President’s Corner
Greetings Alumni,

The weather is changing, the leaves are changing colors, and the Alumni eNews is changing. The Alumni eNews will be condensed to provide a lighter read and better suit those who like to scan for relevant and/or interesting information. For those who love information… no worries as we will provide website links to ensure that you get all the details you need. We have a record number of job announcements so enjoy our newest edition.

The students, staff, and alumni came together to put on an outstanding Career Day for our students and alumni at NCOD last week. The eleven amazing alumni panelists shared their stories and wisdom with 50 plus attendees. We are looking forward to making this an annual event. See pictures below.

NCOD is having Open House on November 29th to gather your feedback on what NCOD should be and about a possible name change. The alumni will be there to listen. Here is your opportunity to make another mark on NCOD.

There are many alumni out there that I have not yet met. I will be coming to another special event geared towards alumni and allies, which is a holiday brunch at CSD, Riverside on December 1st. Come to get in the spirit of the holidays!

The board retreat was fantastic as we made a great step towards our future as an alumni organization. We will be going through changes as well with reorganization to increase the efficiency of our operations. The strategic planning is taking time to unfold and we are eager to share it with all of you in its due time. See the board retreat group shot below.

Drumroll… the Alumni Reunion date and location have been determined as we will have our next one on October 25th, 2008 at the gorgeous Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Save the date as this is an event not to miss!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Manny Johnson
President
ncodalumni@gmail.com
Students, Alumni, and Staff mingle on Career Day at NCOD

Students, Alumni, and Staff learn from the panelists

2007 CSUN/NCOD Alumni Board Retreat
• **NCOD Director’s Corner – Dr. Roz Rosen**
  The alumni, students and staff collaborated to plan and host a very successful career fair on November 8, 2007 in the NCOD multi purpose room. There were 11 outstanding alumni panelists who dished out pearls of wisdom to the audience. There was Standing Room Only! Evaluations of the event indicated that everyone would like for this to become a regular event at NCOD.

NCOD will be advertising shortly for a part time coordinator of the NCOD Tutorial Center. We are also interested in having you help with tutoring, either on site or via videophones. Watch the CSUN NCOD website for more information. We hope to also launch the career planning services as well, pending the outcome of grants.

**Dates to Red-Circle – Check the CSUN NCOD website for more information!**

November 29, 2007: NCOD will host “Open House, Open Minds” 6-9 PM, a forum for alumni and the community to provide input and priorities to the CSUN NCOD Strategic Planning Committee. Its recommendations will be finalized by January 31, 2008 for further consideration and action. Your input will count. Contact your representatives, Mike Dubowe and Lauren Maucere.

December 1, 2007: Alumni/Allies Get-Together Holiday Brunch in Riverside, California. A delicious brunch will be catered by two of our alumni – the event is guaranteed to make you drool while entertaining you! RSVP now, please.

December 5, 2008: Newkirk Special Memorial Service at NCOD, 3:30 – 5 PM, to celebrate her life and legacy. A foundation stone under the NCOD Tree of Support will be dedicated to her.

We are also launching a campaign to get your names listed among supporters of NCOD’s exemplary programs for our students, alumni and community. *Your contributions are much needed, much appreciated and tax-deductible!* The names of donors for the Tree of Support will be engraved on it as well as listed on our website. More details soon.

February 2, 2008: CSUN Stars Gala, with Herb Larson as the star, to celebrate his 75th birthday (he is kidding, right?). Donations will go into the Herb Larson Scholarship Fund to support student scholarships and leadership training. The event will celebrate our cherished CSUN and Deaf Culture/Community, and will be packed with stars and artists. A fun event, for sure!

April 13, 2008: 1st Annual CSUN RUN N’ SIGN walkathon, to celebrate the CSUN Sign Language Users Community of 1,000 people! This is open to all; we will need walkers, runners, rollers, volunteers, and sponsors. The funds raised will go directly to student scholarships and leadership programs. This is guaranteed to be a BLAST!

