

# **Community Invited to Cal State's Palm Desert Campus this Saturday for opening of new Health Sciences Building**

**Day will feature community health fair, CNN speaker,  
building tours and health-related seminars**

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PALM DESERT, Calif. (October 15, 2008) California State University, San Bernardino's Palm Desert Campus will sponsor a special community health fair and open house event this

Saturday, October 18th in conjunction with the official opening of the new Palm Desert Health Sciences Building, which opened for fall quarter classes back in September.



The day's events are free and open to the public. Parking will be free as well.

The community health fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the campus' Indian Wells Center for Educational Excellence Building, located at 37-500 Cook Street in Palm Desert. The fair will feature many local non-profit organizations including Desert AIDS Project, Animal Samaritans, United Way of the Desert, Alzheimer's Group, Jewish Family Services, and the American Red Cross. Blood pressure checks will be administered by the university's nursing students.

The campus will also host CNN reporter, Thelma Gutierrez, at 2 p.m. in the campus' Indian Wells Theater. Gutierrez will discuss the health needs of returning veterans. There will be a Q & A period following her talk. Seating is limited to first 300 guests and veterans are encouraged to attend.

Guided tours of the new Health Sciences Building and CUES (Community University Educational Summit) will also be part of the day's festivities. CUES links the university to the community by offering

seminars by local non-profit organizations which focus on topics that provide valuable knowledge for healthy living and disease prevention. Some of the topics covered include Health & Nutrition, Stroke Recovery and Prevention, Woman and Cardiovascular Disease, and Stress and Financial Management. Each of the seven seminars will begin every forty five minutes beginning at 9 a.m. through 2:15 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend all of the seminars or ones of individual interest. For more information about CUES, visit [www.cuespd.com](http://www.cuespd.com).

The new one-story Health Sciences Building at the south end of the campus on Cook Street is built in two wings and houses lab and classroom space for the university's new nursing education programs, as well as other future science programs . The building is also home the campus library, the Helene A. Hixon Information Resource Center, which moved from the Mary Stuart Rogers Building during the summer.

The building will also be the home of a new student health center.

The Palm Desert Health Sciences Building was built with funds from eight Coachella Valley cities, the County of Riverside, the Desert Healthcare District and individual donors. Its completion marks the erection of four structures comprising the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus.

Former Indian Wells Mayor Dick Oliphant and local philanthropist Betty Barker co-chaired the capital campaign that raised more than \$35 million in non-state money to build the campus. A gift of 200 acres by the city of Palm Desert provided a site for the university.

The public-private partnership in which the community raised construction money and the state university agreed to operate the branch campus was featured in a Sunday New York Times article in 2003. The extensive article was prominently displayed on the newspaper's front page.

CSUSB's Palm Desert Campus serves about 1,200 students per year, providing third and fourth year (junior-senior) undergraduate instruction as well as many master's degrees and teaching credentials. It is the first and (thus far) only public university offering baccalaureate degrees in the Coachella Valley.

For more information, contact Mike Singer in the Palm Desert Campus's Office of Public Affairs at (760) 341-2883, ext. 78107 or visit the university's website at <http://pdc.csusb.edu>.