

Citrus

Winter 2012

CollegeNewsMagazine



**ADMINISTRATION
OF
JUSTICE PROGRAM**

SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT'S

Welcome

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

Citrus College prides itself on providing students with a learning environment that supports academic excellence and personal achievement. The positive outcomes that result from this type of environment are showcased in the winter 2012 issue of the *Citrus College News Magazine*. From the narratives about our outstanding programs and award-winning athletes to the profiles of our impressive alumni and inspiring students, each story has a common theme: success.

Student success is our primary focus at Citrus College. It is what the faculty, staff and administrators strive for every day. And, in recent months, our students have achieved success in record numbers. A recap of student achievements and end of the year festivities is featured in the "News Around Campus" section.

Additional stories of student success can be found throughout the magazine. For example, in the "Athletics" section we share the stories of three Citrus College graduates who have distinguished themselves both athletically and academically. The "Alumni" section includes the moving tale of a young alumna who is giving back to her Alma Mater by contributing to the Citrus College Foundation. And of course, the magazine concludes with an update on our amazing Citrus GraviTeam and the profile of an outstanding science student.

In the context of student success, the Citrus College Administration of Justice Program serves as a focal point for this issue of the *Citrus College News Magazine*. Throughout its long history, this outstanding program has produced innumerable success stories, such as that of Robert Castro, who serves as the chief of police for the City of Glendora, or of the many alumni who are currently working with law enforcement agencies across Southern California.

While we are extremely proud of our faculty and staff and frequently praise our programs and services, the crown jewel of Citrus College is its student body. Our hope is that this, the second issue of the *Citrus College News Magazine*, demonstrates exactly what it is that makes Citrus College such an amazing institution: a college culture that supports student achievement and success!

Sincerely,



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



Winter 2012



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If you would like to sponsor this magazine or make a donation to Citrus College, contact the Citrus College Foundation at (626) 914-8825.



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Administration of Justice Program:



**uncover
the
possibilities**

by Stacy Armstrong

It is a quarter past eight on a crisp Wednesday morning in October. Approximately 45 students are congregating in a large classroom in the Citrus College Technology Engineering Building. Professor Jim Woolum stands near the door, greeting each person as they make their way to their seats. He not only knows each student by name, but he also knows their personal stories.

“He is a reservist in the U.S. Marine Corps,” Woolum explains as a young man in a grey sweatshirt takes his seat. “And her parents own a security company,” he says after an energetic young woman bids him good morning.

From the forty-something single mother who wants to be a domestic violence advocate to the 21-year-old young man whose police lieutenant father was a student of Woolum’s 25 years ago, each story is unique. In fact, the group that has gathered is an eclectic collection of ages, cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds. And, while each student is different, their goals are the same: to learn more about the field of administration of justice.

The Administration of Justice Program at Citrus College has a long history dating back to the 1960s. Originally known as Police Science, a certificate and degree program was approved by the California Community College Chancellor’s Office in 1966.

“The early program could be described as ‘Handcuffing 101,’” said Woolum, a full-time faculty member in the department who has over 35 years of experience in education and nearly 30 years of experience in law enforcement. “It taught a lot of technical skills, but there weren’t any classes offered on theory.”

Until recently, the program was headquartered in Technology Building A, which was part of the original Citrus Union High School campus. In 2010, the program moved into the new Technology Engineering Building.

“We are the only program in the building that is not auto related,” Woolum explains. “Our classroom is much larger now, which has made it possible for the program to grow.”

During the past 45 years, the location is not the only aspect of the Citrus College Administration of Justice Program that has changed. No longer just a lesson in skill, the program has adopted a theory-based curriculum and is now part of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Division.

Students who enroll in the program do so with at least one of three goals in mind: to prepare themselves for a career in law enforcement, to ultimately transfer to a four-year institution, or to increase their knowledge of the subject matter.

“Taking these classes is a good way to explore the criminal justice system, whether you are an admin-



INVESTIGATION



FORENSICS

istration of justice major or not,” said 19-year-old Haydee Elzando, a criminal justice major from West Covina who plans on transferring to California State University, San Bernardino.

Citrus College enrolls approximately 650 students in its administration of justice program each year and the average class size is anywhere from 40 to 50 people. The majority of students in the program are between the ages of 19 and 24, with 54 percent being male and 46 percent female.

“The above-average pay and benefits attract some students and the work schedules are attractive to others,” Woolum said. “Common factors that bring students to our program are an interest in serving others, a desire to protect, and establishing a career that is challenging and interesting.”

A desire to give back is what drove Covina resident Alex Posada to the field.

“All I want to do is help people, so my goal is to enter the field of social work,” the 23-year-old said. “Once I receive my associate degree, I plan to transfer to a four-year college.”

A recent development in the administration of justice program will soon make it easier for Posada and others like him to fulfill their goals. The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office recently approved Citrus College’s new associate in science for transfer degree in Administration of Justice.

“The associate in science degree for transfer is designed to streamline the transfer process to the California State University system,” said Michelle Plug-Gordin, Citrus College articulation officer.

“Students who complete the requirements for the degree will be able to obtain junior status, which means that they will only have to complete 60 units at Citrus College before they transfer as a junior to a CSU institution.”

