

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

Current

The Class of 2005

Wave of the Future



**COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS:
Broome and Lagomarsino Receive
University's First Honorary Degrees**

Spring/Summer 2005 • Vol. 9 No. 2

President's Message

The Baton Has Been Passed.

At our recent commencement ceremony, in addition to hundreds of smiling graduates joined by thousands of family and friends beaming with pride, I couldn't help but be struck by the many changes that were being recognized and celebrated – all during one brilliant and sunny morning in May.

There was the obvious passage of 466 students who would recess through the commencement arch and process into the next exciting chapters in their lives. In one step the graduates went from the learner to the learned, and each became an example and role model for all of the children who were gathered to watch. For those who came to witness their sister/brother, mother/father, aunt/uncle, or friend receive that diploma, the event symbolized what can result from hard work and determination.

Then there was the recognition of California State University, Northridge, which came to Ventura County 30 years ago, a pioneer in reaching out and providing access to a public four-year education for the people of Ventura County. CSUN's leadership and personnel stayed and nourished this educational dream until it could be seamlessly handed off to the current faculty, staff, and administration of CSUCI.

And finally there was the richly deserved honorary degrees bestowed to two leaders who exemplify what our recent graduates can and *should* aspire to be one day. Robert J. Lagomarsino and John Spoor Broome are gentlemen in the truest sense of the word. Both come from backgrounds that instilled in them a great work ethic. They worked hard and ran the race to success one step at a time. But they didn't count themselves on the winner's platform until they were able to reach out and provide support so that others could grab the baton of success as well.

And so, marked by our third commencement, we end another academic year in the life of our young University: a year that has seen us move in a decisive step closer to WASC accreditation; a year when we have added new majors and hired a dozen new faculty members who, in just a few short months, will join the rest of the team eager to greet students at the beginning of the fall semester.

So enjoy the summer, and get ready for another outstanding academic year at *your* University – Cal State Channel Islands.

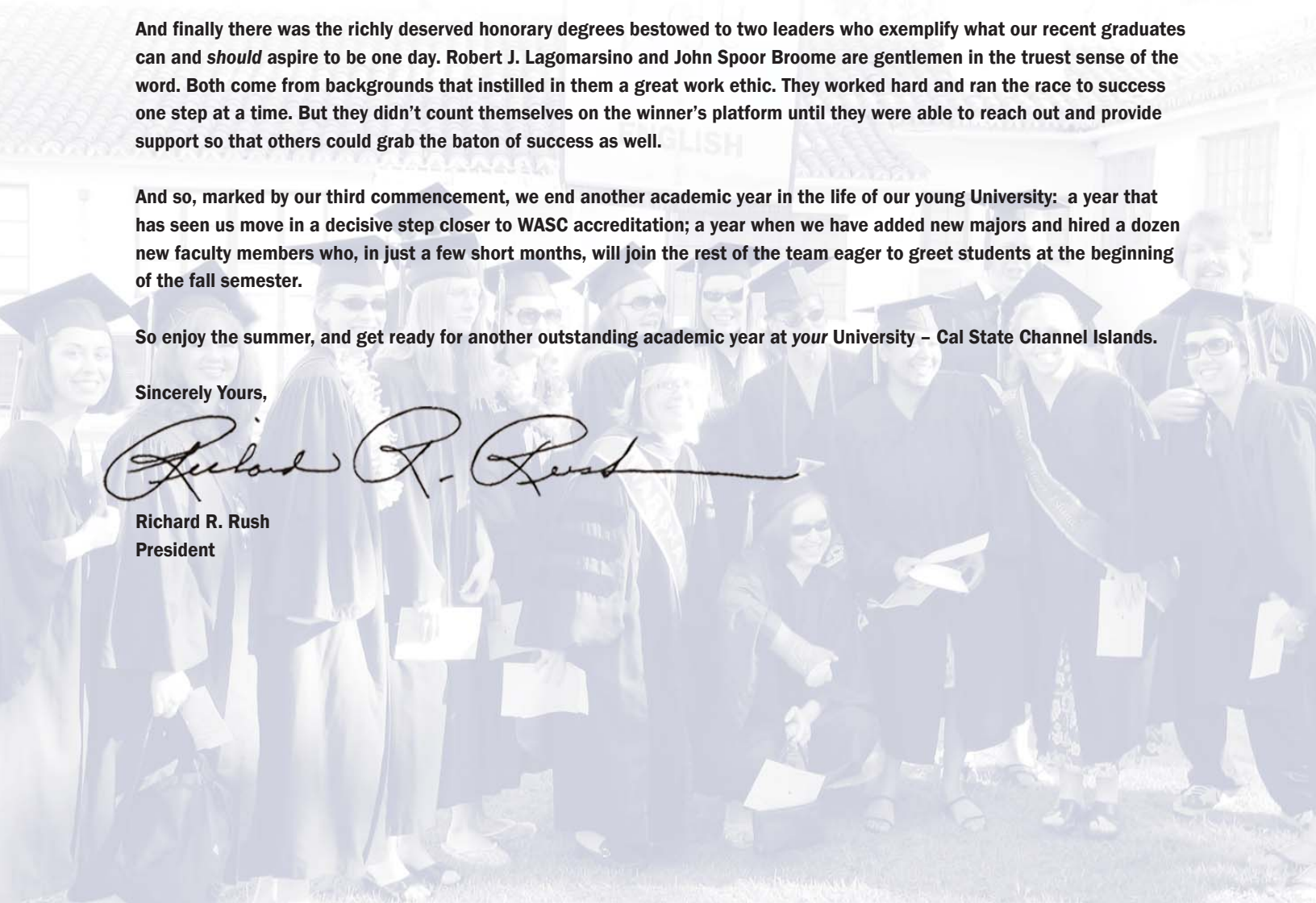
Sincerely Yours,



Richard R. Rush
President



President Rush presents a diploma to Mathematics major Juan Zuniga.





