

# ONE SYSTEM

National University System Newsletter

AUGUST  
2009

INSIDE  
THIS  
ISSUE

The last year has been one of remarkable and positive change for the National University System.

Two vital entities – John F. Kennedy University and the National University System Institute for Policy Research – have joined the System family, strengthening our combined abilities to offer new opportunities to lifelong learners and to create awareness about the System and its unique model.

National University, our flagship affiliate, is under new leadership, with Ms. Patricia Potter, one the System's most-dedicated and long-serving advocates, having taken over as Interim President. Similarly, Mr. Robert Freelen, who previously served as a valued member of the Board of Trustees, has accepted the critical position of Vice President of University Relations at National University.



[www.nusystem.org](http://www.nusystem.org)

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“Few periods in time have been as exciting and rewarding for the National University System as the past 12 months.”

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Two entities under National University have taken on additional prominence. The Center for Integrative Health will benefit from the expertise of Dr. Lee Rice, a longtime San Diego area healthcare leader who has been named the second recipient of the Dr. Jerry C. Lee Endowed Chair. The National University Golf Academy, which will offer innovative programs that combine academics with golf at the high school, associate’s and bachelor’s levels, is accepting students and will begin instruction in September under the direction of Dr. Mac Powell, the Academy’s Dean and a Class “A” member of the Professional Golfers Association.

With the success of the University’s Online Information Centers, National University International will expand the System’s offerings through the opening in September of new centers in Orlando, Florida and Lima, Peru.

Even as WestMed College has moved into new campuses in San Jose and a state-of-the-art facility in Merced, Spectrum Pacific Learning Company has increased its growing list of clients. Similarly, National Polytechnic College of Science has worked to expand its programs in allied health and will benefit from the leadership of newly-named President Troy Roland.

Few periods in time have been as exciting and rewarding for the National University System as the past 12 months, and I encourage you to celebrate and learn more about our collective achievements in the coming pages of this issue of *ONE SYSTEM*.

Best regards,



Jerry C. Lee  
Chancellor  
National University System



## Patricia Potter named Interim President of National University

Chancellor Jerry C. Lee named Patricia Potter, who has been a fixture in the University’s leadership structure since 1998, as Interim President of National University earlier this year.

“I am confident that Ms. Potter’s extraordinary talent and extensive knowledge of National University will allow us to make significant progress toward achievement of our ambitious and worthy goals during the coming months,” said Chancellor Lee.

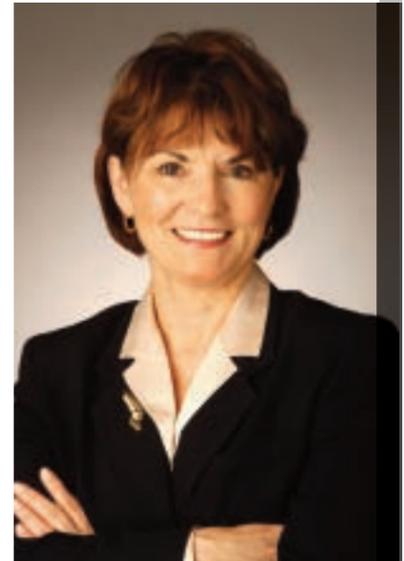
Ms. Potter first came to National University in 1998 and has served as Vice President in the areas of Education Services, Advancement and Business Development, and Marketing and Regional Operations. With the development of the System, she was promoted to Vice Chancellor, where she oversaw the System Communications Group, Division of Pre-College Programs and more recently System Operations.

During her tenure with National University and the System, Ms. Potter has consistently served in leadership roles in the WASC and strategic planning processes, chairing President’s and Chancellor’s Commissions and spearheading numerous other System initiatives.

“It is an honor to be asked by Chancellor Lee to serve as the Interim President of National University,” said Ms. Potter. “We are fortunate to have the steady hand of the Chancellor. Over the past two decades, Dr. Lee’s creativity, care, and brilliant strategic positioning have created the atmosphere to allow our university to thrive.”

Following its meeting in June, the Board of Trustees began a national search for the next President of National University.

“Our focus will continue to be on the key issues of academic rigor and quality, excellence in student services, preparation for the WASC visit and our educational effectiveness review,” said Ms. Potter. “We will also focus on advancement of the University’s strategic planning process, the allocation issues raised by our shift to a predominantly online student population, and attention to maintaining our competitive position in the face of increased competition and economic uncertainty.”



