



## SENATOR MIKE FASANO VISITS CFI - PALM HARBOR



Senator Fasano visited Central Florida Institute recently. CFI of Palm Harbor resides in Senator Fasano's District 11, as one of a number of postsecondary schools.

Senator Fasano spoke to CFI students giving them encouragement and words of wisdom. He had the opportunity to visit each career program

offered at CFI, in addition to observing presentations given by current CFI students & faculty.

CFI is a member of Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools & Colleges (FAPSC) representing the interests of over 300 degree granting and 500 non-degree granting career schools and colleges that prepare over 265,000 students each year for employment in more than 200 occupational fields. Senator Fasano's choice to visit CFI, a fully-participating FAPSC School,



shows his firm hands-on support for Florida education and post-graduate student achievement.

Mr. William Polmear, President of FAPSC, and Ms. Sandy Mortham, Consultant for FAPSC, joined the tour with Senator Fasano. Also present were Mr. John Kearney Sr., President & CEO of Career Path Training Corp., parent company of CFI, Mr. John Kearney Jr., VP of Career Path Training, Olivia Fields, CFI Palm Harbor School Director, and Mr. Alfred McCloy, Co-Chairman, Government & Association Relations of Career Path Training.

When asked what the visit from Senator Fasano meant to CFI, Mr. McCloy responded, "This was a very important visit for the tax paying schools of Florida. Much was done to make a very important senator aware of the outstanding work these schools do to help Florida citizens."



## REPRESENTATIVE BRYAN NELSON VISITS CFI - ORLANDO

Representative Bryan Nelson took the opportunity to visit and experience the programs offered by Central Florida Institute and Roadmaster Drivers School of Orlando, Florida. Representative Nelson was warmly welcomed by both CFI and Roadmaster students and staff. He discussed the benefits that post-secondary short-term training schools have for both his Orange County District (District 38) and the state of Florida. He was able to tour both facilities with



CFI Orlando School Director, Richard Covington and Roadmaster School Director, Ed Mocek.



Mr. Covington remarked, "We were pleased to host Representative Bryan Nelson at our campuses. We appreciate his heart for helping people achieve better employment opportunities through career training. It was a fantastic opportunity for us to share information about our schools with him!"

Representative Nelson specifically commented on the benefits of short-term training. He credited training schools like CFI and Roadmaster Drivers School for allowing students to get in to their career fields quickly with the skills they need to find employment.



### Central Florida Institute



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## MEDICAL ASSISTANTS ON A MISSION: GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



Left to Right, Back Row: Mr. Richard Milaschewski, MA Cardio Instructor, Kevin Grace, Ambie Bussey, Gayatriben Patel, and Mrs. Cheryl St. Esprit, MA Cardio Instructor. Left to Right, Front Row: Tatielle Lira, Rosa Reyes, Melissa Coffey Smith, and Amanda St. Onge.



Left to Right: Melissa Coffey Smith, Rosa Reyes, and Amanda St. Onge



Dr. Jose Maldonado



Tatielle Lira and Gayatriben Patel (at EKG machine), Mr. Milaschewski (supervising) and Kevin Grace (with patient)

On July 15, 2008, CFI Orlando participated in a community volunteer event at the Iglesia El Calvario (Calvary Church) of Orlando on 2500 W. Oakridge Road.

Iglesia El Calvario partnered with the Iglesia Dios Pentecostal MI (Pentecostal Church of God MI), a global religious organization that hosts conventions every

other year at various churches all over the world. This year, Dr. Jose Maldonado, a physician with the VA Hospital in Tampa who is also a pastor, was involved in the coordination of a health fair at the convention. Dr. Maldonado was responsible to help provide a variety of medical services to missionaries from all over the world. These missionaries are currently serving throughout Europe and South & Central America, and have returned to the United States for rest and recuperation before returning to mission.

CFI Medical Assistant students and instructors were given the opportunity to provide EKG services to over 40 of these missionaries. Students and staff enjoyed the opportunity to not only put their skills to practice, but also found it very rewarding to help patients who are providing such a valuable volunteer service to those in need all over the world. MA/NCT Instructor Mrs. Cheryl St. Esprit stated that, "This was a valuable and rewarding experience for our students. We were so pleased to be able to help these missionaries. Our students also gained an opportunity to exercise problem solving and teamwork. We hope to be involved with this organization again in the future."

