



California State University
Northridge

California State University
Northridge Alumni
Association

May/June 2007 CSUN/NCOD Alumni E-News

President's Corner

Greetings Alumni,

April was over before we knew it. Alumni are making their impacts everywhere. We have two Alumni, Michael Dubowe and Lauren Maucere, serving on the NCOD Strategic Taskforce Team with the goal of improving student services. We filled up two more positions over the last month and half. We have a new Vice President in Daniel Girard, an energetic young man, who is well liked by many. If you want to know more about him, then see him in this month's spotlight. Steve Longo, most of you may know him from Beethoven's Nightmare group, is our newest Database Administrator. We are working on creating a web-based database so we can be of better resource to you, the Alumni, the Students, and the Staff. The spotlight will be on Steve Long in the next eNews if you are anxious to hear more.

Another Alumni, Kay Vincent, in San Diego, hosted a social for Alumni in the greater San Diego area on May 29th to meet Dr. Roz Rosen and Cathy McLeod, who were in the area to present at a state-wide conference for vocational rehabilitation counselors. There were about 15 participants, including alumni and guests. We welcome as much Alumni leadership and involvement that is possible from you.

Manako Yabe, who won our first ever Miss Deaf CSUN Pageant Scholarship, is back at it again winning CSUN/NCOD Alumni scholarship. More details are below. Summer is coming soon. CSUN is getting a little quiet with the majority of students gone for the summer. However, our Alumni Board is grinding down for a busy summer as our previous meeting we defined our positions so we can have a better understanding of each person's role. Over the summer, we will be working on by-laws, strategic planning as we will have a strategic retreat for the Board this early fall, collaborating with other colleges on an event or two for the future, and much more.

We challenge you to help us find the Alumni who are not getting this eNewsletter. You can start with helping us out with the Top Ten Missing Alumni that we will post in each eNewsletter edition. We all wish you an exciting summer.

Cheers,

Manny Johnson
President
ncodalumni@gmail.com

CSUN/NCOD News

First Annual Summer Institute

CSUN NCOD is launching the first annual Summer Institute next month. The training will be for interpreters. For more information, please click on events under <http://ncod.csun.edu>. There are still a few slots available, please do encourage interpreters to attend this top-notch training. Plans are in the works for the 2008 Summer Institute which will include an executive leadership seminar for deaf educational/community managers and training sessions for interpreters and captioners. For more information, email gary.sanderson@csun.edu

Students Expanding their Horizons

CSUN NCOD has sponsored students to national conferences such as the Gallaudet Student Leadership Training last February in Washington DC and the Persons of Color Conference last March in Indianapolis. NCOD will also send two or three students to the National Black Deaf Advocates in St. Louis in June, the Asian Conference in San Francisco in July and the Latinos Conference in Washington DC this fall. If you plan to go to any of these conferences, please do contact our students and identify yourselves as proud CSUN Alum!

Attendance at these conferences will enable our students to learn more about themselves and the diverse world, to enhance their journey through college and future employment. The students will present about their experiences this fall to other students and staff. Funds are needed to increase these opportunities for our students. For more information, email robert.sidansky@csun.edu.

CSUN NCOD Strategic Planning Committee Update

This is to provide you with an update on the CSUN NCOD Strategic Planning (CNSP) process where we have eight representatives. We work in pairs to give a balanced representation, who are:

- Students: Ms. Laura McManus, Deaf CSUNian President and Mr. Nick Comegna, Deaf CSUNian Treasurer
- Staff: Dr. Barbara Boyd, Student Personnel Specialist and Ms. Shawn Clark, Coordinator, Interpreting Services
- Management Team: Ms. Cathy McLeod, Director, PEPNet-West and Mr. Jim Macaluso, Administrator, Finance and Technology
- Alumni/Community: Mr. Michael Dubowe, BS 1988, MS 1991 and Lauren Abbott, BA 2000

Roz Rosen, NCOD Director continues to serve as an ex officio member of the CNSP committee and meets regularly with Cathy McLeod, Chair with updates. The CNSP Task Force meets on Wednesdays from 11:30 to 1:00 pm. Our top priority was to set up a student survey before students depart for their summer break. It was a success where we set up laptop in the registration room (you remember good ole days) for them to fill out the survey online. We had a 53% response rate which is excellent.

We are in the planning stage to develop six different surveys to address the targeted populations: alumni, staff, service providers, campus departments, parents and community. We will also have a forum or focus group to discuss topic of interest that relates to future planning. We are reviewing the mission, vision and developing the survey tools within a month.

