Coach Strycula would give me a fair shot." Magnusson became a Fighting Owl for the 1978-79 and 1979-80 seasons, and even received the "All-League Outside Linebacker" award. In 1980, he transferred to Chico State, where he earned a bachelor's degree in industrial arts with a minor in physical education.

Magnusson credits John Strycula as a role model and a leader who, in addition to coaching winning teams, encouraged his players to complete their education. He also expected them to act with honesty and integrity—characteristics that Magnusson cherishes and emulates.

"Today, my assistant coaches and I have expectations of our athletes based on communication, character, commitment, and courage," he explained.

Although he enjoys his life's mission of teaching, coaching and mentoring, Magnusson still makes time for his family, who he considers his first priority. He and his wife, Debra, have four children.



John Strycula: Coach, Mentor, and Legend

Fighting Owls Coach John Strycula, who passed away last fall, achieved the most wins in Citrus College football history. During his 19-year career at the college (1967-1985), the Owls garnered a stellar 120-6-7 record that earned Strycula a place in the California Community College Football Coaches Hall of Fame in March 2012. At Citrus College, that record remains unbroken.

In addition to his skill as a football coach, Strycula is remembered for his integrity, sincerity, and tact. "He never talked badly about other college coaches," recalled Bill Magnusson. "He was focused on Citrus and on winning."

Foundation

Year-End Report Reflects Growth and Success

The Citrus College Foundation's year-end report for 2012 reflected its goal for that year, "Top Priority: Success!"

During the annual presentation to the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, Christina Garcia, director of development and alumni relations, shared the Foundation's progress in several key areas. These accomplishments included growth in the number of board members and board member participation; an increase in the number of scholarships and the total amount awarded; and a rise in funding for college support programs.

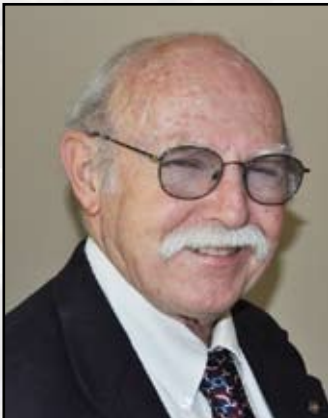
Over a five-year period, total funds raised by the Foundation increased 136%, while college support funds increased exponentially.

Looking forward, the Foundation plans to "continue its trend of upward success" through its new programs and initiatives such as the College of Completion and President's Circle campaigns.



One of the Citrus College Foundation's successful outreach efforts was the Winter Reception, one of several "community-based fund and friend raisers." (Left to right: Judy Pocock, Mike Naples, Emily Fay, Michael Fay)

Community Leaders Named to Foundation Board



Steve Baker

Monrovia City Treasurer Steve Baker possesses both extensive fiscal management experience and a keen sense of history. Baker, who was elected City Treasurer in 2005 and re-elected in 2009, also serves as Monrovia's official city historian. In addition, he is the current chair of the Santa Anita YMCA Board of Directors.

Baker attended Citrus College, and was involved in the college's Performing Arts Program under former music instructor Ben Bollinger.



Nikki Hull

Nikki Hull of Glendora has an affinity for Citrus College. The retired communications supervisor served two terms on the college's Measure G Bond Citizens Oversight Committee, where she participated in monitoring bond measure funds and informed the members of her community of the bond measure's progress.

Hull was also a community services commissioner for the City of Glendora for two terms. As chair, she was instrumental in the creation of Glendora's Louie Pompei Park.



Brian Vosberg

Duarte resident Brian Vosberg is president of Vosberg & Associates, an independent financial planning and wealth management firm located in Glendora. A Certified Financial Planner™ and a financial services professional for 13 years, Vosberg attended Citrus College, UCLA, The American College, and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where he earned a bachelor's degree in finance and real estate.

Vosberg also serves on the boards of the Duarte Education Foundation and Foothill Unity Center.

Dal and Francine Swain: Champions of the Citrus College Mission



Several times each year, Citrus College hosts hundreds of international students who travel to the United States to study English and experience American culture. These students are participants in one of the programs offered by FLS International, a Pasadena-based company that provides English as a Second Language programs, specialty tours, and college and university placement services. Citrus College provides classroom space and recreational facilities for these visiting students. At the same time, it is not unusual to see Citrus College students working for FLS as activity guides. Their job is to accompany their guests on the many tours and activities around Southern California while helping them acquire English skills.

“FLS has introduced Citrus College to the world by bringing both short-term and long-term students to the college from around the globe,” said Dr. Samuel Lee, Citrus College’s dean of language arts and enrollment management. “The campus is enriched by the added diversity of international students from a wide variety of countries and cultures.”

While many agree that the 16-year partnership between Citrus College and FLS benefits the college community, few are aware of the generous and enduring support the college has received from FLS founders, Dal and Francine Swain. The couple has supported Citrus College through their involvement with the Citrus College Foundation, where Dal served two terms as a board member, beginning in 1999.