Thank you to all of the students and staff who participated in this event. CFI Orlando would also like to thank Dr. Jose Maldonado for this opportunity to provide these needed services to the missionaries we met. We wish them the best of luck and commend them for the services they are providing throughout the world.

## NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY

CFI Orlando would like to introduce our new National Technical Honor Society! NHS Orlando was officially recognized on April 02, 2008. We currently have 12 students participating in our program, pictured below. NHS Students represent the MA, DA, DMS, and NCT programs. Since April, the National Honor Society has volunteered for both the April Open House and New Student Orientations. They have also hosted a bake sale and set up pizza parties on campus.

The students are lead by the NHS Advisor, Student Success Director, Roseanne Bartels. Co-Advisors include:

Pam Hibbitts, Director of Education, and instructors Mr. Richard Milaschewski MA Cardio and Gen Ed DMS Instructor, Mrs. Jackie Cole MA Cardio Instructor, and Mr. Jimmie Smith, Gen Ed DMS Instructor (also pictured below).

Requirements for the National Technical Honor Society are both a 3.7 or higher GPA and 95% attendance for 3 consecutive terms. If you are interested in learning more about joining at the Orlando Campus, please see Director of Student Success, Roseanne Bartels.

Congratulations to our current members!



Back Row, from Left to Right: Ms. Hibbitts, Co-Advisor; Mr. Smith, Co-Advisor; Ms. Bartels, Advisor. Front Row, seated from Left to Right: Jaqueline Nicholson-DMS and Ashley Hodges-MA. MA STUDENTS NOT PICTURED: Serena Benson-MA, Susan Banner-NCT, Breanna Pellegrino-NCT, Nijla Cassanova-MA.



Back Row, From Left to Right: Mrs. Pam Hibbitts, Co-Advisor; Mr. Richard Milaschewski, Co-Advisor; Mr. Jimmie Smith, Co-Advisor, Ms. Roseanne Bartels, Advisor. Front Row from Left to Right: Joy Bingham-NCT, Amy Hall-NCT, Michelle Sandoval-NCT, Rebecca Willis-DMS, and Iman Kareem-DMS.

*The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at time of challenge and controversy. ~ Martin Luther King, Jr. ~*

## GOOD SAMARITANS: MEDICAL SKILLS IN ACTION! BY MARISA BLOOM, MA CVT PROGRAM

On June 24, 2008, a former student and I were on our way home from class on Highway US 19 North. It was about 10:45pm, and no more than 5 minutes away from school, when we witnessed a man get hit by an SUV as he tried to cross the northbound lanes of US 19 between Tampa Rd and Nebraska Ave. The vehicle that hit the man tried to avoid him but could not. As I pulled off the road, I quickly picked up my cell phone and gave it to Danielle (former CFI student) to call 911, as I started towards the accident. As we crossed the 4-laned highway, trying not to get hit ourselves, we could see the man laying face-down and in apparent respiratory distress, as he was breathing heavily. I recall yelling for him not to move. As Danielle was on the phone with EMS, we crossed the highway and arrived at the car, where I could hear the female passenger (from the vehicle that struck the man) talking to another dispatcher. She was told repeatedly to turn the man over; however, knowing that by doing so the man's injuries could worsen, we opted not to. We kept telling the dispatcher

that we could not roll him over without causing further injury to him.

I recall another Good Samaritan female who was constantly assessing the injured man's pulse and breathing. What seemed like a life time waiting for Fire/EMS to arrive, we did everything we could to prevent the patient and ourselves from being hit, further complicating things.

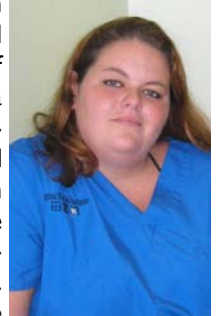
As Fire/EMS arrived, I heard the passenger of the SUV stating that she did not feel so very good, and felt as if she was going to faint. Knowing that there was medical assistance there for the main victim, my focus then shifted to this other



woman in the SUV. We sat with her, all the while reassuring her in an effort to relax her breathing and heart rate. Keeping one eye on the injured man, who at this time was in Paramedics' care, I knew the situation was grave. Police

had shut down both northbound and southbound lanes of US 19, preparing a landing zone for Bay-Flite. BayFlite did eventually arrive on scene and airlifted the male victim to Bay-Front Trauma Center. We waited on scene

until we were talked to by police and gave our statements. The drive home that night has never been more nervous! Thinking about what we had just been a part of; we came to the conclusion that we didn't even know the man's name. Wanting to know what the outcome of this incident was, I did follow up and had learned that the man that we had found on the road side did pass away after arrival at BayFront. I felt bad, but knew that I had done everything that I knew how to do. With the help of Danielle and the other (un-named) woman at the scene, I feel that the very best assistance was given up to the arrival of Fire/EMS.



