

Current

CSU Channel Islands

A publication for friends of
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

Spring 2000 Vol. 5 No. 1

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



When I arrived in Ventura County some four years ago, the University was but a twinkle in everyone's eye. We had 260 acres of lemon trees and row crops, a rather checkered project history—and no money! How things have changed.

We now have the beginnings of a major showpiece campus, which I believe will become a campus of choice as we develop its potential in the years to come. Every time I come to work I am struck by the changes—some subtle, some more obvious, which are taking place as we prepare for our first students. We are just beginning, but our future looks bright.

It has been crucial, and still is, that the university not stand alone as it proceeds with planning. The partnerships that we create will have much mutual benefit as we progress. Our most significant and unique partnership has been the creation of the California State University Channel Islands Site Authority as a result of SB1923 (O'Connell.)

This legislation created the means by which planning and development will take place in our quest to create a true university community.

(Continued on next page)

Securing Our Future

\$5 Million Gift Launches Endowment, Teaching Award

"My wife, Martha, and I are committed to helping local students continue their academic studies in Ventura County so that their talents and opportunities may grow here as ours did," says Mr. Smith.



Martin V. "Bud" Smith, a leading real estate investor and developer, recently announced plans to provide a \$5 million endowment for California State University Channel Islands. The gift will create an endowed University Chair in Land Use Planning and Development, a topic of great significance to the future of Ventura County.

The donation will also recognize and reward faculty for superior teaching and scholarship by endowing the Martin V. Smith Award for Teaching Excellence. In addition, the endowment of a Martin V. Smith Scholars program will enable the new University to recruit, reward, and retain the highest caliber of students. Mr. Smith is also establishing an endowment to be used by the University President for opportunities that enhance the educational mission of CSU Channel Islands. "This gift is an incredible investment in the future of CSU Channel Islands," says University President J. Handel Evans. Mr. Smith's imagination helped to develop Channel Islands Harbor, the Oxnard Financial Plaza, and a host of other significant landmarks, which changed the face of Ventura County and stimulated the local economy.



CSUCI President J. Handel Evans with Foundation Board Member Dr. Victoria Pozzi and Martin V. Smith.

Summer Release: CSU Channel Islands Master Plan

In July, CSU Channel Islands will present its Physical Master Plan for campus development to the Trustees of the California State University System. The Master Plan articulates a long-range approach which will guide the growth and development of the campus over the next 25 years. The plan must be flexible in order to accommodate changes of the physical infrastructure and the academic mission of the campus as time goes on.

The objectives of the Physical Master Plan are to develop a site that:

- Accommodates a full-service, four-year university campus
- Provides quality, public higher education programs to eligible high school graduates, community college transfer students, and "non-traditional" students who are presently in the work force or retired
- Develops an educational, cultural, and recreational facility that serves all citizens of the region
- Provides a beneficial re-use of an existing state facility
- Preserves the historic nature of the site and its buildings
- Fosters an alternative funding mechanism for campus development activities

The Master Plan is the result of an 18-month collaboration process, which involved working with local municipalities, the County of Ventura, representatives of the environmental community, and community members at large.

(Continued from front page)

The Site Authority, with Supervisors Frank Schillo and Kathy Long representing the County Board of Supervisors and Councilwoman Charlotte Craven of Camarillo representing the cities, ensures a public voice in the sensitive issue of the development of Ventura County.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be unveiling our final specific plan for the project and will have presented our supplementary Environmental Impact Report. This community development, with its university housing and future school sites identified will, I trust, be well-received within the community as a serious and thoughtful conclusion to a long process involving many individuals and organizations.

Much of the public interest has been held by our unique development program; however, the purpose of this development is to facilitate the establishment of a university, not the other way around. Therefore, it is important to recognize the effects of community support on our academic endeavors.

Since the last issue of Current, we have been blessed with a generous gift in the form of a \$5 million bequest from the estate of Martin V. Smith. “Bud” Smith, as he is more popularly known, has been a developer of renown in Ventura County and particularly in the city of Oxnard.

This gift, given to our endowment fund, has specific direction as to its use; and as such ensures a continuity of funding for our university. The proceeds from the Smith bequest are to be used to establish a faculty chair in Land Use Planning and Development, which we hope will become a catalyst for the establishment of an institute for the study of land use issues, particularly those germane to our county.