You will receive the alumni survey sometimes in July. Your input is valuable to ensure brighter for our young students. Roz likes to quote Oprah Winfrey, "the future is so bright it burns our eyes." NCOD has a proud legacy and powerful potential.

We look forward to further collaboration with the alumni association. Your point of contact to provide input and guidance are Mike Dubowe at dubowe4@aol.com and/or Lauren Abbott Maucere at abbottl01@aol.com.

Deaf CSUNians News

School is out for the summer. Students are doing internships, jobs, exploring the world and doing all the things that we enjoyed as students with summer breaks. We look forward to hearing news from them in August with the new Deaf CSUNians Board that was recently elected in May.

Alumni News

Hollywood Bowl Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular - Wednesday, July 4

Join Cal State Northridge alumni and friends for the 9th annual alumni night at the Hollywood Bowl. The July 4th Fireworks Spectacular salutes the American Cowboy with special guest artists Riders in the Sky, best known for "Toy Story." Tickets are \$39 per person. The picnic area is reserved at 5 p.m. and show time is 7:30 p.m. Order tickets online at www.csunalumni.com or call Cheryl McMillan at (818)677-2137.

CSUN's Model UN Team Takes National Honors

The competition was tough, but so was Cal State Northridge's Model United Nations (MUN) Team. After five days of negotiations, speeches and writing papers at the National Model UN conference in New York City, the CSUN team walked away with top honors. Cal State Northridge's Model United Nations team won an Outstanding Delegation Award—the equivalent to first place—and an Outstanding Position Papers Award at the conference held last month. More than 270 colleges and universities from around the world took part in the competition. [Click here to read the full story](#)

Cal State Northridge in Top 5 Universities in Awarding Bachelor's Degrees to Hispanic Students

For the second year in a row, Cal State Northridge ranked fifth among the nation's universities for awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanic students, according to Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education. "Cal State Northridge's mission is to serve all the people of the greater Los Angeles area, and we have a responsibility to ensure our student population reflects the rich diversity of the region," said Northridge President Jolene Koester. "We are honored to be recognized for providing a quality educational experience for everyone, particularly Hispanics, one of the fastest growing community groups in the nation." [Click here to read the full story.](#)

Innovative CSUN Program Is Opening Doors for Head Start Teachers

Cal State Northridge's Department of Family and Consumer Sciences has launched an innovative program designed to bring a college degree within reach for hundreds of Head Start teachers in the San Fernando Valley and Ventura County. With the support of a \$750,000 five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, the department sends faculty into the communities where the Head Start teachers work to mentor, support and prepare the teachers for getting their bachelor's degrees. Once ready to attend CSUN, the

department offers the teachers scholarships to cover their tuition and has juggled its course offerings to provide more classes in the evenings and on Saturdays to accommodate the teachers' already demanding schedules. [Click here to read the full story](#)

CSUN Launches New Major in Languages and Cultures

California State University, Northridge has launched a new Bachelor of Arts degree program in languages and cultures that is designed in part to give students a leg up as they pursue careers in an ever-increasing globalized world. The new major has two components, one in language and the other in cross cultural studies. Among the languages the students can choose from are Armenian, French, German, Italian and Japanese. [Click here to read the full story.](#)

Scholarship Update

On May 17, 2007, our Alumni Board Secretary, Dana Foster Armendariz, was on hand at the 2007 NCOD Awards ceremony to present the first ever CSUN/NCOD Alumni Scholarship for the "Most Dedicated Student" to Manako Yabe. Manako was also a recipient of the Winnetka Women's Club Scholarship. Her achievements are endless and span three continents.

Manako was on the CSUN/NCOD Dean's List for Fall 2006, and she volunteers for numerous organizations. "It was an honor to present the award to Manako Yabe. She is a beautiful, talented young lady. It was also great to see long time staff members Robert Sidansky and Nina Treiman as well as Barbara Boyd", exclaims Dana. Herb Larson was also there to personally present the Herb Larson Scholarship to a recipient. Over 20 different awards/scholarships were handed out that afternoon. The Alumni are happy to partake in this wonderful event and support our students. NCOD will need to find a larger room next year!

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 at least a week before the end of the month so we can include it in the next month's eNews.

Lost Alumni-Top Ten

Now we will have a top ten list of lost Alumni that we cannot find contacts for. If you know the below people and their contact information, please email us at ncodalumni@gmail.com. Thanks!