When Dal speaks about Citrus College, it quickly becomes clear that he and Francine are not just supporters—they are champions of the college and its work. “I love the mission of community colleges,” he said. “Citrus College, however, stands out due to its excellent course offerings, tremendous faculty and staff, and great leadership.”

The esteem Dal expresses for Citrus College and other community colleges is demonstrated by International Pathways, an FLS program that helps international students

enter some of the nation’s most prestigious colleges and universities. The students are required to complete two years of coursework at a community college, and then apply to a four-year college. Citrus College is one of four community colleges in the U.S. featured on the FLS website as a “Pathway School” for students who want to transfer to colleges such as the University of California, California State University, University of Southern California (USC), Azusa Pacific University, and Brigham Young University.

“It is stunning to see all of the articulation agreements Citrus College has with top universities and how many students go on to graduate from these schools,” Dal observed.

While Citrus College’s stellar reputation as a transfer institution has made an impression on the Swains, they are fully aware of the institution’s success in preparing students for the workforce.

“For students interested in starting their careers sooner, Citrus does an outstanding job of preparing these students for a lifetime of success,” Dal observed. “Too often, students will attend a private career college that does not provide the well-rounded academic experience that Citrus does.”

Dal and Francine are the parents of two children: Andrea, a successful design business owner, and Xander, who will enter college next fall. The couple is involved in various charities and community service projects. Francine advocates and lobbies on behalf of incarcerated youth, while Dal assists Xander with a program Xander created that builds homes for underprivileged families in Mexico. This spring, the father and son team will build their 14th home.

by Paula Green

Athletics

Learning the Ropes: Citrus College Prepa

“The opportunity to coach at Citrus College gave me exceptional leadership experience.”

—Rick Croy, former men’s basketball coach

For many students, community colleges represent an opportunity to achieve their goals of transferring to a four-year institution or launching a career. This is especially true for students who participate in Citrus College’s athletic programs. Citrus College Athletics has established itself as a program where young men and women can excel both on the playing field and in the classroom. These student-athletes often continue to compete in their sport at the four-year college level.

Community college athletics programs also provide the chance for young coaches to learn the ropes of college athletics and become experienced in developing their teams and competing with other colleges. Citrus College is a leader in this area. Former Owls head coaches and assistant coaches have landed coaching jobs at colleges such as Concordia University, U.C. Irvine, Azusa Pacific University, Cal State San Marcos, St. Mary’s College, the University of Wisconsin, and most recently, California Baptist University (Cal Baptist).

Rick Croy, former Citrus College head men’s basketball coach, is an example of one who has moved up the intercollegiate coaching ranks. Croy coached the Owls for five seasons, and the program garnered unprecedented success, including the Owl’s first-ever California Community College Athletic Association State Championship in 2008. In the summer of 2010, Croy moved on to become the top assistant coach at NCAA Division I St. Mary’s College. During his tenure there, Croy helped the Gaels to earn back-to-back NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship Tournament appearances. Then, on April 2, 2013, Croy was named head men’s basketball coach at Cal Baptist.

“The opportunity to coach at Citrus gave me exceptional leadership experience. It provided me with the opportunity to ‘dig in’ with young people and help them decide that they



Rick Croy

wanted to be great,” Croy said. “There’s nothing better than coaching a member of your team and watching them make the decision to become a great athlete.”

Likewise, women’s basketball assistant coach Loree Moore is a professional basketball player who, as a result of her experience at Citrus College, discovered the rewards of coaching. An accomplished point guard, Moore was an All-American in high school. In college, she played for legendary coach Pat Summit at the powerhouse, University of Tennessee. In 2005, Moore was the 10th overall draft pick in the WNBA draft, where she played for five seasons with the New York Liberty before making the move to play overseas. She was about to continue her basketball career last summer when a family emergency forced her to put her career on hold. Looking for a way to participate in her sport, Moore was recruited by Citrus College Head Women’s Basketball Coach Tamara McDonald to help with the program.

Coaches

Take it to the next level

by **Andrew Wheeler**
and **Paula Green**

Coaches For The Next Level

“I started coming to practices three days a week, and I began to enjoy it. Soon, I was at practice every day, and I stayed afterwards to help with other coaching matters,” Moore recalled.

In the course of helping the Lady Owls refine their game, Moore discovered that she might have the ability to coach.

“I enjoyed the developmental aspect of coaching, and I liked giving advice to the players about the little things they needed to do to change their game,” said Moore. “As a point guard, I connected with the mental aspect of coaching, and it appealed to me immediately.”

As an athlete who has played both NCAA Division I and professional basketball, Moore has a unique perspective of coaching. For her, the community college level holds a high appeal. In addition, she has a sense of the challenges young athletes and students face.

“If I became a head coach, I would want to coach at the community college level. Many players need a mentor who will pay attention to them, treat them as individuals, and go the extra mile for them. They are looking for someone who will help them sort out the issues of basketball, school, and life,” she said.

For both Moore and Croy, Citrus College has provided a special opportunity for them to further their careers and expose them to new possibilities. Their experience coaching the Owls was positive and unforgettable.

