



# Alumni Link

September 2009

News and Information for CSUDH Alumni and Friends



Photo by Jeremiah Dobruck

## CSU Dominguez Hills Partners With ShareFest and LAUSD to Encourage College and Leadership Aspirations in Urban Teens

For many teens in the South Bay, summer vacation means family excursions, time on the beach, or possibly a temporary job. For others, attempts to fill the idle hours ends up in gang activity and drug abuse.

To provide better summer options for youth at risk, California State University, Dominguez Hills recently partnered with the Los Angeles-based nonprofit ShareFest and the Los Angeles Unified School District to hold the second annual Youth Development Academy (YDA). The four-week program provided an opportunity for young people to participate in positive activities that instill good learning habits, leadership qualities, and an ambition to go to college.

"Every university should encourage the educational growth of youth by exposing them to a college environment," says David Gamboa, director of Government and Community Relations.

During the YDA, students learned about health, nutrition, character building, decision-making, self-awareness and leadership through activities that included sports, theatre, art, reading, and other educational activities designed to show the many options that exist beyond the self-destructive and high-risk activities that are widely available in their communities.

Click [here](#) for entire article.

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## A Look Back: Velodrome Built for 1984

## CSU Dominguez Hills Orthotics and Prosthetics Program Moves to VA Long Beach Medical Center

The CSU Dominguez Hills Orthotics and Prosthetics (O&P) Program has officially opened the doors of its new O&P lab and classrooms at VA Long Beach Healthcare System (VALB) medical center. A ribbon cutting ceremony last month was attended by students, administrators, practitioners, disabled veterans and community members. For more than 25 years, CSU Dominguez Hills has been a leading educator of prosthetists and orthotists; the O&P program is one of only nine such programs in the nation and the only one in California.

"Through the vision of Director Ron Norby and his VA Long Beach team, a state-of-the-art O&P teaching facility has been custom built to train the future generation of prosthetic and orthotic practitioners," Scott Hornbeck, coordinator of the O&P Program said. "This is a golden opportunity for the CSU, the VA and people in need of prosthetic and orthotic services."

The new facility, which will be named the VA Long Beach Healthcare System/CSU Dominguez Hills Center for Orthotics and Prosthetics, includes two classrooms, two technical laboratories, an instructional demonstration room, a dedicated patient examination room, a gait analysis area, a computer resource room, library, and

## Olympics Brought CSU Dominguez Hills Recognition as Sports and Entertainment Venue

When Dr. Donald Gerth, former president of California State University, Dominguez Hills, was hoping to bring publicity to the university during the 1984 Olympics, he offered the Carson campus as a possible venue to the event chairman Peter Ueberroth.

That conversation resulted in the building of a Velodrome on campus, a world class cycling venue with a 333.3 meter track and seating for 2,500 spectators. For the Los Angeles Olympics, 6,000 were accommodated with temporary seating. The construction, which cost \$3.5 million, was funded by the Southland Corporation (now known as 7-11, Inc.) and was completed in 1981. In preparation for the Olympics, the concrete track was tested with several smaller events, including a human-powered vehicle exhibition in 1983.

Thomas Philo, archivist, University Archives and Special Collections, says that the use of venues at existing locations throughout Los Angeles, enabled the city to host the Olympics without suffering financial losses on a one-time event that would incur substantial expenses.

"[The Olympic committee] was determined to find sponsorship for the events and make sure that Los Angeles didn't take a financial hit like other [cities] had in hosting the Olympics," he says. "Los Angeles became the model on how to do that."

Philo says that the effort required to bring an Olympic venue to CSU Dominguez Hills speaks to the commitment the campus was making to become a vital part of the Los Angeles community, "where people would come for a premier event like the Olympics."

"It put us on the map," he says. "The thought behind it was that we would [later] use it as an outdoor amphitheatre for the university. The further thought was we would make Dominguez Hills the center of collegiate cycling in the country."

According to David Karber, emeritus professor of public administration and former vice president of administration at the time of the Velodrome's construction, building the Velodrome and hosting the Olympic cycling events on campus inspired the development of a CSU Dominguez Hills cycling team.

Click [here](#) for entire article.

## Alumni Notes

**Steven Bradford** (B.A. '85) was elected to California Assembly for the 51st District on September 2. Previously, he worked for Southern California Edison and was a City Councilman for the City of Gardena.

**Elizabeth L. Greenwood** (B.A. '92), has been selected to serve on the Board of Administration for the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS). She is a Deputy City Attorney in the Safe Neighborhoods Division, Neighborhood Prosecutor Section. She has also worked at the San Pedro Branch of the City Attorney's Office in the Homeland Security and Gang Units. She has served the City of Los Angeles since 1996.

**Millage Peaks** (B.A. '75), was named the next Los Angeles fire chief. He will become the second African-American to lead the 3,500 member fire department. His nomination was confirmed by the City Council on September 11.

faculty offices.

Click [here](#) for entire article.

## Upcoming Events

**Sept 21: Graduate School Fair.** 10am - 2pm on the Loker Student Union Vendor Walkway. Additional event information is provided [online](#). There is no registration fee.

**Sept 26: Chivas/CSU Night, 7:30 pm.**

**Club Deportivo Chivas vs. New York Red Bulls.** CSU alumni, students, staff and faculty get discounted tickets starting at just \$15!

For additional questions about tickets contact Stephanie Phillips by phone (310) 630-4571 or email [sphillips@cdchivasusa.com](mailto:sphillips@cdchivasusa.com).

**Oct 15: Beach Cities Alumni and Friends Reception.** Hosted by CSU Dominguez Hills Alumni Association from 6pm-8pm. The reception will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Redondo Beach and Marina; 300 North Harbor Drive, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. RSVP by October 9, 2009 to [tbushee@csudh.edu](mailto:tbushee@csudh.edu) or call (310) 243-3337.

**Oct 16: Homecoming.** Men's Soccer vs. UC San Diego, 4:30pm at the Toro Stadium.

Women's Soccer vs. UC San Diego, 7:00pm at the Toro Stadium.

## Update Your Profile

Stay Connected! Help us keep your contact information current so you don't miss out on invitations to events, your alumni e-newsletter, and more! Update your information online [here](#).

## Did You Know?

Did you know you can make a gift that provides a fixed income for life? More information can be found on our [Planned Giving](#) website or by calling 310-243-2182.

**Philip Schlom** (B.S. '86), has been appointed the principal accounting officer and corporate controller for Park Drilling, a global drilling contractor and service provider. He will have responsibility for all aspects of accounting and financial reporting. He held several financial leadership positions at Flowserve Corporation, and served as an audit and assurance manager for PricewaterhouseCoopers from 1988-1997.

**Jacques Wehbe** (B.S. '89), has been named director of physician services at Saint Vincent Hospital. He will oversee the day-to-day operations of the employed physicians affiliated with Saint Vincent Hospital. He is a certified medical practice executive for the American College of Medical Executives as well as president of the MA/RI Medical Group Management Association.

***We'd like to hear from you!*** Your friends at CSU Dominguez Hills want to know what you're up to! Email the Office of Alumni Programs at [alumniprograms@csudh.edu](mailto:alumniprograms@csudh.edu).

Did you know that the percentage of alumni who make donations to CSUDH is one of the primary ways we are judged in publications like US News & World Report? Your gift, regardless of the size, helps your alma mater! Visit our [Online Giving](#) website to make a donation or call (310) 243-2182.

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