- Rika Aoki – 2006 Psychology
- Lizzette Arellano – 2003 Art
- Armando Arvizu – 1999 RTVF
- Anita Babayani – 2003 American Sign Language
- Susan Bart – 1985 Liberal Studies
- Alicia King – 1977 Liberal Studies
- Roxanne Clanin – 1985 Liberal Studies
- Maria Tannahill – 1978 Biology
- Robert Morrison – 1976 Special Education

Also if you know of "lost alumni" who are not getting these newsletters, please inform us at ncodalumni@gmail.com.

Open Positions

We are looking for more 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:

Board Positions

Membership Chair

Communications Chair

Scholarship Chair

Local Sub-Chapters News

Capitol Region Sub-Chapter Update – BBQ/Pool Party – July 21st, 2007

Capitol Region invites you to a free BBQ/Pool Party from 12pm to 4pm on Saturday, July 21st. Donations to contribute to the Alumni fund will be greatly appreciated. Please bring your family, towels, water toys, drinks/soda (no glass), and potluck with last names A-G bringing Dessert, H-L bringing Salad/Side Dish, and M-Z bringing Appetizers. Hot Dogs and Hamburgers will be provided.

Come join us by making RSVP with Capitol Region President Lisalee Egbert at ncod-alumni@sbcglobal.net. Once you RSVP, directions will be provided. See you all there!

If you live in the Sacramento, Bay, Fresno or nearby areas in Northern California and would like to be involved with the Capitol Region Sub-Chapter or attend its events, then please contact the Capitol Region Alumni President at ncod-alumni@sbcglobal.net.

Los Angeles Sub-Chapter Update – Join Us

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

Washington, D.C. Sub-Chapter Update – Informal Network

If you live in the Washington, D.C. area and would like to be involved with the Washington, D.C. Sub-Chapter or attend its events, then please contact the Washington, D.C. Alumni Representative at josh@ellimend.com.

Spotlight on CSUN/NCOD Alumni: Daniel Girard

As the newest Vice President of the CSUN/NCOD Alumni Chapter, what made you join?

First of all, I had the best and very memorable time during my time at CSUN from 1996-2001. I developed wonderful relationships with NCOD staff, students, and the CSUN community when I was a student myself. The staff and students gave me countless leadership and personal growth opportunities that I am forever grateful for. When I left CSUN to pursue my goal to obtain my Masters in School Counseling and Guidance, I have always maintained my connection with CSUN. I visited CSUN and touched base with staff and students during my breaks. I always wanted to show my appreciation for what CSUN gave me. I asked myself how can I show my appreciation.—Joining the CSUN/NCOD Alumni Chapter as Vice President is my way of showing my gratitude —By

providing and supporting new students with leadership and personal growth opportunities so that they are able to reach their future goals.

What is in the future for our Alumni? Where do you envision the Alumni going?

Currently, we have many alumnus scattered across the country. Many of them have their own accomplishments and experiences in many different ways. CSUN/NCOD definitely contributed to alumnus' accomplishments and we want to hear all about it. I envision by having the Alumni Chapter, we will be able to reach out to different alumnus to join our chapter or form a sub-chapter in their area. The purpose of this is to maintain with networking amongst each other. Another goal is to get scholarships to help our current and future students with their current goal or after they graduate from CSUN. Additionally, I envision development of a list of resources for our current students and alumnus to take advantage of. All in all, NCOD/CSUN Alumni Chapter is the information and resource center for alumnus, students, and staff to refer to.

CSUN draws in many different people for different reasons. What was yours?

I hailed from Boston, Massachusetts and my roots were in the east coast the entire time. During my senior year, it was a challenging year making huge decision where my future would lead me. Luckily, my classmate had a friend who was a student at CSUN. My classmate and I decided to pay CSUN a visit during our spring break in April of 1996. I was in awe with southern California's weather, environment, and friendly people. That is when I decided that I was up for the challenge by moving to the west and attend CSUN. I wanted to do something for myself, develop my own experiences and memories, and broaden my own horizons. I was fortunate to have my parents support and they made frequent trips to the west.

Can you tell us one of your favorite memories of CSUN?

You are asking me to share ONE favorite memories of CSUN? That is definitely a challenge for me! Now, I am reflecting to my first year at CSUN and remembering the first experience that led me to become who I am today. It was when I became involved with the Lambda Sigma Pi (LSP) Fraternity. I had no prior knowledge of what fraternity was all about. Like I said earlier, I had planned on developing my own experience and memories, so from that point and on, LSP was the starting point for me to explore more leadership experiences and personal growth opportunities. I made memories by being involved in many different positions within the fraternity and had strong support from my brothers. I became President for LSP during 1999-2000. After getting my feet wet, I started to explore various opportunities with Deaf CSUNians and became the President during 2000-2001. At that time, I competed in Mr. Deaf CSUN Pageant in 2000, Alpha Omicron Pi's Mr. CSUN pageant 2000, Homecoming Royalty Court 2000, I was an Orientation Group Leader, and became the University Ambassador for CSUN. This involvement led to wonderful memories that will never be forgotten. To sum what I just said, my favorite memories happened during my involvement with LSP Fraternity and Deaf CSUNians organizations because that was what I loved to do.

Can you tell about your current job and what you do?

Ever since I left high school, it was my dream to become the school counselor working at a deaf residential school or university working with deaf students. My dream came true. I am a school counselor at the California School for the Deaf, Fremont. I work with students ranging from kindergarten to 12th grade. I do individual and group counseling. I also work with families to provide support for their children. My passion is to do school-wide prevention work. I am currently working with another staff from the counseling department with implementing a Character Counts program promoting

students to utilize “6 pillars of character” (Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship) on a daily basis. For Character Counts, we do monthly activities discussing each pillar, create newsletters for parents/guardians, attend monthly department assemblies recognizing students who demonstrated positive character pillar during that month, and providing resources for teachers to use in class and cottage counselors to use in the cottage. I will be involved with team of staff for bullying training to reduce bullying for students on campus. I am also the facilitator for the Peer Advisor Program for high school students. Peer Advisor Program consists up to 8 peer advisors who provide support for students on campus, plan fun and informative workshops/events, and make CSDF a positive experience for students.

How has CSUN helped you with your current position?

At CSUN, I majored in Psychology and that is a huge factor that led me to my current employment. NCOD staff has their own approach of seeing something special about every individual and help them grow in their own way. NCOD staff was like a family to me and ensured that my experience here was positive. They made sure I was on the right track with my future goal. Whatever experiences I wanted to pursue at CSUN/NCOD, the staff and students were my greatest support. CSUN/NCOD helped me develop strong interpersonal skills, strong work ethics, develop my innovative skills, learn how to work with people with different background and skills, and realizing the importance of giving back to the school and community.

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

Outside Event/Activities Announcements

GLAD Wants Breast Cancer Survivors

My name is Alicia Wolfson; I work for the Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness (GLAD) in the Health Education/Services department. I am happy to announce that we are in the process of producing a DVD for our Breast Cancer Research & Education program; it will be used to help educate the d/hh community about breast cancer awareness and prevention. I am contacting you because *I need your help*.

We are looking for a racially and ethnically diverse group (African American, Hispanic/Latino/Chicano, Asian, Pacific Islander, etc.) of d/hh women survivors, ages 40 and older that would be willing to share their experiences with us in the DVD. Survivors also include those who may have been recently diagnosed with breast cancer and/or are currently undergoing treatment for the disease. **If you know of any survivors please have them contact me (my contact information is listed below). I would also appreciate it if you could forward this email to anyone you think may be able to help us.** Please pass this information on to your friends, family, and co-workers.

The d/hh community is a severely underserved community among existing community breast cancer programs and research. I would be grateful for your help.

Filming for the video will be on **June 19, 20, and 21**. Survivors will need to be available during one of those three dates to come to GLAD (in Eagle Rock) for filming.

If they are unable to visit GLAD, we can make arrangements to visit them at their home. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Alicia Wolfson
Field Coordinator,

Breast Cancer Research & Education

awolfson@gladinc.org

323.550.4222 (V/TTY)

323.550.4255 (Fax)

Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness, Inc. (GLAD)

2222 Laverna Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90041

Bay Area Deaf Professional Happy Hour Gathering

A monthly Bay Area Deaf Professional Happy Hour gathering held every last Friday of the month! It will be usually held in San Francisco, Berkeley, or Oakland. We will only post the announcement of the date, time, and location once a month. That way, you'll be well-informed about the next BADUPPIES gathering.

Also, we have our own 'blog' of ours: <http://baduppies.blogspot.com> to view pictures and descriptions. If you would like to join this group, please e-mail us at baduppies@gmail.com.

