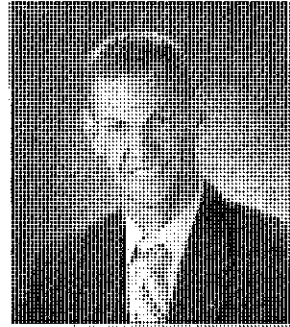


# CV PEOPLE

## DESERT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY WELCOMES NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Desert Christian Academy (DCA) is very pleased to welcome Mr. Matt Garrison as our new Director of Athletics, overseeing our extensive Conqueror sporting programs.

Mr. Garrison comes to DCA from a professional head basketball coaching position in Niigata, Japan, where he led a team of excellent athletes to the playoffs and set a single-season record for number of wins. Prior to his international coaching position, Mr. Garrison was a coach at JSerra Catholic School in San Juan Capistrano, so he is familiar with and appreciative of the needs of a faith-based educational program. He has also participated in unique youth sports programs with great NBA players like LeBron James, Michael Jordan and Kobe Bryant.



“Matt Garrison exemplifies what we are trying to instill in our student-athletes,” says Debbie Scott, DCA Head of School. “He knows the importance of Christ in our students’ lives, and understands that these kids must excel in the classroom and on the playing field. As a former player and coach, he brings exactly what we are looking for in someone who can lead all of our Conqueror athletic programs at a Championship level.”

“I have spent my career in player development, and I truly want these kids to succeed spiritually, academically and athletically,” says Mr. Garrison. “I love working with young people, especially the kind of student you find here at Desert Christian Academy. They are dedicated, faithful, and have a great work ethic—as does the athletic & coaching staff. I’m excited to get started.”

Mr. Garrison enjoyed a decade long professional career that took him from the United States to Australia, Beirut and Japan. He was a three-point champion in 2005-2006, and has enjoyed numerous awards and accolades during his playing career, including back-to-back Championships in Australia in 2000 & 2001. He brings a level of intensity and a love of the game to coaching, and looks forward to having a positive influence on all aspects of Conqueror Athletics.

Mr. Garrison takes over for the retiring Don Curci, who, through his two decades at DCA, has developed an atmosphere of excellence, and has turned Conqueror sports into championship teams. Mr. Garrison will begin training with athletes over the summer, and will assume his Athletic Director duties when school resumes in the fall.

## HEALTH ASSESSMENT RESOURCE CENTER APPOINTS NEW RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ASSOCIATE

Health Assessment Resource Center (HARC) announced today that Teresa Segovia has joined the HARC team to further develop their growing need to gather and interpret data for the cities of the Coachella Valley and beyond.

Prior to HARC, Teresa’s most recent position was with the Alzheimer’s Association in Rancho Mirage where she was instrumental in conducting educational workshops for caregivers while establishing and maintaining relationships in a variety of community-based organizations in her role as the Latino Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Bringing with her a wealth of knowledge, Teresa’s educational background in psychology, sociology and feminist studies will be a great asset to the growing changes in the regional demographic profile.

Teresa joins the staff as Research and Evaluation Associate to continue to build upon HARC’s successful customized research and evaluation services that are designed to provide organizations the data they need to make smart business decisions.

Eileen Packer, chief executive officer said, “Teresa’s past experience has already made her a key addition to the HARC family. We view her appointment as a sign of our commitment to being the leading research company in our industry. We are very fortunate that we were able to find someone of Teresa’s caliber to fill this position.”

## UC RIVERSIDE’S JASON STAJICH WINS THE 2014 ALEXOPOULOS PRIZE FROM THE MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Jason Stajich, an associate professor of plant pathology and microbiology at the University of California, Riverside, has been awarded the 2014 Alexopoulos Prize by the Mycological Society of America, a scientific society dedicated to advancing the science of mycology – the study of fungi of all kinds including mushrooms, molds, truffles, yeasts, lichens, plant pathogens and medically important fungi.

The award is peer-nominated and each year recognizes an outstanding early-career mycologist. Stajich received the award last month in East Lansing, Michigan, at the annual meeting of the Mycological Society of America. The award consists of a plaque and a monetary award of \$1,000.

“I am honored to win the Alexopoulos Prize,” Stajich said. “I have not yet decided how I will spend the prize money but I intend to support a project in the lab or to support travel for collecting more strains tied to chytrid work.”

Nominees for the Alexopoulos Prize are judged on the quality, originality and quantity of their published work.

“Dr. Jason Stajich is an outstanding choice for the Alexopoulos Prize,” said Katherine A. Borkovich, the chair of the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. “Since starting his position at UC Riverside in July 2009, he has published more than 33 papers and review articles.”

Stajich received his doctoral degree at Duke University in 2006. He held a postdoctoral appointment at UC Berkeley from 2006 to 2009. His research interests include using genomic approaches to study fungal biology and evolution, including fungal cell wall evolution, the evolution of multicellularity in fungi, and human pathogenic fungi. His work also focuses on building new methods for comparative and evolutionary genomics. His also co-leads a project to generate genome sequence and analyze 1000 fungal genomes.

Borkovich noted that some of Stajich’s notable contributions are: sequence analysis of numerous fungal genomes that are hosted at his FungiDB website; the discovery of an active transposable element in *Neurospora crassa*; the finding that both genetic and non-genetic factors in pathogenic Chytrid fungi are contributing to the worldwide decline of host amphibians; and the identification of novel cell wall genes that may present new targets for development of antifungal agents with applications to medicine and agriculture.”

Stajich is the recipient of a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship and a postdoctoral research fellowship from the Miller Institute for Basic Research in Science at UC Berkeley. Since joining UCR, he has been supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the W. M. Keck Foundation.

At the annual meeting of the Mycological Society of America last month, he presented research on the evolution of the fungal cell wall examining early diverging lineages of fungi. His graduate student, Steven Ahrendt, presented a poster on the inhibitory properties of a Chytridiomycota fungus that affects growth of some filamentous fungi. Ahrendt, who worked closely with Stajich on the research, won the best graduate student poster award. **TPR**