AASCU's Reach Extends to More Than 430 Institutions in U.S. and Territories

President to Lead National Higher Ed Advocacy Group

David and Jean Fleming Pledge $1 Million for Arts Center

Voluntary System of Accountability

California State University Northridge—The Intellectual, Economic and Cultural Heart of the San Fernando Valley and Beyond

David and Jean Fleming Pledge $1 Million for Arts Center

Longtime CSUN Supporters' Contribution One of Largest for Planned Performing Arts Center at CSUN

David and Jean Fleming, an attorney and civic leader with a law firm, have pledged $1 million toward the construction of a new Center for Performing Arts at California State University, Northridge.

The contribution is one of the largest for Cal State Northridge's proposed 1,700-seat, $125 million performing arts center project due to begin construction in 2008 and to be completed by 2010. In recognition of their generosity, the grand staircase in the main lobby of the performance hall will be named the "Jean and David Fleming Grand Staircase."

"David and Jean Fleming are longtime friends and benefactors of California State University, Northridge," said CSUN President Jolene Koester. "Their generous gift reflects their strong support for the effort to create a vibrant performing arts center that enriches the cultural life of the San Fernando Valley and greater Southern California region."

David Fleming, an attorney with the law firm Latham and Watkins, is a prominent leader in the San Fernando Valley and the city of Los Angeles as a whole. His activities include serving as chairman of the board of the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, representing the city of Los Angeles as a director of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority and as serving as chairman of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

His wife, Jean, is a motion picture producer and screenwriter. She recently produced and co-wrote a full-length docudrama dealing with medical marijuana and the drug war. Jean Fleming began her career as a motion picture and television actress after being chosen as Miss Illinois in the Miss America Pageant in the 1960s. She appeared in several movies and television shows in the 1960s and 1970s under the screen name of Jean Blake. Jean Fleming devotes much of her time to charity work and civic causes as well as helping young people get a foothold in the film industry.

The Flemings have also been long-time supporters of the arts center at CSUN. Their contributions are expected to continue for years to come.

President Jolene Koester was named chair-elect of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) at the association's annual meeting in San Francisco last week.

AASCU, one of higher education's most prestigious advocacy organizations, represents more than 430 public colleges, universities and higher education systems in the United States and its territories.

Koester, who has sat on AASCU's Board of Directors since 2004, was elected "chair-elect" by the full board. She is expected to assume the role of chair in fall 2008. The association's new chair for the coming year is Carlos Hernández, president of New Jersey City University.

Among AASCU's initiatives is a new Voluntary System of Accountability that will provide "one-stop shopping" information for students and parents can use to compare universities as they begin their search for a place to begin or continue an education. CSUN is one of a half-dozen colleges in the nation participating in a test run of the new system, a collaborative effort of AASCU and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

"It is a great honor to be chosen as the chair-elect of AASCU," Koester said. "I consider it a privilege to serve an organization that works so hard to extend higher education to all citizens, and supports students traditionally underrepresented in higher education as well as those who are first-generation college students. I look forward to serving as chair-elect and improving the public good through education and engagement."

Koester joined AASCU's Board of Directors for a one-year term in 2004. The board elected to extend her term to 2008 the following year.

As chair-elect, the president will help lead the association as it fulfills its stated goals:

- To provide policy leadership and advocate for member institutions;
- To provide policy leadership and program support for academic quality, access and inclusion, and educational innovation; and
- To create professional development opportunities for institutional leaders.

AASCU schools enroll more than three million students or 55 percent of the enrollment at all public four-year institutions.
Program Aims to Ease Communities’ Health Care Drought

‘Retention is Bottom Line’ in Prepping Undergrads for Study and Future Careers as Health Professionals

T he U.S. Department of Health and Human Services says a frightening 20 percent of the U.S. population lives in Health Professional Shortage Areas where there is too little primary, mental or dental health care to go around. A 2007 community needs assessment compiled by the Valley Care Community Consortium found that in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys, about 29 percent of children “had difficulty accessing medical care” and 20 percent of adults “reported no regular source of medical care.”

The California Endowment’s president and chief executive, Robert Ross, recently reported that in South Los Angeles, “wait times for seeing a specialist border on the ridiculous — six months to a year is routine.”

At Cal State Northridge, such bad news statistics are driving a relatively new but absolutely determined program called SHP-PEP (Student Health Professionals Pre-Entry Program) to prepare students for graduate study, ultimately to become health professionals such as doctors, dentists, pharmacists, optometrists, ophthalmologists, nurses, psychologists, psychiatrists, and public and environmental health practitioners.

“We’ve looked at reports that show most health professionals who provide service in a health professional shortage area were themselves raised in disadvantaged communities,” said SHP-PEP director Frankie Augustin. A program that would “pipeline” students from disadvantaged back-grounds into health care fields, she reasoned, would increase the likelihood of their service in communities where the need is greatest.

Supported by the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), the College of Science and Mathematics, the Klotz Student Health Center and the Office of the Provost, SHP-PEP was formed early in summer 2005 and began flagging a diverse mix of students early in the admissions process, recruiting them to make up the first cohort of SHP-PEP freshmen for fall 2005.

“We look for students who have experienced severe adversity but who are fired by their desire to go to college,” Augustin said.