First-Ever KODAWest Camp in affiliation with Camp Mark 7 – August 21-24, 2007

El Camino Pines in Frazier Park, CA

August 21-24, 2007

Hearing kids of deaf adults (KODAs) of *ages 8 thru 16* will enjoy an amazing experience, exploring their identity as bicultural individuals through increased awareness of ASL, deaf culture, hearing culture and by sharing their own stories. Bert Pickell - with nine years of experience directing KODA Camps - leads a knowledgeable team from Camp Mark 7 in providing fun activities that help campers understand their unique heritage. KODA Campers will have a great time, and leave with a deep appreciation of their group identity as KODAs.

This camp will be for four days and three nights. It will be in Frazier Park, 70 miles north of Los Angeles, nestled in the beautiful valley, foothills, meadows, pine and oak trees. This is a residential camp with bunk-bed cabins. We will offer archery, nature, arts and crafts, hiking, campfire, swimming and other exciting activities.

The Camp Fees are as follows:

Early Bird - \$275.00 per camper, before June 29th

Late Bird - \$300.00 per camper, after June 29th

All registrations require \$100.00 deposits.

Full Payment is due August 10th.

For more information, registration forms or questions, please email

KODAWest@aol.com

Scholarship forms available upon request.

Job/Volunteer Announcements

CSUN NCOD Job Opportunities

These positions are still open and applications are still being reviewed. Please do share with other interested and qualified persons the below positions:

- Project Coordinator of PEPNet-West

<http://www-admn.csun.edu/hrs/employment/auxiliary/C378.html>

- Hourly Interpreter:

<http://www-admn.csun.edu/hrs/Employment/PoolPositions/S405.htm>

- Hourly Captionist:

<http://www-admn.csun.edu/hrs/Employment/PoolPositions/S404.htm>

- Notetaker:

<http://www-admn.csun.edu/hrs/Employment/PoolPositions/S406.htm>

California State Independent Living Council (Silc) Is Seeking An Executive Director – Application Deadline June 15, 2007

The California State Independent Living Council (Sacramento, CA) is seeking a visionary leader to serve as Executive Director. The purpose of the State Independent Living Council (SILC) is to promote and support a philosophy of independent living, which includes consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy, in order to maximize opportunities for participation by individuals with disabilities in the mainstream of society.

A competitive compensation package is negotiable, depending on qualifications of the selected candidate. The monthly salary range for this position is \$6694 - \$7239. A comprehensive state government benefit and retirement program is also offered. Detailed information about the SILC is available at www.calsilc.org

In order to be considered for the first round of screening or interviews, please submit an electronic copy (using Microsoft Word) of your cover letter, resume, and the names and contact information for three work-related references by **3 p.m. Friday, June 15, 2007** to neal@calsilc.org.

If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Manny Johnson at ncodalumni@gmail.com as he has the additional information about this position.

Las Vegas Charter School of the Deaf Job Opportunity

There is a new position available, Head Teacher/Administrator at the new Las Vegas Charter School of the Deaf, in Las Vegas, Nevada. This school will Service students from Kindergarten to the third grade. More details below:

Starting Date: August 2007. Application screening process will begin in June 15, 2007.

Position: Open until filled

Salary: Negotiable; based on applicant's experience and credentials.

Benefit Package: Benefits include: Medical, dental insurance and participation in Nevada Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).

Interested Applicants: Interested candidates must submit an application form with an introductory letter, resume, three (3) letters of recommendation and three (3) references.

If you want more information such as qualifications or job responsibilities and duties, then please contact Jean E. Gigante, Personnel Committee Chair, at jeangiggy@hotmail.com.

Exciting Employment Opportunities at Various GLAD Locations

- Regional Director – Riverside
- Community Interpreter (2)– Riverside

- Director of LIFESIGNS – Los Angeles
- Lead Dispatcher – Los Angeles
- Community Advocate – Los Angeles and Riverside
- Program Coordinator – Crenshaw
- Program Coordinator (Temporary) – Norwalk
- Hard of Hearing Specialist (Temporary) – Los Angeles and Riverside
- Community Advocate (Temporary) – Riverside

To learn more about the job descriptions for the above mentioned positions please visit our website at www.gladinc.org. To be considered for any of the positions listed above, please submit your resume, cover letter and application to:

GLAD, Inc.
Human Resources Department
2222 Laverna Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90041-2625
TDD: 323-478-8000
Fax: 323-550-4265
jfetterman@gladinc.org
www.gladinc.org

NAD Wants You

You are Alumni of many talents and NAD needs you to share those wonderful talents by coming on board as a volunteer. We have many opportunities for volunteers and you can start by contacting Manny Johnson, NAD Membership Chair, at mannyjohnson@gmail.com.

Feel free to join NAD at anytime at www.nad.org!

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!