The California State University Board of Trustees has approved naming Cal State Northridge’s arts college as the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication. The trustees’ action honors CSUN alumnus and former California Lt. Gov. Mike Curb, the award-winning songwriter, music producer and chairman of Curb Records, who had his first commercial success as a student attending the Northridge campus. Curb recently made a $10 million pledge to support arts programs at the university.

Cal State Northridge has ranked 18th in the nation, and the highest in California, among public universities chosen by Jewish students, according to Reform Judaism magazine. The magazine’s fall 2006 issue features its first “Insider’s Guide to College,” which includes the top 30 public and top 30 private institutions of higher education in North America chosen by Jewish students. CSUN ranked highest among California public schools. No California private institutions were listed.

The university has received $2.2 million from the U.S. Department of Education to fund efforts to increase college attendance among students from underserved communities. Two five-year grants will support CSUN’s outreach to 1,200 middle and high school students and their parents at 15 San Fernando Valley schools.

Internationally recognized deaf educator and advocate Roslyn “Roz” Rosen has been named the new director of Cal State Northridge’s acclaimed National Center on Deafness (NCOD). Rosen assumed her new post in September. NCOD serves one of the largest university populations of deaf and hard of hearing students in the United States.