



CFALA Names David Cary February Volunteer of the Month



David Cary, PhD, CFA, is a Professor Emeritus of Finance at California State University, Northridge, teaches at Levels I and II of the USC/CFALA CFA Review Program, and is Director of and an instructor for the Claritas program. Not bad for someone who didn't want to be a teacher.

"I started college as a math major. After a year of advanced calculus, I thought about what I could do with a math degree and decided, 'I don't want to be a teacher,'" Cary recalled. "So I tried some different courses and ended up switching to business.

After finishing my bachelors and masters I went to work for the accounting firm that is now Ernst and Young and earned my CPA. After a couple of years of auditing, I changed paths again and opened a photography business. Later on, I returned to the world of academia and earned my PhD in finance and was ready to start teaching."

Cary has since been a finance professor not just at Cal State Northridge but also at USC, UCLA, LSU, the University of Auckland, NZ, the CSU London (UK) Business Semester, and has been teaching a course in a Masters of Finance program in Hong Kong for the past 10 years. He also was elected twice to the CFALA Board of Governors, was co-director of the USC/CFALA CFAReview Program and served on the CFA Institute Technology Advisory Committee for six years.

"Well-functioning financial markets need people who understand what's going on, and of course education is part of CFALA's mission, and we also need people with good ethical standards," Cary said. "I hope my work with CFALA has contributed in both areas. I also work with Claritas, which is designed for support staff, because I think if they can have a better understanding of how things work they are more likely to be able help their companies and the whole industry function more smoothly."

Although he's obviously busy, Cary hasn't abandoned photography, compiling wildlife and travel photos on his website, www.daveswildlife.com. He also shoots for CFALA, and you may see him with a camera at the upcoming Forecast Dinner.

