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CSU Dominguez Hills Orthotic and Prosthetic Program Moves to VA Long Beach Medical Center

Move will position graduates to address unique needs of returning disabled veterans, as well the general population with mobility issues requiring prostheses or orthoses

(Carson, CA), (Long Beach, CA) – On Friday, August 21, California State University, Dominguez Hills Orthotic and Prosthetic (O&P) Program in collaboration with the VA Long Beach Healthcare System (VALB) will officially open the doors to its new collaborative home on the campus of the Long Beach VA facility. To mark the move and new affiliation, University and VA officials, along with state and federal representatives, will participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. that day.

At the new 10,200 square foot custom built facility at the VA Long Beach, the O&P Program will be able to provide our students and Veterans with unprecedented opportunities to learn and receive the latest in prosthetic care. The new home at the VA also opens the doors for expanding its academic offerings, such as providing vocational needs for returning veterans, and continuing education for VA staff.

“By interfacing with VA health personnel, our students will be exposed to state of the art medical practice and have access to the world class VA Gait laboratory for research. This is a golden opportunity for the CSU, the VA and people in need of prosthetic and orthotic services” Scott Hornbeck, coordinator of the O&P Program said.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is a world leader in prosthetics and rehabilitation. In fiscal year 2008, over 131 board-certified prosthetists and orthotists provided care to over 1.9 million of our nations Veterans with a budget of \$1.6 billion. Combined with over 25 years of educational excellence in O&P by CSUDH, one of only nine such schools in the nation and the only one in California, the collaboration anticipates graduating 48 highly trained students that will represent nearly 20% of the nations practitioners.

The new facility, which will be named the VA Long Beach Healthcare System/CSU Dominguez Hills Center for Orthotics and Prosthetics, will begin serving our newest students and our Nations Veterans within the month. This collaboration will insure the combined mission of education that is shared by both CSUDH and the VA and continue VA’s mission to provide the best health care possible.

For more information about the CSU Dominguez Hills Orthotics and Prosthetics program, visit www.csudh.edu/oandp.

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