

Rachel D. Gaeta received a Bachelor's degree in Vocational Education from San Francisco State University and has taught at Skyline College since 1969.

With ten years in the private sector of the Cosmetology profession, Rachel turned to public education as the platform for her artistic endeavors. Prior to coming to Skyline College, Rachel held positions with the California Cosmetology Association, National Cosmetology Association, and Artistic Committee for the State of California Fashion Committee.

Rachel was instrumental in developing and expanding the curriculum for the Cosmetology, Esthetician, and Spa Technician Programs. Rachel implemented the first Spa Technician Training class in the community college setting in the state of California. Upon retirement as a full time faculty member and Coordinator for the Cosmetology Department, Rachel embarked upon a new direction as an adjunct faculty member in the Wellness Program. Since 1997 Rachel's professional emphasis has been in research and practice of Spa Therapies as it relates to the enhancement of the mind, body and spirit.

A new focus of interest began as Rachel pursued studies concerning the healing value of alternative modalities and the enormous power of human touch as it relates to individual well being. With this new focus, it only seemed natural for Rachel to place her emphasis on research and training in the natural healing arts and wellness concepts. Rachel feels that recognizing the importance of the mind, body and spirit connection are profound elements of life needed by everyone and is worthy of professional investigation.

Rachel's training includes Swedish Massage, Aromatherapy and Reiki. She was the visionary force behind the development of the Wellness Program at Skyline College and she incorporates the benefits of therapeutic touch in the Spa Technician curriculum she teaches within the Massage Therapy Certificate Program. The legacy Rachel would like to leave her students is to motivate them to find their special way to touch the world and make it a better place in which to live.

In her personal life, Rachel has developed a profound love of nature and the natural beauty that surrounds us. She finds happiness and a deep sense of peace when working in her garden, improving the soil, and growing vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers.