CI Planting Days
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A Decade of Distinction

It was with great pride and excitement that we invited members of our campus and local community to join us in August to celebrate a decade of distinction in the University’s 10th anniversary year. It seems like just yesterday that faculty and staff were racing to have everything ready so we could open our doors as Ventura County’s first and only four-year, public institution of higher education.

We are extremely grateful to serve residents of this region and would especially like to recognize the City of Camarillo for their sponsorship of our 10th anniversary festivities during this academic year. Through these partnerships, we are bringing to your University speakers, faculty and students to engage in world-class research and discussions that enlighten us and broaden our perspectives, and help to make our community, state, nation and world a better place to live.

Likewise, with the success of Proposition 30, we have avoided another devastating blow to higher education and the future livelihood of the State of California. It is our hope that the voice of the citizens of California sends a clear message to Sacramento that supporting education and the CSU is a high priority. We are optimistic that our state leaders will act to reinvest in higher education and access for all students.

We look forward to welcoming our new CSU Chancellor, Timothy White, and supporting his initiatives for rebuilding California’s system of higher education that is envied around the globe.

As you read this issue of Channel, you will be reminded once again that our 10 years of success would be impossible without the CI family – students, faculty, staff, alumni and community partners – working together to provide a dream for our next generation of students. We thank you for your ongoing support and wish you a safe and delightful holiday season.

Sincerely yours,

Richard R. Rush
President
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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.

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We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send correspondence to: communication.marketing@csuci.edu or CSU Channel Islands, Communication & Marketing, One University Drive, Camarillo CA 93012-8599.

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Cover: Students, faculty, staff and community members take part in CI Planting Days; inset: Connie Kelly, Library  
See cover story on page 6

This news magazine is printed on recycled paper.
President Rush named to California Campus Compact Executive Board

President Richard R. Rush has been named to the Executive Board of California Campus Compact, a coalition of leading colleges and universities working to advance civic and community engagement in higher education.

Rush previously served on the California Campus Compact Executive Board as a member and Chair from 2004 through 2010. In addition, he was a member of the Board of Directors for National Campus Compact, a Presidential organization of more than 1,100 members, from 2005 to 2011 and served as Vice Chair from 2008 to 2011.

The nine-member Executive Board guides California Campus Compact in its mission of encouraging and helping colleges and universities throughout California to make civic and community engagement an integral part of campus life. The board recommends programs, plans and budgets, and exercises oversight and stewardship of the organization’s resources.

Read the full story by visiting: http://www.csuci.edu/news/releases/2012-greatcollege.htm

Sophomore wins Hearts/CSU Trustees’ Award for outstanding achievement

Chloe Keller, a 19-year-old Liberal Studies major from Fillmore, is CI’s 2012-2013 recipient of the prestigious William Randolph Hearst/CSU Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Achievement. The $3,000 award, given in one student at each of CSU’s 23 campuses, recognizes students with financial need who have overcome significant hardships to excel in academics, community service and personal achievements.

Keller maintains a 3.5 GPA while taking 19 units (6 classes), working part-time at a restaurant, and serving as a mentor to underprivileged and underrepresented students through CSU’s LEAP (Leaders in Educational Awareness) and EOP (Educational Opportunity) programs. A Liberal Studies major, she is weighing future opportunities as a teacher or doctor.

Keller worked three part-time jobs in high school and was active in her school and community. She participated in student government, 4-H, swim team, softball, cheerleading, volunteered at Big Brothers Big Sisters, and was class valedictorian. She also won the title of Miss Hollywood Teen USA in 2011. She credits her strong work ethic and desire to help others to being raised in a household filled with financial hardships. Keller says she chose CI because of its small classes, student-centered atmosphere, the beauty of its campus, and the abundance of scholarship, research, travel and community enrichment opportunities.

Read the full story by visiting: http://www.csuci.edu/news/releases/2012-choleaward.htm

For more information on other University news stories visit: http://www.csuci.edu/news/newreleases.htm

During the Peace Pole unveiling in September, students and campus community members read the engravings in their respective languages: LtoR: Raudel Bencomo/Chamorro, Antoine Hagel/Arabic; President Rush/English; Juan Carlos Villanueva/Tagalog; Cindy Flores/Spanish; Namiko Tsuchiya/Japanese.
Inventing New Knowledge: An Invitation
By Kathryn Leonard, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Director of the Center for Integrative Studies

What do you get when you put a firefighter, a X-ray technician, a deli worker, and dirt bike enthusiast together in one room? A CI student research group! This year, eight students under my supervision are mathematically modeling shapes of objects in images. Some students will develop new mathematical theories, others will predict forest fire growth, still others will archive dance choreography.

After graduation, my research students typically enter graduate programs in mathematics or statistics, or carry on their work at places like Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Naval Air Systems Command. One student now at Lockheed-Martin Naval Air Systems Command. One student now at Lockheed-Martin Naval Air Systems Command. One student now at Lockheed-Martin Naval Air Systems Command, chose to work to reconstruct the glaze sharing the recipe. Students will work to reconstruct the glaze using techniques from chemistry and art.

UNIV 498 courses involve students in faculty research. Students in an archaeologist’s 498 course retrieve and analyze artifacts from ancient Chumash sites. In a computer scientist’s course, students design soccer-playing robots. Education students study the impact of advocacy groups on disability awareness. Many individual faculty support research students outside a formal program. In biology, one such group explores bee pollination behavior.

Research opens doors for students even before they graduate. A UNIV 298 student cites her research experience as the reason she was selected for a summer internship studying abalone. CI’s two Goldwater Scholars earned the honor because of their research success as sophomores. More generally, engaging students in research increases graduation rates, improves grades, and boosts student satisfaction with college.

What are you waiting for? Find (or fund!) a project today.

CI Planting Days
By Elizabeth Rubalcava, Presidential Aide and Project Manager, CI Foundation

Students, faculty, staff and community members participated in a series of four CI Planting Days—a volunteer program created to support the Central Mall Renovation Project, the largest grounds beautification effort in CI history. From late October through mid-November, dozens of volunteers installed perennials, bushes, and trees throughout the University’s newly converted Central Mall, once a busy two-lane street which has been transformed to an open park area accessible to pedestrians.

The renovation of the Central Mall is an essential piece of the University’s campus master plan. The mall area is 302,000 square feet of green space and runs through the heart of campus, stretching from the John Spoor Broome Library to Aliso Hall. The project includes the conversion of the two-lane road to a pedestrian-only thoroughfare, the renovation of existing landscaping, a decorative Spanish Mission style fountain situated in the center, a large plaza area connected to decomposed granite walkways, benches and lighting, rose gardens, and hundreds of native, drought-tolerant perennials, bushes and trees.

Moreover, landscaping and irrigation are key components to the renovation. A well-designed irrigation system will support the addition of native plants and drought-tolerant trees throughout the mall. When complete, the Central Mall will serve as a gathering place for community and student events, as well as provide students with outdoor seating for study and recreation.

The project is funded through the generosity of students, businesses and community donors. The success of the project depends on community support of all kinds, from cash donations to gifts of time and materials. The University wishes to recognize the generous contributions provided to date: Agromin; The Associated Students, Inc.; Boeing Treeland Farms, Inc.; C.A. Rasmussen, Inc.; Diversified Materials Inc.; Freight Producer; Fruit Growers Supply; Gail Materials; Green Thumb Nursery; Leavens Brothers; Minnesota Company; Monsanto; Oshan Trees; Pinkerton Ranches; Performance Gardens; Porterville Citrus; Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens; Umina Brothers; and several other gifts of varying sizes.

The CI Foundation’s “Leave Your Mark” campaign offers supporters the opportunity to “adopt” trees and pavers in their name. For more information, please feel free to contact Nichole Ipach, Associate Vice President for University Development, at (805) 437-8893 or nichole.ipach@csuci.edu.
Bees, Crops and You
By Ruben Alarcon, Assistant Professor of Biology

Most people are unaware of just how important bees are in their everyday lives. That apple you had for lunch is the product of bee labor. What about steak? Yes that too; bees pollinate the alfalfa that is fed to cattle. Almost 90% of all flowering plants rely on animal pollinators for successful reproduction, and it is estimated that 75% of global crops benefit from insect pollination. Pollination is the movement of pollen from the anthers (male reproductive organs) to the stigma (female reproductive organs) of another flower for the purpose of fertilizing and producing seeds. Over 130 fruit and vegetable crops in the United States either require bee pollination, or greatly benefit from the action of bees and other insects.

Most crops in North America are commercially pollinated by the non-native European honey bee, Apis mellifera. Growers often contract with beekeepers to transport and maintain honey bee colonies in their orchards or fields to pollinate the crops. Every year 1.5 million honey bee colonies are trucked across the country to pollinate the 750 thousand acres of almonds in California’s Central Valley. This is the largest pollinator migration event in North America, if not the world!

However, declines in honey bee populations over the last several years due to Colony Collapse Disorder, parasitic mites, exposure to pesticides, and poor nutrition, have resulted in difficulties in securing pollination services. As more acreage is devoted to insect-pollinated crops, the costs associated with securing honey bee colonies will rise, not to mention the risk in relying on a single species to pollinate most of our crops. This has highlighted the need to characterize the role that native bees, such as bumblebees (Bombus sp.), leaf cutter bees (Megachile sp.) and mason bees (Osmia sp.), can play in agriculture. As a pollination ecologist I study the interactions between insects and the flowers they visit. Over the last few years I have studied ways to maintain healthy honey bee populations, including the potential benefits of providing them supplemental forage, i.e., growing flowers specifically to feed honey bees. With the help of CI undergraduates, local growers and collaborators at the UC Cooperative Extension, I will embark on studies to determine how native bees can be used alongside honey bees to pollinate crops in Ventura County, including avocados and berries.

Avocado orchards, for example, often require up to 6 honey bee colonies per acre to achieve successful pollination because avocados have a unique flowering system requiring that pollen come from a different cultivar. Anecdotal evidence indicates that avocado orchards near natural vegetation require fewer honeybee colonies to achieve adequate pollination. This suggests that native bees might be providing “free” pollination services to growers. By making orchards more attractive to native bees, growers may be able to increase the pollination services that their crops receive, and potentially increase yields.

So the next time you bite into an apple, or that juicy steak, make sure to thank a bee!
By Marya Barlow

From an early age, Phil Hampton was destined for a career as a chemistry professor. His father, a chemistry professor at a small liberal arts college, shared his love of science with his young son. By the age of 12, Hampton was conducting experiments using his own “souped-up” chemistry set and exploding hydrogen gas in the basement of the family’s Iowa home.

“My favorite was the remote control fire bomb with kerosene,” he said. “It’s a good thing that arm hair grows back quickly.”

Today, Hampton is focusing his efforts on developing a passion for science in future generations—through much safer pursuits. In addition to teaching chemistry and mentoring students on research projects, he spearheads an effort to bring fun, hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs to Ventura County students in grades K-12. With the help of a nearly $6-million federal Hispanic Serving Institution STEM grant for Project ACCESO (Achieving a Cooperative College Education through STEM Opportunities), he leads a CI initiative providing school materials, career expo, community programs, and on-campus support for STEM students. He also organizes a popular free annual Science Carnival for children and their families with dozens of science activities disguised as play.

“I want students to experience science as play and fall in love with it” - Phil Hampton

Hampton has made the remote control fire bomb a reality. He uses a Batman-themed bat sonolocation simulator for the Science Carnival. His device allows children to experience what it’s like to fly as a bat, blindfolded and relying only on sound, to find an object.