According to Justina Rivadeneyra, coordinator of the Citrus College Career/Transfer Center, the new degree option will prevent duplication of coursework. “The goal of a transfer degree is to make preparation for the major more consistent across the California State University campuses,” Rivadeneyra said. “These new degrees accomplish three desirable outcomes. First, they allow students to earn an associate degree. Second, they prepare students for transfer. And third, they give students consideration in admission priority.”

The new degree isn’t the only benefit of enrolling in the Citrus College Administration of Justice Program. According to Woolum, the college’s multi-disciplinary approach to subject matter encourages students to both complete their degree in one specific program, and pursue an education in related fields.

Another draw is the wide variety of class offerings, ranging from Concepts of Criminal Law and Death Investigation to Traffic Control and Narcotics and Vice Control.

“The uniqueness of our class offerings, as well as the variety of areas our instructors specialize in, is what makes Citrus College’s program stand out from the rest,” said Dr. Michael Hurtado, dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences. “The instructors, especially, are outstanding in their particular fields and dynamic in their classrooms.”

Woolum agrees that the program’s faculty is instrumental in its success.

“The balance between full-time faculty and adjunct faculty adds strength and depth to our program, because the majority of our adjuncts are currently working in the career field,” he said. “Their experience and training helps bring subject matter expertise to the classroom.”

In addition to two full-time faculty (one who recently retired), the college employs seven adjunct faculty. These individuals have served as police executives, supervisors, prosecuting attorneys, coroner investigators and correctional science executives.

“We employ the best in the field,” Hurtado said. “The students receive excellent instruction. Those who actively participate in class not only receive academic knowledge, but they also discover what it means

continued on next page

LAW ENFORCEMENT



JUDICIAL SYSTEM





to be a professional, how to aid the populace, and they even acquire common sense.”

Students say that the professional background of the program’s faculty members makes the subject more interesting.

“Because all of the professors have worked in law enforcement in some form or another, they are able to provide examples from their first-hand experiences,” said the 20-year-old Martin Ramirez of Duarte. “It really helps when someone who has actually participated in police work can give you their personal insight and advice.”

Perhaps the most valuable guidance that faculty members provide their students is in the area of career and academic decisions. According to Woolum, the possibilities available to students in the administration of justice field are limitless.

“There are literally hundreds of career options,” he said.

Students can enter traditional law enforcement careers by becoming police officers or deputy sheriffs. They can also specialize in these traditional positions and become detectives, special weapons and tactical unit members or K-9 officers. In addition, program graduates can pursue employment in the areas of probation, children’s protective services, game warden or animal control. And, of course, there are several private industry careers that utilize an administration of justice education, such as private security and crime scene cleanup.

“We are providing the foundation for the educational growth of entry level personnel, as well as advanced educational programs that may be needed in the career field,” Woolum said.

Jonah Mason, a 40-year-old from La Habra, says he enrolled in administration of justice courses because they would help him climb the corporate ladder.

“I am currently an examiner with the Department of Motor Vehicles,” he said. “My goal is to obtain an administration of justice certificate, which will make it possible for me to advance in the workplace to the position of investigator.”

Other students list career goals such as becoming a parole officer, participating in military intelligence or pursuing a career as a lawyer.

However, 20-year-old Francisca Ortiz-Pedroza of Azusa, says her goal is much more simple.

“All I want to do is be successful in life and help others,” she explains.

Throughout its long history, the Citrus College Administration of Justice Program has had innumerable success stories of students who have gone on to do just that. Some of its most successful graduates include Robert Castro, chief of police for the city of Glendora; and Robert Hyde, a senior investigator with the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office who currently works with the U .S. Secret Service Electronics Crimes Task Force. There are also numerous former students currently working with the Arcadia, Azusa, Glendora, and Covina Police Departments, as well as the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, the California Highway Patrol and the California Department of Corrections.

And, of course, there are those who choose not to enter the administration of justice field at all.

“The classes have even proven to be important to those who ultimately decide upon a different career path,” Woolum said. “Many times, these students become volunteers in their communities or have a level of knowledge that assists them in helping others who may encounter difficulties.”

Whatever their academic or professional plans may be, the students who enroll in the Citrus College Administration of Justice Program don’t just learn about criminal justice. They also learn about life.

“Perhaps the most important lesson this program has taught me is that to get where you want to in life, you have to make sacrifices,” said 20-year-old Christopher Carlson of Azusa. “I plan on doing just that.”



Faculty & Staff

2011 Shining Stars

For the second consecutive year, the college community was asked to nominate students, employees and members of the external community as part of a recognition initiative highlighting outstanding efforts in exemplifying Citrus College's vision and values. As a result, eight individuals and one organization were recently named Citrus College Shining Stars.

This year's recipients are:

Student Focus:

Tom Gerfen, Citrus College Foundation president

Excellence:

Christine Link, executive assistant

Greg Hinrichsen, Haugh Performing Arts Center director

Collaboration:

John Vaughan, dance instructor

Stacy Armstrong, publications specialist

Lifelong Learning:

Eric Rabitoy, dean of physical and natural sciences

Integrity:

Dale Salwak, language arts instructor

Technological Advancement:

Chris Riley, information technology support specialist

Vision:

San Gabriel Valley Tribune



Excellence and *Versatility*



Jim Zaharek has established a remarkably diverse career that spans several decades and two professions. The Covina resident, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in history from California State University, Los Angeles also has two teaching credentials, one administrative credential and has taught courses in a variety of subjects from the middle school to graduate school levels.

