Happy 2016! This is the second issue of “News from the Provost” designed to provide you with information about happenings within the Division of Academic Affairs.

Provost's Update

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed the holidays and found some time to relax and recharge before the start of the spring semester.

As the fall semester ended, the Division of Academic Affairs (DAA) Strategic Plan Steering Committee finished the division strategic plan for 2016 through 2021. Our plan aligns with the University mission and strategic priorities (http://www.csuci.edu/president/presidentscouncil/ci15-strat-plan-1520.pdf). The new strategic plan will guide our academic efforts, inform annual budget development and the resource allocation process, and focus our annual assessments. The next step for the steering committee is to place the finishing touches on the implementation plan which will include measures, timelines and assignments for each objective listed in the strategic plan. The new DAA Strategic Plan, 2016 – 2021 may be found on the Provost’s Office webpage at http://www.csuci.edu/provost/documents/daa-strategic-plan-2016-2021.pdf. Please join me in thanking members of the steering committee who spent many hours developing, writing, discussing, and revising the strategic plan. And, on behalf of the steering committee, I extend a sincere thank you to all faculty, staff and students who took the time to provide us with critical feedback and suggestions enabling us to put forward the best plan possible.

On another positive note, fifteen tenure-track faculty searches were conducted last fall. The Discipline Search Committees (DSCs), program chairs, engaged faculty, staff and students are to be congratulated for bringing 14 of 15 searches to fruition. Seven additional faculty searches are slated for spring. The area DSCs have been hard at work identifying finalists for each search. The all-campus faculty interviews will take place February 25 and 26, and March 3 and 4. Faculty Affairs will be forwarding the schedule for candidates as those dates approach. A special thanks to Faculty Affairs for their outstanding work in scheduling travel, arranging rooms, and coordinating interview activities.

As I mentioned at the All Faculty meeting on January 22nd, conversations about reorganizing the Division will begin this semester. The DAA Strategic Plan Steering Committee will lead these conversations, and you are invited and encouraged to participate in the upcoming town halls and meetings. Why are we discussing reorganization now? Here are the purposes:

1. To advance the Division’s strategic plan and the University Strategic Priorities;
2. To align academic programs so as to promote intellectual synergies and interdisciplinary pursuits;
3. To align academic programs in ways that make them more agile and responsive to student needs and changing environments;
4. To determine academic homes for essential areas/programs such as but not limited to mission centers, graduate studies and undergraduate studies; and
5. To communicate a more clearly defined organizational structure with external constituencies in effort to develop meaningful community, industry, and philanthropic partnerships.

I hope you take time to read this newsletter. The pages that follow provide lovely descriptions of faculty and staff engaged in leading-edge teaching, service and scholarship. I am sure you will be impressed. Enjoy! - Gayle

Presidents Circle Event-Sierra Hall Preview

Fond Farewell- Hung Dang

As many of you know, Hung Dang, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, will be leaving CI to assume the role of Assistant Provost for Admissions and University Registrar at University of the Pacific. Hung's official last day is February 15.

Hung has had an extraordinary impact on CI in a very short time. In overseeing Admissions, Financial Aid and Scholarships, Records and Registration, and Student Systems, Hung was instrumental in fostering a team of exceptional people who put in place CI’s strong commitment to students and their success. His legacy includes streamlining and simplifying the enrollment
process, expediting the evaluation of transfer credits, implementing a communications plan for prospective students, centralizing various calendars and registration information, facilitating the development of a comprehensive recruitment plan, and developing and nurturing staff members’ talent. Hung has also been an outstanding and valued collaborator with academic and administrative colleagues throughout the university.

Please join me in thanking Hung for his service to CSU Channel Islands and celebrate his many accomplishments. On a personal note, I would like to acknowledge Hung for his wise counsel and commitment to students and the broader university community. He has had a great influence on the institution since joining the staff nearly two years ago. He will be sorely missed, and we wish him the very best at UOP in Stockton.

