Three’s Company!

CSU’s Channel Islands, Northridge and Long Beach celebrate Commencement 2004
President’s Message

What a glorious day!

It was truly a rewarding experience to enter the South Quad of our University on a brilliant day in May to witness 8,000 guests, each of whom traveled from near or far to see his or her graduate cross the platform and be awarded a degree or credential.

It is testament to the passion this region already holds for the young University that the graduates brought with them an average of 14 guests. Several of those commencing brought 20, 40, 60, or more relatives and loved ones with them to share their special achievement. And, for some, this day marked the first generation of a graduating son or daughter in their family’s history.

As we celebrated our first full class of CSUCI graduates, we were delighted to be joined by our colleagues and graduates from both CSUN and CSULB. With Richard West, Executive Vice Chancellor and CFO, presiding as our keynote speaker, along with dignitaries from three Universities, the spirit of CSU was present and strong.

Commencement capped a school year of tremendous achievement on our campus, not only those of our wonderful students, but also the outstanding academic accomplishments of our faculty, and the steadfast commitment of our staff to ensure that students are realizing their full potential.

The year certainly held challenges for us all — from students, to faculty, to staff, and administrators. But commencement celebrations refresh and renew. Whatever sacrifices were made along the way, they all seemed well worth it as we shared the laughter, smiles, and tears of joy with the Class of 2004.

Sincerely Yours,

Richard R. Rush
President
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Alumni & Friends Association

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.
Diversity Forum

Hundreds of students from across the state and members of the community attended the CSUCI 2004 Southern California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education held in early April. The all-day event featured more than 100 college recruiters from around the country who offered graduate program information to underrepresented undergraduate and master’s degree students.

Two New Master’s Programs Address Community Needs

The University was pleased to launch two master’s programs this year. Designed to meet the specific needs of county professionals, both the master’s of business administration (MBA) and the master’s of education programs were developed with community input.

According to Ashish Vaidya, professor of economics and MBA Program director, interest in an MBA program began when the campus first opened and has been in the University’s master plan since its first year of operation. Supported largely by student fees and offered under the Extended Education Division, it will be the flagship program for the University’s Business and Economics Program.

Another distinctive feature of the MBA program is its founding Business Advisory Council, comprised of business and industry leaders from the county who will serve as a major resource for the program and its students.

“We have designed what I think is a forward looking MBA program – benchmarking it against some of the best programs in the country,” Vaidya said. “It’s highly integrative and very consistent with the University’s mission of graduating individuals with multicultural and international perspectives.”

The Principals Leadership Program, which awards a master’s of education degree to qualified candidates, was created from a similar standpoint. After meeting with Ventura County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Weis, Joan Karp, CSUCI professor of education and Education Program chair, was briefed on the area’s need for highly qualified school principals and other educational leaders.

“Together with Dr. Weis, local superintendents, local principals and our own faculty, we’ve taken national and state standards for the requirements for a principalship and then tailored it to address the issues that are important to our county, such as how a principal works with children with English as their second language or who come from multicultural backgrounds,” Karp said.

The collaboration has produced a program that emphasizes hands-on instruction and fosters leadership skills and technical knowledge.

For more details about the masters’ of education or business administration programs, call 805-437-2748.

Art Exhibits Connect with Community

The CSUCI Art Program, under the direction of Jack Reilly, professor of art and chair of the program, provided a series of exhibits for the enjoyment of students, faculty, and staff, as well as members of the community. An interdisciplinary symposium on Chinese art and culture was held in March, which featured discussion among scholars, local artists, and art professionals. In left photo, local high schools students were invited to view and discuss art with CSUCI art students at the “Art & Sole — Walk in Our Shoes” exhibit held in March. In center photo, an audience views student video and films at an event called “Digitopia,” held in April. In right photo, Reilly congratulates art student Summer Conover at the “Tradition & Technology” exhibit, which featured student and faculty art ranging in style and technique from traditional painting to experimental mixed media, figurative and abstract sculpture, graphic design, multimedia and hi-tech digital art.
As part its outreach efforts and involvement in community issues, the University hosted a recent conference on regional housing and growth problems, featuring a local panel of experts and a keynote address by Henry Cisneros, former Clinton secretary of housing. The event, titled “The Road Ahead,” was sponsored by the University, the Ventura County Star, and the Ventura County Civic Alliance.

The all-day conference was moderated by Tim Gallagher, publisher and president, Ventura County Star. Panel speakers represented local government, community agencies, and private business.

The speakers, as well as members of an overflow audience, discussed a rapidly increasing population, lack of affordable housing and parcels of lands upon which to build, increased traffic and congestion, and how all of these factors impact the environment.

In his remarks, CSUCI President Richard R. Rush said that the individual and collective dreams of the county will not become a reality without addressing these problems. “With everyone’s good offices and with your imagination and with your ability to articulate not only the questions, but the resolutions, we will solve these problems and together make the dreams as a whole, a reality for all of us.”

Panel members agreed that solutions will not come easily and that local government and communities must address these looming problems now since they will only worsen in time.

For the most part, the speakers, including Cisneros, endorsed the concept of “smart growth,” or combining commercial and residential units in neighborhoods that encourage pedestrian traffic.

Cisneros talked about recycling old neighborhoods to meet current and future housing demands. “Six out of 10 cities in the county will run out (of land) by 2008,” he said. “You can get more out of smaller pieces of land by recycling old neighborhoods.”

Cisneros also emphasized that Ventura County leaders can lead the way by providing housing for all income levels, including local farm workers. One answer, he said, is building apartments for low-income families.

