

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

Current

MARTIN V. SMITH CENTER



A Place to Envision the Future
Celebrating the Opening of the Martin V. Smith Center
for Integrative Decision-Making

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A Path Leading to Hope and Opportunities

A few weeks ago, the campus community hosted nearly 9,000 parents, families, and friends who gathered to celebrate our graduates' academic achievements. The focus of our Commencement celebration was not to be reminded of the many challenges we face as a state and nation, but to hear from speakers who encouraged our graduates to take a path leading to hope and opportunities. I am confident that our graduates will seek every opportunity and challenge with knowledge, optimism, and dignity.

A national study recently released reported that 90% of our class of 2007 graduates indicated that they would choose to enroll again at CSU Channel Islands. Additionally, these students graduated with the lowest debt ratio among state and national averages. These statistics reflect the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff, and administrators, and their commitment to providing the best education possible for our students. As our state and nation work to resolve serious issues, we must remind our representatives in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. of the importance and value of an educated society that will help ensure the recovery and growth of our state and nation's well-being.

As you will read in the pages that follow, CSU Channel Islands has much to be proud of this past academic year as we celebrated the dedication and grand opening of the Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making and held a ground breaking for the new Student Union currently under construction. Enjoy reading about our faculty, staff, and alumni accomplishments as they continue to distinguish themselves as leaders in the California State University system and nation. It is with great pride that I celebrate our accomplishments and look forward to a path of new opportunities for California State University Channel Islands.

Sincerely yours,

Richard R. Rush
President

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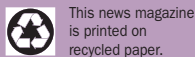
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Cover:
 With the cut of a red ribbon, the Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making opens. Left to right - William P. Cordeiro, Marjorie Tegland, Lucinda S. Daley, Victoria V. Pozzi, President Richard R. Rush, Woodward Gardiner, and Toni S. Gardiner. See cover story on pages 15-16.

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.



First Athletic Director

Carl E. Reed II assumed his duties as the University's first Athletic Director on May 1. Reed had served as Assistant Athletic Director for Stanford University for the past five years. Prior to joining Stanford, Reed was Director of the Jenny Craig Pavilion at the University of San Diego for three years, as well as serving two years as Assistant Event Manager for the University of California, Berkeley.

In his new role as Athletic Director, Reed will be responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating a comprehensive intercollegiate athletics program as part of the University's focus on wellness. Reed holds a master of arts degree in Health, Physical Education and Recreation from Saint Mary's College of California and a bachelor of arts degree in Politics from Saint Mary's College of California. ◀C

Physics Professor Receives Fulbright Scholarship

Dr. Geoff Dougherty, Professor of Physics, has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholarship and will travel to the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Brisbane, Australia, in mid-July for six months. While there he will undertake research in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), with particular emphasis on the alignment of collagen in cartilage (with applications to the diagnosis and treatment of osteoarthritis) and the measurement of bone quality (for early detection of osteoporosis). He will also give a series of seminars on medical imaging to the Device Domain of the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI) and the Australian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM), and present



lectures in several undergraduate courses at QUT.

The Fulbright program is the flagship international exchange program sponsored by the United States government. Participants are chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential to study, teach, conduct research, and exchange ideas on the international stage. This year there were five scholarships awarded for exchange to Australia in all subjects. ◀C

ACE Highlights Campus Sustainability; Faculty Student Research Forum Presents Activities, Collaboration

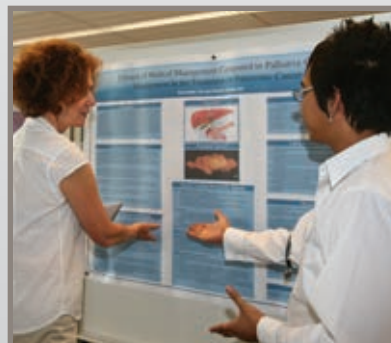
The third-annual President's Annual Celebration of Excellence (ACE) held May 8 featured presentations from the campus community showcasing sustainable practices, research, and ideas. The following day, faculty and students filled the John Spoor Broome Library with posters detailing their research, scholarship, creative activities and grants at the Inaugural Faculty Student Research Forum

CSUCI Showcases Faculty-Student Research

The Inaugural Faculty Student Research Forum was a showcase of research, scholarship, creative activities, and grants featuring

faculty-student collaborative presentations, faculty research presentations, and student research/capstone presentations. The event was sponsored by SAGE Publications and the Division of Academic Affairs.

The forum was designed in response to the University's emphasis upon research activities as part of its academic foundation. The number of faculty and student research activities continue to inspire creativity and innovation as well as to encourage community partnerships that will enhance research projects through resources, information, and education. ◀C





Students Receive Honors, Awards at Ceremony

The annual Honors Convocation ceremony held May 1 at the John Spoor Broome Library Plaza bestowed honors on graduating seniors. The ceremony recognized all students earning honors

and graduating in any semester from summer 2008 through summer 2009. To receive honors at graduation a student must complete a minimum 30 units of courses taken at CSUCI for a letter grade and earn a grade point average of 3.50 or above in all work taken at CSUCI. Students must also earn a minimum 3.50 grade point average in all undergraduate courses, including transfer work. Graduates were honored for their outstanding dedication and work with one of the following three levels; 3.50 – 3.74 GPA earns Cum Laude, 3.75 – 3.89 GPA earns Magna Cum Laude, and 3.90 – 4.0

GPA earns Summa Cum Laude.

The first two President's Scholars were recognized during the ceremony.

Jennifer Bonsagne completed a bachelor's degree in mathematics and Melody Mattingly completed a bachelor's degree in English. The President's Scholars Program provides outstanding students with a scholarship that is renewable for four years, and includes full resident fees, a generous textbook allowance, and the use of a laptop computer. ◀





\$1.7 Million Grant Awarded for Stem Cell Research Program

Dr. Ching-Hua Wang, Chair of Biology, Geology and Nursing and Director of the MS Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Program at CSU Channel Islands has been awarded a grant of \$1,733,406 from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) as a part of their Bridges to Stem Cell Research program. CSU Channel Islands was one of 11 universities statewide to receive funding from the program.

The grant will fund both comprehensive lecture and laboratory courses designed to train students in stem cell research, to provide internship placement, and to complete a new Emphasis in Stem Cell Technology and Laboratory Management within the MS Biotechnology and Bioinformatics degree program at CSU Channel Islands. The new degree program will provide students with the necessary expertise to enter the workforce in a rapidly expanding and technologically advanced field. One of the courses funded by the grant is a general education course on stem cell technology to be developed by faculty at CSU Channel Islands in collaboration with faculty from community colleges in Ventura County. ◀C

Library Wins Design Award

The John Spoor Broome Library was named a winner in the California Construction magazine 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. This statewide competition annually recognizes construction and design excellence in Northern and Southern California.

The jury awarded points to construction submissions based on criteria including project management, overcoming challenges of the job, overall excellence in architectural or engineering design, innovation, safety and the contribution to the community and/or the construction industry, among other criteria.