(Continued on next page)

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Needs Analysis Submitted

In what is considered to be a major hurdle in becoming an academic credit-granting university, CSU Channel Islands will submit a “Needs Analysis” on May 1 to the California Postsecondary Education Commission.

“Having spoken with members of the Commission following our initial presentation in April, I feel confident we will receive CPEC approval in early Fall,” said Dr. Barbara Thorpe, Associate Academic Vice President.

Before an institution of higher education can grant academic credit, it must first receive approval from CPEC by establishing a need for its existence. CSUCI’s “Needs Analysis” takes into account numerous factors, including the steady growth of the Northridge off-campus center since 1974, the economic needs of Ventura County, public school enrollment data, demographics, projected enrollment growth, possible academic programs, and available facilities among other issues.

A Head Start

High school students interested in getting a head start on their college studies can enroll in CSU Channel Island’s Summer College program, which begins this summer.

The five-week program earns students three college level credits. It is co-sponsored with CSU Northridge at Channel Islands and combines academic coursework with Career Exploration Seminars. Seminars will cover a range of careers and academic disciplines including the arts, business, education, health sciences, science and technology, and the social and behavioral sciences.

The seminars will also help students make decisions about college selection and career paths, as well as narrow choices for college majors. Special events are planned to involve students in learning about law enforcement, the CSU K-9 Academy, local Chumash Native American history, the latest in alternative fuel vehicles, careers in biotechnology, the arts and business, recent developments in sports medicine and kinesiology, and much more.

We invite highly motivated students entering their junior or senior year in high school to apply for CSU Channel Islands’ first Summer College experience. For additional information, students and parents may contact the program coordinator, Dr. Shelley Bartenstein, at (805) 437-8451.

Partnership Formed
With Oxnard High

Channel Islands and Oxnard Union High School District have formed a partnership, known as Project ASPIRE, which is designed to prepare 200 junior high school students for college admission.

Project ASPIRE (Achieving Student Progress and Increasing Readiness for Education) is funded through the Ventura County Community Foundation, along with matching funds from the Oxnard Union High School District.

The program is intended to help students by increasing basic English and mathematics proficiency skills, increasing the number of graduates going to a California State University, and reducing the number of CSU freshman requiring remedial work. Activities include CSU faculty exchanges with math and English teachers, administration of diagnostics in English and math, development of tutoring plans for each student, and tutoring students through the Fall of 1999 and the Spring of 2000. Parental involvement will be an important aspect of the partnership as well.

Staff members at both CSU Northridge and CSUN at Channel Islands will provide advice regarding financial aid, the college application process, and other admission issues.

Agricultural Collection
Comes To CSUCI

Channel Islands is the recipient of a \$10,000 grant from the Hansen Trust to build the Hansen Trust Library Collection in Agricultural Management.

The successful proposal to the Hansen Trust Agricultural Literacy and Issues Competitive Grants Program will provide the new John Spoor Broome Library with an essential collection of approximately 500 books. This collection will support educational programs in agricultural business management, marketing, and finance.

The need for educational programs in agribusiness was underscored in a “Survey of Educational Needs in Agriculture” funded in 1998 by the Hansen Trust and reported in March of 1999. The results indicate the top priority of the agricultural business community in Ventura County is that CSUCI offers programs and courses in the business of agriculture, including marketing and finance.

The collection will be purchased this Spring and Summer and will be housed temporarily in the CSUN at Channel Islands Library.

Getting Ahead
In Business

Channel Islands Certificate in Business provides basic business skills to students with Bachelor’s degrees from other disciplines.

The course work allows students to learn the theory and applications of accounting, economics, finance and law, statistics, management, and marketing.

“This is the new and innovative type of program that we feel is the way of the future,” says Rear Admiral Robert C. Chaplin. “For the Navy, it enables us to offer effective programs for people at sea. It’s really taking advantage of the new technology because it lets us take the classroom to the student.”

Offered in collaboration with California State University, Los Angeles, and the Navy Postgraduate School in Monterey, the Certificate in Business Management is comprised of six fundamental management courses that are prerequisite to the Master in Business Administration degree. Academic credit is awarded by CSU Los Angeles, and four of the six courses in the certificate program are also accepted by the Navy Postgraduate School as transfer units for the Master of Science in Management degree.

