

September 2014

Issue 10

## Greetings from Chancellor Thor

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

A coach who becomes a mentor and an alumnus who becomes a college friend - these are the connections that unfold in the story of Sandy Whitol, a De Anza College graduate profiled in this edition of Education Matters. The deep connections Sandy made as a scholar-athlete at De Anza shaped his life, continuing long after his days as a star player on the De Anza baseball team or his years playing Major League Baseball.



Sandy gives as well as he got, which is how his connection changed from former student to present-day friend of the college. Seeing an important need and the chance to help current and future students, Sandy volunteered to mobilize the community as fundraising chair for the De Anza Baseball Campaign.

Scroll down the page to read about Sandy and the ways in which the De Anza Baseball Campaign supports the program of new head baseball coach Erick Raich. As happened in Sandy's case, we expect that coach Raich will play an important role in the lives of his players and that some, like Sandy, will come back as friends of De Anza College. Thanks, Sandy, for helping close the circle!

Another group that has inspired great community connections is Foothill-De Anza's growing population of student veterans of the armed forces. We invite you to celebrate with them and hear our distinguished speaker at a fundraising open house next month for the newly expanded Veterans Resource Center at Foothill College. Details are included in an invitation below.

Opened this fall, the new Veterans Resource Center is double the size of the old one. It includes offices for on-site counseling, desktop computers and a comfortable lounge for hanging out. Many civic-minded individuals, community organizations and businesses have provided extra support for our veterans and the center, contributing funds for Livescribe Smartpens, textbook vouchers, new loaner laptops and scholarships. Some community members even volunteer as mentors.

Foothill and De Anza colleges served more than 1,200 student veterans last year, and we expect that number to grow. California leads the nation with almost 2 million veterans living in our state, and the majority of those who've returned Iraq and Afghanistan enroll in community colleges.

As you can see, the 2014-15 academic year is off to a good start. We appreciate your interest in our students and colleges.

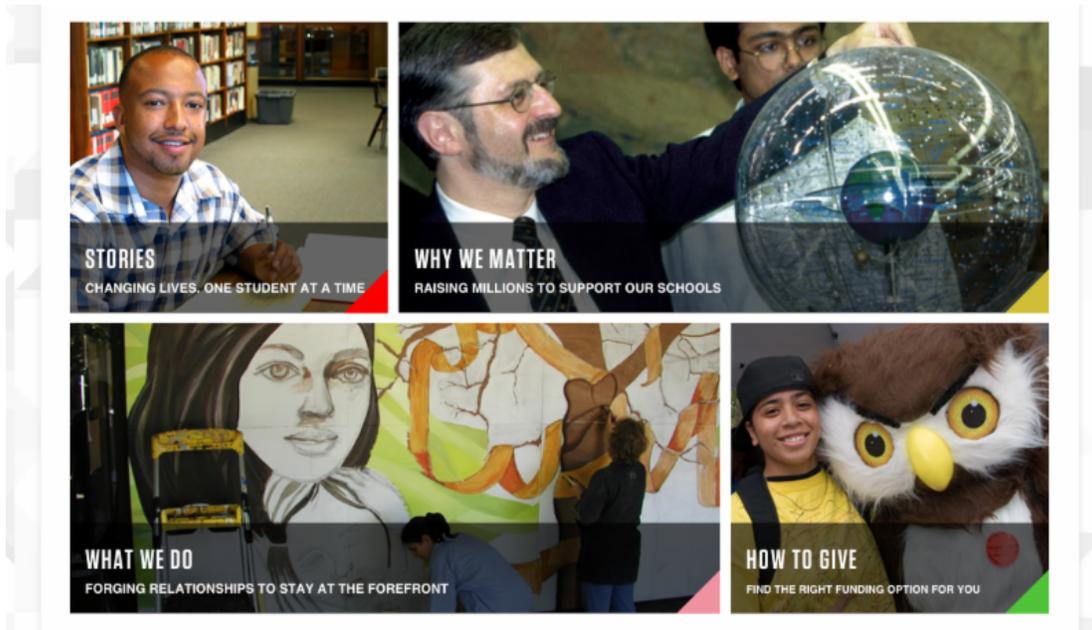
Linda M. Thor, Ed.D., Chancellor

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## The Foothill-De Anza Foundation's website has a new look!

Visit our website for inspiring stories from our alumni, donors, faculty and staff. Also, find out how the colleges are changing lives, one student at a time with the help and support of our many partners.



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## Alumni Spotlight

### De Anza Baseball Alumnus steps up to the plate

Former Major League baseball player Sandy Wihtol grew up in Cupertino and works as a real estate agent in Los Altos. He's always been active in the community, most notably spending 16 seasons coaching the Los Altos High School baseball team.

His lifelong love of baseball is responsible for his newest volunteer job and project: fundraiser-in-chief to mobilize the community behind a program he feels strongly about - De Anza baseball.

- Read more [here](#)



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## Foothill Veteran continues to serve

Charles Viajar's eyes light up when he talks about the Veterans Resource Center at Foothill College. "It's just such a welcoming place," he said. "I looked at a bunch of different community colleges before deciding to attend Foothill, and one of the main motivators behind that decision was the experience I had with the Veterans Resource Center."

