The Mission View is the official newsletter of each of Channel Islands’ four Centers: Community Engagement, International Affairs, Integrative Studies, and Multicultural Engagement. If you have any suggestions, questions or comments, please contact: Tacey Burnham at tacey.burnham@csuci.edu
On October 24, eleven CI students from various majors competed at the annual California Model United Nations at the Knotts Berry Farm Resort Hotel in Buena Park. We are proud to announce that, while the entire team performed beyond expectations, two of our delegates won awards:

Brandon Clark, portraying Cameroon in the World Trade Organization, won a Distinguished Delegate award for work on the role of regional trade agreements in the international trading system. This was Brandon’s first competition. Carlin Ewing, who has been on the team since its inception in spring 2008, won a Distinguished Delegate award. She portrayed France in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, which negotiated about the issue of global rights and free trade: expanding trade and investment in the world economy.

Other participating team members were: Karla Garcia, Kailynn Greeley, Garrett Holt, Colleen Lurie, Katelyn Rauch, Kevin Schallert, Hannah Schiff, Alex See, and Ryan Snider.

The next event will be the America West Model U.N., November 20-24 in Las Vegas.

The CI Model United Nations team formed in Spring 2008 and has competed in four events, winning awards at two of them. These events have been funded by IRA funds. Model U.N. is a simulation of the U.N.’s committees. Students step into the shoes of ambassadors from U.N. member states to research and debate current issues on the organization’s agenda. While playing their roles as ambassadors, student “delegates” make speeches, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with allies and adversaries, resolve conflicts, and navigate the Model U.N. conference rules of procedure - all in the interest of mobilizing “international cooperation” to resolve problems that affect countries all over the world.

In Spring 2010, 15 students enrolled in POLS 490: Special topics-Model U.N. will earn course credit for their studies, which will support competition in two events. The team is an initiative of the Center for Community Engagement and the Political Science program. For more information, please contact Dr. Andrea Grove at: andrea.grove@csuci.edu.
Andrea Grove received a Ph.D. in Political Science from The Ohio State University in 1999, an M.A. in International Relations and Strategic Studies from Lancaster University (in the United Kingdom, where she was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar) in 1993, and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Georgia in 1992.

She began her professional career as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Vermont in 1999-2000. Dr. Grove joined the faculty at Westminster College near Pittsburgh, PA in the Fall of 2000. At Westminster, Dr. Grove served as the Director of the Peace Studies Program and coordinator of the International Politics major. Dr. Grove joined the faculty of California State University-Channel Islands in fall 2006. She primarily teaches in the areas of international relations and foreign policy, and enjoys teaching travel courses that enable students to experience history and politics in South Africa and Northern Ireland. She was appointed as a faculty co-director of the Center for Community Engagement in Spring 2007, and now serves as faculty director.

Dr. Grove’s research interests include political leadership in foreign policy and conflict resolution, and she often conducts field work in Northern Ireland and South Africa. Her work has been published in several professional journals, including International Studies Quarterly, Foreign Policy Analysis, Political Psychology, Nationalism and Ethnic Politics, and International Politics. She recently published Political Leadership in Foreign Policy: Manipulating Support Across Borders (Palgrave MacMillan, 2007).

My hopes for the CCE: Our mission is to foster a learning community that facilitates learning for civic engagement in our local and global communities and addresses societal challenges through long-term sustainable partnerships. I think our campus does an excellent job fulfilling this at a local level. I hope to see us getting more and more students involved as global citizens as well.
CATHRYN MANN

My name is Cat and this year I am working as Channel Islands’ International Programs Alumni Assistant. My job is to help promote the study abroad opportunities that we have here at CI. To do this, I have visited a number of classrooms to speak directly to students about going abroad and I hold a table outside of Broome Library every Tuesday afternoon with information. In addition, I am also the president of the International Education Exchange Council (IEEC), which aims to bring together people from around the world here at our CI campus. We recently welcomed two students from Zeppelin University in Germany for the spring 2010 and are organizing a welcoming celebration for them.

I spent my junior year studying at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan through the same program I now work for. It was the best year of my life. The friends I made are life-long, and the experiences I had were priceless. During my studies, I lived with a host family and commuted through Tokyo rush hour traffic to get to school that was one and a half hours away. When I wasn’t studying, my new friends and I had many adventures together. We visited Kyoto, Hiroshima, and even Okinawa! We also saw all of the must-see places around Tokyo on our free weekends.

Now that I am back at CI, I am focusing on finishing up my degree in Studio Art. Since I traveled abroad, I can now incorporate that into my work. I have a better understanding of cultural relations between America and Japan.

I continue to be fascinated with other cultures and regions. Since returning to CI, and through the IEEC, I have befriended people from all over the world right here close to home. I would not trade my experience for anything in the world and I am grateful I was able to go abroad. I hope to continue traveling after college, making international friendships, and expanding my mental map.