Please drop in for a visit anytime you are in town or drop us a line. Visit us at our website [http://ncod.csun.edu](http://ncod.csun.edu) for further updates. Have a happy, blessed and safe Thanksgiving and holiday season.
• **CSUN-NCOD Open House at NCOD - November 29th - 6:00pm-9:00pm**
  An opportunity for you to have a strong voice on the future of NCOD with three forums and an opportunity to meet Dr. Roz Rosen. Check it out at [http://ncod.csun.edu/pdfs/CNSP_Open_House_Flyer.pdf](http://ncod.csun.edu/pdfs/CNSP_Open_House_Flyer.pdf)

• **Survey Deadline Extended to November 30th**
  We have over 100 alumni responses thus far, which is awesome. For those who have not had a chance to give their responses, here is your chance [http://studentvoice.com/csunncodalumsurvey](http://studentvoice.com/csunncodalumsurvey) to make a contribution to the future of CSUN/NCOD with your thoughts.

### Deaf CSUNians News

• **Deaf CSUNians President’s Corner – Josh Josa**
  Career Day was a success! Thank you to all the alumni who took time out of their busy lives to come and advise us with our future! Hopefully, this will become an annual event!

  The Mr. Deaf CSUNians Pageant will be on Friday, February 29, 2008 so mark your calendars! Rathskellar will be giving a performance at CSUN on Friday, April 19th. More information on the above events will TBA.

  Happy Thanksgiving!!!

• **Correction - Alpha Sigma Theta**
  To all the Alpha Sigma Theta Sisters,
  My apologies for the error in last month’s edition where I made a mistake with the order of your sorority name calling it Alpha Theta Sigma. It should be Alpha Sigma Theta.
  Sincerely, Manny

### Alumni News

• **CSUN-NCOD Alumni and Allies Holiday Brunch – December 1, 2007**
  Come for a warm fireside chat with Dr. Roz Rosen, CSUN-NCOD Director, and Manny Johnson, CSUN-NCOD Alumni Chapter President as a prelude to a festive brunch at California School for the Deaf, Riverside in the Social Hall. There will be games, shows, and surprises for everyone from 10:30am to 2pm. The purpose is to raise money for the CSUN NCOD Scholarship and Leadership Fund. Cost is only $30 (Kids under 7 go free). **RSVP Deadline is November 20th.** Please go to [http://ncod.csun.edu/pdfs/Event2007Dec1.pdf](http://ncod.csun.edu/pdfs/Event2007Dec1.pdf) for more info.

  **Note:** We need volunteers for this event. If you would like to volunteer, then please contact Manny Johnson at ncodalumni@gmail.com.

• **CSUN/NCOD Alumni Reunion – October 25, 2008**
  Ready to reunite with your fellow alumni’s once again?! There will be a NCOD-CSUN Alumni reunion at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach on Saturday, October 25, 2008! Mark your calendars and put on a fare alert!
The NCOD-CSUN Alumni Association would like assistance in the following areas (don't worry if you are not in the area!):

- Reunion Assistant
- Fundraising
- Ticket Sales
- Decorations/DJ
- Marketing/PR
- Flyer/ticket Design
- Supplemental Events (plan events on Saturday and Sunday)
- Food/Beverages (for Saturday and Sunday events)
- Hotel (Search for a hotel and negotiate a discount rate)
- Speakers/Presenters/Timeline Chair
- and more...

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated to make this event successful! If you are interested, please email Christine Firkins who is the Reunion Chairperson at NCODReunion@gmail.com.

Volunteer Service Awards for NCOD Alumni – Dr. Lisalee Egbert

Our CSUN NCOD Alumni Board nominated several people who have given our chapter exemplary service and it was unanimous to give the award to Dr. Lisalee Egbert, who runs the our regional chapter for northern California out of Sacramento. “I cannot imagine a better way to kick off our expansion into regional chapters with this outstanding individual in Dr. Lisalee Egbert. We are honored to have her be a part of our chapter,” comments, Manny Johnson, the CSUN/NCOD Alumni Chapter President.

