Compassion and Advocacy, All in a Day’s Work for Alumna Barbara Haney

Although she has a laid-back demeanor, Barbara Haney is a fierce advocate for those with developmental disabilities. As director of community development for Social Vocational Services Inc. (SVS), a California non-profit organization headquartered in Torrance that provides job placement for individuals with developmental disabilities, the California State University, Dominguez Hills alumna (Class of ‘89, M.S., special education: severely handicapped) oversees a staff of five people, with whom she works to provide services for more than 300 employers in Southern California, including Toyota, Disneyland, Broadcom, and Chili’s.

“We’re really the eyes and the face of SVS out in the community, getting jobs for the clients we serve and educating [employers],” Haney said. “This is a selling job, what we do. We’re out there selling the concept.”

Full article.

Former White House Intern, CSUDH Alumna Andrea Smith Inspired to Serve Others

Before attending California State University, Dominguez Hills, Andrea Smith never imagined she would someday land an internship...
at the White House in Washington, D.C. But in May, the alumna (Class of ’08, B.A., psychology; Class of ’12, Master of Public Administration), completed a five-month internship in arguably one of the most sought-after programs for aspiring politicos—the White House Internship Program.

“I would never have thought this was even possible for someone who grew up in South Los Angeles,” the native Angelino said. “It’s given me so much confidence in my ability. ... It’s made me realize that I can honestly do anything, I can be anything.”

Full article.

Alumna Alexxandra Salazar Immersed in Cambodian Culture

Alexxandra Salazar, 24, has come a long way since graduating magna cum laude as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar in May of this year with a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from California State University, Dominguez Hills. In fact, the California native is about 8,000 miles away immersed in Cambodian culture.

Salazar was selected in spring by the nonprofit Teach Cambodia, Inc. to serve for a month as a volunteer and intern in Cambodia. Within days following commencement, she arrived at the South-East Asian village of Wat Bo in Siem Reap to assist Sambour Primary School with the undertaking of an international Peace Pals project, which teaches children about peace through various art activities.

Full article.

Alumni Notes

Anna Rubin (M.S., ’02) has been appointed as the new administrative director of Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride, Inc. She has a 20-year background in nonprofit education,
and health and human services. Most recently, she was director of operations at New Millennium Secondary School. She also worked in the Downtown Women’s Center in Los Angeles, and was director of programs at the Gay and Lesbian Center of Long Beach.

$249K National Science Foundation Grant to Send Students to Australia to Study Climate Change