CSUCI Current is an official publication of California State University Channel Islands. It is published three times a year for alumni, friends, and the University community. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Cover photo:
Art majors Lupita Gutierrez and
Steve Tran Hoang celebrate
Commencement 2005

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Calendar Back Cover



A member of the campus community
fingerpaints part of a giant portrait of
Cesar Chavez.



Newly admitted and prospective
students learn about the University at
the first Discover CI event.



Students march into the South Quad for
Commencement 2005.

campus briefs

New Event Allows Students To 'Discover CI'

Discover CI, a new event sponsored by Enrollment Services, was held in April to familiarize newly admitted and prospective students, their families and friends, with the University. More than 1,000 people attended the event, which featured workshops on such subjects as academic preparation for admission and how to pay for a college education. Student panels and presentations focused on academic programs offered by the University. In addition, attendees toured the campus and participated in a University marketplace which provided information on various academic and student services.

Honoring Cesar Chavez



To celebrate Cesar Chavez Day, students, faculty, and staff participated in the painting of a 7' by 13' portrait of the well-known activist. Local artist Peter Tigler created a paint-by-numbers outline, and passers-by stopped to finger-paint sections of the portrait. The painting will later be displayed in an appropriate facility on campus. The event was sponsored by the University Library and Student Affairs.

WASC Grants Candidacy For Accreditation

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) recently granted California State University Channel Islands the status of Candidate for Accreditation, following the University's self-study and two on-site visits by WASC officials.

The University is already preparing for its next round of reporting and WASC site visits in March of 2006 and again in March of 2007. The effort will involve a broad spectrum of faculty and staff, according to Ted Lucas, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Fifty-thousand dollars from the \$5-million-dollar Martin V. Smith family endowment to the University will assist in this effort.

"Before we can become fully accredited," Lucas said, "we must graduate a class of students that entered as freshmen, so the earliest CI could receive full accreditation status is the summer of 2007.

"We're very happy with the results so far. WASC officials seemed very pleased with our efforts and were complimentary in their response. We're looking forward to this next phase. President Rush and I want to thank the many faculty and staff who participated in this process and those who have signed on for the next round."

Broome Library Groundbreaking Set For Fall '05

The construction of one of the major facilities on campus, the John Spoor Broome Library, will begin in the fall of this year. A groundbreaking event will be followed by abatement and selective demolition of existing buildings, with renovation and new construction expected to start in the winter of 2006, according to Deborah Wylie, associate vice president of Operations, Planning and Construction, in charge of all University design and construction projects.

The selected design build team is PCL Construction and Gruen Associates, with ARUP for structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineering. This phase of the project began last May with the project team preparing construction documents for plan review throughout the summer and fall. The facility is expected to be completed within three years.

University to Study Feasibility of Nursing Program

The University will be conducting a feasibility study and making plans for a new four-year generic baccalaureate in nursing program (BSN), thanks to funds allocated by a number of local and federal sources.

Funding came from the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, a federal Fund for Improvement of Post Secondary Education, and from local hospitals.

Baccalaureate-prepared nurses have a critical role in the health care system of the county, said Dr. Barbara Thorpe, associate vice president, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. "We are moving forward in a very focused way to ensure that we have a quality program in place for students to enroll by the fall of 2007.

Kudos – Faculty

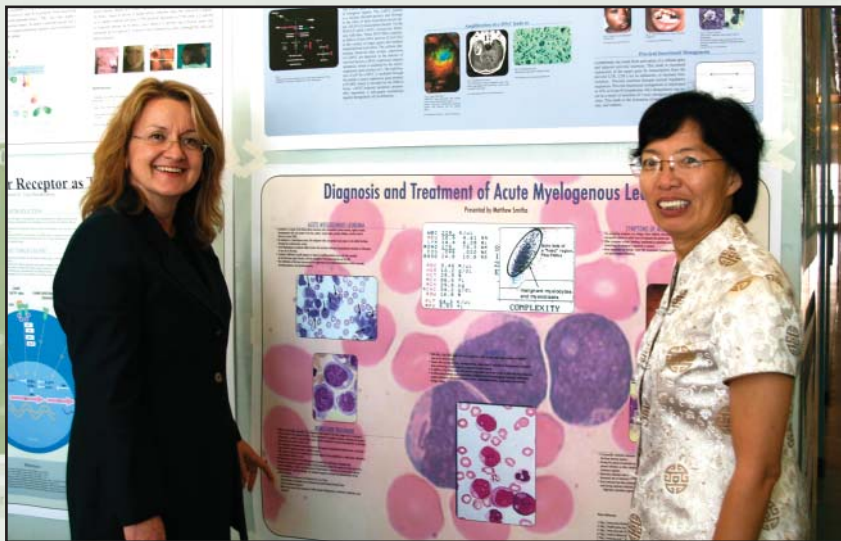
- ❖ **Terry Ballman**, professor of Spanish and the new chair of the Academic Senate effective July 1, recently gave the keynote address, "Assessing Our Students Oral Language: Meeting the Standards," at the annual conference of the Hawaii Association of Language Teachers in Honolulu. In addition, she and **Antonio Jiménez-Jiménez**, assistant professor of Spanish, recently gave a presentation, "Promoting Speaking: Engaging Students in Fun, Task-based Activities," at the California Language Teachers Association annual meeting.
- ❖ **Jeanne Grier**, assistant professor of education—science, and Single Subject Credential coordinator and advisor, recently gave a presentation at the American Educational Research Association's annual meeting. The title of the scholarship paper was "Incorporating Technology, Standards, and Inquiry into the Teaching of Science: An Evaluation of Program Effects," which described the program evaluation outcomes of a professional development opportunity Grier created for secondary science teachers in Illinois.

