

KINESIOLOGY PROFESSOR HONORED, TWICE!

BY: SUSANA RIOS

Welcome to the nineteenth Issue of the CHHD Student Newsletter. Our purpose for this Newsletter is to connect you—our students—to the College.

This issue has news and updates about the college as well as important dates and reminders of upcoming events.

Please contact Asst. Dean Lewis (see pg 2 for contact info) to send your news items.

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Dr. Robert Kersey, professor of Kinesiology in the College, was recently honored with two awards. Dr. Kersey has worked at Cal State Fullerton for over ten years and has made many contributions to the field of Kinesiology. He is proactive and demonstrates unprecedented leadership skills as the Director for CSUF's nationally accredited (CAAHEP) Undergraduate Athletic Training Education Program. He is also a reviewer for the Journal of Athletic Training, a manuscript reviewer, and book review editor for Athletic Therapy Today. It is no surprise that not one, but two associations honored Dr. Kersey for all of his hard work and contributions over the years.



Photographed above: Dr. Kersey

Dr. Kersey was feted by both the National Athletic Trainer's Association (NATA) and the Far West Athletic Trainer's Association (FWATA). These associations honor professionals for their dedication and contributions to the field of Athletic Training. The Certified Athletic Trainer profession is a health care profession that specializes in injury prevention, injury assessment, treatment and rehabilitation; medical professionals work with physicians in the treatment and healthcare of physically active people. Due to Dr. Kersey's dedicated work in the profession, both associations honored Dr. Kersey with the Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer award. The awards recognize Dr. Kersey's leadership and contributions on both national (NATA) and district (FWATA) levels.

Dr. Kersey humbly admitted that a colleague nominated him for the NATA award, and he filled out the forms which required documentation of his extensive leadership skills. As a member of NATA for 31 years, he has been of service to NATA through volunteering, teaching, by participating in professional committees and with the Board of Directors for the foundation, as well as contributing research to the profession. Recently he met with government representatives in Washington DC as they passed legislation that contributes to the advancement of athletic training.

When asked to comment on what he was presently researching, Dr. Kersey said that every year the NATA professional organization publishes one to two statements on a particular topic. He was chosen to research and report on the anabolic steroid use in athletes. His research has taken approximately 2 years and the report will be completed in one year.

As meaningful as his awards are, Dr. Kersey chose to emphasize the success of the Athletic Training Education Program at Cal State Fullerton. As March is Athletic Training Month, he wanted to report how thrilled he was that the Bachelor of Science for Athletic Training was approved by the Chancellor and the degree will be offered as of Fall 2009. This accomplishment speaks to everyone that has made the existing program successful.

Furthermore, the profession is still fairly young, but growing. Just as Dr Kersey is a hard worker, the 16 bright students currently in his program were selected because they are extraordinary representatives for the future of athletic training. He adds that, "hopefully Cal State Fullerton students play a role in instilling a passion for excellence."

“Keeping the Dream Alive”

article by Lindsey Ellsworth

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The month of February brought many events to Cal State Fullerton in celebration of Black History Month. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legendary "I Have a Dream" speech is one of the most historical moments of Black History; so it's no wonder that Cal State Fullerton's Housing Department and African America Resource Center challenged its students to create their own speech dedicated to "Keeping the Dream Alive."

The Martin Luther King Speech Competition drew many contestants, including one from the College. Nursing Senior Austin Nation, Director of Communication for the College of Health and Human Development InterClub Council was one of five finalists chosen to present his original five to seven minute speech to those in attendance on February 25 at 7 PM in the Cobb Resident Hall's Cypress Multipurpose Room.

Austin sat in anticipation as Cal State Fullerton's first Martin Luther King Jr. Speech Competition began. Following a brief introduction to the event, the audience was treated with a performance of the uplifting song, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," by housing resident Jackie Razon. Then, a powerful rendition of Dr. King's famous speech "I Have a Dream" was given by guest Lord Byron Scott.

Finally the competition began. The competitors spoke of tolerance, education, individual responsibility, being a good role model, and their own efforts to contribute to Dr. King's dream. After the speeches by competitors Dominique Williams, Matthew Marnell, and Jessica Arce, it was Austin's turn.

Austin's speech entitled, "Can We Keep This Dream Alive?" questioned the progress of our nation on civil rights. He reflected on the passage of Proposition 8 and spoke of threats of violence against our nation's first black president, Barack

Obama. "Has there been enough progress? Is there equality for all?" His questions challenged the audience. Nation spoke of times in which our nation came together regardless of race, gender, orientation, or creed such as the aftermath of September 11, 2001 and after Hurricane Katrina's devastation. He challenged the audience to have that compassion every day and engaged them in an activity with their neighbor sitting next to them. In closing, Austin urged the audience to do their part as the audience applauded his performance.

The last competitor, Freshman Gina Alessi, spoke about her sisters with Down Syndrome and pushing civil rights and equality beyond skin color to every person and concluded the competition.

Now it was time for the judges to deliberate. After a reading of Maya Angelou's poem, "Equality" and a performance by CSUF's hip hop team, Elevate, the judges returned with their decision. Each competitor was thanked and congratulated for their courage, but there could only be one winner. Though Austin and the other competitors gave wonderful speeches, the prize of a \$100 gift card was awarded to Freshman Gina Alessi.



Photographed above: Senior Austin Nation

NOTE THIS! DATES AND REMINDERS

March 24- ICC Health Expo- Day one of the third annual ICC Health Expo will be a symposium-based event dedicated to learning about health and will be located in the New Student Rec. Center from 10AM-1PM.

March 26- ICC Health Expo- Day two of the ICC Health Expo in the New Student Rec. Center from 11AM-1PM will feature many activities and live entertainment such as dance performances and a rock-wall climbing contest to bring fun and exciting ways to support a healthy lifestyle.

March 30- April 5- Spring Recess- Although classes will not meet, campus will remain open excluding Cesar Chavez Day on Tuesday March 31.

*Information on upcoming events provided by California State University, Fullerton Campus Calendar

<http://hhd.fullerton.edu/>