As a recipient of this honor, Lisalee was awarded a beautiful glass award from Dr. Jolene Koester, President of CSUN, along with a Certificate of Recognition for the California State Legislature, a Commendation from the County of Los Angles, and a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Los Angles.

Lisalee is quoted as saying, "It is very humbling and honoring for me to receive this award. There are so many other wonderful people from NCOD that contribute more than I do for our community; I do not feel I have done enough to warrant such a great honor. I am very blessed. Thank you!"

Scott Selena (2006 Recipient) and Dr. Lisalee Egbert (2007 Recipient)
Photo Credits: Maria Austin
• **Success Stories – CSUN Alumni – Tami Lee Santimyer**
  Tami Lee Santimyer, a recent CSUN graduate, is featured in two different papers on the east coast for her artistic role in Quest: Arts for Everyone and as an actress in a production based on Marlee Matlin’s most recent book *Nobody’s Perfect*. The two articles are located on the links below:

• **Success Stories – CSUN Alumni – Dr. Frank Lala**
  Dr. Frank Lala teams up with Daniel Briones to establish the American Martial Arts Association of the Deaf (AMAAD). The fascinating article can be found at [http://www.mclink.it/personal/MD4281/Amaad/Deafnation_amaad.htm](http://www.mclink.it/personal/MD4281/Amaad/Deafnation_amaad.htm).

• **Alumni Update – CSUN Alumni – Kristin and Jim Macaluso**
  Congratulations to Kristin and Jim Macaluso on the birth of their baby girl, Sienna Leigh Macaluso, on October 8, 2007!

• **Deaf CSUNian mySpace Created by Alumni Pam Tilly**
  If you have a mySpace account, then add [http://groups.myspace.com/DeafCSUNians](http://groups.myspace.com/DeafCSUNians) to your group list.

• **CSUN Alumni – Events by the General Alumni Community**
  If you would like to participate in the many activities and events that the general CSUN Alumni Community offers, then go to [http://www.csunalumni.com/newsletter.asp](http://www.csunalumni.com/newsletter.asp)

• **Open Positions**
  We are looking for more alumni to add to our growing team. If you are interested to know more about the positions below, just drop me an email at [ncodalumni@gmail.com](mailto:ncodalumni@gmail.com):

  - Board Positions
  - Membership Chair
  - Communications Chair
  - Scholarship Chair

• **Alumni Updates and Milestones - Call for Alumni Updates**
  I encourage you to submit updates about yourselves such as a new job, a new addition to the family, or marrying your loved one. We all like to hear about you! Please submit your information to us at [ncodalumni@gmail.com](mailto:ncodalumni@gmail.com) at least a week before the end of the month so we can include it in the next month’s eNews.

  *Also if you know of "lost alumni" who are not getting these newsletters, please inform us at [ncodalumni@gmail.com](mailto:ncodalumni@gmail.com).*

**Local Sub-Chapters News**
Capital Region Chapter Update – Join Us for Poker Nights or Mini-Reunions
If you live in the Sacramento, Bay, Fresno or nearby areas in Northern California and would like to be involved with the Capitol Region Chapter or attend its events, then please contact the Capitol Region Alumni President at ncod-alumni@sbcglobal.net.

Los Angeles Region Chapter Update – Join Us
If you live in the Los Angeles area and would like to be involved with the Los Angeles Region Chapter or attend its events, then please contact the NCOD Alumni President at ncodalumni@gmail.com.


What made you decide to be one of the co-founders for an organization like KODAWest (Kids Of Deaf Adults)?
When my daughter Daniela was born six years ago and my son Gianni was born three years ago, I relied heavily on friends who were going through similar experiences with raising hearing children. Lisa Chahayed, who is the other co-founder, already had hearing children much older than mine. One day we had a heart to heart talk about our dreams for ourselves AND for our children. We came to the realization that there was not enough support for parents in similar situations. Therefore, we established KODAWest in 2006. We had our first KODAWest camp of 25 koda campers this past August. The change I see in my children has been incredible. Their eyes sparkle with delight when we go to a koda event because that is their world, being with other children who are just like them. As a parent, I don’t feel alone, and know that there are resources readily available through the now established network of KODAWest families. In addition, we are supported by long-time codas who have become a source of hope with their wealth of life experiences and insight.