Adversity for the SHP-PEP students comes in many forms, said interim program coordinator Johny Tadros, ’07.

“We’ve had students who have had family members killed in gang-related incidents, and who have had a parent in jail. More than once, we’ve seen students acting as primary caregivers for elderly members of their families.”

“We were blown away by the students’ honesty,” said Augustin, who sits on the SHP-PEP advisory committee that reviews applicants.

In spring 2009, SHP-PEP will graduate the first of its health professional “preppies.” Increasing in numbers each semester since 2005, the SHP-PEP population now is nearly 70, with more in the pipeline. Among other things, the program’s immediate aim is to get students into health professions graduate schools, prepare them for the rigors of academic study, and provide them with leadership experience for their health care careers.

“The retention strategy is very hands on, with constant follow-up meetings and goals set at every meeting,” said Tadros. From the time SHP-PEP freshmen settle into CSUN dormitories for their summer academic prepping under committed instructors like Pierce College’s Olympya LePoint ‘98, they also are exposed to intensive counseling on time management, discipline and other areas.

“Some are trying to apply methods that got them through high school, but... I help them see that things need to change,” Tadros said. If grade point averages fall below 2.5, tutoring becomes mandatory for SHP-PEP students, who sign a contract to that effect. Once tutoring begins, Tadros said they appreciate how vital it is for success in CSUN’s tough chemistry and upper division biology courses.

SHP-PEP sophomore Ariadne Salvador of Sun Valley said the program’s mandatory five-year plan has kept her on course with academic requirements. “With SHP-PEP, you’re not lost,” she said.

Salvador may one day return to her native Philippines to open her own pharmacy. During a recent trip to her homeland, she saw firsthand the need for health care specialists, in an experience that doubled her commitment to SHP-PEP’s goals.

“The bottom line is retention of our students,” said Augustin. “There are people back in the communities who need them.”

Flemings’ Contribution...

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time supporters of Cal State Northridge, with David Fleming serving as a member of the CSUN Foundation Board of Directors and as an advisor to the San Fernando Valley Economic Research Center in the College of Business and Economics.

David Fleming also has taken a leadership role with CSUN’s “Imagine the Arts” campaign to build the new performing arts center, serving as vice chairman of the campaign’s executive committee since its plans were announced in early 2005.

“The Center for the Performing Arts at California State University, Northridge will be the realization of a long-held dream for the San Fernando Valley and the surrounding region,” Fleming said. “Jean and I consider it a privilege to participate in this visionary campaign and look forward to being there when the doors of this grand hall open for the first time.”

The new Performing Arts Center will be located on the southwest corner of the campus near the corner of Nordhoff Street and Lindley Avenue and will serve as a cultural and economic landmark for the Valley. It will include specialized features such as the ability to acoustically tune its main performance hall to fit particular presentations, whether they are music, dance, theater, films or speakers. The performance hall also will be large enough to accommodate full-scale Broadway productions and operas.

Upon its opening, the Performing Arts Center at Cal State Northridge will be the largest arts venue in the San Fernando Valley and adjoining valleys. It also will serve as a major arts education center for local students and the community.

Other large gifts to the “Imagine the Arts” campaign for the new center include a $5 million pledge from Curb Records Chairman/former California Lt. Governor Mike Curb, a CSUN alumnus, a $2 million contribution from Los Angeles County through the leadership of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, and $2 million from the late Clyde Porter, a San Fernando Valley arts pioneer and philanthropist.
Research and Sponsored Projects

Larry Allen (Biology) received $167,400 in continuing support of a project entitled “White Sea Bass Sampling” and $49,914 in support of a project entitled “Effective Sampling Methods for Rip-Rap Habitats” from the State of California Department of Fish and Game. He also received $28,920 from the California Coastal Commission, as supplemental support of a project entitled “SONGS Mitigation Monitoring Program (2006-07).”

Nancy Burstein and Ashley Skylar (Special Education) received $200,000 from the U.S. Department of Education, in continuing support of a project entitled “Technology Enhanced Culturally-Responsive (TEC) Intern Program for Secondary Special Educators.”

The College of Business and Economics has been awarded a $165,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to advance the development of its program in international business.

Robert Carpenter (Biology) received $6,000 from UC Santa Barbara as supplemental support of a project entitled “ETR: Long Term Dynamics of a Coral Reef Ecosystem.”

Maria D’Orogha (Mathematics) received $118,742 from the National Science Foundation, in support of a project entitled “Stochastic Models of Viral Adsorption, Fusion, and Replication.”

Faculty recipients of support from the MBRS SCORE Program, National Institutes of Health, include: Maria Elena D’ellellard (Biology), $69,427; Steven Dudgeon (Biology), $111,104; Joseph Haju (Chemistry and Biochemistry), $243,447; Miroslav Peric (Physics and Astronomy), $243,357; Eric Kelso (Biology), $146,911; Luciana Lagana (Psychology), $111,145; Jibenenth (Chemistry and Biochemistry), $149,119; Steven Oppenheimer (Biologe), $100,369; Radha Ringanathan (Physics and Astronomy), $139,577; Laleh Razi (Psychology), $102,425; Michael Simmons (Biology), $152,326; Virginia Vanderup (Biology), $169,567; and Maria Elena Zavala (Biology), $129,293.