Upgrade to Santa Rosa Island Research Facility

The Santa Rosa Island Research Station lab was recently retrofitted by the hard working CI facilities staff. Rogelio Mendoza, John Whipp, and Jess Padilla transformed the interior of the lab into a fully functioning research facility. The lab now better supports CI faculty and undergraduate research projects. This semester the Santa Rosa Island Research Station will host 20 CI groups representing nine different programs, six K-12 classes, and 10 outside research institutes. The overwhelming support of CI staff, students, and faculty continues to be at the core of the Santa Rosa Island Research Station’s success. We look forward to supporting and developing ground breaking research within the lab for years to come.
Dr. Alison Locke Perchuk, Assistant Professor of Art History, thinks Ventura County is a pretty good place to be a scholar. “Southern California is the United States’ best kept academic secret. From the intellectual community here at CI to the libraries, universities, museums and research centers that stretch from Santa Barbara to San Diego to Riverside, the area abounds in colleagues and resources for any area of study—even for my specialty, medieval Italian art history!” A Connecticut native, Dr Perchuk became interested in the Middle Ages around the age of ten, when her parents gave her a copy of California author John Steinbeck’s Acts of King Arthur and His Noble Knights. A study abroad experience in Rome during college drew her attention to Italy’s medieval art and architecture, and as they say, the rest is history. “I came back from my semester abroad excited to complete my art degree and to pursue graduate study in medieval studies and art history,” she says. In 2000, Dr Perchuk moved to Los Angeles with her family; in 2009 she received her PhD from Yale University; and after teaching for two years at Occidental College in Los Angeles, in 2012 she joined CI’s Art Program, where she teaches courses in ancient, medieval, and Islamic art.

“Balancing teaching, service, and research is difficult, but there is a joy in each of these aspects of our jobs as professors,” Dr Perchuk says. “One of my favorite class activities is taking students to museums like the Getty Villa in Malibu or the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in LA. I love discussing works of art in person and I always see new things when I look at artworks with my students. Their questions and observations challenge me to think in different ways, even about objects I’ve
seen dozens of times before.” But in addition to being a passionate teacher, Dr Perchuk is busy as a scholar as well. In November she presented a paper on medieval Italian wall painting at a conference in Rome dedicated to the 800th anniversary of the Fourth Lateran Council, convened by Pope Innocent III in 1215; in January she shared her current book project, *The Monastery of Elijah: A History in Paint and Stone*, with an audience at UCLA; in April she will be speaking about the Prophet Elijah in medieval art and thought at UC Davis; and she has three forthcoming articles on aspects of medieval Italian art, in *Gesta*, *The Getty Research Journal*, and *California Italian Studies Journal*. “I’m looking forward to spending the summer working on my book, which uses the example of a medieval Italian monastery to understand how art, architecture, and even landscape can help generate and promote concepts of individual and communal identity—processes that are still important in the world today. And come August, I’ll be equally excited to step back into the classroom and share what I’ve learned with students and colleagues here at CI.”

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**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT - Dr. Jose Alamillo - Latinos and Baseball: In the Barrios and the Big Leagues**

Professor of Chicana/o Studies Jose Alamillo, Ph.D., helped launch an exhibit for the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History called “Latinos and Baseball: In the Barrios and the Big Leagues.”

Dr. Alamillo and other scholars from across the U.S. met with representatives at the Smithsonian in October. At the beginning of 2016, the Smithsonian announced a multiyear, nationwide collecting initiative to find, identify and curate artifacts that reflect the social and cultural influence of the game on Latino communities across the United States.
Representatives from Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History contacted Alamillo following the exhibit he organized in spring of 2015 at the John Spoor Broome Library called, “A League of Their Own: Mexican American Women in Baseball and Softball and their Struggle for Gender Equality.”

“Baseball has played a major role in everyday American life since the 1800s, providing a means of celebrating both national and ethnic identities and building communities,” said John Gray, director of the Museum of American History. “Through the lens of baseball, the Smithsonian seeks to illuminate the rich history and culture of Latinos and their impact on American culture and society.”

