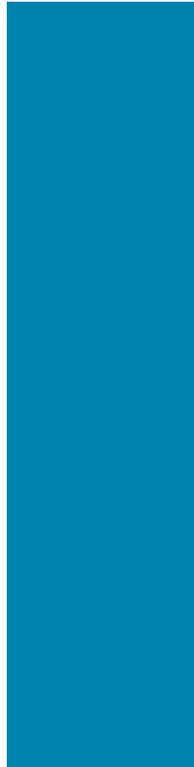




'Round the table with professionals

The second in a series of professional development workshops gives students the opportunity to get career coaching.



By *Valerie Osier*

Networking is vital in any career field and the Educational Leadership Department likes to offer opportunities to do so often. Six alumni and faculty members came to give advice to EDLD students during their Saturday class lunch break. The small roundtable conversations gave way to a plethora of advice and information the professionals were able to share with students to help them grow in their own professional experience.

Each professional had a table with a placard containing their name and position and students were able to roam in between tables, ask ques-

tions and enjoy their lunches with them.

"It was great that it was set up as a roundtable discussion," said Jenny Jacobs, Cohort 10. "The person who I spoke with had a wealth of information that was very helpful. It was neat because we ended up picking a table based on the area we were interested in, but by the end of the conversation, our discussion had reached even beyond the topic we picked."

Dr. Anna Ortiz, chair of EDLD, was the professional at Jenny's table and said those discussion topics ranged from being about becoming a facul-

ty member at a university, to negotiating salaries, to her experiences as a faculty member of color.

"We also talked a lot about publishing their dissertation, so that was really important because they're not going to be able to get a job as a university faculty member unless they can learn how to publish," Dr. Ortiz said. "I didn't think about that when I first thought about doing that table ... It has multiple benefits because now they're motivated to publish their dissertations, which is something we always want them to do."

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For some of the alumni, helping sharing their expertise with current students was their way of giving back to the program that helped them succeed.

"It was a great experience and it reaffirmed why I did the program to begin with and it's just a great place to be back because I really owe a lot to this program in terms of my professional advancement, it's virtually skyrocketed since the time I left," said Dr. Rene Castro of Cohort III, who is now the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Employee and Labor Relations at California State University.

Dr. Castro's students

asked him about his dissertation and discussed their career plans with him. He says he talked a lot about pathways with the students at his table.

"It's kind of exciting because some have a plan and others are not too sure," Dr. Castro said. "It was a lot of fun exploring that and giving them suggestions regardless of what they choose to do and how to navigate and and getting where it is they want to be."



PROFESSIONALS

K-12

Dr. Vanessa Landesfeind
Principal, Centinela Valley Union
High School District

Dr. Noemi Villegas
Program Manager, School Counseling & Guidance,
San Diego USD

Dr. Sonya Smith
Director of Pupil Personnel Services,
Hawthorne USD

HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. Anna Ortiz
Department Chair & Professor, Educational
Leadership Department, CSULB

Dr. Tara Hardee
University Registrar, CSU Dominguez Hills

Dr. Rene Castro
Assistant Vice Chancellor of Employee and Labor
Relations, CSU

Dr. Adriana Church Flores
VP of Human Resources, Assistant Superintendent,
Cerritos College

Thank you all for attending the Ed.D Gala!

Celebrating Cohort III

May 6, 2017 at The Grand Event Center in Long Beach

The Educational Leadership Department presented the Ed.D Gala this past weekend, to a night full of music, dancing, and celebration of Cohort III. All proceeds from the night, a total of \$5,275, will benefit the Social Justice Scholarship Fund.



Cohort III
Guest Speaker
Dr. LeAnna Majors



Cohort III
Alumni



EDLD
Staff &
Faculty