Kari Efrat (Accounting and Information Systems) received $80,000 from the U.S. Department of Education, in support of a project entitled “Service Learning in Global Supply Chain Management and Cross Cultural Understanding in Business.”

Paula Fischhaber (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received $95,100 from the National Institutes of Health, in support of a project entitled “Support and Spatial Relationships of Proteins in Yeast NER.” She also received $42,780 from the Research Corporation, in support of a project entitled “The Temporal Role of Ubiquitylation and Sumoylation in Nucleotide Excision Repair.”

Xiaojun Geng (Electrical and Computer Engineering) received $106,429 from the National Science Foundation, in support of a project entitled “MRI: Development of Unmanned Vehicle Systems as Research Platform for Autonomous Intelligence.”

Alan Glassman (Management) received $15,000 from the State of California Legislative Counsel Bureau, as supplemental support of a project entitled “Legal Division Year #2.” He also received $14,023 from the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, as supplemental support of a project entitled “Bureau of Sanitation LEAP Program.”

Javier Hernandez (Osteopath and Recruitment) received $25,963 from the Los Angeles Unified School District, as supplemental support of a project entitled “GearUp LASSO.”

Shut Ho (Mechanical Engineering) received $23,500 from the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance, in support of a project entitled “Integrating a Culture of Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the CSUN College of Engineering and Computer Science to Address Community Needs.”

John Holden (Psychology) received $12,002 from the National Science Foundation, in support of a project entitled “Cognition in Context.”

Hamid Johan (Mechanical Engineering) received $25,017 from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, in continuing support of a project entitled “Performance of Hydrofoils with Leading Edge Protruberances.”

Kart Johnson-Majedi (Engineering and Computer Science) received $80,250 from the Regents of the University of California, in continuing support of a project entitled “CSU, Northridge MESA/CSEM Scholars.”

Sharlene Katz (Electrical and Computer Engineering) received $54,791 from the College of the Canyons, in continuing support of a project entitled “NSF-ATE CREATE.” She also received $14,950 from Kenexa and Edwards Air Force Base, in support of a project entitled “Applications of Software Defined Radio (SDR)” and $9,904 from Dytran Instruments Inc., in continuing support of a project entitled “Piezoelectric Sensor Characterization Testing.”

Nicholas Kiousis, Donna Sheng and Gang Lu (Physics and Astronomy) have received $140,000 from the National Science Foundation, in continuing support of a project entitled “PREM—Multidisciplinary Research and Education in Computational Materials Science.” Kiousis also received $45,000 from UCLA, in continuing support of a project entitled “Multiscale Modeling of the Deformation of Advanced Ferritic Steels for Generation IV Nuclear Energy Systems.”

Teresa Madden (Sociology) received $195,000 from the Corporation for National and Community Service, in continuing support of a project entitled “University/Community Partnership to Reduce Gang Activity—MOASAC.”

Kathleen Marsaglia, Gerry Simila, John Yule and Jorge Vazquez (Geological Sciences) received $334,097 from the National Science Foundation, in continuing support of a project entitled “Monitoring Through Research as a Catalyst for Success in the Geosciences (Phase 2): A Track 2 Proposal for High School, Undergraduate, and Graduate (MS) Underrepresented Groups at California.”

Catherine McLeod (National Center on Deafness) received $1 million from the U.S. Department of Education, in continuing support of a project entitled “Postsecondary Education Programs for Individuals Who Are Deaf.”

Rheem Medhi (Biologe) received $107,249 from the National Institutes of Health, in support of a project entitled “Role of E4BP1 in Glucocorticoid-Evoked Lymphocyte Apoptosis.”

Thomas Minehan (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received $96,500 from the National Institutes of Health, in support of a project entitled “Investigating an Environmentally Benign Synthesis of C-aryl Glycosides.”

Richard Moore (Management) received $25,193 from the California Post-secondary Education Commission, in continuing support of a project entitled “Higher Education Accountability Framework Project.”

Jerry Nader (College of Education) received $204,000 from Project GRAD “Los Angeles” in continuing support of a project entitled “Project GRAD Los Angeles.”

Miroslav Peric (Physics and Astronomy) received $8,808.27 from the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, as supplemental support of a project entitled “Atmospheric Aerosol Studies from MISR: Researching Aerosols and Pollution in Mexico City.”

Carrie Sætersæn (Psychology) received $235,903 from the National Institutes of Health, in continuing support of a project entitled “Facilitating Advancement in the Social Sciences—COR.”

Al Sethuraman (Mathematics) received $121,051 from the National Science Foundation, in support of a project entitled “TRECC-UMS in Varieties of Commuting Matrices, Jet Schemes, and Division Algebras.”

Dong-Ning Sheng (Physics and Astronomy) received $97,747 from the U.S. Department of Energy, in continuing support of a project entitled “Numerical Investigations of Novel Charge and Spin Hall Effects in Graphene and Other Spin-Orbit Coupling Electron Systems.”

