

CRAFTON HILLS COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S BOARD REPORT



Dr. Wei Zhou

July 2017

VRC Receives \$10,000 Grant from Bank of America



Representatives from Bank of America join Sam Irwin, Brent Hunter, Michelle Riggs, Carla Thornton, and President Zhou at a special check presentation in Beaumont on June 7.

The CHC Foundation was awarded \$10,000 for the Veterans Resource Center (VRC). "This grant will support veteran student outreach, engagement, and recognition activities at Crafton. The VRC will be the hub for veteran students to share life experiences and support one another, helping to ease the transition from military to civilian life," says Michelle Riggs, director of resource development.

Thank you, #BofAGrants!

More Travel on the Horizon for Yamamoto



Dean of Career Education and Human Development June Yamamoto is retiring, but she'll still be as busy as ever, traveling out of the state and country and volunteering her time to serve on the boards of several non-profit organizations in the Inland Empire.

She is already a board member of the Highland Chamber of Commerce and the Girl Scouts of San Geronimo, and she is about to join the Crafton Hills College Foundation, which raises funds for scholarships, grants, and other types of assistance for students and faculty.

"I love Crafton and being involved in the foundation is a good way to stay in touch," Yamamoto said.

Yamamoto started with the San Bernardino Community College District in 1988, working at San Bernardino Valley College for 10 years before coming to Crafton in 1998. During her career with the district, she held several positions spanning different departments and programs, including serving as the dean over the San Bernardino Emergency Training Center, which trains fire clients from

all over the world.

As Dean of Career Education and Human Development, Yamamoto oversees several programs — everything from radiology technology and respiratory care to emergency medical services, child development and education and psychology.

"I always wanted to work in an area where there are positive results somewhere down the line," she said. "I may not directly be working with students, but their work ultimately has a positive effect somewhere down the line, helping employers and the community."

Career technical programs are more expensive to run, due to the constant innovation and need for new equipment, and last year, community colleges in the state received \$200 million for their programs. This was "really important," Yamamoto said, because "you can't have the same program now as it was 10 years ago. Things change, from procedures to equipment, and you have to update and stay in the forefront."

The recession hit during her tenure as Dean of Career Education and Human Development, and for a period of time, the money dried up; classes were cut, the college had to reduce the number of students in the programs, and they couldn't add new programs. Now that there is extra funding, it's the perfect time for somebody new to come in and take over the program, Yamamoto said.

"There's a positive atmosphere and now, they can expand the programs and start new ones, rather than having to reduce them," she added.

The new dean will also come on board with a team committed to making their programs top notch.

"All of my faculty are very dedicated, and not just working at the college but active in their professional organizations," Yamamoto said. "The students always come first, and they provide them with top quality education and training."

Art Enthusiast Accepted into MFA Program

A lifelong dream is now reality for Kalpana Vadnagara.

The Redlands resident, who moved to the United States from India, received her degree in math, but always had an appreciation for art. As she started helping her two sons with school projects, she realized she wanted to pursue art in a more meaningful way, and started taking classes at Crafton.

"I took all of the basic classes, on painting, printmaking, art appreciation," Vadnagara said. "That gave me an idea about the contemporary art world and what is going on now. When I was in India, I was only looking for Indian artists; when I moved here, I took an art history class, and while doing research and discussions, I started looking at other artists here."



Vadnagara, whose paintings have been displayed at the Crafton Hills College art gallery, was encouraged by several of her professors — including Snezana Petrovic, Jenene Nagy, and Nader Gergis — to apply for graduate school, and after talking it over with Nagy, applied to the Oregon College of Art and Craft in Portland. She sent in her portfolio, and flew to Portland for an interview.

"I was able to see the school and meet the faculty and department head," she said. "It was very good to go there so they can meet you in person and you can meet everyone."

When Vadnagara found out she had been accepted to the master of fine arts program, "I couldn't believe it," she said. "It was a lifelong dream." She will soon move to Portland, and when the program is finished, is willing to move anywhere in the United States. "I've always wanted to work at a gallery, and I can take some residencies and internships," she said.

Although she is now focusing on art, Vadnagara isn't going to lose her math skills. "I always like to combine the two," she said. "Math, you can't forget." In addition to painting, Vadnagara enjoys photography, and shoots portraits. At the Oregon College of Art and Craft, she plans on taking painting and photography courses, and will continue to experiment with different art forms. For other students like her — who have grown children and want to switch careers or go back to school — she has one simple message.

"Don't stop," Vadnagara said. "Never stop. There is always a way to make things happen, and so many doors you can open"

SAN MANUEL GRANT PROVIDES FUNDING TO BOOST STUDENT SUCCESS



San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is awarding Crafton Hills College a \$303,500 grant to fund the Increasing Student Engagement, Employment, and Knowledge (ISEEK) project for 2017-18. ISEEK supports student success through two strands of direct service: 1.) student employment and, 2.) scholarships.

With a majority of Crafton students needing to work to afford college, ISEEK is aimed at providing employment for students that also allows them to focus on their studies and be engaged in college activities. New to the ISEEK project this year is the inclusion of off-campus employment and/or internships. The project also provides 10- \$2,000

scholarships to students who demonstrate an interest in increasing their engagement at Crafton. Combining student employment and scholarships will help to increase student engagement, which encourages students to continue their studies at CHC and reach their educational goals.

“It’s wonderful to know that students with on-campus jobs are able to focus on their studies without worrying about how they will be able to purchase books and supplies,” Michelle Riggs, Director of Community Relations and Resource Development, said. “We’re excited about adding an off-campus employment component that will benefit our students and our local businesses. We appreciate San Manuel’s dedication to the community and education.”

Eight Graduate from RadTech Program



*Front row: Fabiola Corona, Elise Brose, Keith Bilo, Troy Knowlton, and James Marshall
Back row: Ricardo Gomez, Jermel Cantorna, Stephanie Wetzel*

Eight students graduated from the Radiologic Technology program on June 6 at the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

The rigorous program is based at ARMC and requires students to have a 2.5 grade point average in all prerequisite courses and interview for one of the eight spots before being admitted.

Morris Hunter, M.E.D., R.T., is the program director. The program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT).

Congratulations to our newest RadTech graduates!

STEM SUCCESS CENTER DEDICATED FOR “ROCKET SCIENTIST” HENRY STONE



On June 15, the CHC Foundation and President Circle members dedicated the Henry Stone STEM Success Center in the Central Complex, which will open this fall. Henry Stone was known as Crafton Hills College’s own “rocket scientist,” where he spent nearly twenty years of his retirement teaching statistics and math classes as an adjunct professor. Stone’s widow, Elaine Rosen, established the Henry Stone Endowed STEM Fund, which will support the STEM Success Center and STEM students at Crafton.

Mark your calendar!

Tues., July 4	Campus closed for Independence Day
Wed., Aug. 9	Roadrunner Rally, 4-6 p.m. @ Crafton Center
Fri., Aug. 11	InService Day, 8 a.m. @ Crafton Center
Mon., Aug. 14	First day of fall classes
Tues., Aug. 15	Deadline for fall Fire Academy application @ 5 p.m.
Fri., August 18	Veterans Resource Center Grand Opening, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 4	Campus closed for Labor Day