Zaharek's second career in law enforcement has been varied and fascinating. After graduating from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy, he joined the Covina Police Department. Zaharek was also a U.S. Secret Service special agent assigned to the Los Angeles field office where his assignments included bodyguard to two U.S. presidents, a U.S. Secretary of State and several heads of state.

In 1974, Zaharek joined the Citrus College faculty as a part-time instructor in the Administration of Justice Program and became a full-time faculty member in 1996. True to his versatile nature, he taught administration of justice, world history and humanities courses, and was instrumental in developing the college's Honors Program. As an instructor, Zaharek earned the respect of his students and his colleagues for his ability to think globally, disseminate information clearly and identify the most salient points of an issue.

Although Zaharek retired in June 2011, he continues to teach three classes at Citrus College as an adjunct faculty member.

history
major
sheriff's
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officer
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instructor

AJ Program

Citrus Alumnus



by Rachel White & Stacy Armstrong

Robert Castro, Glendora's chief of police, works each day to improve the quality of life and ensure the safety of the city's more than 50,000 residents.

The La Verne resident, who was named chief in January 2011, credits his time as a Citrus College student for helping pave the way toward his professional successes.

For Castro, becoming a police officer was a lifelong dream.

"I grew up living next door to a Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) sergeant who inspired me with his stories of police work," Castro said. "I wanted a career that allowed me to experience new challenges every day and feel like I was helping others. I also wanted a career that was physically and academically challenging."

Castro decided to enroll in the college's Administration of Justice (or AJ) Program and soon found mentors in his instructors.

"Citrus teachers Jim Woolum, Mike Hurtado and Bart Bartel provided me with invaluable advice on my personal and professional life," he said. "I learned and improved my skills, knowledge and abilities to perform the complex job of law enforcement. Citrus College is a great educational environment with incredible faculty members."

According to his former instructors, Castro was a top student.

"I have twenty years of teaching experience at Citrus College and have taught many outstanding students. However, I can honestly say that Robert Castro is quite simply one of the best students I have had the pleasure of teaching," said Dr. Michael Hurtado, Citrus College dean of social and behavioral sciences. "He was the kind of student who was very curious, exhibited critical thinking skills, and was always prepared. Most of all, I remember Rob as being mature, intelligent and very caring towards other people."

When Castro was ready to begin his career in law enforcement, it was one of his Citrus College instructors who assisted him.

"I was recommended to the Glendora Police Department by Jim Woolum, my professor at Citrus," he said.

Woolum, an AJ instructor at Citrus College, says Castro was a highly motivated student who had a vision of a career in law enforcement.

"As a student, Robert displayed many of the characteristics that are essential to a successful law enforcement career: integrity, dependability, enthusiasm, formal and informal leadership skills, and good common sense," Woolum said. "It was evident that he was motivated to pursue a career in the field and Glendora Police Department seemed to be a good match with his personality, talents, and aspirations."

Castro joined the Glendora Police Department as a cadet in 1985 and rose through the ranks as a patrol officer, narcotics investigator, sergeant, lieutenant and captain where he managed the department's operations as well as a \$14.8 million budget.

Throughout his 25 years with the Glendora Police Department, Castro continued his education, eventually earning both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Azusa Pacific University.

helped pave way

Named Glendora Chief of Police

“Education is important in my line of work,” Castro said. “I would encourage community college students interested in a career in law enforcement to complete an associate in arts or associate in science degree and continue on to a university to complete their bachelor’s and master’s degrees.”

As chief of police for Glendora, Castro manages a department of 52 sworn personnel, 38 civilian employees, more than 14 part-time positions and 12 enforcement divisions.

“I strive to lead each of my employees to be the best they can be in their personal and professional lives,” he said.

For Castro, the most rewarding aspect of a career in law enforcement is the impact it has on the community.

“We can help people solve problems and change the course of their lives if they are making bad decisions,” he said. “We remove the evil part of society to improve the quality of life for others.”



Alumni

Annual Reception Honors Distinguished Alumni



(L to R) Trustee Sue Keith, Trustee Joanne Montgomery, Ivan Misner, Daniel Parke, Trustee Patricia Rasmussen, Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri.

Citrus College alumni, supporters and friends honored the college's Distinguished Alumni for 2011, Ivan Misner and Daniel Parke, at the annual Alumni Reception held in June 2011. The reception took place in the Hayden Memorial Library, the location of the recently completed Marie A. Philleo Honor Wall where the honorees' names will be placed.

Ivan Misner is the founder and chair of BNI, the world's largest business networking organization. Founded in 1985, BNI has nearly 6,000 chapters around the world. In 2010, the company generated 6.5 million referrals that resulted in \$2.8 billion dollars worth of business for its members. An Azusa native, Misner attended Citrus College, earned excellent grades and transferred to California State Polytechnic University, Pomona where he received his bachelor's degree. He also holds a doctorate from the University of Southern California. Misner has authored several books, writes a monthly column for Entrepreneur.com, and has taught business management and social capital courses at the university level.