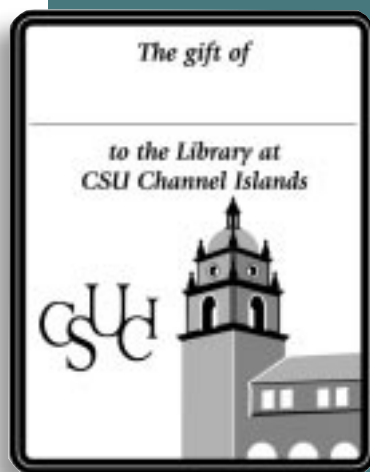
Instruction for this innovative certificate is delivered entirely via the Internet. The on-line format permits students to complete their assignments and participate in class discussions from any place, at any time. While the entire course can be accessed via the web, faculty meets with students in an intensive, one-day Saturday session on campus at the beginning of each course. The first class is scheduled to begin April 29, 2000.

Sharing Resources

HELP OUR LIBRARY GROW

A gift to the CSU Channel Islands library is a wonderful way to remember a loved one or honor someone special on their birthday or anniversary. Individuals making a donation of \$50 or more may have a name inscribed on

a bookplate, which will be placed in a new library acquisition. For further information please contact Nancy Covarrubias Gill at (805) 437-8456.



Library Branch Opens on Campus

Since the Spring semester, CSU Northridge students enrolled at the Channel Islands campus have had access to new library facilities including computer workstations, group study areas, and individual study stations equipped with power ports and Internet access. Housed in the west wing of the Bell Tower building, the 6,500 square foot library operates as a branch of the CSU Northridge library. This facility will serve students and faculty until the expected completion of the John Spoor Broome Library at CSU Channel Islands in 2003.

The library is open 62 hours per week and offers students a significantly expanded level of support from professional librarians. "Having a library provides a much-needed resource for students conducting research and a wonderful location for students to study," says Larry Johnson, President of the Associated Students at the Channel Islands campus.

Approximately 15,000 volumes are available in the library. In addition, students have electronic access to the full text of thousands of journals and can order any item from the complete catalog at CSUN's Oviatt Library. A daily courier service delivers materials to the branch library from the main campus.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from previous page)

In addition, Mr. Smith has demonstrated his interest in employing an outstanding faculty from the very beginning and a part of the bequest is to be used to reward and encourage faculty in their research and classroom work. Ever mindful of the sacrifice and commitment made by students, Mr. Smith has asked that a portion of the gift be allocated to scholarships for outstanding students. The gift also contains a provision for a fund to be established to assist the University in meeting unforeseen or special needs. All in all a terrific vote of confidence in the University's future, a future that will be ensured by this wonderful commitment.

These examples of partnership and philanthropy set the stage for the future, and are assisted by the general goodwill and support of many others who contribute time, effort and funds to ensure our success. Our President's Circle now has close to two hundred founding members and the ranks are swelling as word of our work circulates throughout the community.

Yes, we have come a long way. We have a long way to go, but with the help of people like you, we will surely succeed.

■ More than fifty business leaders gathered at the first CSU Channel Islands Corporate Council breakfast meeting on February 24 to hear Russell Goldsmith, Chairman and C.E.O. of City National Bank, speak about the impact CSU Channel Islands is likely to have on the local economy. The Corporate Council fosters support and involvement by the business community in the development of CSU Channel Islands. As Ventura County's first four-year public university, CSU Channel Islands intends to be responsive to and reflective of the region's diverse economy.



Gathered at the Corporate Council breakfast were (left to right): Debbie Rodgers, Coldwell Banker Town & Country, Regional Director, Business Development; Russell Goldsmith, City National Bank CEO; J. Handel Evans, CSUCI President; and, Pat Richards, City National Bank, V.P. Business Development.

■ President's Circle members and their invited guests attended the first President's Circle Lecture hosted by President J. Handel Evans and the CSU Channel Islands Foundation. Over 100 people attended a coffee and dessert reception prior to a presentation by guest speaker Dr. Gary Greene, Marine Geologist of the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and San Jose State University. Dr. Greene's lecture, "Fish Tales from the Geological Zone of the Channel Islands," highlighted marine life along the Ventura and Santa Barbara county coastlines. Those in attendance were also treated to a preview of this year's keepsake for President's Circle new and renewing members. Our appreciation goes to Barber Ford of Ventura, the event's sponsor.

