Graduate student Sawandi Salimu

Sawandi Salimu: Eye-Opening Mission in Nigeria Has Graduate Student Looking Forward to Medical Career

Sawandi Salimu (Class of ‘09, B.S., biochemistry) is busy this summer. With his sights set on medical school, he is preparing to take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) and to begin his graduate studies in biology at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Despite the rigors of medical school ahead however, he says he feels prepared thanks to his experiences on a medical mission in Africa with physicians and other volunteers from the Anambra State Association (ASA), a nonprofit led by Nigerian professionals who now live and work in the United States.

Salimu says that his work with ASA for several months in 2007 to 2008 shaped his goals and inspired him toward a career in helping to diminish global health disparities.

“In the U.S., there are demographics of the population that are underrepresented, but a social safety net exists to mitigate their medical [shortfall],” he says. “In Nigeria, especially outside of the nation’s capital of Abuja (formerly Lagos) there was very little representation. This is not an indictment of the Nigerian government, but an opportunity to illuminate the lack of clinical representation and research [to the extent] we are able to rely on at home and abroad.”

Salimu assisted one of his mentors, ophthalmologist Dr. Leroy Vaughn, with cataract surgery to restore sight to

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Share Your Memories!

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of California State University, Dominguez Hills, we invite you to share with us your stories about campus life and what comes to mind when you reflect on your experience here.

From our alumni, we’d like fond memories of fellow students or professors, reminiscences of student life and academic progress, or how your experiences at CSU Dominguez Hills have shaped your lives and careers.

Please send all submissions, either in written (not to exceed 200 words) or photographic form to jharmon@csudh.edu. We will accept submissions throughout the 50th Anniversary celebration, which ends at Commencement 2011.

Please include your name, major and graduation year; if you are also CSUDH staff or faculty please include your title and department, and the year you began your
geriatric patients. While this is a common procedure among elderly patients in the United States, Salimu points out the tragic results of the lack of medical care in Africa.

Click [here](#) for entire article.

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Jan Seal fords the waters of international trade

**Jan Seal: Globetrotting Consultant Proves International Trade is a Small World After All**

Management consultant Jan Seal (Class of ‘00, MBA) has worked in international trade markets for 35 years, witnessing significant changes in a field that is dependent on good relationships between nations. Working with a variety of industries that include textiles, automobiles, electronics, furniture, food and beverages, she has served as a consultant and given seminars to hundreds of major import and export companies. She says that one of the greatest challenges faced by the import and export business is keeping informed of governmental rules and regulations that are constantly changing in every country.

**Dateline: What inspired you to enter a career in international business?**

**JS:** I originally wanted to teach elementary school, which I did in California for a short time. I quit that job to move to New Orleans due to my husband’s job. The only job I could find at the time was a clerical position working for the Regional Commissioner of Customs in New Orleans. I became interested in the work done by the agency and got a professional job with U.S. Customs when we moved back to California. After leaving Customs, I started working as an independent contractor.

**Dateline: What are some of the greatest challenges facing the import and export industry right now?**

**JS:** I would say it is probably trying to come up with strategies to advance a business in a highly competitive
world, with not only advances in technology by competitors in some industries but also the cost of manufacturing, logistics, marketing, and being able to make enough profit to stay in business.

Click here for entire article.

Music Department Earns Full Term of Accreditation from NASM

The music department at California State University, Dominguez Hills has recently been given another full ten-year accreditation by the National Association of Music Schools (NASM). Richard Kravchak, professor of music and the department’s chair, says that CSU Dominguez Hills is one of only nine music departments in all of California to hold accreditation from both NASM and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, an achievement he is proud of in the face of the state’s budget reductions in higher education and that he credits “the degree of personal involvement of all of our faculty in the education of every music student.”

“All of our music professors are practicing creative musicians at the highest level as well as being pedagogues,” says Kravchak. “They all can ‘walk the walk,’ and this gives their pedagogy relevance and credibility with our students.”

Kravchak says that accreditation requires departments to employ highly qualified faculty, design a course of study that features the most current best practices, and show that students can demonstrate appropriate learning outcomes. He says that he and his colleagues make every effort to maintain their international standing as musicians and composers while using these experiences to enhance their teaching in the classroom.

Click here for entire article.

Alumni Notes

Linda Berri (MA ’94) was recently appointed President to Westchester Playa Village, a volunteer-based, member-based, non-profit organization that aims to address the immediate demand among baby boomers and the elderly to remain living in their own homes.

Lisa Mabry (MBA ’06) was recently appointed associate athletic director at California State University, Long Beach.

Terri Norwood (MA ’00) was a top 5 finalists in The Great American Teacher of the Year award given by the Ron Clark Academy in Georgia. She founded Bright Stars Reading Club, a non-profit literacy program in Inglewood.

Gary L Singer (BA ‘05) has accepted the position of the new Emergency Management and Preparedness Coordinator at California State University, Dominguez Hills. In his new role he will be serving in the Risk Management,

program of educational, cultural and social opportunities for retired an semi-retired individuals age 50 and above.

Tuesday, Aug 17
1:30pm
Open House: learn about becoming a member of OLLI

Wednesday, Sept 15
1:30pm
50th Anniversary Alumni Event. Presentation by Dr. Judson Grenier, Emeritus Faculty, History Department

Sunday, Oct 10
1-2:30pm
"Songs for the Second Half," a concert reading of a musical
Admission: $15 OLLI members and $20 non-members
Location: EE-1213

Tuesday, Oct 19
1:30pm
Open House: learn about becoming a member of OLLI

For more information contact Jim Bouchard at 310-243-3729 or jbouchard@csudh.edu

Click below to view more Alumni Events and Alumni Photos.

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
Environmental Health and Occupational Safety Department.

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 alumnipograms@csudh.edu.

Questions? For questions about editorial content, e-mail Porsche Gordon.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, contact Alumni Programs.