Interim President  
Patricia E. Potter

## Robert Freelen named Vice President of University Relations

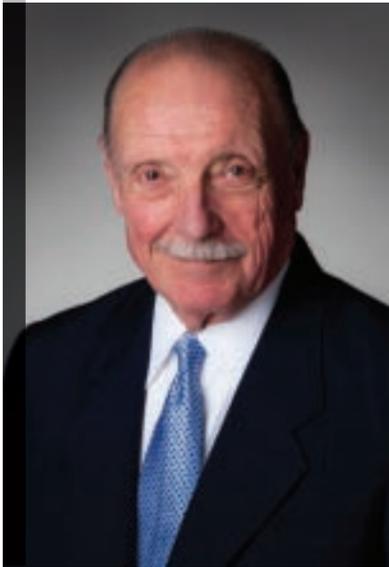
Robert Freelen brought nearly four decades of experience in higher education to National University when he was named Vice President for University Relations earlier this year. Mr. Freelen took a leave of absence from the National University Board of Trustees to accept the position. Most recently, he began his second tenure as chair of the board. As Vice President, Mr. Freelen will be responsible for directing the University's development and alumni relations efforts.

Mr. Freelen earned bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration at Stanford University, which subsequently led to a 30-year career with Stanford, where he holds the title of Vice President of Public Affairs Emeritus. During his time at Stanford, he also held senior level positions in development, the Dean of Students Office, and the Alumni Association.

Following his career at Stanford, he served as Vice President of External Affairs at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He has a distinguished record as a volunteer in higher education as a board member and chair of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, and the Stanford Alumni Association.

In addition to his role at National, Mr. Freelen is currently the Vice President of the Stanford Historical Society Board, and a member of the President's Council for United Religious Initiative.

"We're honored and grateful to have Mr. Freelen performing this critical role for National University," said Interim President Potter. "His wisdom, experience and leadership will be vital in our ongoing efforts to improve the level of service to two of our most important constituencies – our students and esteemed alumni." ●



*Vice President for University Relations Robert Freelen*

## Dr. Lee Rice named second recipient of Dr. Jerry C. Lee Endowed Chair at National University

Dr. Lee Rice, who has extensive experience in both healthcare and academia, was named the second recipient of the Dr. Jerry C. Lee Endowed Chair in June. Dr. Rice's appointment as endowed chair will run through the 2010 academic year. The Dr. Jerry C. Lee Endowed Chair was originally established in 1996 as part of National University's 25th Anniversary celebration.

As endowed chair, Dr. Rice will assume responsibility of furthering the aims of the Center for Integrative Health, which was established in 2007 with the goal of improving the quality of health and wellness care in the United States by providing education to individuals about integrative health and to helping people lead healthier lives.

Dr. Rice has been a fixture in the local healthcare community since arriving in San Diego with the United States Navy Reserve Medical Corps in 1973. Currently, he is the CEO and medical director of the LIFEWellness Institute in San Diego. Previously, he served as national general manager and medical director of Lifesigns and founder and medical director for San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center. He has been the medical director of the San Diego State Aztecs Sports Medicine Center, Fallbrook Community Clinic, and Vista Community Clinic. He was a staff physician for the departments of family medicine at the Naval Regional Medical Centers in Camp Pendleton and Long Beach. He also served as the head of the department of adult medicine at the Medical Center at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro.

Dr. Rice's has held numerous previous academic appointments, including roles as director of fellowship programs, associate clinical professor, clinical professor, and assistant clinical professor at several renowned institutions, including among others UCSD, San Diego State, Stanford, and UCLA.

Dr. Rice has been a team physician for several sports organizations in San Diego. He also served as the team physician for the U.S.A. Men's and Women's Volleyball Teams for 20 years and through four Olympiads.



*Dr. Lee Rice, the second recipient of the Dr. Jerry C. Lee Endowed Chair*

*(Dr. Lee Rice Continued)*

Dr. Rice is currently or has been a member of 20 professional societies.

Dr. Rice earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Later, he earned a doctorate from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Missouri. He holds a medical license from the state of California, and is certified by the American Board of Family Practice and the American Osteopathic Board of Family Practice, where he added qualification in Sports Medicine from both boards.

For more information about the Center for Integrative Health, visit [www.cih.nusystem.org](http://www.cih.nusystem.org).

To learn more, visit:  
[www.cih.nusystem.org](http://www.cih.nusystem.org)



*National University is dedicated to student service.*

## New Student Orientation debuts on [www.nu.edu](http://www.nu.edu)

For many non-traditional students, the decision to return to school can be a daunting experience. Even after enrolling, the thought of stepping back into a classroom, or taking an online class for the first time, can be surprisingly intimidating for even the most confident of individuals.

In an effort to make this transition as easy as possible, and in keeping with its commitment to the highest quality of service and dedication to its students, National University unveiled an interactive orientation for new students on its website earlier this year.

The new student orientation video provides viewers with an introduction to National University, the combined affiliates of the National University System, and the valuable resources which are available to students who are new to the University to help them take full advantage of their experiences at National.

The video covers a wide range of topics, including how to access the student portal, interacting with an admissions advisor, information about Student Concierge Services and the Writing and Math Centers, the National University Library System, and a list of important quick facts designed to answer any questions new students have about National University.

Since its launch, the student orientation has become a valuable tool for welcoming new students and to providing them with an important starting point for a premier learning experience at National University.

To view the orientation, visit [www.nu.edu/OurPrograms/StudentServices/Online-Student-Orientation.html](http://www.nu.edu/OurPrograms/StudentServices/Online-Student-Orientation.html).

## National University, California Community Colleges Announce Student Transfer Agreement

National University and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office announced in July the renewal of their joint agreement which makes it easier for students at community colleges to transfer to the state's second-largest, private, nonprofit institution of higher education.

The purpose of the agreement is to encourage students at any of California's 110 community colleges who have completed their lower-division transfer requirements or an associate's degree to pursue a bachelor's degree at National University. Students can transfer units earned toward an associate's degree or lower division general education credits to National University and receive credit toward a bachelor's degree. While the state's public universities have this agreement in place, National University is one of a few private universities in California engaged in a similar transfer agreement.

To make entry more affordable, National University will waive the standard \$60 application fee for transfer students. Additionally, to encourage students who have transferred from a California community college to complete their bachelor's degree, National University will provide scholarships to every transfer student which will pay for the student's final two classes in his or her degree program, an amount worth \$2,682 under National's tuition schedule. To be eligible, transferring students must 1) be in good academic standing at the time of application; 2) have completed 30 semester units at a CCC or combination of CCCs; and, 3) their last semester of enrollment must have been at a CCC.

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*It is now easier for students at California's 110 community colleges to pursue a bachelor's degree at National University.*

*(National, California Community Colleges Announce Transfer Agreement Continued)*

Under the agreement, an array of scholarships will be available to community college students wishing to transfer to National University. The California Community College Scholarship will offer each college the ability to award \$1,600 to an outstanding incoming transfer student. National University will collaborate with the local community colleges to select the students. Through the Collegiate Honors Scholarships, students transferring with collegiate honors (3.50 cumulative GPA) will be eligible for a scholarship at National University worth \$1,600 that can be applied at the beginning of their program to help offset tuition expenditures.

National University also will provide up to sixty (60) Presidential Tuition Scholarships per year in the amount of \$2,500 for students meeting the outlined criteria. The Presidential Tuition Scholarship is available to students who are eligible for Federal Student Aid to assist them with the cost of tuition. This scholarship is available for annual renewal. Students are eligible for the scholarship if they are, 1) educationally and economically disadvantaged and have been historically underrepresented, 2) single parents with financial need, or 3) persons with a verified disability with financial need.

Through the agreement, National University and the community colleges are taking steps to make higher education more accessible to California's diverse student populations. Students in rural areas who are interested in transferring will be able to take their upper division courses online if a National University campus is geographically inaccessible. ●

## National University jumps into social media

Recognizing the importance of staying connected in as many ways as possible with an ever-changing student and alumni population, National University launched pages on the some of the world's most popular social media internet sites earlier this year, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr.

On Facebook, students and alumni of National University can connect with faculty, alumni, and current students, and they can access resources offered by the University's student services team. Visitors to the university's Facebook

page can learn about exciting upcoming events and see what other alumni and students are saying about their experiences at National.

Twitter posts will provide frequent updates about National University, including information specific to the different schools and colleges, as well as the communities and industries the university serves.

On YouTube, one of the world's most-watched internet video sharing sites, visitors can watch videos of the National University's award-winning television commercials, as well as videos developed by the affiliates of the National University System.

Photos of the 2009 commencement ceremonies, the opening of the innovative Online Information Centers, and the University's state-of-the-art campuses are viewable on Flickr, an internet photo-sharing site.

If you are interested in learning more about National University or in interacting with students and alumni, visit [www.Facebook.com](http://www.Facebook.com), [www.Twitter.com](http://www.Twitter.com), [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com), or [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com) today. ●

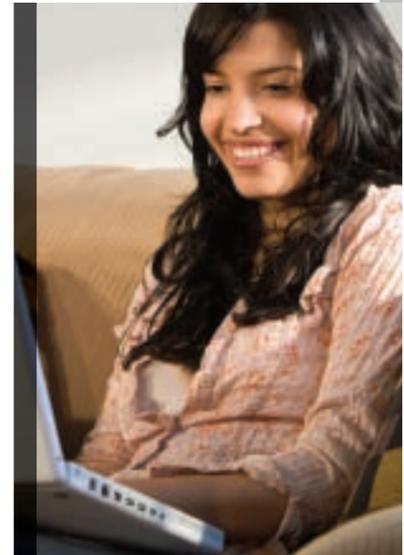
## National University named Military Friendly School for 2010

National University, the second-largest, private, nonprofit institution of higher education in California, has been selected by *G.I. Jobs* magazine as a "Military Friendly School for 2010." The honor places National University in the top 15 percent of all schools nationwide.

This is the second time in the past year that National University has been honored for its commitment to the military. *Military Advanced Education* magazine also named National University one of "America's Top Military Friendly Colleges and Universities" in January 2009.