The John Spoor Broome Library is a 137,000-square foot facility designed by Lord Norman Foster and completed in 2008. The Broome Library is an integrates an existing structure of Mission Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival architecture built in the 1950s with clean lines and open space comprised of glass, metal, and concrete. Foster and his firm are renowned for the design of many projects including the Beijing Airport, the Hearst Tower, and the Millennium Bridge. ◀C



In Memoriam John Spoor Broome 1917-2009



Inauguration Viewing Encourages Collaboration, Discussion

OLLI and Library Event Engages Students

By Elnora Tayag, Reference & Instruction Librarian and Michou Yenokida, Osher Instructor

On January 20th, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and the John Spoor Broome Library at California State University Channel Islands celebrated the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama by hosting an Inauguration Live viewing event at the library's Millennium News Center. Over 150 people flooded the Millennium News Center foyer, and two overflow library classrooms. In attendance were OLLI students and faculty, CSUCI undergraduate students, faculty, staff and administrators, and community members. The inauguration viewing celebration was followed by an intergenerational discourse among OLLI students and CSUCI undergraduates addressing the issues the new Obama administration faces.

The John Spoor Broome Library partnership with OLLI presented a wonderful opportunity to engage our students in thinking critically about the challenges we are facing, thus keeping true to our University's mission. The Broome Library makes every effort to engage and promote experiential learning, and multicultural and international perspectives. Students are equipped to see the world through a critical lens in order to become empowered socially responsible citizens."

"[OLLI] at CSUCI provides a wide variety of courses for adult learners over 50 on campus and in several county locations. OLLI courses are University quality, however, they are for intellectual enrichment only, with no tests, grades or college credit - learning for the sheer joy of learning," says Dr. Martin F. Kaplan, Director of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. He added, "The intergenerational experience of viewing the Inauguration reflects



Excitement and anticipation filled various spaces at the John Spoor Broome Library when students, faculty, staff, and administration gathered to view the inauguration ceremony of President-elect Barack Obama

OLLI's focus on understanding our world, past, present and future."

Michou Yenokida, OLLI Instructor, facilitated the post-inaugural intergenerational discourse. It was a stimulating interchange between OLLI students and CSUCI undergraduate students of various majors, with both groups having participated in classes analyzing the campaign. Focus on the stirring emotions of the historic moment segued into discussion about looking ahead to the difficulty of governing in the midst of the economic crisis, as well as the complexity of global affairs. Much of the discussion centered on anticipation of the obstacles ahead for the 44th president as he seeks to change the manner in which our elected legislators work together.

"The library was thrilled by the

turnout," says Amy Wallace, Dean of University Library. She continued, "We set up several viewing areas, and people still overflowed into the lobby, hallways, nooks, and just about anywhere they could find to get a glimpse of the inauguration on one of our big screen televisions. The energy was amazing before, during, and after the event. People who didn't even know each other were talking, anticipating, listening, and cheering together. I walked away feeling that new bonds were formed and old bonds were strengthened."

All expressed the continuing hope which has always surrounded the candidacy of President Obama from the very start. Together, OLLI and CSUCI undergraduate students looked forward to the hope and opportunities the new president and his administration offer. ◀



Green is the New...CI Student Union

By Andrea Cohen Gehring, FAIA,
LEED® AP, Design Partner
WWCOT Architects



Set to open in fall 2009, the new student union will set an example for the first generation of CSUCI students who do not see sustainability as a trend, but as a way of life. WWCOT Architects is proudly transforming the University's temporary library building, originally built in the 1930s, into an exciting full-service "green" hub for students who actively participate in student government, community service and campus leadership. Typically, sustainable design involves the reuse of existing building or materials. As such, approximately 9,000 square feet of the old campus library was retained and renovated. Although a new two-story 16,000-square-foot wing is being added, the entire building footprint is quite compact, which helps maximize open space. Existing mature trees will shade the south facade of the building and courtyard gathering space, thereby mitigating the heat island effect inside the building. The flexible layout with minimal columns will create large open spaces that maximize interior uses and provide

flexibility for future renovation with fewer materials.

Energy-efficient features often play a vital role in sustainable design because they can help decrease a building's operating costs. The new student union building and equipment have been designed to exceed California Title 24 Energy standards by 10 percent for the renovated building and by 15 percent for the newly constructed building. The building will also maximize daylighting and minimize solar heat gain for approximately 90 percent of its occupied space with high performance glazing and recessed windows. The windows will also be operable, permitting natural ventilation and increased user comfort. Additionally, the energy-efficient HVAC (heating, ventilating and air-conditioning) equipment will be connected to the campus' central plant for the most efficient heating and cooling. Other important elements that will help lower power usage and costs include energy-efficient lighting fixtures and

exterior lighting that is dark-night-sky compliant.

Some "green" innovations may go unnoticed by students, but they are no less important. Low-flow plumbing fixtures and waterless urinals will decrease water usage. Low-VOC paints and sealants, as well as sustainable floor finishes like sealed concrete, linoleum, and recycled carpet will help promote indoor air quality—which has been proven to impact student learning positively. Site improvements like drought-tolerant low-maintenance landscaping, and storm water recharges, which reduces runoff and construction waste recycling, will further play up the sustainability factor for the student union.

There is little doubt that students who use the new student union will be proud of this building's reduced "carbon footprint" when it opens next fall. Ultimately, the building will provide them with a physical reminder that their University is just as committed to environmental responsibility as they are. ◀

*“Instead of choosing a major because you’re good at it, you should be willing to try more difficult classes.”
-Andrew Ritchie*



Small Town Roots, Big Time Dreams

By Lori Putnam

Most college students choose an academic major based on earlier successes; Andrew Ritchie chose a less conventional way to select his. “Chemistry was my worst subject in high school,” said Ritchie, a chemistry major who graduated this year. “Instead of choosing a major because you’re good at it, you should be willing to try more difficult classes.”

In Ritchie’s case, he turned his past challenges with science and math into an emerging career in analytical chemistry and a love for drawing graphs. In fact, Calculus II was one of his most memorable classes. “My professor opted for the ‘software-free’ approach; we did everything by hand, using pencil and paper,” he recalled. “No calculators were necessary; we spent more time learning how to solve problems and draw beautiful graphs by hand.”

Ritchie was among the second class of students to enroll at Channel Islands, and he purposely chose a university that matched the feel of his small hometown in Altadena, an unincorporated suburb nestled near the San Gabriel Mountains in east Los Angeles County. “I really liked the fact that the classes were small,” said Ritchie. “I came from a small high school and I wasn’t ready to move on to a huge university. A class of 30 is more attractive than a class of 400.”

He credits the small size of the Chemistry Program in helping him to switch majors during his third year. With the support of faculty and his student peers, Ritchie is now pursuing a career in analytical chemistry, which explores the chemical composition of matter and develops the tools by which to measure it. He worked with

Blake Gillespie, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, on characterizing the flexibility of a protein that transports silver. By examining the protein’s ability to bind to silver, a possible outcome could be to make antibiotics more effective.

Ritchie has been accepted to three of the top 10 nationally ranked analytical chemistry graduate programs in the country including Purdue University, University of Michigan, and the University of Washington in Seattle. After completing graduate school, he sees a career in academia as a possibility. Having tutored students at Moorpark College and CSUCI in American Sign Language, something he learned at an early age as the child of a deaf parent, Ritchie enjoyed the teaching experience. Now the question is what path holds the greatest challenge for this CI graduate. ◀C

Faculty Members Highlight Challenges, Successes of Research

Part of an on-going section highlighting the scholarly and creative activities of CSU Channel Islands faculty. Professors Gillespie, Parmar, and Dougherty were invited by *Current* to share their research updates.

