



The Connection

A California Phi Beta Lambda Quarterly Newsletter

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- FBLA-PBL Week (February 11 -17)
- CMAP Receipt Deadline (March 1)
- NTC & NNTC Receipt Deadline (March 10)
- SBLC @ UCLA (March 30 - 31)

Pro Sports Career Day



While most college students were hitting the slopes snowboarding and/or skiing during their winter breaks, several California Phi Beta Lambda (CAPBL) members actually spent their time contemplating about their future. On Friday, January 5, 2007, members and guests of CAPBL attended the Pro Sports Career Day, which was hosted by the Anaheim Ducks at the Honda Center. Overall, the event was a great success for it taught the attendees more about "putting their feet" into the professional world through internships,

networking, etc.

The event kicked off approximately at 3:30 pm with a tour of the Honda Center. The group was given the chance to walk past player's locker rooms and dress rooms for performing celebrities. In addition, they also visited the press box where TV and Radio broadcasters as well as sports journalists would sit during games.

What followed after the tour was a panel of three executives, mainly from the sales department, who briefly talked about their experiences in the sports management field. All three of them agreed that the best way to become successful in sports or any other professional fields was to know what you wanted to do at an early age. They explained that knowing this would allow you to make mistakes and reevaluate if that

profession is truly right for you. In addition, the executives also mentioned about the importance of building up resumes, and explained that the best ways to do it was through internships and networking.

Once again, the Pro Sports Career Day was a great way for members to understand and view the professional world in practice. While most of the members already knew about the importance of resume building and networking, it was still worthwhile to hear the executives specifically mention it. Because although having knowledge of this might serve as a huge advantage over other competitors in the real world, not putting this into practice will have the same effect of not knowing it at all.

- Joshua Park, SAC Chair, Fullerton College

State Fall Business Leadership Conference, UC Berkeley

This year's SFBLC at UC Berkeley brought new elements to conferences like corporate partners, a case study competition, dynamic workshops and diverse keynote speakers. SFBLC 2006 the most successful fall conference to date, had over 160 members from 11 chapters.

SFBLC was just a taste of what California PBL can offer. (see page 2 for an inside look on SFBLC)

In just a few short months, it will be your chance once again to step into the ring at the 2007 State Business Leadership Conference at the UCLA. Slip on your gloves

and fight for your place in the top 10 in over 50 competitive events! The 2007 SBLC registration packet and information guide is coming soon! California PBL: ARE YOU READY TO RUMBLE?!

- Michelle Nakaji, State VP of Alumni Relations, CSUF

The Art of Planning

Having the State Fall Business Leadership Conference this year at Berkeley has been quite an experience. Being an executive officer, I noticed all the planning that has to be done. There was a rush to find hotels and accommodations for those coming to Berkeley as well as finding local sponsors. I remembered that it was more and more hectic as the conference date approached. Frances Huang, who was in charge of banquet, was running around finding center pieces and changing the food order as more and more PBL members decided to join in on the fun and Clare Zhang was trying to find a salsa instructor. It is surprising to see how much work is needed to put on a conference.

My most memorable memories of the



conference includes transporting twenty-four boxes of muffins from my apartment to the MLK building where the conference was held, working the registration table and seeing so many people arrive, and helping with the banquet which turned out wonderfully. Although it was chaotic at times, it was amazing to see so many people from all over California come together and enjoy themselves. Although I was not able to attend the workshops, I learned a lot about teamwork and the accomplishments that can be achieved if everyone works together. The 2006 SFBLC was a huge success and I am looking forward to the State Business Leadership Conference this spring.

- Doris Yu, SAC Rep, UC Berkeley

Road Trip: The PG Version

If you know that you have the longest trip ahead of you with people you don't know... It may take the wind out of our sails just a tad. However, for UCSD, we could just hear the freedom, excitement, and fun in the words *road trip*...

Waking up early to be packed and ready to drive to Cerritos, our members divided amongst four cars in the campus parking lot and began our trek. Encountering traffic, a speeding ticket, and confusing directions, all of us arrived safely to load and board the charter bus.

And now, for the best part of the trip: bonding time. Of course, with every conference experience, each chapter's members sat in groups, with the one or two that "get stuck" with sitting with someone from the other chapter, hoping that the

other one will be the friendly and more talkative one. Thanks to FBLA-PBL, one of us takes the initiative and turns around.

As a longtime member myself, I have learned that having food to share is one of the easiest ways to talk to other people and bring them together, even the shy ones. With just crackers, water bottles, and cereal in a bag, the area in the back of the bus became acquainted with each other very quickly.

Music pumping and movie watching, homework reading and food consuming, the front and the back of the bus grew to be more and more like family, talking, laughing, yelling across long distances to each other, and I daresay, throwing a football.

We knew that upon arrival, we would be tired and that we had a long day ahead of us—in



full business attire nonetheless. Would that stop us from enjoying ourselves and our newfound family? Of course not! With that being said, the UCSD chapter enjoyed the pleasure of the other members' company and looks forward to the next trip that we will share together.