Daniel Parke is a highly respected entrepreneur known for his expertise in establishing companies specializing in serving the energy efficiency needs of businesses. As founder and former president of Parke Industries, "one of the first true energy management companies in the United States," he created several successful businesses during his career. A lifelong Glendora resident, Parke graduated from Citrus College in 1975, where he was a member of the college's championship golf team. He transferred to Azusa Pacific University, where he was also a member of the golf team, and received a bachelor's degree in business in 1977.

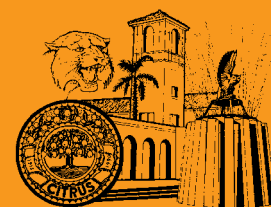


Get Connected and Stay in Touch

Keep up with friends and fellow alumni, while staying informed of college news and events.

Join the Citrus College Alumni Association today by visiting citruscollege.edu/foundation/alumni and filling out the Alumni Application.

We're Looking For You!



Citrus College Alumna

Pays It

FORWARD

Anneliese Trujillo of West Covina was so proud and grateful to be an alumna of Citrus College that she gave back to her Alma Mater by contributing to the Citrus College Foundation.

A member of the class of 2010, Trujillo received the Latina Leadership Network Scholarship, which helped her with college expenses when she transferred to Cal Poly Pomona. She chose to help fund the same scholarship so that another student could benefit as she had.

"When I received that scholarship from the Latina Leadership Network, I felt empowered," Trujillo reflected. "It was my crowning achievement as a Citrus student. It meant that others believed in me. I wanted to make that same impact on someone else's life."

Trujillo's time at Citrus College was marked by considerable growth, both academically and socially.

"When I graduated from Covina High School in 2007, I lacked motivation," she said. "Citrus helped me change. The faculty and staff encouraged me and motivated me. I received individualized attention, and I knew that they genuinely cared about me."

With a support structure in place, Trujillo's self-confidence soared and she soon became involved on campus, serving as vice president of the Alpha Gamma Sigma honor society and secretary of the Associated Students of Citrus College student government board. She also joined Psi Beta, Phi Theta Kappa, and the Latina Leadership Network and worked in the Learning Center and the Math Success Center.

"My grades improved and I made the President's and Dean's lists every semester, eventually becoming a finalist for Citrus's 'Woman of the Year' in 2010," she said.

Trujillo continues to excel as a student at Cal Poly Pomona where she serves as the Alpha Kappa Delta fundraiser coordinator. In addition to her studies and extracurricular activities, she is also assisting a Cal

Poly professor in a research study on social media and body image.

As she advances in her college education, Trujillo remains connected to the place where she got her start.

"I'm a member of the Citrus College family," she said. "I keep in contact with students and several staff members who I now consider my friends. I take pride in being a Citrus alumna."

As for the scholarship she is helping to fund, Trujillo said she is excited to be part of another student's success story.

"I look at the talented young ladies in the Latina Leadership Network, and I want to tell them that they can do great things," she said. "They can change the world. I love them and pray for them. I also want to encourage others to give whatever they can to make a difference in someone's life. Let's help each other!"

Trujillo plans to graduate from Cal Poly, Pomona in June 2013 with a Bachelor's Degree in sociology and a minor in organizational communications. Her goals also include earning a graduate degree and "finding a career that will allow me to help others in any possible way I can."



by Rachel White

Students

WARP SPEED AHEAD



Phoebe Sulzen Recognized by JPL Program

San Gabriel resident Phoebe Sulzen describes herself as being a happy person. "I love life, love spending time with family and friends, and want to make a difference in the lives of those around me," she says.

Lately, the Citrus College mechanical engineering major has had even more reason to feel cheerful. She was recognized by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), a federally-funded research and development center and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) field center located in the San Gabriel Valley.

"A Citrus College professor nominated me for the JPL Undergraduate Scholars (JPLUS) award," Sulzen explains. "This special program was developed to recognize and encourage scholarly achievement and creativity in community college students who are majoring in engineering, mathematics, computer science, or the physical sciences."

Lucia Riderer, Citrus College mathematics instructor, submitted Sulzen's nomination.