EDGAR ALFARO

My experience in Spain affected me in many ways. For me, the first two months were the most difficult. It was a challenge to learn to get around in a new city while also learning the customs of a whole new culture. Most challenging was being so far from family. It required me to develop more independence than I was used to. Fortunately for me I spoke Spanish, and the culture of Spain is not unlike my own.

The best part of my time overseas was experiencing the European culture as a whole. During my time in Spain I had the opportunity to travel to throughout Europe and meet people from various countries. Because of this, my mind was opened to many different opinions and points of view.

My time in Spain was an amazing, eye-opening experience. One I probably would have never had if not for my decision to enroll in the Study Abroad program. Because of this program, I have matured as a person. I feel I have changed for the better. I hope one day I am able to return to Europe but if not, I will always value the experience I gained through the Study Abroad Program.
Tracylee Clarke & Elizabeth Quintero took 25 students to New Zealand over winter break to study models of restoring community in New Zealand.

Students traveled to both the North and South Islands of New Zealand to four different cities.

In coordination with both Auckland University of Technology and University of Auckland, students took classes focused on restorative justice and education. Guest speakers spoke on various aspects of the judicial, cultural and political influences of the Maori culture and opportunities for community models. Students also had to conduct informal interviews and will write a 15 page research paper answering a question guided by current literature in the field.

Students also visited museums in each city as well as cultural events such as Hungis & Hakas, art galleries and city historical tours. Students were required to journal their experience and conduct a community scan of each city.

There were also lots of opportunities to have fun. On free days students and leaders went white water rafting, canyoneering, and propelling down 100 foot waterfalls. There were also opportunities for bungee jumping, swimming with dolphins, hiking, and climbing a 90 foot in the air adrenaline jungle gym.

Students will present their research findings at a community event:

Friday, February 5th, 5:30 – 8:30 PM
Bell Tower 1302
During the spring of 2009, CIS awarded summer stipends to support faculty grant writing for interdisciplinary projects. By helping faculty seek external funding, CIS hopes to use its resources to leverage greater support for integrative work at CI.

Tracylee Clarke, Assistant Professor of Communication, prepared an application to the Laura Jane Musser Fund to initiate a project in consensus-based environmental decision-making.

Political Scientist Sean Kelly submitted (with Professor Scott Frisch) a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation and prepared a grant application for American Council of Learned Societies, both of which will support a cross-disciplinary collaboration between political science and members of the archival community.

Assistant Professor of Mathematics Kathryn Leonard prepared a CAREER development grant for the National Science Foundation. Her proposal identified three specific aims:

1. Independent theoretical research into shape representation (a highly interdisciplinary field)
2. Industrial research projects where CI students collaborate with local industries on problems involving shape modeling
3. Educational outreach projects where future math teachers and future math researchers collaborate to produce activity-based learning tasks to take to local schools (beginning with a local juvenile detention school).

As a senior in the mathematics department at CI, I have had the opportunity to take several interdisciplinary courses in addition to the single-subject core math classes required for the major. One such interdisciplinary course that I took was The Zoo, which is a comprehensive examination of zoos from multiple perspectives, including education, biology, and business.

The emphasis on each of these disciplines showcased the finer aspects of each as pertains to practical application in the Santa Barbara Zoo. Although this class had few direct applications to my intended field of mathematics, I found I had a unique perspective on several aspects of the final project, especially in those relating to optimization of space and resources.

My success in this class reaffirmed my opinion that a strong background in any subject can be complimented and supported by work in other fields. As a result, I have researched some mathematics careers with emphases on other subjects (such as mathematical modeling of natural systems or mathematics and health sciences).

CI’s encouragement of exposure to multiple disciplines through classes such as The Zoo gives its students not only an interesting semester, but a better perspective of the context of their degree in a large scope.
The Center for Multicultural Engagement continues its participation in the Ventura County Women’s Forum Collaborative. The Collaborative, made up of a group of activists and organizations, has as its mission the coordination of a series of public forums and follow-up events to increase awareness of and coordinate action around twelve critical areas of concern for women in Ventura County, based on the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995. Following two successful Forums in 2006 (Economic Justice) and 2008 (Educational Justice, hosted by the CME at CI), the 2009 Forum on Economic Insecurity on October 10 engaged participants in an exploration of the specific challenges for women in today’s volatile economy, identification of potential opportunities for women, and the development of skills and coordinated actions for improving the economic prospects for women in Ventura County. With unemployment, health care costs, foreclosures, and poverty rates all on the rise, more and more women are facing economic hardship.

After welcoming remarks by Supervisor Linda Parks and CLU Provost Leanne Neilson, an address by CI History Professor Marie Francois and Sociology Professor Sunghee Choi titled “Women on the Edge: Gendered Political Economy Past and Present” primed the group for small group discussions about job loss, foreclosure and bankruptcy.

The highlight of the day was an inspiring keynote speech at lunch by Lilly Ledbetter, the namesake for the federal Fair Pay Act of 2009 signed by President Obama. Ms. Ledbetter was denied hundreds of thousands of dollars that she earned due to gender discrimination and inadequate legal protection and she continues to fight so that today’s and future generations of working women have equal pay for equal work.