New Faculty to Begin Teaching In Fall Semester

The University hired twelve additional tenure-track faculty members who will begin teaching this fall.

New to CSUCI are **Damon Aiken, Ph.D.**, University of Oregon, assistant professor of marketing, previously employed at Pepperdine University; **Sean Anderson, Ph.D.**, University of California, Los Angeles, assistant professor of Environmental Science Resource Management, previously employed at Stanford University; **Manuel Correia, Ph.D.**, University of California, Berkeley, assistant professor of education, previously employed at the San Francisco Unified School District; **Elizabeth Hartung, Ph.D.**, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, professor of sociology, previously employed at California State University, Fresno; **Tiina Itkonen, Ph.D.**, University of California, Santa Barbara, assistant professor of education-special education, previously employed at the University of California, Santa Barbara; **Bradley Monsma, Ph.D.**, University of Southern California, professor of English, previously employed at Woodbury University; **Gregory Wood, Ph.D.**, University of California, Riverside, assistant professor of physics, previously employed at California State University, Northridge; and **Cynthia Wyels, Ph.D.**, University of California, Santa Barbara, associate professor, mathematics, previously employed at California Lutheran University.

Professors who have previously taught at CSUCI are: **Andrzej Bieszczad, Ph.D.**, Carleton University, assistant professor of computer science; **Blake Gillespie, Ph.D.**, University of Oregon, assistant professor, biochemistry; **Kimmy Kee-Rose, Ph.D.**, Medical College of Pennsylvania, associate professor of psychology; and **Bob Mayberry, Ph.D.**, University of Rhode Island, associate professor of English.



Stem Cell Symposium

A recent symposium held on campus, "Stem Cells: From Here to Eternity," drew an overflow crowd to the Science Auditorium. The event featured a panel of national experts who discussed the controversial topic from various perspectives, including research and applications, ethical issues, and some of the exciting new discoveries. Nicole Bournias (left), visiting professor of biology and director of the Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Program, and Ching-Hua Wang, professor of immunology and microbiology and chair of the Biology Program, review some of the posters describing stem cell research.

campus briefs

Trials and Tribulations



Speaking before a capacity audience, author Anchee Min (above) gave a dramatic presentation on her experiences as a teenager in a labor camp during the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Min, who wrote a memoir of her three-year ordeal, talked about the experience as well as dramatized part of it with her daughter, Laurianne. The event was sponsored by the English and History Programs, in conjunction with the Multicultural Women's and Gender Center and the CSUCI Foundation.

Author Williams to Be Featured At Celebration of Reading Event

The 2nd annual Celebration of Reading event, scheduled for the fall 2005 semester, will feature author Terry Tempest Williams and her book, *Open Space of Democracy*. The University's Foundation Board will provide copies of Williams' book to new and continuing CSUCI students at no cost. Students will be encouraged to read the book before the beginning of the fall 2005 semester to participate in classroom discussions. Faculty and staff will also be invited to read the book as well, to create a campus-wide involvement and experience. Williams, who is a naturalist and environmental activist, is scheduled to be on campus November 8.

For more information, contact Renny Christopher, professor of English and chair of the Campus Reading Celebration committee, at (805) 434-8994 or renny.christopher@csuci.edu.

Student Art Sale Provides Funds

The University's Art Program and Student Programming Board sponsored the first annual student art sale, raising \$3,000. Half of the proceeds were donated to the American Red Cross to help victims of the tsunami and earthquake disasters.

campus briefs

Speaker Urges Stand Against Hate Crimes

Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard who was beaten to death in an anti-gay hate crime in Wyoming, was the featured speaker at a campus event that attracted more than 150 students, faculty, staff, and members of the community. In a talk titled, "The Cost of Hate Is High," Shepard focused on the importance of voting and of educating people about what they can do to make schools and communities safer for all—regardless of race, sex, religion, or sexual orientation. The talk was sponsored by the CSUCI English: Writing and Literature Program, the Multicultural and Women's & Gender Center, Student Programming Board, Instructionally Related Activities, and the Ventura County Rainbow Alliance.

Dinosaurs and Disney

Dr. Stuart Sumida (right), professor of biology at California State University, San Bernardino, gave a recent talk titled, "From Biology and Dinosaurs to Digital Special Effects – Why You Need the Old Dog to Do New Tricks." The speaker, a comparative anatomist and paleontologist who specializes in the biomechanics and evolution of locomotion, is in great demand as an anatomical consultant to



special effect artists and animators at Walt Disney Feature Animations, DreamWorks, and many other media. With

Sumida is Nicole Bournias, visiting professor of biology and director of the Master's Program in Biotechnology and Bioinformatics.

Career Connections

Hundreds of CSUCI and community college students, as well as members of the community, met with representatives of local employers at the recent CSUCI Career Day event. Attendees were able to discuss part-time and full-time jobs and internships with several local and national companies, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations that were actively recruiting prospective employees.



B&TP Scholarships

The University's Business & Technology Partnership (B&TP) held a special scholarship fund-raising dinner to honor community, business, and education leaders. In top photo, presenting a scholarship to George Wingate (second from left) were Debra Farrar, CSU trustee, and representatives of the title sponsor, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, Tom Thomas, president and CEO (second from right), and Ed Birch, chairman of the board. Jose Ramirez (middle photo) and Andrew Jeramy Tellez Wright (bottom photo) receive their awards. Receiving Education Leadership Awards were Ivona Grzegorzczuk, professor and chair, Math Program, and Ching-Hua Wang, professor of immunology and microbiology and chair of the Biology Program. The Technologist of the Year Award was presented to Timothy Osslund, principal scientist, Amgen, and a CSUCI lecturer, and the Business and Community Leader of the Year Award was presented to John Philpott, chief financial officer, Miravant Medical Technologies.

