

## President's Letter

Fall 2011

Dear Colleagues,

This fall Crafton Hills College begins the celebration of its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Happy Birthday CHC! There will be many activities planned for this year.

Academic year 2011-12 will be an interesting time as we face many challenges and opportunities brought about by changes in state funding, physical changes on campus, grants, and some reorganization. The following is a brief recap:

### **New faces:**

We welcome Mariana Moreno, Transfer Center Coordinator, who will organize and soon open the new Transfer Center; Karen Childers, Director of Grants Management and Development, who will be meeting with departments and faculty on potential grant opportunities, and Susan Johnson, Interim Director of the CHC Child Care Center, who will provide leadership for the Center this fall.

### **Construction:**

Construction and the closing of our only campus street for most of the summer made navigation through the campus difficult for staff and students. In spite of the frustration associated with constant change, everyone is cooperating and understanding. For the start of fall classes, all the parking lots are open with the exception of Lot E. There will some minor closing of Campus Drive for a period of no more than two weeks to finish the paving on the east end of the campus. The restored lots are now well lit with landscaping, access points with new stairs and railings, and ADA ramps where appropriate.

Our old library will be fully demolished by the end of September and the area will be a green space until construction starts, hopefully next year, on the Administration/Students Services complex.

The modular buildings housing two science labs and two class rooms are ready for use this fall. The classrooms are already busy with math classes and the science labs will be ready later in the term.

Construction will continue, in spite of reduced bond funds, for the next five years. At the end of that period the campus will have an Administration/Student Services Complex, a Science Building, and an OE2 Complex for Fire Science, Respiratory Care, and Emergency Medical Services, plus renovations of existing buildings.

### **Appreciation:**

I thank the campus community for the patience and consideration shown during the different construction projects:

- the grounds crew for the constant vigilance of the landscaping and rescuing many established plants and trees;
- the maintenance crew for the beautiful job of refinishing the gym floor;
- the enhanced Crafton Council that worked diligently to prioritize Measure M projects so the campus could meet its highest needs;
- the Accreditation Committee and Accreditation Liaison Cheryl Marshall, for their work on the midterm report. Now Vice presidents Cheryl Marshall and Rebecca Warren Marlatt will write the final report to submit to the Commission by October 15, 2011;
- the Tutoring Center, Robert Brown, and Dean Raju Hegde for the organization and implementation of the successful Summer Bridge Program;
- the Respiratory Therapy students who won the regional Sputum Competition, then took first and second places state-wide, and now will compete for the national title. Good luck, team!

**Budget:**

For the first time in several years we are starting the fall semester with a budget passed by the state legislature and signed by the governor. However, if the projected revenues for the state do not meet projections, there may be an increase in the per unit cost for students in the Spring to \$46 and perhaps further cuts to our budgets. We shall have to wait and see. I will keep the campus informed as soon I have definite answers from the state and the district.

Have a wonderful, successful semester,

Gloria Macías Harrison