Dr. Gayle Ball-Parker new Director of Alumni & Family Programs

Gayle Ball-Parker (Class of ’78, B.A., psychology) recently joined the Division of University Advancement as the director of alumni and family programs for California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Ball-Parker has served on the Alumni Advisory Council and worked for many years in the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. Most recently, Ball-Parker served as the director of university outreach and information services where she developed strategic communications and programs to engage prospective students, and managed the daily outreach and recruitment operations. Key programs included the annual Day at Dominguez event that brings over 2,500 visitors to the campus; the Super Sunday event, part of the CSU’s African American Initiative, where each year university leaders speak at churches across the state; and the CSU Super Saturday College Fair that is produced in partnership with other CSU campuses and held on the CSUDH campus each year.

In her new role, Ball-Parker will be responsible for producing programs that build greater alumni connections with the university and coordinating alumni fund solicitations. She will also develop a family and parent program to reach out to this important constituent base. “I am looking forward to reaching out to our alums and...
reconnecting with many of the former students that I helped bring to campus in my previous position,” said Ball-Parker. “I am also very excited about our new program for family engagement, which will create more opportunities for parents and families to connect with the campus and support the university.” Ball-Parker earned a doctorate in Educational Technology from Pepperdine University, a Master’s in Community-Clinical Psychology from CSULB, and a Bachelor’s in Psychology from CSU Dominguez Hills. She credits her great education and the amazing faculty at CSUDH with giving her the strong foundation to eventually earn her doctorate.

The Alumni and Family Programs office coordinates special alumni events and programs to strengthen connections with over 80,000 CSUDH alumni in order to build greater alumni participation and advocacy for the university. Join us in extending a warm welcome to Gayle!

Alumni Processional participants

Alumni Connect and Experience Graduation

About 70 California State University, Dominguez Hills alumni returned to the university to participate in the 2012 Commencement exercises Friday, May 18. After reminiscing and celebrating with cake during a private pre-reception held in their honor, the attending alumni, in full regalia, led the procession of soon-to-be graduates of the College of Business Administration and Public Policy into The Home Depot Center Tennis Stadium.

For Frankie Stewart (Class of ’83, B.A., sociology; ’86, M.S., behavioral science), the alumni processional is a not-to-miss event that helps her recapture the feeling of being in college.

“Academia is near and dear to my heart. Every September I agonize that I’m not in school,” said Stewart, a retired Kaiser Permanente administrator, who was participating in her fifth alumni processional. “This is a chance for me to get some of that feeling back.”

Full article.

Upcoming Events

I HAVE THE RIGHT Exhibit
Presented by PICTURE Art Foundation
Days/Time:
Monday-Thursday
10:00am-5:00pm
Friday-Saturday
10:00am-3:00pm
Exhibit runs through late summer 2012.

Location: PICTURE Cultural Art in the lower level of the new University Library South Wing, CSUDH, 1000 E. Victoria St.

For more information please email or call (310) 243-2359.

Ensuring Your Legacy Complimentary workshop Presented by Vince Fraumeni of Fraumeni Consulting
Wednesday, June 13
Time: 10:00am-11:30am
Locations: EE-1213

Increase gifts to heirs, create supplemental income and reduce income taxes. Attendees will receive a complimentary packet of valuable estate planning materials.
RSVP to jenosara@csudh.edu or (310) 243-2182 by June 6th.

Connecting Women to Power Business Conference
Thursday, June 14
Time: 8:30am– 5:00pm
Location: Loker Student Union
Cost: Free
Registration to the conference is required. To register for the conference or for further information, click here.
Alumna Lois Lee Participates at CSU Dominguez Hills 2012 Commencement

Alumna Lois Lee (Class of ’77, M.A., sociology) served as one of the keynote speakers for the California State University, Dominguez Hills University 2012 Commencement Ceremonies, which took place over two days, Friday, May 18, and Saturday, May 19, in The Home Depot Center Tennis Stadium on the CSU Dominguez Hills campus.

Lee has made it her life’s work to help young victims of human sex trafficking as founder and president of Children of the Night, which she created in 1979. The first comprehensive program in America that provides services to and advocates for individuals forced into prostitution, it is now a model for similar programs throughout the world. Her research and work in this area is used by legislators to craft tougher sentencing laws for pimps, and by law enforcement and social workers in their response to child sex trafficking victims. Lee also has a Ph.D. in sociology and a law degree.

Her speech to students can be viewed on the CSUDHTV Youtube channel by clicking here.

Meet the 2012 Scholarship Recipients

2012-2013 Jamina O. Barnes Scholarship Recipients

“This support that I am receiving from Alumni will go toward my textbooks so that I can complete my last year in the MSN, Clinical Nurse Leader Program.” -Tuyet Lam, Graduate Student

“I am blessed to have received the scholarship. It will ease the burden upon my shoulders and make my way to success a less bumpy route.” -Shoaib Madar, Undergraduate Student

2012-2013 Alumni Scholarship Recipients

“Thanks to your generous support of Alumni I will be able to continue with my dream of becoming the first in my family to attend college. Without this scholarship I would be struggling to complete my last twelve units required to obtain a B.A. in Negotiation, Conflict Resolution...
and Peace-building." — Martha Sanchez, Undergraduate Student

Alumni Notes

Susan Carter (B.S. '05) was appointed as president of the 2012-2013 Board of Directors of The American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPaN). Prior to the presidency, Ms. Carter served ASPaN in a number of capacities, including treasurer, Region 1 director (Western United States), coordinator of the 2007 National Conference Committee and on various other committees. Susan is also a nurse at the University of California, San Diego, where she has worked since 1993, most recently in the Student Health Center, working in urgent care.

Nina Nieves (B.A. '06) has announced her engagement to former Cal State Dominguez Hills student Rex Richardson. As soon as she said "yes" the helicopter took a steep lunge off the U.S. Bank building in Los Angeles. The stunt was part of Richardson's elaborate proposal, asking her to "take a leap of faith." The couple met while they were both attending Cal State Dominguez Hills but never dated during college. They were able to reconnect on Facebook, after Nieves posted photos of a trip to China.

Joshua Swerdlow (M.A. '02) has been appointed as the principal of East Avenue Middle School. He began his educational career in Compton as a high school math teacher. After six years of teaching, he served three years as high school vice principal in the Los Angeles area, and six years as vice principal of a middle school in San Jose. Josh has served as vice principal of Granada High School during the 2011-2012 school year.

In Memoriam

John Auld, one of California State University, Dominguez Hills Department of History's earliest professors and San Pedro resident, passed away on April 8 from complications of dementia. He was 71. Auld joined then-named California State College, Dominguez Hills in 1968, when classes still being conducted on the Watt Campus across Victoria Street from its current location, and enrollment had just exceeded 1,000 students. He retired in 2000. To read his full obituary, click here.

Janice Carol Ball (B.A. '85) passed away on January 31, 2012, at her home in Redondo Beach with family by her side after a courageous 12-year battle against cancer. Her passion included coordinating and fundraising for the Mammograms & Manicures program at El Camino College, which provided mammograms to low-income women. In addition, she was instrumental in expanding the tutoring program at El Camino, which helped countless students, and previously developed the Alternative Curriculum Education Program (ACE) at Redondo Union High.

Peter Rodney, California State University, Dominguez Hills Department of Theatre and Dance professor, died on
Saturday, April 14, after a long illness. He was 63. Rodney came to CSU Dominguez Hills in 1982 to lead its theatre arts program. He served as chair until 1988 and again from 1992 to 2004. It was under his leadership in the 1980s that the program received its first accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Theatre. To read his full obituary, click here.