KUDOS – Students & Faculty

- ❖ CSUCI math student **Juan Zuniga**, with assistance from part-time instructor **Victor Moreno**, won first prize for best student research project at the recent Mathematical Association of America conference. Zuniga competed against students from such outstanding math programs as Harvey Mudd and many of the CSUs.
- ❖ Psychology students **Michael T. Collinson**, **Lisa A. Dickinson**, **Angela M. DeLaRosa**, **Nicole M. Gregorovich**, **Deidrea M. Mullally**, **Maria T. Tilkens**, **Kelli Slayback**, and **Mathew R. Wagner** presented their research on the issues of quality of life and hope at a recent Western Psychological Association meeting. The students were part of a research program that began in the spring of 2004 by **Virgil Adams**, assistant professor of psychology.
- ❖ CSUCI psychology majors and **Beatrice de Oca**, associate professor of psychology, made poster presentations at the recent American Psychological Society convention. "Unpleasant Pictures Bias Evaluations of Task Difficulty" was authored by students **Silvia Cuevas-Arias**, **Sousan Amiri**, **Denise Flores**, **Kristal Tumey**, and de Oca. "Pleasant Pictures Elevate Skin Conductance in a Problem-Solving Task" was authored by students **Ashey MacKechnie**, **Deidrea Mullally**, **Dianne Nicholas**, **Annette Victor-Hall**, and de Oca.
- ❖ **Taylor Murphy**, who graduated in May with a degree in biology, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in cellular dynamics and physiology at the University of Notre Dame.
- ❖ Three CSUCI history students will be pursuing graduate studies this fall: **Jeffrey Dinkler**, masters/doctoral program, with a concentration in the history of science, UC Santa Barbara; **Thomas Barker**, (fellowship) master's degree, east Asian History, University of Kansas; and **Sheila Attarchi**, master's degree, psychology, with a concentration in marriage and family therapy, Chapman University.
- ❖ **Zoya Kai**, an '05 graduate in biology and daughter of CSUCI English Professor **Jacquelyn Kilpatrick**, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in bio-chemistry at the University of California, San Diego. Kai also has a B.A. in journalism from Governor's State University.
- ❖ Three CSUCI students have been accepted into the CSU Study Abroad Program, the first students to be accepted into the highly competitive program. **Heather Maves** was accepted into a biology program in the United Kingdom; **Michael Rossiter** will pursue liberal studies in Korea; and **Paul Wilson** will study business in Germany.



Seeking Solutions

The University recently hosted the 2nd annual Road Ahead Conference, an event that featured local leaders and experts who discussed growth, housing, transportation, and job issues confronting the region. Many of the experts defined the ideal concept of the county in terms of affordable housing, a diverse makeup, and economic prosperity. Mixed use buildings that combined living and commercial facilities would also answer part of the transportation problems, they said. Keynote speaker Joel Kotkin, a political and economic analyst, told the audience that the growth of diverse suburban developments would be the trend in the coming years. More than 300 people attended the event, sponsored by CSUCI, the *Ventura County Star*, and the Ventura County Civic Alliance.

Center for Excellence Assists Local Agencies

Some forty agencies and organizations that are providing needed services and resources to Ventura County families have been strengthened and streamlined, thanks to the efforts of the Center for Excellence of California State University Channel Islands.

The center, funded in 2001 by the Children and Families First Commission of Ventura County (First 5 Ventura County), has provided training and technical assistance to these organizations over the last three years, as well as a data management system to help them define and measure outcomes and goals and to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of their work. While the title of the organization, Center for Excellence, is changing, the same services will be provided.

The local organizations, also funded by First 5 Ventura County, focus on a variety of early childhood issues, including family literacy, parenting, and school readiness.

CSUCI Project Creates Gender Equitable Teaching

Thanks to a University program, more and more California and Hawaii middle and high school female students will be taught by teachers who are equipped to provide lesson plans that will motivate them as well as promote mastery of technical fields.

CSUCI, which recently received a major grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Women's Educational Equity Act Program, is developing gender equitable lesson plans at no cost to teachers or school districts. The funds will implement the CSUCI TECH Equity Project that will provide face-to-face workshops and online courses to middle and high school math, science, and technology teachers in California and Hawaii.

The ultimate goal of the project is to empower young women and support their success in math, science, and technology classes, and instill confidence so they may consider career paths in these areas.

For more information, contact Sacha Pampalone, project coordinator, at (805) 482-4523 or visit www.techequity.org.

campus briefs

Honors Convocation Recognizes Top Students



Prof. Jack Reilly presents outstanding achievement award to art student Sam Hunter at Honors Convocation.

Receiving summa cum laude honors at the recent Honors Convocation were Thomas Barker, Lisa Dickinson, Wendy Halderman, Sam Hunter, Abigail Kessler, Sau-Har Kisch, Cristine Lee, Laura Marie Naas, Kathy Roche, Jeffrey Rock, Noah Stepro, and Tia Clarke (CSUN at CI). Twenty six CSUCI and CSUN at CI students achieved magna cum laude status and 114, cum laude status.

New honors were also presented at the convocation, including outstanding student achievement in individual academic programs, the first annual CSUCI Small Business Institute awards, and several student leadership awards.

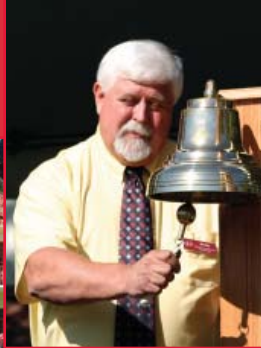
Credential, Master's Programs Announced

To provide the region with qualified special education teachers, the University will launch its Educational Specialist Mild/Moderate Level II Credential Program this fall, and its new Master's of Education Degree with an Emphasis in Special Education in the 2007-08 academic year.