Students Conduct Experiments with Cancer Proteins

By Dr. Nitika Parmar,
Assistant Professor of Biology

My area of expertise is understanding mechanisms involved in a variety of cancers and I specifically focus on a pathway which controls cellular growth. This pathway is the insulin/TSC/Rheb/mTOR pathway and has been found to be deregulated in renal cell carcinomas and neuroendocrine tumors. The key player in this signaling is the protein mTOR (mammalian Target of Rapamycin), which is being studied as a therapeutic target in clinical trials. mTOR is activated by another protein called Rheb which is a homolog of the oncoprotein, Ras. My lab is focusing on inhibiting this pathway using different approaches.

The first approach involves the use of a chemical screen. We are screening more than 100 chemically conditioned plant and marine extracts provided by the CSUCI Alzheimer's Institute for potential mTOR inhibitors. This screen is being conducted by a team of four students and utilizes mammalian cell lines as a model system. The experimental strategy involves the treatment of these cells with the compounds in a time and dose dependent manner and subsequent analysis of the proliferative capacity of the cells using viability assays. We have screened 70 compounds so far and have two promising lead compounds which are being studied in detail.

Our second approach involves the use of RNA interference technology to silence gene expression in mammalian

cells. RNAi is a potent method of turning off specific genes using short interfering RNAs (siRNAs). We are attempting to silence the expression of the Rheb gene in a variety of mammalian cell lines and monitoring the ensuing effects on the mTOR pathway. This project is being conducted by one student. So far ten different silencing RNA molecules have been analyzed.

Our third approach involves the use of proteomics to decipher the mTOR pathway in greater detail. Specifically, we are trying to isolate proteins which interact with Rheb and mTOR and study their function. We are using recombinant DNA technology to study the protein,

Tpt1 (a tumor protein), which has been shown to bind to Rheb. These experiments are being conducted by two students who are over-expressing this protein in bacteria and will subsequently purify it for structural analysis. In addition, two students are also using an alternate

strategy called TAP (Tandem Affinity Purification) to look for proteins which interact with Rheb in mammalian cells.

Finally I have initiated another project recently which involves screening of compounds regulating adipogenesis (fat formation) in adipocytes. Presently two students are working on this project. Our overall strategy will be crucial in understanding mTOR and Rheb in finer detail and may have a therapeutic potential for cancers and fat regulation in the future.



Addressing Complex Problems In Whale Biology

By Dr. Blake Gillespie,
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Two scientists have come together from the very different disciplines of Biology and Chemistry to address complex problems in whale biology. Dr. Rachel Cartwright, Biology Lecturer, has long experience in cetacean ecology that led to a set of questions that can be handily addressed in collaboration with my work in the biochemistry laboratory. Our interdisciplinary approach to problem solving provides a key lesson for students, who see that scientists from different fields can solve new problems and learn new skills together. More importantly, our students put these lessons into immediate practice in the laboratory, getting first hand experience in active research projects.

Most recently, we developed an interdisciplinary course that brings students directly to the whales to participate in Dr. Cartwright's long-established field ecology research projects. In March of 2009, nine students flew to Maui, where humpback whales of the Central North Pacific stock spend the spring nursing their newborn calves. The students spent January-April learning the basics of whale ecology and spent their spring break on the water, monitoring mother-calf interactions and habitat choice in an effort to correlate these to abiotic factors such as water quality and anthropogenic disturbances. Later this spring, we will join with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary to take these same students into the Santa



Barbara Channel. Our students will apply their newly-acquired skills to the behavioral ecology of our local cetacean celebrities, the California Grey whales, whose calves travel through the Channel in April to their northern feeding grounds.

Collaborating with Michelle Berman of the Marine Mammal Stranding Network and Kristie West of Hawai'i Pacific University, our research shows how the animals' behavior is correlated to their physiology. Cartwright is working with a group of students extracting myoglobin from neonate, juvenile and adult whale and dolphin muscle tissue to probe how myoglobin content tracks with juvenile development. I am studying the composition of cetacean blubber, identifying dozens of individual lipid types in a given sample, and comparing dozens of samples to build a database of lipid profiles by species, age, gender and cause of death. Since the development of juvenile muscle myoglobin stores allows an animal to access different food sources, and since changes in an animal's diet are reflected in its blubber composition, our two projects mesh perfectly.

Though the projects described here represent only a portion of our individual research agendas, our interdisciplinary and collaborative approach to science, and our dedication to involving students at every level, exemplify how science is done at CSUCI. ◀



So You Do Research?

By Dr. Geoff Dougherty,
Professor of Physics

Someone, somewhere said, "What is research, but a blind date with knowledge?" That sums it up pretty well. You have an interest in a certain area, you poke and pry at it with a purpose, but you never really know what you're going to find until you find it.

This is how it continues to be with me. I'm interested in applying image analysis techniques to medical images, in an effort to extract the maximum diagnostic and prognostic information from them. This curiosity has led me to work on breast cancer, arteriosclerosis, hepatocellular cancer, osteoporosis, scoliosis, retinal diseases ... and even the removal of tattoos and unwanted hair by laser light.

Texture in medical images can be used to distinguish normal from abnormal tissue. I developed novel metrics based on fractal signature and lacunarity that have proven useful for diagnosing the early losses in bone quality that lead to osteoporosis. My results have been included in a database used by Lunar, the leading manufacturer of x-ray DEXA equipment. One of my graduate students and I have just submitted a paper on continuing work in interpreting lacunarity.

Increasing vessel curvature (tortuosity) is a risk factor in the development of atherosclerosis: and the tortuosity of the iliac arteries is a factor in deciding on whether to use stents to repair aneurysms. In two seminal papers, I proposed robust metrics for the quantitative measurement of three-dimensional tortuosity using approximate piece-wise spline fitting to

data balls centered along the mid-line axis of the vessel. This led to applying this work to the tortuosity of retinal blood vessels to predict the onset of systemic disease, and to quantifying the curvature of the spine in scoliosis. I recently submitted a paper on the former, and presented results on the latter to the prestigious S.P.I.E. Medical Imaging conference.

Scholarship and teaching are both concerned with the process of learning, and are mutually supportive. I find that my continuing research and intellectual curiosity positively impacts my teaching practice and student learning. As a result of my work in medical imaging, I was approached to author a textbook on image analysis. Little did I know what I was getting into! Planning and realizing such a project, with fourteen chapters, several hundred figures and several appendices integrated into a logical and engaging narrative challenged me almost to the limit. But the book has finally appeared (Digital Image Processing for Medical Applications, Cambridge University Press) and I'm currently enjoying a warm glow of satisfaction.

Writing is an enjoyable experience for the most part, but word-smithing requires a sustained effort. I have to admit that I prefer the smaller chunks of writing that comprise a research paper. Writing a book involves a longer attention span that I have to struggle to sustain. I'm not sure that I have another book in me. For the moment, I'm preparing for a sabbatical semester in Australia investigating early signs of osteoarthritis and Alzheimer's disease in MRI images. C'est la vie! ◀



The Science of

By Lori Putnam

“I was born in Michoacán,” begins Señor Murillo, a documented immigrant farm worker now living in Oxnard. “I worked in the fields planting corn and strawberries from the time I was six or seven to now. It’s hard work; well, all work is hard, but fieldwork is the hardest job there is.”

Señor Murillo is a resident of a community serving low-income farm workers and their families developed by the Camarillo Economic Development Corporation. His story, among many others, was captured by students enrolled in an interdisciplinary undergraduate course entitled Narratives of the Working Class and co-taught by Sociology Professor Elizabeth Hartung and English Professor Renny Christopher in Spring 2006.

Hartung, who chairs CSUCI’s Sociology and Anthropology Programs, wanted to examine how affordable housing impacts quality of life for farm worker families, a significant demographic of Ventura County.

“Their stories show the side of a housing crisis that especially affects very low income families,” she observed. The residents of the Villa Caesar Chavez complex are part of an ongoing research study by Hartung to examine how housing impacts other aspects of people’s lives. She is revisiting the complex for a second round of interviews focused on building and maintaining community. According to Hartung, this kind of research lies at the heart of sociology today in helping us to understand and cope with social change.





Coping with Change

We're Not in Kansas Anymore... Or Are We?

Hartung herself is not a stranger to change. A Kansas native, she came to the Golden State somewhat reluctantly. Having earned her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1985, she found herself in a marketplace inundated with doctorates. "I sent my resume everywhere," recalled Hartung. "When California State University Fresno interviewed me, I thought of Venice Beach. Imagine my surprise when I landed in the Midwest of California!"

During her tenure at Fresno, Hartung took yet another step away from her Midwestern roots to participate in a teaching exchange with the University of the Basque Country in Lejona, Spain. She recalls feeling surprised at finding herself quite comfortable in Gexto, a town near Bilboa, despite the fact that she didn't speak Spanish at the time. "I realized Gexto reminded me a lot of the town where I grew up, where everyone knows each other, and each other's business. And although I ran away from that as a young adult, when I found it in another country and culture, I found it charming. I felt like I'd come home."

Hartung is a strong advocate of study abroad programs, describing their impact on students as life-changing. Not

only do students broaden their own experiences with different cultures—something particularly important for students in the social sciences—they also discover more about themselves. "By moving out of an environment that you know and understand into one that you don't, you learn a lot about yourself," said Hartung.

Finding Her Way to Channel Islands

In 2005, Hartung was invited to join the CSUCI faculty. She and her department colleagues are committed to providing students with the skills to succeed in graduate or professional schools, or immediately enter the job market. Studies like the one Hartung is conducting gives her students real-world experience that can translate into a variety of professions.

Hartung describes the last four years as labor intensive, but very satisfying:

"I am grateful to be at a place where I look forward to coming to work. That is incalculable in terms of what that is worth to me." ◀



Creating Opportunities for All

Access, Orientation and Transition Programs

By Lori Putnam

Creating a welcoming and safe environment for students to learn and grow is just one of the many goals of Access, Orientation and Transition (AOT) Programs. As part of Student Affairs, AOT also seeks to create equal access to higher education and assist students in their transitions into and through the CSUCI community.

It is home to six distinctive programs: Disability Resource Programs; the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP); Educational Talent Search; Multicultural and Women's & Gender Student Center; New Student, Orientation and Transition Programs; and University Outreach.

Asking Damien Peña, Interim Dean of Students, to single out one program over another is much like asking a parent to pick his favorite child. "The staff are the reason why all of our programs are very successful," remarked Peña, who came to Channel Islands nearly two years ago after serving nine years at California Lutheran University. "Many staff are one or two persons deep and resources are definitely limited. Yet the energy they have, and the programs and services they are creating, help meet the needs of our students. I am in awe of them."

Born and raised in Oxnard, Peña admires Channel Islands for the many opportunities it provides the local community as well. "I'm proud of how the University serves the community." Indeed, AOT serves a diverse student population beginning as early as third grade. Through the University Outreach program, elementary school students are encouraged to chart their path to college through tours of the University campus and presentations on proper study habits. As added motivation, students visiting campus take a class picture in cap and gown printed with the year of when they would graduate college.

AOT also offers a variety of programs for new students. This summer, the Island View Orientation will welcome 440 freshmen in a special two-day orientation that involves more than 35 on and off campus services and departments.

"There is a lot of good that we're doing here at Channel Islands, and I appreciate the fact that CI creates opportunities for strong collaboration, institutional support, and validation of the work we're doing," added Peña. "Not too many places have that." ◀



Leadership and Pioneering Spirit Makes Sorority Chapter Unique

By Lara Shapiro-Snair '09

Merriam-Webster defines a sorority as, “a women’s student organization formed chiefly for social purposes and having a name consisting of Greek letters.” Most sororities would argue with this oversimplified definition, and the sisters of Zeta Pi Omega at CSU Channel Islands are no exception. We had a chance to sit down with some of the sisters and learn what this club has to offer Channel Islands and the surrounding community.

“For me, the main focus of our group is strengthening the image of the female while developing leadership skills that will last a lifetime,” said Shannon Rains, Zeta Pi Omega Secretary for ’08-’09. “Philanthropy is how we can grow as people, and by devoting most of our efforts to women and children, I believe we are promoting positive female leadership.”

Like all Zeta Pi Omega sisters, Rains really takes the mission to heart. She illustrated this commitment by helping to forge a three year relationship between the sorority and Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Ventura County. The sorority has raised over \$3,000 for the group by participating in their annual Bowling For Kids’ Sake fundraiser, and is excited about working with the group in years to come.

The CSUCI chapter of Zeta Pi Omega founded in 2003, is the longest standing club on campus that receives no direct funding from the University. Club advisor Lisa Racine is very proud of what the sisters have accomplished and says it takes a special kind of person to do what they have done.

“When all the founding mothers graduated it left only three members, all of whom had just joined, and they knew it was on them to grow the organization,” Racine said. “So it is a pioneering spirit, young women stepping up and taking leadership, which makes them unique.”

Vice President Christina Houston and President Katie Campanelli agree that Zeta Pi Omega sisters have done something special with the group.

“We have had such successful recruitments over the past three years, and we have seen it grow from 10 members in 2006 to 30 members now, becoming so much more well-known and recognized as a positive group on campus. It has come so far, and it makes me proud to know that I was a part of that growth process,” said Houston.

Campanelli agreed, stating, “Zeta Pi Omega sisters should be proud of being a part of this group, and they should show it so that new girls coming in want to join and be proud of it too.” Campanelli cites the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer as an effort she is personally proud of.

“It was very rewarding for me to be able to participate because many people in my family have passed away from breast cancer. Three of us participated and we did 39.3 miles in two days,” Campanelli said.

Other philanthropic efforts the group has undertaken include making teddy bears for pediatric cancer patients, working food shares, and participating in the MS Walk-a-Thon to raise money for multiple sclerosis research.

But helping the community isn’t the only benefit to being a part of this group of young women. The sisters of Zeta Pi Omega form a bond that supports them throughout their college careers and into life after college. Ginger Nguyen, ’08-’09 Treasurer, says that the opportunity to make friends with her same ideals really drew her to the sorority.

“The friendships and the bonds that you make with the girls is something that cannot be mimicked in any other situation,” said Nguyen. “Nowhere in my life have I been a part of such a unique bond.” ◀

OPEN FOR BUSINESS



By Lori Putnam

Under a bright Ventura County sky, friends, family members, and admirers of Martin V. “Bud” Smith gathered in front of the new Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making to celebrate another milestone in the legacy of the noted Oxnard entrepreneur and philanthropist.

“My grandfather hedged all of his bets on Ventura County,” said Woodward Gardiner, son of Smith’s daughter, Toni S. Gardiner, and a featured speaker at the April 3, 2009, building dedication. “He’d be pleased to know that the school of business in Ventura County and this Center are now open for business.”

