

# Cerritos College 2013



Est.

HALL *of* FAME

2012



*Distinguished Female Athlete*  
*Volleyball*

*Traci Dahl*

**A** two-time All-American selection while playing volleyball at Cerritos College, Traci Dahl was instrumental in leading the school to its only state championship in 1992 after they lost in the championship match the previous season. Traci, is second in school history with 782 kills and holds the school record for single-season blocks (174) and career blocks (343). She was a two-time conference Player of the Year and named the state's Player of the Year as a sophomore. She was an All-American middle blocker on Cal State Long Beach's 1993 National Championship team and followed that up by being named as an All-American her senior campaign. Traci began her coaching career at Cerritos from 1995-97 and has served as the head coach at Downey High, as well as an assistant coach at Cal State Fullerton and Hofstra University. She is now in her fourth season as the head coach at Indiana State University.



*Distinguished Male Athlete*  
*Soccer*

*Marcelo Balboa*



One of only three people to play on three US World Cup teams, Marcelo Balboa was a two-time all-conference selection (1986-87) on the Cerritos College men's soccer team. Considered one of the 'founding fathers' of the US Soccer program, Marcelo was a member of the US National Team from 1988-2000 and was a part of Major League Soccer from its inception. He was a first-ballot inductee into the MLS Hall of Fame in 2005 and has served as an ESPN and ABC Sports broadcaster. During his time on the national team, Marcelo collected 128 caps. His Major League Soccer career included 24 goals in 152 games as a defender and he was known for his bicycle kicks. Marcelo was also named the US Soccer Athlete of the Year twice and currently works in the front office of the Colorado Rapids of the MLS.





*Distinguished Coach/Administrator  
Football, Track and Volleyball*

## *Gene Martin*

Gene Martin was the first athletic director at Cerritos College and served on the college's first football team as an assistant coach. In addition to serving as a football coach, Gene, who worked at Cerritos College from 1956-89, also spent time as a track coach, volleyball coach and was a counselor to the athletes. Gene spent 40 years serving as a coach, instructor and director of counseling until 1989, as well as 20 years as a college football official. He was an All-American football player (and four-sport athlete) at Stanford University. Gene eventually aided in the design of the Cerritos College gymnasium, football field and baseball stadium during its construction.





## *Distinguished Alumnus*

# *Dr. Gary Smuts*



**D**r. Gary Smuts attended Cerritos College after graduating from Norwalk High School. While at Cerritos, he was on the football team, the forensics team, and was a member of the student Supreme Court. He also received a Bronze Falcon award for his service to the college. He holds a doctoral degree from the University of La Verne. In his 37 years at the ABC Unified School District, Dr. Smuts held many leadership positions beginning with teacher, coach, principal, and eventually superintendent. As superintendent, he worked to expand the relationship between Cerritos College and the ABC Unified School District, always exploring better ways of helping students transition from high school to college. As a result of his outstanding leadership in education, he earned the distinguished title of Association of California School Administrators' Superintendent of the Year for California in 2009. Dr. Smuts continues to be an advocate of Cerritos College. In 2012, Dr. Smuts successfully led the college's Measure G campaign as the campaign manager.





*Distinguished Classified*

# *Shelley Pesanti*

Shelley Pesanti began her employment with Cerritos College in 1989 as the Mail Clerk/PBX Operator in the Communication Center/Mailroom. During her employment at Cerritos College Shelley also took on responsibility for continuing the football booster club tradition. She became involved with the booster club several years ago, when she stepped up to run the club after the departure of the original organizers. At football games, she can be seen walking around the stadium selling 50/50 tickets to the fans to raise money for the football team. Her retirement in 2011 hasn't stopped her from boosting for the football team. In the 2012 season Shelley raised over \$5,000 for the football team by selling 50/50 tickets and various other items. Shelley and her family also established through the Cerritos College Foundation the Kristy Pesanti Scholarship in memory of her daughter Kristy to continue her legacy and honor her love for education and volleyball.



