More Than 32,000 Students Attending Northridge Campus, Up 8 Percent Over Last Year

For the second consecutive semester, Cal State Northridge’s enrollment has reached a record high in the 44-year history of the campus, with more than 32,000 students taking classes this fall.

According to the final enrollment figures, the university has enrolled 32,596 students, a gain of 8.3 percent and nearly 2,500 students compared to the 30,105 headcount (Northridge-only) the same time a year ago.

CSUN last set an enrollment record in spring 2002 with an official headcount of 31,681. That this fall’s enrollment has grown even larger is even more amazing because the university this semester stopped counting students enrolled in its Channel Islands program because their numbers shifted to the new CSU Channel Islands campus.

In another extraordinary indicator of the campus’ growth and progress during the past decade, this fall’s enrollment means the university has grown by 34 percent, or about 8,300 students, since the low of 24,310 students reached in fall 1994 after the Northridge earthquake.

“It’s an indication that we’re becoming a destination campus,” said Louise Kennedy, CSUN’s provost and vice president of academic affairs. But the provost also said it has been a challenge trying to get so many students into a limited number of classes.

“The classroom situation is tight,” Kennedy said. “We’re doing everything we can to accommodate the students. We’re even offering classes in conference rooms. If there’s a space available, we’re going to use it.” This fall, the university is offering 5,347 course sections, including 3,416 lecture-type sections.

Kennedy said the university’s classrooms and lecture halls are almost full from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day. The university also offers classes on Saturdays and Sundays to meet the demand. Across the campus, the university has more than 200 lecture classrooms.

During the summer, Kennedy said campus officials poured over CSUN’s already-tight budget and transferred about $400,000 from other projects to academic programs just to accommodate the growth in students.

In her annual convocation address, CSUN President Jolene Koester called it “a very difficult balancing act” for the university to manage its enrollment to not go too far beyond available budget resources, while also maintaining the campus’ strong commitment to access for higher education.

The president last May appointed an Enrollment Policy Group of campus leaders headed by Assistant Vice President for Student Life William Watkins to offer policy recommendations on how the university can manage its twin values of access and quality without compromising either.

While awaiting the policy group’s recommendations, the university has already had to take some actions to manage its enrollment, particularly in an environment where state budget deficits and resulting cuts have limited new state funds available to the campus and the rest of the Cal State system.

For the spring 2003 semester, when new student applications are relatively light compared to the fall, CSUN is not admitting first-time freshmen, lower-division transfers or those seeking postbaccalaureate studies or second bachelor’s degrees. CSUN accepted upper-division transfer applications for the spring only during the initial filing period in August.

Margaret Fieweger, associate vice president for undergraduate studies, said in some ways, the high enrollment at Northridge is “a testament to the quality of education we offer at Cal State Northridge.” Kennedy also said she has been impressed with the patience of students and of the staff and faculty, many of whom are taking on more students than they originally thought they would have in their classes.

“For some faculty, this has meant completely redesigning their class plans,” Kennedy said. “Everyone has done a great job of maintaining morale and goodwill throughout it all. For that, I am grateful. And it probably explains in part why we’re becoming a destination university. It’s the caliber of our faculty and students.”

Most of us remember Cary Grant, Betty Grable, James Stewart, and Marlene Dietrich. How about Victor Mature, Gene Tierney, Laurel & Hardy and Buster Keaton? All of these cinema stars invoke fond memories of favorite films and special times for so many of us.

Memories of favorite films and the cinema stars invoke fond memories of favorite films and special times for so many of us. The CSUN campus is brimming with students amid record enrollment above 32,000.

The Cinematheque Gallery is the new home to vintage motion picture posters from the internationally acclaimed Mike Kaplan Collection. About 65 items of the 1,500-piece collection will be exhibited at a time, with the posters rotating on a six-month schedule.

The oldest poster currently in the exhibit is from the 1921 film, Way Down East, starring Lillian Gish, which also displays Gish’s signature. Pieces from this collection have been exhibited at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and the New York City Public Library.

Cinematheque is the only permanent university gallery in the United States devoted to the motion picture poster.

Also being exhibited are four caricatures by the famous celebrity artist, Al Hirschfeld. Hirschfeld developed his signature style in the 1920s, when he worked for the publicity and art departments of the movie studios. His celebrity caricatures have appeared in The New York Times since the 1950s.