- Deborah Johnson, SAC Rep, UCSD

CSUF & FC Holiday PBL Banquet

Some people say that it isn't how one starts that counts, it is how one finishes. The fall 2006 semester for California State University Fullerton PBL was a great semester. We started out good and finished greater. December 15th 2006 was the Alumni Banquet dinner hosted by both California State University Fullerton and Fullerton College PBL. The dinner was a first ever Alumni Dinner for our two schools. Members and officers worked diligently the week and day of the banquet. The room where the banquet was hosted was decorated and set up in a way for maximum results. Everyone was dressed up so nicely and the entrees and desserts were prepared fresh just before the start of the event.

During the first half of the banquet, PBL members, officers and guests had the privilege of being in a questions and answer session with our PBL alumni. I believe the answers and advice from our alumni were priceless because they are working professionals already in their respective fields. The second half of the banquet consists of a slideshow highlighting and bringing back memories of this semester's events, conferences and success. While dinner was being served I overheard from a lot of members and guests mentioning to each other, "This room is so pretty, I wonder who did the decorations?" And also, "That fondue pot with the fruit slices is so cute." I agree the room was set up in a warm and end-of-

semester celebration like manner.

The banquet was a good way to end the Fall 2006 semester. Every California PBL member studied hard on finals and worked even harder to make California PBL an outstanding organization in the eyes of the academic and professional world. The Alumni Banquet was a great way to finish another successful California PBL semester.

- **Bruce Ho, SAC Rep, CSUF**



Competition Seasons Ahoy!

With the State Business Leadership Conference just around the corner, listed here are some advice from Larinda Wenzel from the TRI Leadership Resource group on how to achieve success in the FBLA-PBL competitions:

- First become familiar with the events you have to choose from and find out if there are rules that limit the number you can sign up for.
- Ask your advisor for the most current information regarding competitive events or get on your national website and look it up yourself.
- You should carefully read the state and national guidelines/rules for your event so you know exactly what to expect and what the judging criteria will be. You'd be *amazed* at how many competitors never bother to check the rules and criteria for their events.
- Find out how ties are broken in your event.
- Don't wait until the last minute to start preparing...by then it is simply too late! You better believe that there are people that have been preparing for months. Those people are (go figure) the *winners*.
- Get in contact with winners from the previous year and see what kind of advice they have to offer.
- Practice, practice, practice, practice.

Last but not least...HAVE FUN!!! If you're not in it to have a good time and learn, then you're in it for the wrong reasons!

- **Compiled by Joshua Park, SAC Chair, Fullerton College**

Source: TRI Leadership Resources, LLC "Competition Seasons Ahoy!" by Larinda Wenzel



Passion is the Number One Ingredient for a New Chapter

Starting a PBL chapter might require an adviser, an officer team, and a contact from another PBL chapter, but the number one component in creating a new PBL chapter is passion. One needs to be passionate about starting a new PBL chapter to sow that same seed of ambition into others.

The Crafton Hills College PBL Chapter made an attempt last year to start a PBL chapter for the first time that lead into a painted picture of challenges. What I feel last year's CHC PBL chapter didn't know was the amount of work it would be to start a chapter. Yes, we might be busy with work, school, and with our social life, but if we really desire to establish this great legacy for others to come, sweat and sacrifices will be on the membership application as well. My intention in writing this column is not scare potential members away, but to advise them that this great organization requires a lot of hard work that lead to life changing experiences.

It seems that starting a chapter at a community college is a little more difficult, since students are on campus for such a little time and most of the time leave after two years. On the other hand, starting a chapter at a community college will also give members an insight at potential Universities that might have been on their transfer list. Websites and counselors can only say so much about a school.

These words might sound intimidating, but they really shouldn't. Starting a chapter anywhere is a learning experience for everyone. Meeting new people, going to the conferences, and traveling are all worth it at the end of the hard work. For example, last week our newly re-activated chapter took eight members to the Pro Sports Career Day and every one had a blast. Sometimes people underestimate the power of a two-minute phone call to the members and asking if they would like to attend an event. I would just like to say have fun and don't be afraid to ask for help on your road to success in establishing a new PBL chapter.

- Arcadio Torres, President, Crafton Hills College

Five Tips to Effective Leadership

1. Communicate clearly and routinely. Lay out your goals and principles in a mission statement and keep sharing your vision with your employees.

2. Involve employees in setting objectives. Give them feedback on how they are progressing toward meeting those targets.

3. Give your people authority, then hold them accountable. But don't go after them personally when things go wrong. Find out first if the process is at fault.

4. Be accountable yourself. Install an advisory board or executive team to help you make good strategic decisions and give you feedback on your own performance.

5. Be trustworthy and extend trust to your employees. That will help you earn their loyalty and strengthen your company.

- Compiled by Cher Lee, Reporter, UC Berkeley

Source: SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business.")

What is the hidden word???

1. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
2. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
3. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
4. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
5. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
6. _ _ _ _ _
7. _ _ _ _ _ _ _
8. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

1. A member of the legal profession; s/he helps you to purchase a house or make a will.
2. A long document providing information, often the result of some research.
3. To end (for example, a long-running business

4. A court action brought by one person against another, for example, to claim damages for injury or loss.
5. The carrying out of one's professional duty improperly or dishonestly and often thereby causing damage, injury or loss.
6. Another word for bill or act.
7. The type of law relating to activities which are not criminal in nature.
8. To give up.

- Compiled by Cher Lee, Reporter, UC Berkeley
 Source: www.linguarama.com



Answers

1. Solicitor
2. Report
3. Terminate
4. Lawsuit
5. Malpractice
6. Law
7. Civil
8. Forfeit

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