



Angela Fajardo (MA '99)  
Promotes Social Justice  
as a Member of the  
Lennox School Board

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Loyola Marymount University School of Education

Fall 2008



**English-Learner Education: A Critical Challenge for California's PK-12 Schools**

# alumni

## Activity

**TOM JOHNSTONE, MA '84**, recently became superintendent of the Wiseburn School District after 28 years on staff at Lennox School District. Johnstone began his career as a teacher in the Lennox School District and took on many responsibilities in the years he was there. During the course of his career, he has served as a middle school counselor, an elementary assistant principal and principal, a director of curriculum, instruction and assessment, and for the last nine years as the assistant superintendent of human resources.



**STEVE KLIMA, BA '89**, was recently honored with the Palisades Charter Schools Foundation's Lori Petrick Excellence in Education Award for his inspiring ability to make literature more accessible to students at Palisades Charter High School. Klima has been teaching Advanced Placement English and creative writing at the high school for 14 years, 10 of which he was voted by students as one of the most inspirational teachers. Klima's teachers at Loyola High School inspired him to follow in their footsteps and he went on to study English at LMU.



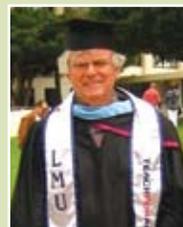
**NANCY ALAMO, MA '94**, has served nine years as president of the Hispanic Educators Association of Nevada, a small non-profit organization that advocates for the rights of Hispanic students and their educators. She has overseen the association's signature event, the annual Hispanic Baccalaureate, which in Alamo's nine years has grown from 350 students to 1,600. The event, which this year drew 8,000 family members and friends, recognizes Hispanic graduates for their perseverance in completing the high school requirements, and awards students with medallions that they can wear at their respective high school graduations.



**LAMESHA CARTER, BA '95, MAT '01**, works as the program manager at the University of Southern California Med-COR Program, an academic enrichment program that helps African American and Latino students to enter and remain in the health care and science pipeline. She received her doctorate in education from Claremont Graduate University in 2006. Some of her duties at Med-COR include data management and program evaluation of student learning outcomes.



**BOB GERMINDER, MA '08**, a 72-year-old Holocaust survivor, worked as an engineer for 46 years before becoming a math teacher. He spent four years teaching math and science to students in Torrance, Palos Verdes and Los Angeles, and has now settled in at St. Mary's Academy in Inglewood. In 20 years of traveling around California speaking to children about his Holocaust experience, Germinder was inspired by the interactions and decided to change careers as a way of giving back to the educational system and making a positive difference in students' lives.



**RICK KRUSKA, EdD '08**, was named principal of Pope John Paul II Catholic School in Southern Pines, NC. Kruska began his educational career 35 years ago and has taught in both public and Catholic schools, coached football for 15 years and served as principal in Catholic elementary and high schools. In his most recent position, Kruska was superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Oakland. He hopes to continue to assist in the development of financial models for Catholic education to ensure its future viability and to help make Catholic education available, accessible and affordable for all children wishing to attend Catholic schools.



**DAN O'CONNELL, MA '04, EdD '08**, was named principal of Verbum Dei High School in Watts, a Jesuit high school featuring a work-study program that enables economically disadvantaged and academically underserved students of South Los Angeles to receive a Catholic, college-prep education. For the last seven years, O'Connell has taught English at Loyola High School while being involved with its campus ministry and community service programs.



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