Google Glass, Others Offer Business Students Insights into Cutting Edge Enterprise

Students along with faculty and staff from California State University, Dominguez Hills were given a glimpse into the future, if not through rose-colored glasses certainly through futuristic ones.

Director of development for Google Glass Explorer David Zakariaie provided an overview of the so-named device, during a presentation hosted by the Hospitality Technology Research Institute (HTRI) in the university’s Financial Market Trading and Business Simulation Lab.

Plans are being considered for CSU Dominguez Hills students to become more involved in the development of the product as it gets ready to go to market.

“We’re going to have a group of students and we hopefully will start off after the summer or this summer with internships and then maybe doing the test applications here on campus,” said associate professor of management and HTRI director Natasa Christodoulidou. “Our students will be pioneers.”

To provide students, staff and faculty insight into other types of cutting-edge business enterprise, HTRI also hosted representatives from two additional innovative companies who discussed details of their business model and product.

Dario Mutabdzija, CEO and founder of the Palo Alto-based BlueSeed com-
pany, visited the university to discuss his brainchild, a “city on the water,” an offshore community, on a repurposed cruise ship stationed on international waters 12 nautical miles from the coast of San Francisco, that would allow startup entrepreneurs from anywhere in the world to launch or grow their companies near Silicon Valley.

In the third presentation, top executives from SurfAir, a Santa Monica-based entrepreneurial private airline membership company, shared details of their product innovation in the airline industry.

“I think it is important for our students to be exposed to ‘real life’ applications of what we teach them in the classroom while at the same time it gives them an opportunity to network. The Hospitality Technology Research Institute gives them this opportunity to expand their business horizons,” said Christodoulidou.

CBAPP Hosts Successful Women Leaders Symposium

“Don’t ever underestimate confidence. Even if you don’t know what you’re doing at the moment, act like you do. Fake it until you can make it.”

“Never let them see you sweat.”

These are just some of the words of wisdom imparted to about 175 students, mostly women along with several men, faculty, staff, and guests by a panel of prominent women business and community leaders at the Successful Women Leaders Symposium hosted by the College of Business and Public Policy on Feb. 25.

The diverse group of women, director of recruitment at Northwestern Mutual Kristin Burke, attorney at law Sonia Waisman, professor emeritus of nursing at El Camino College Linda Leon, and alumna Alice Harris (Class of ’76, B.A., Sociology), a community organizer and founder and executive director of Parents of Watts, shared insights into how they found success in their careers as well as advice for students who are preparing for or are early in their careers.

Blanka Salgadl, a senior majoring in business, said the discussion was “motivational and inspirational.”

The symposium was the second of a series sponsored by CBAPP.