## SPOTLIGHT ON PEARL GARCIA, ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER



CFI Orlando takes pride in working with respected professionals in the Central Florida medical field, particularly those on our Advisory Board. Our board members

participate in CFI community projects, Open House events, and graduation ceremonies. They also provide valuable feedback regarding CFI curriculum, students, and industry trends. One of our Advisory Board Members has gone above and beyond in helping the Central Florida Institute Orlando Campus continue to be a success in the community. Mrs. Pearl Garcia has not only attended Open House events and graduation ceremonies, but she also volunteers her medical facility to provide medical entrance requirements for

new CFI students.

Mrs. Garcia and her husband, Dr. Peter Garcia, MD, have been Advisory Board Members for CFI Orlando since October 2007. They both represent the Lakeside Occupational Medical Centers Orlando office. She is an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) and has more than 28 years of nursing experience. Mrs. Garcia received her undergraduate degree from California State University, Long Beach and Masters of Nursing as a Nurse Practitioner from University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. Mrs. Garcia is experienced as an occupational health nurse in roles within companies, as well as providing services in a community-based clinical environment. Her occupational health experience encompasses roles in government, private, and healthcare facilities. She is certified through the American Nurses Credentialing Center as an Adult and Family Nurse Practitioner. She also holds a certification as a Legal Nurse Consultant,

Nurse Case Manager, and is certified in Hearing Conservation.

Thank you so much Mrs. Garcia for your commitment to Central Florida Institute. We have nothing but the upmost gratitude for the many services you and your husband provide to our school. We also commend you for your long career in nursing and involvement in your community. We look forward to a continued partnership. You are truly valued by CFI!

We want to hear from you!  
If you have any events, thoughts,  
or stories, please submit  
your editorial contributions  
to the front desk.  
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Orlando Campus Attn:  
Andrea Ristagno,  
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## CFI ORLANDO GRADUATES

- 1** The program was very well organized and taught by remarkable teachers. I admired the fact that CFI has continually made improvements, such as adding new equipment. I would recommend CFI to future students.  
Andrea Molineros, DA Graduate
- 2** I loved CFI so much that I will be continuing my education with them in the DMS program in August!  
Stephanie Lowry, NCT Graduate
- 3** I really enjoyed CFI. They delivered on their promise of hands on, employment focused education!  
Jamar Allen, MA Graduate
- 4** I really enjoyed my experience at CFI. They helped me to succeed!  
Herman Carmen, MA Graduate
- 5** This program was a very rewarding experience with superb training! Thank you!  
Jan Booth, NCT Graduate
- 6** I enjoyed my time at CFI and learned so much!  
Sidika Manji, DMS Graduate



### ~MAST~

MAST is the Medical Assistant Success Team. MAST is an organization of successful 3rd, 4th and 5th term Medical Assistant students who are volunteering their time and experience as a way of helping other MA students succeed. They understand that health care is based on the concept of "team play" and they have embraced the ideal of helping other members of the CFI Medical Assistant team. They have realized that it is sometimes easier to succeed by working with others than it is to struggle alone, and they want to share the "secrets" of their success with you. For information on contacting members of MAST, please see Mr. Steve Coleman or Mrs. Millie McIlvaine, or talk to your individual instructors.

### Skill Refresher Clinics

TUESDAYS, ROOM 212

"Practice your skills!" Be prepared to go to your extern site with confidence in your abilities! The Tuesday Afternoon Skills Clinic is held on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday of each term. If you have any questions, please see Steve Coleman, Education Coordinator. Schedule is subject to change. Remember, practice makes perfect!