You are invited to attend the grand opening of the gallery on Thursday, November 14 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Community Connection continues on page 2.
Join the latest series of highliths for Cal State Northridge’s premier choral ensemble, the Northridge Singers, who were chosen to back singing legends Barbra Streisand and Barry Manilow for a gala September 29 concert at Los Angeles’ Kodak Theatre, performing for an audience of entertainment industry luminaries.

In just the past year, the Northridge Singers performed in September 2001 at the Hollywood Bowl for the first time with jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, were chosen to sing for last October’s Emmy Awards show that was ultimately postponed, helped open the Kodak Theatre last November with opera star Russell Watson, and then returned there to back Barry Manilow for his New Year’s Eve performance.

The Northridge Singers’ third and latest appearance at the Kodak came for the National Democratic Gala, which organizers said raised about $6 million for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, the group’s largest-ever fundraiser. The politically active Streisand came out of semi-retirement to perform for that cause.

Smith, a veteran conductor and performer who also has developed broad relationships in the entertainment industry, said he first learned of the invitation to the Northridge Singers for the event when Barry Manilow’s musical director called several weeks before the concert, wanting to talk about scheduling a rehearsal.

After picking the requested 24 performers from among the 66-member ensemble, Smith and the students headed for a rehearsal with Streisand and the event’s band the Thursday before the concert, a video City studio, “We were introduced to Barbra. She was very friendly, and she said she was delighted we were going to join her,” Smith said.

The day of the concert, the CSUN students spent most of the day at the Kodak, first rehearsing with Manilow, then sharing a Wolfgang Puck catered lunch with all of the night’s performers, and then returning to rehearse with Streisand. After that, the students donned their black tuxedos and evening gowns to perform during the 2½-hour event.

After Manilow’s performance, Smith said the singer came offstage to shake hands with some of the CSUN students and tell them they did a great job. To close the evening, Streisand and all the night’s performers reprised her earlier “God Bless America,” with the CSUN students this time walking down the main aisles of the hall as they sang.

“The kids loved it. They were in awe. They were just on cloud nine,” Smith said of the evening. For Smith, “Of all our recent events, I’d count this and the performance with Wynton Marsalis as highlights. Our students were performing with some of the top talent in the nation,” he said.

A special moment at the Kodak came earlier in the day when tenor Thomas Young of the Three Mo’ Tenors, with whom Smith had performed as a teenager, took time to come and talk with the CSUN students. That moment alone, having a professional singer whom they were clearly in awe of, alone was worth being there.”

Smith also thanked the CSUN Music Department for supporting the students in such an event and recognizing that they need a breadth of experiences in preparing to become professionals. “The department knows we are preparing students for the 21st century. In doing that, we’ve got to give them a sense of the breadth of the possibilities.”

For their performance, the Northridge Singers gained a prominent mention of their ensemble and the university in the event’s printed program, as well as an honorarium for CSUN’s choral program. The promoters for the night, the same ones who handled the earlier Russell Watson concert, told Smith his students performed well.

“It’s clear they could have hired professional singers for the evening. They could have decided to do without. But they decided to call us,” Smith said, adding that such performances help establish an ensemble’s reputation. “When you have a success and you are clearly part of success, it can’t hurt you. People know you can do it,” he said.

Continued from page 1.

CSUN Among Top Schools in National Student Exchange

University is Near the Top in Sending and Receiving Students Among 177 Participating NSE Schools

Cal State Northridge ranks among the nation’s top participants in the National Student Exchange, sending and receiving more students than most of the 177 colleges and universities that participate in the program, according to newly released statistics.

CSUN placed in the top four among all National Student Exchange participating institutions during the 2000-01 academic year, importing 120 students from other campuses and sending 90 Cal State Northridge students to other institutions elsewhere in the United States and Canada.

Northridge has been bringing in more than 100 students a year through the NSE program, greatly surpassing the campus’ initial goals during the past six years, according to Marta Lopez, adviser for Northridge’s Study Abroad and National Student Exchange activities.

“CSUN is very popular and large numbers of students want to come here,” added John Charles, CSUN’s assistant director of international programs. He noted that the NSE program’s official statistics for CSUN are actually low, because more students were exchanged after a determining conference last March.

The National Student Exchange is a network of 177 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada that swaps undergraduates interested in enriching their studies through experiences away from their home campuses. In its 35th year, the entire program has more than 4,000 participating students.

Liane Kanelo, a senior from the University of Hawaii, came to CSUN for the university’s popular business program. But other factors also helped influence her final decision to attend Northridge.

