



Our News. Our Community. Our CNI College.

AMBASSADOR OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION AWARD

Raul Hidalgo has the esteemed honor of being recognized as CNI's Ambassador of the Month for May. Before being hired on as a Registrar for all programs in Building D and Medical Assisting in August 2010, Raul was a Certified Medical Assistant working at another college as a Teacher's Aide and Registrar in Student Services. Recently, his CNI responsibilities shifted to becoming Registrar for our Vocational Nursing Program.

According to those who know him best, Raul is one of the nicest, happiest and most respectful guys you'll ever meet. And the exceptional customer service skills he shares with the students here at CNI College are further enhanced by a great sense of humor, a most pleasant personality and consummate professionalism. Always a great team player, Raul is often called upon to assist his co-workers with various special projects given his valuable technological expertise.

Devoted to his tight-knit family, which includes one brother Raul is known for his love of baseball (especially the Angels) and watching/attending sporting events whenever possible.

In his spare time, he loves sightseeing and visiting various landmarks throughout Southern California with his girlfriend and friends.

Congratulations Raul for this most deserving recognition!



MICHELLE DOBSON TAKES ON A DUAL ROLE



Michelle Dobson has worked at CNI College for the past five months proving herself to be a valuable resource within our Admissions Department. Recently, she was promoted to a position requiring her to wear several hats – one as our Social Media Director, the other as Administrative Assistant to Director of Education Kay Kenyon. Her duties will include being a Test Proctor, handling orientations and open houses and maintaining our various social media networking.

Michelle completed a Medical Assisting program in 2006 and worked as an MA for over a year and a half. She then went on to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Communications during which time she wrote for the school's newspaper and a local magazine. She says she's "always wanted to work in education since it's a passion of hers."

She recently moved into a new house in Old Town near the Orange Circle, so decorating and antique shopping now takes up much of her free time. Maintaining close ties to her tight-knit family, Michelle is also quite devoted to her two nephews and one niece.

We are delighted to have you on board Michelle & wish you much success in the future.

WELLNESS CHALLENGE II FINAL RESULTS...

We are very happy to announce that the overall winner of our most recent Wellness Challenge is **Sandra Santebanez** who had a weight loss of 7 pounds - an 8% drop from her start weight. Our runner up was Jason Valdez, who lost 8 pounds (which amounted to a 6% overall loss). In all, he has lost 26 pounds to date, though the additional 18 pounds was lost prior to this competition.

We started with a total 10 participants and finished with five. The Wellness III Challenge is now underway having begun on April 16th and is scheduled to run through June 7th. We have more participants than before and are very pleased to welcome a number of new individuals, many of which hail from our LVN program.



JOIN CNI ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER & MORE!

CNI College is connected to keep you connected on various social media platforms including **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Yelp**, **Youtube**, and **LinkedIn**. If you have not joined already, we encourage you to join and share on some of the conversations on either www.facebook.com/cnicollege or www.linkedin.com/company/cni-college.

Happy Birthday WISHES TO...

Manuel Cases	May 4
Kevin Langie	May 8
Ashley Arredondo	May 9
Abe Ortega	May 11
Nick Mendoza	May 12
Guizel Vazquez	May 19
Frank Kraetz	May 20
Monica Vazquez	May 22
Ruth Vielma	May 25

IT'S YOUR ANNIVERSARY... Congratulations!

1 Year:	
Bobbie Gardner	May 7
Joanne Bermudez	May 9
Basil Nueirat	May 12
Carolyn Osborn	May 14
Kendall Evans	May 23
Manuel Cota	May 24
Claudia Restrepo	May 31
2 Years:	
Ryan Shannon	May 3
3 Years:	
Abe Ortega	May 18
Monica Vazquez	May 18
Courtney Crow	May 28
4 Years:	
Audrey Jacob	May 27
6 Years:	
Mayra Canela	May 30



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT: FRANK KRAETZ

Pierre DeAngelo Young deserves credit for providing us with incredible "tribute like" insight into what makes the subject of this month's In the Spotlight, **Frank Kraetz**, such a gifted leader and mentor here at CNI College. His life story is both interesting and inspirational and one we're sure you'll all enjoy.

Frank was born at St. Joseph's Hospital and likes to joke that he just crawled across the 22 freeway in order to come teach at CNI. He has always known the love and support of his two parents - his ultimate role models who encouraged him to follow his heart and his dreams, whatever they might be, and gave him the unconditional love to do so. Though he likes to joke that he was a happy only-child for 9 years, he has been blessed with two younger sisters, Katherine and Lora. Katherine works as a Certified Nursing Assistant and Lora as a second grade teacher, so the bug for both medicine and teaching apparently runs in the family.

