

PRESIDENT'S BOARD REPORT June 9, 2016

#CHC2016

Crafton held its 44th Annual Commencement on Friday, May 27 in the CHC Quad. Here's a break-down of the graduates:

Eligible graduates for 2015-2016
Commencement: 629
Number of Associate Degrees: 748
Number of Associate Degrees for Transfer (Included above): 218
Number of Certificates: 249
Total Awards: 997

Average Age of Graduates: 26
Oldest Graduates (2): 54
Youngest Graduate (1): 18
Number of Veterans: 20
Gender: 57% Female & 42% Male
Ethnicity: 46% Caucasian, 39% Hispanic/Latino,
8% African-American, 5% Asian

Number of 4.0 – Highest Honors: 6
Number of 3.50-3.99 – Honors: 138 (22% of graduates)

Most Popular Program Awards:
AA, Social Science: 132
AS, Multiple Sciences: 93
AS, Health Sciences: 72
AS-T, Business Administration: 60



Recipient of President's Award for Outstanding Service & Scholarship is also Commencement Student Speaker

When he enrolled at Crafton Hills College, Wes Stevens wanted to have the quintessential college experience. He was able to have it — all while balancing life as a husband and father of three children.

The 35-year-old Yucaipa resident served as a tour guide for prospective students, president of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society, secretary of the Geology Club, a volunteer for numerous events, and a strong voice on the Inter Club Council. A mining engineering major, Stevens earned statewide recognition from the Honors Transfer Council of California for his research on the need to mine asteroids, and his abstract was published in the corresponding publication.



“I wanted to have the college experience I missed out on,” he said. “I started joining clubs, and helping out at events. I wasn’t aware of just how much there was to offer at a community college, and I got way more out of it than I thought I would.”

He credits his wife, Tracy, and children Rhys, 8, Evan, 6, and Gwen, 3, with keeping him going all the way to graduation.

“I would not have been able to accomplish all of this without my family’s support, or the support services at Crafton,” he said. “My son hates that he can’t complain about homework at all, because I’ve been doing it for hours. At the same time, seeing me going back to school gives them a good role model, and I feel it’s a good example for them.”

Stevens enrolled in Crafton in January 2014, after earning his GED. He was on welfare and having a difficult time finding employment, and decided it was time to go back to school. His father enjoys prospecting and panning for gold as a hobby, and Stevens also got into it, so much so that it turned into a “bit of an obsession,” he said. It made sense for him to turn his hobby into a course of study, and he took advantage of the different programs and extracurriculars available.

“The geology field courses were my favorite, with Prof. Hughes,” he said. “We would go on three or four day trips to national parks, Death Valley, Joshua Tree, and study geology there for the weekend. I did every trip they offered.”

After having to give a speech in the quad as part of the honors program, Stevens discovered that he doesn’t mind public speaking. When it came time for graduation speaker auditions, he decided to try out, and was ultimately selected.

President's Award, continued...

"I wanted a chance to try and inspire and encourage people to keep going and remind them of what all we've accomplished here," he said. "This is my last chance to give everybody a little bit of encouragement and push them to keep going and to thank everybody."

He received another honor, this time at the Scholars Convocation. After meeting with President Cheryl Marshall, he was chosen as the recipient of the President's Award for Outstanding Service & Scholarship.

"Wes really epitomized outstanding service to the campus," Marshall said. "He was involved in numerous clubs and groups, often in leadership roles. Several faculty and managers said that they had Wes on speed dial because he was dependable and always willing to help."

"I was up against some stiff competition," Stevens said. "There are a lot of good people here, and I was a bit overwhelmed and very honored to receive it. A lot of people work hard at this school to make a difference, and I was surprised and overwhelmed with joy. It's really nice to receive recognition, and I spent a lot of time here every day for meetings with one club or a group of people. Even if I don't have class I'm here doing something."

Stevens is the youngest of his siblings, and the first one to finish any level of college. His entire family is "ecstatic" about his achievement.

"They are very happy and very proud," he said. "Several of them are wondering where all of this came from, because this doesn't resemble how I was in high school."

He is already looking ahead to the next step in his educational journey, and is going through the application process for the University of Nevada, Reno. In 10 years he hopes to be working for Planetary Resources, an asteroid mining company, or own a goldmine. For now, he's thrilled with everything he's done over the past two-and-a-half years.

"I'm proud of coming back to school at this age, and being able to accomplish as much as I was able to accomplish," he said. "For me, it's a very tremendous personal accomplishment that I've done all this."



\$120,000+ in Scholarships Awarded; \$25,000 for STEM



Crafton awarded over \$120,000 in scholarships to continuing and graduating students on Friday, May 20. More than 100 students received scholarships, including 25 STEM students who will receive \$1,000 scholarships as part of a Southern California Edison grant to CHC.

Students must apply for most of the scholarships, which are privately funded through the CHC Foundation, and are awarded on merit. Other scholars are selected by faculty and staff for their exemplary studies and service to the college.

Before the ceremony, donors to the CHC Foundation were invited to a reception to be thanked for their commitment to our students.



STEM Scholarship Recipients



Brent Hunter and Elaine Rosen



Foundation Board members David Raley and Lillian Vasquez

84th Fire Academy and EMT Class of 2016 Graduate



Fourteen cadets from throughout the Inland Empire graduated from the 84th Fire Academy on Wednesday, May 4 in the Performing Arts Center. Representing weeks of focused work and physical training, the cadets are now eligible for Firefighter I Certification.



