



NPIEN - Northern California Chapter

The following are contacts for the NPIEN Northern California Chapter. We look forward to hearing from you, www.npien.com.



Name: Soledad C. Santos

Position: President

E-mail: profscs@yahoo.com

Soledad is the president of NPIEN Northern California Chapter. She is a full-time tenured professor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose. She teaches in the Business & Workforce Development Department. CalWorks is one of the programs at the college that has a need to have courses taught specifically for their students. Soledad has taught a few courses for CalWorks. She has been in the educational field for over 20 years. Her area of expertise is in business and office technology. She received her master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado in Business. Her professional memberships include the California Business Education

Association and Beta Epsilon (graduate honorary society) in San Jose. Soledad has been involved with NPIEN since 2004. She is a board member of NPIEN. She was the adviser for the Pacific Islander student club at Evergreen Valley College for 2 years. She also started the PI scholarship at the college. Soledad promotes and supports Pacific Islander activities at the college and in the community.



Name: Joseph L. DeTorres

Position: Vice President

E-mail: jldetorres1@yahoo.com

Dr. DeTorres has served higher education as a program specialist, an administrator, and a tenured professor. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from San Francisco State University, his Masters in Public Administration from John F. Kennedy University, and took his PhD in Public Policy Analysis and Administration from Golden Gate University. Dr. DeTorres is a tenured professor and department chair for the Business and Real Estate Department at Contra Costa College, teaching business, management, and business law courses. He also teaches in the organizational leadership program at Brandman University (formerly

Chapman University College). He was one of the first to be drafted at the start of the Vietnam War; and he was the first native-born Chamorro from Guam to be elected to a stateside City Council position in the United States, being elected in 1976, and reelected in 1980 in the City of Pittsburg, California; and servicing twice as Mayor. He has served on many professional statewide committees, and has focused his efforts in the last two decades on diversity and equity in higher education issues, as well as issues affecting Asian and Pacific Islander populations. He resides in Oakley, California with his wife and three children.



Name: Nancy Martinsen

Position: Secretary

E-mail: nancy.martinsen@csueastbay.edu

Nancy Martinsen was raised in the Midwest. In fear that her children would face discrimination, as she did, her mother raised Nancy and her siblings to be as "American" as possible and never spoke a word of Tagalog to them to ensure that they spoke proper English. Nancy is half Filipino and half Norwegian. She struggles with her identity in being not only bi-racial but bi-cultural. And while she is figuring out what it means to be second generation she is eager to explore and learn more about her Filipino roots. She attended CSU Monterey Bay for her undergraduate degree in Journalism and San Jose State for her Master's in Education. She is an Assistant Director of Enrollment Development at Cal State East Bay. She greatly enjoys her job with

helping high school and community college students pursue higher education.



Name: Tala Faaleava

Position: Treasurer

E-mail: t_faaleava@yahoo.com

Pastor Tala Faaleava grew up in Samoa. He attended Samoa College, and has graduated from the Malua Theological College. He has a diploma in Architectural Design and Drafting from the Carrington Career College.

Faaleava has worked within the ministry meeting the needs of the local communities he was assigned starting in Savaii, Samoa. In 1993 he and his family served under the Council for World Mission (CWM) as missionaries to Jamaica for five years. He was involved in building memberships and the physical churches. They moved to New Zealand in 1998. He served as a board member for the Pacific Island Family Study, taught Samoan at the Pacific Education Centre, and started the Sought Out Ministry. Pastor Tala is

now working with the Samoan community in San Jose. He is a proud UnFranchise Owner (UFO) for Market America.



Name: Laty Johnson

Position: Member

E-mail: laty.johnson@csueastbay.edu

Laty Johnson is a first-generation Lao who immigrated with her family to the United States as political refugees in 1979. She completed a master's degree in Administrative Leadership and a bachelor's degree in Linguistics with a minor in French from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. As an undergraduate, she was the first Southeast Asian American to be elected as vice president and subsequently as president of UWM's campus student government --representing over 26,000 students. Johnson was the first Southeast Asian American woman to serve on the Board of Directors for the YWCA of Greater Milwaukee. She has also served as a board member for the Wisconsin Organization of Asian Americans and was a founding member of the Southeast Asian Network for

Education and Research. Laty has served as a peer reviewer for federal grants and national scholarship organizations, including the Gates Millennium Scholars Program and the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund. Johnson served in various roles in higher education in Wisconsin before relocating to the Bay Area in 2005. Her continued outreach and support to API students and community are demonstrated through her leadership roles in the Asian/Pacific Islander Faculty and Staff Association at California State University, East Bay. Johnson became Director for the Credential Student Service Center at Cal State East Bay in 2008. Laty and her family live in Hayward, California.