“Citrus is a great place. The coaches and staff take care of each other, and they give so much to the players. Being here and having the opportunity to be a part of this caring staff is something that I’m going to remember for a long time,” Moore commented.

Croy agrees. “There’s a great sense of camaraderie that you don’t find at other community colleges. The size of the college contributes to that. I can’t think of another community college where the entire board of trustees would show up to a basketball game,” he said. “That defines the uniqueness of Citrus College. It is, truly, a special place.”



Loree Moore, assistant coach for the Lady Owl's basketball team. (Photo courtesy of Tennessee Athletics Photography).

“Citrus is a great place. The coaches and staff take care of each other, and they give so much to the players.”
—Loree Moore

Campus



A Leader in Offering Transfer Degrees

Citrus College was recognized in December 2012 by The Campaign for College Opportunity for offering 13 associate degrees for transfer, placing the college third among the 112 California community colleges to do so. The transfer degrees, mandated by the Student Transfer Achievement Reform (STAR) Act, enable community college students to transfer into the California State University System with junior status.

“I am extremely proud of the fact that we are being recognized for leading the way with the outstanding opportunities we offer our students,” stated Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president. “We will continue to develop and establish additional transfer degrees that will enable our students to receive the best possible transfer options into the Cal State University system.”



Honor Society Wins Regional Award

Citrus College’s Beta Nu Eta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) won first place in the PTK California/ Nevada region’s “Honors in Action” research project competition. The chapter received a scholarship check and a plaque for this honor. The winning project was based on Beta Nu Eta’s original research survey of Citrus College students’ opinions regarding their barriers to college completion. The research findings led to the Citrus College initiative, “A College of Completion.” Students, faculty, and staff have enthusiastically endorsed “A College of Completion” by signing a commitment pledge and engaging in the processes of ensuring the initiative’s success.



Original Theater Production Earns National Honor

“The Bronze Star,” an original play written by Dr. Bruce Solheim, Citrus College history instructor, and performed by the college’s performing arts students, received a Distinguished Performance & Production Ensemble Award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF). Citrus College was one of eight colleges and universities in the nation to receive the honor, among them Montclair State University (New Jersey); Los Angeles City College Theatre Academy; California State University, Fullerton; and Boston University. In addition, Citrus College’s technical theater support team won the Golden Hammer award for design and efficiency.

The play, which is based on a true story, centers on a heroic, gay, Vietnam War veteran’s quest for acceptance and peace.



Governing Board Member Receives Lifetime Achievement Honor

The San Gabriel Valley YWCA selected Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, vice president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees, as a 2013 YWCA Woman of Achievement Award of Distinction for her lifelong contribution to the field of education.

Dr. Rasmussen taught English and journalism at the high school and college levels. In 1983, she joined the Citrus College staff where she held several administrative positions, including dean of planning and economic development, and administrative dean of planning and institutional advancement. Dr. Rasmussen then went to Mt. San Antonio College, where she retired as vice president of institutional advancement in 2005.

Dr. Rasmussen served two terms on the Glendora Unified School District Board of Education. She was elected to the Citrus College Board of Trustees in 2007 and reelected in 2011.



Faculty Member Appointed Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Dana Hester, former biology instructor, is the new dean of Citrus College's Social and Behavioral Sciences Division. A full-time faculty member since 1998, Hester will provide leadership and support to the division's faculty and staff in the areas of curriculum development, class scheduling, budget planning, analysis and implementation for divisional academic programs, support of participatory governance structures, long-range planning, and program review.

Hester's previous leadership roles at Citrus College include Academic Senate President, Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Coordinator, and Program Review Task Force member. She also actively participated in the design of the college's STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programs.



Library Reference Technician Honored

Karen Praeger, library reference technician, is the first Citrus College staff member to be honored with a new classified employee recognition, the "Above and Beyond – Classified Development Award" (ABCD). Praeger has worked at Citrus College since 1999 and is active as the college's representative to the Inland Empire Academic Library Cooperative. She has also been nominated by the Citrus College Board of Trustees for the California Community Colleges Board of Governors Classified Employee of the Year Award.

The ABCD Award will be granted four times a year and will include a scholarship donation in honor of each recipient from the Citrus College chapter of the California School Employees Association (CSEA) to the Citrus College Foundation.



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Mikisha Ann Course-Deason

When I became a student at Citrus College, I received the support I lacked earlier in my life. I grew up in the foster care system during my entire childhood and overcame many obstacles, including physical and learning disabilities. The resourceful, caring faculty and staff encouraged me to do well, and I became motivated to continue my education. As I began to achieve my goals, I became empowered to help others and co-founded the student organization "Foster to Famous."

I graduated from Citrus College in 2012 with a degree in child development, and I currently attend California State University, Los Angeles. My goal is to earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in social work, receive a Ph.D., and establish a non-profit organization that benefits children and families that are affected by the foster care system.



Stay Connected to Citrus College
visit www.citruscollege.edu/foundation



Mikisha Ann Course-Deason
Class of 2012