Gerry Simila (Geological Sciences), Virginia Vanderup (Biology) and David Kreutsch (Elementary Education) received $100,000 from the Regents of the University of California, in support of a project entitled “San Fernando Valley Science Project—Teacher Retention Initiative.” Simila, Elizabeth Nagy-Shadman (Geological Sciences) and Norman Herr (Secondary Education) received $40,000 from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, in support of a project entitled “CSUN-ENECA Online Teacher Professional Development Project.”

Research & Sponsored Projects continued on page 5.
Publications


Dorothy Barress (English) reviewed Ann Lauterbach’s “Hum” in Pool, volume 5. Barress’s poem, “American Fanatics,” has been accepted for publication in 5 AM. Her poem, “Mystery,” was published in the 8th edition of the textbook, Three Genres.

Kent Baxter (English) has had his book, “The Modern Age: Turn-of-the-Century American Culture and the Invention of Adolescence,” accepted for publication by the University of Alabama Press.

Edith Chen (History) and Glenn Omatsu (Asian American Studies) co-edited “Teaching about Asian Pacific Americans: Effective Activities, Strategies, and Assignments for Classrooms and Workshops,” (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.).

Robert Chianese (English) wrote a personal essay that appeared in the Los Angeles Times in August entitled, “Finding the Right Words for a Friend Who’s ill.”

Irene Clark (English) penned “Identity and Form Constructing Reality through Genre,” accepted for the Conference on College Composition and Communication, in New Orleans.

Susan Curzon and Lynn Lampert (Owati Library) co-authored “Proven Strategies for Building an Information Literacy Program,” as a collaborative effort with 18 other information literacy experts. The book was published in October by Neal Schuman Publishers.

Petra Dierkes-Thrun (English) wrote an essay entitled “The Book and the Delicate Text?: Aesthetic Intersections between Oscar Wilde’s Symbolism and Richard Strauss’s Modernism in Salome,” accepted for publication by MLQ (Modern Language Quarterly).

Robert Espinosa (Biology) co-authored “The Importance of Physiology in Conservation Biology,” published in Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Scott Hernandez, as a Chicana/o Studies graduate student, published three poems—“Eastside Walls, Riverside, CA, 1999,” “The Canal,” and “Life Lessons”—in “Inlandia: A Literary Journey Through California’s Inland Empire,” Santa Clara Books. The publication includes selections by writers such as Joan Didion and Raymond Chandler.


Victoria Jaque (Kinesiology) co-authored a paper called “Extreme Obesity Reduces Bone Mineral Density: Complementary Evidence from Mice, and Women.” Published in the journal, OBESITY, the study explored obesity in mice and post-menopausal women, and its effect on bone mineral density.

Tim Karch (Biography) co-authored two papers and their papers, “Threats to Arfana on Oceanic Islands” in Conservation Biology, and “Social Structure and Facultative Mating Systems of Hoary Marmots” in Molecular Ecology.


Jack Lopez (English) is the author of the novel “In the Break,” (Little Brown), which has been published in trade paperback.

Cindy Malone (Biology) co-authored two papers, “B29 Gene Silencing in Pituitary Cells is Regulated by its 3’ Enhancer,” in Journal of Molecular Biology, and “Pir51, a Rad51-interacting Protein with High Expression in Aggressive Lymphoma, Controls Mitomycin C Sensitivity and Prevents Chromosomal Breaks” in Mutation Research.

Jacky Melikyan (Chemistry and Biochemistry) co-authored two papers with members of his lab team—“Tetrhydrodorudin-Mediated Stereoselective Radical C-C Bond Formation in Dicobalthexacarbonyl-Propargyl Complexes” and “Cross-Coupling of Cobalt-Complexed Propargyl Radicals: Metal Core and α- and γ-Aryl-Induced Chemos and Diastereoselectivity.” Both appeared in Organometallics, a premier journal published by the American Chemical Society.

Jody Myers (Religious Studies) is the author of “Kabalah and the Spiritual Quest: The Kabbalah Centre in America,” published in August by Praeger Publishers. Jonathan Sarna of Brandeis University said Myers’ “path-breaking study peels away many layers of mystery surrounding the beliefs, practices, leaders and history of the Kabbalah Centre—a movement rooted in Jewish mystical tradition but widely universal and heavily New Age.”


Linda Overman (English) will have her nonfiction work, “Legacy,” published in “Journalheads: Writers Speak Out on Journaling” (Beaufort Books) next year.

Barbara Polland (Child and Adolescent Development) co-authored “Seperation: Supporting UB Students in their School Transitions” with retired educator Kathie Jervis. The book includes practical tips for encouraging teachers and parents of preschool children who face the excitement and stress of separation.

Dmitry Rachmanov (Music) wrote an article, “Rachmaninoff: Variations on a Theme of Corelli, Op. 42,” for International Pianist, No. 51, May-June 2007. In the article, Rachmanov analyzes a number of recordings of the Corelli Variations. Rachmaninoff’s only original piano composition in his period of exile from Russia.”

Presentations

Jim Hogae (Biology) gave a presentation on “Production and Publication of Natural History Field Guides” to the Lorquin Entomological Society in Los Angeles.

Janet Kübler (Biology) gave a presentation on “Biomimicry” at the Lifestyles on Health and Sustainability Conference in Marina Del Rey.

