

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

LET'S GO! ¡ADELANTE!

August 2023

Engge Ocampo-Morales to Lead CHC Student Senate



The incoming Crafton Hills College student senate president, Enggie (pronounced Engee) Ocampo-Morales, will begin her term in August as the fall semester begins.

She is majoring in psychology and sociology and taking Spanish and theatre arts courses. She is an active member of the theater department, having participated in seven productions on campus. She is also a member of the Theatre, Fashion and Multicultural clubs.

Ocampo-Morales has participated in the CHC Student Senate for three years, serving in the last senate as its internal affairs director and community college student senate regional treasurer.

She has also been an active member of the CHC Honors Institute since Spring 2021 and completed 100 hours volunteering, enough to win the Presidential Volunteer Award this past spring. And with all this activity, she currently has a 3.85 GPA.

The student senate serves the campus by fostering involvement, awareness and unity among students. As President, Ocampo-Morales is dedicated to providing students with opportunities for developing leadership skills through participation in student government, campus clubs, and committees.

One of her goals as student body president is to be a great representative for CHC

students. "This means having a good conversation with the students at Crafton. Students who work full-time, part-time students, international students -- I want to accurately represent all the students on campus. I'd like to know what they love about Crafton, even what they don't love about Crafton so that my senate and I can make it a better environment as well as a successful school year for them," says Ocampo-Morales.

When asked how she can get students to be involved in college issues, Ocampo-Morales responded, "When it comes to community college, it is rather difficult to fully produce student engagement due to many just wanting to earn a degree, that's it. Again, get in and get out. Yet, through the best of my ability, I will ... engage with the individuals in charge of Crafton to find ways to let everyone in the school community know that school is a safe place, all are welcome, and biased words and actions are unacceptable."

After graduating from Crafton Hills College, Ocampo-Morales hopes to earn her bachelor's and perhaps master's degree in either Psychology or Sociology and hopes to one day have a career in social work or health care.

Photo: Enggie Ocampo-Morales.

A Legacy of Compassionate Education and Community Service

Janine Ledoux moved from her hometown of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, to southern California in 1988 to attend Loma Linda University. Before attending Loma Linda, she earned her bachelor's degree in physical education and worked as a physical fitness director. One of her responsibilities was to recruit guest speakers for various health and wellness topics. When one speaker did not show up, she filled in and delivered a presentation on stress management. This experience led to a passion for educating adults about health-related topics.

She then resumed her education at Bridgewater State College, where she earned her master's in education in health promotion. She went on to earn her doctoral degree in public health at Loma Linda University in 1992. During her studies she was hired as an adjunct instructor at Crafton Hills College. In August of 1991, she was hired as a full-time faculty instructor in

CHC's physical education (now kinesiology and health) department.

Janine's accomplishments are too numerous to include all of them here, but in addition to her being a favorite instructor among CHC students, Janine also initiated CHC's COACH (Creating Opportunities and Changing Hearts) program. She enlisted students, family members, and friends to establish a food pantry and community garden.

The COACH Program provided service learning and helped provide food and personal hygiene items for students experiencing food insecurity. Janine recruited student volunteers to serve at monthly community dinners at the Blessing Center and Family Service Association of Redlands; work at the COACH Cupboard food pantry; and plant, care for, and harvest vegetables in the garden. More importantly, students learned about "giving back" to the



local community.

Her work as a professor has remained rooted in the belief that knowledge is secondary to compassion. She says, "Show people that you care before you share what you know. Always lead with your heart and your life will be enriched."

Photo: CHC Professor Janine Ledoux.

Jeffrey Smith Joins Crafton Hills College as the New Dean of Social, Information and Natural Sciences



role he officially assumed on July 3.

Smith, who previously served as chair of the history department at the University of Hawaii at Hilo (UHH), called starting at Crafton a "full circle moment" having grown up in the area and beginning his career in education in neighboring San Bernardino at Crafton's sister college, San Bernardino Valley College, and Cal State San Bernardino.