## CFI PALM HARBOR GRADUATES



Congratulations to CFI's first DMS class graduates! Pictured are: Kristen Freiermuth, Jennifer Broe and Marie Sallier - DMS Graduates

- 1** I really enjoyed the experience. The MA program is great with really good teachers and I hope that anyone who goes into the program enjoys it as much as I did! Siobhan Cirino, MA Graduate
- 2** Going back to school at first was a little scary. Since I had been out for some time. I have to say, it was the best decision I had ever made. I learned a lot and had fun doing it. Now I'm going back to school to become an RN. Amy McConnell, MA Graduate
- 3** I love my job! It was definitely worth it. I came into school at 17 now I am 20, employed and bought my own house. Working at Heart & Vascular Center Bayonet Point. Samantha Townsend, ICT Graduate
- 4** Great experience! Got hired at my externship site - Diagnostic Clinic. Jessica Markham, MA Graduate with Mrs. Dale Markham, Registrar & Mom
- 5** CFI was a great experience and a quick way to get into the medical work field. Went by fast!!! And got a lot of knowledge. My long term goal is to be a Physicians Assistant. Brittany Pisarcik, MA Graduate. I'm working at Dr. Miller's office and going on a cruise with the whole staff. Wow! Tiffany Pisarcik, DA Graduate
- 6** I am making more money than I ever dreamed at 21 years old. Thanks CFI! Working at Helen Ellis Hospital. Kristen Freiermuth, DMS Graduate
- 7** This is the completion of the first part of a long journey! Debbie Bono. This is only part of my accomplishment. My final goal is to complete the ACT program. Krystal Prettyman. This was a great experience! Now working toward ACT. Employed at MPM Dunedin as an EKG Tech. Grisel Guzman. NCT Graduates
- 8** CFI has prepared me to meet the challenges of the medical community. On a day-to-day basis I have to interact with Cardiologists and other medical professionals. CFI prepared me to interact on their level of intellect. Peter Fellman, ICT Graduate
- 9** Working at MP Countryside Hospital, Kristina Cavallaro. Working at UCH Pepin Heart Institute, Beverly Ann Daniel. I couldn't have gotten through without these girls and Donny Bear, Jolene Fernandez. Working at UCH Pepin Heart Institute, Cassidy Stevenson. Ready to start my new career, Amanda Ferguson. Study, study, study! It's worth it in the long run and really fun, Connie Kurish. ACT Graduates



## ZEPHYRHILLS HS HEALTH ACADEMY TEACH-IN

Thank you for visiting our class. It was very interesting and I learned a lot! A lot of stuff I had never heard of but am glad that I do now. Thank you. Sincerely, Sarah



I enjoyed you coming and talking to us and I had fun! I think I found my career. Thank you for your time. Kelly Hay

Dana Lowe, CST, Surgical Tech Instructor and her students: Tiffany Rutland, Teandra Lee, Elizabeth Wagner, Greg Warino and Robin Stewart share about the value of healthcare careers with Mrs. Sondra Cranford, Health Education Director. Special thanks to all the volunteers for a job well done!



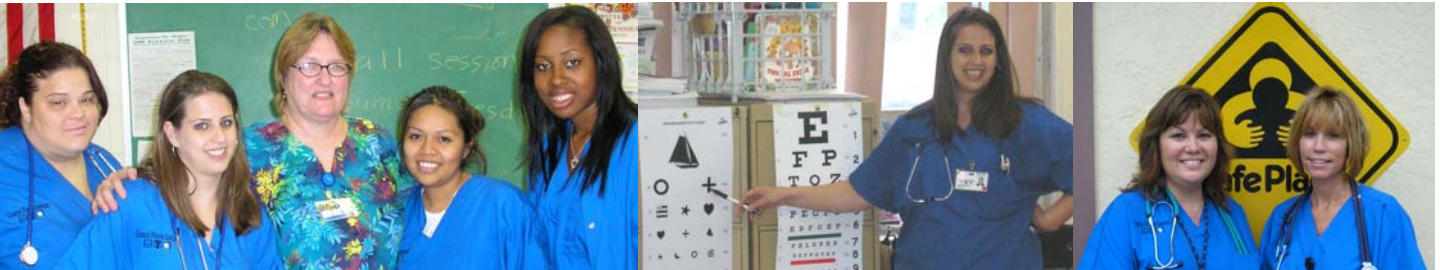
## GULF HS HEALTH ACADEMY STUDENTS TOUR CFI TO LEARN ABOUT MEDICAL & DENTAL CAREER PATHWAYS



Middle Row: Heather Simon, English Teacher  
 Back Row: (L to R) Kathy Trapp, Careers Specialist;  
 Carol Hlad, HCA Coordinator; Rosemarie Lowry, RN, Health Occupations Teacher

Thank you CFI students and faculty for volunteering your time and sharing your words of wisdom to show "What a day in the life of a medical or dental professional looks like" for the following High School Health Academies: Gulf HS and Zephyrhills HS.  
 Sondra Cranford, Health Education Director

## TARPON SPRINGS BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR



Special Thanks to Mrs. Cusumano, MA Instructor, and her MA students: Maritza Cruz, Tiffany Banks, Ashley MacDowell, Melissa Ralat, Jennifer Olguim, Helen Hudson and Patty Goble. They volunteered their time at the Citizens Alliance for Progress Back to School Health Fair and worked in partnership with Helen Ellis Hospital to perform health screenings and physicals.