“I want students to experience science as play and fall in love with it,” Hampton said.

“In my idyllic future, the State of California and possibly the nation would look to Ventura County as a model of what we can accomplish in building STEM interest and success.”
The Faces of Leadership

By Lori Putnam

For Nautical Yearbook Editor-in-Chief Allie Woerner, leadership meant spending the summer carefully choosing images that capture a year in the life of the University. Meanwhile for Student Government President David Ashley, leadership involved engaging the student body in statewide affairs so each student could make informed decisions in the November election. And helping to secure funding for Dodger Day, a favorite CI tradition, is how Student Programming Board President Lundon Templeton applied her own leadership skills.

Since 2003, Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) has provided students like Woerner, Ashley, and Templeton the opportunity to serve as a voice for CI and subsequently find their own voice as leaders. As a non-profit organization, ASI includes four student entities: student government; student programming board; the Nautical Yearbook; and the Channel Islands View newspaper. Membership in ASI is automatic for any registered CI student, with ASI member fees contributing both to programming as well as campus resources such as the Student Union.

“One of the aspects I most appreciate about ASI student leaders is that they are here to serve the student body, not to necessarily leave a mark for themselves,” said Genevieve Evans Taylor, ASI Executive Director. “They are creative, dedicated, hard working, and innovative.” What’s more, she added, they understand the mission of the University and create programs and events that tie back to that mission.

Since its inception, there have been more than 120 students who have held leadership positions within ASI. Many have gone on to assume leadership roles, such as former student government president Jessica Easterly – who was instrumental in the development of the Student Union – and who now serves as Regional Director for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life. There are also former ASI leaders now working on campus including Associate Director for Access, Orientation and Transition Programs Kirsten Moss-Frye and ASI Assistant Director Christine Porter.

“Although ASI has achieved many goals in the last nine years, perhaps its greatest contribution has been to give CI students an opportunity to discover the leaders in themselves. “When I first came to CI, I was a shy and timid person for the most part,” said Ashley. “Getting involved on campus, especially in ASI, helped me to get over that. It has given me the courage to speak up.”

Driven by Inspiration and Perseverance

By Mary Barlow

CI Presidential Aide Elizabeth Rubalcava is well-acquainted with the perseverance it can take to earn a college degree.

Over the course of 10 years, working full time, she plugged away at that goal, taking two courses a semester through the CSU Employee Fee Waiver and Reduction Program until she earned her Bachelor’s in English from CI in 2007.

“The opportunity to earn my degree was one of the things that drew me to work at CI,” she said. “I was a high school dropout. But as I tried to advance in my career, I saw the importance of higher education and didn’t want to be held back.”

Rubalcava admits there was another powerful source of inspiration: Her boss, President Richard Rush, a longtime English professor, who entrusts her to handle important and sometimes sensitive correspondence.

“In my darkest hours, Dr. Rush was there to cheer me on and tell me, ‘You can do it,’” she said. “The 10-year plan was a long road, but it helped to have such supportive colleagues. When I walked across the stage at commencement, they gave me one of the loudest roars.”

As CI observes its 10th anniversary, Rubalcava is celebrating 13 years with the University. One of the earliest staff members, she was hired in June 1999 to answer the phones and support human resources. She quickly learned to wear many other hats as the new campus rushed to open to students in 2002.

“We all rolled up our sleeves to do whatever was needed,” she said. “Even though CI has grown, we’ve still like family. People are dedicated and passionate about working here in a way I haven’t seen anywhere else.”

Rubalcava became Rush’s Presidential Aide in 2003. Initially, she handled the President’s hectic meeting and travel schedule and other administrative duties. Over the years, her responsibilities have grown to include more presidential communications and serving as project manager on the CI Foundation Board, where she helps advance key fundraising initiatives.

“This is a special place of opportunity for everyone,” she said. “Whether you’re coming to work here or to school here, this is a hopeful place that helps people improve their lives. I love this place.”
Students Cite Valuable Research Experiences

By Janeth Moran, '12 B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science

During the 2011-12 academic year, I created an iPhone application that identifies plant species based on photos of plant leaves. Drawing from mathematics and computer science, I identified geometric features of the leaf shape that allow for effective species classification. The iPhone snaps a photo then queries a leaf database on an external server. The external server uses the leaf features to return the plant species label to the iPhone. Challenges of this project are determining the best features for classification and establishing communication paths between the phone and server.

Participating in research opened my eyes to new possibilities for the future. Because my research entailed understanding mathematical theory as well as programming techniques, I now plan to pursue a career in artificial intelligence. I gained valuable tools from doing research: self-discipline, the ability to find resources, and the ability to use my knowledge to formulate a solution to a previously unsolved problem. Research has built my confidence to work on difficult problems for long periods of time, something that’s imperative to make a difference in the world.

Janeth Moran won first place in the 2012 CSU Student Research Competition for Mathematical and Physical Sciences. She is now in a master’s degree program in Computer Science as preparation for a PhD.

Janeth Moran

Like the first day of class and the final day of commencement, convocation is a special tradition in the life of the University. This year the ceremony was held on August 24, 2012, almost 10 years to the day of the University’s inaugural first day of class. A number of special guests joined faculty, students, and staff at the event, including former chairs of the CSU Board of Trustees Jim Considine and Laurence Gould, Ventura County Board of Supervisors Steve Bennett and Peter Foy, Mayor of Camarillo Jan McDonald, and retiring Camarillo City Councilmember Don Waunich.

Continued on next page
“It’s a wonderful occasion,” said Councilmember Waunch of CI’s 10th anniversary. “We as a city are so happy to have the University here, and to have such a good relationship that we hope continues for years to come.” The City of Camarillo served as CI’s 10th Anniversary sponsor supporting year-long anniversary celebrations.