Gagik Melikyan, Norman Dean and Christopher Wild (Chemistry and Biochemistry) co-presented “Inter- and Intramolecular, Homo- and Cross-Coupling Radical Reactions: Distereoselectivity Introduced by a Transition Metal Cluster” at the 232nd American Chemical Society National Meeting in San Francisco.

Steve Oppenheimer and Lisa Banner (Biology) and Ed Carroll (Chemistry and Biochemistry) and 27 students in Oppenheimer’s lab presented five posters at the Experimental Biology meeting in Washington, DC.

John Peters (English) presented a paper, “Hemingway’s Cats: Beyond Nonverbal Communications,” at the Second International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences at the University of Granada in Spain, in July.

Sembniam Rengarajan (Electrical and Computer Engineering) co-authored a presentation entitled “Technology Demonstration of Ka-band Digitally-Beamformed Radar for Ice Topography Mapping” at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Symposium on Aerospace and Electronic Systems in Big Sky, Montana, March 2007. In June, he presented a research paper entitled “Scattering and Receiving Characteristics of Waveguide Array Antennas” at the IEEE Radar Symposium in Boston and co-authored a paper entitled “Bandwidth Enhancements of Large Planar Slot Arrays,” presented at the IEEE International Symposium in Honolulu. In July, he presented a research paper entitled “Optimization Techniques in the Design of Slot Arrays” at the North American Radio Science Meeting, and he presented a paper on “Coupling Between Slot Arrays” at the Undergraduate Research Summer Institute (URSI) International Electromagnetic Theory Symposium, both in Ottawa, Canada.

Stephanie Satie (English) performed an expanded version of “Coming to America—Transformations” at The Fremont Centre Theatre in South Pasadena.

Marty Sayles (English) presented a paper titled “Everyone Loves a Lord: Power, Status, and Victorian Genealogy” at the 11th Annual Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States Conference at Pepperdine University.

Gerry Simila (Geological Sciences) presented a paper entitled “Seismic Strong Motion Array Project (SSMAP) to Record Future Large Earthquakes in the Nicoya Peninsula Area, Costa Rica” at the 119th annual meeting of the Geological Society of America, held in Philadelphia in October.

Jeff Thomas (Biology) gave a presentation on evolution to Advanced Placement biology students at Hamilton High School, and another on perception and the design of sensory systems for UCLA’s Science Project, a UCLA Graduate School of Education program.

Jorge Vazquez (Geological Record of Silicic Magma Evolution Beneath Yellowstone Caldera” at the 119th annual meeting of the Geological Society of America, held in Philadelphia in October.

Thelma Vickroy (CTVA) and Karen Kearns (GAMC) presented a panel on “Producing Hot Topics: Documentaries in a Politically Correct World” and screened clips from their respective documentaries at the Broadcast Education Association annual conference in Las Vegas.

Beth Wightman (English) presented “The Spaces of Anglophone Irish and Caribbean Literature” at the annual conference of the International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures in Dublin, Ireland, in July.

Research and Sponsored Projects

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Mary-Pat Stein (Biology) received $8,000 from the American Society of Cell Biology, in support of a project entitled “Minority Affairs Committee—Linkage Fellowship.”

Jan Tolan (Recreation and Tourism Management) received $55,300 from the Lilly Academy of Japan, in continuing support of a project entitled “2007 Lilly Academy of Japan Recreation Institute.”

John Van Arsdale (Recreation and Tourism Management) received $35,000 from the California Department of Boating and Waterways, in continuing support of a project entitled “Boating Safety Grant.”

Merri Whitelock (Center for Innovative and Engaged Learning Opportunities) received $8,450 from the Corporation for National & Community Service, as supplemental support of a project entitled “VISTAS for Center for Community Service Learning.”

Maria Elena Zavala (Biology) received $467,579 from the National Institutes of Health, in continuing support of a project entitled “RISE at CSUN.”

Publications

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Mark Steele (Biology) co-authored “Sampling Characteristics and Bias of Enclosure Traps for Sampling Fishes in Estuaries,” in Estuaries and Coasts.

Lawrence Stoffel (Music) is the author of “A Discography of Concert Band Recording on Compact Disc: Promoting the Artistry of Band Composition” (Edwin Mellen Press), nominated by the Association for Recorded Sound Collections for the Best Research in Recorded Classical Music 2007 Award.

Audrey Thacker (English) co-authored the article “Complicating Constructions, Ethnicity and Hybridity in American Texts,” published in June by the University of Washington Press.


Maria Elena Zavala (Biology) is among the contributors to a book recently recognized with a Bronze award from the 2007 Independent Publisher Book Awards, for “Flor y ciencia: Chicasnas en Science, Mathematics, and Engineering” (The Adelante Project). A total of 2,690 national entries were in competition for the award, which salutes the work of publishers who take chances and effect change.
Honors and Awards

Hilary Baker (Information Technology) served as board chair of the EDUCAUSE Seminars on Academic Computing during the 2006–07 academic year, culminating in the seminars’ annual conference held the week of August 6 in Snowmass, Colo.

Business marketing students (College of Business and Economics) won awards at the third annual Western States Collegiate Sales Competition hosted by Arizona State University in April 2007. Firas Abrafeih won first place, the Liberty Mutual Prize; Rola Saghiri won second place, the ADP Prize; and Jonathan Basiri won third place, overall competition prize.