Our guests are intrigued by the knowledge of our sonographers.



Our School Director, Mr. Covington hands the prize to a happy winner.



Students explaining dental procedures.

## CFI ORLANDO'S OPEN HOUSE

Smiling faces, children laughing, the sight of human hearts beating in four dimension, sounds of dental equipment buzzing and x-ray machines clicking. These are just some of the many wonderful experiences that those who attended Central Florida Institute's Open House enjoyed. On October 15, 2008, Central Florida Institute held its third bi-annual open house. Open House at CFI is a time when friends, family, and guests can come and see what it is like to be a part of the CFI family. After a gracious welcome, guests were escorted to each instructional classroom where they caught a glimpse of a day in the life of a CFI student. The tours allowed for visitors to see all of the hard work, dedication, and professionalism which are essential components to being a CFI student. As the tour ended, our pleasant admissions staff was available to answer questions our visitors had as they enjoyed refreshments and awaited the drawing for the fabulous give-a-ways. So if you missed out on this Open House, be sure to be a part of our next one in April! You'll be glad you did!

## ALL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MOTORCYCLE RIDE FUNDRAISER

Project Kick Off began at Gulf Coast Harley Davidson, New Port Richey. The ride made a stop at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg to donate gifts and then continued to The Crab Shack in Port Richey. Nicole Lambert, CST, Program Director of Surgical Technology said it best, "Help the Surgical Technologists help the children!"



## LETTERS FROM THE FIELD

Hello Mr. O'Brien, it's Jon Shutty, one of your NCT students out on clinicals/externship. Everything is going great at Pepin Heart Hospital. The people are very nice and very helpful as well. I feel lucky to have the assignment there. I'm out on my own going through the hospital doing EKG's, and doing stress tests. I've seen a few cath's, a tilt table study, and even an open heart surgery! It was amazing. I was standing at the head of the patient right next to the surgeon, Dr. Bloom. He was great, he asked me questions, showed me things, and talked about the medical field. It was a very valuable experience. They've mentioned a good possibility of there being a part-time job for me when I go into the advanced program!

Evon Hampton let me know that you came to the hospital last Friday for a sight visit, I was disappointed that I wasn't there when they told me that you were there. I hope they had good things to say. They mentioned that you would be back again so I look forward to seeing you then. I hope all is going well with your new classes and all of your other duties.

**Jon Shutty, NCT Program**

## BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS. HILLSBOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT: CAREER PATHWAYS & CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION VISITS CFI



Our special thanks to Carla Sparks, Career Pathways and Career Academies, Kristine Hensley, Supervisor of Career and Technical Education, Andrea Beverly, District Resource Teacher for Health Sciences, Pam Peralta, General Director of Career and Technical Education and Dr. Whitmore, Supervisor, Health Science and Public Service Education. Thinking about what's best for their students! School District Articulation Agreements enable HS graduates to submit some of their classes for credit review and class transfer. Class credit is based on the eligibility criteria stated in the agreements.

### HANDS-ON, SHORT-TERM TRAINING

for In-Demand Medical & Dental Careers!



- Medical Assistant / Basic X-Ray
- Medical Assistant / Cardiovascular Technology
- Dental Assistant / Expanded Functions & Radiology
- Noninvasive Cardiovascular Technician
- Surgical Technologist
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (Ultrasound Tech)
- Polysomnographic Technologist (Sleep Study Tech)
- Advanced Cardiovascular Technologist (Echo Tech)
- Invasive Cardiovascular Technologist (Cath Lab Tech)

### CONGRATULATIONS TO SURGICAL TECH STUDENTS JENNIFER BREY AND GREG WARINO AND INSTRUCTOR DAYNA LOWE GIBSON, CST

Articles published in The OR Connection  
(Volume 3, Issue 2)  
**The History of the Surgical Technologist**  
by Jennifer Brey and Greg Warino,  
**Surgical Site Infections: Are you playing  
your part in prevention?**  
by Dayna Lowe, CST,  
Surgical Technologist Instructor.