"National University is proud of its commitment to serving the needs of students from all branches of the military, and we are honored to be named by a military friendly school," said Doug Barr, Associate Regional Dean of Military Students

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*National University can now be found on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr.*



*(National University named Military Friendly School for 2010 Continued)*

at National University. “National University believes in providing military students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in their careers in both the military and private sector.”

National University enjoys a distinguished reputation for its commitment to military education. The University is a past winner of the prestigious Ray Ehrensberger Award for Institutional Excellence in Military Education. Additionally, Mr. Barr is a recipient of the William Kennedy Award by the Council of Colleges and Military Educators for outstanding service in military education.

With more than 30 locations in California and one in Henderson, Nevada, as well as more than 60 online degree programs, National University’s one-course-per-month format is ideally suited for men and women serving in the United State’s armed forces. National University operates learning centers and admissions offices at 10 military bases in California as well as one in Washington State at Naval Base Bremerton.

National University offers online courses at discounted rates to active duty military personnel and their dependents. On-base classes are offered for qualified students including active duty members, their spouse and dependents, Department of Defense employees, military retirees and selective military reserve members.

To learn more about the educational programs and financial assistance available to members of the military at National University, call **1-800-NAT-UNIV** or visit: **<http://www.nu.edu/Admissions/MilitaryAdmissions.html>**.

*National University was one of the earliest adopters of online programs in higher education.*

## Online Graduate Education Programs rank 1st in California, 3rd in the nation

As one of the earliest institutions to embrace the delivery of quality degree programs via the Internet, National University has long been among the statewide and national leaders in online education.

The prominence of National’s online programs took on new significance earlier this year when *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the university’s graduate

programs in education first in California and third in the nation in terms of enrollment.

As part of the report, *U.S. News* surveyed 473 institutions (with 409 respondents) and compiled lists of the number of students enrolled in graduate level programs in business, education, engineering, library science, nursing, and public health. With more than 10,100 students in its graduate education programs, National University surpassed every other California-based institution.

To learn more about National University’s online degree programs, visit **[www.nu.edu/OnlineEducation.html](http://www.nu.edu/OnlineEducation.html)**.

## National University Golf Academy to begin serving students in September

The National University Golf Academy – which will offer an innovative education program that combines academics with golf at the high school, associate’s and bachelor’s levels – is currently accepting student applications and will begin instruction in September.

The National University Golf Academy will offer a bachelor’s in sport psychology, an associate’s degree with a concentration in professional golf management, and certificates in professional golf management and advanced golf management. National University is part of a select group of regionally-accredited universities with the ability to offer an associate’s degree with a concentration in professional golf management as well as a bachelor’s in sport psychology.

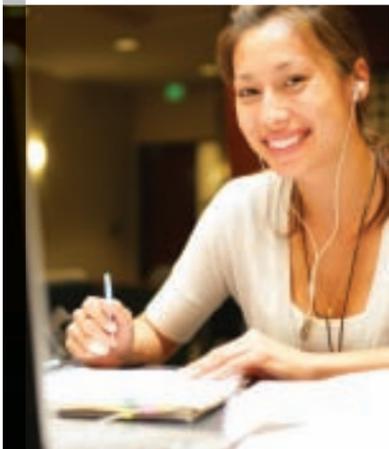
National University’s bachelor’s degree in sport psychology is the only one of its kind in the region that can be completed either onsite or entirely online. All of the programs and certificates at the National University Golf Academy are eligible for financial aid.

Dr. Powell, a Class “A” member of the Professional Golfer’s Association and a professor of psychology at National University, is the Dean of the Academy. He is an alumnus of the University of Missouri, where he earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in sociology. He also completed a master’s in clinical psychology

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To learn more, visit:  
**[www.nu.edu](http://www.nu.edu)**

*The National University Golf Academy will offer programs at the high school and college levels.*



*(National University Golf Academy to begin serving students in September Continued)*

at Antioch University before returning to the University of Missouri to earn a Ph.D.

The National University Golf Academy features a state-of-the-art swing lab at its campus in Carlsbad. The lab consists of high-speed cameras and a computer system that renders a three-dimensional animation of a golfer's swing. The lab utilizes the same 3-D motion capture software as the TaylorMade Performance Lab, and its fitting and instructional system is overseen by the Academy's Director of Instruction Ted Norby, a former playing professional who has been a teaching professional for more than 15 years. The Academy plans to open the lab to its students as well as other Southern California instructors to increase the technology available to students and teachers in the region.

For more information about the National University Golf Academy, visit [www.nugolfacademy.org](http://www.nugolfacademy.org).

## Addition of John F. Kennedy University establishes National University System as model for higher education

When an agreement was finalized earlier this year to add John F. Kennedy University as the newest affiliate of the National University System, the System took an important next step in its development as a model for higher education in the 21st century. From the beginning, the vision of the model for the System has been supplied by Chancellor Jerry C. Lee. Today, under Dr. Lee's leadership, the System has evolved into a multi-tiered alliance of institutions offering traditionally underserved student populations multiple pathways to lifelong learning.

