Employees Honored for Service to Cypress College Students at Luau

At the annual event, employees were recognized for milestone years of service to the college and on their retirement.

Cypress College held its annual End-of-the-Year Luau on Tuesday in the Theater Lobby to celebrate another successful school year and to honor employees recognized for their service to the students and college. At the Luau, two employees — Russ Flynn and Pat Ganer — were recognized for their 40 years of teaching at Cypress College.

The following employees were honored with Service Awards at the event:

Five years: Terry Carpenter; Ly Chang; Margaret Cortez; Alfonso Flores; Jennifer Franklin; Joel Gober; Rebecca Gomez; Yongmi Han; Jeri Hernandez; Lori Hopper; LaQuita Jones; Lenore Landis; David McCament; Michael O’Connor; Josephine Olimberio; Richard Rams; Alycia Rivera Mullen; Douglas Smith; Pinlux Suphamark; Jeanne Thompson; Keith Vescial; and Teresa Wang.

Ten years: Raul Alvarez; Steven Auger; Cindy Cao; James Carrocino; Christy Davis; Daniel Fangmeyer; Brian Gomber; Otis Grant; Sabah Hermiz; Ian Holmes; James Hormel; Marcia Jeffredo;

Fifteen years: Minnie Allison; Peggy Austin; Ana Cota; Liana Koeppel; Kathleen Kruse; Janice Nelson; Patricia Pelachik; Brad Pickler; Cecilia Richie; Cynthia Shront; and Kazuyo Takahashi.

Twenty years: Joseph Franks; Laura Greico; Robert Johnson; George Kraft; Carol Lewis; Rosalie Majid; and Peter Matthews.

Softball Headed Back to State Championships

For a remarkable 22nd consecutive season under the coaching of Brad Pickler, the women’s softball team is headed to the California state championship tournament.

The defending state champion Chargers compete in the four-team 2011 California Community College Athletic Association Softball State Tournament May 20-22.

The Chargers head to the finals following a 5-1 victory over Garcia, Pickler to Receive Honorary Degrees

Honorary Associate in Arts degrees will be presented to Frank Garcia and Irv Pickler at the 44th Commencement Ceremony on May 26. Graduation will take place in the Gateway Plaza at 6 p.m. and will be broadcast via the college’s Ustream video channel.

Garcia, who was honored as the 2011 Americana Man of the Year, and Pickler, a long time supporter of the college, are
EOPS Program Recognized with Proclamation From the La Palma City Council

The La Palma City Council honored Cypress College’s EOPS Program during Tuesday night’s council meeting. Two students — Becky Mugica and Jasmin Hajimomen — along with the Student Support Services Dean Rick Rams and EOPS Manager Gil Contreras received the proclamation from Mayor Ralph Rodriguez.

According to Contreras, Mr. Rodriguez presented the proclamation and delivered very personal comments about his participation on the Cypress College EOPS Advisory Committee. “This accolade is a testament to all of our hard work on behalf of our students,” he said in an email to the EOPS staff. “I realize a lot of the time we are searching for innovative ways to continually improve, but this proclamation provides us with an opportunity to take a step back. We are making a difference on our campus, in our community, and most importantly in the lives of our students.”

“Each one of us contributes to our success, from the student workers to President Kasler and Chancellor Doffoney, and through the state legislative process,” Contreras continued. “Thank you for 40 years of hard work at Cypress College and for the job you do day in and day out for our students!”

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) is a state and college funded program designed to assist students with economic, linguistic, and educational challenges (as defined by Title V) to enroll and succeed in higher education. Comprehensive support services are provided to promote access to college, and once the student is enrolled, to increase retention and/or transfer to four-year universities and colleges.

Business/CIS Advisory Committee Meetings Share Info, Get Input

Cypress College’s Business/Computer Information Systems Division hosts an Advisory Board Meeting each year as a way to connect with the community and better serve its students. “It brings in our alumni and local business people to look at our curriculum and offer ideas about where it should head and what we should be doing,” said Dave Wassenaar, Dean of the Business/CIS Division.

