CHIME Charter Elementary School in Woodland Hills, which has extensive ties to Cal State Northridge, in January was named “Charter School of the Year” by the California Charter Schools Association at its annual convention in Pasadena. CHIME and its sister campus, CHIME Charter Middle School, serve as demonstration and teacher-training sites for Northridge’s nationally acclaimed Michael D. Eisner College of Education.

With a record 33,426 students enrolled in fall 2003, Cal State Northridge ranked as the fourth largest university in California and the 28th largest university in the nation. Those enrollment statistics, the most recent available at the national level, are based on reporting to the state and federal governments. In fall 2003, Cal State Northridge had more students enrolled than either UC Berkeley or the University of Southern California, and only a few thousand students fewer than UCLA, the largest university in California.

Cal State Northridge’s public radio station, KCSN-FM (88.5), recently installed an “HD Radio” digital booster transmitter. The result is an extended broadcast area including much of Los Angeles south of the Santa Monica Mountains, and Santa Monica. The expansion was funded by a $109,781 matching grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), as part of a pilot program in which monies were awarded to public radio stations in the top-13 markets to equip them with HD Radio technology.

For the second straight year, graduate student Vanessa Douglas was selected to compete in the Metropolitan Opera’s Western Regional Finals. Cal State Northridge students have been invited to compete in the regional finals for more than 30 consecutive years. At least seven CSUN students during that time have gone on to the Met’s national competition.