Days of Wonder
President Richard Rush addressed guests who were seated in front of the latest addition to the CI campus, the new Del Norte and Madera Halls. In his remarks, President Rush described the CI story as one of vision, creation, and success made possible by a shared commitment by faculty, staff, and community leaders. “The world has changed markedly from those heady days of 2002 when we welcomed our first class of transfer students,” he said, praising the faculty and staff who miraculously put in place programs and processes in less than one year. “Those were days of wonder. Could we really do it? And what have we gotten ourselves into? But the first singular success of the new academic enterprise was significant. We opened the doors on time with quality offerings and with our values firmly in place.”

CI is living testament to the power of a dream, according to President Rush. The University has grown from its original 500 transfer students to a student body of nearly 5,000, despite economic challenges. Nearly half of current students are from Ventura County, and more than a quarter are the first in their families to earn a college degree. In 2011, nearly 1,300 CI students contributed more than 26,500 hours of community service. It is estimated that the annual earnings of CI graduates, now 6,800 strong, total more than $480 million creating an additional $302 million in industry activity statewide.

However, the success of the CI dream couldn’t rely on public resources alone. In fact, since its founding, CI has embraced a pioneering spirit that has fueled its growth in the face of restricted resources. Key campus projects, including the John Spoor Broome Library and Martin V. Smith Center for Integrative Decision-Making, were the result of the generous private contributions of University benefactors. The CI Student Union was also built without public dollars, pulling funding directly from the students themselves. Through community partnerships with Cottage Health System and Santa Barbara City College, CI also has been able to enhance its degree offerings and expand its geographical reach in new and innovative ways.

A Promise for the Future
“It’s a great thing to celebrate,” observed President of Student Government David Ashley of the 10th anniversary convocation. “It’s incredible to imagine how far along our University has come in 10 years, and it’s a great time to recognize the progress and contributions of all those involved in the planning of our University.”

Longstanding CI members Greg Sawyer and Dennis Muraoka were also invited to speak at convocation. “As you can see, at CSU Channel Islands we’ve built more than just a University of bricks and mortar, we’ve created a culture of excellence,” said Sawyer, who is Vice President of Student Affairs and is also the last remaining founding vice president at CI.

“The founding of CSU Channel Islands is the achievement of a lifetime,” added Muraoka, who served as the University’s first Academic Senate Chair. “Best wishes to you all as we move together into our second decade.”

As the University looks ahead to the next chapter of its story, the state’s higher education system still faces challenges. Yet CI has proven itself a vital contributor to the region’s prosperity. The University has an annual impact of more than $114 million in the region, including 1,200 jobs and $6 million in local tax revenue. For every state dollar CI receives, an estimated $4.34 goes back into the community.

Recalling an Athenian quote he shared a decade ago, President Rush reaffirmed what is the CI Way: “We will leave this place not less, but greater,” he said to the CI community at large. “Better and more beautiful than it was given to us. This is the CI way, and we’ve only just begun.”

Del Norte and Madera Halls dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony

A Promise for the Future

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CI Celebrates North Quad Expansion

By Lori Putnam

The opening of Del Norte and Madera Halls occurred just in time, according to President Richard Rush. In his remarks to more than 100 students, faculty, civic leaders, and University friends gathered to celebrate the North Quad development on September 14, President Rush observed the campus additions would allow CI to “continue to open our doors wide” to an anticipated 5,000 new students and a dozen new faculty members.

“I came here as a fifth grade,” said Vanessa Bahena, a CI sophomore on hand to celebrate the dedication. “Seeing the campus flourish, and how we’ve grown, it’s a great thing.”

The $31.7 million project is the first state-funded construction on campus in more than a decade. Originally Del Norte was also to house staff offices. That changed when Ysabel Trinidad toured the construction site and was struck by the possibilities of Del Norte’s third floor. “Once you see the view overlooking the North Quad, you realize it is a special place,” observed Trinidad, Vice President of Finance & Administration. “I thought it would be a great space for classrooms and other special events.” Believing students would be better served using that area, Trinidad recommended that her staff offices be relocated. “I knew it was the right thing to do,” she said.

While the third floor remains under construction, students and faculty alike are excited to welcome Del Norte as a much-needed addition to CI’s academic life. In particular, the Arts and Sciences programs will now have dedicated classrooms. “This is going to provide state-of-the-art classrooms for many years to come,” said Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Karen Carey. “Del Norte really gives students the experience they deserve.”

The two buildings represent a significant milestone in the development of the North Quad. With the pending construction of nearby West Hall, which will provide essential lab space, the North Quad is poised to serve as a key academic hub.

Examining Politics at the Extreme

By Lori Putnam

While slinging mud has always been part of American politics, CI faculty members Scott Frisch and Sean Kelly can’t remember when the tone was as partisan and strident as it is today. “We both have studied American government, and have seen and interviewed dozens of politicians over the years,” said Frisch, who is Professor and Chair of Political Science. “And we remember how much better it used to be.” Frisch and Kelly are not alone. In their new book, It’s Even Worse Than It Looks: How the American Constitutional System Collided With the New Politics of Extremism, co-authors Thomas E. Mann and Norman J. Ornstein sound the alarm of a growing dysfunction in American politics.

At a CI event on October 15 and 16, Mann and Ornstein were among the panelists at “Politics to the Extreme: Extremism and the Constitutional System Collided With the New Politics of Extremism,” co-authors Thomas E. Mann and Norman J. Ornstein sound the alarm of a growing dysfunction in American politics. Both served on the keynote panel of a two-day conference, “Politics to the Extreme: American Political Institutions in the 21st Century,” held at CI on October 15 and 16.

