Alumna Karen Bass: Leading From the Hill

Congresswoman Karen Bass didn’t set out to become the first African American woman to serve as California’s Speaker of the Assembly when her peers in the legislature tapped her for the job in 2008. In fact, if someone had asked about her aspirations four years prior, elected office likely wouldn’t have been on the list.

“I was pushed to run for office by the former Congressmember Diane Watson, because in 2004 there were no African American women in the state legislature,” Bass. “And I did, and it was fine because I found that all the experiences I had before really prepared me to do that. But it hadn’t occurred to me to go up there and be in charge of the whole thing.”

Now Bass can add another first to her bio—the first graduate of CSU Dominguez Hills to serve in the United States Congress. She made the jump to the national political stage in 2010 becoming a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 33rd District representing Culver City and portions of Los Angeles, On Jan. 3, 2013 she was sworn in for a new term representing the redrawn 37th Congressional District of California.

Full article.

Mike Bugason: Brokering Peace in Central Africa
Mike Bugason (center) looks on as the AU Special Envoy for LRA issues (left) shakes hands with Uganda’s Defense Minister during a 2012 ceremony in South Sudan.

Surviving a devastating decade-long war in his hometown of Arua in the West Nile region of Uganda, Africa, has led California State University, Dominguez Hills alumnus Mike Bugason (Class of ’09, M.A., negotiation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding) to a career of helping those affected to heal from the wounds of conflict.

“The negotiation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding (NCRP) degree greatly shaped my outlook on conflict, with the Restorative Justice and Peacebuilding (NCR 541) course particularly inspiring me to join global efforts aimed at healing the wounds of conflict associated with the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA),” Bugason stated.

Based in Bangui in the Central African Republic at the Secretariat of the Joint Coordination Mechanism for the elimination of the LRA, Bugason serves as an advisor to the African Union (AU) Special Envoy on the issue concerning the LRA, a terrorist group led by Joseph Kony, who received heightened worldwide attention with the documentary video “Kony 2012,” which, as a result of going viral online, sparked a global outcry for his arrest.

Full article.

CSU Dominguez Hills among First Campuses to Offer Degree Programs through New Cal State Online

California State University, Dominguez Hills will be among the first CSU campuses to offer bachelor’s and master’s degrees through the new Cal State Online, an initiative to provide a centralized structure of online program delivery for the CSU system.

The Cal State Online website, www.calstateonline.net, launched this week (see the California State University system’s press release here) and is accepting applications for programs to start later this year.

Three of those will be administered by CSU Dominguez

Please click here for event dates.

Art Exhibition
Lost and Found- A North Sea Collaboration
Jan. 30 - March 26
Monday - Thursday, 10:00am - 4pm
Opening reception:
Wednesday, Jan. 30
Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Location: University Art Gallery
For additional information click here.

CSUDH Alumni Baseball Game
Sunday, Feb. 10
Time: 11:00am
Location: Toro baseball Field

Join the current Toro Baseball team in hosting the 25th Annual Robert L. Wing Memorial Alumni Game. The game will feature baseball alums including current and former professional baseball players, former All Americans and many other rostered players from years back. There will be players on hand from our very first team in 1971 to last year's graduates.

8th Annual Student Research Day
Thursday, Feb. 21
Time: 7:00am - 5:00pm
Location: Loker Student Union-Ballroom C
For additional information please click here.

Speed Networking with Working Professionals
Wednesday, Feb. 27
Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Hills, with classes starting in May. They include the university’s existing Bachelor of Science in Applied Studies, an interdisciplinary degree completion program geared to working individuals who have some college course credits; as well as the expansion of its Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Public Administration (MPA) offerings. The programs will be delivered in an accelerated format, with two eight-week sessions per semester in a trimester year, providing the potential for a student to complete his/her degree in 18 months from anywhere in the world.

Full article.

Alumni Notes

Marie-France Sam (B.A. ‘04) was recognized by Palos Verdes Peninsula High School as Teacher of the Month for January 2013. Sam began her career as a high school French teacher eight years ago after having worked for many successful years in corporate finance. She told the staff and students at PVPHS that becoming a teacher has been the best decision she has made in her life.

Gerald L. VerDuft (M.S. ‘97) was recognized by the ASQ (American Society for Quality) Board of Directors in November for sustained leadership within ASQ at multiple levels. He demonstrated consistent quality improvement principles within aerospace in government service, the private sector, and in academia, and for innovative leadership within ASQ in both technical committees and through section leadership. ASQ is a professional society for quality assurance professionals.

Steve Williams (B.A. ‘71) was installed as the new senior pastor of Grace Community Church of Seal Beach. Williams and his wife, Trish, has been member of the church since 1989. He had been an associate pastor at Grace Community since 1996.

Faculty Highlights

Larry Rosen

Larry Rosen, professor of psychology, was interviewed by NBC Los Angeles on January 2, 2013, about people’s...
growing obsession to mobile devices, the psychology behind it, and what psychological problems can result. Rosen is the author of “iDisorder: Understanding Our Obsession with Technology and Overcoming its Hold on Us” (Palgrave MacMillan: New York, 2012), which is co-authored by Mark Carrier, professor and chair of psychology, and Nancy Cheever, associate professor and chair of communications at CSU Dominguez Hills.

Bring your resumes and dress professionally.

For additional information please click here.

More Alumni Events and Alumni Photos available on our website.

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.

Helpful Links

Athletics

Alumni Connection

Alumni Giving

Dateline: Dominguez Hills

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.

Questions? For questions about editorial content, e-mail Gayle Ball-Parker.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, contact Alumni Programs.