The Department of Cinema and Television Arts’ film production option was awarded a total of $80,000 from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA)—more than any other film school. $60,000 went toward HFPA Senior Project Fellowships, $15,000 for hardware and software upgrades to the HFPA Senior Film Edit Suite and the film sound mix facility, both in Manzanita Hall, and $5,000 to support the annual Senior Film Showcase.

Arinda Eaton (College of Education) was appointed to the state’s Committee on Accreditation (C0A), a statutory committee appointed by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The committee is charged with deciding the initial and continuing accreditation of educator preparation programs.

Veronica Gilliland ’07, as a senior in spring 2007, spoke on behalf of the students’ academ ic careers. She has earned the designation of MRIC S—the most highly recognizable individual in the profession. Slechta has served as chair of the ASRT Baccalaureate Curriculum Project work group.

Tarek Shraibati (Business, Marketing) authored a paper, “A Review and a Conceptual Framework of Prestige-Seeking Consumer Behavior,” that was selected by the Academy of Marketing Science Review as the Best Paper of the Decade during 1997–2006. Shraibati served as an invited expert for a BioBlitz, in which taxonomic specialists identified 869 species of organisms in 24 hours.

Lawrence Stofièl (Music) has penned a book, “A Dictionary of Concert Band Recordings on Compact Disc: Promoting the Artistry of Band Composition,” that was nominated by the Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) for the Best Research in Recorded Classical Music 2007 award.

Jeff Thomas (Biology) has been appointed to serve a three-year term as editor of Madoar, a quarterly journal of the California Botanical Society, starting in 2008. The journal has served as an outlet for research in ecology, evolution, systematics and floristics of California and western North American plants since 1915.

Paula Schiffman (Biology) has been appointed to serve as editor of Madoar, a quarterly journal of the California Botanical Society, starting in 2008. The journal has served as an outlet for research in ecology, evolution, systematics and floristics of California and western North American plants since 1915.

Mohamed Hegab (Civil Engineering and Applied Mechanics) became a “Chartered Surveyor,” one of the most highly respected certifications in the field of construction management technology (CMT) worldwide. One of only three from the Los Angeles area invited to interview for the certification, Hegab has earned the designation of MRICS (Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors).

Alexis Kravtsovsky (Cinema and Television arts) directed “Women Behind the Camera,” which won the 2007 Spirit of Moondance Documentary Feature Film Award for Best Documentary Feature Film. The film was an official selection of the Moondance International Film Festival, held at Universal Studios CityWalk Theater in September.

C.T. Lin (Engineering and Computer Science) and students placed fifth in the Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC), their first time competing in the competition with their LinBot autonomous robot vehicle. CSUN’s robot, the only California entry in the competition, was one of the top six robots selected in the Design Challenge Category. A $500 cash award accompanied the honor.

Marta Lopez-Garza (Women’s Studies) received a $12,000 fellowship from the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation, a “leading supporter of social science research for Los Angeles,” for her work with formerly incarcerated women and their reintegration into the community. The Haynes Foundation is also the oldest private foundation in the city.

The CSUN nursing honor society (College of Health and Human Development) was inducted into the prestigious Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society (STTI) in October 2007.

Steve Oppenheimer (Biological) was an invited reviewer for the BBA Reviews on Cancer, for Molecular Reproduction and Development, for Modern Pathology (Nature Publishing Group), and for the National Science Foundation, Disease Diagnostics and Prognostics, all of which were 2007 editions. Oppenheimer is editor-in-chief of the New Journal of Student Research Abstracts, which won second place in the Aviation Education and Tour Programs category of the Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA) Excellence in Marketing and Communications Contest, in August 2007.

Sembanc Rengarajan (Electrical and Computer Engineering) chaired the judging of the International Documentary Association’s (IDA) David L. Wolper Student Documentary Achievement Award. The award was presented at the IDA’s annual awards ceremony at the Director’s Guild in fall 2006, to recognize achievement in non-fiction film and video production at the university level.

Paul Wilson (Biology) participated at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden as an invited expert for a BioBlitz, in which taxonomic specialists identified 869 species of organisms in 24 hours.

Anita Slechta (Business, Marketing) authored a paper, "A Review and a Conceptual Framework of Prestige-Seeking Consumer Behavior,” that was selected by the Academy of Marketing Science Review as the Best Paper of the Decade during 1997–2006. Slechta served as an invited expert for a BioBlitz, in which taxonomic specialists identified 869 species of organisms in 24 hours.

Professor Leads ‘Parallel Lives’ in Music, Night and Day

By day, music professor Rob Lockart teaches the saxophone at CSUN. By night, he can be found playing it as part of the Los Angeles jazz scene. Besides finding time for his studio and recording work, he has added one more accomplishment to his repertoire—his debut CD "Parallel Lives," from Origin Records.

Lockart not only plays saxophone on "Parallel Lives," he wrote six of its eight songs, drawing from his own experiences and influences. The personal note extends to the album’s creative process, as Lockart plays on "Parallel" with musicians he had worked with previously: pianist Bill Cunliffe, drummer Joe LaBarbera and bassist Jeff "D"Angelo.

