Cal State Northridge launched its executive speaker series this fall with presentations from some of California’s leading minds in business, education, entertainment and law—all Northridge alumni. California State University trustee Debra Farar, a longtime education consultant, talked to political science students in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. High-profile litigator Larry Feldman and Jack Suzar, vice president of Bel Air Investment Advisors, LLC, each met with students in the College of Business and Economics. CBS Studio Center President Michael Klausman talked to film and television students in the College of Arts, Media, and Communication.

English professor Robert Chianese has been selected by the prestigious Fulbright Scholar Program to spend much of the fall semester as a senior specialist at Plovdiv University in Bulgaria. He will help expand an American studies program and help change how the university’s officials see higher education.

Students, faculty and staff at Cal State Northridge rallied to help the victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Altogether they raised $84,484 to assist the American Red Cross with its hurricane relief services. Music therapy students also sent 20 boxes of clothing to the region and music professor Ron Borczon spent several days in Louisiana helping relief workers cope with the stresses of caregiving.

Cal State Northridge recently began construction on a new 28,000-square-foot, two-story university police station on the west side of campus near the corner of Prairie Street and Darby Avenue. The new facility will replace the public safety offices currently located in Building 14 of the University Park Apartments on Zelzah Avenue, where they moved following the 1994 Northridge earthquake. The new police station is expected to be completed by the end of 2006.