This year on April 5, close to 90 business advisory board members had lunch on campus and met with President Michael Kasler, Executive Vice President Robert Simpson, Foundation Director Raul Alvarez, and Steve Donley, Dean of Career Technical Education & Economic Development.

President Kasler thanked those in attendance, noting, “I am amazed at how many of you are here today. We couldn’t do all the things we do at the College without your help.”

Simpson informed the group that he had been working with campus members to help prepare the college’s state accreditation report, and was proud of the effort that everyone put into it. Alvarez added that the school’s annual Americana Awards ceremony this year was very successful, and that Cypress College was fortunate to have such strong community support.

After the luncheon the board members met in separate meetings with the individual departments that make up the Business/CIS Division: Computer Information Systems; Systems/Office Administration; Accounting; Court Reporting; and Management/Marketing. During these meetings everyone discussed the department programs, courses and curriculum, focusing on the skills that students should have and the changing needs of the business community.

“We’re fortunate to have such an involved board of business professionals,” said Patti Kishel, Department Coordinator of Management and Marketing. “Many of our students are former students and some teach for us, as well. This year was exciting because we had two father-daughter teams on the board for the first time.” Kishel added that her group spent time discussing the department’s new Social Network Marketing Certificate that was developed jointly with the Computer Information Systems Department.

Jesse Saldana and Ali Moady, Coordinators of the Computer Information Systems and Systems/Office Administration Departments, were eager to hear what their board members had to say about developing technologies and the specific skills students would need in the changing job market. Moady said that the new certificate in the area of networking is called a “Virtual Networking Certificate”.

This is a 12-unit program that includes four courses in the area of Network Virtualization. “Network Virtualization is a new topic in the area of Information Technology, since PCs are getting more powerful. Operating system virtualization is the use of software to allow a piece of hardware to run multiple operating system images at the same time. The technology got its start on mainframes decades ago, allowing administrators to avoid wasting expensive processing power,” said Moady. He also noted that all their board members and guests supported the program.

Jenne Miller, who oversees both the Accounting Department and the College’s Distance Education program, pointed out that the school has been very successful in offering “hybrid classes” — classes that combine both online and classroom teaching methods.

Carolee Freer, Department Coordinator for Court Reporting, explained that students have many career options to choose from in addition to court reporting, such as broadcast captioning, deposition agency reporting, proofreading and text-entry, and working as a legal assistant.

Wassenaar, who sat in on each of the department meetings, emphasized the important role of the board members and how the departments would utilize what they said to further strengthen their programs.

Story by Sunny Magdaug. Ms. Magdaug, a student in the Marketing Department, is an intern in the Cypress College Public Information Office.
CHARGERS

Cypress’ top doubles team captured schools first ever individual Tennis State Championship in men’s doubles. Sophomore Oliver Andrzejcuzk and partner Torsten Keil-Long made history for Cypress to add to an already remarkable season, while head coach Jeff Benito earned California Community College Athletic Association State Tennis Coach of the Year honors for 2011.

Andrzejczuk and Keil-Long qualified in the Southern California Regional Tournament played in Palm Desert the week before the and entered the state tournament as the #3 seed from the South.

The pair opened with a victory against Reedley College. In the semi-finals, the Chargers won a re-match with Glendale College. The finals featured a match against Cerritos College.

In only his fourth season as Cypress College’s head coach, Jeff Benito was named CCCAA State Tennis Coach of the Year for 2011.

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Thirty years: John Alexander; George Beyer; Carolee Freer; and Mark Majarian.

Thirty-Five years: Eric Anderson; Regina Ford; and Angela Lippolt-Rios.

Forty years: Russ Flynn and Patricia Ganer.

Retiring: Minnie Allison; Elmo Castro; Rosemary Diesenbruch; Russ Flynn; Donna Friess; Cheryl Gibby; James Griffith; Renie Harter; Cheryl Montgomery and Cindy Ristow.

CONTINUED: Softball Team Heading Back to Finals in Defense of Title

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Riverside in the last game of the Southern California Super Regional held at Cypress College on Friday through Sunday.