Established in 2001, the System now has the ability to offer a complete range of educational offerings, including K-12, technical programs, certificates, teaching credentials, and associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, something few, if any private or public institutions can match.

"The addition of John F. Kennedy University reflects the National University System's mission of connecting students with innovative educational programs," said Dr. Lee. "Since its inception, the System has consistently pursued new avenues to provide students of all backgrounds with access to education. The affiliation with JFK University and its successful programs was a logical next step in the System's development."

"For 44 years, JFK University has given students an innovative education that serves to advance the well-being of our diverse local and global communities," said Dr. Steven Stargardter, President of John F. Kennedy University. "The National University System shares this educational vision. By working within and leveraging the System's model and resources, JFK University's ability to educate and inspire positive change will be strengthened."

The addition of JFK University's Doctorate in Psychology (PsyD.) program means for the first time students of a System affiliate will have the option of obtaining a doctoral degree from a fellow affiliate. And similar to National University's one-course-per-month format and accelerated pace, JFK University allows students to earn a degree while balancing work and family commitments.

Through its affiliation with the System, JFK University is gaining access to an alliance of institutions which serve more than 106,000 students and boast a fair market value estimated at as much as \$1 billion. In addition to similar formats, the affiliates of the System are connected through their commitment to healthcare education.

"All of the affiliates of the System are involved in one form or another to providing access to education to students interested in healthcare, and JFK University's programs, specifically the Doctorate in Psychology and its School of Holistic Studies, fit seamlessly into that commitment," said Dr. Lee.

To learn more, visit:  
[www.nugolfacademy.org](http://www.nugolfacademy.org)



*JFK University is gaining access to an alliance of institutions which serve 106,000 students and boasts a fair market value estimated at \$1 billion.*

To learn more, visit:  
[www.jfku.edu](http://www.jfku.edu)

## NUI to open Online Information Centers in Orlando and Lima

In 2008, National University unveiled an innovative plan designed to connect with a growing number of students interested in earning a degree completely online. The plan involved opening strategically-located Online Information Centers in high traffic retail locations, with the goal of reaching students who would have otherwise been unaware of the University's offerings.

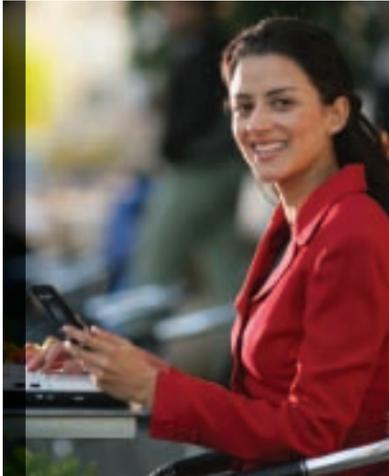
The first Online Information Centers opened in Citrus Heights near Sacramento, West Covina in Los Angeles County, and Temecula, which is accessible from San Diego, Riverside, and Orange Counties.

The plan was an immediate success, prompting the addition of a fourth Online Information Center in Summerlin, Nevada, near Las Vegas, which opened in November 2008. Because it is out of the state of California, the OIC in Summerlin is under the direction of National University International, an affiliate of the National University System which has been tasked with expanding the System's presence in the global marketplace.

In an effort to continue the success of the OICs, National University International is currently finalizing plans to open centers in the coming months in Orlando, Florida and Lima, Peru. The OIC in Orlando will be located in the Sodo shopping center south of downtown and is scheduled for an early September opening. Ms. Tanya Knight has been hired to manage the OIC in Orlando.

The OIC in Lima also is on track to open in early September in the Chronos building across the street from the United States Embassy. The Lima OIC will be under the direction of Mr. Freddy Rios.

To learn more about the Online Information Centers, visit [www.nu.edu/Locations.html](http://www.nu.edu/Locations.html) and search under the appropriate geographic regions listed on the upper left hand side of the page. ●



*The Online Information Centers introduce prospective students to National University's innovative programs.*

## Troy Roland named President of National Polytechnic College of Science

Mr. Troy Roland, who has nearly 20 years of experience and service to the educational sector, was named President of National Polytechnic College of Science in August. Mr. Roland most recently served as President of WestMed College, a fellow affiliate of the National University System.

Mr. Roland received a Master of Business Administration with emphasis in Information Technology from the University of LaVerne, a Bachelor of Arts from California State University, Fullerton, and a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science from National University. He also is a pre-candidate for an Ed.D. in Organizational Change at Pepperdine University.

Beginning in 2005, Mr. Roland served as President of California Medical Institute, a nonprofit allied health institution that, in partnership with National University, offered degree and certificate programs to non-traditional students. In 2007, the California Medical Institute merged with WestMed College to expand the reach of allied health educational programs to licensed vocational nurse and paramedic students.