Smith said he is currently settling into his new role with his Crafton family cheering him on, calling the community's welcome "kind, warm and great." His goal is to build roots within Crafton's walls, and has a plan in place to make that happen. "Some things I'd like to do is make strong connections with students and the faculty and the staff here at Crafton," he said. "It's a family environment here and in order to be effective [in your role] you have to build those personal connections at all levels.

"The amount of effort Crafton puts into their students is also remarkable," Smith continued. "In my short time here, the number of times I've seen faculty and staff go above and beyond for their students has been incredible. This isn't the type of place where people are just coming in and punching the clock – it's a group of people that are more so following a calling."

"Here, you can get a world-class education and take it wherever you want," Smith said.

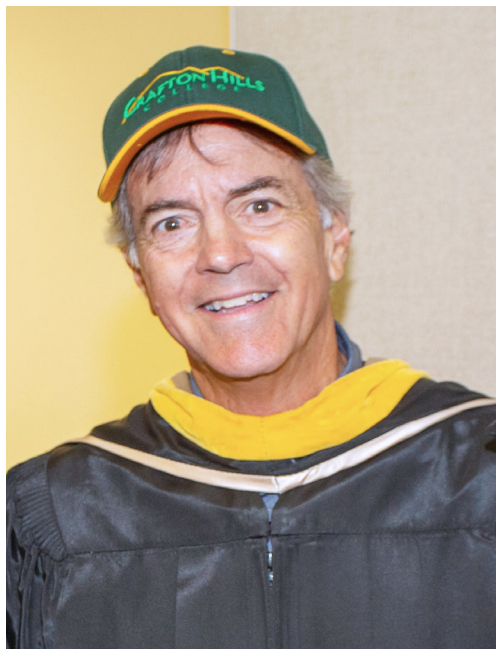
Smith holds a bachelor's, master's and doctorate in history from the University of California, Riverside. He is the recipient of the UHH College of Arts & Sciences Achievement Award and has spent much of his career teaching world and U.S. history and writing courses both in a classroom and online setting. Smith currently lives in Yucaipa with his wife and three daughters.

Photo: CHC Dean Jeffery Smith.

Crafton Hills College will soon welcome a new crop of Roadrunners to campus for the Fall semester. But behind-the-scenes, the Yucaipa-based college has been growing internally by welcoming new faculty and staff on board over the break.

Meet Jeffery Smith – Crafton's new dean of social, information and natural sciences, a

Ralph Rabago Says Goodbye to Crafton Hills College



he earned his bachelor's degree. He then moved on to the University of Idaho, where he completed his master's.

In 1989, Rabago began his tenure as a full-time physical education instructor at Craton Hills College and taught a wide variety of activity classes, including basketball, volleyball, hiking, weight training, tennis (competitive and noncompetitive), golf, and – most recently — pickleball. Ralph introduced pickleball classes at CHC before most of us knew anything about this oddly named sport. Ralph has been a mainstay in teaching academic classes as well, teaching Introduction to Kinesiology, Introduction to Health & Wellness, and Nutrition for Fitness and Performance.

Ralph Rabago knew he would be a coach and teacher back when he was an elementary school kid in Whittier, California, and began to appreciate sports competition. After completing high school, he attended Rio Honda College and then the University of Redlands, where

Ralph has also served Crafton Hills College in many key leadership positions: Kinesiology & Health Department chair, faculty senate president, district assembly chair, lead CTA negotiator, CTA grievance representative, Planning and Program Review committee co-chair, Distance Education committee

chair, and Curriculum committee co-chair.

Rabago's colleagues have recognized his contributions by twice awarding him the Professor of the Year award. He has also won the prestigious WHO ("We Honor Ours") Award, which the Community College Association (CCA) of College Teachers Association (CTA) awards to members who have made a significant contribution to their local faculty association. Ralph also leaves the legacy of leading a six-plus-year effort to develop and implement intercollegiate athletics at Craton Hills College. We now have intercollegiate swimming and water polo teams and have begun a cross-country running team.