As a child, science was one of his favorite subjects because he was so intrigued by learning about the way the world works. He initially aspired to be a filmmaker and even checked out film school at UCLA. However, after a seminar that his pastor did on finding your purpose in life it occurred to him that he could help more people by a career in the medical field - the interest for which was sparked by reading through medical journals his father brought home from his second job. It was initially like trying to read Chinese for him, but he was magically intrigued and vowed someday to be able to understand the enigmatic tomes. Frank also one gave thought to becoming a medical illustrator because he also loved art, however he hadn't really pursued this seriously since winning an award in first grade. Furthermore, he found that his desire to really interact with others lead him to want to become a physician.

Pursuing his goals early on, he volunteered at a hospital as a teenager and took a course for adults in medical terminology for anatomy and physiology over the summer when he was 16 years old. When a medical assistant course failed to provide him with any viable job prospects of working with blood and guts, he decided to join the Navy Reserve at age 22. Although he was considered a Corpsman, he was trained at a civilian school in surgical technology at Long Beach Paramedical and Technical College, the only vocational school around at that time. Frank's initial intention was to work as a surgical technologist to gain practical experience in the medical field and as a means of financial support for college on the path towards medical school.

During his undergraduate studies in pre-medicine, he took a mandatory introductory course in psychology and became so fascinated with the subject matter that he voluntarily took a succession of other courses related to psychology and sociology. Frank's interests progressively grew, and he chose psychology as his minor emphasis. As a surgical technologist, he thrived on the challenges of surgery, working collaboratively as part of a team of medical professionals knowing full well that he was contributing to the patient's welfare in a meaningful way. However, he came to realize that his passion had more to do with the miracle of the human body than the practice of medicine. He understood that a commitment to become a physician required a

love of medicine; consequently, he considered the alternative career of becoming a psychologist.

When he transferred to upper division at California State University Long Beach, he chose psychology as his major. He enjoyed gaining insight into himself both interpersonally and in relation to others, as well as understanding people in a more dynamic manner. He was interested in learning what makes us who we are and why we do what we do. Given that he worked his way through undergraduate studies out of necessity, he needed a change of pace before delving into graduate school. Upon discovering a foreign work program, he moved to Japan to teach English for a year. Living in a new country and contending with a foreign language and culture were sometimes difficult but always exciting challenges. As a result of this adventure, he gained an experiential knowledge of what it means to be a stranger in a strange land, which deepened his appreciation and empathy for others in similar predicaments. Following this, he attended the Rosemead School of Psychology at Biola University because of the high quality of the faculty, the didactic experiences offered, and the numerous clinical training opportunities available in the Los Angeles-Orange County area.

Frank has always been curious and enjoyed new discoveries, and considers himself to be an eternal student of life. He enjoyed teaching, whether didactically or clinically and believes one of the best ways to learn something is to teach it to someone else. Even prior to teaching English in Japan, his initial experience began early in his medical career as a lead surgical technologist where he was responsible for being a preceptor and indoctrinating new employees. After working in the field for a number of years, he was finally afforded an opportunity to be an educator at an adult vocational school teaching anatomy and physiology, surgical principles, operative procedures, and laboratory skills. Frank remembered how influential his instructors were for him and has been proud to contribute towards the welfare of others who are improving their lives through a new career.

In addition to working in the field of surgical technology, Frank had the opportunity to teach psychology courses at Biola University, Azusa University, a Korean international school in Anaheim, and at Daystar University in Kenya, Africa, where he lived for a summer. There is an old adage in the medical field that he has always followed: "See one, do one, teach one." He believes that working as a surgical technologist necessarily involves teaching neophytes in the field to pass along the knowledge and experiences that he has benefited from while scrubbing. "Just like with scrubbing in the OR and teaching students at CNI, working with clients in the practice of psychology enables me numerous opportunities to be challenged to learn and grow." The role of a therapist, in comparison to that of a physician, has the added advantage for developing deeper, more meaningful relationships with clients, which is something he highly values in working with students as well. Frank strives to be the best he can be and I am glad to call him my "friend."

Frank, who received his PhD in Psychology last year is affectionately known as "Dr. Frank" and has been with CNI College for the past two years. He can teach all subjects in Surgical Technology and his happiness and passion for teaching and life shows through in all he does. A "can do" person, he is a professional with a perpetually positive attitude.