WestMed College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACCSCCT) and is approved by the Board of Vocational Nursing & Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT). Under Mr. Roland's direction, WestMed has been approved for its Merced Campus by the BVNPT and ACCSCCT. In addition, WestMed has been "green lighted" by approving agencies to open campuses in San Diego and Los Angeles in 2009.

Prior to joining WestMed, Mr. Roland held several appointments within the National University System that culminated with him serving as Vice Chancellor of Extended Learning. Mr. Roland also has held executive positions with educational organizations. He served as Vice President of Sales, Marketing & International Licensing for Performance Unlimited where he developed licensing relationships in Korea, Finland, and Germany.

He also served as Vice President of Retail for Gateway Educational Products, the creators of Hooked on Phonics. At Gateway, he was responsible for the oversight of teacher education catalogues, as well as for the development and oversight of a series of retail stores throughout Southern California. ●



*Troy Roland, President of National Polytechnic College of Science.*

## National Polytechnic College of Science expands allied health programs

Given the recent turmoil in the U.S. and world economies, many people have found themselves in uncharted waters, especially in the field of allied health. Whether they need a degree, certificate or refresher course to get a job or earn a promotion, people are looking for an institution that offers them the education they need to remain current in a highly competitive marketplace. In an effort to meet this need, National Polytechnic College of Science (NPCS) is developing new programs for individuals interested in allied health.

After the successful approval and launch last year of the Associate of Science in Health Information Technology and Associate of Science in Substance Abuse Counseling programs, which are both offered online, NPCS submitted an Associate of Science in Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)-Paramedic for approval to the County of San Diego Emergency Medical Services Agency and the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The College has received preliminary approval from ACCJC for the program in San Diego, pending approval by the EMS agency. The program is scheduled to begin in October of 2009.

The proposed EMT-Paramedic program allows access and participation by non-traditional students in a technical career that is forecast to be in high demand as the U.S. population ages. NPCS plans to offer day, evening, and weekend courses in a one-course-per-month format that will provide additional opportunities to a diverse population of learners.

NPCS also has established an agreement with San Diego Medical Services Enterprise, the largest Advanced Life Support (ALS) responding agency in San Diego, to provide placement opportunities for internships. The College has also signed a hospital clinical agreement with Scripps Health in San Diego. Upon successful completion of the program, paramedic graduates will be eligible to sit for the paramedic examination offered through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians and for state licensure through the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority. In FY2010, NPCS also has plans to add a number of Extended Learning opportunities for people in allied health and related fields. The opportunities will include courses in EMT



*EMTs are forecast to be in high demand as the U.S. population ages.*

recertification, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ALCS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Paramedic Prep, Certified Hyperbaric Technologist, and School Health Clerk.

Anyone interested in the National Polytechnic College of Science and its programs can learn more by visiting [www.natpoly.edu](http://www.natpoly.edu) or calling 1-800-432-3483. ●

## National University Virtual High School reaches significant milestones

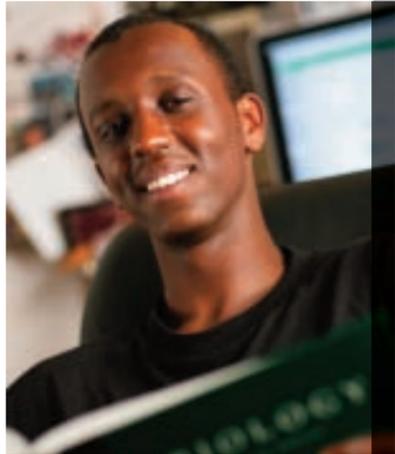
During the most recent academic year, National University Virtual High School (NUVHS) achieved several significant milestones that strengthened the high school's position as a recognized leader in offering quality online educational opportunities to high school students, adults and educational partners, both in California and across the United States.

NUVHS witnessed substantial growth in student admissions and enrollments, with over 850 new students enrolling. As a result, NUVHS had 1,350 registrants, growing the school student body an impressive 69 percent over the previous year. This exceptional growth is a result of the school's commitment to fostering successful relationships with schools and districts and maintaining a consistently high referral rate of over 75 percent. Today, that commitment has resulted in NUVHS having articulation agreements with over 400 schools, helping the Virtual High School to continue to expand its presence as a respected provider of online courses.

Over the past year, NUVHS also achieved external validation of its course offerings through further recognition from the University of California System. NUVHS has increased its number of "a-g" courses that are approved by the UC System to 18. Having that many courses UC-approved will assist NUVHS with the number of schools and districts within California that will accept the virtual high school's courses.

Additionally, NUVHS has serviced students online in over 30 states and continues to focus on increasing its presence nationally. ●

To learn more, visit:  
[www.natpoly.edu](http://www.natpoly.edu)



*The student body at NUVHS grew by 69 percent over the past year.*

To learn more, visit:  
[www.nuvhs.org](http://www.nuvhs.org)

## National University Academy experiences rapid growth

The National University Academy's (NUA) first year in existence as a new charter school was filled with rapid growth in four vital areas: student enrollment, full-time faculty, physical locations, and educational offerings.