*Distinguished Faculty  
Speech Communications*

*Bill Lewis*



Bill Lewis came to Cerritos College as one of the first members of the Speech Communications Department in 1964. During his 25 years at Cerritos College he helped to define the Speech Department, the college and parts of the athletics program. Bill led the forensic team to win six back-to-back state championships and five national championships setting a national record. These accomplishments were the result of his ability to spot talent and motivate students to push their boundaries. His longstanding influence has been felt outside the college as well. In 1966 Bill co-authored *Guidelines: Rhetorical Criticism*, which is still referenced today as a standard for authors of rhetoric, persuasion and argumentation nationwide. Also, for 25 years until he retired in 1989, he graced audiences with his great oratory skills by serving as the public address announcer for all home football and basketball games, as well as women's softball.





*Distinguished Corporate Partner*

*Conant Auto  
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Dave Conant*

*D*ave Conant has been the CEO of the Conant Auto Retail Group (The CAR Group), one of the largest and fastest growing privately owned auto groups, since 1997. Dave operates nine automobile franchise corporations in Southern California and Florida, and several other related businesses and ventures. The success of The CAR Group has been built upon fair and ethical treatment of customers and employees. Dave is often recognized for his outstanding community and industry service and as an activist on auto industry issues. The CAR Group Employee Charitable Board, run by employee volunteers, has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for local community charities. The company matches \$0.50 for every dollar of employee contribution. Dave has been generous with his time and efforts on behalf of the community and public schools in Southern California. Through the Conant Education Foundation formed in 1997, Dave and his wife Cassie have raised more than a million dollars for public schools in the markets their businesses serve, including scholarships to graduating seniors participating in the Cerritos College “College Bound Program”. The CAR Group also supported the construction of the Cerritos College Automotive Partners Building with a generous \$100,000 donation.





*Distinguished President's  
Award of Excellence*

*Dr. Wilford &  
Jean Michael*



Dr. Wilford Michael was appointed as the Cerritos College President/Superintendent in 1973. As president, he oversaw a number of critical developments that set the stage for Cerritos College's position within the community. Dr. Michael retired from his position in 1986 with 13 years of dedicated service as the longest-standing president ever to serve at the college. "True-blue Cerritos College Falcon fans," Dr. Michael and his wife Jean rarely miss important events on campus—from awards ceremonies to theatre productions, music performances and athletic events, and have returned each and every year to serve as homecoming float judges. In 2005, the Cerritos College Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center was named in his honor for his longtime contribution to the library's Love of Learning Campaign which helps to purchase books and technology. Dr. Michael is a founding member of the Cerritos College Foundation and continues to serve on the Board of Directors today. The Michael family established a scholarship in honor of Jean that generously supports Cerritos College re-entry students.





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# Congratulations

to the 2013 Cerritos College  
Hall of Fame Honorees

from the Cerritos College Board of Trustees

Marisa Perez, Board President  
Trustee Area 4

Carmen Avalos, Board Vice President  
Trustee Area 2

Dr. Sandra Salazar, Board Secretary  
Trustee Area 6

Bob Arthur, Member  
Trustee Area 1

John Paul Drayer, Member  
Trustee Area 3

Dr. Shin Liu, Member  
Trustee Area 5

Dr. Bob Hughlett, Member  
Trustee Area 7



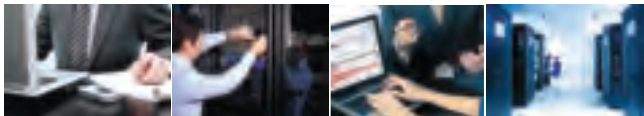
The Cerritos College  
Faculty Federation  
would like to

