Welcome to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} issue of our Fall 2012 newsletter. It has been an amazing and successful semester for CASSA. In order to show our appreciation, the executive board would like to thank you for all your time and incredible efforts in supporting our club and making a difference. We wish you good luck on finals and an awesome holiday break! See you next year! 😊

Members of the Month

**OCTOBER:**
Congratulations to Janelisa Vasquez! She has earned a total of 23 hours in leadership, community, and event attendance services. Janelisa showed major contribution to CASSA through her participation in our bake sale, scavenger hunt, general meetings, guest speakers, CHOC Walk, Haunted Garden social, OC Zoo-tacular, Second Harvest Food Rescue, and donated to Clarissa's dream, pull tabs, Orangewood, and box tops.

**NOVEMBER:**
Congratulations to Dee Dee Young who has earned 14 hours of services. She has attended Fristers, Orangewood Family and Children’s Center, Pretend City, guest speaker meeting, and our general meetings as well as donated to Girl’s Inc: Winter Workers and Clarissa’s Dream.

In order to show our appreciation, both members were rewarded with an extra hour of leadership for their extensive volunteer efforts!

Thank you to Janelisa Vasquez & Dee Dee Young!
Guest Speaker: Jennifer Palmquist by Dee Isen

On October 18th, CASSA invited Jennifer Palmquist to be our guest speaker. She is the coordinator for CAST (Child Abuse Service Team). During our meeting, members donated food and beverages for us to enjoy while listening to her speech. It was powerful and informative. She spoke to us about what it was like working within her community by sharing stories and showing CASSA another career path we could take as CHAD (or non-CHAD) major.

Guest Speaker: Jenna Walton by Jennifer Maddock

On November 29th, we had guest speaker, Jenna Walton, a speech and language pathology assistant at Tustin Unified School District, share her experience within the field of speech therapy. We listened to how technology is now bridging social gaps for students who have language challenges. In the past, the available expensive voice machines were bulky and certainly not socially acceptable compared to current handheld technology. In her direct therapy interactions with her students, she celebrates each language success. Jenna’s face lit up as she recalled one recent therapy triumph when one of her non-verbal students excitedly reached for an Ipad and communicated with her for the first time with the request of “juice and fish crackers please.” Those called to the field of speech therapy truly make a difference in these student’s lives through hard work and perseverance.

Collette’s Children’s Home by Monica Sanchez

On November 16th, I attended Collette’s Children’s Home silent and live auction at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine. Some items being auctioned were a big bear trip, fire station tour and lunch with the firefighters, home visit by a chief with a dinner for 11, and so forth. This organization has been helping mothers and their children get off the streets by providing them with a full furnished home for 14 years. I felt extremely honored participating in their event and making a difference.
On October 19th, CASSA visited Orangewood Family and Children center with candy-filled Halloween boxes that members made during one of the general meetings. It was a big hit. Needless to say, this was my third time back and it was well-spent with the older group of children. We had different stations set up where we played basketball, apples to apples, Jenga, made key chains, and bracelets. The key chain was one of the most favorite activities because we made Pikachu which is a pokemon from a cartoon of the same name. Although it was challenging, the children had fun and didn’t give up. I definitely love coming to Orangewood because the experience is never the same, but the atmosphere will always be full of smiles and laughter.

Orangewood Part 2 by Yadira Cruz

On Friday, November 9th, a few CASSA members and I went to Orangewood Family & Children Center. I must admit, I was a bit nervous about going to Orangewood; I had never been there before. We were greeted at the lobby by one of Orangewood’s friendly staff members and were told the children would be between the ages of six and eleven. We had a room set up with a coloring station, Toy Story 3 Memory Game station, and a beaded jewelry station. Once the children walked in, they sat down at a station of their choice and the fun began! My favorite moment was when a group of children and some CASSA members began singing Carly Rae Jepsen’s “Call Me Maybe” and showing off their dancing skills by shuffling. Needless to say, my nervousness disappeared within minutes of the children walking in. The smiles that we helped create on the faces of children who have suffered abuse are memories that I will never forget.
Pretend City: Halloween Bash by Audrey Lejarde

