

## **FUNDAMENTALS OF SPA DESIGN” OFFERED AT UC IRVINE EXTENSION**

*New Elective Course Introduced as Part of Unique Spa and Hospitality Management Certificate Program*

**IRVINE / LAGUNA HILLS, Calif. (March 14, 2007)** – UC Irvine Extension, the pioneer of the first Spa and Hospitality Management certificate program on the West Coast, announces the program’s newest elective course offering – “Fundamentals of Spa Design.” Uniquely developed to meet the demands of the burgeoning spa market, the new course addresses the multitude of details involved in the concept, design and construction processes for spa projects. The two-day course will be held May 20 and 21 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the UCI Learning Center in Orange, Calif., with a field trip to Takara Belmont – a recognized leader in design, furnishings and equipment for the spa and salon industry – located in Laguna Hills, Calif.

“As the industry evolves, day spas, hotel spas, destination spa resorts, and spas with medical services are becoming increasingly specialized and new spa projects are being developed all the time,” said Janice Gronvold, M.S., founder and director of Spectrec, a spa business development firm, and UC Irvine Extension instructor. “Consistent with UC Irvine Extension’s reputation for designing new courses to meet the changing needs of the spa market, this course is particularly relevant as it bridges the gap in design and construction education unique to the high-growth spa industry.”

“Fundamentals of Spa Design” explores the planning, design and construction processes of spa development with an overview of regulatory issues such as OSHA, ADA and HIPPA. The course will also acquaint students with plumbing, electrical, and mechanical engineering requirements and technology resources for spas; familiarize them with the importance of operational planning in the design phase; review strategies for creating multiple revenue centers within the spa; expand their understanding of the role of architectural, interior and contractor design services; enable them to develop financial forecasts during the planning stage; and review conservation resources and guidelines, including principals of the United States Green Building Council and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

“Behind the scenes of a spa’s interior architectural and design planning are a variety of complex issues that need to be carefully addressed to optimize operational flow, service delivery, energy efficiency and costs,” continues Gronvold. “Many spas are built without understanding the multitude of details that contribute to cost effective operational functionality, balanced with an attractive environment and pleasing ambience. However, it is critical to the success of any spa project that owners and developers have an in-depth understanding of the many facets of spa design so their spa is appropriately designed and positioned to achieve a fair rate of return on their investment.”

The course will be led by Janice Gronvold, M.S., founder of Spectrec, a provider of business and marketing development services for the spa, health and resort industries. In addition, the course will include guest speaker presentations from design professionals Leslie McGwire, ASID; Joe Serna of Takara Belmont; and Greg Shukov, a smart technology specialist from Los Angeles-based Gizmo. A field trip, classroom discussion and review of award-winning projects will also be incorporated.

“Fundamentals of Spa Design” is an elective course offered within a complete certificate program entitled “Spa and Hospitality Management.” UC Irvine Extension is the first and only university-based certificate program to be offered completely online to meet the needs of spa professionals, both nationally and internationally. For more information about UC Irvine’s Spa and Hospitality Management Certificate Program or to enroll online, please visit [www.extension.uci.edu/spa](http://www.extension.uci.edu/spa) or email Angela Jeantet at [aljeante@uci.edu](mailto:aljeante@uci.edu).

**About UC Irvine Extension:** As the continuing education arm of UCI, UC Irvine Extension is dedicated to providing a university-level learning experience for students, offering thousands of exciting courses and programs to local, regional, and global constituencies. UC Irvine Extension offers a rich array of academic and community programs to support a diverse audience, from a wide selection of academic programs to numerous campus activities. For more information, please visit [www.extension.uci.edu](http://www.extension.uci.edu).

**About the University of California, Irvine:** The University of California, Irvine is a top-ranked university dedicated to research, scholarship and community service. Founded in 1965, UCI is among the fastest-growing University of California campuses, with more than 27,000 undergraduate and graduate students and about 1,400 faculty members. The second-largest employer in dynamic Orange County, UCI contributes an annual economic impact of \$3.3 billion. For more UCI news, visit [www.today.uci.edu](http://www.today.uci.edu).