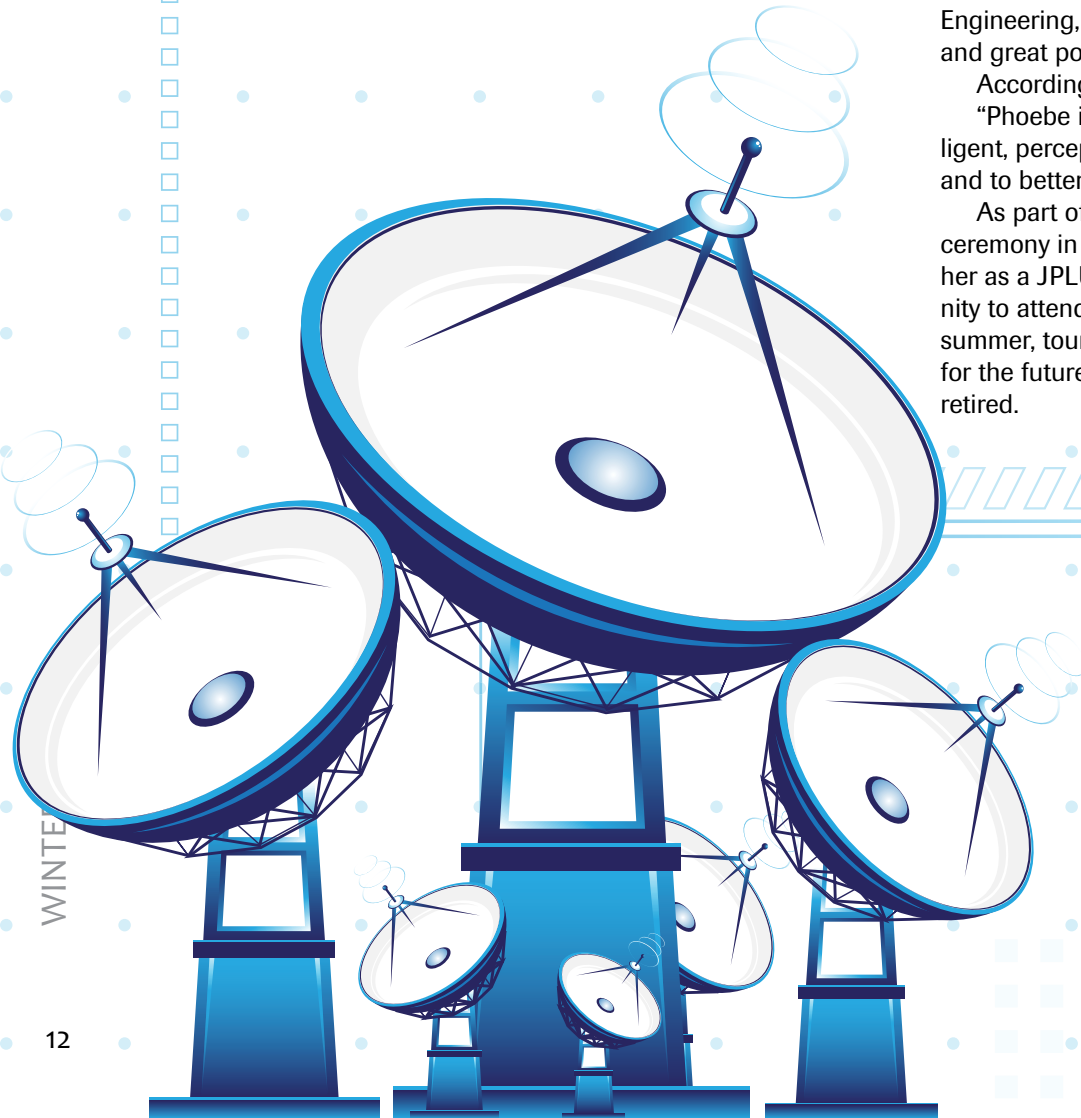
"Every year, faculty representatives at the 30 community colleges located closest to JPL are asked by the JPLUS program coordinator, Richard Alvidrez, to nominate a student," Riderer said. "To be nominated, a student has to demonstrate outstanding work in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) discipline, proven leadership and great potential!"

According to Riderer, Sulzen was the perfect choice.

"Phoebe is an exceptional student. She is a very intelligent, perceptive young woman who is motivated to learn and to better herself through education," she said.

As part of the program, Sulzen attended an awards ceremony in May where she received a plaque recognizing her as a JPLUS scholar. In addition, she had the opportunity to attend weekly seminars at Caltech throughout the summer, toured the JPL facilities, and discussed her plans for the future with a JPL employee of 47 years who recently retired.

by Stacy Armstrong



"It has been an awesome experience to be able to listen to short lectures given by Caltech professors. Being able to hear about their experiences and research has given me a better idea of the opportunities in the area of science and has broadened my knowledge of the STEM fields," she said. "At the same time, many professors shared their specific research with us, which is generally something you don't get to experience in a typical classroom."

Being a JPLUS scholar has reinforced Sulzen's love for the STEM fields.

"I feel so blessed to have been given this opportunity," she said. "The program has provided me with insight into what it is like to go through the process of getting a degree in one of the STEM fields and the success stories about these careers have inspired me to be the very best I can be."

Sulzen's Jet Propulsion Laboratory recognition from JPL comes on the heels of another noteworthy accomplishment. In April, she and eight other Citrus College students were notified that they had been selected to participate in NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Program at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Two months later, the group, known as the Citrus GraviTeam, performed an experiment they proposed, designed, and created while aboard the NASA C-9 "Weightless Wonder" aircraft.

"The amount of work required as a member of the GraviTeam really helped me grow as a person, and I learned so much from the experience," she said. "I was a math major until I went to the Johnson Space Center for 10 days and spent time talking to NASA engineers about their jobs and about my future. It made me really want to be more involved in science, while also participating in education."

According to Sulzen, a career in education is always something that has interested her.

"I want to be a part of preparing the next generation for the future," she said. "Talking to the NASA engineers and seeing them work made me want to be a part of what they do. It also showed me that it is possible to be both an engineer and an educator who encourages students to become involved in science. This has become my goal."

Sulzen is well on her way to reaching this goal. Not only does she attend Citrus College part-time, she recently began her second year at California State University, Los Angeles.