The Smithsonian is working with CI and nine other partner organizations as they seek out stories and objects from the U.S. and Puerto Rico that will help tell the story of Latina/o baseball in America.

Following is the link to Jose’s interview on the Latino baseball exhibit at the Smithsonian, KCLU Interview

Congratulations Jose!

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT - Dr. Carola Matera - Guerra Sucia or Dirty War

CI Professor of Early Childhood Studies Carola Matera was five years old when soldiers showed up at her home in Argentina during the “Guerra Sucia” or “Dirty War.” Matera’s mother told her to go to a neighbor’s home, “and that was the last time I saw her,” Matera said. Matera’s mother, who was five months pregnant, tried to escape the death squad but was captured and shot dead by the Argentine Anticommunist Alliance. Matera’s stepfather was taken to a torture camp. The terrified little girl was smuggled out of the town in the trunk of a car, and taken to safety in Buenos Aires, where her biological father lived.
A childhood like Matera's would have paralyzed many, but Matera used the wrenching experience as fuel to build resilience, and achieve her goal of someday empowering others. “Even though I had a very traumatic upbringing, it’s now become a tool to help others,” Matera said.

Matera was recently chosen as an “Exceptional Emerging Leader” by a 23-member nationwide review team assembled by the ChildCare Exchange, a publication for early childhood education professionals.

CI’s Early Childhood Studies Program began in 2007 with eight students and has since swelled to 300 students. Matera left her job with the Head Start Migrant Project in Washington D.C. and joined CI in 2012.

Since arriving, Matera has continued consulting all over the U.S. to help support Latino families, doing policy research and professional development. She teaches her students that speaking two languages is a powerful advantage, and when it comes to her students and the children at the center of her specialty, she listens.

Matera grew up with her biological father in Buenos Aires, then moved to Miami, Fla., to pursue a bachelor’s degree. Matera had family in California, so she and her husband moved to Santa Barbara and both earned their doctorates at University of California, Santa Barbara.

Matera has tried, but never learned exactly what happened to her mother, only that she was shot three times. She does know her mother was involved and educated at the University of Berkeley before returning to her home in Argentina to try to make her voice heard. “She believed in people’s rights. She wanted to have a voice,” Matera said. Her mother’s voice was silenced and few in Argentina will discuss what happened, but Matera wants others to hear her story, and learn from it.

“I learned to be resourceful,” she said. “You have to be resourceful to be successful. This is what I teach.” Carola’s interview on Local Leaders can be accessed through the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DApcz4Zws7k
Robyn Shea joins us as a new staff member at CI and will function as the Santa Rosa Island Research Station Coordinator. Robyn has spent the past 3.5 years as an employee of Channel Islands National Park serving as the primary Biological Technician on Santa Rosa Island and conducting wildlife monitoring on each of the five park islands. Robyn obtained her BA in Physical Anthropology from UC Santa Barbara and has spent the past 10 years working on 7 of the 8 California Channel Islands on a wide variety of projects. In addition to wildlife, she has also done extensive non-native species control and eradication work on two of the islands and at numerous sites on the mainland, and continues to keep a keen eye out for non-native species while on the islands. She has been heavily involved in various groundbreaking biosecurity and non-native species projects on the islands and still holds a voracious interest in helping to improve biosecurity practices and protocols amongst the island managers.

Robyn comes from an Irish/Italian family and has three brothers. She was frequently found climbing trees, picking flowers, examining insects or playing in the dirt as a child. She was raised to appreciate the outdoors and strives to share those values and her experiences with people she meets as well as sharing the islands and their unique species with her nieces and nephews and new acquaintances. “I am really excited to be a part of the CI Community and look forward to positively contributing to the experiences of our Research Station visitors.”
2016-2017
New Tenure Track Faculty