Originally approved to offer classes from kindergarten through the 12th grade, NUA focused during its first year of operation on high school students in grades nine through 12. When the National University Academy opened during the fall of 2008, it had 25 students; by the end of the year, the school finished with more than 700 students.

To accommodate this significant growth in student enrollment, the National University Academy expanded its staff from three credentialed teachers to 32 full-time faculty. The National University Academy also increased from three original locations to 18 learning centers, including 14 in San Diego County and four in Riverside County. In June, NUA capped off its initial year with its first commencement ceremony, awarding high school diplomas to its inaugural set of graduates for the class of 2009.

When it originally opened, NUA focused solely on a health science track offered through a combination of online and onsite instruction. In February, the school expanded its educational options to include a career paths program that provides students with additional options in multiple fields. NUA has partnerships at eight of its learning centers to further expand support services for all students in all of its educational tracks.

The National University Academy applied for initial accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission. The Academy was granted accreditation for three full years by the Commission in June 2009. During the 2009-2010 academic year, NUA will continue to expand curriculum to middle school students attending 7th and 8th grades in San Diego and Riverside counties. In the future, the National University Academy is looking to open additional charters in central or northern California, which will serve to further expand the educational opportunities offered through the National University System. ●

To learn more, visit:  
[ahs.nusystem.org](http://ahs.nusystem.org)

## Spectrum Pacific Learning Company adds new clients, initiatives

In terms of new growth among clients from outside the National University System, Spectrum Pacific Learning Company enjoyed an impressive year in FY09. Some of the new clients added by SPL include: BEI (Denver); National Family Justice Center Alliance (San Diego); LEI (Boston), Wolters Kluwer (Chicago); Peerless Education (San Diego); and a new division within Yahoo! (New York).

SPL is off to a strong start in FY10 as well, beginning with the addition of two new clients: Home School Legal Defense Association (Purcellville, Virginia) and Startalk (San Diego). SPL also is in negotiations with the Veterans Administration in San Francisco for an e-learning DVD development project that is scheduled to launch this fall at the U.S. Army Rapid Equipping Force in Ft. Belvoir, Virginia. Additionally, SPL is in negotiations with the U.S. military for several upcoming e-learning initiatives.

In terms of online initiatives for National University System affiliates, SPL recently completed onsite training with the faculty and administration of WestMed College as it seeks to compliment its onsite classes with more online technology. SPL also is working to launch a new product within the System, an institutional ePortfolio for the National Polytechnic College of Science, later this summer.

In addition, SPL has started the upgrade process to the new version of the eCollege platform (.NExT). Starting with National University's College of Letters and Sciences, which offers the largest number of online courses of any school or college at the University, and ending with the other System affiliates, SPL is looking to have the .NExT platform fully-implemented by early next year.

With the continued growth in online programs, SPL has been working to create a space in the digital assets marketplace, including e-books, interactive learning objects, and more. SPL also is collaborating with publishers, including Pearson, to create increased utilization of electronic resources that enhance the learning experience for online students. In keeping with its forward-thinking model, SPL is currently pursuing opportunities with other new clients as well, including a possible working relationship with Amazon. ●



*SPL has been working to create a space in the digital assets marketplace.*

To learn more, visit:  
[www.spectrumspacific.com](http://www.spectrumspacific.com)



*WestMed College provides affordable training for careers in healthcare that are in high demand.*

## WestMed College moves into new campuses in San Jose and Merced

In a move to better serve its students in both of its primary markets, WestMed College moved into new campuses in San Jose and Merced earlier this year.

In San Jose, WestMed moved into a campus shared by National University, allowing the College to utilize the same facilities as the University which allowed both to maximize their resources.

In late April, WestMed opened its new Merced campus, which boasts nearly 7,000 square feet of classroom and instructional space. The campus is equipped with four classrooms, including computer and nursing labs, and administrative offices. All of the campuses' classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment. The computer lab is fully functional with the latest computer applications and technology updates. The nursing lab is outfitted with four hospital beds, three bedside tables, four over-bed tables, one EKG machine, one wheelchair, three life-like mannequins, one half mannequin, three infant mannequins, a halo splint, CPR equipment, and IV equipment.

In the near future, WestMed is planning to open a location in National University's campus in Costa Mesa, which would mark the first time the College would have a presence in Southern California.

WestMed's expansion into new campuses over the past year has been matched by the College's growth in other areas, including in enrollment, which is up 49% from the prior year, and in students-in-class, which is up 16% from the previous fiscal year. WestMed also secured an important partnership with the United States Naval Base in Oakland, California to provide EMT training to 100 to 150 reservists. ●

To learn more, visit:  
[www.westmedcollege.edu](http://www.westmedcollege.edu)

## National University System Institute for Policy Research featured in the news

Since joining the System in January, the National University System Institute for Policy Research and its leadership team have been quoted on an almost weekly basis in a wide-range of media outlets in the San Diego region.