Although Ralph is retiring as a full-time faculty member, he is looking forward to leading pickleball coaching workshops for the Professional Pickleball Registry (PPR) and offering private pickleball lessons.

Photo: CHC Professor Ralph Rabago.



Roland Hosch Presents at ISTE Conference

On June 26, Roland Hosch, an adjunct computer and technology professor at CHC, delivered a presentation at the International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) in Philadelphia.

The focus of his presentation was centered around the implementation of coding and robotics to effectively teach elementary students their math standards, replacing the traditional math textbook approach.

During Hosch's presentation, he demonstrated a Rapomook Digital Story Telling Machine that allows students to write, act and broadcast their own movies.

This innovative approach Hosch uses in his classroom resulted in the creation of a student-produced movie titled "Mission to Mars," which subsequently premiered at the Harkins movie theater in Redlands this past May.

Hosch is a member of a cohort of teachers from the Redlands Unified School District who each earned a computer science credential from the University of California, Davis, the first-of-its-kind credential in the nation.

Photo: CHC Adjunct Professor Roland Hosch presents at ISTE Conference.

Krysten Audibert Named Director of Crafton Hills College's New MESA Program

Crafton Hills College recently initiated an exciting new program, launching the long-awaited Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement Program and hiring Krysten Audibert to lead it.

The program – better known by its acronym MESA – provides student-based resources to educationally disadvantaged students seeking degrees in math-based subject areas. MESA will be a component of the Crafton STEM Center, an on-campus science, technology, engineering, and mathematics student support resource with a mission to help Roadrunners “thrive academically, encourage curiosity and build community.”

Said Audibert, “My hope is that the MESA program truly integrates into the culture and infrastructure here at Crafton Hills College. We already have such wonderful support services on campus, but this is an opportunity to advance equity and success for students in STEM.”

Audibert's passion for STEM education and the community college system made for a great pairing when Crafton officials were seeking a director for MESA, which is funded through the California Community College Chancellor's Office. The 31-year-old Rancho Cucamonga resident spent years in STEM-based classrooms during her time as a student at Alta Loma High School and Cal Poly Pomona, where she obtained

a bachelor's in integrated education with a concentration in biological sciences and a master's in biological sciences. In the fall, she plans to begin a doctorate in a Leadership for Educational Justice program at the University of Redlands.

Audibert comes to Crafton from the Chaffey College Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to raising money for students to successfully obtain a college degree. Audibert said Crafton's mission and values resonated with her, calling her new post at CHC an ideal fit.

“I was ready to take on something in a larger capacity,” she explained. “STEM education has been something I have been really passionate about and [becoming director of MESA] is an ideal position for me to transition into something new and start fresh in a new community, with new students, new colleagues, and a new opportunity.”

Audibert has a list of goals she wishes to accomplish in the program's first years, including building upon undergraduate research opportunities, growing and developing relationships with local businesses to allow for student-based hands-on work and research experience, and helping to guide students to develop or discover a passion for higher education in whichever capacity they choose.



“Programs like MESA are vital to the Crafton Hills community because they provide support and opportunity to students who need it the most,” she said. “Ultimately, we want our students to be successful in their pathway beyond Crafton, whether that be transferring to a four-year institution or entering the workforce.”

“Programs like MESA expose students to resources that can help transform dreams into reality and combat the disproportionate racial and ethnic representation in STEM, which does not currently reflect that of the national population,” Audibert continued. “This is how we make steps to closing equity gaps, improving outcomes, and providing students with a transformative experience here at Crafton and beyond.”

Photo: CHC Director Krysten Audibert.

Save the Date!

CHC Paramedic Graduates please join us for a
PARAMEDIC ALUMNI RECEPTION
as we celebrate the 100th Paramedic Class Graduation

August **25** 2023
 Friday

Alumni Reception 5-6pm in Crafton Center
followed by
Graduation Ceremony 6-7:30pm in Performing Arts Center