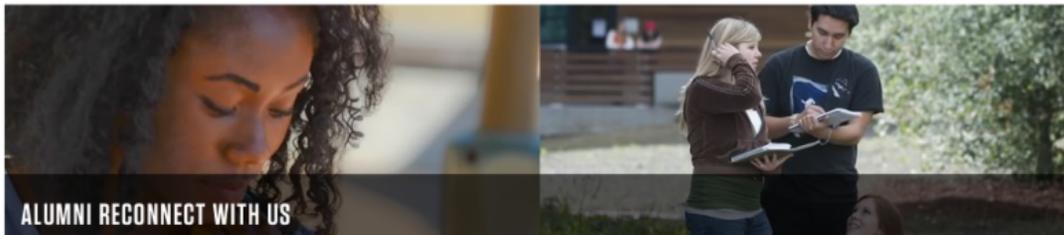


Charles was in the U.S. Navy for six years, deployed to Japan. Not only did the Navy teach him about discipline, he says, it taught him how to be a good leader and mentor.

- Read more [here](#)

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## Searching for Alumni



Have you attended classes at Foothill or De Anza? If so, we want to hear from you. What are you doing now? What is your fondest memory while attending Foothill or De Anza?

Please take a moment to reconnect with us by filling out our [alumni form](#). We would love to know what you are up to now.



Reconnect with our other alumni by joining our LinkedIn network!

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## Taste of History

### *A Taste of Wine, A Sip of Water*

Saturday Oct. 18 from 3-6 p.m.  
in the California History Center  
De Anza College

Join us for an afternoon of water and wine history in Silicon Valley since 1914, with a lively discourse led by author and De Anza instructor, Mary Jo Ignoffo.



Taste wine by local wineries, enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, listen to great music, and enjoy great company! Proceeds from a Taste of History support student and campus projects that will preserve, document and share our local history. This includes the Silicon Valley Documentation Project (Oral History Project), which links our students directly with De Anza's surrounding communities and helps them and their instructors to capture the stories of people who have made our lives rich with meaning and purpose, but may not otherwise be widely known.

Tickets are \$75 each. For more information and to purchase tickets please [click here](#).

Space is limited!

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## Foothill College Veterans Resource Center Grand Opening

Thursday, October 30  
Author Series Talk 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., Room 5001  
VIP Reception from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Room 5403

Foothill's Veterans Resource Center (VRC) has a new home this fall quarter. The Foothill College Commission and the Rotary Club of Los Altos invite you to come and tour the VRC's new home and learn about the services the college provides our student veterans.

The afternoon begins at 4:00 p.m. with remarks by Aaron Glantz, reporter at the Center for Investigative Reporting and author of *The War Comes Home: Washington's Battle Against America's Veterans*.

Glantz has spent more than 10 years covering the Iraq War and treatment of veterans receive when they come home.

A VIP reception begins at 5:30 featuring wine and light refreshments. A suggested ticket donation of \$25 will fund textbook vouchers for our student veterans. To receive your map and parking permit, [RSVP here](#).

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## Foothill-De Anza Foundation receives gift from Cupertino War Memorial

In August, former Cupertino Mayor Sandy James, on behalf of the Cupertino War Memorial, gave the Foothill-De Anza Foundation \$15,000 to help our De Anza college student veterans pursue their educational goals.

We are excited to celebrate with the Cupertino War Memorial at their Veterans Day Ceremony, Monday November 11 at 11a.m.



For directions and more information [click here](#)

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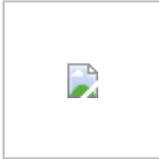
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## 'Tis the season - for sports!

### Go Dons! Go Owls!

Interested in seeing a game?

Football Season is here, and the Owls and Dons are ready to get out on the field. Over the last 14 years the Owls have emerged as one of the top community college programs in Northern California with a 114-38 record. The Dons also remain strong and are hoping repeat their 2012 Nor-Cal Conference win.



[De Anza Football Schedule](#)



[Foothill Football Schedule](#)

Foothill and De Anza have a variety of great athletic programs.

For more information, and to get a full list of athletic teams and their schedules click below for the main athletics page of each campus.

[Foothill](#)

[De Anza](#)



### Visit Foothill and De Anza

To check out upcoming events for both campuses, go to the Foundation's [upcoming events page](#)

#### ***Events of Interest***

##### ***De Anza Fujitsu Planetarium Shows:***

Sept. 27 - Dec. 20

For tickets and more information [click here](#)

##### ***The Copernicus Complex: Are We Special in the Cosmos?***

Part of the Silicon Valley Astronomy Lecture Series - Smithwick Theatre (Room 1001)

Oct. 08, 2014 - 7 p.m. Admission Free

##### ***Foothill College Physics Show***

Jan. 10 & 11, Jan 24 & 25

Tickets will go on sale mid-December

## Give to the Future of Silicon Valley

The Foothill-De Anza Foundation changes students' lives by raising and investing funds

to support the educational excellence of Foothill and De Anza colleges. The foundation welcomes gifts of cash, securities and property, and gifts may be pledged over time. The foundation is also the grateful beneficiary of deferred giving; bequests are among the colleges' most transformational gifts.

***Please consider making an investment in Foothill and De Anza colleges  
and the future of Silicon Valley.***

**QUICK DONATE**

Stay Connected



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