“We always have had difficulties because we’re a big, diverse country with contrary and conflicting interests,” observed Mann, who serves as a Senior Scholar with the American Enterprise Institute, there was still a time when differing political parties could collaborate. “Democrats could work with (President Reagan.) But now it’s a different Republican party,” he said. Parties are now more interested in being oppositional, according to the authors, rather than collaborating to solve problems.

The purpose of the event, which was the brainchild of President Richard Rush, is to bring political scientists and practitioners together to explore various factors of polarization. In the end, Frisch and Kelly hope to identify the causes of polarization, the potential consequences to our political institutions, and most importantly, potential solutions in bridging this growing partisan divide.

In addition to the keynote panel, moderated by former Washington Post senior White House correspondent Lou Cannon, conference participants included faculty from the University of Texas, Trinity College, University of Southern California as well as practitioners from organizations such as the Aspen Institute and the Washington Media Group.

“Hopefully the next generation of students can think about this and move beyond where we are now,” said Frisch.
Leaving a Legacy of Service

By Lori Putnam

When Maria Tauber joined what was then California State University Northridge’s Ventura campus in 1997, she was hired as a part-time employee. Two weeks later she was asked to manage campus operations and admissions. By 2002, Tauber would be part of a small, but dedicated, group of administrators and staff sharing a vision for a new university in the Ventura area.

“In the early years,” recalled Tauber, “it would not be unusual to find Stephen Lefevre, Dan Wakelee, George Morten, or myself unpacking desk chairs, or any and all those things you need in a classroom. Whatever it took, we did as a team.” Tauber, who is retiring this year as Director of Academic Personnel, feels fortunate to have been part of the CI story from the beginning.

“I imagine the opportunity to build a university from the ground up,” she said. “That is what is so amazing. I’ve absolutely enjoyed all 15 years – every minute of the time I spent here.”

“I see her not just as a colleague, but as a real friend,” said Associate Provost Renny Christopher of Tauber.

Tauber is one of a number of CI administrators and staff marking significant milestones in their service to the University. Tauber’s longstanding colleague and now Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. George Morten is also preparing to leave CI administration after more than a decade of service. Looking back, Morten shares Tauber’s sense of possibility and excitement in helping to build a new university.

“The campus afforded us the opportunity to put together ideas that hadn’t been done in other places,” he observed. “We had that herculean energy that comes with creating new things.”

In his many roles on campus, including serving as Dean of Student Life, Morten helped shape the unique culture that is the CI Way. “What really makes it work are the shared values and beliefs that were established in the early days of the campus,” he said. “We had a belief in building and sustaining a supportive learning environment, in working together as a community across traditional boundaries, and in continuous improvement in all that we do.” According to Morten, they carried that attitude and practice with them as new people arrived on campus.

Retiring Associate Vice President of Enrollment Jane Sweetland remembers that sense of community when she first joined CI in 2002. By way of example, she recounted her initial grassroots recruitment efforts which included sending an email to faculty and staff requesting their help in posting CI flyers in local businesses. “The fact that I could send one email, and have faculty and staff from every area respond, speaks to our collegial and collaborative environment,” said Sweetland.

Although she began her CI career in what was then Career, Health, Academic and Personal Counseling, Sweetland transitioned to University communications and eventually was named Special Assistant to the President. In that role, Sweetland had a truly unique perspective in observing the growth of CI. “We were always thinking about how we could build a student-centered University to meet the needs of the 21st century,” said Sweetland.

She now retires after a decade with the University, of which eight years were spent in Student Affairs. When asked what makes CI unique, Sweetland echoes her colleagues’ observations of collegial, collaborative, and inclusive. However she adds another important adjective. “A word that shouldn’t be left out is integrity. I think the CI Way means walking the talk and being who you say you are. It means being engaged in the community both local and global in a way that reflects the values of a heterogenous, inclusive democracy.”

New opportunities await for Tauber, Morten, and Sweetland. Tauber will be traveling with her father who is now in his 90s, while Morten plans to continue teaching. Sweetland will be undertaking a different career in writing. However their ties to CI remain strong, sustained by treasured memories and enduring friendships.

CSU Channel Islands salutes the following current employees who have provided ten or more years of exemplary service and dedication to CI.

William Adams
Timothy Allen
Heb Aquino
Richard Arias
Harley Baker
Terry Ballman
Raul Danulos
Frank Barajas
Manuel Barajas
Shawn Bartlett
Jacinta Bastone
Gary Berg
Timothy Berndson
Robert Bischoff
Jon Brooks
Meriln Buchanan
Noel Buana
Rainer Buschmann
Romulo Calica
David Carlson
Lillian Castaneda
Renny Christopher
Kathleen Contreas
Wesley Cooper
William Cordeno
Irina Costache
Linda Covarrubias
Jeffrey Cowgill
Maria Rosario Cuevas
Chanda Cunningham Spence
Cecilia de Soto-Teiniss
Lorene DiStefano
Jeffrey Dinlin
Geoffrey Dougherty
Barbara Duffin
Thomas Emen
Diana Eno
Rudolph Estrada
Donnie Fox
Nancy Covarrubias Gill
Gustavo Gonzalez
Jeanne Grier
Ivona Grazeczyn
Ajelila Guilen
Marina Guzman
Philip Hampton
Colleen Haws
Martin Hernandez Tapia
Effe Karakali
Elizabeth King
William Kupper
Judith Le
Jill Leichtief
Edwin Leboada
Theodore Lucas
Jesse Lucero
Michael Mahoney
Naser Mansour
Roselio Mendoza
Anthony Miajas
Michael Middleton
Sylvia Morales
George Morton
Nancy Moxing
Kristine Mueller
Jose Nieto
Wendy Olson
Richard Paulson
Anna Pavin
Jorge Paz
Robert Perez
Ray Poteas
Marina Elena Ramirez
Jack Reilly
Ginger Reyes
Martha Reyes
Toni Riez
Paul Rivera
Leticia Romero
Elizabeth Rubalcava
Richard R. Rush
Sue Saunders
Wm. Gregory Sawyer
Tom Schmidhauser
Scott Shubb
Michael Shuler
Louise Siebert
Daw Smith
Catherine Strach
Jane Sweetland
Sergio Talab
Maria Tauber
Evelyn Taylor
Barbara Thorpe-Carter
Martina Turean
Cynthia Ulisse
Dale Velador
Kevin Volkam
Daniel Wakelee
Jane Warberg
Laurie Weden
John Yudelson
Arthur Zumaya

Juana Arguiano, Melissa Silva, Gina Forster, Jane Sweetland (center), Colleen Forster, Rachel Davekian, Kristin Hranek

Dr. George Morten, center, celebrates retirement with President Richard Rush and Vice President for Student Affairs Wm. Gregory Sawyer.