# Congratulate

the 2013  
Hall of Fame Honorees



***would like to congratulate the inductees to  
the Cerritos College Hall of Fame.***



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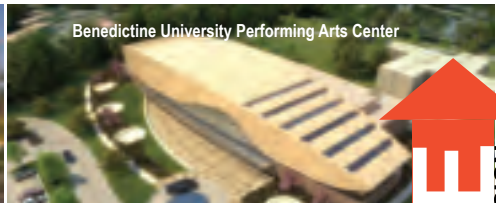




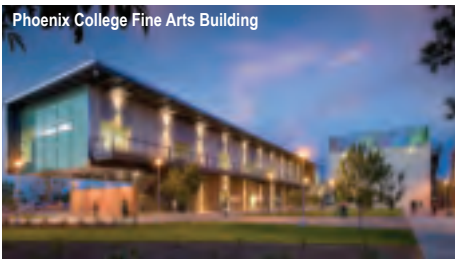
The Bellflower Rotary Club  
congratulates the 2013  
Cerritos College Hall of Fame  
Honorees and especially  
Dr. Wilford and Jean Michael  
as the recipients of the  
Distinguished President's  
Award of Excellence



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Phoenix College Fine Arts Building



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*Congratulations  
to the  
2013 Hall of Fame Honorees*



Would like to  
**Congratulate**  
the 2013  
Cerritos College  
Hall of Fame Honorees

**Congratulations  
to the  
Hall of Fame Honorees!**

**John Paul Drayer**  
Cerritos College  
Board of Trustees  
Area 3 Trustee

Educator/Community  
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Cerritos College Class of '84

*Congratulations*

*2013*

*Hall of Fame Honorees*

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**Congratulates  
the 2013  
Cerritos College  
Hall of Fame  
Honorees**

**CERRITOS**  
— **COLLEGE** —  
**FOUNDATION**

The Cerritos College Foundation  
is proud to be a sponsor for the  
Cerritos College Hall of Fame  
Dinner and Awards.

The Foundation Board of Directors wish to congratulate  
the inductees to the Cerritos College Hall of Fame.

[www.cerritos.edu/foundation](http://www.cerritos.edu/foundation)



**Congratulates  
the 2013  
Cerritos College  
Hall of Fame  
Honorees**

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# Hall of Fame Sponsors

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# 2012 *Hall of Fame* *Inductees*

**Distinguished Female Athlete**

Ms. Barbara Reinalda, Softball

**Distinguished Male Athlete**

Mr. Ron Yary, Football

**Distinguished Coach**

Mr. Wally Kincaid, Baseball

**Distinguished Corporate Partner**

GST, Inc. (Mr. J.P. Wang, Owner/CEO)

**Distinguished Alumnus**

Dr. Gerald P. Roodzant

**Distinguished Classified/Confidential**

Mr. John Gallant

**Distinguished Faculty**

Dr. Edward Bloomfield, Philosophy

# Hall of Fame

## Steering Committee

Bob Chester, *Coordinator of Judicial Affairs and Faculty Senate President*  
Dan Clauss, *Athletic Director*  
Dr. Linda Lacy, *President/Superintendent*  
Jeanie McHatton, *Cerritos College Foundation Board Member*  
Mazen Nabulsi, *Cerritos College Alumni & Cerritos College Foundation Board Member*  
Steve Richardson, *Executive Director of Foundation & Community Advancement*  
Debbie Thomas, *Program Assistant II (Staff Development)*  
Cheryl Thury, *Administrative Assistant (Confidential)*  
John Van Gaston, *Sports Information Publicist*  
Mark Wallace, *Director of Public & Governmental Relations*

## Distinguished Athletics Award Subcommittee

Dean Ackland, *Retired Coordinator of Student Activities*  
Dan Clauss, *Athletic Director*  
Debbie Jensen, *Professor Health, Physical Education & Athletics*  
Nancy Kelly, *Professor Emeritus of Health, Physical Education & Athletics*  
Kodee Murray, *Head Coach Women's Softball*  
Russ May, *Head Coach Men's Basketball*  
John Van Gaston, *Sports Information Publicist*