The Level II credential program, which was recently approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, is designed for teachers who are already teaching in special education programs in Ventura or Santa Barbara Counties. The program provides coursework and workshops as well as professional support for teachers in their classrooms.

Individuals pursuing the master's degree program will gain skills in understanding and using research and data-based decision-making. They will complete action research projects that enable them to study the effectiveness of the programs they conduct.

Class of 2005 Honors Past, Looks to Future



It was a day for looking back and looking forward. It was a day for pride, celebration, and reflection for students, their families and friends, faculty, administrators, staff, and dignitaries who gathered on the South Quad for the University's third annual commencement ceremony.

Members of the Class of 2005 were recognized and honored for their efforts, as well as those who supported them through the years. And the last class of California State University Northridge at CSUCI was acknowledged for their part as pioneering students who helped to establish the University that exists today.

President Richard Rush reflected on continuing milestones for the University. "Because we are a young campus, we have had the pleasure of celebrating many firsts—the first CSUCI class, followed by the first freshman class, the first new building to be constructed on campus, and the first new student housing," he said.

Another first was sitting in the audience. Rush asked graduate Dev Chahil to stand. "He was the first student ever to register at the University," he said. "Dev represents so many of you who believed in this University before we ever opened our doors. And for that, all of us will be grateful forever."

Rush then looked out at the audience and acknowledged another group who had contributed to the establishment of the University. "Today, we lay down another significant historical marker as we recognize and celebrate the contributions provided by all of those who worked under the banner of California State University Northridge at Channel Islands," he said.

Rush acknowledged the leadership of former administrator Joyce Kennedy, Stephen Lefevre, dean of faculty, Dan Wakelee, associate dean of faculty, and Dr. Jolene Koester, president of California State University Northridge, who was presented with a special recognition piece. "The team from California State University Northridge at Channel Islands understood that whatever this campus was called, it was to have a profound impact on this community—economic, certainly, but just as important is the impact that these student graduates today will have in their communities," Rush said.

The group of approximately 50 CSUN at CI students cheered as they were recognized for their historic role. But soon, as all of the graduates marched to the stage to receive their diplomas, they were one class—the Class of 2005. [C]



Message to Graduates Stay Involved, Serve Your Community



He gave them something to laugh about. He gave them something to think about. And he gave them marching orders to serve as role models for others to follow.

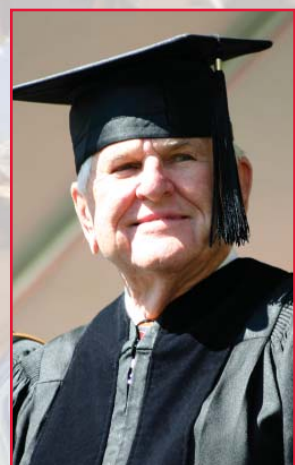
Jack O'Connell, state superintendent of public instruction, CSUCI trustee, and commencement speaker for the Class of 2005, began by noting speakers who gave the shortest addresses in history, including Woody Allen who said, "We've given you a perfect world. Please don't screw it up."

O'Connell, who received his undergraduate and credential degrees from the CSU system and who has played major roles in the growth of the University, then delivered a message that seemed to resonate with many of the students eager to get on with their lives and careers.

"Our economy and our state are dependent upon a well-skilled, well-trained, problem-solving, analytical workforce. I'm looking right now at that workforce. So stay involved. Keep your family involved. Let the policymakers know that the investment they made in you, gave you many, many opportunities. Stay involved in this campus, this community, Ventura County, or wherever you might be from. And continue to volunteer, to mentor, and to contribute from this day forward as outstanding role models." [C]

First Honorary Degrees Awarded To Outstanding Community Leaders

John Spoor Broome and the Honorable Robert Lagomarsino are presented honorary degrees for their longtime contributions to community and to education.



Each in his own way has set a standard for service to community. Each has defined leadership. And each has demonstrated love for community.

It was for these reasons that the University's first honorary degrees were awarded to John Spoor Broome and the Honorable Robert Lagomarsino—two of Ventura County's most distinguished citizens and two men who have played major leadership roles in the establishment and growth of the University.

Broome, who was presented with a Doctor of Humane Letters honorary degree, was acknowledged as a community leader who helped to shape the history, growth, and development of Ventura County. He was also recognized for his abiding support of the University, including the future campus library that will bear his name.

"What a wonderful day today is," Broome said, in accepting his degree. "I want to thank each and every one of you graduates and tell you how much I appreciate how much you've done. I'm as proud as I can be of your success and the work you've accomplished. I wish you all the best in your future lives."

Lagomarsino, who received the honorary Doctor of Law degree, was described as a dedicated public servant who worked tirelessly to create a higher quality of life for his constituents as a mayor, state senator, and United State congressman.

He was also recognized as a principal force behind the original efforts to establish CSUCI as the first state university in the county.

"This is an honor I truly appreciate," Lagomarsino said. "Back in 1969, I introduced legislation, along with then-Assemblyman Burt Henson, to create the first college in Ventura County . . . It took a long time and lot of work by a lot of people here in this audience, including my wife, Norma. So, I want to thank all of you and to wish all of the graduates every good wish."

In describing the newly bestowed degrees and the possibilities for the future that they represent, he said, "It's yours. Go out and do it." [C]



John Spoor Broome

Robert J. Lagomarsino



CSUCI: A Brief Chronology

- 1974** The UC/CSU Ventura Learning Center opens on Maple Street in Ventura. Joyce M. Kennedy is hired on a two-month contract to identify post-secondary educational needs of Ventura County. She remained in a key role for many years.
- 1983** The Ventura Learning Center changes its name to "The University Center at Ventura." It is administered jointly by UCSB and CSU, Northridge.
- 1988** The UCSB/CSUN University at Ventura is dissolved. The CSUN Ventura campus moves to expanded quarters on Alessandro Drive in Ventura and begins a period of significant enrollment growth.
- 1992** Congressman Robert J. Lagomarsino chooses California State University, Northridge, Ventura campus as a repository for documents relating to his career in public service.
- 1996** CSUN Ventura campus enrolls 1,500 students, becoming the largest off-campus center in the CSU system.
- 1999** The branch campus relocates to CSU Channel Islands. The first semester for CSU, Northridge at Channel Islands begins in the fall of 1999.
- 2002** CSU Channel Islands opens to students. The final CSU Northridge at Channel Islands students admitted; phase-out of branch campus programs begins.
- 2005** Commencement marks the completion of the branch campus transition, as the final CSU, Northridge at Channel Islands courses end.