Dr. Jaime Matera, Assistant Professor- Anthropology
Dr. Melanie Pribisko Yen, Assistant Professor- Chemistry
Dr. Megan Kenny Feister, Assistant Professor- Communication
Dr. Stacey Anderson, Assistant Professor- English
Dr. Clare Wormald Steele, Assistant Professor- ESRM
Dr. Alona Kryshchenko, Assistant Professor-Math
Dr. Aaron McColpin, Assistant Professor- Nursing
Ms. Charlene Niemi, Assistant Professor- Nursing
Dr. Sander van der Linden, Assistant Professor- Psychology
Ms. Rachel Soper, Assistant Professor- Sociology
Dr. Javier Gonzalez, Assistant Professor- Spanish
Mr. Dylan Cooper, Assistant Professor- Management
Dr. Hua Dai, Associate Professor- MIS
Mr. Jose Garcia, Assistant Professor-Foundations of Education

2016
New Staff

Geri-Lyn Himebaugh, Program Analyst
Robyn Shea, SRI Research Station Coordinator
Jeannette Edwards, Mission Centers Coordinator
Janine Pitt, Library
Cindy Flores, Student Systems
Neomi Basquez, Extended University
Scott Trevino, International Programs
Stacy Smith, Student Business Services
Carolina Mendez, Project ACCESO
Edwin Mancilla, Admissions/Recruitment
Elizabeth Llamas, Financial Aid
Christine Patton, Student Business Services
Drew Waner, Equipment Technician, Physics
Mia de Paula, Program Analyst

CI -- Saving Lost Latino Community History

Oxnard’s historic Wagon Wheel community was demolished in 2014 and replaced with a 120-unit apartment complex, displacing low-income immigrants and Spanish-speaking field workers with strong ties of history, community and identity. CI students in a Chicana/o Studies special topics course worked with Cabrillo Economic Development to recover and preserve the rich history of this overlooked multi-ethnic community. After researching other Latino communities displaced by development to gain a deeper understanding of its impact on residents, students conducted oral interviews, documenting shared memory and community history. Their future goal is to create an oral-history collection to be housed in the new Wagon Wheel Family Apartments complex.
From the Desk of the Senior Research Officer - CI and Navy Partnerships

The U.S. Navy has five system commands, three of which have operations represented at Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC):
- the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Command (NAWCWD);
- the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Port Hueneme Division (PHD); and
- the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and Expeditionary Warfare Center (EXWC).

Each of these organizations at NBVC is a designated federal laboratory, making NBVC one of the only Navy installations with three federal labs. What is more unusual is that all three Navy organizations have cooperative agreements with CSU Channel Islands and coordinate their efforts together for the mutual benefit of all four organizations. Each Navy command at NBVC has an Educational Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the University, and NAVSEA PHD also has a Partnership Intermediary Agreement.

The EPAs allows the Navy to aid in the educational experience of CI students and faculty (e.g., by sharing hardware, personnel, and facilities), and allows CI to aid Navy engineers and other employees in executing their mission by leveraging the educational knowledge and capabilities of CI students and/or faculty. Of particular interest to the Navy is the facilitation of student interest and expertise in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, particularly as these fields relate to the real world technical applications required by the U.S. Navy.

The PIA allows CI to act as an agent of NAVSEA PHD to develop programs in technology transfer with private businesses, academia, scientific establishments, and State and local governments. As a non-DoD (Department of Defense), partner, CI is not subject to DoD operating restrictions. The PIA was motivated by NAVSEA PHD’s interest in having CI host the 2016 Industry Expo on March 24, 2016, but it will also grow as the university’s technology transfer interests and expertise grows. For more information about the Industry Expo, see http://industryexpo.cikeys.com. For more information about the PIA, contact Celina Zacarias,
Having these agreements in place allows the Navy to give its employees time to interact with CI employees and students. Jason Miller, Senior Research Officer, has been working with technical leadership from each command to identify opportunities for partnerships and interactions. Navy leadership has been sharing opportunities of interest to CI faculty and students, and CI has working on ways to make connections between CI employees and students and Navy employees.

Keep your eyes open for opportunities on campus to learn more about what is happening on the Navy base and opportunities for faculty and students to work with our Navy colleagues. Questions about such opportunities can be addressed to Jason Miller, jason.miller@csuci.edu.

