



Job Seekers Flock to Canyon Country Campus

With an annual job fair held on campus each spring and summer and Fast Track courses designed to get students training and quick employment, the College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus continues to serve as a key resource for local jobseekers.

“California’s community colleges are an important part of the state’s recovery from the economic downturn,” said Dr. Dena Maloney, vice president of the Canyon Country Campus and Economic Development. “At College of the Canyons, we are committed to providing services that assist job seekers – from innovative educational programs to career counseling and job fairs.”

Earlier this month, COC and The Signal presented the Spring 2011 Job, Career & Intern Fair in the Canyon Country campus’ outdoor Carl A. Rasmussen Amphitheater.

The event is always free and open to the public, and features a variety of employers. Middle and upper level managers provide information about valuable internship opportunities.

There are also workshops containing a variety of tips, techniques and information for job seekers to utilize on their path to employment. Career specialist and social media consultant Stuart Fried offered the workshop “Use LinkedIn Effectively.” Human resources consultant Tom Royston, CEO of Blue Cube Group, presented a resume workshop designed to help attendees create, or strengthen their resumes.

As an additional option for local jobseekers, this summer the college’s Fast Track Institute will be offering two, seven-week courses in the areas of Precision Assembly Training and Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) machining.

The College of the Canyons Fast Track Institute was launched in fall 2010 to provide non-credit, accelerated job preparation programs for community members looking to quickly jump-start their career, or find a new profession.

Taking just a few months to complete, Fast Track courses are designed to teach entry-level job skills that will allow students to quickly begin working in businesses and industries where applicants with up-to-date training are in high demand.

“There is an urgency surrounding these particular industry areas,” said Pete Bellas, dean of economic development at the college. “Local companies need prepared candidates to fill these positions now, and are willing to hire applicants who lack experience but have received the proper training.”

Providing qualified candidates with the job skills needed to work in the growing biomedical device manufacturing and aerospace assembly, the Precision Assembly Training program will instill the knowledge and skills needed to correctly assemble and test implantable medical devices, and otherwise work in a regulated manufacturing environment.

Participants will also learn how to complete micro soldering tasks and



The 2011 Job Fair in the outdoor amphitheater.

assemble components under a microscope, along with the proper procedures for working in a clean room.

Meanwhile, students who successfully complete the CNC machining program will be qualified for entry-level CNC machining jobs in both the commercial and aerospace manufacturing industries. Throughout the program participants will learn to operate, and alter settings on, a variety of different CNC machine tools in order to produce precision metal parts in large quantities.

All Fast Track courses are competency based, meaning students will need to demonstrate their skill set before receiving certification. Upon completion of the course, successful students will be awarded a professional certificate in their particular area of study, along with a list of skill competencies they can share with potential employers.

For more information about the Spring 2011 Job, Career & Intern Fair at the College of the Canyons Canyon Country campus visit www.canyons.edu/CareerCenter.

For more information about the Fast Track Institute courses being offered in summer 2011, or to register visit www.canyons.edu/FastTrack.