"I have learned so much from my experience at Citrus College," she said. "Not only have I gained knowledge about the various subjects I have studied, but I have also learned about life. I now have more confidence in myself and in my abilities."

According to Riderer, Sulzen will continue to achieve success throughout her life.

"I am so proud of Phoebe," she said. "I strongly believe that she will accomplish great things in the future."



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

A Citrus GraviTeam Update

In June 2011, nine Citrus College students, known as the Citrus GraviTeam, traveled to Houston to participate in NASA's Microgravity University. The students, while travelling aboard a NASA weightless aircraft, conducted an experiment they proposed and designed. The experiment was successful in its completion.

The team members, several of whom have transferred to four-year institutions, described their experience in their closing blog, "The experience of the last eight to nine months has changed all of our lives in one way or another... and now...(we experience) the excitement of seeing what the future has in store for us!"



Foundation

New Board Members Provide Experience and Leadership



Michael J. Clayton

San Dimas resident Michael J. Clayton serves as the Vice President/Senior Relationship Manager for Pacific Western Bank. He is also a member of the boards of the San Gabriel Valley YMCA, Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Foundation, and EYE DAS Foundation. "I believe my financial background, dedication to the community, and desire to assist students will be beneficial," he says. "I hope to use my skills and community contacts to bring awareness and support to Citrus College."



Phyllis Fritz

Glendora resident Phyllis Fritz is returning to the Citrus College Foundation Board of Directors. In the past, the licensed realtor and owner of Coldwell Banker Millennium not only served two terms as board president, but also chaired the organization's signature fundraising event, *A Taste of Autumn*. "The education of our youth is one of the keys to a successful America," Fritz says. "The Foundation's role in supporting Citrus College is vitally important to the future of our local communities."



Celeste Palmer

Claremont resident Celeste Palmer has experience in the fields of marketing, education and health care. Her community involvement includes serving as a member of the University Club of Claremont and as founder of a non-profit organization for brain injury survivors. "When this position with the Foundation became available, I was eager to take advantage of such a wonderful opportunity," she said. "I believe that my involvement will allow me to give back to the community."

Scholarship Reception Honors Achievers

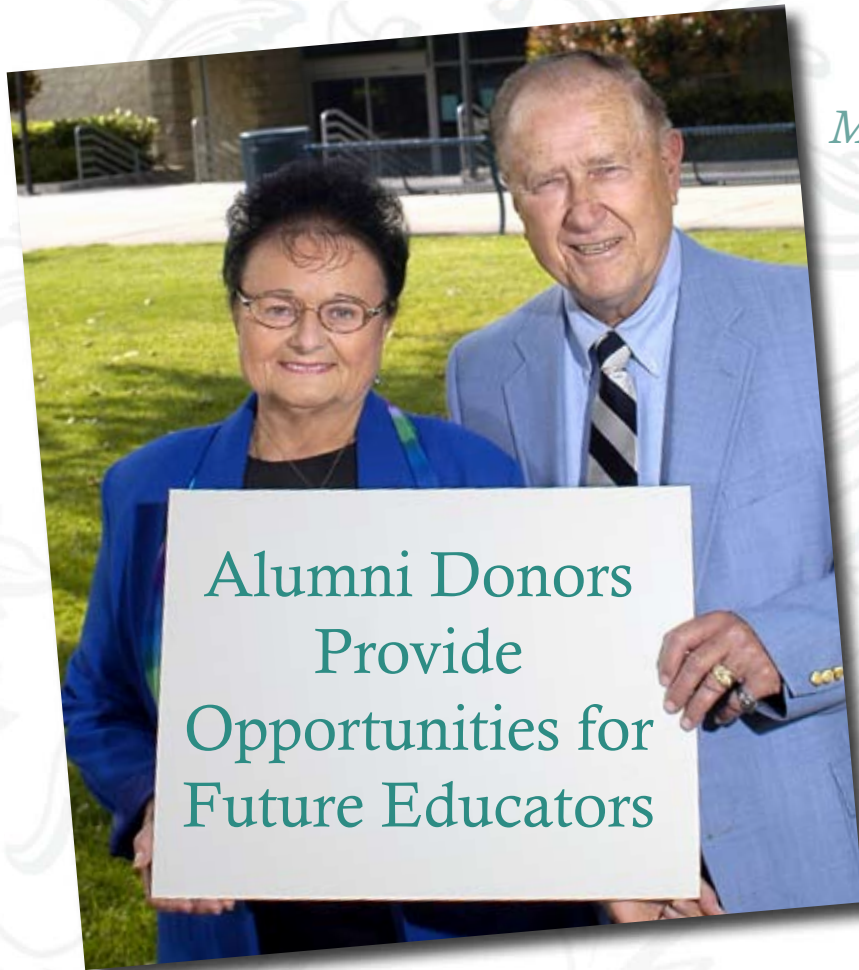
In her congratulatory letter to Citrus College's 2011 scholarship recipients, Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri quoted author Denis Marston, "*Winners take time to relish their work, knowing that scaling the mountain is what makes the view from the top so exhilarating.*" This call to celebrating success set the tone for Citrus College's annual Scholarship Reception held in August.