2016-2017 Mini-Grant Recipients

The competition for 2016-2017 mini-grants had over 30 proposal submissions for approximately $199,000 in requests. The review committee had the difficult task of evaluating proposals and allocating the $93,000 that was allocated to the mini-grant budget. In the end, 15 mini-grants were awarded.

Ahmed Awad- Chemistry "Antimicrobial Activity of Synthetic 3' Azido and 3'-Amino-ribonucleosides."

Matthew Campbell- Psychology "Social networks of emotional contagion in chimpanzees and what we can learn about the evolution of empathy in humans."
Sean Carswell - English "Pynchonomics."

Michelle Dean - Education "The Current Social Intervention Practices of General Education Teachers who Educate Students with Disabilities."

Geoff Dilly - Biology. "Thermotolerance and stress on the Channel Islands: Using respirometry and RNA sequencing to examine sea surface warming effects on pycnogonids (sea spiders)."

Jason Isaacs - Computer Science "Modernization of CI’s Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Platforms."


Sohui Lee - Library "Digital Literacy and CI’s First-Gen Students."

Mary McThomas - Political Science "Acknowledging Difference to Achieve Equity: University Policies Regarding Undocumented Students."

Lindsey O’Connor - Sociology "Recognizing Family Responsibilities Discrimination."

Alison Perchuk - Art History "The Monastery of Elijah: A History in Paint and Stone."

Charles Sackerson - Biology "Evolution and Regulation of the Myoglobin Gene of Cetaceans."

Luis Sanchez - Sociology "Residential Mobility and Locational Attainment among Latinos and Asians in the United States, 1990-2010."

Elizabeth Sowers - Sociology "Logistics and Transportation in a Sociological Perspective."

Brian Thoms - Computer Science "Health e-Consent Framework for Patient Generated Data: Considering the Needs of At-Risk Populations."

These awards will be posted on the Faculty Development Mini-grant webpage and the Mini-grant Review Committee will provide proposal feedback to all applicants sometime early in the Spring 2016 semester. Faculty should also stay tuned for a competition for RSCA funds from the Chancellor’s Office for 2016-2017 some time this spring.

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**Recommended Viewing and Reading**

Blake Buller, Assistant Articulation Officer, offers his thoughts on a book that the Provost's office staff is currently reading.

*Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* is one of the best books I’ve ever read on any subject. I’m an introvert, so it spoke powerfully to me. However, even if you’re not an introvert, I’d still highly recommend it, as there’s much that can be learned from it. As the author, Susan Cain, wrote: “Depending on which study you consult, one third to one half of Americans are introverts – in other words, one out of every two or three people you know … If you’re not an introvert yourself, you are surely raising, managing, married to, or coupled with one.”
Cain's TED Talk about the book, which has been viewed almost 13 million times, is one of the most viewed TED Talks ever. You may find it through the following link: https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_cain_the_power_of_introverts

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**Staff Professional Development Workshops**

**Save the Date!**

- April 16, 2016- Title IX Training-Facilitated by Britany Grice, Title IX Officer at CI

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The **Provost's office** and staff offices are located in Bell Tower West on the second floor. We are here to serve you!

Gayle E. Hutchinson, Provost and VPAA  
**Dan Wakelee**, Associate Provost  
**Beth Hartung**, Assistant Provost  
**Karen Gundelfinger**, Executive Assistant to the Provost  
**Donna Veg**, Associate Director of Faculty Affairs  
**Jerilee Petralba**, Academic Information Systems Coordinator  
**Nitzia Castaniero**, Academic Personnel Analyst  
**Kate Harrington**, Budget Officer  
**Molly Oberst**, Lead Budget Analyst  
**David Daniels**, Academic Senate and IRA Coordinator  
**Gina Matibag**, Academic Support Analyst  
**Andrea Skinner**, Curriculum Coordinator  
**Mary Laurence**, Instructional Space Coordinator  
**Janet Rizzoli**, Articulation Officer  
**Blake Buller**, Assistant Articulation Officer