

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

Current



Nursing Simulation Lab

Students Practice Nursing Skills in Campus Facility

A Path of Excellence

I am pleased to report that *your* University continues on a path of excellence. Excellence demonstrated by awards – a statewide award at the UC/CSU/CCC Sustainability Conference recognizing our continued sustainability efforts for a lighting project in the South Quad; a first-place award by the national publication, *University Business*, recognizing Santa Cruz Village, our second phase of student housing, with a “Dorms of Distinction” award; and a top-ten outstanding design award from the national publication *American School & University* for our dining hall expansion.

Excellence also appears in ongoing scholarly and creative work by our faculty and life-changing experiences students have enjoyed as a result of the number of international visits led by our faculty. For most of our students, if not all, these opportunities open their eyes to the broad world in which they live. As we are aware, the twenty-first century is not confined to Ventura County. Through these study trips students’ myopia is translated into an awareness which changes them forever.

Closer to home, the campus continues with several construction projects currently underway including the Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making, and at the request and vote by our students, a Student Union is in progress and is slated to be completed next year. Other campus infrastructure improvements continue as well, including planning for a new entry road that will be completed about two years from now.

All of this progress is essential to provide appropriate physical support for our programs and our students, for we committed to build a university for the future, not for the past. We intended to provide access but access to the future to include those, notably, who have been underserved. We came from other places, from other climes, from other experiences, intent upon being special, confident of our uniqueness, dedicated to quality educational content and practices for the future world in which our students would live. Academic innovation and physical progress ensure that we offer appropriate access and substantial opportunity.

In this edition of *Current*, you will read expanded stories of the University’s continued path of excellence, ongoing efforts to advance the University, faculty and staff accomplishments, and updates from our successful and impressive alumni, now 3,000 strong! I hope that you find this new format engaging and interesting.

Finally, I ask that you demonstrate your commitment to excellence and “Be the **U** in *your* **U**niversity” by joining us in an effort to raise funds for several important campus projects including our Nursing program, faculty scholarship, athletics, student scholarships, and a rebranding initiative to benefit the image and reputation of your ever-emerging University. Every donation, large or small, will provide us with necessary resources to pursue excellence. Additional details are found in the pages that follow. Please consider participating in this important endeavor and thank you for supporting *your* University.

Sincerely yours,



Richard R. Rush
President





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Cover:
A Nursing student listens to the heartbeat of a human simulator baby in the University's new Nursing Simulation Laboratory. See cover story on pages 15-17.



This news magazine is printed on recycled paper.

CSU Channel Islands Mission Statement
Placing students at the center of the educational experience, California State University Channel Islands provides undergraduate and graduate education that facilitates learning within and across disciplines through integrative approaches, emphasizes experiential and service learning, and graduates students with multicultural and international perspectives.

President, Student Honored by National Organization

Two individuals at CSU Channel Islands have been recognized by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), which each year honors prominent higher education and student affairs leaders, programs, and initiatives for contributions and impact on the field.

University President Richard R. Rush was honored with the 2007-2008 NASPA Region VI President's Award. This award is a special recognition given to a college or university president who has, over a sustained period of time, advanced the quality of student life on campus by supporting student affairs staff and programs. Staff of the University's Division of Student Affairs nominated Rush.

CSU Channel Islands student Jeremy Booker was recognized by NASPA with the Region VI Undergraduate Rising Star award. This award is presented to an undergraduate and/or graduate student based on service to others, demonstration of outstanding leadership skills, significant contribution to their institution by planning a program or activity that benefits students, involvement in research that would benefit the student affairs profession, helping to make the campus culture a positive experience for students, and going beyond what other students are contributing on campus.

Student Affairs nominated Jeremy because "students like Jeremy Booker are what leadership is all about," adding that, "he has all of the characteristics required of an undergraduate student who is a rising star as an aspiring member of the student affairs profession."

Solar Power to Come Online at University

CSU Channel Islands is one of the 15 California State University campuses that will soon generate its own photovoltaic (solar) power as part of a public-private partnership agreement with SunEdison. The entire project will bring eight megawatts of green power online at the 15 campuses as well as at the CSU executive office.

CSU Channel Islands' estimated annual share of generation will be about 603,236 kilowatt hours, which reduces carbon dioxide emissions by 429 metric tons or the equivalent to taking about 79 cars off the road each year permanently.

The photovoltaic system SunEdison will install at the campus will be a canopy of solar panels located in a student parking lot on the southeastern area of campus. The system will be constructed over approximately 140 existing parking spaces and also will provide shade for vehicles parked beneath it. Construction on the solar canopy will begin in 2009.

President Chosen for Nationwide Higher Education Cabinet

CSU Channel Islands President Richard R. Rush has been named as a member of the nation's first Higher Education Cabinet. The cabinet, which was formed by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The New York Times*, is comprised of presidents, trustees, and leaders from 76 colleges, universities, and higher-education associations from across the nation. The cabinet's goal is to identify trends and to have direct discussions about the most pressing issues facing higher education.

8 Faculty Members Welcomed

The University welcomed eight new tenure-track faculty members to campus this fall. These instructors have been hired to fill roles in the following academic programs:

Left to Right: **Ms. Elnora Tayag**, Assistant Librarian, Librarian-User Services; previously employed by California State University Channel Islands • **Dr. Laura Newton**, Assistant Professor, Nursing-Pediatrics; previously employed by the Commissioned Corps of Public Health • **Dr. José Alamillo**, Associate Professor, Chicana/o Studies; previously employed by Washington State University • **Dr. Claudio Paiva**, Associate Professor, Economics, Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics; previously employed by International Monetary Fund • **Dr. James Meriwether**, Professor, History; previously employed by California State University Bakersfield (Meriwether was appointed in 2007-2008 and is returning after a leave for a Fulbright Scholar year in Africa.) • **Dr. Minder Chen**, Associate Professor, Management Information Systems, Martin V. Smith School of Business and Economics; previously employed by George Mason University • **Dr. Jun Zhao**, Associate Professor, Management, Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics; previously employed by Governors State University • **Dr. Ruben Alarcon**, Assistant Professor, Biology-Behavioral Ecology; employed as a Postdoctoral Research Entomologist with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service and a Research Associate at the University of Arizona. (Alarcon will arrive in fall 2009.)



Awards

Work-Life Balance Award

CSU Channel Islands was selected by the Advisory Board of the Business Work-Life Alliance of Ventura County as a “2008 Ventura County Family-friendly Employer.” Additionally, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors presented a special commendation for the commitment employers are making to strengthen work/life balance in the workplace and for families in the community. All Ventura County Family-friendly Employers were recognized and a special resolution was adopted on their behalf.

Renovated Dining Commons Recognized in National Publication

The University’s Dining Commons was recently recognized as an Outstanding Design award winner by the *American School & University* magazine.

The announcement was made in the magazine’s August issue. This issue of the magazine is an annual design awards issue that includes all school projects from Pre-K through Post Secondary institutions. CSU Channel Islands earned the design award in the cafeterias/food-service areas category.

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Award for Sustainable Lighting

CSU Channel Islands earned recognition for its sustainable lighting practices at the Seventh Annual CSU/UC/Community College Sustainability Conference at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. CSU Channel Islands was one of eight California State University campuses recognized for efforts in areas such as building retrofits and operations, green buildings, sustainable transportation and student sustainability programs. The award received specifically recognized the University for 2008 Best Practice in the category of Lighting and Controls for its work in retrofitting portions of the

campus with efficient and sustainable exterior lighting.

In 2007, the Operations Planning & Construction department installed new exterior lighting in the University’s South Quad and in other areas of the campus. The new lighting is energy efficient and uses 42 percent less electricity to provide the same amount of light as the lighting fixtures and bulbs it replaced. The new lighting also is much more sustainable—the new bulbs last approximately 100,000 hours, replacing bulbs that last an average of 10,000 hours.

Santa Cruz Village Named ‘Dorm of Distinction’ in National Publication

Santa Cruz Village, a student housing complex, has been recognized as one of *University Business Magazine’s* “Dorms of Distinction,” and is featured in the August edition of the magazine. Santa Cruz Village, a 460-bed student housing complex, received the top honor in the Public Institution category for its ability to meet the needs of today’s students by making students feel at home, fostering a sense of community through interior and/or exterior spaces, helping keep students and their belongings safe, and incorporating green elements in an aesthetically pleasing way

Recent \$474,000 Grant For CSU

The work and leadership of faculty and administration in creating Professional Science Master’s Programs at California State University Channel Islands was one of the main factors contributing to a second major grant recently awarded to the California State University. The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation awarded the California State University \$474,000 to support the CSU’s Professional Science Master’s (PSM) programs. The PSM programs at CSU Channel Islands are the most successful in the CSU system and are serving as models for other CSU campuses and at campuses throughout the nation.

Broome Library Receives Award for Design

The *California Construction* magazine announced the John Spoor Broome Library as a winner in its Best of 2008 awards program. The Library won the Award of Merit in the Outstanding Architectural Design category. An independent jury of industry experts in design and construction judged more than 140 nominated projects in a variety of categories. The 50 winners will be featured in the December 2008 issue of *California Construction*. The statewide competition annually recognizes construction and design excellence in Northern and Southern California.

Professional Science Masters Program Receives Award

Extended Education was awarded the University Continuing Education Association’s “Outstanding Programming Award” for its MS Biotechnology and MBA dual degree program. This award honors credit and non-credit continuing education programs (one in each category) at UCEA member institutions for excellence in achieving their educational objectives. The awards are not necessarily given annually.



Photo: Ching-Hua Wang, Director of the Professional Science Masters programs at CSU Channel Islands, accepts the award from Judah Rosenwald, President of UCEA and CFO/COO of UC Berkeley Extension.



A Story To Tell

John Spoor Broome Library Docents Bring Architecture To Life

The glass walls and girders of the John Spoor Broome Library cannot talk, but each rivet and railing has a story to tell. These inanimate structural features are the characters of the stories docents who lead architectural tours of the Library share with visitors each week.

The scheduled tours begin on Monday and Friday when the sun is high overhead – at 12 and 1 p.m. – and it is the sun’s light that provides the setting for the docents’ narrations of the Library’s many architectural features. The tour begins with an examination of the building’s exterior elements.

“See the louvers high above our heads? They have been set in position so that the sun never directly hits the books,” explained Su Part, one of the Library’s architectural docents. “Yet, sunlight is an important part of the Library’s design.”

Part points out the subtle but structurally integral details of the Library. The way she describes these elements shows how they relate to the overall experience of those using the Sir Norman Foster-designed Library.

Docents, like Part, gain their expertise about the Library’s

architecture through personal interest in the building, and by participating in four weeks of intense classes taught by Melissa VandeBurgt, Visual Resource Specialist and Coordinator of the Architectural Tour Program. VandeBurgt’s personal interest in architecture drove her into learning about Foster’s style and how his architectural signature is incorporated into the design of the John Spoor Broome Library.

“I viewed this as an opportunity to make people conscious of the space they are in,” VandeBurgt said. “Being here, in this building, is an experience.”

The Library, which opened in April 2008, has had more than 1,000 visitors take the docent-led tour of the facility.

Part has encountered visitors from both ends of the impression spectrum when it comes to feelings about the Library. Some walk toward the building and are absolutely in awe, while others want to learn more about the Library’s modern design.

Visitors’ comprehension of the Library’s modern design becomes evident the moment they enter the Reading Room. Part said their eyes



are drawn upward to the translucent ceiling.

“You can kind of see them sense that there’s something about this room, and it’s because of the glass,” Part explained.

“It’s all here. It’s all open and full of light, and that’s when they begin to truly understand and appreciate this space.” ◀

The Bus Stops Here

Alternative Solutions Ease Parking Crunch and Impacts on Environment

One car. One person. One parking space. That arrangement would work perfectly if there were only about 1,750 people on campus at any given time because that's how many parking spaces are available on campus. However, the number of people on campus Monday through Thursday is always higher than that, and even if some of them arrived without a vehicle, there is still a campus parking crunch.

The parking crunch is a noticeable inconvenience for those looking for a parking space, but it's a problem that is lending itself to the promotion of long-term sustainable parking and transportation plans for the University.

"We aren't asking people to give up their independence. We're asking them to consider the alternatives to one car one person," explained Cherylanne Dooley, Community Services Specialist and campus Rideshare Coordinator. "Participating in Rideshare also reduces stress, air pollution and traffic congestion – and the bonus is that it frees up parking spaces for commuters whose lifestyles or family obligations do not permit them to take the bus or carpool."

In October, the alternatives were explained and demonstrated during California Rideshare Week. Representatives from the Ventura County Transportation Commission and Ventura County Air Pollution Control District came to campus to talk about creating a van or carpool, and personal power—riding a bicycle or walking.

The number of people who put the brakes on driving their personal vehicles and tried alternative forms of transportation to campus during Rideshare week was measureable. Ridership on the VISTA Buses that travel to and from campus from both the Camarillo Metrolink Station and the Oxnard "C" Street Transfer Center/Centerpoint Mall is up by more than 40 percent from last year.

Eva Gomez, Executive Assistant to the Vice President for University



Eva Gomez, Executive Assistant to the Vice President for University Advancement as well as a CSU Channel Islands student, places her bicycle on the rack of the VISTA Bus with help from the bus driver.

Advancement as well as a CSU Channel Islands student, was one of those who left her car in the garage and used pedal power and the bus for the first time to get to campus during Rideshare Week.

"I was most nervous about missing the bus. My bike ride from my house to the bus stop wasn't bad at all," Gomez said. "I'm actually considering giving up my parking permit and using the bus more often."

Gomez rode her bike two and one half miles from her home to the VISTA Bus stop at the Oxnard Centerpoint Mall. She said she would try to ride her bike there twice a week, and the other days she would drive to the Camarillo Metrolink Station and take the VISTA Bus from there to campus.

Dooley said the alternative transportation that Gomez is considering and many others on campus already use is called "transit mix." During October, Police and

Parking Services sweetened the deal for those willing to turn in their parking permits and use alternate transportation or a transit mix to get to campus. Any student, faculty, or staff member who turned in their parking permit could purchase a discounted VISTA Bus pass for the semester and receive a gift card to one of four local businesses.

"Through awareness and the incentive we offered we had about 50 people turn in their passes," Dooley said.

The gift card and refund incentives will continue to be offered throughout the fall and upcoming spring semester through University Police and Parking Services. VISTA Bus passes are sold in the community for \$40 per month, but as part of the University Rideshare program, they are \$25 per semester. Dooley is available to assist campus community members in finding ways to use alternative transportation. ◀C

This Way To CSU Channel Islands

Professor Ching-Hua Wang Shares Her Journey



The path from Beijing, China to the campus of California State University Channel Islands is not lined with arrows and mile markers, but for Ching-Hua Wang there were signs.

Retracing her journey thus far, Wang recalls her mandated relocation to Inner Mongolia, some helpful insistence from a university recruitment official, a random email forwarded by a colleague, and a strawberry field along Pleasant Valley Road as signs that have led her along the way.

Wang joined the CSU Channel Islands faculty in 2001, and since then has served in many roles including Chair of the Biology, Geology, and Nursing programs and Director of the Professional Science Master's (PSM) programs. She is on sabbatical this semester—her first opportunity to completely dedicate her time to research in seven and a half years—working with undergraduate and graduate students on a project that may eventually help those who suffer from neurodegenerative diseases.

"I have put a lot of effort and energy into program development and implementation. Since 2001, I haven't had much time for anything else," Wang explained. "This research project has provided important opportunities for our students. Some of them gained valuable experience and have been accepted into graduate and doctoral programs."

Relocation: Destination Mongolia

Years before Wang came to the CSU system, she was creating opportunities for and learning from her students in a remote rustic village located in Inner Mongolia.

At the height of Communist China's Cultural Revolution, the government decided that rather than sending students to high schools and colleges, they would be sent to different villages and towns to learn from farmers, carpenters, and factory workers. Wang, who was then 16 years old, and 12 others from urban China found themselves relocated deep in the countryside of Inner Mongolia with no running water, no indoor plumbing, and only cow manure to burn for heat.

"I am an adventurous person, and I looked at this as an adventure," Wang said. "I was ready to help people and to learn from them."

Two years into what would turn out to be a six-year residence in the village, Wang was injured and she was reassigned to teaching school at an elementary level to the villagers. Two more years passed and the Chinese government had a change of heart. It decided to reopen its universities.

Wang, along with hundreds of thousands of others, rushed to apply, hoping to be among the very few who would be admitted to one of the Chinese universities. She was denied on her first and second attempts each time having to return to work in the remote village.

“I was the last one left,” she said, “out of the 13 who were originally sent to the village together. And each time I applied, I passed all of my exams.”

That’s when the helpful insistence of a university recruitment official guided her away from a recurring road block and onto to a different route. The official had studied her file and found that decades earlier one of Wang’s distant relatives had defected to Taiwan and fled Communist China. In all of her applications, Wang had indicated that she wanted to study foreign language; however, because of her defecting relative, the Chinese government perceived her desire as a risk and had routinely denied her university admission to study foreign language.

“He said, ‘Why don’t you go to medical school?’ and I said I didn’t want to go to medical school,” Wang recounted. “He encouraged me and I realized that foreign language would be part of my education in medical school, and shortly after I was accepted into a medical school in Beijing.”

From Beijing, after earning a diploma from Beijing School of Foreign Languages, an M.D. degree from Beijing Medical College, and a master’s degree in immunology from Beijing Medical University, Wang came to the United States and earned a doctorate in immunology from Cornell University.

A Random Email and a Strawberry Field

Her experience in the Mongolian village had a long-lasting effect. It fueled her desire to become part of a system that reaches out to the underrepresented populations in higher education. In 1990, Wang joined the biology faculty at CSU San Bernardino. She rose through the ranks and became the Coordinator for the MS Biology Program.

“Then I got this email from another faculty member in our department, inquiring if ‘anybody is looking for greener pastures,’ and it had a link to the announcement of a new CSU campus at Channel Islands, which was recruiting the first group of faculty,” Wang explained. She looked into the opportunity.

“I became attracted by the mission statement,” she said. The components of CSU Channel Islands’ mission statement coincided with her past experiences, a cross-disciplinary education—biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, medicine, immunology, and foreign language—and international and multicultural learning.

Wang applied for a faculty position and was granted an interview. This segment of her journey to CSU Channel Islands clearly was marked with a sign.

Driving from the Inland Empire toward CSU Channel Islands, Wang exited the U.S. 101 Freeway onto Pleasant Valley Road. She drove toward the campus and saw the acres of strawberry fields and workers bent over harvesting the berries, which reminded her so much of those years farming in the Mongolian village and teaching those she worked with. Tears filled her eyes.

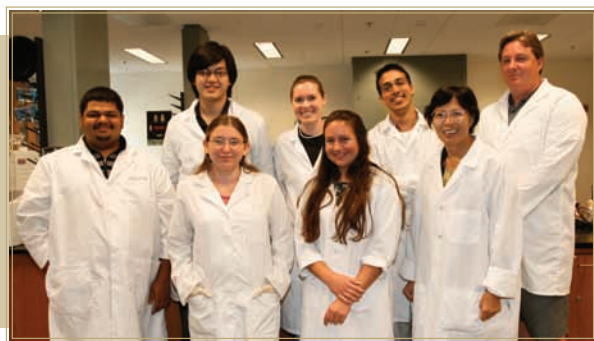
“I immediately felt that the children of these people would be my students. That really touched me,” she said. “I joined the CSU because it helps the underrepresented and to help them is a calling for me.”

Shortly after her interview, she was offered the job and she came to Channel Islands to develop the biology curriculum and other programs as well as to help establish the Aliso Hall science building. She said she completely understood her responsibilities and they were very clear to her when she was hired in 2001.

“But, really I had no idea,” she said about the amount of work it was going to take.

She says this in a fairly relaxed manner; however, looking at Wang one can sense her energy and enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

In the spring semester she will again lead the Biology Program and continue to enhance the University’s Professional Science Masters programs. Recently, Wang and her colleagues were recognized for their development of one of the top PSM programs in the country. For Wang the development of the PSM programs has been another brand new endeavor, but she said the national recognition of their work is a good sign for the future of the University. ◀C



Professor Ching-Hua Wang leads a group of students in laboratory research. From left to right in the back row are Ankur A. Gholkar, graduate student, YueJia Wu, graduate student, Jessica Marie Layman, undergraduate student, Kartheek Kumar Dokka, graduate student, and Thomas Martin Johnson, undergraduate student. From left to right in the front row are Elizabeth Jordan Thomas, undergraduate student, Parissa Keshavarzian, undergraduate student, and Professor Wang.



Ching-Hua Wang, in a recent photo, stands near the entrance to the hut where she lived more than 30 years ago when she was teenager living in a remote village in Inner Mongolia.

Summer Means Time to Continue Scholarly and Creative Activities for University Faculty

In May, after final exam grades are reported and the campus is devoid of students, the academic year winds to a close; but for faculty, a summer packed with scholarly and creative activities has just begun. The following notes are summaries of the work some* of the CSU Channel Islands faculty members conducted and continued during the summer months.

*These responses were generated on a voluntary basis and do not include a response from each faculty member at CSU Channel Islands.

Art

Catie Mihalopoulos, Assistant Professor of Art, wrote a review of the book *Daughters of Gaia* by Bella Vivante for the September issue of *Cloelia Magazine*. She participated in an art historical survey on one of the Cycladic islands in Greece where she identified classical sculpture or artifacts relating to the Classical period for 450-399 BCE. She continued working on research on Bronze Age Kekryphalia, and she met the second-in-command priest at the Monastery of St. Catherine's at Mount Sinai, Egypt. Mihalopoulos has been invited to give a lecture at St. Catherine's about her work in December, and will be researching icons and ecclesiastical implements for a publication, in addition to getting a firm commitment for a future excavation in the area.

Since April, **Luke Matjas**, Assistant Professor of Art, has worked on a mural-sized artwork entitled, "Model of the Energy Input, Outputs, and Transfers in the Always Strange and Surprising Animal Kingdom." This piece, which directly integrates innovative digital computer-based techniques with traditional graphite drawings, was included in the exhibition, "Between Heaven and Earth: Entre Cielo y Tierra" at the Museum of Ventura County. Thematically, this work is part of a larger series in which Matjas has attempted to create "updated" visions of the famed La Brea Tar Pits by portraying more recently extinct animals alongside an array of contemporary landscape elements and household items.

Biology

At the annual meeting of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, **Amy Denton**, Associate Professor of Biology, began a collaboration with University of Toronto biologist Sasa Stefanovic. They are working on questions regarding the molecular evolution and hybrid diversification within the parasitic plant *Cuscuta*. Commonly known as "dodder," *Cuscuta* comprises more than 170 species, many of which are considered agricultural pests. Denton and Stefanovic are interested in the molecular degeneration of the photosynthetic apparatus in dodders and have already begun to isolate and analyze DNA key sequence changes in both photosynthetic and non-photosynthetic genomes across a range of dodder species.

Nitika Parmar, Assistant Professor of Biology, continued research on the insulin/TSC/Rheb/mTOR pathway that has been implicated to play a major role in the development of a variety of cancers. Parmar's lab focused on chemical screening of natural plant extracts for inhibitors of mTOR activity; gene silencing of Rheb by RNA interference in mammalian cells; expression and purification of recombinant Rheb and interacting proteins using bacterial cells; and Adipogenesis (formation of fat cells) in mammalian cells and identification of compounds regulating it.

Business and Economics

Jun Zhao, Associate Professor of Management, presented a paper entitled, "Ownership structure and corporate diversification strategies of Chinese business groups" at the annual conference of The Academy of Management. Zhao's paper is a part of ongoing research project she has been working on and it is an expansion of another paper, "Business Groups and Corporate Restructuring in China," which she previously presented at the Decision Sciences Institute Conference. Her earlier article recently has been accepted for publication by the journal *Management Research News*.

Business and Art

Andrew Morris, Associate Professor of Management, **William P. Cordeiro**, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics, and **Irina Costache**, Professor of Art, presented their collaborative paper titled "Working Outside the Prison Walls: Designing and Implementing Interdisciplinary Courses that Work" at the 35th Annual Organizational Behavior Teaching Conference in Massachusetts. This paper explored some of the benefits, costs, and the lessons learned in designing and implementing a series of upper-division interdisciplinary courses at CSU Channel Islands that blur boundaries between educational disciplines and the University's mission objective of interdisciplinarity.

Mural designed by- **Luke Matjas** ▶



Communication

A book written by **Tracylee Clarke**, Assistant Professor of Communication, entitled *Native Americans and Nuclear Waste: Narratives of Conflict* was published. The book focuses on the conflict over the storing of nuclear waste on the Skull Valley Goshute reservation in Southwestern Utah. Clarke's book analyzes narratives from tribal members concluding that both political and cultural identity are constructed, maintained, and negotiated through narratives about nuclear waste and are articulated to create a direct connection with the natural world creating a complex milieu for tribal policy development and decision-making.

Computer Science

AJ Bieszczad, Associate Professor of Computer Science, presented his research on neural networks for forecasting problems in Nice, France in June. Last semester he involved several students in the RoboSoccer project, and the two robotics teams played soccer at the CSU Channel Islands research presentation in May. His current research interests include artificial intelligence, networking and game programming.

Professor of Computer Science **Bill Wolfe's** research addresses topics in artificial intelligence, neural networks, computer vision, genetic algorithms and simulated annealing. He has published several top-tier articles on computer simulation and modeling of neural systems. Recently, his research has branched into algorithms for Bioinformatics and Computational Geometry. He has also developed an innovative online student peer review system.

Chemistry

Simone Aloisio, Associate Professor of Chemistry, delivered a presentation titled "Implementing an Effective Assessment Plan for the Chemistry Curriculum" at the 20th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education in Bloomington, Ind. In addition to this chemical education work, Aloisio also studies environmental chemistry and mentors undergraduate students in analyzing air, water, soil, and tissue samples. Current projects include measuring mercury in tissue samples and measuring ground level tropospheric ozone.

Blake Gillespie, Assistant Professor of Biochemistry, worked on researching the structure, function and evolution of proteins. He employs biophysical tools ranging from NMR spectroscopy through x-ray crystallography, to in silico molecular modeling. Together with his students, he seeks to link the basic science of protein folding and function to real problems in metal toxicity, Alzheimer's disease drug development, and amyloidogenic disease.

Professor of Chemistry **Phil Hampton's** research is in three areas: organic synthesis, remote operation of instruments by local Educational Partners, and making chemical structures accessible to blind and visually-impaired students. Currently, he collaborates with the Channel Islands Alzheimer's Institute to design potential inhibitors of beta-secretase, an enzyme involved in Alzheimer's disease, and with a local company, Kreido Biofuels, to examine applications of their STT reactor in organic synthesis.

Education

Jeanne Grier, Associate Professor of Education, continued her research on those who are in science, technology, engineering, and/or math (STEM) careers and elect to become secondary science and math teachers. An article she and a colleague have written will appear this winter in an issue of the *Journal of Science Teacher Education*. Grier and her colleague have several studies underway including a retention study of these career-change teachers.

Jill Leafstedt, Assistant Professor of Education, is publishing a new book for teachers of young students based on research conducted in Santa Paula Elementary School District. The book, *Early Reading Interventions: Strategies and Methods for Struggling Readers*, presents the Early Reading Project Intervention (ERPI). ERPI is designed to meet the needs of young readers, specifically those who are learning English as a second language and those who are at-risk for learning disabilities. The book will be published in 2009.

Kaia Tollefson and **Eric Toshalis**, both Assistant Professors of Education, presented at the Center for Anti-Oppressive Education's fifth International Conference on Teacher Education and Social Justice. The conference was held at University of Illinois at Chicago in June. Their presentation, entitled "Into the Wind: Teacher Education in the Slipstream," described how teacher educators might support new teachers to become active participants in efforts to resist and reverse inequity in public schools.

In July, **Toshalis**, along with the co-author of his book, *Understanding Youth: Adolescent Development for Educators*, consulted with 200 teachers, administrators, counselors, school psychologists, and social workers representing all of the public middle schools in the Austin Independent School District in Texas. They were invited to help the school officials use the theory/approaches in Toshalis' book in the middle schools' strategic planning process.

Additionally, **Tollefson** had two books published: *Volatile Knowing: Parents, Teachers, and the Censored Story of Accountability in America's Public Schools* and *Cultivating the Learner-Centered Classroom: From Theory to Practice*, co-authored with Monica K. Osborn.

Bob Bleicher, **Merilyn Buchanan**, and **Manuel Correia**, School of Education, continued their collaborative research on service-learning. Their work advocates that instructors who develop and teach service-learning courses pay attention to enhancing students' professional dispositions, also known as employability skills. Their current research focuses on three elements of teacher dispositions: self-efficacy, combined attitudes and beliefs which express confidence to do the job; commitment to valuing cultural and linguistic diversity; and the belief that all children can learn.



English. As part of Associate Professor of English **Bob Mayberry's** research for a cycle of short plays about the ill-fated Donner Party, trapped in the Sierra Nevada Mountains during the winter of 1846-47, he traveled this summer to the western slope of the Sierras to explore the rugged terrain and search for anecdotal evidence of where and in what condition the survivors arrived in California. Mayberry began in Sacramento at Sutter's Fort, where several members of the Donner Party were nursed back to health, then journeyed into the mining towns that sprang up along the emigrants' trails once gold was discovered in 1849, and spoke with curators at local historical associations.

Environmental Science and Resource Management

Sean Anderson, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Resource Management, continued his collaboration with a Stanford University researcher and researchers from Turkey's Kafkas University on their Kars-Iğdir Biodiversity Project—a biodiversity inventorying and conservation project in eastern Turkey. Their current work is centered in three wetland and riparian areas wherein they are bringing and teaching environmental stewardship and sustainable development to these bird-rich, but heavily disturbed regions of the borderlands of eastern Turkey.

Christopher Cogan, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Resource Management, recently published a book chapter titled: "Marine Classification, Mapping, and Biodiversity Analysis." Cogan developed the manuscript with the assistance of Thomas Noji, from the Ecosystem Processes Division of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The chapter explores ways to meet the growing demands for ecosystem-based approaches to marine resource management, and proposes methods for closer integration of existing data, classification systems, and biodiversity models. Such advances are urgently needed to create a framework for habitat-type mapping and marine management focused on sustainability.

History

Associate Professor of History **Rainer F. Buschmann's** book *Anthropology's Global Histories: The Ethnographic Frontier in German New Guinea, 1870-1935*, has been published. It is scheduled to appear this December. He worked on a book chapter on the Pacific Basin that will appear in a *Handbook of World History*. He presented two papers on the difficulty of studying the Pacific Ocean in a world historical context at an invited conference at the Huntington Library and at the Pacific Coastal Branch of the American Historical Association in Pasadena.

Marie Francois, Associate Professor of History, recently received six favorable reviews for a book she wrote titled *A Culture of Everyday Credit: Housekeeping, Pawnbroking, and Governance in Mexico City, 1750-1920*. In July, Francois delivered a presentation at the UCLA Latin American Institute's 2008 K-12 Teacher Summer Workshop about her research on housekeeping in Latin America during the 18th and 19th centuries. She also continued her research for a book she is writing that explores the history of paid and unpaid housework in Latin America.

Mathematics

Geoff Buhl, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, continued his research on string theory. String theory in physics attempts to unify the theory of gravity with quantum theory to form a grand unifying theory of the all the fundamental forces of physics. Two mathematical objects related to string theory are Mobius vertex algebras and quasimodules. In the past year, Buhl and colleague Gizem Karaali have modified a recursive mathematical algorithm to generate efficient descriptions for quasimodules. The results of this work appeared in two articles in the *Journal of Algebra*. Buhl also presented a talk at the International Conference on Vertex Operator Algebras and Related Areas at Illinois State University.

Jesse Elliott, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, delivered a presentation at the Fifth International Fez Conference on Commutative Algebra and Applications in Fez, Morocco, in June. His talk, entitled "Integer-valued polynomial rings and t-linked extensions," summarized his current research in commutative algebra, which is a branch of mathematics that investigates objects called "commutative rings" and "modules." Later in the summer, Elliott and Ivona Grzegorezyk, Professor of Mathematics at CSU Channel Islands, co-led a group of nine mathematics and business students through Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg. Elliott also had a paper, entitled "Ring structures on groups of arithmetic functions," published in the *Journal of Number Theory*.



Assistant Professor of Mathematics **Jorge Garcia** worked with Ana Meda from the National University of Mexico on mathematical finance, in particular on risk processes and stochastic equations. Their research will be published in a statistics journal. His paper on large deviations was published in the *Journal of Theoretical Probability* this July. His other paper on convergence of probabilistic integrals was accepted by the *Journal of Statistics and Probability*.

Kathryn Leonard, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, continued her work on two projects involving the mathematics of computer vision. The first project, finding appropriate mathematical models for two-dimensional shape, took her to the Max Planck Institute in Bonn, Germany. The second project, an effort to construct mathematical models for textures that are warpings of repeating textures (e.g., saggy wallpaper), involved several CSU Channel Islands undergraduates and one master's student through University 498, CSU Channel Islands undergraduate research program. In addition, the *Notices of the American Mathematical Society* accepted Leonard's article about her experiences leading an undergraduate research team in mathematics.



Mathematics

Ivona Grzegorzcyk, Professor of Mathematics, spent her sabbatical in Europe, mostly in Spain, France and Italy, where she collaborated on various projects in Algebraic Geometry and Mathematical Art, which culminated in three research papers. She has delivered several lectures, including a presentation on educational games developed by CSU Channel Islands students and the EGRIS Institute.

Cindy Wyels, Associate Professor of Mathematics, and Maggy Tomova from the University of Iowa directed the CSU Channel Islands Mathematics REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates). Five undergraduates from CSU Channel Islands, Bakersfield College, and Harvard University discovered new results in radio labeling—an area of graph labeling with applications to assigning radio frequencies. The students are currently preparing their work for potential publication and will be presenting at conferences this fall.

Nursing

Laura Newton, Assistant Professor of Nursing, attended Boot Camp for Profs 2008, a faculty development conference in Leadville, Colo. The week-long conference assisted Newton, a new faculty member, in her return to academia after working at the National Institutes of Health for nearly 20 years.



Performing Arts

Luda Popenhagen, Associate Professor of Performing Arts, read a chapter of her book, *Lithuanian Migrants in Australia*, a work-in-progress, at the Dainava Cultural Centre, Sydney. Popenhagen was a guest lecturer at the University of California Los Angeles Humanities Center. Her presentations were titled “Authors on Ice” and “Displaced Persons.” In July during the Rubicon International Theatre Festival in Ventura, Popenhagen taught master classes in acting with other master teachers from California State University Northridge and Juilliard, NYC. She was one of the directors for the International Showcase and the official closing of the festival.

Physics

Physics Professor **Geoff Dougherty** completed work with a colleague in Kuwait, Mike Johnson. They proposed two novel metrics for assessing scoliosis, the curvature of the spine that affects some teenagers. He also continued research with CSU Channel Islands graduate student Dantha Manikka-Baduge on texture descriptors. The results of both research projects will be presented at an upcoming conference—SPIE Medical Imaging Conference, February 2009—and will be published in full in the *Proceedings of SPIE*. SPIE is an international society advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of optics.



Psychology

Harley Baker, Associate Professor of Psychology, continued his involvement in on-going research to support the largest high school career development program in the world, the ASVAB Career Exploration Program created by the U.S. Department of Defense. The program serves more than 750,000 students annually in more than 14,000 schools nationwide. Baker is the former manager of the ASVAB Program and continues to conduct research and development for it. This summer, he presented the most recent additions and updates to the program at an international conference held in Washington, D.C.

Kevin Volkan, Professor of Psychology, had an article published in the international journal *Medical Teacher* about the communication skills of pediatricians with the goal of trying to help them become better doctors. He is continuing to research pediatricians’ ability to communicate with their patients and the impact of this on patient health while he is on sabbatical this fall.

Sociology

Dennis Downey, Assistant Professor of Sociology, was recently appointed to the Advisory Board of the California Association of Human Relations Organizations. The appointment is a recognition of his research on human relations commissions (HRCs) throughout California over the past decade, and his ongoing research on the Orange County HRC. Downey’s broader research addresses social movements, and the strategies that activists and organizations use to promote social change.


Spanish

Terry Ballman, Professor of Spanish, in May took a group of 10 CSU Channel Islands students to study Spanish while living with families for three weeks in Cuernavaca, Mexico. In July, Ballman traveled to San Jose, Costa Rica to give a workshop at the annual meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. She also authored a chapter, “¿Por qué usan frases como ‘hacer clic’ y ‘el parking’ en español?” in the recently published volume *El español a través de la lingüística*. ◀



Lessons in Research

Pairing faculty and students on research projects



Scholarly and creative projects are the backbone of each faculty member's expertise. Between office hours, classes, and presentations during the summer months, they must find the time to hone and advance their work. It was this challenge of balancing research and instruction that helped create the University 498 course at CSU Channel Islands.

University 498 is an upper-division course organized specifically around faculty research projects where small groups of three to six students assist faculty with their research. The course is designed to benefit both the faculty members through the completion and publication of articles or creative projects, and the students by giving them valuable experience in actual research.

The course was first offered to undergraduate students during the spring 2008 semester. Faculty members interested in organizing a three-unit course around their research were asked to submit proposals and a committee accepted or denied proposals based on criteria that included how students would be incorporated into the project and the research insight students might gain from being involved in the project.

"CSU Channel Islands has embraced the teacher-scholar philosophy, a serious and sustained commitment to scholarship that complements and enriches teaching. Our faculty members are engaged in research that is disciplinary and interdisciplinary, applied and community-based, pedagogical and creative," explained Ashish Vaidya, Dean of the Faculty. "What makes University 498 unique is that it embodies the teacher-scholar model

“The work we did ignited their passion for inquiry. One of the students clearly realized she could go to graduate school,” Itkonen said. “Doing this work took away her fear.”

as faculty and undergraduate students collaborate on meaningful research projects that enhance student learning. Treating this concept as a “course” explicitly recognizes and rewards this core value.”

Tiina Itkonen, Assistant Professor of Education, was among the first eight faculty members granted an opportunity to instruct and use the University 498 course. Her project focused on the different ways autism and mental retardation are framed in the public policy arena and the outcomes those efforts produce. Other projects included research on the mathematics of random texture (Kathryn Leonard, Mathematics), exploring the comprehensive artist (Matthew Furmanski, Art), robotics and distributed intelligence (AJ Bieszczad, Computer Science), the history of human activities at Rancho Guadalupe (Colleen Delaney-Rivera, Anthropology), screening chemical extracts from insulin pathways (Nitika Parmar, Biology), synthesis of HIV reverse transcriptase inhibitors (Phil Hampton, Chemistry) and quantitative analysis of dolphin feeding habits (Blake Gillespie, Chemistry).

“It was unbelievable how much work we got done,” Itkonen said while thumbing through a 30-page paper she and three students were able to finish during the spring semester.

The paper, “Frames, Mobilization, and Policy Outcomes: Comparing Autism versus Mental Retardation Activism,” was presented by Itkonen and co-author Robert Ream, of the University of California Riverside, at the Annual Conference of the American Educational Research Association held in New York in March.

“Their work and enthusiasm for this project took it to the next level,” she said.

Itkonen recruited the three students for her University 498 course through recommendations from her colleagues. The students were Kristi Tereda, Raquel Torres, and Doug Whitesell. Tereda and Torres graduated in May 2008, and Whitesell is currently a senior. Each of their academic interests differed from each other and from Itkonen.

“Part of this project included an interdisciplinary analysis of why some people with disabilities are better represented than others at policy-making institutions,” Itkonen explained. “I had Raquel, Kristi, and Doug each choose a part of the project they were most interested in.”

The group met once a week to share their progress and to ask each other questions. Whitesell, a computer science and political science major, conducted his research using resources available on the Internet, and Itkonen said he took the project in a direction that she would not have been able to accomplish on her own. After reading an assigned book on internet activism, he contacted the author and acquired a tool that allowed him to analyze internet traffic patterns of the target advocacy groups. Torres, now pursuing a teaching credential, coded thousands of pages of congressional testimony to determine how Autism had been framed among advocacy groups and professionals. Tereda, also pursuing graduate school, researched the organizations or groups that represented the issues of autism and mental retardation.

The culmination of the group’s semester of work was the paper Itkonen presented, but the paper was not the only result that came from their research.

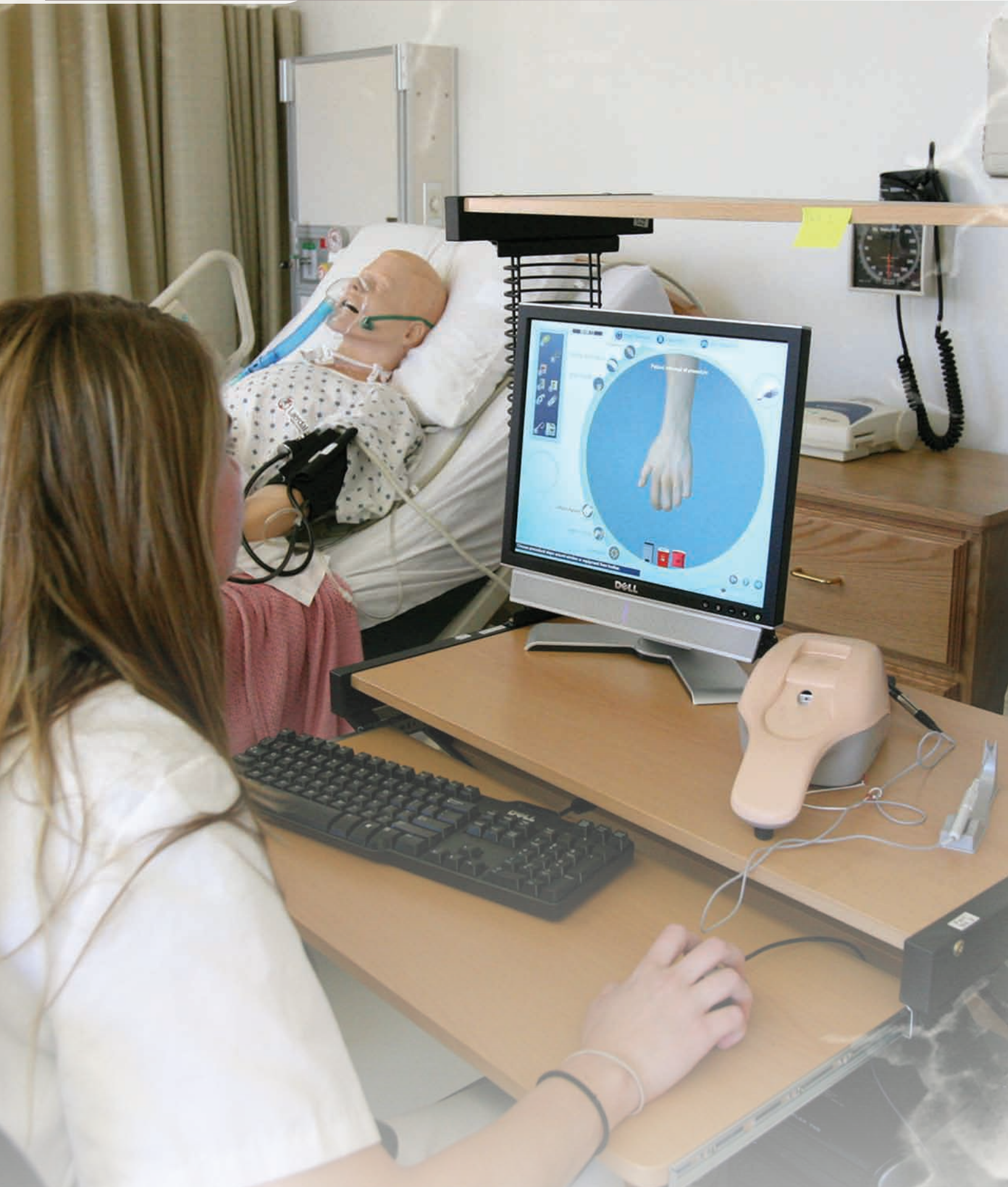
“The work we did ignited their passion for inquiry. One of the students clearly realized she could go to graduate school,” Itkonen said. “Doing this work took away her fear.”

The results Itkonen experienced were exactly what Vaidya had in mind when he proposed the idea for the University 498 course. At the end of the spring semester, he and an oversight committee reviewed both evaluations of the course from the students and faculty involved.

“The feedback we’ve received has been incredibly valuable,” Vaidya said. “The faculty report great success with their projects. Many have led to publications, conference presentations, and even additional grants. In order to sustain the level and quality of research, faculty would really like to be able to continue this work over the entire academic year. Our goal is to be able to institutionalize this program for as many faculty as would like to take advantage of this opportunity.”

In the coming months Vaidya and members of the University 498 Review Committee will evaluate proposals from faculty members for projects for the spring 2009 offering of University 498.

“University 498 is a brilliant concept,” Itkonen said. “Research becomes really fascinating when you get to do it first hand, instead of just reading about it. The students and I learned from each other and were improved by each other’s work.” ◀



Simulated Experience

Nursing students prepare for the real world



There's a mannequin propped up in an adjustable hospital bed and next to him two students are preparing to administer an intravenous catheter. The mannequin—a dynamic male human simulator—blinks but otherwise is still. The students respond to prompts on a computer screen displaying an image of a hand. Then one of the students gently touches a beige colored square on a box that is connected to the computer.

“That’s the one,” she says as she feels the same veins in the beige square that she sees on the computer screen. While keeping her fingers on the vein she is feeling, she grasps what looks like a long needle and slowly inserts it into where she feels the vein. Her every move is shown on the computer screen and when the catheter is in place, the exercise is complete. She has successfully prepared her on-screen patient for his IV.

In less than a minute, the two students switch places and the other is ready to practice the same procedure, but this time the data of the patient—the gender, the age, the physical condition—is changed, providing a new challenge.

Soon these students and the others in the room who are practicing the same on-screen IV catheterization will perform this procedure on the mannequins occupying the five-bed room.

At first glance, observing the catheterization exercises detailed above, one would assume it's all taking place in a real hospital. However, these exercises are all happening in the Nursing Simulation Laboratory at California State University Channel Islands, which at first glance looks like a hospital wing but with human simulators in place of real patients.

This fall the University opened its state-of-the-art, 3,300-square foot Nursing Simulation Laboratory—or “Nursing Sim Lab.” With its dynamic human simulators—two adult males and one baby, which cost about \$30,000 each, along with seven human simulators of lesser fidelity (five adults and two children)—the Nursing Sim Lab serves as a hands-on learning tool for the 103 students now enrolled in the University's Nursing Program.

CSU Channel Islands is the only public university between Bakersfield and Los Angeles to offer a bachelor of science degree in nursing. The BSN degree offers the nursing graduates more career and practice options and is required to become a public health nurse in California, and for entry into a master's or doctoral nursing program.

“One of the immediate benefits our students experienced within the first few days the Nursing Sim

Lab opened was logistical. They now have an opportunity to practice procedures without time constraints,” explained Karen Jensen, Director of the Nursing Program.

Jensen's citation of the lab's immediate benefits comes from the challenges nursing students faced during the last year. CSU Channel Islands accepted its first 66 nursing students in fall 2007, but at that time the University hadn't completed its \$1.97 million Nursing Sim Lab. While construction was underway, CSU Channel Islands students travelled to Moorpark Community College, sharing time and space with the Moorpark students in Moorpark's nursing sim lab.

“The best part of having the Nursing Simulation Lab on campus is that we have state-of-the-art equipment so close to us. Having such easy access to a high tech laboratory is an awesome opportunity,” said Elizabeth Rodriguez, a CSU Channel Islands junior enrolled in the Nursing Program. “I want to be the kind of nurse that is able to prioritize quickly and is ready for anything at any given moment.”

The benefits of the Nursing Sim Lab reach far beyond the logistical variety. Students will have multiple opportunities to learn from scenarios they may only experience a handful of times during their hospital clinical hours. The dynamic human simulators in the lab can be programmed to have human-like reactions—coughing, fever, and elevated heart rates—simulating specific situations.

“Twenty-five percent of a student's clinical experience can come from simulations,” Jensen said. “One of the areas our students will greatly benefit from in our lab will be our pediatric simulations.”

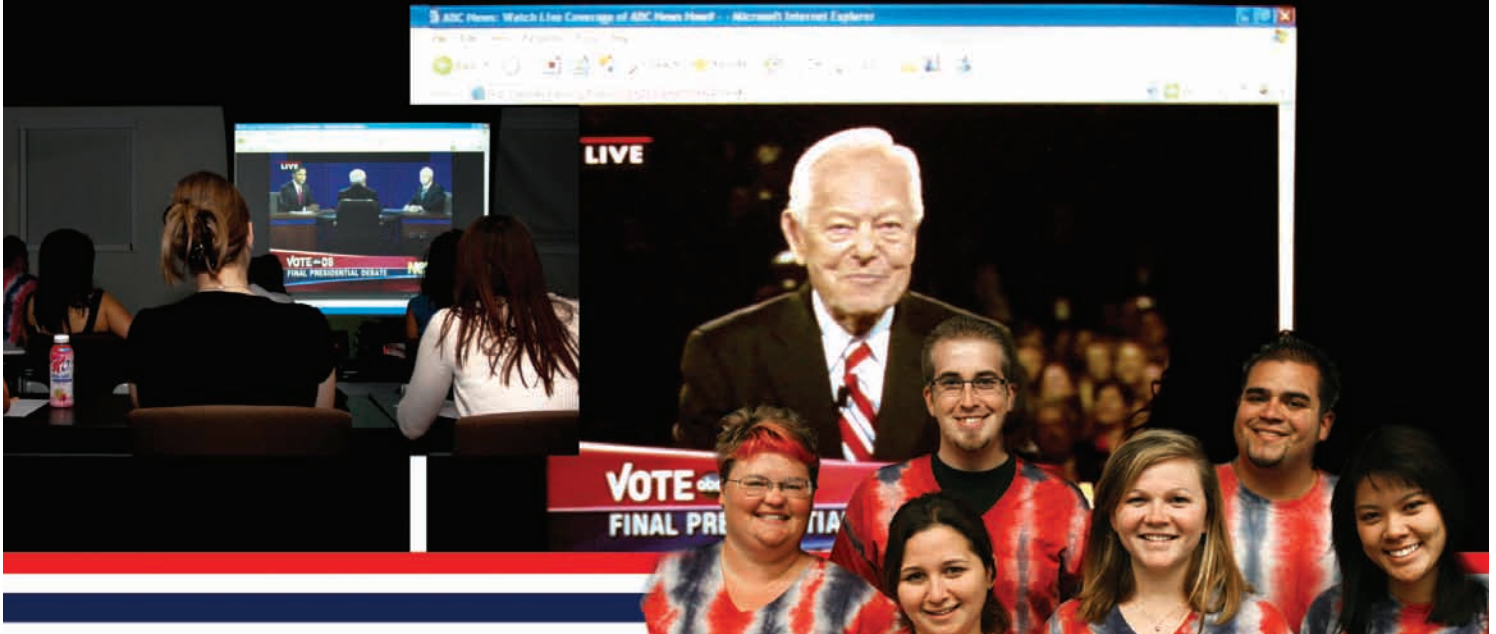
The CSU Channel Islands Nursing Sim Lab has one dynamic-baby simulator and a windowed room within the walls of the lab that can be used as a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) for simulations. Jensen explains that actual clinical experience in Pediatrics is one of the most difficult for nursing students in the Ventura County region to encounter. Because of the importance of pediatric experience, Jensen said in the coming year the Nursing Program will purchase another dynamic baby simulator as well as a birthing simulator.

NICU scenarios are just some of the thousands of simulations nursing instructors can replicate in the Sim Lab. The human simulators can be programmed for students to practice situations from respiratory distress to wound care. Additionally, when students practice simulations their actions and words are being recorded so after the exercise they can watch their work and learn from the critiques and evaluations of the instructors.

“The video debriefing is a great way to show students exactly what they are doing right and where they can improve,” Jensen said. “The work with simulators gives students exposure to many different situations, but it is not a substitute for interpersonal communication. The Nursing Sim Lab is a place for students to practice and master the skills they will use every day in their careers.” ◀



The dynamic human simulators in the lab can be programmed to have human-like reactions—coughing, fever, and elevated heart rates—simulating specific situations.



Top: Students watch the final Presidential Debate at an event hosted by the Political Action Club. Following the debate, the club members moderated a discussion about the candidates. Right: Some of the members of the CSU Channel Islands Political Action Club are (back row from left to right) Gail Humphries, Eric Eichstaedt, Brian Hernandez, and (front row from left to right) Amy Gorman, Sarah Houser, and Angel Chitnatham.

Partisan Views Welcome

Political Action Club Takes Platform of Awareness, Understanding

“The two things mom said not to talk about at the Thanksgiving dinner table are politics and religion,” said Amy Gorman, a CSU Channel Islands Senior. “Well, we’re trying to change that.”

The change Gorman refers to is about bringing politics and policy into mainstream student culture at the campus through the presence of the Political Action Club (PAC).

It all began a few weeks into the fall semester when Gorman and Sarah Houser, both political science majors, were talking about their interest in politics and public policy and how to get some political dialog going on campus. The PAC, which Houser was involved with, had been established in 2007, but had gone dormant after most of its members graduated in May 2008.

“I was excited when Amy and Sarah decided to get the club up and running again,” said Andrea Grove, Associate Professor of Political Science and the PAC advisor. “It says a lot about our students that they

wanted to create a club for students of all political leanings –college is a great time for trying to figure out just what it is you believe about politics!”

In a matter of days, the PAC was up and running with a revised mission statement and a set of objectives for the 2008-2009 year. Gorman took a leadership role as PAC president.

“Sarah and I said we can make something really amazing out of this,” Gorman said. “Our first idea was to somehow get the issues onto everyone’s doorstep, so to speak.”

The five-member PAC cabinet quickly agreed the best way to reach their fellow students was through Facebook, a social media networking tool, and almost immediately the club grew from its cabinet of five members to 38 members.

Gorman and the PAC’s four other cabinet members sought ways to bring the issues to club members and fellow students. The PAC hosted a screening and discussion of the

final Presidential Debate as its first big event, in conjunction with two earlier debate screenings at Ventura College and California Lutheran University. About 40 students participated and they discussed the candidates’ responses and rhetoric. The success of the PAC’s debate event fueled the possibility of hosting a once a month discussion on a single political topic the members of the PAC choose.

Gorman acknowledged that university campuses historically lean to the left on political issues, but is quick to point out that all views are welcomed and discussed. She said that personally she’s a registered Democrat, but that the Club’s vice president is a Republican.

“If you want to really understand an issue you have to see it and hear it from all sides,” Gorman said. “And that’s what we’re doing this for. We’re giving anyone who’s interested an opportunity to become more politically aware of what’s going on around them.” ◀



Renowned Economist Sung Won Sohn Joins MVS School Faculty

The White House and California State University Channel Islands have something in common; both institutions now appear in Dr. Sung Won Sohn's biography. Sohn recently joined the University as the Endowed Professor for the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics.

Sohn, a world-renowned economist, quietly arrived at the University with two distinct objectives: one, to teach again and to learn from his students; and two, to use his 33-year career in the corporate banking sector to bring recognition to the MVS School and the University.

"Young people have stimulating and fascinating ideas about our changing world. Getting back to education has been part of my design all along," explained Sohn. "I want to help put Channel Islands on the map."

While he and his students discuss Harvard Business School case studies in the classroom, Sohn is getting the University's name into the mainstream, though the vehicle that's driving attention his way—the recent economic meltdown and \$700B bailout—was not part of his design for publicity. Sohn's time as Chief Economic Officer and Executive Vice President of Wells Fargo Banks and as Chief Executive Officer of Hanmi Financial Corporation have kept him on the short list for media outlets worldwide, and has him fielding calls from national and international

media on a near daily basis.

"The Smith School is delighted that Sung Won Sohn is on our faculty. In addition to being a friendly and professional colleague, he brings great exposure to the Smith School and our programs," said William P. Cordeiro, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the MVS School.





Sung Won Sohn, Endowed Professor for the MVS School, gives a presentation about America's economic crisis to an audience of more than 600. At left, Sohn is shown with University President Richard R. Rush, left, and William P. Cordeiro, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the MVS School.



Sohn's connection to CSU Channel Islands is through University President Richard R. Rush and dates back long before the University opened in 2002. Sohn met Rush while Rush was serving as President of Minnesota State University, Mankato. At that time, Sohn was working for Wells Fargo Banks.

Sohn stayed with Wells Fargo Banks for years. He traveled widely—from Tierra del Fuego to Tibet—setting limits for his firm's credit

exposure in many countries.

"It took me 31 years to realize they weren't going to let me run Wells Fargo," Sohn said jokingly. Sohn had spent years with the Minnesota-based Northwest Corporation, the firm that purchased and assumed the Wells Fargo name in 1998. Shortly after leaving Wells Fargo in 2005, Sohn became the Chief Executive Officer of the Hanmi Financial Corporation, a Los Angeles-based bank with more than \$4 billion in assets. He retired from Hanmi in 2007.

Long before Sohn met Rush or was at the helm of Hanmi, he was a tenured faculty member in the Pennsylvania State University system. It was from there that he was chosen to serve on the President's Council of Economic Advisors in the White House during the Nixon-Ford Administration.

Once in Washington, D.C., Sohn brought with him a vast knowledge of theoretical economics, having earned his doctorate in Economics at the University of Pittsburgh, but his work in the White House dealt with the real world. That's one of the reasons why it is important for him to teach his CSU Channel Islands students by using examples and situations from the real world.

"We should be teaching economic theory and practice. That's why I use the Harvard case studies in my class," Sohn explained. "My role is like that of a conductor of an orchestra. I lead the discussion but the idea is to learn from each other."

Sohn teaches the Economics of Entrepreneurship this semester. In Spring 2009 he will teach a special course that will allow undergraduate students to participate in his economic research. ◀C





The Future of Music Could

From left: Budd Carr, Ken Caillat, Dann Bowley, and Mark Hartley are working with CSU Channel Islands to establish the Future of Music Program.

There are many lessons that can be learned from the entertainment industry, the first—and perhaps most widely known—being not everyone ends up a finalist on American Idol. However, not making the cut on American Idol doesn't spell the end of one's career in entertainment. California State University Channel Islands will soon offer its students—and American Idol runners up—an opportunity to learn about the music business and parlay that knowledge into an entertainment industry career.

Earlier this year, California State University Chancellor Charles Reed announced an Entertainment Industry Initiative to create industry partnerships that could prepare students better for careers in the entertainment industry. The initiative addresses the need for a skilled workforce for the entertainment

industry of the future. Academic Affairs and University Advancement officials at CSU Channel Islands recognized that need and responded with the concept of the Future of Music Program.

Prior to the announcement of the CSU Entertainment Industry Initiative, CSU Channel Islands had already been in discussion with music industry veteran Mark Hartley regarding University facilities. The connection with Hartley gave the University an opportunity to bring in other interested entertainment industry executives and celebrities to help establish the academic program at CSU Channel Islands that could strengthen the entertainment industry workforce.

"I am delighted to help make a connection between the music and media community and CSU Channel Islands. This program will educate the

future generations of music industry professionals who will be instrumental to the integration of music entertainment and society," Hartley said. "Technology is advancing at incredible speed and the innovators of the future will have a firm knowledge of new media and all of its potential." Hartley manages country stars Vince Gill and LeAnn Rimes and blues star Robert Cray. He also owns the Watermark Restaurant in Ventura.

Hartley's endorsement brought several other members of the entertainment industry to the table to form an advisory committee including Dann Bowley, a former Sony executive; Victor Rodriguez, Music Director, THQ; Steve Schnur, music executive, Electronic Arts; Gary Haber, Haber Corporation; Budd Carr, Music Producer of several Hollywood blockbusters; and Ken Caillat, music industry veteran. They unanimously



“This program will educate the future generations of music industry professionals who will be instrumental to the integration of music entertainment and society.”

- Mark Hartley

Soon Be Found Here

supported the possibility of an academic program centered on the music and entertainment industry. Since September, with their guidance, the Future of Music program has begun to take shape.

“We are still in the very early planning stages of this exciting new program. In the coming months the advisors Mark has brought in and CSU Channel Islands faculty members will work on the details,” said Dawn Neuman, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at CSU Channel Islands.

Hartley and the advisory committee will be working with Jack Reilly, Chair of the Art program and Professor of Art; Jacquelyn Kilpatrick, Chair of the English program and Professor of English; and William P. Cordeiro, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the Martin V. Smith School of

Business & Economics to create a program of study that encompasses all aspects of the music industry. Specifically, the program will focus on the areas of art, business, and science — hosting a curriculum that supports the University mission to be interdisciplinary and experiential, student focused, and global and multicultural in its perspectives.

It has not yet been determined whether the Future of Music will be a certificate program or will be offered as an academic minor. The intent of the program is to produce students with the performance, business, and technology skills needed to prepare them for entrance into the music marketplace. These courses will be taught by those who have excelled in their craft in the music industry along with CSU Channel Islands faculty.

In addition to developing the academic side of the program, funding must be secured to make the program a reality. Julia Wilson, Vice President for University Advancement at CSU Channel Islands, said the University is seeking an initial \$300,000 to design and create the curriculum. Once the program is established, the University will seek additional funding to endow the program and to sustain the program's operations as well as to provide scholarship opportunities for talented students.

A firm timeline has not been established for the program, but officials from both the Academic Affairs and University Advancement divisions hope to move the program forward in the coming months with the possibility of offering it to students as early as 2010. ◀

President's Dinner

A HOMECOMING TO REMEMBER



Rush and Kearney



A return to campus and an evening filled by elegance and eloquence marked the Ninth-Annual CSU Channel Islands President's Dinner and made the event true to its theme —“A Homecoming Celebration.”

The John Spoor Broome Library provided the setting for more than 370 guests dressed in their shimmering metallic finery to mingle with students dressed as literary and pop-culture characters, explore and dine within the glass, stainless steel, and concrete walls of the Library's Reading Room, and dance late into the evening on the Library's Plaza next to the reflecting pool.

Surrounded by guests seated at clear glass tables, University President Richard R. Rush introduced William J. Kearney as the winner of the 2008 California State University Channel Islands Robert J. Lagomarsino Award.

The award, named in honor of the Honorable Robert J. Lagomarsino, a former United States congressman

and a longtime supporter of the University, is presented to an individual who has contributed to and supported California State University Channel Islands.

Kearney's involvement with the University began in 1999 when he and his wife Elise became founding members of the President's Circle. Currently, Kearney is Chairman of the University's Foundation Board of Directors and has served on the Board since 2003. He is the First Vice President of Private Wealth Management at Merrill Lynch in Oxnard.

“This award is a miniature of the larger award our community received with this campus. I'm sure that our University has exceeded everyone's expectations—we should all be extremely thrilled,” Kearney said after accepting the Award.

The evening's five-star dinner menu was a prelude for the sweet sounds and dancing beat provided by the Platinum Groove band. Additionally, Van Gundy Jewelers, one of the event's sponsors, donated a Rolex watch as a raffle prize, and the winner was Marni Brook of Santa Barbara. The sumptuous cuisine, excellent entertainment, and chic decorations are all part of what makes the CSU Channel Islands President's Dinner the premier fund-raising event of the year. ◀



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Regional Medical Center and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital





Competition at its Finest

Dolphin Classic Golf Tournament supports future Athletics

A rain of 360 golf balls dropped from a helicopter hovering over the driving range at Spanish Hills Country Club was the beginning of a day of competition at the 2008 Dolphin Classic Golf Tournament. Following the exciting ball drop won by Kevin Trumbo of Simi Valley, exactly 105 golfers took to the course to compete in this year's tournament.

The Dolphin Classic Golf Tournament is now in its third year and to date has netted more than \$150,000 for the future of athletics at CSU Channel Islands.

With the spotlight of the tournament on Athletics, members of CSU Channel Islands Sailing—the University's first competitive club

sport team—attended the event and showcased their two team dinghies, 13-foot long boats. CSU Channel Islands Sailing regularly competes against well-known universities such as the University of Southern California, the University of California Los Angeles, and Stanford University in regattas governed by the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association of North America.

There were two scoring formats for the event. The winners of the Dolphin Cup Championship flight were: Steve Thomas, Sr., Chris Wood, Brock Palmer, and Steve Thomas, Jr. Winners of the Callaway flight were: Jay McEntire, Sam Groshart, Sam Shipka, and Brian Le Cesne. Following the competition, there

were silent and live auctions of items donated by several individuals and businesses.

The 2008 Dolphin Classic Golf Tournament was chaired by CSU Channel Islands Foundation Board Member Ruby Oertle, Mel Sheeler, and Gary Trumbo.

This event was supported by several tournament sponsors including Spanish Hills Surgery Center, *Ventura County Star*, Four Seasons Cleaners, Canteen of Coastal California, Inc., Gold Coast Broadcasting, Steve Thomas BMW, Sheeler Moving and Storage, Southern California Edison, University Marelich Mechanical, Encompass Multimedia, Omega Solutions in Healthcare, Xpress Print & Copy, and Aspen Helicopters, Inc. ◀C



California State University Channel Islands

be
the

your **U** in your University

www.csuci.edu/BeTheU



University announces Community Call to Excellence

More than 300 business people attended the Mega Mixer that was held at the John Spoor Broome Library on Oct. 16. The University-hosted event was the kick-off of the Be the **U** in your **U**niversity, a Community Call to Excellence. The Community Call to Excellence focuses on six areas in which the University seeks to raise funds, and they are: Nursing, Applied Research, Performing Arts Center Planning, Branding/Messaging, Athletics, and Alumni & Friends Association.



Through community involvement and working with 10 of the local chambers of commerce, the Division of University Advancement intends to raise funds through this initiative. The kick-off event started a ripple of awareness about the University that University Advancement staff say will inspire community members to give and proudly declare, "I am the University."

Raising funds through supporters is the next step in making the University's projects with the greatest benefit to the community a reality. To learn more about how to Be the **U** in your **U**niversity, visit www.csuci.edu and click the banner at the top of the home Web page. ◀



Nearly every week something University-related is happening on or off the campus. From August to October here's a glance at a few Foundation activities.



Top left: Foundation Board Chair William Kearney, right, and Kimberly Reid take a moment to chat during a presentation by Jacqueline Berger entitled "Bringing Dynamic Women from History to Life" held at Kearney's home in August. This was a President's Circle lecture event.



Top right: Steve Blois, Chair of the Landscape and Courtyard Restoration Committee, unveils a plaque at the September dedication ceremony of the Bell Tower East Courtyard. The efforts of those who worked to complete the restoration of the courtyard were praised by University President Richard R. Rush, including John Broome Jr., right, and Doug Bungert, center.



Middle: Members of the University Foundation's President's Circle were introduced to the President's Scholars at an event in September. University President Richard R. Rush, left, stands with the following President's Scholars: Back Row from left -Jacob Jones, Brad Jashinsky, Brandon Dowling, and Jennifer Bonsangue; Front row from left-Danika Patrick, Lamoura Aguilar, Kimberly Tacke, and Ryanne Cox. Professor Dennis Muraoka is at right. Not pictured is Melody Mattingly.



Bottom left and bottom right: Several members of the University Foundation's President's Circle had an opportunity to reenact a student-facilitated exercise highlighting the objectives of a CSU Channel Islands-signature course, "The Zoo Class" in October. Professor Dennis Muraoka and Richard Block, CEO of the Santa Barbara Zoo, provided the President's Circle members an insider's view on the Santa Barbara Zoo and how they use the it as an interdisciplinary teaching tool for lessons in business and economics to communication and marketing.

Choosing to Stay

Alumni cite environment and working with students as motivation

It has been said that “the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.” Though this idiomatic proverb was meant for describing the likeness of a child to his or her parents, it can also be used to describe the career choices of several California State University Channel Islands graduates who have returned to their alma mater as employees.

There are 42 CSU Channel Islands alumni working within the University’s four divisions—Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Finance & Administration, and University Advancement—and the Office of the President. All are full-time employees with the exception of eight Teaching Associates in Academic Affairs. The division that has hired the most alumni for full-time positions is Student Affairs with 11 graduates on staff.

Among those 11 are Amy (Woodmansee) Powell, Christine Thompson, and Steven Cosgrove. Although they all work within the Division of Student Affairs, their roles all differ from each other. Powell is an Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs; Thompson serves as the Support Coordinator for Associated Students, Inc.; and Cosgrove is an Admissions Evaluation Specialist.

“I was motivated to become a professional at CSU Channel Islands after I graduated in 2007 because the environment on the campus fits well with my values and motives. I enjoyed being a student leader on campus and was eager to continue my work with students at such a student-centered university,” Powell (’07 Psychology) explained.

Powell’s motivations ring true with her colleagues’ sentiments. Thompson (’07 Business) cites the students as one of the many things that inspire her at CSU Channel Islands, and Cosgrove (’07 Business) says a large part of his job is giving back by being able to relate with students, as he is a recent grad.



From left, top row: Amy Spandrio (’05 ESRM), Meredith Husk (’08 Studio Art), Vanessa Mendoza (’08 Psychology); From left, second row: Russell Winans (’07 History), Yovani Lopez (’08 Sociology), Steven Cosgrove (’07 Business); Inset from left: Amy Powell (’07 Psychology), Christine Thompson (’07 Business), Kirsten Moss-Frye (’02 Sociology, CSUN@CI).

Tania Garcia, Director of Alumni Relations, said she was aware that graduates were working at the University, but is thrilled to learn that alumni are employed in all divisions and the Office of the President.

“It’s great to know we have alumni working in so many areas on campus,” Garcia said. “Everywhere there is that touch of ‘CI’ spirit projected by our alumni that inspires our students and shows the professionalism and dedication of our graduates.”

Including the 41 graduates who are employed at CSU Channel Islands, the University has conferred 2,146 degrees. About one quarter of those who have graduated are members of the Alumni & Friends Association. Powell, Thompson, and Cosgrove are all members of the AFA. ◀

Alumni and where they work

Student Affairs

Steven Cosgrove ’07 Business
Sarah Hawkins ’04 Liberal Studies
Meredith Husk ’08 Studio Art
Yovani Lopez ’08 Sociology
Lori Macdonald ’05 Liberal Studies
Vanessa Mendoza ’08 Psychology
Kirsten Moss-Frye ’02 Sociology (CSUN@CI)
Amy Spandrio ’05 Environmental Science and Resource Management
Christine Thompson ’07 Business
Russell Winans ’07 History
Amy (Woodmansee) Powell ’07 Psychology

Finance & Administration

Valerie Patscheck ’05 Liberal Studies
Ilene Soto ’07 Business
Brianna (Butterfield) Keighley* ’08 Liberal Studies

Marysia Wancewicz ’08 Business
Peter Scamardo ’07 Computer Science
Kristin Calabrese ’08 Psychology
Michael Ferguson ’07 Computer Science
Christopher Murphy ’07 Molecular and Cellular Biology
Ryan Garcia ’06 Art

Academic Affairs

Effie Karacali ’08 Liberal Studies
Donna Vea ’04 Liberal Studies
Kayla Metherell* ’08 Business
Jerilee Petralba ’04 Liberal Studies
David Bennett* ’07 Mathematics
Lorrene Black* ’08 Mathematics
Jonathan Detgen* ’08 Mathematics
Eric Embree* ’07 Mathematics and Computer Science
Sadie Embree* ’07 Mathematics

David Mayorga* ’05 Mathematics
James McDonough* ’08 Mathematics
James Sears* ’04 Mathematics
Ben Hipple ’06 Computer Science
Melissa VandeBurgt ’05 Studio Art and Art History
Christopher Hoffmann ’08 Political Science
Kaela Cordova ’07 Art
Vincent Barraza* ’07 Art

University Advancement

Tom Froelich ’05 Business
Nancy Covarrubias Gill ’05 Liberal Studies
Lupita Gutierrez ’05 Art

Office of the President

Elizabeth (Velasco) Rubalcava ’07 English
Tia Clarke ’05 Psychology (CSUN@CI)

An * denotes a temporary, consultant, or teaching associate employment status.

This list of CSU Channel Islands alumni employed at the University was generated on a voluntary basis from email and phone requests directed to campus area coordinators and directors.

Get to know Cassandra Weir '05



Cassandra Weir is shown working in the field for AECOM Environment.

Cassandra Weir studied environmental science and resource management at CSU Channel Islands. She graduated in 2005, earning her degree in ESRM with a minor in biology. As a Ventura native, she chose to stay local after graduation and join the workforce in Ventura County. CSU Channel Islands's Alumni Relations is pleased to introduce Cassandra Weir.

What do you do?

I am currently working for AECOM Environment in Camarillo. I work on a variety of projects including conducting site assessment at commercial and industrial properties, soil/groundwater monitoring programs, permit applications for a variety of clients, and project management.

Why CSU Channel Islands?

I decided to stay local. I was part of the inaugural group of students during the first year [2002] when only transfer students were able to apply. I liked the University's location because I could save money

by staying at home and commuting to campus. I was attending Ventura College and had decided to become a teacher, but when I was looking at majors I thought I would go for something more specific rather than a liberal studies degree. The Environmental Science and Resource Management Program was a natural direction for me as I like sciences, the outdoors, and an intellectual connection was a great way to combine the two. I was one of the first nine students to graduate from the ESRM Program.

How has your degree helped?

I most definitely could not have the job I have today without my degree. I realize that without my degree many jobs are not even available.

What was your most positive CI experience?

While at Channel Islands I participated in Student Government, and Gamma Beta Phi. This gave me a hands-on learning experience about working with others

(preparation for work!) and an opportunity to volunteer my time helping others. I am glad I was able to extend volunteer time to organizations, which I continued after graduation—I volunteered helping communities/orphanages in Cambodia during summer 2006. I enjoyed the people who work at CSU Channel Islands—the professors and many others really, really made my time there great! Professors Don Rodriguez and Simone Aloisio, and Dr. Sawyer, Vice President for Student Affairs, are all such positive people they made my time at CI even better! They are a great group of people to work with...maybe when/if I get my PhD I'd love to teach with them!

Anything else?

I have continued to do volunteer work when opportunities arise. For the past two years I have participated in the ALS Walk in Ventura. For several seasons I have played on a city softball league in Ventura - teamwork! ◀



Huge turnout for A&FA Dodger Night

The largest turnout on record of alumni, faculty, staff, and students participated in the fifth annual Alumni & Friends Dodger Night. Exactly 120 members of the Alumni & Friends Association watched the Los Angeles Dodgers win 10-7 over the San Francisco Giants. Additional Alumni & Friends Association activities are planned for 2009. Learn more by visiting the A&FA Web site www.csuci.edu/alumni.

Alumni Updates

Engagement

Vanessa Perez ('05 History) has recently become engaged to Michael Contreras. The couple met in 2005 and an August 2009 wedding in Oxnard is planned.

Marriage

Jennifer Newhard ('07 Psychology) married Hugh Davidson in October 2007 at a ceremony in Camarillo. Newhard is pursuing her master's degree in Clinical Psychology at California Lutheran University.

Melissa McCoy ('08 MS/MBA) married Armando Raymond (Ray) Arvizu in April 2008 at a ceremony in Malibu. McCoy currently works at Invitrogen in Camarillo.

Education

Eva Guo ('08 Chemistry) has started the master of science program for Environmental and Occupational Safety at California State University Northridge.

Sidney Pehrson ('08 Biology Chemistry) is currently enrolled at CSU Channel Islands in the Biotechnology graduate program.

Sora Yoon ('07 Chemistry) has started the Biotechnology graduate program at CSU Channel Islands.

Career

Sean Worthington ('06 Business) has been named regional private banker for the Wells Fargo Oxnard banking store at 460 East Esplanade Drive and the Port Hueneme banking store at 533 West Channel Islands Boulevard. As a regional private banker, Worthington will provide customized banking, investment and financial planning solutions to Wells Fargo customers through two banking offices in the region.

Jesus Estrada ('05 Art) is a senior producer at Ch. 21 in Santa Barbara. He acquires, creates, and distributes television media content to 68,000 homes in Santa Barbara County. His duties include creating on-air graphics and promos as well as directing, editing, and shooting various shows for Ch.21 in the studio and in the field.

Alumni mentorship event continues

On Thursday, Dec. 4 the Alumni & Friends Association hosted an intimate mentorship and networking night for alumni and students. This event provides young professionals and students the opportunity to learn about networking, leadership, and civic engagement from Ventura County leaders. Dan Anderson, Senior Vice President & Wealth Managing Director, Wells Fargo Bank; Sandra Walker, Director of Operations, Camarillo Chamber of Commerce; and Pedro Chavez, Campaign Division Director, United Way of Ventura County were the special guests. After the panelists' discussions, graduates and students were paired one-on-one with a professional within their field. All attendees also participated in the Business & Technology Partnership Holiday Mixer that evening.

For more information, contact Tania Garcia, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, ext. 8952 or tania.garcia@csuci.edu.

Ask Me . . .

"There Are No Stupid Questions"



"There are no stupid questions." Those very serious words from University President Richard R. Rush are delivered directly to students at orientation every year. This fall, weeks after orientation, the semester began and the President's words continued to echo loud and clear. Students asked 743 questions during the two-day "Ask Me" campaign, and with help from dozens of campus staff and student volunteers, every question was answered. Here's what a few students needed to know...



Leah Fletchall, junior
Question: "How do I get to Aliso Hall?"
Answer: Aliso Hall is exactly opposite the Broome Library at the other end of the University Mall. If you walk along Los Angeles Avenue to its intersection with Ventura Road, Aliso is the newer building to the left of the Dolphin Fountain.



Kevin Byrne, freshman
Question: "Where IS Manzanita 1149?"
Answer: This is tricky because the entrance for the classroom isn't inside Manzanita Hall. Go around the left side of the building and turn right, and you'll see room 1149.



Nichole Smith, junior
Question: "Where's the Cashier's Office?"
Answer: It's located in Sage Hall. Sage Hall is the first building on the right side of University Drive when you enter campus from Lewis Road.

Calendar of Events

For a complete list of University events, visit www.csuci.edu.

2009

January 29 - President's Circle — Ted Lucas presents "Exciting New Developments in Music Technology"

February 12 - A Celebration of Charles Darwin

March 9 - Ventura County Star Spelling Bee Contest

April 11 - Discover CI

April 15-16 - Grad Fest & Career Fair

May 1 - Honors Convocation

May 16 - CSU Channel Islands Commencement



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