The reception honored 190 Citrus College students who received 205 scholarships. These students, who

demonstrated perseverance, academic excellence and determination, will use their awards to transfer to four-year colleges and universities, continue their studies or begin their education at Citrus College. The scholarships were made possible through Citrus College Foundation donors, whose philanthropic support enabled the students to attain their educational goals; the Associated Students of Citrus College (ASCC), who established its scholarship program to support their fellow students; and the

Citrus College staff who advised, counseled and informed students regarding available scholarship opportunities.

The theme of the event, "Can't Imagine Us Without You," reminded the honorees and guests of the collegial relationship among members of the Citrus College community. One student summarized the connection best, "Citrus is the best place to meet diverse friends, great professors, and (receive) lots of opportunities."



Mrs. Betty Holt May and Dr. Bill May

Alumni Donors Provide Opportunities for Future Educators

During the early 1950s, Citrus Junior College was—as Citrus College is today—a center of activity, energy and purpose. Inspired by the optimism and hope that defined the post-World War II era, the college produced alumni who succeeded in their chosen careers and in their lives.

Mrs. Betty Holt May and the late Dr. Bill May were no exception. They met at Citrus Junior College in 1950, were married for 54 years, and raised a son and a daughter. As students, they were standouts who went on to excel in their careers and establish an enduring act of philanthropy: the Betty Holt May and Dr. Bill May scholarships administered through the Citrus College Foundation. For the past 18 years, these \$500 scholarships have provided financial assistance to 33 Citrus College students transferring to four-year institutions. The scholarships are awarded to students who have been involved in extracurricular activities and plan to pursue a career in education.

Betty Holt May was a song girl on the Citrus Junior College pep squad, served as freshman class president and was the college's first elected, female student body president. As a young wife and mother, Mrs. May returned to college and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of La Verne. She became an elementary school teacher for the Charter Oak Unified School District and the Sacramento City Unified School District, where she was nominated

Teacher of the Year. Mrs. May also holds a master's degree from the University of San Francisco.

Dr. Bill May was Citrus Junior College's sophomore class president and a member of the championship football and baseball teams. He received a baseball scholarship to the University of Colorado where he received his bachelor's degree. Following a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, he received his master's degree and a doctorate from the University of Southern California. Dr. May served as assistant California state superintendent of education and managed over 40 programs at the elementary, secondary and community college levels. He died February 9, 2008.

Not surprisingly, the students who receive the Betty Holt May and Dr. Bill May scholarships mirror the characteristics and potential their benefactors displayed during their tenure at Citrus Junior College.

Mia Cook, a Betty Holt May Scholarship recipient, transferred from Citrus College to the University of La Verne and is studying to become a high school English teacher. Upon her graduation from Citrus College she stated, "I believe teachers are very important in society because they influence the future leaders of the world."

Citrus College alumnus Jesse Sanchez, a Student at University of California, Berkeley and recipient of a Dr. Bill May scholarship, is also preparing for a career in education. Jesse, who was the Associated Students of Citrus College vice president, plans to earn a doctorate and teach at the university level. In his scholarship thank you letter he wrote, "I hope that I can demonstrate (Dr. May's) generous gift of education by helping students from disadvantaged groups receive a college education."

by Paula Green

Athletics

“I wouldn't change a thing about my time at Citrus.”

The Citrus College Mission Statement expresses the institution's intent to provide the instruction and learning environment that enables students to succeed. In order to witness the college's mission in action, one needs to look no further than the Citrus College Athletics Department where every day young men and women are working hard to make the most of the opportunities afforded to them at the college.

For some student-athletes, Citrus College is another opportunity to get their academics in order; for others the college offers an environment where they can become bigger and stronger through practices, workouts, and athletic competition; and for many more it is a chance to figure out exactly what they want to do. Whatever their reason for enrolling, there is no doubt that the college provides them with the opportunities they were seeking.

Troy Payne played two seasons for the Citrus College basketball team helping lead the Fighting Owls to a State Championship in 2009. From Citrus, Payne transferred to Santa Clara University on an athletic scholarship where he graduated in 2011 earning a bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in sociology. Payne was a strong player for the Broncos and received West Coast Conference Defensive Player of the Year honors as a senior, the first player ever to earn the award in the program's history.

“I came to Citrus because it was filled with good people that really cared about us and wanted us to succeed. They [the coaches] really worked hard with us. They knew what it took to get us to the next level, and I wanted to be a part of that,” Payne said.

For Payne, Citrus was a great experience that helped prepare him for the university level. “I wouldn't change a thing about my time at Citrus. I love to look back on it, and see how we helped grow the program. I view it as a great experience. If anyone asked me if they should ever go there, I would tell them it's a great program and school.”

After graduating from Santa Clara, Payne explored professional basketball opportunities overseas. He recently signed with the NBA D-League team, the LA D-Fenders.



Former Citrus volleyball player Lucero Vargas had a similar experience. Although she did not continue her athletic career at the university level, Vargas matriculated to California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly). As a Lady Owl, Vargas helped lead Citrus College's volleyball team to one of its best seasons in program history. She took what she learned on and off the court with her to Cal Poly.

“Citrus really taught me to be a hard worker. It was very good in preparing me in the areas of math and physics. I studied a lot while I was there and being on the volleyball team was very helpful,” Vargas said. “What I learned about team work and commitment in practices showed up in other areas as well. I became focused and moved towards my goal. As a team we had to push and fight for what we wanted, and it showed me that anything was possible if you just put that effort into it.”