■ Coldwell Banker Town & Country's "Homes for Books" program resulted in a gift of nearly \$17,000 to the University for the purchase of books and other resources for its new Library. The company's president, William W. Geary, Jr., presented a check to CSU Channel Islands President J. Handel Evans at a reception held on campus on February 28. Among those applauding the contribution were librarians from local public libraries and students from CSUN at Channel Islands, underscoring the fact that the University's Library will be a resource for the entire community.



Joining CSUCI President J. Handel Evans at the Coldwell Banker Town & Country gift presentation were Carlsberg Management Company President William W. Geary, Jr., John S. Broome, Coldwell Banker Town & Country, Regional Director, Business Development Debbie Rodgers, and Coldwell Banker Commercial Carlsberg Executive Vice President Forbes W. Burdette.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 26
- CSUN at Channel Islands
Commencement Ceremony; 10:00 a.m.
at the CSU Channel Islands campus,
south quad
- June 26-June 29
- CSUCI/CSU Readiness Summer Institute
to be held at CSU Channel Islands
- June 26 - July 28
- CSU Channel Islands & CSU Northridge
at Channel Islands, Summer College for
High School Students
- August 28
- Fall classes begin for CSU Northridge at
Channel Islands
- September 9
- President's Awards & Scholarship Dinner
black-tie, fund raising dinner to
recognize CSUCI achievements and the
individuals who contributed to the year's
success. Proceeds from the dinner will
be used to establish scholarships. For
information, call Nancy Covarrubias
Gill at (805) 437-8456.

CSUCI
In The News

- As part of CSU Legislative Day, Art Flores, Chief Financial Officer, and Elizabeth Stacey, Director of Development, led a delegation of university supporters to Sacramento on April 3 for a morning of policy briefings and the opportunity to visit with legislators in the State Capitol. Those in attendance included Bernie and Barbara Bobitch, Jack Broome, Marty de los Cobos, Hank Lacayo, Manuel and Irma Lopez, and Doug Off. Assemblywoman Hannah-Beth Jackson and Senator Jack O'Connell expressed confidence that \$10 million would be included in the May revise of the Governor's budget to enable CSU Channel Islands to begin building the academic infrastructure that is essential to open the university in the Fall of 2002.
- The CSU Channel Islands Shuttle Program got off to a successful launch with riders exceeding original projections made by the Ventura County Transportation Commission. In one month, over 8,000 trips to CSU Channel Islands were made. "This is great news for our Green Campus," says Ray Porras, Director of Transportation & Parking Services. "The shuttle bus not only helps the environment by cutting down on the number of cars on the road, but it also saves people the cost of parking on campus." Groups or individuals wishing to visit the campus may call (805) 437-8430 to arrange for a free shuttle ride from the Metrolink station in Camarillo or C Street in Oxnard.
- The California Preservation Foundation has bestowed a 2000 Preservation Design Award upon CSU Channel Islands. The award was given in the rehabilitation/adaptive reuse category in recognition of the transformation of the Bell Tower building's purpose from a state hospital facility into a modern university structure, while maintaining its architectural integrity. "We considered ourselves to be stewards of this site. Our goal was to create collegiate spaces and capture major characteristics of the architecture as symbolic anchors of the future university's growth," says Michael Bobrow who, with his partner Julia Thomas, is a principal in the Westwood firm of Bobrow/Thomas and Associates, lead architects on the Bell Tower project and the campus master planning architects. Headquartered in Oakland, the California Preservation Foundation is the only private, non-profit, statewide organization dedicated to ensuring that California's diverse historic resources are identified, protected, and celebrated for their history and role in California's economy, environment, and quality of life.



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Campus Fever

As President of Associated Students, the best advice I can offer other students is not to lose their drive for learning. There are times when events or personal responsibilities force us to make difficult choices. I urge each of you to allow your education to remain a priority.

*-Lawrence Johnson, Senior, Psychology,
CSUN at Channel Islands*



As I prepare to graduate, I'd like to offer students the following advice: Make a list of your academic goals and gain the satisfaction of checking each one off as it is completed. Look into scholarship opportunities, get involved with student government, and volunteer your talents. You will always benefit from the involvement. Before you know it, graduation will be here!

*-Michelle Jordan, Senior, History,
CSUN at Channel Islands*





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