Cal State Northridge alumnus Morteza “Mory” Ejabat has pledged $1 million to the university’s College of Engineering and Computer Science for the creation of the college’s first endowed chair. The Mory Ejabat Chair will be awarded to a tenured full professor with an outstanding record in both scholarship and teaching in the college. Ejabat’s gift is one of CSUN’s largest from an alumnus.

Walt Disney Co. CEO Michael D. Eisner was awarded an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree during Cal State Northridge’s College of Education commencement ceremony on June 3. CSUN President Jolene Koester conferred the honorary degree on Eisner in tribute to his philanthropic leadership, including his support of the Northridge education college that bears his name and his work to improve the lives of children throughout the Southern California community.

The San Fernando Valley will remain the place to be in years ahead, according to CSUN’s much anticipated San Fernando Valley Economic Forecast. Titled “The Recovery: Is This as Good as It Gets?,” the third annual forecast was presented in May by the university’s San Fernando Valley Economic Research Center. CSUN economics professor Daniel Blake, director of the center, worked with colleagues and students to compile a comprehensive look at the future of the Valley and the region through 2007.

Cal State Northridge ranks among the nation’s top 10 universities for awarding bachelor’s degrees to Hispanic students, according to Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education. The magazine’s annual ranking of the “Top 100” institutions for Hispanics, based on degrees awarded, appears in the May 9 issue. The magazine previously had ranked Northridge among the nation’s top 25 universities for awarding master’s degrees to Hispanic students.