The Southern California climate is moderate like Hawaii’s, the NSE program allowed her to pay her home state’s tuition and fees, and most importantly, Kanelo saw the exchange program as a wonderful vehicle for personal growth.

—Debbie Catanese

Community Connection…

in the university’s Donald E. Bianchi Planetarium, located in Science Building 2 on East University Drive (Lindley Avenue). The Sky Tours are open to the public and will be held on the first and third Saturday of each month through April 19, 2003.

The first show of each month will feature a guest speaker. The second show of each month will include The Voyager Encounters, a video presentation narrated by Patrick Stewart, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Voyager 1 and 2 launches.

Each Sky Tour offers the opportunity to explore the constellations and identify visible planets when the room is darkened and the 40-foot dome reveals a galaxy of more than 2,000 stars.

The remaining dates for the fall 2002 events are November 2 and 16, and December 7 and 21. The doors to the planetarium open at 6:45 p.m.

and the shows begin at 7 p.m.

Admission is $5 general and $3 for students. Tickets are available at the door, but you might want to purchase a ticket in advance to ensure a seat. To order tickets, call the CSUN Box Office at (818) 677-2488.

To learn more about the shows and the planetarium, you can visit the Physics and Astronomy Department’s web site at http://www.csun.edu/physics.

Until next month…
Cal State Northridge was chosen as one of only four universities in the nation to host a visiting delegation of women officials from Afghanistan’s new government, providing a specialized two-week training program to help the women gain the skills needed to begin rebuilding their war-torn country. Through its College of Extended Learning, CSUN hosted a five-member delegation of Afghan women—one of whom had ever been to the West before—beginning September 30. The visit was arranged by the U.S. State Department and coordinated locally by the International Visitors Council of Los Angeles.

The five Afghan women—all mid-level government officials in their 20s and 30s—spent their weekday mornings from September 30 through October 11 improving their English and computer skills in a CSUN computer lab, mainly learning how to research and write grant proposals that Afghanistan must prepare to speed much-needed international aid.

“This was a once in a lifetime chance for us to help a nation and its women who have been so suppressed,” said Simin Bahmanyar, the College of Extended Learning program development director who oversaw the women’s instructional program. “If they can go back with something they learn here and put it to use, then we’ve accomplished our mission.”

Along with the women who came to Cal State Northridge, another five-member group received training at Metropolitan State College and the University of Colorado-Denver in Denver, while a four-member group studied at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta. With other stops before and after, the 14 women were due to stay a month in the United States.

“This is a terrific opportunity for Cal State Northridge because we are committed to strengthening our connections with the community, whether here at home or abroad,” said CSUN President Jolene Koester. “We already are a very diverse campus with many international students. But I think these kinds of exchanges teach us as much as we teach our guests.”

The visit was one sign of the slow but steady reemergence of women in Afghanistan public life after five years of repression under the now toppled Taliban regime. During the Taliban era, most Afghan women could not hold jobs outside the home, were forbidden from leaving home without a male relative and were denied education, much medical care and other essentials.

With the November 2001 defeat of the Taliban, the U.S. government has made a top priority of helping Afghans begin to rebuild their country, which has been ravaged by decades of civil strife and war. And because of the extraordinary repression the Taliban imposed on women, the U.S. is giving special attention to helping restore their place in Afghan society.

CSUN was chosen for the historic program because of President Koester, who has a longstanding interest in international education and exchange. Koester was one of 36 women university presidents and chancellors who personally sponsored a full-page ad last February in the New York Times supporting women’s rights, including education, in post-war Afghanistan.

The presidents and chancellors each head campuses that are part of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). So when the U.S. State Department subsequently asked AASCU to help develop the training program, seeking out universities in major urban areas, AASCU contacted President Koester.

While at CSUN, the five Afghan women spent their mornings being taught by a rotating team of five instructors headed by Bahmanyar. In the afternoons and on weekends, they met with government and private groups, toured museums and tourist spots, and made a presentation on Wednesday, October 9 to the World Affairs Council downtown.

The Afghan women who visited CSUN were Masooda Barekzai, a staff member in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Marzia Basel, a judge in the Kabul Public Security Court, Jina Haidari, director of cooperatives, and Breshna Sadat, an assistant in the Ministry of Women’s Affairs, and Mo Qayoumi, CSUN’s vice president for administration and finance.

“Each time the university is respon- sive and successful with a particular group, it broadens our connections with new communities and wins friends for the university who may seek our help for other projects in the future,” Feucht-Haviar said.
November Calendar

Art and Exhibits

Admission is free unless otherwise specified.

