

PAUL DANOWA - 2007

Thank you Dr. Trutna for the introduction. This is the 18th year of the Yuba College Foundation Alumni of the Year Award. This year's recipient has come all the way from London, England to receive this recognition.

I've known Paul Danowa for most of my adult life and feel that his nomination is both worthy and enlightening. In brief, Paul is one of the few individuals of whom I am aware who has (a) climbed to the top of an organization, (b) stayed with that organization his entire career, and (c) been asked to continue in a leadership role for that organization after new ownership had come on board. These accomplishments, achieved between 1961 and his 2001 retirement, are extremely difficult in international corporate culture.

A 1958 graduate of Yuba College, Paul went on to earn an MBA at UC Berkeley before joining Del Monte, where he climbed through several leadership positions to his ultimately become President and Chief Operating Officer for Del Monte International. When Del Monte was bought out by R.J. Reynolds, Mr. Danowa not only stayed, but played yet another key role in developing their financial operations in Europe.

These are but a few of the accomplishments in Mr. Danowa's resume, but each speaks to the keen insight, the persistence, and the passion that it takes to be a success in today's world. I hope that in Mr. Danowa's brief acceptance comments, you will grasp the significance of these qualities as you attempt to address your own professional and educational goals.

I present to you Mr. Paul Danowa – Yuba College Alumnus of the Year, Class of 1958.