The MVS Center ceremony drew a standing room-only audience as President Richard R. Rush welcomed guests that included members of the Smith family, city and county government representatives, local business leaders, students, staff, and faculty. Smith, fondly called “Mr. Oxnard” for his role in the growth and development of Oxnard, was a true American success story according to Rush. “He was a person who could see the future when others had difficulty seeing the present,” remarked Rush.

State of the Art

The MVS Center is a testament to Smith’s forward-thinking business style. The 4,148 square-foot facility features a state-of-the-art 60-seat classroom equipped with two projection systems, scrolling LED ticker display, and advanced audio/visual system to encourage an

interactive learning experience. Work stations include a power outlet, data port, and Internet access — essential tools for students participating in computer simulations. Two adjacent conference rooms support smaller group meetings. An expansive lobby allows for the possibility of expanding the MVS Center into a larger conference facility in the future.

According to William P. Cordeiro, Director of the MVS School of Business & Economics, the MVS Center crystallizes the school’s philosophy of the three Cs: critical thinking, communication, and collaboration. “Generally what employers want to see from graduates are the ‘three Cs’: can they work with each other, think on their feet, and communicate effectively,” said Cordeiro. The MVS Center will also serve as a place to conduct research in group decision making.

A Builder of Communities

During the ceremony, Cordeiro reminded the audience that above all else, Smith was a builder — of family, of relationships, of successful businesses, and of communities. The MVS Center continues Smith’s legacy by building futures. “The Center offers a physical setting and a virtual presence to promote learning with students and the community,” added Cordeiro.

Alexandra Mitchell, Student Government President, echoed Cordeiro’s sentiments. “Because of you,” said Mitchell, addressing both the Smith family and other



key supporters, “CSUCI students can envision and obtain a bright future.”

Smith launched his career with a hamburger stand that became the foundation for his first restaurant, the Colonial House. When he returned from the Army Air Corps in 1944, he built an Oxnard icon, the Wagon Wheel Restaurant Motel. Over the course of half a century, Smith’s portfolio would grow to include more than 200 properties including the Oxnard Financial Plaza.

According to Smith’s daughters, their father loved Ventura County. “He saw the county as a land of great opportunity that was a fabulous place to raise a family and make a living,” said Victoria V. Pozzi, speaking on behalf of her sisters. “He was very appreciative of its residents for supporting his endeavors and enterprises. He listened to their opinions and respected their ideas.”

Today, the four sisters follow in their father’s footsteps. “Our family believes in the people of Ventura County,” added Pozzi, “and by contributing to CSUCI, it provides a way for residents to stay in the county to realize their dreams, finish their education, and then continue to help the county grow.”

The MVS Center will officially open to students in the fall, and the facility will be made available to organizations and businesses as well. ◀



Speakers Encourage Graduates



The University celebrated its seventh commencement ceremony on May 16 with nearly 9,000 parents, families, and friends who cheered on more than 670 students receiving their bachelor's or master's degrees or teaching credentials.

Keynote remarks were provided by CSU Trustees A. Robert Linscheid and Lou Monville, President Richard R. Rush, and Student Government President and graduating senior Alexandra Mitchell. Kristi Adame, '07 alumna, sang the National Anthem and graduating senior Andrew Antone led the singing of the University's alma mater.



"You're at an intersection of possibilities," Rush said. "And if I may quote the great Yogi Berra, 'When you come to a fork in the road, take it.' Take the time to continue learning about other people and other cultures."



to Find Different Paths



“My friends, we have been given the cherished gift of a thoughtful, well-intentioned, meaningful, and rigorous education. Because of this wonderful University, we the students, I mean we the alumni, are trained and disciplined to make a difference in the world.”

“Graduates we wish you all the best luck and future success. California needs you now more than ever. Good luck, have a great day, Godspeed and do great things. We know you’ve been prepared to do so.”

“This commencement season, our system will graduate over 90,000 graduates. Clearly an arduous and humbling task in these budget times, but today is a day of celebration and it’s our honor to be here to witness the celebration of these graduates into California’s workforce.”



ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

By Lori Putnam



1- Corey Collin as Jerry Hyland and Juliet Naulin as May Daniels

When Dr. Catherine Scott Burriss arrived at California State University Channel Islands in the fall of 2006, the University's Performing Arts program existed only on paper. She would be part of a team responsible for turning words on paper into reality for the University's first semester of Performing Arts students.

With a guiding principle of developing a program that was truly interdisciplinary and collaborative, the Performing Arts faculty looked to restore an integration among the disciplines of dance, music, and theatre that had been lost in the modern century. "Often times you see programs that combine dance and theatre, but not music. Other times there's theatre and a separate dance program," explained Burriss. "That separation was not common before the 20th century in the history of performing arts. However, we chose to bring them all together."

Enter Stage Right

Burriss is an Assistant Professor of Performing Arts and served as the creative force behind the University's first two spring productions. Last year's inaugural stage production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, held outdoors in the Library Courtyard, attracted more than 600 students, faculty, family, and friends during its brief run. It also showcased the talents of 42 CSUCI students representing seven different majors. In describing the popularity of the





- 2- Edward Padilla consults his script before an entrance as George Lewis in rehearsal
 3- Bridget Lindgren as Mrs. Walker
 4- Tamara Moore as Phyllis Fontaine and Juliet Naulin as May Daniels
 5- Leah Cunningham as Miss Leighton sings in between scenes
 6- Hannah Markham, Scottie Batstone, and Jeffery Alexandar as hotel staff trying to be discovered
 7- (from left) Layla Marston (obscured), Samantha Netzen, and Eddie Padilla follow along as Juliet Naulin rehearses with Burriss
 8- (from left) Corey Collin as Jerry Hyland, Layla Marston as Helen Hobart, Samantha Netzen as Susan Walker



performances, Burriss observed, "It was a joyous surprise. The campus and local community are hungry for performing arts." Associate Professor, Luda Popenhagen, will direct next spring's performances.

Both last year's and this year's productions were made possible in part with support from the University's Instructionally Related Activities fund and the Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics, yet another example of the interdisciplinary nature of the program and the University itself. In fact, a core class entitled Business and the Performing Arts is co-taught by Dr. William P. Cordeiro, Senior Associate Dean and Director of the School of Business & Economics and Dr. Luda Popenhagen, Associate Professor of Performing Arts.

This season, Burriss planned a departure from the Bard and collaborated with students on what she called "a witty and whacky satire of Hollywood in the early 30s." Commonly known as a

precursor to the popular Gene Kelly musical, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Once in a Lifetime* is considered the most successful collaboration of Depression-era playwrights Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. It follows the journey of three vaudevillian stage actors as they seek fame and fortune in Hollywood during the transition from silent films to "talkies".

This year the Performing Arts program added a second week of performances in response to last year's resounding interest. Opening night was held on Friday, April 17 with performances running through Saturday, April 25.

Exit Stage Left

Although the program might be considered small at 23 majors, Burriss sees the innate value of the size to allow every student to shine. "This program will always be a place where students can gain lots of experience and personal attention. Most performing classes now have a limit on enrollment to keep a low student/teacher ratio."

According to Burriss, the performing arts offer practical, transferable skills as well. "Regardless of whether you are in the arts world or not, people who can work well together in a group and think creatively will be in demand. That's what we train people to do," said Burriss. "That's what I see in the program as a real potential for success of our students." ◀



Building a Network of Support

By Lori Putnam

College is a time of discovery... of new talents, cultures, and ways of thinking. It also is a time of transitions, which can mean new challenges for students. The University recognizes this natural dichotomy and has developed a breadth of programs and services to assist students in all aspects of their college career.

Toga Night

Students dressed in the de rigueur white bed sheets make olive wreath crowns at one of the arts and crafts booths lining the street. A few cardboard chariots race by as a DJ plays. Unsanctioned dorm party? Actually, no, Housing and Residential Education co-sponsored the event along with Student Life and ASI as part of monthly block parties held between Anacapa and Santa Cruz Villages.

"Once Santa Cruz Village student housing was built across from Anacapa, the natural idea was to

connect the villages. The parties also offer a connection between older and younger students," said Sarah Hawkins, Assistant Director for Residential Education. A committee of students and staff coordinates the parties.

Cindy Derrico, Director of Housing and Residential Education, hopes students will view her staff as advocates. "We are working on doing more for students in a more impactful way," said Derrico.

Peer Tutoring

Students seeking additional support in the classroom can turn to the University Writing Center and the Learning Resource Center, both part of Academic Advising and Learning Support. Each semester, the University Writing Center assists students by individual appointments or through an innovative program that brings student tutors into the classroom.

Juan Carlos Villanueva, a first year student, said of his in-class tutor, "It's like talking to a person who is more like a friend. Sometimes I get scared talking to the teacher." Professor Stacey Anderson, who teaches Composition and Rhetoric, confirms the value of student tutors in her class. "Tutors pull me out of my teaching head by noticing things that I don't," said Anderson. "They also help me to see if anything is unclear about my assignments. The tutors help to provide a bridge for students."

The Learning Resource Center, located adjacent to the University Writing Center in the John Spore Broome Library, attracts students looking for support in math and other areas. "Both centers welcome everyone at CSUCI to make use of these valuable resources," said Sue Saunders, Director of Academic Advising and Learning Support, who believes these resources are essential to student retention and success. ◀

Founding President's Scholars Complete Successful Tenure

By Dr. Dennis Muraoka, Interim Associate Provost

May 16 was a special day for CSU Channel Islands' first graduating President's Scholars, Jennifer Bonsagne and Melody Mattingly, as President Rush presented to them their bachelor's degrees. The President's Scholars Program provides outstanding students with a scholarship that is renewable for four years and includes full resident fees, a generous textbook allowance, and use of a laptop computer.

As President's Scholars, Jennifer and Melody interacted often with President Rush. When asked about the University's first President's Scholars, President Rush stated:

"I am extremely proud of Jennifer and Melody. They were not only exceptional students, but also outstanding members of the CI community. During their four years here, they served as leaders and role

models for their fellow students. Our first President's Scholars, Jennifer and Melody, have certainly blazed a trail for future President's Scholars."

CSUCI would like to expand the President's Scholars Program and bring more outstanding students like Jennifer and Melody to CI. If you would like to help, please visit us online at www.csuci.edu/giving for more information.

Jennifer and Melody reflect on their experiences and future plans.



Jennifer Bonsagne, Mathematics Major

"As one of the founding President's Scholars, I had the unique experience of simultaneously benefitting from, and helping to shape a program designed for student success. The faculty and staff were extremely supportive and invested time and energy to ensure that the education I received was top-quality. I appreciated the caliber of education provided to all students, as well as the

individual opportunities I had from being a part of the President's Scholars Program. I look forward to starting a master's degree in mathematics at CSUCI in the fall and I'm proud to continue being a part of the CI community."



Melody Mattingly, English Major

"The French author Anatole France once wrote that "nine tenths of education is encouragement." As a President's Scholar, I was greatly encouraged to pursue my wide-ranging educational interests—from academic conversations in the classroom to campus involvement as President of Student Programming Board. CI became my second home. I plan to pursue a

career in technical writing in the Ventura County area so I can continue to serve my community as an alumna of CSUCI."



Foundation Board



Cindi Daley

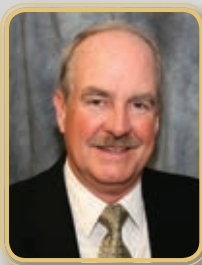
Occupation: Partner, Damian Vance LLC, a real estate investment company; five years on the Foundation Board

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI?

Originally, I was inspired by Joyce Kennedy, Jack O’Connell, and Vickie Pozzi.

Your most memorable experience?

Moving furniture out of what is now Topanga Hall to make room for the Channel Islands Ballet Studio in 1998.



Mark Sellers

Occupation: Attorney; two years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI?

Working for a local public agency and evaluating community needs, I realized the benefits of having a local four-year, state university in the county years ago.

Your most memorable experience? Walking with Handel Evans, former CSUCI president, through empty buildings, neglected court yards, and then starting to see the vision for a very unique and charming campus.



Norma Maidel

Occupation: Retired – formerly a teacher and an educational consultant; three years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI?

Having a university in our community is a dream come true. Whatever I can do to make it happen, count me in.

Your most memorable experience? I remember well when the facility was a ‘hospital’. So every step of transition to what has become CSUCI is a memorable experience. How proud I am to serve even a small roll in its development.



Judith Linton, Secretary

Occupation: Business Owner; five years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI?

The opportunity to be of service to a grass-roots institute of learning in our community and, I must admit, Dr. Rush’s dynamic personality.

Your most memorable experience: Attending the Commencement ceremony last year - very emotional and inspiring to both myself and my husband.



Linda Dullam

Occupation: Strawberry Farming; seven years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI?

I was so determined that there should be a public university in our county. I was an early backer and noisy cheerleader of President Evans who made it possible. I am now an enthusiastic backer of President Rush who keeps the dream growing.

Your most memorable experience? Attending the first graduation and the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. I have had joyful tears in my eyes many times on campus.



William J. Kearney, Chair

Occupation: Financial Advisor; five years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI?

The establishment of a four-year, public university is so critical to the long-term viability of our community. With this in mind, I was delighted to be asked to become involved with CSUCI.

Your most memorable experience? The collection of special emotions I undergo every time I interact with our University. Including viewing the John Spore Broome Library full of students and community members teasing their curiosity while attempting to satisfy their interests; witnessing an overflowing commencement ceremony, celebrating hundreds of separate narratives and stories, each attached to a different dream and ambition; or simply, observing groups of students, young and old, interacting in ways which will help define their lives and the future of our community.

Board Members



Steve Blois, Vice-Chair

Occupation: Construction Consultant; five years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI? I was inspired that our area finally had a four-year public university. I wanted to support and encourage it.

Your most memorable experience:

Renovating the courtyards; specifically, being “caught” by President Rush while driving a tractor through the halls of the administration building!



Alexandra Mitchell

Occupation: ‘09 Biology; CSUCI Student Body President; two years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI? From the beginning of my academic career at CI, I have been inspired to get involved and be a part of the ‘CI family’. I have been

honored to serve the student body of CI and be engaged in the growth and development of our wonderful young campus.

Your most memorable experience? My experience as a student leader has been an incredible privilege for me. It has been an honor to represent the students of CI, and engage with faculty, staff, administrators, and community members. I have enjoyed every minute of it!

Members to be interviewed for next issue: Ron Polanski/Treasurer, Harold Edwards, Carol Evans, Larry Hynes, Pauline G. Malysko, John Ridgway, Paul Rivera, and Tim Wolfe



Dennis Gaiser

Occupation: Retired Businessman; three years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI? I was asked to be a member of the board by Mark Lisagor. I had supported CSUCI before and attended some functions.

Your most memorable experience?

The opportunity to meet and talk with some of the students attending and sitting at my table during events. It was a pleasure to speak with them and learn about their accomplishments and goals.



Ruby Oertle

Occupation: Owner, Capistrano’s Restaurant; three years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI? Being able to serve on a board with other philanthropic individuals who share the same vision that CSUCI is our region’s best catalyst for positive economic and social growth.

Your most memorable experience? Attending the commencement ceremony of our first freshman graduating class.



Neil Paton

Occupation: Aerospace Consultant; one year on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI? One cannot help but see the energy and innovative approach that surrounds this campus.

Your most memorable experience?

Meeting all the interesting people involved with the University and seeing this beautiful campus for the first time.



Mary C. McCurdy-Kramer

Occupation: Travel Consultant - Business Owner; two years on the Foundation Board.

What inspired you to get involved with CSUCI? The great opportunity to bring my knowledge, my resources and friends to help in shaping one’s future.

Your most memorable experience?

Attending the University’s first Commencement ceremony, because that day...the hopes and dreams of the students and of the University were realized! ◀

Donating to *Your* University – A Value

By Julia Wilson, Vice President for University Advancement

The economic downturn has prompted many people to re-assess their values. What are the most important things in their life? What are the investments that not only will be safe but will help assure a future for themselves and their families? With personal financial portfolios diminished, the decisions about where to invest become even more important.

At California State University Channel Islands we believe that investment in your University has always been a way of expressing confidence in the value of education – value in the knowledge imparted and value for the young people who receive it. This belief should remain strong in good times and bad.

The Value of Knowledge

Education has always been held in high regard and its value is undeniable. Education is the one element of our society that we *know* provides a return on its investment. For every dollar the state of California invests in a CSU campus, the return to the economy—over

four dollars—returns in the form of an educated workforce and in contributions to businesses. With a four-year degree from Channel Islands, our graduates have the opportunity to add positively to the economy of our region.


The Value of Investing in our Young People

A Channel Islands education imparts knowledge and prepares students to enter the workforce with critical thinking and team working skills to follow their chosen profession. But it does so much more than that. Young adults learn social behavior and the art of negotiating through the maturing process. Students

have the chance to live and make decisions on their own – for many for the first time in their lives. Students learn the value of international and multicultural perspectives, and the importance of being civically engaged with their community. The value on that? Priceless! Whether your child or someone from your neighborhood, investing in the youth of our region provides strong social, political and business leaders for tomorrow. Additionally, Channel Islands provides valuable opportunities for adult learners to up-grade their skills through certificate programs that make them more competitive in the workplace.

Nursing Labs






"We never thought we could make the donation we did... but after working with the University, we realized this was something we could do."

Bob & Norma Lagomarsino
Friends of CSU Channel Islands

Establish Your Planned Gift Today

Your planned gift to CSU Channel Islands can provide **you and your family** with **guaranteed life income** and **significant tax benefits** while supporting higher education in Ventura County.



For information and a tour of the campus contact Nichole Ipach, Director of University Development at (805) 437-8893

e Proposition

Why is it important to have private support for a public, state-funded University?

The state of California provides only 64% of the total cost of educating a student at CSU Channel Islands. That means neither the state, nor students, cover the full operating costs of the University. CSUCI relies on private support to:

- create critically needed academic programs not fully funded by the state, such as nursing;
- develop innovative programs that help retain students and enrich the University experience;
- award scholarships to needy and talented students;
- support faculty teaching and research through state-of-the-art facilities and research dollars that enrich the classroom experience;
- develop athletic programs to give students a competitive experience that will help them grow as individuals and leaders.

How are donations managed?

The CSUCI Foundation has a fiduciary responsibility to manage all private assets of the University. Endowment funds are managed

by an external investment firm whose track record and ethical commitment is exemplary. Oversight is provided by the finance committee of the board of directors, made up of professionals, each of whom has career experience in business and investment management. The finance committee meets regularly with the professional investors to assure the University and its donors the most prudent investment strategies are being deployed.

Additionally, the Foundation assures all donors that their wishes regarding the use of their donation will be honored at all times. Great

care is taken to insure that the highest level of integrity is imposed and the funds will at no time be diverted from their original intent.

We Ask for Your Consideration

When reviewing your investments, please give CSUCI consideration. Whether a donation is given for a special interest or the general fund, whether is it large or small – all are vital to the success, quality, and prosperity of CSU Channel Islands. It is a true investment in your future, the future of our region and our state. ◀



President Richard R. Rush, celebrates this year's 2009 Business & Technology Partnership Scholarship Recipients. From left to right: Jean Reomonida, Christele Cardenas, Kerri Macias, Eric Pham and Alisha Leal

2009 Scholarship Recipients

Scholarships

The University, in participation with the community, has an endowment, as well as annual donations, that provide scholarships based on academic excellence, financial need and community service. This annual scholarship opportunity takes place each spring and applications are open to both new and continuing students. Students may complete a scholarship application, which is found on the Financial Aid website: www.csuci.edu/financialaid.

Airborne Technologies Annual Scholarship
James Basile Endowed Scholarship
Bernard and Barbara Bobitch Scholarships in the Health Sciences
Bostwick Endowed Scholarship

Business & Technology Partnership Scholarship

California Strawberry Festival Endowed Scholarship

Camarillo Art and Jazz Festival Music Scholarship

Camarillo Noontime Optimist Scholarship

Citizens for Youth in Ventura County Endowed Scholarship Fund

City of Camarillo Endowed Scholarship

Collaboration Interaction (Communication) Scholarship

Delta Kappa Gamma Annual Scholarship

Jensen-Fraeur Nursing Scholarship

Frisch Family Scholarship

Gerl and Fred Gretan Nursing Scholarship

Hammer Family Trust Endowed Scholarship

Dorothy Huston Nursing Scholarship

Mildred Hartung/Beatrice Nuñez International Scholarship

Lemon Fest Scholarship

Carolyn and Harry Lundgren Angel Endowed Scholarship

Anna Mae "Tillie" Newton Nursing Scholarship

Nursing Pipeline Program Scholarship

Oxnard Ambassadors Endowed Scholarship

Poe Family Endowed Scholarship

SCIART Pat Richards Art Scholarship

Scott Family Endowed Scholarship

Tiplady-Burgess Endowed Scholarship

Alumni Successfully Step Out

By Lara Shapiro-Snair '09

Kristi Adame

After receiving her masters from USC, Kristi sang the national anthem at CI's 2009 Commencement Ceremony



Graduating in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in business management, Oxnard native Kristi Adame found her passion in giving back to the community by working with at-risk kids. She immediately went on to the University of Southern California in search of a master's degree, which she completed in May. Now on the cusp of her new life, the driven and inspiring Adame shares some memories and advice for other students.

Why did you decide to attend Channel Islands for your undergraduate work?

It was the beginning of an era as a member of the inaugural freshman class in fall 2003 and I saw an opportunity to be a part of the formative process, be a part of something really special at Channel Islands. It is also such a beautiful location and it was great that the school was close to home, but being a part of the community is what truly drew me to Channel Islands. It is a very special place and the student-centered philosophy is so important to the growth of a student. My best memory is the cohesiveness that is unique to CI. This school is like a family.

