Cal State Northridge’s 2006 Distinguished Alumni Awards on May 13 will spotlight the high caliber of the University’s many exceptional alumni. This year’s awards will go to Grant Ashley, former executive assistant director of law enforcement services for the FBI; former California Lt. Gov. Mike Curb, philanthropist and chairman of Curb Records; and Mory Ejabat, co-founder, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Zhone Technologies.

Trustees of the California State University system have unanimously approved Envision 2035, the Cal State Northridge planning initiative that will help frame the University’s physical development for the next several decades. The revised master plan includes campus sites for the 1,700-seat Imagine the Arts Center; a supporting parking structure of about 1,500 spaces, a mass transit center, and about 600 units of on-campus faculty/staff housing, mostly on the North Campus.

Washington Mutual Bank has donated to Cal State Northridge a collection of 30 western-themed bronze statues by noted American artist Harry Jackson. The gift, valued at about $740,000, will be exhibited in the new Washington Mutual Bank Gallery of Harry Jackson Art in the lobby of CSUN’s Redwood Hall. Artwork by Jackson is in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian, and the Vatican.

Cal State Northridge ranks in the top ten among U.S. colleges and universities in bachelor’s degrees awarded to Latinas, according to federal statistics compiled by The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine.