



CAMPUS NEWS

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Six Sigma Strategy Helps Promote, Sustain Local Industry

With a booming population and rapid growth in construction, manufacturing and transportation, the Inland Empire is one of California's fastest changing regions.

Despite the current downturn in the housing market, the Inland Empire still experiences growth in manufacturing, and commercial markets offset the weakness in residential real estate. In fact, Victor Valley, which includes the cities of Victorville, Hesperia and Apple Valley, is now the home of the Southern California Logistics Airport (SCLA). The strategic plan for the SCLA is to make the region the distribution hub of the country.

In simple terms, the Inland Empire is poised to become the state's inland transportation capital. With the freight demand expected to increase 67 percent by 2020, learning manufacturing and supply chain management will be vital.

In anticipation of this transportation boom, Cal Poly Pomona's College of the Extended University (CEU) is positioning itself to become a leader in education for manufacturing, supply chain and logistics professionals. Beginning this fall, the CEU will offer a new certificate program for the Six Sigma Program, a business management strategy. Originally developed by the Motorola Corporation and widely used in many industry sectors, Six Sigma seeks, identifies and removes causes of defects and errors in manufacturing and business processes. Applying Six Sigma tools within a company has been shown to reduce variation, improve processes and increase profits.

The non-credit Six Sigma certificate program will include Introduction to Six Sigma for Managers, an eight-hour online course in which participants will learn critical success factors in the implementation of Six Sigma within their organization. They will also learn the strategies and benefits of Six Sigma that can lead to organizational cost savings.

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 13, the CEU will offer Six Sigma Green Belt: Manufacturing. This course is intended for individuals with a manufacturing background and will focus solely on how Six Sigma applies to manufacturing. Students will learn how to appropriately apply Six Sigma tools, increasing efficiency in business processes. They will learn methodology and data collection techniques for eliminating process deficiencies and statistical methods to quantify results of each process. Classes will be held at Cal Poly Pomona on Saturdays and Tuesdays, Sept. 13 through Oct. 11.

The College of the Extended University will also offer a certificate program in Supply Chain Management. The overview course will be held Friday, Oct. 10 and 24.

For more information about the Six Sigma Program and the upcoming Supply Chain Management Certificate Program, visit www.ceu.csupomona.edu/go/sixsigma or call Rebecca Pang at (909) 869-4495.