The CSUN at CI *Legacy*



CSUN professors Dr. Helen Meloy (left) and Dr. Marta Gaffney congratulate a CSUN at CI graduate.

For one group of students, Commencement 2005 had added meaning. They were the final graduating class of California State University, Northridge at Channel Islands (CSUN at CI). They are the last in a succession of students who were part of the original CSUN off-campus center that evolved and set the stage for the creation of California State University Channel Islands.

"I feel privileged to be a member of the last graduating class of CSUN at CI," said Tia Clarke, a summa cum laude graduate and an administrative assistant in the President's Office. "For many years, CSUN filled a need in our community, but now the time has come for CSUCI to carve out its own niche."

For Stephen Lefevre, dean of faculty, and Dan Wakelee, associate dean of faculty, the moment also had extra emotion and meaning since both were previously administrators for the CSU, Northridge branch campus.

"I feel a strong sense of accomplishment," Lefevre said. "The students, faculty, and staff of the off-campus center contributed greatly to the development of this University. And Joyce Kennedy should be given a great deal of credit for her leadership. It's now closing but we should remember them as an important part of our transition."

Wakelee recalled the early days and transition period. "There was some anxiety that this would work," he says, "but it was actually smooth, especially on the student side."

In fact, the five-year phase out of CSUN off-campus center actually occurred in four years, Lefevre says. "The credit should go to both Northridge and Channel Islands," he says, "but it's the students who accelerated and finished faster than we thought."

Lefevre and Wakelee were involved in key discussions and decision-making through the transition years, addressing administrative tasks and problems that would be daunting to anyone. But Lefevre said that their jobs were made easier by one simple piece of advice.

"The Advisory Committee thought it would be a good idea to talk to someone who was experienced in making this kind of transition," Lefevre said. "So we looked around and finally came up with a name, Dr. Richard Rush, president of Minnesota State, who had been at Cal State San Marcos during its formative years. From the beginning, Dr. Rush, who as an unpaid consultant at the time, told us to keep one thing in mind: 'Keep your eye on students. Do what's in their best interest.'"

"And that was our focus," Wakelee said. "No matter what we were working on or making decisions about, it always came down to what was best for our students. We hope we provided them with a meaningful educational experience and we wish all of them the best in their lives and careers." **C**



Stephen Lefevre and Dan Wakelee (foreground)

Sure about attending CSUCI. Dev Chahil went to the campus to register and later realized that he was . . .

First in Line

Dev Chahil was all set. As a high school senior in Thousand Oaks, he had made his plans for college. He had been accepted to a university in San Diego. He already knew he wanted to pursue a science career.

But things change. Family finances made it difficult to enroll at the San Diego university. Instead, he decided to attend Moorpark Community College so that he could live and work near home. The college also featured a two-year biotechnology program—his primary area of interest.

By the time he was ready to transfer to a university, the fledgling California State University Channel Islands was a reality. Dev jumped at the opportunity—even though his specialized courses in the Moorpark College biotech program would not be transferable.

Dev drove down to the campus—which was still more hospital than university—to register. He was sure; it was a perfect choice. CSUCI was tailored to his goals, with coursework that fit his career choice and which already had ties to Amgen, the company he aspired to work for in the near future.

He did not know that on that day he would be the first student to register at the University. “I didn’t plan that, but I guess it’s something to tell my kids one day,” he said, just days before he was to graduate with honors with the Class of 2005.

When Dev came to the campus in the fall of 2002, he saw the transition stage from hospital to university. He recalls taking classes with as few as five or six students, most of them in the Bell Tower Building. Sometimes, students didn’t have to move to another classroom between classes.

Phil Hampton, CSUCI professor of chemistry and one of the original instructors, recalls his first class on campus. “We had a very small class that first semester in the fall of 2002, with only seven students,” he said. “As a result, I was able to get to know the students extremely well. Dev was one of the brightest students that I have had in the ten years that I have taught organic chemistry. I know that any company that manages to hire him will be extremely fortunate.”

That link to business is one of the hallmarks of the University. And even in its early days, community and business connections had already been developed. Dev had internship opportunities outside the classroom at companies such as Biosource and Amgen.

At Amgen, Dev worked in the company’s pharmaceuticals department, studying protein stability and reviewing candidates for new drugs—areas he would like to pursue professionally. “I can apply my love and background in science to creating new therapies that can help people,” he says.

“I’m very happy with my education. I liked the interdisciplinary approach. I took courses such as “Science and Professional Ethics” and science combined with English, where I learned how to write science papers. Both of them will be necessary in my profession.

“As one of the first students here, I knew that I was part of something new and special. I don’t think I could have gotten this kind of education anywhere else.” **C**



(Top) Chahil received a science scholarship and helped celebrate the opening of the new Science Building in 2003; (Middle) Chahil in a science laboratory; (Bottom) Chahil recognized in 2005 Commencement ceremony.

A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Students, faculty, and staff will make a difference in their communities through a growing civic engagement and service learning program.



The Service Learning and English Programs recently presented publication awards to students who had written the best essays on their community service experiences. From left are President Richard Rush, Christine Popek, lecturer in English and business, Bob Mayberry, lecturer in English, Christine Vanderlaan of the California Conservation Corps on campus, and student Sara Piper.