What was your major and how has CSUN helped you with running KODAWest?
My major at CSUN was Environmental and Occupational Health, which provided me with the confidence and organizational skills to eventually run an organization. My first job while attending college, was working at the Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness (GLAD), in collaboration with UCLA’s public health research department. This led me to my second job as supervisor of the health department at GLAD overseeing several programs. I enjoyed working with people, sharing visions, and seeing colleagues work together to make those visions a reality. GLAD gave me the opportunity to learn and explore new ideas, for which I am most grateful. If I didn’t have that experience, I wouldn’t have acquired the necessary tools to able to run such an organization. It is so important that when we start an organization, we have the passion, vision, and goals of where we want it to go. Without Lisa Chahayed and Kavita Pipalia, KODAWest would have not been possible.

What is one of your passions? Can you tell us more about it?
One of my passions is planning and organizing a good party event for a particular cause. I take great pride when I see guests enjoying themselves, appreciating good food, and mingling with interesting company. I have recently started a small business, doing catering for companies, and helping them plan their events.

CSUN draws in many different people for different reasons. What was yours?
I was originally accepted to attend UC Davis. However, during the summer of 1993 I competed in the Deaflympics in Bulgaria as a swimmer. I met several prospective
CSUN students on the US Team and recognized an opportunity to immerse myself in the deaf community. CSUN was an attractive choice because of the students I met, the location, and their excellent swim team. Continuing my love for extracurricular activities at CSUN, I took on several extracurricular positions, including coordinator for NCOD Orientation week, chairperson of the Miss Deaf CSUN pageant, Deaf CSUNians treasurer and participated as a competitor on the College Bowl, just to name a few.

Can you tell us one of your favorite memories of CSUN?
I have so many great memories but there is one special moment that came out of my college years that have stayed with my family over the years. I was a first year student when the Northridge earthquake occurred. My parents had come down to visit for the weekend so we were in the hotel room when suddenly the "world" shook. My father grabbed my mother and I, and we ran out of our hotel room in our pajamas to go check out the damages at the dorms. My mother had made lentil soup, and put it in the dorm hallway refrigerator for me. When we drove to CSUN, we thought that everything had been destroyed. We saw dressers and tables overturned, clothes strewn everywhere, broken glasses and mirrors, but over in the far corner there lay my mother’s lentil soup in a glass jar in perfect condition! From this day on, we have called it the “earthquake soup”. Every time I go home to my family, we have my favorite, the “earthquake soup” and reminisce about that day!

Bonus Question: As the Alumni of CSUN/NCOD, how can we get you to join our chapter?
I’m not a member?! If not, your revealing to everyone that I haven’t joined is motivation in itself! Send me a form, and I will join right away! However, I want to applaud you and the chapter for the fantastic work you have done. I feel like I am reconnecting to the NCOD community, which gives me great pride. I want to support you and your superb work and that is ultimately the reason why I am more than happy to be a part of this magnificent chapter.

To nominate someone to be in next edition of Spotlight on NCOD Alumni, please email your nominations to ncodalumni@gmail.com.

Want to be a member of our Alumni?

Benefits of Joining CSUN Alumni Association (NCOD Alumni Chapter)
There are many benefits of joining the CSUN Alumni Association for your yearly dues of $20 (2006 Graduates), $40 (Alumni), or $50 (Married Alumni-Dual Membership). Lifetime Membership is $500 (Alumni) or $600 (Married Alumni-Dual Membership). See the benefits below:

- $10 goes into our NCOD Alumni Chapter Fund!!!
- Access to online directory of more than 126,000 CSUN Alumni
- Monthly e-newsletter
- Subscription to Northridge Magazine and Community@CSUN
- Discounted Insurance Plans
- Student Loan Consolidation Program
- Theme Park Discounts
- Hotel and Rental Car Discounts

Want to join now? Go to http://www.csun.onlinecommunity.com/membership_unregistered.asp and make
sure you check the NCOD Chapter Box so you can be part of our chapter in addition to being a CSUN Alumni!