Maria Tauber rang the Navy Bell at the 2012 Commencement ceremony.

William Cordeiro
Noel Buena
Merilyn Buchanan
Terry Ballman
Raul Danulos
Renny Christopher
Kathleen Contreas
Wesley Cooper
William Cordeno
Irina Costache
Linda Covarrubias
Jeffrey Cowgill
Maria Rosario Cuevas
Chanda Cunningham Spence
Cecilia de Soto-Teiniss
Lorene DiStefano
Jeffrey Dinlin
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Maria Tauber rang the Navy Bell at the 2012 Commencement ceremony.
The Wondrous Voice of Junot Diaz

By Lori Putnam

Diaz is the first author in the University’s Reading Celebration series to have been nominated by a student. His critically acclaimed novel, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao, was awarded a Pulitzer Price in 2007 and helped build a reputation for Diaz as a writer with a unique voice. In Oscar Wao, Diaz shares a collection of character stories that capture the immigrant family experience—an experience that the author and many CI students share.

“Growing up, I didn’t realize I needed to have my own dreams,” Diaz said. “I assumed the dreams my family had for me were my dreams. It didn’t occur to me to be an artist.”

As part of this year’s event, Diaz and the committee worked with faculty to pull out many of the book’s themes to discuss in class, such as the main character’s interest in computers, politics and political oppression, psychology, and more. These types of discussions speak to Diaz’s own belief in the university as a tool for transformation. “Universities provide a fundamental opportunity for a student to encounter materials, peers, and faculty that open the door to complete transformation,” said the author. “That is what getting an education is...an opportunity to be transformed. The person who walks into the university should be unrecognizable from the person who walks out.”

An expressive Junot Diaz captivates and connects with the audience.

Join Us - Leave Your Mark

Celebrating its 10th Anniversary, CI invites you to leave your mark and support your University in a most unique way. Through pavers, benches, or trees, share with others your personal history in the CI story. Your support will renovate open spaces on campus while helping students achieve their fullest potential through scholarships and programs.

Adopt a Tree
$1,000
From Jacarandas to Oaks, each tree enhances CI’s natural beauty—providing shade and gathering spaces for students, faculty, and community members now, while creating an enduring and lasting gift to future generations. The name of your choice will be placed on a plaque located at the base of either a new or mature tree in recognition of your gift.

Adopt a Paver
$250, $500, or $1,000
As we approach the successful completion of the Central Mall, we would like to give you the chance to inscribe a paver with your personal message to be permanently displayed at the heart of the campus. Thousands of pavers will be joined together in a stunning design and are available at three giving levels with corresponding sizes.

Adopt a Bench
$5,000
Beautiful teak benches are placed throughout CI’s open spaces and courtyards, complementing the unique Spanish mission revival architecture of the campus. They are a wonderful way to honor a loved one, remember a friend, celebrate a meaningful occasion, or recognize your organization or group. Your gift will be recognized with a plaque installed on the bench, with the message unique, specific, and created by you.

For more information, contact Nichole Ipach, Assistant Vice President for University Development at 805-437-8893 or nichole.ipach@csuci.edu.

Flowers and messages placed on pavers and plaques are subject for approval by CI’s Development and the California State University System. Due to space limitations, the number of characters allowed for the engraving of pavers and plaque recognition is limited.
Guests celebrate the University’s ten year anniversary at the Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village

CSU Channel Islands Foundation and Rabobank presented The President’s Dinner on October 6, 2012, celebrating the University’s ten year anniversary. Held at the Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village, nearly 400 community members, CI faculty, and staff attended the black-tie gala. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the prestigious Robert J. Lagomarsino Award to Mike Curb for his support of higher education and, specifically, CI. Curb, former lieutenant governor and acting governor of California, is one of the most prominent figures in the entertainment world. He presides over his own independent record label, Curb Records, and has received a star on the historic Hollywood Walk of Fame. As a dedicated philanthropist, Curb has provided significant support to CI through the Mike Curb Family Foundation. His generosity enabled the University to create the Mike Curb Studios, which offers students hands-on experience with the latest state-of-the-art technology in film and video production, post-production, visual effects, animation, gaming and music.

The evening’s celebration included a fabulous silent auction, raffle, live entertainment and dancing. CI student Cynthia Duke gave a heartfelt speech about how a CI scholarship has helped her achieve her educational dreams. Proceeds from the event will support the University’s highest-priority needs.

Event sponsors include Rabobank as the title sponsor, along with sponsors SAGE Publications, Wells Fargo, Karen and Peter Wolfons, Montecito Bank & Trust, Aera Energy, Follett Higher Education Group, Harrison Industries, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, Bank of America, Canteen of Coastal California, Elise and Bill Kearney, St. John’s Hospitals, Heritage Oaks Bank, Canstar Bank, and the Pacific Coast Business Times. Raffle Donors include Van Gundy Jewelers and an anonymous donor.
UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

A Night with CI
Distinguished Alumni Awards
Saturday, February 2, 2013

CSU Channel Islands’ Associated Students Inc. and Alumni & Friends Association will host an inaugural all-campus reunion, entitled “A Night with CI”, on Saturday, February 2 starting at 6 p.m. Attendees will experience an evening where they can reflect on their experience at CI, reconnect with friends, and celebrate CI’s Decade of Distinction. A Night with CI will include a celebratory dinner, awards of distinction and live musical performance by current CI students.

