

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

Current



John Spoor Broome Library
An intersection of tradition and innovation

Spring 2008 • Vol. 12 No. 1

President's Message

An International Perspective and Multicultural Experience

Each passing semester brings growth to CSUCI. There are the physical changes, like breaking ground for the new Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making and the completion of the John Spoor Broome Library, and there are developments that assist the University in carrying forward its mission.

During the fall semester Cal State Channel Islands was represented on a trip to China organized by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. I, along with several other university presidents, chancellors, and provosts from across the nation, visited select Chinese universities where we engaged in discussions about the accreditation process and gained a better understanding of higher education in China.

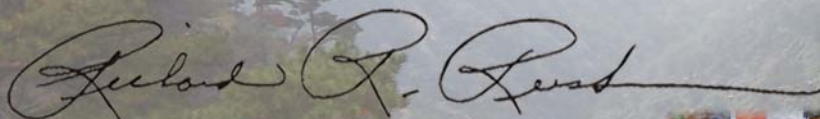
At Channel Islands, part of our mission includes graduating “students with multicultural and international perspectives.” Our faculty members and students have worked with universities from around the world to develop that portion of the University’s mission through the Center for International Affairs and Center for Multicultural Engagement. It is my hope that establishing relationships with the presidents of Huangshan and Anhui universities will provide CSUCI the opportunity to broaden and strengthen its exchange programs.

Among the highlights of the visit was experiencing an expo for Chinese students interested in studying abroad. More than 35,000 Chinese students attended this event and poured over row upon row of booths learning about the opportunities to study beyond their country’s borders. It was inspiring to see that many young people passionately in pursuit of their dreams and preparing for the future.

Visiting some of China’s famous landmarks also was part of the itinerary. Our group climbed Mount Huangshan (Yellow Mountain) and walked on the Great Wall. Each time I visited one of these places my appreciation was deepened for what our CSUCI students’ experience when they study abroad. Most recently our students traveled to South Africa and observed the post-apartheid landscape of that nation, an understanding difficult to glean from a reading passage.

In the coming months and years Cal State Channel Islands will continue to forge new relationships with universities worldwide. When we welcome students and faculty from foreign countries and when our students and faculty go abroad, the entire campus community benefits from the international perspectives and multicultural experiences they bring to the University.

Sincerely yours,



Richard R. Rush



President Richard R. Rush with President Huang Dekuan of Anhui University in Anhui Province, China





Ben Hipple

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One courtyard complete one ready and waiting

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Students of the Museum Class meet at MOCA for class.



A look at the artist's rendering of the Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making.



The "buffer zones" in the Library link the old with the new.

CSUCI Current is an official publication of California State University Channel Islands. It is published three times a year for alumni, the University community, and the community at large. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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Wilson new VP for University Advancement

Julia C. Wilson joined California State University Channel Islands as the Vice President for University Advancement in March. She comes to the University from the Grameen Foundation where she served as the foundation's Executive Director of Development for the West Coast region.

The Grameen Foundation works closely with the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh to replicate their model of microfinance in

countries all over the world. Professor Muhammad Yunus, founding board member of the Grameen Foundation, and the Grameen Bank were awarded the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to create economic and social development and assist large populations to break the cycle of poverty.

"Julia comes to CSUCI with a breadth of development experiences that have given her the opportunity to work in concert with a variety of individuals regionally, nationwide and internationally," said University President Richard R. Rush.

In her new role as Vice President for University Advancement, Wilson will oversee all development and fund-raising activities, and work with the University's Communications & Marketing unit to support those endeavors.

Prior to her work with the Grameen Foundation, Wilson was the Chief Executive Officer for CommNexus, a 250-company sponsored trade organization serving the telecommunications industry in San Diego. Wilson also served as the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at San Diego State University and as the Director of the Western Regional Office/Regional Campaign Director with Arizona State University.

Wilson holds a master of business degree with an emphasis in health administration from Arizona State University; a master of arts degree in Child Psychology from Arizona State University; and a bachelor of arts degree in Biology/Medical Technology from Anderson University.

Lucas to take on new role with University

At the end of this academic year, Ted Lucas will step aside as University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Lucas will not be retiring from the University, but rather will work for the Chancellor's Office on special projects.

Since coming to the University, Lucas has served as an Academic Planner, Chief of Staff, and in 2003 he was appointed to his current post of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. In each of his roles, Lucas provided leadership and oversight in the areas of academic planning, strategic planning, and most recently the University's Initial Accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

"I appreciate the friendship and the partnership that Ted and I have shared in the grand experiment of creating this new University," Rush said. "He is a trusted and valued colleague who will always have a strong place in the history of Channel Islands."

Prior to his work at Channel Islands, Lucas served as Director of the School of Music and Dance at San Jose State University, Associate Provost and Dean of Fine Arts at Southwestern University, and Music Department Chairman at Beloit College.

"It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help build a new university from the ground up, and I have enjoyed every minute of it," Lucas said. "Having had the honor of serving as Provost of this rapidly growing, innovative institution for five years and seeing the John Spoor Broome Library become a reality have been the greatest joys of my professional career. And it has been the privilege of a lifetime to serve under my friend and colleague, President Richard Rush. I feel that the time is right, however, to step aside and to give someone else the opportunity to help take this University to the next level."

Lucas said that he is looking forward to assisting the Chancellor's Office through special assignments related to community college transfer issues and the American Democracy Project. He will work from an office on campus that the University is providing for the system office, according to Rush.

"My long-range plans are to return to the classroom and to pursue research that has been on hold for too long," Lucas said.

Among his many contributions to California State University Channel Islands, Lucas composed the University's Alma Mater in 2002 and the recessionary march played at CSUCI's commencement ceremonies. Lucas is a talented composer, violinist, and pianist, and holds a doctorate in Ethnomusicology and Composition from the University of Illinois. He resides in Camarillo with his wife Judy.



University President **Richard R. Rush** was named Educator of the Year by the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce and was one of 10 individuals and organizations honored at the Chamber's Top Ten Community Awards event March 8. Winners of the Top Ten Awards were nominated by members of the Camarillo community.

California State University Channel Islands was cited as "a boon for Ventura County citizens" in the Ventura County Economic Outlook recently published by the University of California Santa Barbara Economic Forecast Project. The publication also noted the opening of CSUCI "is the most important Ventura County innovation since the founding of Amgen" and it also stated that CSUCI will "significantly improve life in Ventura County."

Bill Cordeiro has been named the Senior Associate Dean and Director of the Martin V. Smith School of Business and Economics. In this role, Cordeiro will serve as a member of the CSUCI administrative leadership team within Academic Affairs with administrative responsibility for the School of Business & Economics in particular, and he will work within Academic Affairs and across the University to facilitate the growth and development of graduate programs and student policies and procedures.