## Distinguished Alumnus Award Subcommittee

Janice Cole, *College Foundation Secretary*  
Toni Grijalva, *Community Relations Coordinator*  
Tom Jackson, *Professor Emeritus of Accounting*  
Amna Jara, *Student Activities Coordinator*  
Mazen Nabulsi, *Cerritos College Alumni*  
Lance Makinano, *ASCC Student Body President*  
Dr. Gerald Roodzant, *Cerritos College Alumni and 2012 Recipient*  
Mark Wallace, *Director of Public & Governmental Relations*

## Distinguished Classified/Confidential Award Subcommittee

Janice Cole, *College Foundation Secretary*  
Marcia Taylor, *Disabled Students Program Specialist*  
Debbie Thomas, *Staff Development Assistant*  
Lisha Valles, *Admissions & Records Technician I*

## Distinguished Faculty Award Subcommittee

Craig Breit, *Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts*  
Bob Chester, *Coordinator of Judicial Affairs and Faculty Senate President*  
Deb Moore, *Librarian*  
Dr. Solomon Namala, *Associate Professor of Economics & Cerritos College Faculty Federation President*  
Traci Ukita, *Counselor*

## Distinguished Corporate Partner Award Subcommittee

Cerritos College Foundation Executive Committee  
Jesse Urquidi, *Chair*, Eric T. Ikeda, *Vice Chair*, J.P. Wang, *Secretary*  
Janice Cole, *Treasurer*, Steve Richardson, *Executive Director*

## Special Thanks to

Cerritos College Jazz Combo: Michael Herrera (Saxophone & Flute), Daniel Menese (Guitar), and Angel Torres (Bass Guitar); Culinary Arts, Media Services, Music Department, President's Office, and Public Affairs Office



## Cerritos College

### Board of Trustees

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Dr. Linda L. Lacy  
*President/Superintendent*

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Assistant Superintendent*





*Cerritos College Hall of Fame  
Dinner & Awards Program  
March 7, 2013*

**WELCOME**

Jesse Urquidi, *Board Chairman, Cerritos College Foundation*

**MASTER OF CERMONIES**

Steve Richardson, *Executive Director, Foundation and Community Advancement*

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Dr. Linda L. Lacy, *President/Superintendent*

**DINNER**

**HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**

Distinguished Female Athlete, *Traci Dahl*

Distinguished Male Athlete, *Marcelo Balboa*

Distinguished Coach/Administrator, *Gene Martin*

Distinguished Alumnus, *Dr. Gary Smuts*

**MUSICAL PRESENTATION**

Joel Tercero, *Flute-Image for Flute, op. 38 by Eugene Bozza*

Distinguished Classified, *Shelley Pesanti*

Distinguished Faculty, *Bill Lewis*

Distinguished Corporate Partner, *Conant Auto Retail Group*

*(Dave Conant, Owner/CEO)*

Distinguished President's Award of Excellence, *Dr. Wilford & Jean Michael*

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Steve Richardson

*Distinguished President's  
Award of Excellence*

*Dr. Wilford &  
Jean Michael*



*D*r. Wilford Michael was appointed as the Cerritos College President/Superintendent in 1973. As president, he oversaw a number of critical developments that set the stage for Cerritos College's position within the community. Dr. Michael retired from his position in 1986 with 13 years of dedicated service as the longest-standing president ever to serve at the college. "True-blue Cerritos College Falcon fans," Dr. Michael and his wife Jean rarely miss important events on campus—from awards ceremonies to theatre productions, music performances and athletic events, and have returned each and every year to serve as homecoming float judges. In 2005, the Cerritos College Wilford Michael Library and Learning Resource Center was named in his honor for his longtime contribution to the library's Love of Learning Campaign which helps to purchase books and technology. Dr. Michael is a founding member of the Cerritos College Foundation and continues to serve on the Board of Directors today. The Michael family established a scholarship in honor of Jean that generously supports Cerritos College re-entry students.



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