Through the Grapevine
Alumni & Friends Wine Tasting
Thursday, June 20, 2013

Through the Grapevine is an elegant evening of wine tasting and hors d’oeuvres in support of CI student scholarships. Location details will be available in the spring.

For more information on these and other Alumni events, visit [http://www.csuci.edu/alumni/index.htm](http://www.csuci.edu/alumni/index.htm).

Scott Boczek ’08 Liberal Studies
Mentor, Motivator, Minister

By Marya Barlow

Working with teenagers isn’t for everyone. For Scott Boczek, it’s a calling.

“I see so many teenagers who, for one reason or another, do not believe in themselves, are struggling with low self-esteem, and are settling for just being OK,” he said. “My job, as I see it, is to help them become the people they were born to be.”

Since graduating from CI in 2008 with a B.A. in Liberal Studies, Boczek has become a sought-after speaker, corporate trainer and teen motivator. The Camarillo resident orchestrates leadership and character-development programs for teens in private and public schools throughout Ventura County. He spends weekdays working as director of fundraising and special events at Ventura’s Saint Bonaventure High School, where he’s also been a teacher and director of the campus ministry. On weekends, he imparts the Disney culture, history and heritage to thousands of theme park employees as operations manager and facilitator for Disney University. And two nights a week, he attends classes at Azusa Pacific University, where he’s earning his Master of Arts in Digital Teaching and Learning.

Despite the busy schedule, Boczek’s passion for teaching keeps him energized.

“I love being part of somebody’s journey when they’re being molded into the person they want to become,” he said. “It’s like their success becomes mine.”

Boczek traces his interest in motivating teens back to his own participation in a teen leadership summit.

“I realized I did a lot of whining and complaining about how difficult my life was, when in reality, I was blessed with countless advantages and opportunities,” he recalled. “From that moment on, I dedicated my life to service.” As a student at Oxnard’s Rio Mesa High School, Boczek started an American Red Cross service club on campus. During his freshman year at CI, he became one of the youngest members of the Board of Directors in the history of the American Red Cross of Ventura County and served as youth minister at his church. He also embraced campus life – participating in the Student Programming Board, speech and debate, theatre productions, and choir. Today, he’s focused on bringing leadership and character-building programs to more teens in need. He’s assembled a team of teachers, students and alumni from Saint Bonaventure, CI and Rio Mesa for “The Will It Matter Project,” which he hopes to turn into a nonprofit organization that provides workshops for area schools.

“We live in a society where character education isn’t taught, yet it’s needed more than ever,” he said. “I was fortunate to have some great teachers who knew how to connect, inspire and motivate. I want to give back what I received.”

More than 500 CI students, staff, faculty and community friends attended the annual Alumni & Friends Dodger Day.

Ci makes it onto Dodgervision! L to R: A&FA Board President Fernando Mora; CI Foundation Chair George Leis; Vice President for Student Affairs Wm. Gregory Sawyer; Assistant Provost Dan Wakelee and son, Andrew; Student Government President David Ashley; Student Programming Board President Lundell Templeton; Director of Alumni Relations Tania Garcia; CI President Richard Rush.
Arielle Byron ‘10 Business

Arielle is currently working at RedBuilt™, a leader in manufacturing and design for the engineered wood industry. With four manufacturing facilities in the U.S., RedBuilt™ produces Open-Web Trusses, Red-I™ I-Joists and RedLam™ LVL (these building materials are used for structural support in buildings). A company RedBuilt™ recently acquired manufactured the engineered wood for CI’s MVS Center for Integrated Decision-Making! Arielle’s role as Sales and Marketing Support includes managing RedBuilt’s social media as well as other marketing projects and logistics for the industrial group while preparing for an outside Technical Sales Representative role.

Crystal Clerfik ‘09 Art

Crystal is currently in her final year studying for her Masters in Media Psychology. While studying for her Masters she aided in the creation of Oomph! Media Garage. This social media management company helps small businesses or authors manage their image online. Crystal also self-published her first book on Amazon this past September. It is a fantasy and science fiction novel, titled “Zoe Thanatos”.

Kari Hoffman ‘11 Liberal Studies

Despite working full time and traveling to Thailand, Kari recently started an independent marketing and public relations business. Her Ventura-based business focuses on helping local businesses connect to media sources, events, and charities. Some of her clients include Crazy Doctor Cafe, The Window Guys and other offices including chiropractic, salons, and small service businesses.

Jodi Lukes ‘06 Business

After graduation Jodi worked for a local CPA firm for more than four years before deciding to start her own business with her friend Amber Wilde. In September 2010 Jodi and Amber started Bookkeeping Solutions. They offer a variety of bookkeeping and payroll services for small to large businesses as well as individuals; they also offer tax preparation services.

Miranda Rose Roth Piperata ‘10 Sociology

This past May Miranda graduated with a Master of Arts Degree in Psychology with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy from Chapman University. She received the prestigious educational stipend from Phillips Graduate Institute that is awarded to only six graduates in San Diego County. Miranda is currently employed as a Psychosocial Rehabilitation Specialist, and the Housing Coordinator of the Semi-Supervised Living Project at the Areata Crowell BPR Center in San Diego, which serves adults who have serious mental illness and co-occurring substance disorders.

Helping Others Find Opportunity

By Lori Putnam

Just two years after graduating and beginning her career, Crystal Gonzalez is already proudly making alumni donations and volunteering at CI fundraising events. “Every bit helps – no matter how small,” she said. “It did so much for me. I’ll give to the best of my ability.”