On October 22nd, CASSA had the opportunity to participate in Pretend City’s Halloween Bash where families dressed their children up in costumes ranging from superheroes to Disney characters. The atmosphere was full of good vibes and fun energy. Each CASSA member had the role of managing two different stations in increments of an hour. The stations were a grocery store, library, amphitheater, petting zoo, farm, and so forth. My first position was greeting families as they entered, and my other job was to organize the raffle for several prizes affiliated with specials at Pretend City. The night ended with a lively “parade” around the ”Orange Plaza” in which the children lined up to say goodbye and showcase their costumes. In all, Pretend City’s Children’s Museum is a wonderful facility that provides children with educational means and hands-on learning through role play.

Pretend City: Autism Night by Michelle Canatsey

Volunteering at Pretend City Children's Museum for their “Autism Night,” on November 26th, was an awesome opportunity. Pretend City is a mini real life city that includes a beach, post office, cafe, marina, city hall, and much more. During my time there, I was able to interact with autistic children and their families around the water at the marina with fishing poles and nets as well as watch performances of them at the amphitheater. I was also able to encourage the children in the art studio as they made artwork out of colored rice and clay. Overall, Pretend City was an absolute blast.
October Bake Sale by Diana Valencia

Our first bake sale was held on October 24th and 25th. Both were a great success because the energy level of CASSA members was soaring through the roof. Everyone was very enthusiastic and we were able to raise more than $500 from both days combined! Our success was due to everyone who helped bake all the Halloween treats and for the awesome club members who worked the table. I helped at the table on the second day of the bake sale and it was a very fun experience working with my fellow CASSA members. I can’t wait for the next bake sale where we can all work together again!

November Bake Sale by Sabrina Mercer

On November 28th and 29th, CASSA volunteers met outside of the Humanities building to participate in the second bake sale of the semester. After a very successful bake sale in late October, members were eager to try and match the $575 they had previously earned. Unlike a traditional bake sale in which goods have specific prices, CASSA asked for donations in exchange for the delicious baked goods. Many CSUF students and faculty were happy to contribute to the organization; in fact, several students even came back asking for seconds! More importantly than raising money, it was the opportunity that the bake sale provided for CASSA members to work together for a common goal. The enthusiastic members always cheered as increasing numbers of students approached the CASSA booth. It was a great opportunity for members to get to know one another and for students unfamiliar with the organization to learn more about CASSA.
OC Zoo: Pumpkin Carving by Adrianna Van Oyen

CASSA members were given the wonderful opportunity to volunteer at the Orange County Zoo on Friday, October 26th, to carve pumpkins for the annual Zoo-tacular taking place the following day. The morning flew by quickly as we conversed and carved pumpkins that would be filled with treats for the animals or used as decorations around the zoo. The Orange County Zoo is located in Irvine Regional Park, a less-than thirty minute drive from Cal State Fullerton. It hosts animals and plants native to the southwestern United States in addition to the domesticated animals at the petting zoo. CASSA members were thanked for volunteering with tickets that functioned as four free admissions (regularly $2 for visitors). I used my ticket to bring my sister and visiting relatives to the Zoo-tacular the following day where we were able to witness the animals enjoying the pumpkins CASSA helped carve previous day! It was an amazing experience.