The Emergency Medical Technician Class of 2016 graduated on Thursday, May 26. One student was the recipient of a new \$500 scholarship in memory of Dr. Charles K.C. Keen.

Betty Byron and Daniel Bahner Immortalized at Crafton

Crafton recognized two former employees at a Naming Ceremony on Thursday, May 26 in the Learning Resources Center.

The Betty Byron Memorial Atrium was named for Byron who served as the librarian at Crafton Hills College from 1975-2005. She retired shortly before her death in February 2005. During her tenure, Byron served in many other capacities that directly impacted the growth and development of the College:

- Taught classes in philosophy, logic and ethics
- Served as the college's part-time webmaster
- Created an online library connecting to Native American links nationwide
- Established an intern program where CHC students in the Computer Information Science program created websites for Yucaipa elementary schools
- Launched the "college begins in Kindergarten" project

"Betty loved books, students and people. She was a defender of the underdog and fought discrimination of all kinds," said Laura Winningham, a former colleague of Byron's in the library and the Betty Byron Memorial Atrium benefactor.

The Dr. Daniel Bahner Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning and Student Scholarship recognizes Bahner, a 25 year employee of Crafton Hills College who passed away in December 2015. Bahner served not only as a member of the faculty in the English department but also in many other capacities that directly affected the growth and development of the College:

- Chair of the English Department
- President of the Academic Senate
- Co-Founder of the Honors Program
- Development of Supplemental Instruction and Learning Communities
- Director of the Crafton Hills College Foundation

The Academic Senate recognized Bahner as "a change agent who challenged us to become better educators while showing his care and compassion for us as individuals."

Naming rights can be bestowed with a \$25,000 gift to the CHC Foundation. Funds have been raised accordingly for both Byron and Bahner.



Frank DeBoer, Chief Mike Alder, Vice President of Administrative Services Mike Strong, Rick Groff, and Dan Sullivan made a trip to Sacramento to visit Senator Mike Morrell on May 11th to garner support for the CHC Regional Fire Academy and the new Public Safety & Allied Health Building.

The group also had an opportunity to visit with Assembly Members Chad Mayes and Marc Steinorth.

Saturday Counseling Services Help Students Matriculate



Counseling staff offered a free Saturday session to help new students matriculate easily *and* receive a higher priority registration level. After applying and completing orientation online, students could come in on Saturday, May 21 for assessment and advisement. After completing those four steps, they are eligible for Priority E level registration, which is sooner than open registration, giving them access to more classes.

“We assisted 65 students on Saturday with assessment and advisement,” says Souts Xayaphanthong, who coordinated the SOA³R program this year, reaching out to high school students and counselors about CHC enrollment.

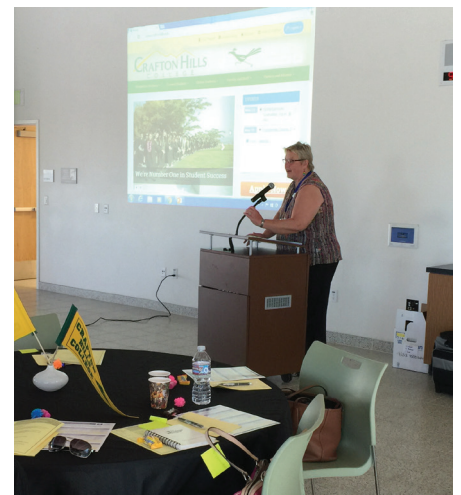
CCCAA Holds Southern Region Conference at CHC

The California Community College Assessment Association held its Southern Region Conference at Crafton on Friday, May 13. Kirsten Colvey, Dean of Counseling & Matriculation, gave a welcome, which was followed by workshops on CCCAssess and SSSP Practices related to Assessment.

Frances Southerland was elected the Southern Region Chair that day. She also serves as the Statewide Communications Officer.



Carrita Morales and Joe Avila from the CHC Testing Center.



Dean Kirsten Colvey

Farewell from Trustee Vazquez

If someone asked me a few years ago what I would be doing today, I would not have imagined that I would be only days away from graduating with the Class of 2016. Crafton Hills College changed my life. It provided me with opportunities to challenge myself and step out of my comfort zone. For example, I was able to dive into the logistics of administrative work for the college. I also was given the chance to travel and see parts of the country that I have only seen on television, such as Miami, FL and Washington, D.C.

As Student Trustee for Crafton, I had the privilege of advocating for East Valley students to Senator Barbara Boxer, Congressman Pete Aguilar, and U.S. Secretary of Education, John B. King Jr, among others. The guidance I received from the Board of Trustees, including Executive Assistant Stacey Nikac, as well as from Dr. Ericka Nunez Paddock, Dr. Cheryl Marshall, Dr. Rebeccah Warren-Marlatt, and Dr. Bryan Reece has been priceless. Serving as the Student Trustee for Crafton Hills College was absolutely rewarding.

Thanks to this experience, I am ready to once again step out of my comfort zone. I will be attending the University of California, San Diego this fall to major in Political Science. What's in store for me there? If my time at Crafton Hills College is any indication, the possibilities are endless.



Esmeralda Vazquez with former ASG President Patrick Dorsey

Mark Your Calendar!

June 6-July 29	Campus Closed on Fridays
July 4	Campus Closed for Independence Day
August 15	In Service Day
August 16	Fall Semester Begins

