

Congratulations to Lecturer Alison George, graduate of SJSU with a masters of science degree (1996) from the OT Dept., who received the Provost Award for recognition of supporting the OT Department in working on the Departmental Writing Standards. Read more about it on the next page.



CASA ALUMS STAY

INVOLVED

Hospitality Management

Jerry Wang, Cisco, has offered Hospitality Management students a behind the scenes tour of Cisco's Global Events as well as linked students with a live teleconference with all of Cisco's Global event planners in North Carolina and Santa Clara. He has also assisted with the internship program and reached out to majors to include them in the American Cancer Society gala and golf event, a charity he represents. So far, three hospitality management alums have joined Jerry at Cisco.

Alum **Jose Zarate** began on the Fairmont Hotel San Jose bell staff and was selected as a Fairmont Management intern during his time matriculating with the Hospitality Management program. He continued to work hard and earned his current position as director of human resources at the Fairmont Hotel, San Jose. He has supported Hospitality Management students by offering tours, internships, jobs, projects, guest lectures, and more. Jose represents what the Hospitality Management degree is all about and continues to open doors for our Department as an ambassador for the Fairmont Hotel.

Journalism & Mass Communications

Rob Barlow, master's in mass communications, is Cisco's director of global product and solutions marketing. Rob now teaches part-time as an adjunct professor in public relations.

Rene Shimada Siegel, public relations, '83, president of Hi Tech Connect, a high-tech placement firm for communications professionals is now in her second semester teaching a public relations case studies course. In addition, for a number of years, she has sponsored the Rene Siegel scholarship for diversity students in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Rene is an outstanding example of an alumna who has not only given back in terms of providing scholarships but also sharing her years of experience in the classroom.

Health Science & Recreation

Professor Robert Rinck, lecturer features alum **Mark Ciopyk** to speak in the community health undergraduate class about his job at Kaiser Permanente.

Matt Milde, Recreation Coordinator, City of Menlo Park, SJSU graduate 2007 and 2010, enjoys coming back to speak to Professor Philly Toney's Rec 97 Special Event class and has done so for the past five years. He also speaks to Professor Linda Levine's Rec 10 class, Creating a Meaningful Life. He is also on the guest panel for the Recreation Mentorship Event.

School of Information

Joyce Monsees, alum, School of Information enjoys the role of executive director for an international disaster response nonprofit and has been able to speak to Dr. Chris Hagar's classes to illustrate how actionable information can help victims receive emergency services faster and more effectively. She especially enjoys answering questions about how volunteers for nonprofits are chosen, trained and informed, as well as questions concerning organizations that use these types of services.

Nursing

Jill Sproul MS, RN, manager of the burn unit at VMC and burn survivor herself, graciously shares her knowledge with nursing students in the Advanced Medical Surgery theory course every semester and tries to hire SJSU grads.

Occupational Therapy

Dr. Gigi Smith, graduated with both a bachelor of science and masters of science degree in Occupational Therapy from SJSU, she is now associate professor of occupational therapy. Dr. Smith received the Graduate of the Last Decade Award in 2006. She also started the Pre-OT Club at SJSU, developed a student track for the professional state conference and continues to co-chair that group to insure that students are included as part of the professional conference, serves as the faculty adviser for the Student Occupational Therapy Association, and regularly mentors students from the Occupational Therapy department.

Alison George, Lecturer graduated with a masters of science degree from SJSU's Occupational Therapy Department. She is now a lecturer in the Occupational Therapy Department. She supports students in a variety of areas and regularly provides mentorship. Professor George received a Provost Award for recognition of supporting the OT Department in working on the Departmental Writing Standards so all Occupational Therapy faculty have the same expectations and requirements for student writing across the curriculum.

Nutrition, Food Science & Packaging

Tyler Hirasawa and **Cerelia Catindig** are dedicated alumni, who now work as food scientists at Kagome, a Japanese sauce company. They are very generous with their time and expertise and have come back multiple times to speak to current students about being Food Scientists.

Nazarina Larida is currently employed at Evergreen Nutrition Program as a Nutrition Field Specialist. She monitors, trains and educates over 400 providers on the policies and procedures to ensure providers are in compliance federal regulations for the Child and Adult Care Food Program. She frequently comes back to the department of Nutrition, Food Science and Packaging to speak to classes.