A new corps of civic-minded people is forming. They are students, faculty, and staff of California State University Channel Islands who are being instilled with a sense of commitment to community and who are ready to make a difference in the county and wherever they go.

They are all part of the University's civic engagement and service learning program that organizes participation in community activities, events, and outreach.

"Civic engagement and service learning are part of our mission," says Scott Frisch, associate professor of political science and faculty liaison for civic engagement and service learning. "We currently have a program in place that matches students with local agencies and organizations but we also want to marshal students, faculty, and staff to create a Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning at the University, hopefully during the fall of this year."

The goals of the center are to develop a strategic plan for civic engagement, establish community alliances, and provide forums for discussion. Ultimately, the center



Associate Professor
Scott Frisch

will create a culture of civic engagement and community commitment and offer widespread and meaningful experiences to students and members of the campus community.

Frisch said that the initial effort is to provide current and future students with an awareness, understanding, and concern for issues and problems affecting communities—while helping to motivate them to become involved as students as well as when they leave the University.

In the current Service Learning Program, students are sent out into the community as part of coursework to participate in various activities. When they return, they reflect upon and share their experiences through classroom discussions and by writing essays or keeping a journal.

Frisch says that volunteerism and community and civic mindedness are increasing slightly among young people now but that these noteworthy actions have not yet translated to more meaningful political involvement.

One of the programs already in place at CSUCI addresses this concern. The University participates in the national American Democracy Project that helps students understand and gain an appreciation for the political process.

"We want to empower our students who will go into communities and empower others politically and in other meaningful ways," Frisch says. "We want them to participate in the political process by writing letters to the editor, voting, and committing their time, efforts, and energy in other ways as well. We want them to have a lifelong commitment to volunteering for organizations, to going back and giving back to communities." **C**

STUDENTS IN SERVICE



Anelieze Zurcher

Anelieze Zurcher: Library Volunteer

Community service is part of Anelieze Zurcher's background and upbringing. Since she was a young girl, the CSUCI student, a Foundation scholarship winner who will be a sophomore art major in the fall, has been encouraged to participate in local church service projects; to visit local senior homes in Camarillo to talk with residents, care for them, and offer basic assistance; and to help her mother with her role as a local Cub Scout leader.

"My mother has always encouraged me to help others," Anelieze says. "It's important to be well-rounded, to be involved, and to get to know other people—not just your peers and family."

Currently, she is a volunteer at the Camarillo Public Library where she reads to young children regularly. "The library brings local elementary school children there and I read to them. It's very rewarding," Anelieze says.

Alyssa Selogie: The Rewards of Helping Others

Alyssa Selogie, a CSUCI freshman business major, is a veteran when it comes to community service. In the past, she has worked for a local polling place for a presidential election, helped out with library fundraisers, and assisted both the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

She has already been involved in the University's Service Learning Program. As part of a requirement of an English class, she worked with the California Conservation Corps on campus. "I worked as a tutor to 18 to 24-

year-olds who are here to earn their high school diplomas," she said. "I worked with a young mother who was trying to set an example for her three-year-old child by making something of herself by getting her degree. It's important to help people. You get as much reward from helping them as they get from you."



Alyssa Selogie

Anneka Busse: An Inspiration for Service Learning



Anneka Busse

Anneka Busse, who will be a junior psychology major in the fall and is the new president of the CSUCI student body, was also encouraged to participate in community service at a young age.

She has worked for an organization that donated goods to the Tender Life Maternity Home in Ventura, which supports unwed mothers who are going through pregnancy. She is also the historian for the CSUCI chapter of Gamma Beta Phi, a service oriented society that has organized a number of activities, including a Relay for Life walkathon for the American Cancer Society. Anneka was involved with a project for an organization called RAIN, located next to the campus and which aids the homeless.

"It's really great to help others who need help," Anneka says. "As a member of Student Government, I created and chair the internship program. We're developing student leadership and community service. It's about growth. What we do now will help others in the future. That's what CSUCI is all about." **C**

In the fluctuating world of multiculturalism,
Lillian Vega Castaneda will always fight for ...



An Education for Everyone

“Dr. Castaneda’s teaching methods about America’s multiculturalism to her students are lessons in ‘cultural understanding.’ She encourages students to ask parents, grandparents, and siblings for understanding of what links them to their family’s cultures and traditions. This leads students to embrace self-pride which, in turn, leads to classroom discussions about commonality in the multitude of cultures and traditions in our national society.”

Edwin Larocque,
Former Student; Substitute Teacher,
Oxnard and Conejo School Districts

culture and literacy, and chair of the Liberal Studies Program, saw the early days of diversity and multiculturalism when they were just buzzwords and public efforts were often more political than aspirational. Too often, these concepts—well meaning in their intentions—hovered over the American landscape yet never landed long enough to sink deep roots.

As a student pursuing her teaching credential in Southern California and later as a doctoral student at Harvard University, she spent time in and out of classrooms trying to find meaningful and critical dialogue that led to questions and answers.

“For my dissertation, I conducted a two-year study, interviewing teachers and students,” Castaneda says. “I asked how language and literacy acquisition programs were working. I asked how best to help students, especially for those who did not speak English. I learned by being in the trenches. I learned that it was a two-way street, that teachers must learn from students as well as students learning from teachers.”

Castaneda’s experiences and education have combined to provide the foundation and philosophy for the University’s teacher education program—that all students must have access to education. CSUCI student teachers are given specific skills in courses that are infused with concepts of language, literacy, and multiculturalism. In addition, they are required to gain experience in schools and communities that are different from their own backgrounds. They must learn how to adapt lesson plans for English-as-a-Second-Language learners.