**Outside Event/Activities Announcements**

- **Water Polo – USA vs. Ireland – November 23-25, 2007 in Los Angeles**
  U.S. Deaf Water Polo (USDWP) is hosting the first ever "home" Deaf water polo friendly international match series held here in the USA! All games will be at the Santa Clarita Aquatic Center, 20850 Centre Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Admission is $5 per day or $10 for all three days. On Friday and Saturday (23-24), the games start at 4:30, 6:00, and 7:30pm. On Sunday (25), the game starts at 1:30, 3:00, and 4:30 pm. Come to McG's Irish Pub & Grill for post-match social at 21356 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, CA 91311 taking place on Friday and Saturday nights. If you have any questions regarding the tournament or need for flyers with directions to the tournament, please contact director@usdwp.org. Come and cheer for USA!

- **2nd Annual DeafHope Quilting Bee – Oakland, CA**
  For more information, go to [http://www.deaf-hope.org/events/DeafHopeQuilt.pdf](http://www.deaf-hope.org/events/DeafHopeQuilt.pdf)

- **Bay Area Deaf Professional Happy Hour Gathering**
  A monthly Bay Area Deaf Professional Happy Hour gathering is held every last Friday of the month! We will only post the announcement of the date, time, and location once a month on: [http://baduppies.blogspot.com](http://baduppies.blogspot.com). If you would like to join this group, please e-mail us at baduppies@gmail.com.

**Job/Volunteer Announcements**

- **HTMLaddicts Employment Opportunities – Austin, Texas**
  A web development and marketing firm, is hiring for the following positions:
  - Web Developer
  - Information Manager
  - Internet Marketing Specialist
  - Studio Manager
  - Support Representative / Interpreter
  More details can be found at [http://www.htmladdicts.com/employment.pdf](http://www.htmladdicts.com/employment.pdf). If you have any questions or are interested, send cover letter, resume, and link to portfolio (if applicable) to jobs@htmladdict.com

- **Nevada Association of the Deaf (NVAD) Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center (DHHARC) – Open Positions**
  Details about the open positions such as Executive Director, Case Management Specialist, and Office and Communication Support Specialist can be found at [http://www.dhharc.org/joblisting.html](http://www.dhharc.org/joblisting.html).

- **Saint John’s Health Center – Staff Therapist (Part-Time Position)**
  American Sign Language Fluent therapist (MSW, LCSW, Licensed PhD) to contribute to the outpatient mental health services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. More details, go to [http://careers.peopleclick.com/careerscp/client_sistersofcharity/stjohns_SantaMonica_external/jobDetails.do?functionName=getJobDetail&jobPostId=8334&localeCode=en-us](http://careers.peopleclick.com/careerscp/client_sistersofcharity/stjohns_SantaMonica_external/jobDetails.do?functionName=getJobDetail&jobPostId=8334&localeCode=en-us)
• **Awakenings Substance Abuse Recovery Programs for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons - Awakenings Counselor**
  If interested to find out more about being an Awakenings Counselor, then please contact Hwa Chang at awakres@earthlink.net.

• **County Of Los Angeles - Department Of Children And Family Services – Job Opportunity - Children’s Social Worker Trainee / Deaf Services**
  More detailed information can be found at:

• **Exciting Employment Opportunities at Various GLAD Locations**
  ° **Community Interpreter** – Los Angeles and Bakersfield
  ° **Lead Dispatcher** – Los Angeles
  ° **Community Advocate** – Los Angeles, Ventura, and Riverside
  ° **Hard of Hearing Specialist** – Riverside
  To learn more about these open positions at GLAD, please go to [http://www.gladinc.org/window_job.htm](http://www.gladinc.org/window_job.htm).