Students and women from diverse sectors of the community brainstormed through afternoon Skill and Action Workshops: Disenfranchised Women, facilitated by Raquel Montes of the CA Youth Connection, Selena Felipe from Lideres Campesinas, and Lisa Conley of Prototypes; Transforming the Culture of Poverty, facilitated by Anne Sobel; Power Organizing for Women facilitated by Beariz Garcia from CAUSE; Policy Solutions, facilitated by Jill Martinez from the Congress of California Seniors and Cathy Brudnicki from the Ventura County Homeless Coalition; and Nontraditional Quality Jobs and Entrepreneurship for Women, presented by Socorro Lopez-Hansen of Community Action VC and Karon Wright from The Greater Contribution.

Joining CME leadership on the Collaborative Steering Committee were representatives from CAUSE, CLU, VC Rainbow Alliance, Catholic Charities, California Women’s Agenda/Women’s Intercultural Network, Concerned Black Women of Conejo Valley, Business and Professional Women of Conejo Valley, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Promotoras y Promotores Foundation, National Women’s Political Caucus Ventura County, and American Association of University Women-Camarillo.

The next Ventura County Women’s Forum will be held on the CI campus in April 2011. For more information, is available at or by contacting marie.francois@csuci.edu.
What do the following faculty all have in common?

Mary Adler
Sean Anderson
Stacey Anderson
Rainer Buschmann
Nancy Deans
Dennis Downey
Jorge Garcia
Andrea Grove
Kathryn Leonard
Trudy Milburn & Mary Adler
Joseph Moreno
Nitika Parmar
Luda Popenhagen
Christi Teranishi
Bill Wolfe
Greg Wood

All have received support for increasing multicultural perspectives in their teaching and mentoring.

Each year the Center for Multicultural Engagement offers support to faculty for engaging multicultural perspectives in teaching. In the past, the center has predominantly received proposals from faculty in the humanities and social sciences. Because of this, last spring the center decided to directly address the STEM initiative by organizing workshops to assess how engaging multicultural perspectives in teaching and mentoring practices might assist STEM faculty members in improving their teaching and student learning to better serve the STEM initiative. Seven STEM faculty members participated in the 2 day workshops where they shared ideas and developed individual plans for their own teaching in the fall. Participants have a Blackboard site where they continue to share their ideas and experiences. They will report on their results this spring during follow-up workshops to be scheduled later this semester, during which the center hopes to engage more STEM faculty in developing greater effectiveness in teaching and mentoring a multicultural student body.
TOWN HALL MEETINGS:
During the Fall Semester, Mission Based Centers sponsored two town hall style meetings.

The first meeting, co-sponsored by The Center for Community Engagement in collaboration with the, Martin V. Smith School of Business and Economics, Political Science, Student Government and Ventura County, brought together the campus community and the community at large to engage in conversations about the needs and assets as a result of the current economic crisis. It was an active, problem-solving session inviting all interested campus and community participants to take part in the conversation, learn about local issues and share their concerns, vision and ideas.

The second meeting, sponsored by the Centers for Community Engagement, Integrative Studies and Multicultural Engagement, was a forum for the Social Justice Fund to discuss their recent report of a survey of the county’s socioeconomic issues such as homelessness and hunger. It was an opportunity for community members, faculty and students to discuss social justice and what it means to create change instead of charity. Students were given information on internships, community forums, and community organizing with an aim of promoting involvement to make a difference in our community.

SPEAKER SERIES:
The Center for Community Engagement organized and sponsored the ongoing speaker series for seniors in Camarillo and Thousand Oaks. Topics covered have been varied with such issues as, Classical Art and Archaeology, The Economic Crisis, Climate Change and Habitat Loss, and International Teaching and Literacy. CI faculty members volunteer their time for this project in order to benefit our local senior citizens.

The new schedule for spring has recently been organized. Speakers are as follows:
February 16: ............................................................ Sean Kelly, Political Science: Health Reform: What Now?
March 2: ................................................................. Jorge Garcia, Mathematics: Paradoxes in Mathematics
March 16: ................................................................. Dawn Neuman, Biology
April 6: ................................................................. Julia Balén, English: Sexuality
April 20: ................................................................. John Griffin, Business: The Ethics of Multitasking

The Center for Multicultural Engagement, along with CHS and IRA, sponsored the Chicana/o Studies Lecture Series entitled “Crossing Borders, Linking Communities in Chicana/o Studies. Authors Lorena Oropeza, Ana Rosas and Gustavo Arellano were guest speakers.

The Center for Community Engagement co-sponsors CI’s Model United Nations team, supported by IRA funds. The team participated in two events this fall: the California Model United Nations conference at Knott’s Berry Farm in October, and the America West Model United Nations conference in Las Vegas, Nov 20-24. The team will be attending two conferences in the spring semester as well.

OTHER PROJECTS:
The Centers for Community Engagement and Multicultural Engagement continue their involvement with the ongoing Bracero Project. The CME and CCE are currently organizing workshops to promote multicultural and service learning in the STEM disciplines.