"The great thing about recording is when you get those moments—those beautiful moments—when all the elements come together," said Lockart. "What distinguishes jazz is the spontaneous improvisation. If we would do the CD again, it wouldn’t happen the same way."

Released on September 18, "Parallel Lives" has been enjoying a lot of airplay, from Long Beach-based KJAZZ 88.1 FM to stations across the country. It recently joined Jazzweek’s chartbound list.

In addition to playing in the local jazz community, Lockart has worked with internationally known figures such as jazz vocalist Kurt Elling and trumpeter Doc Severinsen, composer/arranger Chris Walden and the Woody Herman Orchestra, among others.

"Musicians give you so much," explained Lockart. "It’s the human interaction, the dialogue, that makes the music come alive."

As an instructor with CSUN’s jazz program for the past 10 years, Lockart values the openness and communication among the faculty. "In chamber jazz performance we hope to bring the best of us, and we are," said Lockart, "where four to six individuals work together in a cooperative effort, a divine interplay."

—Hilary Freeman
FYI

Public Meetings

Personnel Planning and Review Committee
Meets 2–5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 12
University Hall 277

Senate Executive Committee
Meets 1–4:30 p.m.
Thu., Dec. 13
University Hall 277

University Planning and Budget Group
Meets noon–2 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 11
University Hall 277

Notices

Deepest Condolences
Physical Plant Management (PPM) and the campus community extend deepest condolences to Thomas Kättnay (PPM), whose mother passed away November 17. PPM and the CSUN community also extend deepest condolences to Todd Andrew (PPM), on the passing of his sister on November 17.

Reappointment of Department Chair
Brian Castronovo (Modern and Classical Languages and Literature) has been reappointed chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literature for a three-year term effective August 20, 2008, and expiring at the conclusion of the 2010–11 academic year.

December Payroll Distribution
December pay warrants will be distributed in the lobby of Bayramian Hall Mon., Dec. 31, from 8 a.m. to noon. Photo ID will be required. Employees unable to pick up checks may authorize someone to do so, in writing. Include the name of the authorized person, the employee’s department, the last four digits of the employee’s Social Security number and the employee’s signature. A photo ID of the authorized person will be required. Uncollected checks will be available for department pick-up from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wed., Jan. 2, 2008.

Catastrophic Leave Donations
Danielle Kereor (Extended Learning) out on medical leave of absence, has exhausted her leave credits and is requesting catastrophic leave donations on her behalf. To make voluntary donations of sick leave and/or vacation leave, forward completed catastrophic leave donation forms to Payroll Administration, mail drop 8228. Donation forms are available at http://www-admin.csun.edu/bns/forms/benefits/forms.html.

Faculty Awards Competition
The Research and Grants Committee announces the 2008–09 Competition for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Awards. Full- and part-time faculty may apply for three units of released time or up to $5,000 of funding for project expenses, enabling them to pursue scholarly and creative interests. Application deadline is 5 p.m. Mon., Feb. 25, 2008. Download guidelines and application at www.csun.edu/research.fmt.Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, x2901.

For Your Information publishes announcements of events, public meetings, notices, classes and deadlines. Submission deadline is noon on Monday, one week before the next issue.

The deadline for the January 22 issue is Monday, January 14. We strive to include all items submitted by deadline occurring until the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to pubinfo@csun.edu, sending them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (818) 677-6909. E-mail is the preferred method of submitting.

Note: fmi—means for more information.

Professional Development Staff Training
Professional Development Programs provide free training workshops for CSUN staff members in the Oviatt Library, room 16, garden level. Enroll by the day preceding the workshop at http://www-admin.csun.edu/ohrs/development/index.htm. fmi—Sue Talavera, x5820.

Workshop
“University Orientation”
Presented by Human Resources representatives.
Wed., Dec. 12
8:30 a.m. to noon

Faculty Writing Workshop
“Integrating Writing into Content-Area Courses,” a workshop series for faculty across the disciplines, focuses on helping faculty incorporate writing into their courses. A $200 stipend is offered. All workshops are from 2–4 p.m. Dates: Feb. 7, March 6, April 10, April 24. Location: Jerome Richfield Hall 319. For application information or fmi—kiretta.casper@csun.edu or irene.clark@csun.edu

2008 Faculty Retreat Agenda

Monday, January 14, 2008

Registration and Coffee
8:30–9:30 a.m.

Welcome
9:30–9:45 a.m.
Jennifer Matos, Faculty President
Faculty Retreat Committee and Staff Recognized

Keynote Address:
Regionally Focused, Nationally Recognized, Globally Engaged
Jolene Koester, President

Lunch in the Courtyard
11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.