A former scholarship recipient now working as a planned-giving administrator at the University of La Verne, Gonzalez can appreciate the impact donations have on college students. “I believe every student deserves to go to college and create their own experience as I did,” she said. “Now I get to help provide the same opportunities for students that I had.”

A first-generation college student raised in the City of Commerce, Gonzalez said she found unprecedented friendships, encouragement and opportunity at CI. She studied communication, lived on campus, traveled abroad, and graduated in 3 ½ years with a 3.7 GPA. She also found her future career. After taking a job as a student assistant in the CI Foundation office, Gonzalez saw first-hand the work that went into fundraising, donor cultivation and awarding scholarships. “It was an eye-opening experience,” she recalled. “I got incredible exposure to almost every aspect of University Advancement that set me up for success in my career.”

Her solid experience landed her a job at the University of La Verne, where she works with large donors to secure planned gifts. She also earned her Master of Science in Leadership and Management in 1 ½ years while working full-time.

“I love what I do,” Gonzalez said. “Every day, I see donors who genuinely care about helping people better themselves and students who are evolving and thriving because of those opportunities.”

Though she now lives in San Dimas – 80 miles away from her alma mater – Gonzalez happily returns to volunteer at CI events. She recently helped out at the President’s Dinner. “Donors are interested in seeing where their money is going,” she said. “I want to show them that it’s being put to good use.”
Degree Programs Expand at SBCC

By Janet Egiziano, Director, Thousand Oaks Campus; Associate Director, MBA Program

Beginning Fall 2013, CI Extended University will add two programs to its degree portfolio on the Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) campus. BS Business-to-MBA and BA Early Childhood Studies will join undergraduate degree programs in Business and Psychology that are currently underway. These locally-offered programs, made possible through the CSU Channel Islands and SBCC partnership, afford students additional opportunities to earn an undergraduate or graduate degree from CI entirely in Santa Barbara.

The BS Business-to-MBA program emphasizes graduating business leaders with global and multicultural perspectives. Designed for high achievers preparing to enter the business world, students can complete the entire program in less than four years. Those with excellent academic and career potential transfer at the junior level to CI and take all courses on the SBCC campus. For students who meet its rigorous admission requirements, this unique program guarantees early acceptance into the MBA program, waiving the two-year work experience requirement and GMAT exam.

The Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Studies (ECS) program prepares graduates to effectively work with young children and their families. This 50-52 unit degree completion program emphasizes the first eight years of life as extremely significant, aligning with research indicating that brain development occurs most dramatically during the early years of life. Because English is a second language for more than 5 million public school children nationwide, ECS has a programmatic focus on the preparation of graduates who possess knowledge and skills in second language acquisition and literacy for young English learners.

The application period for the BS Business-to-MBA and BA Early Childhood Studies programs at SBCC is February 1 – June 1, 2013. To learn more or to register for an information session, visit the Extended University website at http://ext.csuci.edu/.
Like many self-proclaimed foodies in Southern California, Lindsay German has long been intrigued by food, especially the easy availability of locally sourced fresh ingredients. When, as a CI Business student in 2008, she happened upon a Craigslist ad for a bookkeeper for Main Course California, she jumped at the chance to work for a firm whose owners shared her passion for “food with integrity”. After three years of hard work and commitment, and with an MBA under her belt, Main Course co-owners Robert Jacobi and Rachel Main gifted part of the company to German who, today, is the firm’s Chief of Operations.

Main Course was a start-up during 2008’s dismal economy. In that climate, the owners knew they couldn’t compete head-to-head with dozens of well-established catering companies. Instead, they envisioned a full-service, off-site catering business that would showcase and support a thriving local community of innovative farmers, ranchers and artisans. They introduced themselves by opening a tiny temporary bistro in an industrial complex, relying solely on word of mouth for promotion. Their gamble paid off and, in 2010, the original vision for Main Course took off, and German’s career along with it.

According to German, earning an MBA was key. “A business degree simply wasn’t enough,” said German. “The MBA got to the nitty-gritty of business, what works and what doesn’t. I found mentors among my professors, many of whom are also business owners, and I learned so much from (MVS Business Advisory Council) guest speaker discussions about the realities of building relationships; of cultivating and growing employees; and of taking risks.”

Starting Main Course in 2008 was a risk. Yet today, the company provides lunch Monday-Friday for Lynda.com’s 250 employees, and caters corporate events for firms such as Mercedes Daimler Chrysler and Jaguar. The firm has twice been chosen to cater the national roving culinary adventure, Outstanding in the Field, as well as Totally Local VC’s “Dinner at the...” series.

Today, German’s life is happily wrapped around Main Course. She is actively engaged in trade organizations and is a passionate advocate of food awareness. “So much of what I learned in CI’s MBA program still resonates today. I learned that it’s OK to try something different, that it’s important to take risks, and that the decision to grow or not grow is one of the most important decisions a business owner will ever make.”

Main Course California’s Outstanding in the Field event
Calendar of Events - 2013

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

January 17  Spring Semester Begins
March 2   Ventura County Star Spelling Bee Contest at CI
March 5 & 6  Grad Fest
March 14  Chamber Mega Mixer & 10th Anniversary Exhibit
April 18  Business & Technology Partnership Leadership Dinner
April 27  Multicultural Festival
May 18  Commencement

These new tenure-track faculty joined CI this year:
top row, left to right: Dax Jacobson (Smith School), Jennifer Perry (Anthropology), Jared Barton (Smith School); middle row, left to right: Janet Pinkley (JSB Library), Pauline Hunter (Nursing), William Johnson (Smith School), Erich Fleming (Biology), Alison Perchuk (Art History); bottom row, left to right: Monica Pereira (JSB Library), Carola Matera (School of Education), Christina Smith (Communication).