“Lillian has integrity and vision, and she’s just a wonderful person, says Joan Karp, professor of special education and Education Program chair. “She has been extremely influential in building a strong program and in guiding our faculty. We believe that all teachers can teach all students if they have the skills. Lillian is the key to make that happen. She has a very powerful voice.”

But literacy skills are aren’t always enough. Castaneda also gives students a sense of determination and resourcefulness that is needed in today’s world in which multiculturalism has been weakened and watered down.

“Teachers will always be instructionally challenged,” she says. “They must always assess situations and be flexible. As a teacher, I may not know the culture and language of a student, but I can learn. There are certain things to do to help students to access curriculum. You can talk to parents, community insiders, and translators. You can talk to people in the student’s community. You can use them as resources.

“No matter what the circumstances, a teacher can always welcome a student into the classroom,” Castaneda says. “A teacher can create a warm environment—even for students who come from diverse language and cultural communities.” **C**

Lillian Vega Castaneda has spent much of her life trying to understand, define, and articulate the concepts of diversity and multiculturalism in ways that made sense in the classroom.

She always knew that she wanted to teach but as she progressed she saw that many students were not being reached. “I always felt that I was here to serve—especially children who needed the most help,” Castaneda said. “There were so many who were denied an education because of their culture, language, and background.”

As a student and in her professional life, she studied language, literacy, and bilingualism to create and strategize everything from meaningful lesson plans to entire educational programs that could serve as models for others to follow.

The CSUCI professor of education—language, culture and literacy, and chair of the Liberal Studies Program, saw the early days of diversity and multiculturalism when they were just buzzwords and public efforts were often more political than aspirational. Too often, these concepts—well meaning in their intentions—hovered over the American landscape yet never landed long enough to sink deep roots.



Professor Lillian Vega Castaneda (left) and students from one of her classes attend a President's Circle presentation by author Victor Villaseñor as part of the Campus Reading Celebration in 2004.



Foundation Scholarships

The University's Foundation recently presented scholarships to forty outstanding students: Marissa Allen, Hiromi Arai, Omar Arreola, Brenda Bravo, Marissa Christian, Xiara Correa, Lisa Cox, Aimee Desiderio, Chelsea Dorough, Nancy Finley, Jessica Fitzpatrick, Elisabeth Freeman, Arrate Garcia, Christy Grandon, Janice Hwang, Avindri Jayasekara, Alice Johnson, Rachael Jordan, Ryan Kazarian, Jacqueline Kelemen, Parissa Keshavarian, Cristine Lee, Megan Lysaght, Ashley Mata, Yadiramelgoza Melgoza, Ashley Mistriel, Lance Nolde, Ashley Parrish-Decker, Nadeline Rabot, Kathy Roche, Erica Roundy, Debra-Lee Sawyer, Ronald Sullivan, Elizabeth Thomas, Jenna Tyra, Corbin Walker, Angela Wirsching, Monica Zepeda, Carla Zimmerman, and Anelieze Zurcher.



President's Scholar

President Richard Rush greets Melody Grace Mattingly, one of two outstanding high school students to receive the new President's Scholars awards. Mattingly, a senior at Channel Islands High School, and Jennifer Bonsangue of Yorba Linda, a senior at Lutheran High School of Orange County, will each receive a four-year scholarship that covers full tuition fees at the University. The CSUCI President's Scholars Program was created to attract high-caliber students who will benefit from the CSUCI student-centered learning experience. Both Mattingly and Bonsangue recorded high academic honors and were active in community service as well. They both intend to pursue teaching careers.

New Auto Partners Program Begins With 5-year, \$25,000 Commitment



The University recently created an innovative fund-raising resource for scholarships with its Auto Partners Program that asks area auto dealers to each commit \$25,000 over a five-year period.

The program, believed to be the first of its kind, was launched with its first commitment, a first-year gift of \$5,000 by John Macik (center) of Santa Paula Chevrolet.

The program was developed by CSUCI Foundation Board member Herb Rosenkrantz (left), a retired lawyer who is also a student at the University.

In presenting his first \$5,000 check to President Richard Rush, Macik said, "We know that we want to be part of this place. We already feel as if we belong to the University. And we want other area auto dealerships to do the same."

\$50,000 Donation Aids Art Program

Thanks to the generosity of benefactor Luther Tolo, on behalf of the estate of Jessica Prescott, the Art Program has been able to enhance its program and equipment needs. The \$50,000 donation was specifically earmarked to expand the ceramic and sculpture offerings of the program, said Jack Reilly, professor of art and chair of the Art Program.

"We are very grateful for this gift," Reilly said. "We have and still are purchasing equipment. Our art students will benefit greatly from these new resources."

PRESIDENT'S COURTYARD



The rejuvenation of the President's Courtyard became a reality thanks to the efforts of staff and Foundation Board members, particularly Steve Blois, Blois Construction. To overcome increasing cost of materials, Blois arranged for donated or discounted material as well as free labor from union apprentices who were eager to gain valuable experiences. A dedication ceremony is planned for later this summer.



Honor Roll of Donors 2004-2005

On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff, we gratefully acknowledge the following donors who made outright gifts in support of California State University Channel Islands from May 2004 to May 2005.

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and Edward Trickey
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Victor Trujillo
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Robert Spane
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The Habit
United Rentals Highway
Technologies
Valley Crest Tree Company
Ventura Printing
James Vernon
James Williams

{ Calendar of Events

All events listed are open to the public and will be held on campus unless otherwise noted. For a complete list of University events, visit www.csuci.edu.

July – August Transfer and New Student Orientation

August 27 First Saturday Class

First regular day of classes begins August 29.



Oct. 1 President's Dinner

The annual fund-raising celebration will once again be held at the Embassy Suites/Mandalay Beach Resort in Oxnard.

Nov. 8 2nd annual Celebration of Reading

Featured author Terry Tempest Williams will be on campus for discussions with the campus community.



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