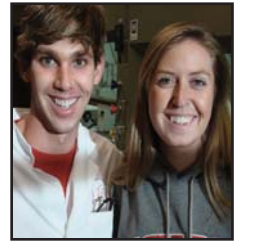
In December, **Renny Christopher** was appointed Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs. Christopher reports directly to the University Provost and will serve as a member of the Provost's management team. Her responsibilities include serving as the campus liaison with the Chancellor's Office of Human Resource Services, supervising the campus Faculty Affairs staff, developing clear and effective procedures for the Faculty Affairs office, organizing and managing faculty searches and faculty appointments, serving as University representative in matters involving the collective bargaining agreement, and advising on issues relative to faculty working conditions.



Joan Karp has accepted the position of Senior Associate Dean and Director of the School of Education. In this role, Karp will oversee the credential office and the field experience/placement office, and provide support to School of Education faculty and staff in furthering the mission-centered goals of Academic Affairs.

Both **Amanda Quintero** and **Renny Christopher** have been selected as members of Leadership California's Class of 2008 for its California Issues & Trends Program (CIT). This is a prestigious, yearlong program for 60 women leaders from across the state of California. Quintero is the Interim Associate Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs, and Christopher is the Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs.

Andrew Merithew and **Emily Mazzucchi** were each awarded a \$3,000 Alzheimer's Research Scholarship. This was the inaugural year for the scholarships and the 2008 winners will be announced in the spring. Merithew is pursuing a double major in BioChemistry - Cell and Molecular Biology, and has aspirations of working toward the doctorate of chemistry in graduate school. Mazzucchi is a Biology major who intends to work toward a doctorate in pharmacy following her graduation from CSUCI in May.



California State University Channel Islands has been recognized with the 2008 El Concilio President's Building Bridges Award. The organization is recognizing the efforts of CSUCI for opening its "doors wide to the residents of Ventura County and beyond by building bridges to higher education for our underserved and unrepresented communities within the region." The mission of El Concilio del Condado de Ventura is to take the lead in improving the quality of life of the Latino community, and by extension, the community-at-large, by providing quality programs and services, advocating for the clients it serves, and collaborating with other community organizations and agencies.

Students get a taste of MOCA every other week

A new relationship was forged this spring between a dominant member of the Los Angeles arts community and California State University Channel Islands. Students in CSUCI's "Museum Class" are now learning from and working with the staff at The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. In past semesters, students of the Museum Class have learned from staff members of The Getty.

The Museum: Culture, Business, Education, is a 400-level class that echoes the University's mission to educate students across disciplines. The course was created in 2002 as a collaboration of Irina D. Costache, Professor of Art; Joan Karp, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the School of Education; and Bill Cordeiro, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the Martin V. Smith School of Business and Economics.

Costache is co-teaching the class this semester with Andrew Morris, Associate Professor of Business and Economics, who teaches the business and marketing portion of the course.

"This class doesn't just focus on one thing like appreciating art or going to a museum," Costache explained. "The students are learning about all the different elements that come together to run an organization like MOCA."

The Museum Class is held once a week sometimes on campus and other times students travel to one of the MOCA locations (Grand Avenue, the Geffen Contemporary and the Pacific Design Center) or the Carnegie Museum of Art in Oxnard, which has been a part of the Museum Class curriculum each semester. On these trips they hear from one or more

of the museums' staff members. Recently, Alma Ruiz, Curator, and Ari Wiseman, MOCA's Deputy Director, gave the students their first look at the museum's organizational chart and a better understanding of what exactly a curator and a deputy director of a museum of this type and size are responsible for.

One of the underlying themes of the Museum Class is showing students that in the field of art, for example, the only career option is not being an artist. Instead, organizations like MOCA also need curators who are passionate about art and have a penchant for creating captivating exhibitions. When Ruiz explained to the students the different elements that had to come together for MOCA's current exhibition "Collecting Collections," many students seemed surprised that creating an exhibition is as much about the art as it is the research, communication, marketing, and project management.

Then there are the things—like security—that many people don't even think about when they visit a place like MOCA. Wiseman said things like security fall under his watch as deputy director.

"Museum security is quite different than bank security," he explained, which dispelled images of uniformed guards standing next to paintings. "With museums there is the compromise between the experience and keeping it as tight as Fort Knox."

Wiseman also explained how a private non-profit organization like MOCA is run. In just a short time, using MOCA as the example, the students learned how a board of directors interacts with staff, the types of decisions reserved for board members, and the value each board member can bring to an organization.

"In addition to understanding all the different elements that make up an organization like MOCA, I hope this class teaches students there are world class collections of art at museums less than an hour from where they live," Costache said.



Professor Irina Costache speaks to her students outside the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles.

Happenings...



Students take honors at CSU Media Arts Festival

Four California State University Channel Islands students took home honors at the 2007 CSU Media Arts Festival, held on the CSUCI campus in November. This is the fifth consecutive year CSUCI students have

earned honors. The Media Arts Festival showcases student work in film, video, and interactive media from all 23 campuses of the California State University system. CSUCI student earning honors were Rebecca McFarland for the Web site: www.rebeccamcfarland.com, second place interactive media category; Jamey Cobb for the Web site: www.jameycobb.com, third place, interactive media category; Muir Freeland for the "Restless Winter Web site": www.restlesswinter.com, fourth place, interactive media category; and Chris Anderson, "The Painter," www.anexisdesigns.com, fourth place, animation category.



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Gary Soto visits CSUCI

More than 250 people, including local high school students and teachers, community members, and Channel Islands faculty, students, and staff enjoyed an evening with Poet Gary Soto on Thursday, Feb. 7. Soto spoke about his writing, answered numerous questions from the audience, and read many passages from his various works of poetry and fiction.

Soto is a Fresno-based poet as well as a well-known writer for young adults. He is an award-winning author of more than 10 books of poetry. Among his books of poetry are: "A Simple Plan" (Chronicle Books, 2007); "One Kind of Faith" (2003); and "Junior College" (1997). His novels include "Amnesia in a Republican County" (University of New Mexico, 2003); "Poetry Lover" (2001) and "Nickel and Dime" (2000).

Students paint mural at Casa Pacifica

Several students worked to paint a mural in the Casa Pacifica meeting room as part of their senior capstone project under the instruction of Matt Furmanski, Assistant Professor of Art. The meeting room is the location for familial visitations, and the students painted a fantastic jungle scene on its walls. Students who participated in the project were Jessel Aspuria, Heidi Guzman, Meredith Husk, Jessica Lopez, Melanie Tormos, Cherie Baker, and Deanna Kessler.

OLLI participates in program to engage seniors with University

"Dessert and Discourse" is a joint project coupling CSUCI, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and the City of Camarillo's Camarillo Council on Aging to engage seniors with the University's faculty members. The programs run twice each month until May. CSUCI faculty lead discussions on topics within their field and are joined by some undergraduate students.

Biomedical Imaging class visits Kaiser facility

During the fall semester Geoff Dougherty, Professor of Physics, took students of his Introduction to Biomedical Imaging course to visit the medical imaging facilities at Kaiser Permanente's Woodland Hills Medical Center. Tom O'Grady ('05 Biology) facilitated the visit and showed the class the imaging modalities in the Radiology and Nuclear Medicine Departments.

"This was such an incredible visit", said Jim Wilber, a student who visited the facility, "It was amazing to see first-hand so many people dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of disease." Another student, Jasmin Seargeant, said that the visit had sealed her decision to pursue a career in medical imaging.



MVS brings national business author to campus

Nearly 230 attended a presentation given by best selling author and international lecturer David Allen, who spoke on the topic of "Getting Things Done, The Art of Stress Free Productivity." This was the first of a series of events to be promoted by the Business Advisory Council (BAC) for the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics.



CSUCI Partners with Smithsonian Institute to Preserve Bracero History for Future Generations

Their faces are evidence of bygone days. Some of them wear deep lines across their brows and in the corners of their eyes, others have skin that has been weathered by years of outdoor work in the fields. This group of men, nearly all of them now 65 or older, came from Mexico from 1942 to 1964 to work in the United States agriculture industry to alleviate a labor shortage that was created by World War II.

They were braceros, and they are living history of the only guest worker program ever administered by the United States government.

The bracero program is a piece of U.S. and Mexican history the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History is seeking to preserve, and it is working with the Center for Community Engagement and the Center for Multicultural Engagement at CSUCI and other colleges and universities to collect the oral histories and items from the former braceros and their family members, some still living in the regions where they once worked.

With no formal way of contacting the former braceros or even knowing how many might be living in the Ventura County region, Pilar Pacheco, Assistant Director of the Center for Community Engagement, and Julia Balén, Associate Professor of English and Faculty Director of the Center for Multicultural Engagement, along with staff from the Smithsonian organized a town hall meeting in late February calling all former braceros and their family members to attend.

"We really didn't know what to expect," Pacheco said. "We hoped we'd get at least a few former braceros for our students to arrange to interview."

CSUCI students gather contact information from former braceros and their family members during a town hall meeting in February in Oxnard. The students will be conducting interviews in partnership with the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History to collect and preserve the oral histories of the former braceros.



What she, Balén, and other CSUCI faculty members did not expect was a standing room only crowd of more than 100 that packed Café on A in Oxnard, and the evening ending with more than 60 former braceros and their family members now signed up for interviews.

Twenty CSUCI students who are volunteering their time this semester will conduct a series of interviews with the former braceros and their family members to capture their stories and experiences for the Smithsonian exhibit titled: "The Bracero History Project, Legacy of a Community." Students and faculty in subsequent semester will continue the research for the foreseeable future.

"It is our hope that this project will bring about greater awareness amongst students about the difficult life circumstances farm worker families face, including poverty, frequent moves, and linguistic and cultural barriers," Pacheco said. "Consequently, this project also presents an opportunity for our students to have a better understanding of the braceros' historical contributions and gain a better perspective of farm workers' current realities."

The project to capture the oral histories of the braceros was started four years ago by the Smithsonian Institute, and in about a year it will become a traveling exhibit that will visit the John Spoor Broome Library in the upcoming years. Balén and Pacheco said that in addition to participating with the Smithsonian research, CSUCI is creating its own archives of bracero history, locally preserving the stories and experiences for future generations. **C**

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Students take a break from a rigorous travel itinerary to see a typical place of business for a township located in South Africa. Meghan Brandon (photographer) said she loved the buildings because they are very different from what she is used to seeing in the United States.



Compare and Contrast

Students visit South Africa and experience impacts of segregation

Nearly all of us can remember essay questions that asked us to compare and contrast two of something—reading passages, styles of particular authors, or the impacts of historic events. Few of us have had the opportunity to witness real-life contrast in a nation with a polarized socioeconomic society and then compare it to life in the United States.

Fifteen CSUCI students had that opportunity through a class they took in the fall semester taught by Andrea Grove, Associate Professor of Political Science, and her husband Chris Scholl, a Political Science Lecturer at CSUCI. After a semester of reading passages and learning about the politics and society of post-apartheid South Africa, the students journeyed to the distant continent and experienced real-life contrast for two weeks on a tour of the country.

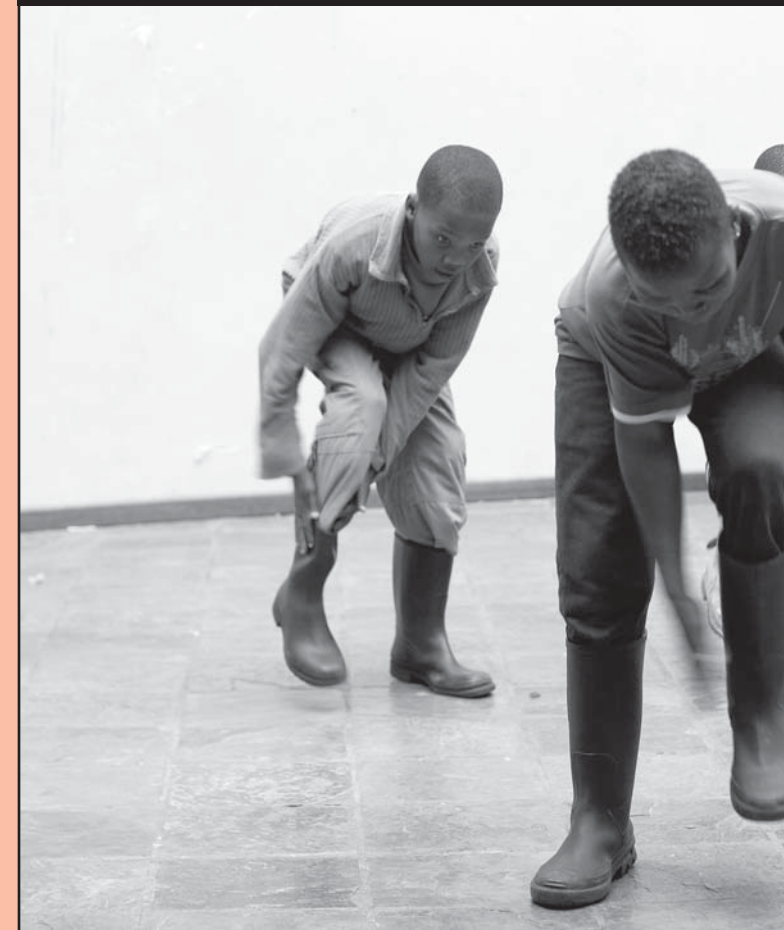
South Africa was a country divided by enforced, legalized segregation, commonly referred to as apartheid, from 1948 to 1994. The segregation existed during the much earlier British colonization of the country, but was not institutionalized and strictly enforced by the government's National Party until 1948.

"It was an incredibly exhausting trip, but I say that in a good way," said senior Meghan Brandon. The exhaustion she explained was somewhat physical—a 40-hour trip back to the U.S. is just that—but what left even more of a mark on her were the disparities she and her classmates were exposed to on a daily basis. Mentally and emotionally it was a lot to take in and process, she said.

The trip began with a tour of Cape Town and the rocky cliffs and beaches of Cape Peninsula. Hardly 12 hours later students visited Langa Township, a small plot of land outside Cape Town where about 100,000 black South Africans live in poverty; blacks had been removed from what were to become white areas. Also among the many experiences was a tour of Robben Island prison with a former political prisoner as guide; tours of other townships; discussions with prominent politicians; lectures on crime and youth violence; and a safari in Kruger National Park.

"The whole trip was just a humbling experience for me. It was seriously a roller coaster of emotions, from going to very poor areas and then to the richest and then on an African safari. It was all so amazing," said Andrew Wilson, a junior, who was born in South Africa. This was his first trip back since his family departed the country in 1991.

Grove said the format of the trip—one day showing students how the upper class and typically white South Africans live and then the next submerging them into a township where the poor and typically black South Africans live—is part of the experience. Another component of the experience is an overnight home stay with poor families who live in the township. She said following the students' stays in the township homes, the debate and conversation the students engaged about what they saw in the poor townships compared to the wealthy suburbs was complex and compelling.



"This trip was especially rewarding because the students opened themselves to everything that was happening around them. Dr. Scholl and I got to see 'the thoughts take shape and walk right out of their heads' as we engaged in our frequent discussions," Grove explained. "Our students were exposed to the deep contrasts between wealth and poverty that characterize our entire world—and could struggle with that complexity in a way we just can't in the classroom."

This was the first semester Grove taught "University 392: Journey into the New South Africa" at CSUCI, though she has taken students from the previous university where she instructed on a similar trip. The course and the trip to South Africa closely relates University's mission to provide students with international and multicultural perspectives. The CSUCI students' trip was partially funded by money from the Instructionally Related Activities Fund.

For Brandon, seeing the differences between the ways people lived within the same country was an overwhelming experience. What fascinated her even more, though, were the attitudes and hopes of the black South Africans who were the most negatively impacted by the segregation.

"This trip taught me that these people have been put through so much more than I will ever be put through, yet they don't want a lot," she said reflectively. "They just want equality." **C**



"What we are witnessing in South Africa now are the problems that the whole world is going to face increasingly in the 21st century."

Francis Wilson, Professor of Economics University of Cape Town
Quoted from "South from the Limpopo: Travels through South Africa"

Photos by Meghan Brandon





A Short Story on a Big Subject The John Spoor Broome Library Is Open

The plot thickened on October 7, 2005, when the dirt was officially turned at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new library at California State University Channel Islands. Over the next 1036 days, the story developed as the concrete, steel, and glass came together to create a campus landmark.

On April 4, 2008, the wait was over, and the grand opening of the John Spoor Broome Library, with all of its architectural magnificence and unique contents, was celebrated.

There is much more to the John Spoor Broome Library than can be celebrated in a single day, beginning with the very name of this new building. John Spoor Broome and the Broome family have been a part of the Ventura County region for more than 120 years and have always believed in the importance of education. The grand-opening ceremony was as much of a celebration of the University's new library as it was a celebration of Broome's generosity and commitment to CSUCI and higher education.

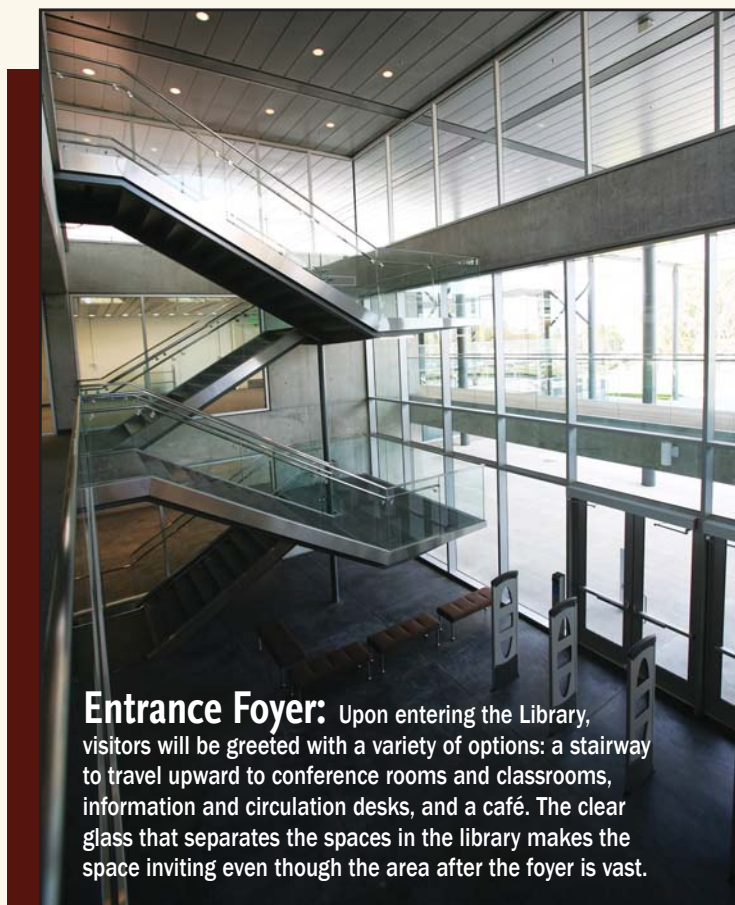
The Library is a marriage between the signature Mission Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival architecture that defines the buildings on campus and the modern Lord Norman Foster design that incorporates natural light and clean lines. The following is a pictorial tour highlighting the details about the John Spoor Broome Library.

Plaza and Entrance Canopy:

Creating fluidity between the campus and the Library was the intention of the architect when he developed the Library Plaza and Entrance Canopy.

This space is directly on the east and west axis of the University campus, which runs through the mall and the center of campus to the Aliso Science Plaza and the dolphin fountain at the western end. Louvers in the canopy filter natural light into the building as the day passes. Note that the books never receive direct sunlight.

Within the plaza area under the canopy is a pool that reflects various images of the library depending on the time of the day and where a person is standing.



Entrance Foyer:

Upon entering the Library, visitors will be greeted with a variety of options: a stairway to travel upward to conference rooms and classrooms, information and circulation desks, and a café. The clear glass that separates the spaces in the library makes the space inviting even though the area after the foyer is vast.

Reading Room:

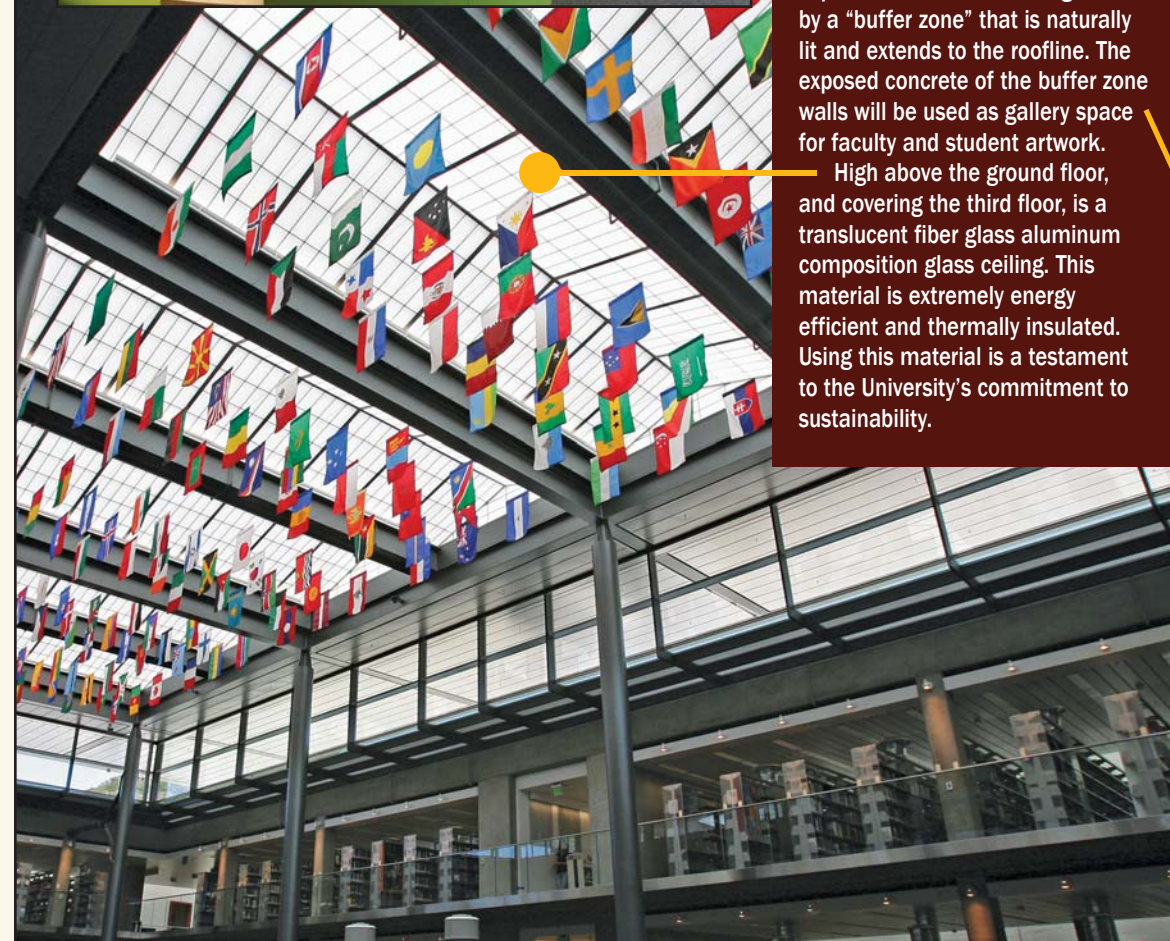
This is the center of the Library. From the reading room it's easy to see the different layers of the building.

The first layer is the modern part of the building, which is created by the canopy that extends from the plaza over the reading room. It is supported by large cylindrical steel beams, four of which are in the Reading room.

The second layer comprises the stacks themselves that hold the 85,000 volumes along with DVDs, CDs, and the children's collection.

The outer layer is made up by the original hospital wings that flank three sides of the reading room. The original structures will be used as classroom and group study space. The wings are separated from the Reading Room by a "buffer zone" that is naturally lit and extends to the roofline. The exposed concrete of the buffer zone walls will be used as gallery space for faculty and student artwork.

High above the ground floor, and covering the third floor, is a translucent fiber glass aluminum composition glass ceiling. This material is extremely energy efficient and thermally insulated. Using this material is a testament to the University's commitment to sustainability.

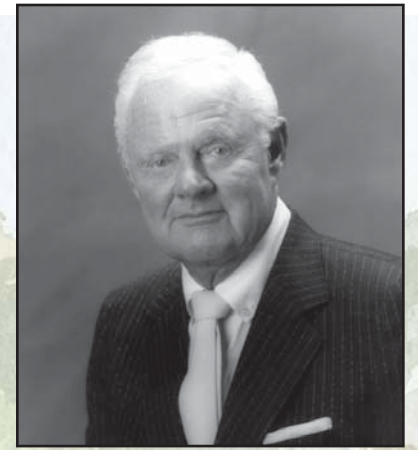


GROUND BROKEN

for the
Martin V. Smith Center for
Integrative Decision-Making



Artist's rendering of the new center.



Martin V. Smith

"My family is proud to honor our father's achievements through the creation of the business school at CSUCI and we are grateful that we have had this opportunity."

Cindi Daley



Vickie Pozzi and Oxnard Mayor
Thomas E. Holden



The extended Smith Family



President Rush presents
keepsakes to Smith Sisters, left
to right, Vickie Pozzi, Marjorie
Teglund, Toni Gardiner and
Cindi Daley.

It is an honor for any university to break ground for a building that will bear its benefactor's name. In January, California State University Channel Islands took that honor one step further when it broke ground for the Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making, a building memorializing an individual and an approach to business that made him a legend.

The phrase "integrative decision making" describes how the space will be used to educate CSUCI students, and it characterizes the way Smith did business and created what are now landmarks in Ventura County.

"If you knew my grandfather, and witnessed his business practices, you would appreciate how fitting this future building carries in its title: Center for Integrative Decision-Making," said Stacy Cannon in an address to those gathered at the groundbreaking ceremony. Cannon is the daughter of Toni Gardiner, who is one of Smith's four daughters. All of the

daughters have been instrumental in the creation of the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics at CSUCI.

The new center will be completed in spring of 2009 and will be located along University Drive as part of the North Quad of the campus. A large portion of the 4,148-square-foot facility is a "case study" classroom with 60 stations for students. One of the elements that make the case study classroom unique is advanced audio/visual equipment. This equipment will give students the ability to project their work on a large screen and share findings and consult with everyone in the classroom. Additionally, the classroom will be equipped to show, in real-time, the indices of the major world financial markets.

"The generosity of the Smith family—partially reflected by this wonderful center—provides a variety of learning opportunities for our students for years to come. We deeply appreciate the Smiths' commitment to CSUCI and to the MVS School of



Stacy Cannon

Business & Economics," said Bill Cordeiro, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics.

The Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making will provide students with real-life business learning opportunities through hands-on experiences in making business decisions and reviewing the implications of those decisions. This process and hands-on approach is much like the way Smith conducted business beginning with the hamburger drive-in he purchased in Oxnard in 1941.

"To accomplish all that he did in his lifetime, he was able to successfully delegate decision making throughout his company structure, while still holding the company reins with a tight grip," explained grandson Skooter Gardiner. "He may have been perceived as a one-man empire, but there were many people working behind the scenes to see his developments to fruition."

Smith established several successful and famous restaurants in Ventura County and later built

the county's only 21-story, high-rise financial plaza that can be seen from miles around. Smith also was instrumental in the creation of the Channel Islands Harbor among numerous other projects.

Vickie Pozzi said her father understood the importance of a university within the community. Pozzi and her sisters approached him for the original \$5 million gift in 2000 to establish the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics at CSUCI. A few years later, the Martin V. and Martha K. Smith Foundation gave \$3 million more to the school. The Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics became the first named school at CSUCI in 2006.

"He understood the University would benefit future generations and enhance the economy of Ventura County," said Smith's daughter Cindi Daley. "My family is proud to honor our father's achievements through the creation of the business school at CSUCI and we are grateful that we have had this opportunity." □

Leaning on Education

Looking toward administration, Joan Karp makes a transition at CSUCI



It's the end of a rainy day on campus, but the long rays of the afternoon sun are starting to shine through the windows of Joan Karp's office. She's busy finishing an agenda for an upcoming meeting and the familiar ding-dong sound of incoming emails punctuate the passing minutes.

Pushing away from her desk, she rolls her chair near a spot brightened by the sun along a bookcase packed with binders and reference materials about special education. She leans with her back toward the bookcase and looks at the paperwork on her desk and the calendar on her computer screen in front of her. It's almost as if her location in the office and the sun streaming through the window are a metaphor to describe her work at Cal State Channel Islands: a balance between the responsibilities of an administrator and the passion of an educator.

Karp is the Senior Associate Dean and Director of the School of Education at CSUCI, a role she was appointed to in November 2007, and this semester she is continuing to teach, which is the role that brought her to campus in 2001. Karp was one of the faculty members initially hired by University President Richard R. Rush before the University opened for students in 2002.

"I never thought I'd get chosen," she said about making the decision to apply for a faculty position at CSUCI. "But I took the application process very seriously. The challenge of a new campus is a once in a lifetime experience for a professor, and I felt I could do that." She then added with a smile, "I didn't know what I was getting into."

Karp may have not known what she was going to undertake at CSUCI, but she did know from a very early age that she wanted to be a teacher.

"I don't know where it came from, but I loved school as a child," she explained. Karp grew up in Rhode Island and she recalls that it was watching a television program about a facility in New Hampshire for people with physical disabilities that sparked her interest in special education. Then, in high school she began tutoring a child who had been removed from his kindergarten class because of behavioral problems. Recalling the memory, makes her smile.

"My experience with him made me realize that you can reach kids even if they have problems," she said.

That realization is something she has shared with all of her students throughout her career including the class she is currently instructing this semester, a 300-level interdisciplinary course titled, "Individuals with Disabilities in Society." Standing in the front of the room she engages her students in a dialog about the different skill and ability levels held by individuals with varying degrees of mental retardation.



"With teaching, there's a light in there somewhere and I'm going to find it. This is the next step. I've refocused my teaching energies on the strengthening of the School."


Joan Karp — Senior Associate Dean and Director, School of Education

Karp began her career as a teacher in the public school system in her native Rhode Island, but later moved to higher education and held positions at Rhode Island College, the University of California Santa Barbara, and prior to her arrival at CSUCI she was a Professor in the Special Education Department at the University of Minnesota Duluth where she worked with Elizabeth Quintero for 10 years, who is now a Professor of Education at CSUCI.

"It is truly a great experience working with Joan. She combines important sensitivities with her administrative skills, I think, in really effective ways. For example, she always gives people the benefit of the doubt and trusts that they will do their work and live up to expectations," Quintero said.

In addition to teaching and being an administrator, Karp has done continuous research and has had several pieces published on the integration of children with disabilities into the regular classroom.

The School of Education is relatively new at CSUCI, and for now much of what Karp is doing is working with committees to establish structure, policies, and processes for the school. Her job now includes the oversight of the Field Experience Office (student teaching), the relationship between CSUCI and the University Prep School, and the Teacher Credential Office.

"I do miss the direct contact with students that I used to have," Karp said while rolling her chair toward her desk and computer where the sunny spot—that had previously illuminated her bookcase—now illuminated the paperwork and files on her desk. "With teaching, there's a light in there somewhere and I'm going to find it. This is the next step. I've refocused my teaching energies on the strengthening of the School." 



Left: Karp congratulates a teaching credential graduate during a Commencement ceremony.



The 'College Experience' Gamma Beta Phi-style

What really is “the college experience?”

Is it being away from your parents and gaining the responsibility of being self-sufficient? Is it finally getting to study what you want to study and being an academic all-star in that field? Or, is it joining an organization and sharing your resources with others?



Left: Wm. Gregory Sawyer, Vice President for Student Affairs and the advisor for Gamma Beta Phi Chapter, applauds new members at last year's induction ceremony. Center: Gamma Beta Phi Vice President Kathleen Murphy performs trail maintenance. Right: Gamma Beta Phi members volunteer their time at FOODShare, Inc.

Perhaps it's a combination of those things that fosters the development of a student as he or she travels down a four-year path and grows into the role of being a member of a community. For everyone it's a little different, but for many, joining a student organization on campus is the glue that solidifies the college experience.

“Gamma Beta Phi got me involved with people, and I realized that my involvement could change their lives,” said Sara Parker, a CSUCI junior and President of the Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society on campus.

Gamma Beta Phi is one of two honor societies that have active chapters on the CSUCI campus. There are about 70 active members in CSUCI's GBP Chapter, and each year between 20 and 30 students are inducted during a spring ceremony.

The Gamma Beta Phi Society is an honor and service organization for students in colleges and universities in the United States. The three letters designating the name of the organization signify that education and friendship constitute the basis of a full and happy life.

Being part of GBP is a combination of academic excellence and providing service to the community. Members must maintain a grade point average of 3.45 or higher and log eight hours of volunteer service each semester. The Chapter also conducts one major service project each year, and since the CSUCI Chapter was founded in 2003, it has taken on the same project each year.

“The frosting, it was all over her face! We decorated cookies with the kids from the RAIN Project last year and there was this little girl sitting in her high-chair who was eating her cookie and you could tell

that she was so happy,” Parker recalled, fondly.

The little girl she referred to was one of the many children that are part of the RAIN Project (River Dweller's Aid Intercity Network) who benefit each year from the GBP group service project. During the holiday season GBP works with student housing at CSUCI to get gifts for each child in the RAIN Project. Then, during the weeks leading up to the holidays, GBP members spend time with children making arts and craft and decorating holiday cookies just before they present the children with their gifts.

Throughout the rest of the academic year GBP members do various types of volunteer work, and the Chapter organizes special GBP volunteer days with organizations in the community—like FOODShare and Habitat For Humanity—that give members an opportunity to do volunteer work with other members.

The GBP Chapter at CSUCI has won the National Distinguished Chapter award for the past four years. Wm. Gregory Sawyer, CSUCI Vice President for Student Affairs and advisor for the GBP Chapter noted that this is one of the highest honors given to a chapter.

“There are two major factors why our Chapter has consecutively earned this prestigious award; the dedication of our Chapter members to serving the community and their overall commitment to academic excellence.” Sawyer said.

This year, Parker said GBP will graduate 36 of its members. Though that does mean that GBP and CSUCI will say good bye to 36 of its service-driven, academic all-stars, it also means the communities these graduates join will be welcoming individuals who made the most out of their college experience. **C**

FOR THE BIRDS



Student Garrick Thomsen

This is not a scene out of an Alfred Hitchcock film. Hundreds of birds aren't swooping and dive-bombing people who have sealed themselves in a phone booth. Instead, it's a scene from a Ventura County beach with birds standing on one leg and others flocking at the water's edge. The humans aren't running for cover. They are quietly watching the plumed population and counting them one-by-one.

Counting birds? Don't they fly away? What does counting birds have to do with the environment? Some of the questions seem a little tongue-in-cheek, but for Chris Kahler and Garrick Thomsen the answers are as clear as the images they see through their binoculars.

Thomsen, a senior majoring in Environmental Science and Resource Management and Kahler a 2006 graduate with a degree in the same discipline are working on a project that has teamed California State University Channel Islands and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS). The project is a field study that involves taking inventory of shorebirds at 14 beaches in Ventura County.

The answers to the more whimsical questions—yes they really are counting the birds, and yes they fly away—are easy, but it's the data being collected that will answer the tougher questions, and likely raise many more. Shorebirds are harbingers of environmental health. Their presence or lack there of is a sign that changes—possibly caused by human activity—are impacting tidal zone habitats of local beaches.

The field work that Thomsen and Kahler are conducting was done once already 10 years ago by scientists at the MMS. Like that study, this study will involve data collection over a three-year period, which began in July of 2007 and will culminate in 2010. Kahler's senior capstone project developed a revised methodology for the data collection, and after he graduated Thomsen then took over the project using Kahler's methodology. When Thomsen graduates in 2008, a new student will pick up where he left off.

"Monitoring shorebirds is a wonderful niche for the students at CSUCI. Our students have access to county beaches, a willingness to learn about shorebird biology, and are eager to contribute to our understanding of this unique resource." said Don Rodriguez principal investigator for the project and Environmental Science and Resource Management Program Chair. "We are particularly interested in understanding the role human-caused disturbance plays in foraging behavior of certain species."

The shorebird project also has forged new relationships between CSUCI and other institutions and organizations both internationally and locally. In cooperation with the University of Guadalajara's Coastal Studies Center, CSUCI students will continue this type of research on shorebird populations on Mexico's Pacific Coast; and the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Camarillo has worked with the students to help them gain proficiency in bird identification.

In the coming years, the CSUCI students who are involved with this project will collectively walk dozens of miles along the Ventura County coast. At each of the 14 beaches they are conducting research on, the observation area is always the same one kilometer stretch. The student researchers begin at one end and slowly sweep the shore documenting the number of each shorebird species they observe.

In the short time that Thomsen has been walking the beach and taking stock of its winged occupants he's noticed when the weather is bad and there's a fair wind blowing, the birds don't move around as much and they're easier to count.

"However, there's really nothing quite like watching a flock of Sanderlings explode into the air," Thomsen said.

The data collected during the next three years by CSUCI students will be compared to data collected through the MMS inventory of 10 years ago. Both inventories will serve to create a long-term data set on shorebird populations, which will provide useful information in assessing possible impacts to Ventura County's coastal regions.

"We only have six months of data at present however, preliminary data analysis suggests that over the last decade there has been a decline in total numbers of shorebirds using Ventura County beaches," said Angela Chapman, Lecturer in Biology at CSUCI, who also is a co-principal investigator on the project research team. "The results for the four most prevalent species observed during the original study, over the same six month period—July through December—all show an alarming decline."

However, Chapman did say the numbers of Snowy Plovers are generally consistent with the data from 10 years ago. This species is listed as Threatened by the US Fish & Wildlife Service and efforts are underway to ensure its protection.

"When the field work is completed in 2010 we will be in a much better position to compare our findings with those from 10 years ago," Chapman concluded. **C**

Meet Chris Valenzano '04



Chris Valenzano is one of a growing number who are CSUCI alumni. Like many Cal State Channel Islands graduates he's a mover and shaker in his community and draws daily on his CI experience. Take a moment and catch up with Chris Valenzano ('04 Business).

Why CSUCI?

I had been a strong supporter of the University since I first ran for Camarillo City Council at age 18 in 1997, while I was still in my senior year of high school. It was around that time that the Camarillo State

Hospital was being shut down and the community was debating what to do with the vacant land and facilities. I made it part of my campaign to push for a new University, which finally became a reality in 2002.

What do you do?

I work fulltime on a 911 Rescue Ambulance with American Medical Response of Ventura County and serve on AMR's National Disaster Response Team. I presently serve as the President and as one of five elected Governing Board Members on the Ventura County Board of Education. Prior to my election to the Board, I served as an Education Policy Adviser and Military Affairs Coordinator for State Assemblyman Tony Strickland. I'm the current President of the International Association of EMTs and Paramedics, Local 12-59. I am also an Emergency Manager with the US Air Force and the California Air National Guard.

How has your degree helped?

My business degree has helped me manage and analyze budgets well over \$165M annually, identify and reduce wasteful spending, cut back on non-essential and outdated services and programs, and aided in our Board's construction of a brand new \$20M facility that we built without raising taxes. The education I received has helped increase my general working knowledge of multiple subjects and has provided me with budgeting and accounting skills I now use on a daily basis.

Family?

Deyla and I are proud to announce that we are expecting our third child, Landen Lee (second boy), in early June of this year. My daughter, Teylor, is 8 years old and is currently attending one of the local public elementary schools. My other son, Christian, is 2 years old and is not in school yet.

Anything else you'd like to share?

Being on the board has been a wonderful experience and I could not think of a better way to not only give back to the community I grew up in but at the same time help to make desperately needed changes in the education community. I am presently working on bringing in federal funding to Ventura County to launch a nationwide pilot program to provide preschool, child care, and other education-related programs and services to the spouses and children of our nation's deployed soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines.

Alumni Notes

Claudea Gomez ('03 MS Counseling) now works with The Coalition to End Family Violence specializing in a juvenile probation program called Repeat Offenders Prevention and works with a team of professionals to serve teens in the juvenile justice system. She meets teens individually and with their families and runs various groups, some of which she created based on the needs of the community, including a group that explores the generational cycle of violence.



Eusebio Cordova, Jr. ('05 Business) was promoted to Assistant Vice President/Commercial Banking Officer for Rabobank, N.A., Santa Barbara Regional Commercial Banking Office. He is responsible for delivering services including lines of credit, equipment loans, commercial real estate loans, lease financing, deposit products, and cash management services to businesses and real estate investors. Cordova recently was named the 2007 Ambassador of the Year by the Carpinteria Chamber of Commerce.



Ryan Garcia ('06 Art and Digital Media Art Certificate) recently joined the staff of California State University Channel Islands as a Senior Web Designer. His future plans include completing a master's degree in Industrial or Multimedia Design.

AFA hosts two events that bring alumni to campus

The Alumni & Friends Association at CSUCI recently reached out to its members and invited them to campus in February to celebrate the University's fifth-year anniversary. The event brought out more than 40 members of the A&FA.

