



PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY CAMPUS UPDATE

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While access to higher education has resulted in more students enrolling in college, too few students graduate. Across the country, colleges and universities are focusing on college completion as well as college access. The CSU's Graduation Initiative is designed to increase the freshman six-year graduation rate and halve the achievement gap of under-represented and first-generation students. All campuses are working to identify bottlenecks, clear the pathways to graduation, and institutionalize high impact practices shown to improve student persistence and success while ensuring student learning outcomes. These broad-reaching practices include: assessing college readiness in the junior year of high school; setting the expectation of graduation from freshman orientation forward; first-year experience programs; learning communities; undergraduate research; clearly articulated course-to-course degree roadmaps; intensive, strategic advising; supplemental instruction; and continuous review and improvement of campus policies, practices, and support services. Some of our campus practices are exemplified in the highlights that follow.

\$500,000 Osher Foundation Grant

The **Bernard Osher Foundation** awarded CSUB a \$500,000 grant to endow a scholarship for California community college students transferring to CSUB. The award is one of seventeen made to CSU campuses and is part of **Bernard and Barbro Osher's** gifts of \$150 million to all three segments of higher education. The Osher Scholarship will award up to ten students per year a maximum of \$2500. The scholarship is open to all upper division, baccalaureate degree-seeking community college transfer students who demonstrate financial need and are enrolled at least half-time. This generous gift aligns with the CSU and California community colleges' development of the associates degree for transfer that guarantees admission to the CSU with a shorter path to the baccalaureate degree. The Osher Scholarship application is available online at www.csub.edu/finaid. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 654-3016.

Exemplary CSU Hybrid On-Line Course

The CSU's Quality Online Learning and Teaching (QOLT) program has recognized English Professor **Robert Carlisle's** "Structure of English" course as an exemplary CSU hybrid on-line course. Hybrid courses seek to improve teaching, learning outcomes, and degree completion by combining the best of traditional, in-person, lecture-based instruction with online learning. The QOLT program follows the national trend toward online learning in response to the needs of 21st century students. It was developed to assist faculty and

instructional designers to develop quality online courses, as well as to recognize and share exemplary practices in online teaching. Congratulations to Robert and to **Charlene Hu**, Director of Instructional Development, our campus coordinator.

Mathematics Curriculum Framework and Evaluation Criteria

Mathematics Professor **Joe Fiedler** has spent the last year revising the Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools Kindergarten through Grade Twelve. Joe was appointed by the California Department of Education to the 19-member inter-segmental Mathematics Curriculum Framework and Evaluation Criteria Committee. Their draft revised framework aligns with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics with California Additions adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010. The framework supports progressive learning through high school and guides high-quality mathematics instruction that prepares students for college and career. I join Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs **Soraya Coley** in thanking and commending Joe for his contribution to this important work.

Western Collegiate Model United Nations

Political science students competed earlier this month in the Western Collegiate Model United Nations held at Santa Barbara City College. **Mark Martinez**, Political Science Professor, prepared students for their roles as United Nations delegates from Argentina, Azerbaijan, and the Russian Federation. Our students admirably debated security council, peace-building, environmental, and economic issues. Mark was noted for his exemplary contributions advising delegations on rules and approaches to working with difficult issues. Congratulations to Mark and our students on a job well done.

CSUB Enactus Team Wins 2013 Regional Championship

A 50-member team of CSUB business students, advised by Management & Marketing Professor **David Olson**, took the title at Enactus USA's 2013 Regional Competition. Enactus (formerly, Students in Free Enterprise) brings together students, educators, and business leaders to apply entrepreneurial business concepts in the development of community projects as solutions to real world issues. Across the country, Enactus teams at 535 universities engage more than 21,000 students who have developed more than 2800 projects. Our students entered 74 projects in this year's competition. Their win advances them to the May national competition in Kansas City where they also have the opportunity to interview with top companies. Congratulations to our regional Enactus team champions and good luck to the national competition team.

Art Center Groundbreaking

After years in the CSU capital projects pipeline, we broke ground on the Art Center project. Located on the northwest campus between the Doré Theatre and current student housing, the \$19 million, 9000 square foot building will feature ceramics, culture, drawing/design, digital arts, and printmaking studios, a computer lab, and several art labs. The project also includes a new satellite plant and sewer extension which will expand our capacity for further development on campus. The satellite plant consists of a new 600-ton chiller, a cooling tower, and a 600,000-gallon thermal storage tank. The sewer extension will be the installation of a line between Camino Media and Ming Avenue.

Springtime Barbecue, Wine, and Jazz

Signaling Mother's Day weekend is our trio of annual spring scholarship fundraisers featuring barbecue, wine, and jazz. The **Athletics Spring Barbecue** kicks off Thursday, May 9, 5:30-9:00 in the Icardo Center with a tribute to the '80s. The 41st annual event will feature '80s music, trivia, prizes, and a costume contest for the best 80's attire. Proceeds benefit the Roadrunner Scholarship Fund.

The Alumni Association's **Party in the Park** follows on Friday, May 10, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. with one of the largest wine tasting events in the valley. Proceeds benefit student scholarships. For ticket information, please visit the Alumni Association website at <http://www.csub.edu/alumni/attend/party.shtml> or contact them by phone at 654-3211.

The two-day **Bakersfield Jazz Festival** on Friday and Saturday, May 10-11 brings a weekend of smooth jazz to the CSUB amphitheater. Artist and ticket information is available at www.bakersfieldjazz.com.

University Council

The next University Council meeting will be held May 17, 2013 in the Albertson Room. University Council is an open forum for members of the campus community to voice concerns or make suggestions for continued improvement. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend.

I look forward to seeing you around campus or at an upcoming University or community event. Take care.



Horace Mitchell
President