Session I Workshop Presentations:
Regionally Focused, Nationally Recognized, Globally Engaged:
CSUN Faculty Panel
Laurie Allen, Biology
Daniel Blake, Economics
Livia Mennuccu, Music
Theresa Montano, Chicano/a Studies
Steven Tachuck, Music
Moderator: Deanna Murray, Music

Session II Workshop Presentations:
Creating a Culture of e-Portfolios for Theatre Majors

Workshop 2
Using the Principles of ExCEIL (Experience Confidence and Enjoyment Learning) Programs in the Classroom

Workshop 4
Engaging Students through Scholarship

Workshop 5
Mentoring Students with Disabilities

Workshop 6
Cultivating Innovative & Engaging Learning Opportunities
Moderator: Bronte Reynolds, Educ. Leadership & Policy Studies

Workshop 7
Creating a Sustainable Economy

Workshop 8
Endangered: The Scintillating College Professor

Workshop 9
What Every Faculty Member Should Know About University Counseling

Workshop 10
International Educational Exchange: A Case Study of Goias, Brazil

After 4 p.m.:
Hotel Check-in
Free Time: Walk on the Beach, Bike Rentals, Fitness Center

Thursday, January 15, 2008

CSUN Breakfast Buffet
7:30–9:15 a.m.

Session III Workshop Presentations:
“Update on the WASC Process”
Workshop 1
Moderator: Deanna Murray, Music

“Infusing Personal and Social Responsibility into Your Curriculum”
Workshop 2
Moderator: Jeffrey Stoll, Music

“Post Virginia Tech: Assessing CSUN’s Emergency Preparedness”
Workshop 3

“The Key to Success in a Global World”
Workshop 4
Moderator: Jeff Settlestick, Music

Poster Presentations Book Publisher Displays
11–Noon

Lunch
1:15–2 p.m.

“Riders on the Storm-Reclaiming Our House, Reforming Our World”
Harry Hellenbrand, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dinner
6:30–8 p.m.

8 p.m.
The Magic and Mystery of Joseph Tran
A hip and charismatic approach to magic.

For information, call Heidi Wolfbauer, x3263 or heidiw@csun.edu

www.csun.edu/pubrels/0csun

December 10, 2007 • CSUN • California State University, Northridge
Anyone who has made a documentary and lived to tell the tale will describe a journey filled with sacrifice, sweat and tears.

Karen Kearns, associate dean of the Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication, has joined the throng of independent souls who have made the trip and emerged with a new understanding of the art of filmmaking.

“That All May Be One,” Kearns’ beautifully realized documentary about the indomitable spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, was previewed at Cal State Northridge in October, and shortly after was screened at Mount St. Mary’s College.

The documentary evolved after Kearns’ 2000 visit to her native St. Louis. Sister Joan Lampton, Kearns’ cousin and a leadership figure among the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in St. Louis, Mo., Under Sister Celestine Pommernich, their numbers grew to about 150 throughout the U.S. and Canada. In St. Louis, they operate one of the country’s oldest schools for the deaf, a nursing home for nuns and lay people, and an all-girls high school.

Their decision to renovate rather than raze an abandoned mother house represents the nuns’ respect for mission rooted in their ruling dictum “That All May Be One,” taken from St. John’s Gospel. The documentary observes in loving detail their restoration of the structure, now used as a retreat and conference center shared with the lay community. The camera lingers on intricate oak and walnut floors and light and dark.

The mother house of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in St. Louis, Mo., gorgeous paneling, and on a secret floor trap door which may have been a hiding place on the Underground Railroad.

But Kearns’ focus remained on the nuns themselves. One sister described her pre-Vatican II habit as a “wall” she had happily doffed, while for another it was a “visible sign” that protected her. Yet another calmly pronounced that we are alive, we are well, we are still instigators of grace, still vital members of this neighborhood called the world.

One aging, graceful sister is shown ministering to the shut-in. “This is where the cry of the poor takes place,” her voice-over narrates. “This is where we live.”

To get “That All May Be One” made, Kearns “wrote it, directed it, narrated it, mixed the sound and wrote the checks,” though some funding came from the Cinema and Television Arts Department. “We mixed all the sound right in my kitchen,” recalled the filmmaker. “A friend brought his Mac laptop and some huge hard drives. Within eight hours, we had mixed and corrected all of it.”

Some important early help came from CSUN colleagues such as music professor Elizabeth Sellers, who composed deeply felt tracks in response to Kearns’ request for themes that were “lyrical and hopeful, but in a minor key” to suit the film’s blend of light and dark.

CSUN art professor Magdy Rizk, music professor Katherine Ramos Baker and the CSUN Women’s Chorale, and Plaza del Sol Performance Hall manager-director Kathy Anthony also were part of Kearns’ creative team.

The next step for “That All May Be One” is its entry into the competitive round of film festivals. “It took nearly six years,” Kearns said, “but holy cow, it’s finished!”

Cal State Northridge is a vision of what is possible when an institution supports independent filmmakers.”

### Calendar

The A.S. Ticket Office in the University Student Union sells tickets to many events on campus, except for some held by outside groups. The Ticket Office is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. For prices not given, call (818) 677-2488. To park on campus for performances, athletic events, lectures and other activities, guests must purchase a $5 parking permit.

### Art and Exhibits

For gallery info, call (818) 677-2156. Main gallery hours: Mon. through Sat. 12-4 p.m., and Thursdays noon-8 p.m. Admission is free unless specified. For library exhibits, call (818) 677-2265.

Jolene Koester, Brenda Roberts, Vance T. Peterson, Tatsuo Kumagai, Ken Swisher, Gail Pollard-Terry, Hillary Freeman, Student Assistant

### Theater/Performance

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Vania T. Peterson, Asst. V.P. for University Advancement
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