Among the attendees were many of the past student body presidents as well as a variety of alumni from the CSUN-CI classes of 2002 to the most recent CSUCI spring 2007 graduates. University President Richard R. Rush, Vice President for Student Affairs Wm. Gregory Sawyer, A&FA President Mike Silacci (AT&T), and alumna and City of Ventura Mayor Christy Weir were among the guest speakers for the evening.

Another A&FA event that brought alumni and members of the business community together on campus was a special networking and mentorship event held just prior to the fifth-annual CSUCI Business & Technology Partnership Holiday Mixer in December 2007.

CSUCI heads to Sacramento for CSU Alumni Legislative Day

Illuminating the impacts the budget cuts will have on higher education will be one of the messages CSUCI alumni, staff, and University President Richard R. Rush, and delegations from the 22 other CSU campuses, will deliver to legislators in Sacramento at the CSU Alumni Legislative Day in late April.

Another component of the Sacramento visit is recognition of Alumni Advocates of the Year. Each CSU campus selects one alumni advocate to honor based on advocacy efforts he or she has made at the local, state, or federal levels. CSUCI has named Lori G. Macdonald as its 2008 CSU Alumni Advocate of the Year.

Macdonald ('05 Liberal Studies) became active in the CSUCI Alumni & Friends Association in 2005. It was her thorough knowledge of CSUCI and higher education that led to her becoming part of the campus Advocacy Team.

BELL TOWER EAST COURTYARD

a campus haven

Anyone who cut through the Bell Tower East Courtyard a year ago would scarcely recognize it if they made a return trip today. What was once scraggly crab grass and a space to move quickly through on a journey to the South Quad or Salon A is now a quiet haven with beautiful landscaping and hardscape that includes an outdoor classroom.

Bell Tower East Courtyard is the newest restored “secret garden” on the California State University Channel Islands campus. It’s mostly hidden from view, but some of its green grassy lawn and meandering

sidewalks are visible through the courtyard’s gateway on the left side of the Bell Tower building tucked behind Ojai Hall.

John Broome Jr., chair of the Bell Tower East Courtyard restoration project, Steve Blois, and Doug Bungert, all who are involved in activities at CSUCI through the University’s Foundation, saw the project from start to finish. Blois and Bungert are co-chairs of the Landscape and Courtyard Restoration Committee. Blois also is a member of the CSUCI Foundation’s Board of Directors, and he worked closely on the completion of the President’s Courtyard in 2005.

The completion of the Bell Tower East Courtyard was the product of community support and interest. All of the labor to construct the pathways and hardscape—a bench that borders a mature tree and the masonry that will serve as places for students to sit during the meetings in the outdoor classroom—was provided by the Laborers Training School and the Bricklayers Union. Concrete for the hardscape was donated by Team Transit and Angelus Block also donated material. All of the plants and trees came through donations from the community.

The final element for the courtyard is adding benches. The Landscape and Courtyard Restoration Committee is working to connect more members of the community with the University through a bench sponsorship campaign. The names of those who sponsor benches will be engraved on bronze plaques and adhered to the sponsored bench. Anyone interested in sponsoring a bench can contact the Advancement office at 437-8420.

What’s Next?

Introducing the Archive Courtyard at the John Spoor Broome Library

The John Spoor Broome Library opened in April and with it is the introduction of another campus courtyard that is in need of restoration.

What is temporarily being called the Archive Courtyard is the next project that the Landscape and Courtyard Restoration Committee will begin. This courtyard is located on the backside of the new library and is flanked on one side by the Lagomarsino Archives. One of the defining features of the space is a giant Ficus tree, which can be seen from the large windows of the Lagomarsino Archives.

“This particular courtyard has the distinct potential to be one of the jewels of CSUCI, as it will be used campus wide and serve to complement the Lagomarsino Archives. Funding is actively being sought to name the courtyard, provide the resources needed for restoration, and establish an endowment that will ensure its maintenance in perpetuity,” said Nichole Ipach, Director of University Development.

The Landscape and Courtyard Restoration Committee will begin developing its plans for the courtyard in the upcoming months as funding for the project becomes available.



Winners named for B&TP Awards; Event Set for April 24

The 2008 Business & Technology Partnership (B&TP) Leadership Dinner, presented by the CSUCI Foundation and Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2008, at the Embassy Suites/Mandalay Beach Resort in Oxnard. This event honors three individuals with leadership awards and recognizes five students with scholarships provided by the B&TP.

Ruby Oertle, owner of Capistrano’s Restaurant & Catering and Matisse Restaurant & Catering, has been named the 2008 Martin V. School of Business & Economics Business and Community Leader of the Year. Fred Kavli, founder of the Kavli Foundation, is the 2008 Technologist of the Year. Geoff Dougherty, Professor of Physics at CSUCI, is the 2008 Faculty of the Year. These awards recognize an outstanding business leader and a technologist from within the University’s area of Ventura County, southern Santa Barbara County and northern Los Angeles County, and a CSUCI faculty member who has contributed to the goals of the Business & Technology Partnership.

Five \$3,000 student scholarships will be awarded. Eligible students are chosen from community college transfer students and CSUCI students with junior status or above, in business and technology related majors.

Sponsors of the B&TP Leadership Dinner include Pacific Coast Business Times, the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics, Dennis and Joan Gaiser, Sheeler Moving and Storage, and Logix Development Corp.

For more information visit www.csuci.edu/about/btp or contact Eva Gomez, Executive Administrative Assistant for University Advancement, (805) 437-3271.

{ Calendar of Events

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

April 17-19: 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

CSUCI Performing Arts Program presents its first production.

April 24: Business & Technology Partnership Leadership Dinner

Student scholarships and leadership awards to an outstanding business community leader, technologist, and faculty member are presented at this event.

May 2: Honors Convocation

An annual event honoring outstanding CSUCI students of the 2007-08 academic year.

May 2-9: President's Second Annual Celebration of Excellence

May 5: Fulbright Visiting Specialists Program: Direct Access to the Muslim World

Dr. Bouguetta a Fulbright Scholar will visit campus.

May 17: Commencement



Get on the Bus!

Cal State Channel Islands was a stop for one of the C-SPAN Campaign 2008 Buses on the "Road to the White House" tour. Students in Professor Scott Frisch's fall semester Electoral Politics class along with students from classes taught by Sean Kelly, Associate Professor of Political Science, and Steve Lefevre, Associate Vice President of Academic Programs and Planning, got an inside look at the 45-foot bus that has served as a rolling studio capturing presidential candidate interviews since the kick-off of the 2008 campaign season in January 2007.

Since the C-SPAN Bus program was launched in November 1993, the C-SPAN buses have visited all 50 states, presidential libraries, and are now on their fourteenth nationwide tour. The Campaign 2008 Buses are continuing C-SPAN's educational mission by visiting schools around the country, offering presentations about the political process, and C-SPAN's unique coverage of politics to students.



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