

CRAFTON HILLS COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S BOARD REPORT



Dr. Wei Zhou

September 2016

Roadrunner Rally Welcomes New Students

The Fifth Annual Roadrunner Rally welcomed new students to campus on Wednesday, Aug. 10. Student Senate members gave campus tours, parents attended orientation sessions, Omnitrans gave free t-shirts and swag to promote the GoSmart program, and there was hot dogs from Jojo's Grill a Dog. Welcome 2016 roadrunners!!



Vet Hired as Vet Coordinator



When Carla Thornton read the job description for Veteran's Coordinator/Counselor at Crafton Hills College, she felt as if the role was designed specifically with her in mind.

"I have always wanted to work with veterans full-time and was seeking an opportunity to find a position that combined all of my skills and passions," she said. "From the community advocacy work, the career and academic advising to the mental health components, simply put, I literally jumped up and down and screamed when I was offered the position. I felt like I won the Lotto."

This month, Thornton is marking her 19th year in the United States Air Force — 11 of those years were spent on active duty and the last eight have been in the reserve at March Air Reserve Base. Thornton serves on the California

Veterans Board and the Moreno Valley Traffic Commission, and is a board member for the Center for Innovation and Research on Veteran and Military Families at the University of Southern California and the Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center. She earned her bachelor's degree in social science from the University of Maryland University College, her master's in management from the University of Redlands and her master's in social work from the University of Southern California.

"I chose this educational path for my graduate degrees because I wanted to learn more about the theory and application of leadership and how to have an impact on social programs from the macro level," she said. "Once I graduated with my masters in social work, I wanted to serve my community and be a change agent for causes I believed in. As a result, I fell into professional fundraising and began working for a domestic violence prevention non-profit before moving over to UC Riverside."

A native of Southern California, Thornton is an avid reader who enjoys traveling and playing golf with her 7-year-old daughter. She wholeheartedly believes "education is the key to success," and enjoys working with adults as they "achieve this great accomplishment of balancing self, family and education." Thornton is looking forward to creating a space and programs that will support Crafton's veteran student population.

"I hope to serve as an advocate for our veteran population and help them as they navigate the classroom structure and environment and assist them during their transition," she said.

New Faces & Ideas Prominent at Opening

The 2016-17 year kicked off on Monday, August 15 with traditional Opening Day activities. However, this year the campus welcomed many new people, including President Wei Zhou. In addition, there were five new faculty members, two new lab techs, counselors for DSPS, CARE/CalWORKS, and Veterans, and administrative support personnel for Student Services and Resource Development.

After opening remarks by top administrators, Board President John Longville, and representative groups for faculty, staff and students, the faculty and staff worked in groups within their disciplines brainstorming ways they can help students succeed. Their work will now be synthesized into an action plan.

Departments met together after lunch to plan for 2016-17.



CHC Foundation & Community Welcome President

The CHC Foundation hosted two receptions for President Wei Zhou. President Circle members were the first to welcome Wei at the home of Robert Visconte on July 13, just a week after Wei's arrival. Foundation President Sam Irwin toasted Wei, remarking "The Foundation looks forward to working with you."

The community was invited to a reception on campus on Friday, August 5. Yucaipa leaders from Yucaipa-Calimesa USD, City Council and the Yucaipa Valley Chamber attended, as did Chancellor Emeritus Don Averill and former CHC president Louis Gomez.



Yay! Students Are Back on Campus for Fall Classes



Building Working Relationships Outside in the Great Outdoors



Avid hikers Scott Stark, SBVC vice president of administrative affairs, and Larry Cook, CHC director of maintenance & operations, met at work but cemented a friendship in the mountains.

During Flex Day, the duo shared their hiking adventures and how they use those experiences to develop better skills in leadership, self-discipline, and enhancing professional and personal relationships.

In addition to our local mountains, Scott and Larry have hiked Mt. Rainer (without guides), Yosemite and the High Sierras. “These hikes have really taught us how to focus, and trust each other,” said Scott.

Mark your calendar!

Mon., Sept. 5	Campus closed for Labor Day
Mon., Sept. 26	University Transfer Fair, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. @ CHC Quad
Sun., Oct. 2	Herbivore Festival & CHC Open House, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. @ CHC Quad
Fri., Oct. 7	Education Master Plan Work Session, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. @ Roadrunner Cafe
Fri., Nov. 11	Campus closed for Veterans Day
Nov. 24-26	Campus closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