- Cinematheque Gallery Grand Opening
  You are invited to attend the grand opening of the gallery featuring vintage movie posters. Thu., Nov. 14 from 7 to 10 p.m. Manzanita Hall

- Old China Hands
  An archive on non-Chinese people who have lived and worked in China and collections of published works on the interaction between China and other nations and cultures, oral histories, transcripts, film and video, and other materials. Through Fri., Jan. 24, 2003. Ovatt Library

- Sixth Annual Invitational High School Exhibition
  Nearly 300 students from 56 San Fernando Valley high schools will showcase their paintings, sculptures, video, graphic design and mixed media. Fri., Dec. 6 through Sat., Jan. 11, 2003. Main Art Gallery

- Vaclav Vavlovc: The Soul of the Sixth Sense
  Vavlovc's exhibition features 50 monoprints of figurative and abstract imagery, which are intimate and sensual revelations of life and after-life. Through Sat., Nov. 16. Main Art Gallery

- Fiber Optics
  Basketry and knotting, whose history goes back several millennia, are fiber arts whose appeal has steadily continued through time. Sponsored by the Los Angeles Knotters Collective, the works of 20 artists from Southern California are represented. Through Sat., Nov. 16. Main Art Gallery

- Spiritual Expressions: Rassouli-Jenik-Mozaffarian
  Surrealist works by three American-Iranian artists from Southern California that share their rich symbolism of Persian mystic poetry. Through Sun., Dec. 22. Performing Arts Center Gallery

- Move Howards Tango Passion
  This Broadway production is set in the tango bars of Buenos Aires with music performed by the Sexto Mayor Orchester. Wed./Thu., Nov. 13/14, 8 p.m. Performing Arts Center

- Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra
  A part of the Jazz Night Series. The Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra is an all-star lineup of Los Angeles-based musicians. Sat., Nov. 23, 8 p.m. Performing Arts Center $30 front orchestra; $20 rear orchestra

Dance

- Lula Washington Dance Theater
  The Lula Washington Dance Company is one of the most admired African American dance institutions in California. Sat., Oct. 26, 8 p.m. Performing Arts Center $30 front orchestra; $20 rear orchestra

Music

- Admission to all music events (unless otherwise specified): $10 general, $7 faculty, staff and seniors, $5 students.

- Guest Artist Series
  Jeffery Jacob, piano. Sun., Oct. 27, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

- Parkanyi String Quartet
  A part of the Music Guild's Chamber Music Series, Istvam Parkanyi, Heinz Oberdorfer and Ferdinand Erblich perform together with cellist Michael Muller. Mon., Nov. 4, 8 p.m. Performing Arts Center

- Wind Chamber Music
  Julia Heinlen directs. Wed., Nov. 13, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

- From the Studio of Ron Purcell
  Thu., Nov. 14, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

- University Chorus & Women's Chorale
  Elmer Heerema conducts the University Chorus. Katherine Mendel conducts the Women's Chorale. Fri., Nov. 15, 8 p.m. Performing Arts Center

- Faculty Artist Series
  Julia Heinlen, clarinet. Sat., Nov. 16, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

- World Music Ensemble
  Ric Alviso directs. Sun., Nov. 17, 3 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Theater/Performance

- Cosi fan Tutte
  Two sisters are in love with two officers but they find their protestations of undying fidelity put to the test. This most sublime of Mozart's comic operas will be sung in Italian with projected English subtitles. Directed by David Aks. Fri., Oct. 25, 8 p.m. Sat., Oct. 26, 8 p.m. Sun., Oct. 27, 3 p.m. Fri., Nov. 1, 8 p.m. Sat., Nov. 2, 8 p.m. Sun., Nov. 3, 3 p.m. Campus Theater $15 general; $10 faculty, staff, seniors and students

- Steve Martin's Picasso at the Lapin Agile
  Steve Martin's comedy places young Albert Einstein and young Pablo Picasso in the same 1904 Paris café. A hilarious battle ensues regarding art, lust and relativity.

- Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra
  A part of the Jazz Night Series. The Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra is an all-star lineup of Los Angeles-based musicians. Sat., Nov. 23, 8 p.m. Performing Arts Center $30 front orchestra; $20 rear orchestra

Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Paul Smith directs. Mon., Nov. 25, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Matador Master Chorale

Paul Smith directs. Tue., Nov. 26, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Admission is free unless otherwise specified.