



**In 2017, Unitek College Launched a
Strong Partnership Between Academia and Healthcare**

**Healthcare providers, educators, and businesses
collaborated to build a better future at the 2nd Annual Unitek Conference.**

Fremont, California – March 21, 2018 – Raising the bar on tomorrow's healthcare requires the coordinated efforts of numerous contributors across the fields of education, technology, and healthcare. Last year, Unitek College embraced this challenge by inviting stakeholders of academia and healthcare – educators and practitioners – to attend the Second Annual Unitek Conference: **Building a Strong Partnership Between Academia and Healthcare**. The conference was held at the Oakland Hilton Hotel on November 13, 2017.

Over 250 professionals attended the ground-breaking event, and the foundation was set for greater academic-practice collaboration to improve the performance of healthcare professionals in California.

The forum began with an inspirational keynote address from Senator Bill Frist, MD. Following Senator Frist, a diverse panel of experts and stakeholders discussed the essential competencies of collaborative partnerships. This included a focus on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) goal: **Partner in Preparing the Nurses of the Future**.

The conference featured distinguished panelists from local clinical facilities who are experts in their field, including: **Joseph Morris, Ph.D. MSN, RN** – Executive Director California Board of Nursing, **Bernice Bass de Martinez, Ph.D** – Vice President California Board for Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians, **Mark Brown, MSN, RN, CEN, CNO** – Chief Nursing Officer Seton Medical Center, **Harsha Ramchandani, MD, CMO** – Chief Medical Officer Tri-City Health Care, and **Madonna Valencia, RN, CNO** – Chief Nursing Officer City and County of San Francisco Laguna Honda Hospital.

Since the 2017 conference, numerous partnerships have been solidified. Several campuses of Kaiser Permanente and San Jose Regional Medical Center have begun partnering with Unitek College in a transactional relationship. Students at Unitek now engage in supervised clinical rotations at these healthcare institutions, allowing them to gain vital hands-on experience in practical settings. In the end, all stakeholders benefit from this heightened level of care, effectively strengthening the health and happiness of the community.

Additionally, Unitek has maintained an exchange of information with healthcare providers. Since technology and healthcare constantly change, competency assessments have become twice as essential. While Unitek students gain experience at clinical sites, the nursing staff receives additional training through services provided by Unitek.

“At Unitek, we are committed to instilling in our students the expertise and boldness necessary to thrive in an ever-changing, competitive world,” said Dr. Abdel Raheem Yosef, Chief Academic Officer at Unitek College. “As research and technology progress constantly, we must progress constantly, or we run the risk of falling behind. Only with academia and practice

working hand-in-hand can we guarantee future success in the healthcare field. Last year's conference was an opportunity to do precisely that.”

The Second Annual Unitek Conference endeavored to meet three goals: build partnerships, improve the community, and educate both students and professional caregivers. As a private institution in the healthcare industry, Unitek is a flexible and adaptable force that strives to meet numerous healthcare needs. Through annual conferences and tireless efforts, Unitek has been further established as a beneficial partner and a champion of the community.

This year, Unitek seeks to increase their forward momentum. The Third Annual Unitek Conference is scheduled to take place in the fall of 2018. New partnerships will be built, and current partnerships will be strengthened. All parties involved will continue in their combined efforts to universally improve education and healthcare.

Unitek College is one of California's reputable healthcare and nursing colleges. Taught by current experts, Unitek programs teach the best-practice clinical technique and theory used in the field today. Equipped with a mastery of sought-after skills, Unitek graduates are prepared to excel in many of the fastest-growing careers in healthcare and nursing. Unitek College also offers well-established Information Technology certification programs for computer and network support technicians.

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