“Many of the classes that I took at Cal Poly Pomona were a continuation of what I learned at Citrus. In fact, I now encourage people to go to a community college.” Vargas said. “The instructors are great at Citrus, and the material is similar. I remember sitting in a classroom at Cal Poly on a number of occasions and thinking I learned about this at Citrus already.” Vargas graduated from Cal Poly Pomona in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in engineering and now works as an engineer at Southern California Edison.

Achievements

Personify the College Mission

by Andrew Wheeler

Devin Johnson is a former Citrus College football player who played for the Fighting Owls during the 2006 and 2007 seasons. An All-Western State Conference selection as a sophomore, Johnson took a year away from the game to focus on his academics before accepting a scholarship at Utah State University, where he played in 2009 and 2010.

“Coming out of high school, I wasn’t academically ready to attend a four-year university. Coach [Ron] Ponciano and the rest of the staff did a good job of preparing me for the classroom. They were on me from the get go,” Johnson said. “When I got to Utah State I was the top of my class. I had a 3.75 GPA when I graduated, and I earned Academic All-Western Athletic Conference honors. I owe it all to Coach Ponciano.”

For Johnson, Citrus College became a place to grow and excel in the classroom and on the football field. Today, Johnson has a bachelor’s degree in exercise science from Utah State, and he is exploring professional playing opportunities. In April, Johnson suited up for the Utah Blaze of the Arena Football League.

“Coach Ponciano taught me to be a leader. He taught me how to be a team player. Citrus was a really good time in my life. I believe it helped me and set me up for a NCAA Division I football life. It was a great stepping stone for me,” Johnson said.



“Citrus really taught me to be a hard worker.”

“It was a great stepping stone for me.”

The Citrus College Athletics Department is many things to many people. Regardless of their reasons for becoming involved in athletics, the program has prepared many athletes for greater opportunities after leaving Citrus College. What is clear is that the Citrus College Athletics Department is the embodiment of, as the college mission states, “a diverse educational community and cultural learning environment that supports student success in pursuit of academic excellence, economic opportunity, and personal achievement.”

Campus

Top Students Lauded at Annual Event



David Keys and Jacqueline Deeb (pictured above) were honored as Man of the Year and Woman of the Year during the college's annual Achievement Awards banquet. Keys, an Army veteran, transferred to the University of California at Berkeley where he is majoring in international relations. Deeb, who was a member of the Citrus GraviTeam, currently attends Cal Poly, Pomona and plans a career in engineering.

The Male and Female Athletes of the Year; recipients of the Key of Knowledge, the college's highest academic honor; and the Top 100 students who demonstrated high academic performance in a given department were also recognized at the event.

Class of 2011



Number of Graduates Reaches an All-Time High

Citrus College conferred 1,246 associate degrees, an all-time record, to 1,062 students at its 95th Commencement. Multiple degrees were granted to 184 students, 249 students graduated with honors and 29 graduates were U.S. military veterans. The two most popular majors were social/behavioral sciences and business.

In her commencement address, Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri praised the new alumni stating, "Your achievements are an affirmation that the class of 2011 consists of determined, focused visionaries who dreamed of this day and worked to make it a reality."





Hayden Memorial Library Receives Donation

The Hayden Memorial Library at Citrus College has received a donation of 112 paperback and hardcover books, from Glendora resident Veronica Mann.

Mann's late husband, journalist and philosopher Cuthbert C. Mann, used them when conducting research for his 1995 book, *Hitler's Three Struggles*.

"Our deepest thanks to Mrs. Mann and her family for making her husband's personal collection



available to the Citrus College community," said Jacquelyn Swinney, an adjunct librarian at Citrus College and Mrs. Mann's friend and neighbor. "Our hope is that including these works in the Hayden Memorial Library not only honors her husband's memory, but also provides our faculty and students with new sources to utilize when conducting their own research."



Employee Appreciation Breakfast Serves Up Food & Fun at 60s-Themed Event



Since 1986, California public school districts have observed Classified School Employees Week during the third week in May, providing an opportunity to honor and thank classified employees for their contributions to education. At Citrus College, Classified School Employees Week is a board-sanctioned recognition that acknowledges classified employees for their efforts in fulfilling "the College's mission by striving for excellence in all areas relative to the educational community."

The highlight of the week is the pancake breakfast hosted by the Citrus College Management Team for the classified staff. The 2011 theme was "The Groovy Classified Staff Appreciation Breakfast," a 1960s-inspired event where "flower children" from all of the college's divisions and departments gathered to have breakfast, socialize, enjoy music from the '60s era and (for some) reminisce.





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Laura Isabel Guzman

"When I first came to Citrus College, I was lost. Initially, all I wanted was a certificate in administration of justice. However, I have now transferred to a four-year college and will be the first person in my family to earn a bachelor's degree. By entering the field of law enforcement, I will be able to make a difference in the lives of others. My goal is to become a police officer and eventually a detective. Because of Citrus College, I am now on my way to making these dreams come true! Citrus College gave me a second chance in life."

For scholarship information visit
www.citruscollege.edu/foundation