OC Zoo-Tacular by Karina Kho

Halloween is the time of year where people of all ages dress up and go trick-or-treating for lots of yummy candy! This is exactly what hundreds of children did on October 27th, at the annual OC Zoo-tacular event held at the Orange County Zoo in Irvine Regional Park. Children, along with their families and friends, were different animal species enjoy pumpkins, but were also able to of their own! They trick-or- various craft tables, participated their face painted, and much was not only an incredible children, but for myself as well. of many children and adults smile on my face. I commend such an amazing and successful event where children and adults could enjoy Halloween with their family and friends in a safe and friendly environment.
Haunted Garden Social by Lisa Nelson

On the evenings of October 26th and 27th, CASSA members braved the dangers in Cal State Fullerton's own arboretum for their 9th annual Haunted Garden. The arboretum was transformed into a spooky maze to celebrate Halloween with fellow students and volunteers dressed as scary monsters who were ready to pounce and scare the daylights out of anyone who dared enter. Our CASSA members joined the festivities to take a break from their hard work in the community and to support our school. While twisting and winding through the maze, members clung to one another in an attempt to save themselves from the monsters popping out at them. Fortunately, once we braved the horrors in the maze, we were rewarded with a Haunter's Ball that had arts, crafts, snacks, and festive music. The spooky scream-filled night ended on a high note with new friends made and no lives lost!

Bowling Social by Jannie Cao

On November 2nd, the CASSA team gathered at the TSU Titan bowling alley to challenge each other in a fun and friendly social. Instantly, we jumped in and knocked down those pins, cheering each other on and high-fiving every chance we had. Some members brought appetizers and drinks which helped keep everyone on their feet. The experience was different because it was a chance for everyone to enjoy each other’s company while engaging in silly conversations about who bowled better than whom. Throughout the night, we took pictures and showed our enthusiasm for our group.
Our Lady Titans played an exciting volleyball game against Cal Poly Pomona on Friday, November 16th. Our fellow CASSA members cheered on our Lady Titans as they played to a 3-1 victory. Feeling the CSUF spirit in the gym created an exciting and energizing experience. It was fun to bond with CASSA members and experience four exciting volleyball matches. Since joining CASSA, I have become more involved on our campus and feel more a part of the CSUF family through the close friendships I’ve created during the semester.

Our first ever CASSA Olympics was held on November 1st. Members all shared an amazing experience popping balloons, leapfrog, over-under with legos, solve the riddle, and so much more! We even had the opportunity to learn some new games through our members, especially an intense version of Simon Says called “Do This, Do That.” If we don’t do a second round of CASSA Olympics during spring semester, we are definitely going to continue the new tradition next Fall. It was a great experience for board members to interact and get to know each other in a different setting. Next time I will be ready to compete in workout clothes instead of boots!
General Meeting: Feast with the Dean

By Michelle Fenstermaker

On Thursday, November 8th, CASSA members along with students of the College of Health and Human Development took advantage of the opportunity to meet and dine with Dr. Shari McMahan, Dean of the college. Despite grey clouds and puddles from earlier showers, we met on the second floor patio of the EC Building as the rain stopped. Dr. McMahan spoke briefly about the progress of the college and goals for the future. I was personally lucky enough to have the Associate Dean of the college, Dr. Kathy Koser, seated at my table. As students, we were given the opportunity to discuss our individual goals and how the college has helped each of us succeed as well as provide suggestions for progress. Accompanying all of this, was plenty of delicious food like pizza, chicken wings, fruits, and carefully wrapped cupcakes. This was a great opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow CASSA members, pursue an interest in the Health and Human Development College, and satisfy every college students’ desire for free food.

General Meeting by Stormi Nishimitsu

On November 15th, Dr. Stout was scheduled to speak at our meeting, but unfortunately lost his voice that day. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to having him speak next semester! Even though we didn’t have a guest speaker, our board stepped it up a notch by planning a fun game for us to play while providing us with in-n-out, taco bell, drinks, and snacks. We played the electricity game where members were split into two groups: “Team Awesome” and “Team Cool.” We were required to have all eyes closed except for the captain. When given the signal, it was a race to get the “electricity” (hand squeezes) to the end of the line and be the first to grab the trophy (water bottle) in order to move forward. It was a game of teamwork, trust, and speed. It got a bit competitive, but it was all in good fun and brought out all of our team spirit.
Second Harvest Food Rescue by Phi Nguyen

On October 28th, a few CASSA members met up at the Anaheim Convention Center to participate in the Second Harvest Food Rescue. We were there to help with packaging foods that had the “donation” sticker on them. It was very hard work because we were required to clear some areas of the Convention Center by carrying crates and boxes of fruits that were not light! Overall, it was a very rewarding experience because it was for a good cause. Furthermore, I got to meet and bond with other CASSA members and get a great work out as well.