How would you say CI helped prepare you for your future?

My bachelor's in psychology really provided me with a good foundation for social work. I applied the theories and concepts I learned from my undergraduate work in psychology, seeing time and time again the parallel between the two fields. As for business management, it's really important to know about things like business ethics in any field you enter and one day I would like to open my own practice.

What are you doing with your life right now?

I am very proud to share that I completed my Master's of Social Work (MSW) at the USC School of Social Work. My concentration was in Families & Children and Pupil Personnel Services Credential. I would like to obtain my license in clinical social work and continue to work with at-risk populations, helping individuals with psycho-socio-emotional issues, and implementing therapeutic interventions based on the modalities I learned at USC.

What advice would you have for CI students preparing for a career in your field?

Explore the field by volunteering in the community and be prepared to step into experiences that are totally foreign to you. It is also important to be culturally competent and sensitive to the people you will come in contact with. As a social worker you are working to help them process emotions and provide them with support they need.

Any parting thoughts?

Life is about faith, hope and human relationships. Faith that tomorrow will be a better day, hope that you can rise above the circumstance that is before you, and human relationships – the personal contact that we have with others is a vehicle for change. Do not limit yourself, but challenge yourself to new heights, be willing to step outside your comfort zone, take risks and embrace the unknown. This is how we build character, knowledge and confidence needed to fulfill one's goals. ◀

Outside Their Comfort Zones



Anna Wan

Anna is shown here with her husband Daniel Brice.

Completing an amazing 52 units in one year, Anna Wan graduated magna cum laude in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in liberal studies and concentration in math, at the age of 19. Then, passing all three CSETs for math at one time, Wan, a southern California native, immediately began teaching math at Pacifica High School in Oxnard. After teaching three years Wan has been accepted to a fully funded Ph.D. program in mathematics education at Auburn University. Anna shares her amazing story below.

You have a very unique story. Could you relate a quick synopsis of it for our readers?

Growing up in Northridge I primarily spoke Chinese at home. My first and second grade teachers placed me in ESL and SPED classes but in third grade I was identified as highly gifted. I attended a highly gifted magnet school where the same 20 kids attended each year. Since the only highly gifted high school was too far to drive for my Mom, she enrolled me in a regular high school where I became just a number. When I miserably failed

my freshman year of high school I enrolled in Oxnard College to make up for lost credits and before I knew it, I had finished high school at age 16 and graduated with CSF and honors. I decided to major in architecture and left home to attend LA Pierce College where once again I became just a number. With only 3.5 units completed and on academic probation, I moved back home at the age of 17. This was when I decided to enroll at Channel Islands.

Why CSU Channel Islands?

Channel Islands was just starting at the time and I knew that I would receive one-on-one attention in these unique small class sizes. CI prepared me with what I needed to be the best high school educator I could be. Everything from the credential classes, faculty interaction, and what I was doing day-to-day in classrooms, prepared me for the real world.

What made you decide to attend graduate school at Auburn University?

I didn't think I was effective enough working at my existing level. I wanted to have a larger knowledge base to have a more lasting impact

on mathematics education. Auburn offered me the best package for graduate school, fully funded. It also helped that my husband, Daniel Brice, was a fully funded mathematics Ph.D. graduate student at Auburn University.

Would you recommend students leaving home for graduate school?

I think humans are creatures of habit and Ventura County is a wonderful place to grow up and live. However, I believe that experiences are best attained outside the comfort zone. In the time that I have been in Alabama I realized the comforts of California. Cholula and Tapatio hot sauce, tofu, and seaweed, are not items you can expect [to find] at a grocery store in Alabama around the corner. The weather is much different too. Although it may say the temperature is 34 degrees outside, wind chill is more like 22 degrees. These are things I would never have experienced in Ventura County.

Any parting thoughts?

I have no idea who wrote this quote but I thought it was appropriate for someone thinking about going to graduate school, "The road to success is dotted with many tempting parking spaces." Don't give in to that temptation. ◀C

Alumni Volunteers Make a Big Difference at Commencement

Each year the Alumni & Friends Association disseminates a free license plate frame to each graduate at the end of the commencement ceremony. With over 800 graduates, this is no small task. It is made possible by the great support of alumni and friend volunteers who take time volunteer year after year. Thank you, Alumni Commencement Team for another job well done!



Tania Garcia, CSUCI Associate Director of Alumni Relations; Cindy Borchard, Treasurer, CSUCI Alumni & Friends Association; Tom Froelich '05 BS Business; Rudy Cortez '05 BS Business; Marie Graves '07 BS Biology; Mark Kirkpatrick '05 BS Business, '07 MBA; Liz Williams, CSUCI Alumni & Friends Member; Aleasa Bennett-Bouyett '04 BA Liberal Studies; and Winnie Major. (Anna Wan '04 BA Liberal Studies not pictured)

ALUMNI

UPDATES



Matt Cameron '08 Political Science

As of July 2008, Matt has been working in Los Angeles as the Staff Assistant to United States Congressman Henry A. Waxman of the 30th District of California which includes Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village. As a student, he interned in Washington, D.C. for Hillary Clinton and has always wanted to be involved in public service. Matt is also happy to report that he is recently engaged to be married.

Amy Stencler '03 Liberal Studies (CSUN-CI), '07 Credential Program '08 MA Education

Recently awarded a \$7500 Garden Grant for providing gardens for student education and therapy, 29 year-old Amy is currently a teacher with The Phoenix School in Camarillo teaching special education students with emotional or behavioral problems affecting their academic success. The Phoenix School is jointly administered by the Ventura County Office of Education and Ventura County Behavioral Health department. Amy received her bachelor's degree while at CSUN-CI and then continued at CSUCI to pursue her credential and eventually her master's degree in education with an emphasis in special education. She also teaches on campus and has worked with Simi Valley High School. Despite a very active education and career, Amy also has three young children—a 3 year-old and twin 6 year-olds.



Christopher M. Hill '07 MBA and Christine V. Hill '07 MBA

This husband and wife duo both graduated from CSUCI's MBA program in 2007. Christopher, formerly at WellPoint, was recently hired on and promoted to Vice President with a fortune 500 managed healthcare organization in Woodland Hills. Christine is the Controller with GPA Technologies, Inc. in Ventura. Christopher, a registered nurse and Navy veteran, and Christine, a long-time accounting professional, have both used their MBA degrees for advancement in their careers. They live in Camarillo with their two children Alyssa and Ryan.

F. Keith McCallion '08 Business, emphasis in Finance

Before Keith, a former Marine, officially graduated this past fall, he was offered the position of Service Technician with Sensortech Systems in Moorpark. Sensortech designs and manufactures process instrumentation, primarily online moisture sensors. Keith works on all aspects of production, testing, research and development and building gauges. ◀



CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS

CI at Night...

CSU Channel Islands experiences a “pink moment” sunset as twilight turns to night.



Calendar of Events

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

2009

June 23-24; 26-27, June 30-July 1;

July 7-8 – Island View Orientation
for Freshmen

August 14 – Island View Orientation
for Transfer Students

October 3 – 10th annual President's Dinner

August 22 – First Saturday classes begin

August 23 – Welcome Celebration,
South Quad, Noon-1:30 p.m.

August 24 – First official day of classes

August 31 – Fourth-annual Dolphin
Classic golf tournament, Spanish
Hills Country Club

October 16-18 – Family Weekend

CI Welcomes New Students and Families