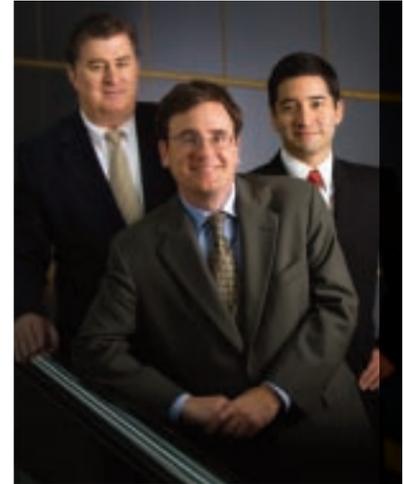
In addition to the area's three major newspapers, the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, *Daily Transcript*, and *North County Times*, the Institute has also been featured on local television stations, including San Diego News 10, Fox 5, and KUSI. The Institute also has contributed consistently to the San Diego News Network, Xconomy.com, and *San Diego City Beat*.

Erik Bruvold, the Institute's President, and Senior Fellow and Economist Kelly Cunningham, have offered expert analysis on the important economic developments facing the region. Senior Policy Analyst Vince Vasquez has continued to provide expert commentary on a wide range of policy issues.

The Institute's leadership has commented on topics ranging from the importance of bringing labor and business together, interest rates for home loans, the job market for college graduates, the auto industry crisis, and the state jobless rate, among others.

In addition to its constant exposure in the media, the Institute also re-launched its website with a new look, feel, and logo which brands it along with the other entities of the National University System. The website and logo incorporate colors and an image of a Torrey Pine, which represent the institute's roots as a uniquely San Diego institution.

To view more of the National University System Institute for Policy Research's recent media coverage, or to see its updated website, visit [www.sandiegoinstitute.com](http://www.sandiegoinstitute.com). ●



*(From left to right)  
Kelly Cunningham, Erik Bruvold, Vince Vasquez*

To learn more, visit:  
[www.sandiegoinstitute.com](http://www.sandiegoinstitute.com)

## iTHRIVE re-launches, distributed to National University System community

Since its inception, the National University System's commitment to improving the lives of the men, women and children in the communities it serves has taken many forms, from the creation of the Center for Integrative Health, to employee wellness initiatives, to the programs available through the National University School of Health and Human Services.

As the health and wellness offerings available through the System have continued to grow, so too has the System's outreach evolved to include all of the members of the extended university System community. In keeping with this commitment to health and wellness, complimentary issues of *iTHRIVE*, the Center for Integrative Health's electronic magazine, were distributed to all of the members of the System community beginning with the first issue in July.

Moving forward, *iTHRIVE* will publish monthly and will be distributed to all Trustees, staff, administration and full-time faculty. An email will be sent out at the beginning of each month announcing the release of the latest issue. In addition to the current issue, archived issues of *iTHRIVE* will be available as downloadable PDFs on the Center for Integrative Health's website.

To view every issue of *iTHRIVE*, please visit [www.cih.nusystem.org/Products/iTHRIVE.html](http://www.cih.nusystem.org/Products/iTHRIVE.html).



*The National University System is committed to improving the lives of the men, women and children in the communities it serves.*

To learn more, visit: [www.cih.nusystem.org](http://www.cih.nusystem.org)

## National University System Invitational Golf Tournament Earns \$140,000 for Endowment

For the third consecutive year, more than 175 members of the university system community, including Trustees, faculty, staff, administrators, friends, family members, vendors and business partners played in, sponsored, and volunteered for the National University System Invitational Golf Tournament.

This year's tournament returned to Morgan Run Resort and Club in Rancho Santa Fe, where a record 120 golfers and 35 hole sponsors helped raise more than \$140,000 for the Center for Integrative Health endowment fund.

The tournament followed a scramble best ball format, with two teams tying for first place at 12 under par, and three teams each tying for second and third place at 11 and 10 under par, respectively. Awards were also given out for the golfers who participated in the men's and women's long drive, closest to the pin, and putting competitions.

Like the golf tournament, the reception, silent auction and awards dinner attracted a record number of guests. The auction included autographed guitars from American Idol and country music sensation Carrie Underwood and Bush frontman Gavin Rossdale, sports memorabilia from the San Diego Chargers, Anaheim Ducks, and World Champion Los Angeles Lakers, golf equipment and outings, auto detailing, spa packages, gift baskets, hotel stays, and tickets to concerts, including a Goldplay concert in San Diego.

Now an annual University System Community tradition, the fourth National University System Invitational Golf Tournament is being planned for Monday, June 14, 2010.



*A record 120 golfers and more than 35 hole sponsors contributed to the National University System golf tournament in 2009.*

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