Blind Children’s Learning Center by Molly Behrens

A group of CASSA members went to the Blind Children’s Learning Center on November 10th to help spruce the center up. The goal of the center is to provide early intervention and empower children to have courage to do things for themselves. The children that go to the center are sometimes in fragile health and for them- a simple cold could turn into a long hospital stay. At our arrival, we were split into two groups and each group cleaned a therapy room from top to bottom with bleach. We cleaned everything from floor mats and toys to light switches and walls. We finished earlier than expected, so we washed some of the outside equipment too. We definitely enjoyed our time there getting to know each other while cleaning for a good cause and still having fun.
On November 12th, CASSA attended Frister’s holiday dinner event. Fristers is a wonderful non-profit organization founded and operated upon Christian principals; created to empower young moms for life. At their holiday dinner event we interacted with the children while their mothers had time to themselves. We played with blocks, balls, and toy cars in the daycare room which also had an arts and craft section where we helped the children create Thanksgiving based crafts. Towards the end of the night we helped set up a little holiday dinner for the kids to enjoy as well. They all seemed to love the night’s activities and I had an amazing time with them at Fristers. I think all the moms are very lucky to be a part of such a beneficial organization.

On Saturday, November 18th, CASSA members were able to take part in the 12th Annual Day of the Child event hosted by Children Uniting Nations that took place at the world famous Santa Monica Pier. CASSA members had the privilege to be dubbed “mentors of the day” and were all assigned foster children mentees. Mentors accompanied their mentees the whole day by riding the Ferris wheel, roller coaster, playing carnival games, and even getting their boogie on with live entertainment. It was a great experience picking up a mentee and spending the whole day with them. The children were also able to get tons of cool books and toys which really seemed to brighten their eyes. I personally would make this event my number one recommendation to any CASSA members looking for opportunities to volunteer!
Kathy Ireland – December 1st

Clarissa’s Visit & Snow Day – December 6th
## Upcoming Spring Events

### February:
- 6 & 7 – Discoverfest
- 14 – Pizza Social
- 21 – General Meeting
- 28 – Guest Speaker: Dr. Dallas Stout

### March:
- 7 – General Meeting
- 14 – Guest Speaker
- 21 – General Meeting
- 28 – General Meeting

### April:
- 11 – Board Elections
- 18 – Carnival of Change
- 25 – General Meeting

### May:
- 1 – Celebration of Achievements Awards
- 2 – Guest Speaker
- 9 – General Meeting
- 11 – Color Run
- 16 – General Meeting

**Events Subject to Change**
MISSION STATEMENT

CASSA is the Child and Adolescent Studies Student Association. Our mission is to provide students with opportunities to develop leadership and professional skills. CASSA also provides opportunities to interact with fellow students and faculty in an atmosphere that fosters social networking by hosting weekly meetings, socials, and community events.

Cord Policy:
Minimum of 30 hours as a paid member for 2 semesters
- At least 2 hours of leadership service
- At least 6 hours of community service
- At least 5 hours of event attendance (meeting or socials)

For more information, feel free to email us at:
csu.f.cassa@gmail.com

Or stop by our office in EC 542

Monday: 8 AM – 3:45 PM
Tuesday: 7:45 – 10:45 AM, 11:30 AM – 2:15 PM, 4-5 PM
Wednesday: 8 AM – 12:45 PM, 2-5 PM
Thursday: 8 – 11:45 AM, 2:30 – 3:45 PM
Friday: CLOSED