The Chargers opened the double-elimination tournament with victories on Friday (4-3 over Santa Ana) and Saturday (1-0 against Riverside) to move into Sunday’s championship with two opportunities to advance.

After falling to the Tigers (37-9) 5-1 in the first game of the day, the Chargers (39-8) flipped the score in the Super Regional finale with some timely hitting, and a gutsy complete-game effort on the mound by sophomore Mia Magalona in her last start at Cypress’ home field.

CONTINUED: Garcia, Pickler to Receive Honorary Degrees Thursday at 44th Commencement

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both members of the Foundation Board of Directors.

They are the second and third people to receive honorary degrees from Cypress College. Their selection was approved this semester by the college’s Academic Senate.

Tommy Lasorda received the college’s first honorary degree last year. Despite the proximity of this year’s awards to the first, Cypress College doesn’t intend to award honorary degrees on a regular basis.

Garcia was selected because of his involvement and altruistic contributions to the community.

As the owner of the La Casa Garcia Restaurants in Anaheim, Garcia is known for being a philanthropist — perhaps most notably as founder of the We Give Thanks organization. We Give Thanks serves those who are less fortunate by providing a Thanksgiving feast. Garcia hosted and served annual Thanksgiving dinners at his restaurant until the crowd grew so large that the event had to be moved to the Honda Center five years ago. He has served a quarter-million people throughout the 246-year history of We Give Thanks.

His influential contributions for the college and communities have been quite an inspiration as Americana’s Man of the Year.

Like Garcia, Pickler is a larger-than-life figure in the local community.

In addition to his 30 years of service on the Cypress College Foundation Board, including a term as president, he has been an active member of the Orange County Water District Board of Directors, the Anaheim YMCA Board of Directors and has been a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Anaheim for more than 45 years.

A life-long civil servant, Pickler’s community involvement includes previous positions on the Anaheim City Council, chairman of the Orange County Planning Commission, Vice Chairman of the Orange County Transportation Authority, Past President of the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities, Chairman of the Orange County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Committee and member of the Water Advisory Committee.

He served as a former Chairman of the Inter-County Airport Authority and as a Vice Chairman of the Joint Powers Authority for the Foothill and Eastern Corridors and has held membership on Anaheim’s Parks and Recreation Commission, the Anaheim Union High School District Board and the Anaheim Public Library Board. Pickler has also been involved with the Dayle McIntosh Center and the Boys and Girls Club of Anaheim for several years.

Notably, he is also the father of Cypress College softball coach Brad Pickler and Cypress College baseball coach Scott Pickler.

It’s Classified Employee Week, “a time when all of us — students, faculty and administrators — can say ‘thank you,’” said Dr. Kasler. Trustees passed a resolution:

• You contribute to the establishment and promotion of a positive instructional environment
• You play a vital role in providing for the welfare and safety of our students
• You strive for excellence in all areas
• You contribute to the quality of education our students receive.

For nearly a half-million students, Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. Cypress College: Motivating Minds.
More than $120,000 was awarded to 345 students at the annual Cypress College Foundation Scholarship Awards ceremony, held on Monday, May 16, 2011 in the Cypress College Theater. The event is the largest distribution of scholarships during the year. In addition to a packed Theater, the event has been viewed online by more than 200 people.
Classified Appreciation Luncheon, 2011

Cypress College employees boarded the SS Cypress College on Friday, April 29, 2011 for the annual Classified Appreciation Luncheon. The event honors non-teaching employees for their critical contribution to the college. At the luncheon, 29 members of the staff were recognized as finalists for the Classified Employee of the Year Award – which was presented to Nancy Pound of the College’s Social Science Division.

ESL Potluck & Scholarships, 2011

Cypress College’s ESL Department held their annual potluck and scholarship awards presentation on Friday, May 13, 2011 in the Cypress College Complex.

2011 End of the Year Luau — Cypress College

Cypress College held its annual End-of-the-Year Luau to honor employees for their service to the campus students. The event took place in the Theater Lobby on Tuesday, May 17, 2011.

Cindy Ristow’s Retirement Party

A retirement party was held for Cindy Ristow of the Library on May 11, 2011.

Photo Galleries
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