Cisneros said that ultimately government must play a major role in solving housing and growth issues by reconsidering zoning laws and creating new policies on land-use. “I am a believer that cities, communities, and regions can be masters of their own destinies,” he said.
CSUCI Small Business Institute Helps Santa Paula Small Businesses

The University’s Small Business Institute (SBI) has partnered with the city of Santa Paula to create a micro-loan program designed to help the city’s small businesses that generally have more difficulty in obtaining loans.

In the program, the city of Santa Paula and its Redevelopment Agency have initially agreed to commit $100,000 in micro-loans for small businesses located within the redevelopment area of the city. The SBI will have the responsibility to recommend approval of the loans and administer the program for the city.

In addition, the small businesses that are approved for loans will be able to qualify for free management and technical business assistance provided by CSUCI senior and graduate level business students.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate our University’s commitment to the small business community by helping to enhance the success of these small businesses, while at the same time drawing upon the growing technical business talent of our finest business students,” said Rudolph Estrada, director of the CSUCI Small Business Institute and a member of the business and management faculty.

Lifelong Learning Institute Created for Local Residents Over 50

In keeping with its mission to create meaningful partnerships with the community, the University has established its Lifelong Learning Institute, a program that will provide educational and enrichment opportunities for local residents who are 50 years of age or older.

Beginning this fall, the institute, which was funded by the Bernard Osher Foundation, will offer high-caliber, intellectually challenging courses from current and emeriti faculty members at a nominal cost.

Courses will focus on topics of specific interests, some of which may be suggested by students, says Martin Kaplan, director of the institute. Instructors will not require degree requirements nor will they issue grades.

As the program continues, a service-oriented workshop may be offered and educational travel trips may be offered at reduced costs. Guest speakers will occasionally be invited to address classes.

The Lifelong Learning Institute is part of the University’s Extended Education Division. For more information, contact Martin Kaplan, director, Lifelong Learning Institute, at (805) 437-8583 or martin.kaplan@csuci.edu.
Multicultural and Women’s & Gender Center Opens

A special outdoor ceremony was held this spring to celebrate the opening of the Multicultural and Women’s & Gender Center at Cal State Channel Islands. Richard R. Rush, president, Wm. Gregory Sawyer, vice president for Student Affairs, and Renny Christopher, professor of English and chair of the Academic Senate, provided a warm welcome and shared their enthusiasm over the center to a crowd of students, faculty, and staff from throughout the campus.

Becca Glazier (’04), president of the CSUCI Student Government and one of the guiding forces behind the center’s creation, spoke at the ceremony and was pleased with the campus’s show of support for the facility and the services it will provide students now and in the future.

“It is really a space on campus where students can go to discuss issues of race and gender, do research, attend events, and meet with other students,” Glazier said. “The space is very inviting and comfortable — all students are welcome there.”

In describing the students’ role in developing the center, Glazier said,

(See “Center Opens” on page 10)

Single Subject and Education Specialist Programs Approved by California Commission

The CSUCI teacher education program continues to develop in response to the continuing need for talented teachers in the area. The Single Subject and Education Specialist Mild/Moderate teacher credential programs were recently approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

The single subject program prepares middle and high school teachers for instruction in English, mathematics, and science. The education specialist credential prepares special education teachers to teach students from kindergarten to age 22 who have mild or moderate disabilities.

The University was also approved to work with the local school districts with single subject and education specialist interns who are not

(See “Programs Approved” on page 10)
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She takes life in big scoops. She doesn’t go for little snippets and bites; it’s more like chunks of living, experiencing, and learning.

Jennifer O’Toole thinks and lives expansively, beyond boundaries. More than that, she has overcome limitations that many people would find daunting. When O’Toole was four, she had her first bypass surgery to correct a congenital heart problem. Since then, she has had three more.

But none of this snags her full-throttle look at life at CSUCI. The junior English major from Ventura is more than just a student here. She epitomizes the University’s mission and is one of its most ardent supporters.

Since enrolling here in 2001, O’Toole has worked as a student ambassador, a student assistant in Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, and in the Recruitment office, and served on the Student Health Advisory Committee, Associated Students, Inc., the Faculty Support Task Force, and on the cabinet of Student Government. She is also a member of the Multicultural and Women’s & Gender Center and is the current editor of the University’s student newspaper.

“There’s just an amazing amount of support here — including the president. President Rush is an outstanding person. It’s pretty special when a student is comfortable with the president. And, really, I’ve experienced that at every level. It’s such a welcoming environment.”

Those who know Jennifer say that she’s as much a part of the formation of this University as anyone. “From the beginning, she dived in to help this new University grow from scratch,” says Renny Christopher, professor of English and chair of the Academic Senate. “She worked closely with faculty and administrators in ways that most students do not.”

But it isn’t just her involvement in building the University that makes O’Toole special. “Jennifer is very smart and talented,” Christopher says. “She knows how to ask questions on any issue. She will not hesitate to use critical thinking. She is very committed to the core values of this institution, to diversity, equity, to its international perspective, to her role as an active member of the campus community. She is what the University is all about.”

After graduation next year, O’Toole has more big plans. She may live abroad, perhaps in Spain, since she is developing her Spanish language skills. She will also continue to write poetry. Ultimately, her goal is to obtain a doctoral degree in English and teach writing at the university level.

Her University friends already know that they will miss her. But they understand that she has a great deal to do, to think about, to experience, and to learn. And they have no doubts that she will. After all, she has a lot of heart.
In Liz King’s mind, colors, shapes, and images swirl about in a continuum of motion. Lines, circles, and forms morph and dance into composition. The sounds of voices and music often blend into the mix. In computer-like play, abstract thoughts and ideas are given three-dimensional life.

It’s the new art of the 21st-century. It’s the computer as canvas. It’s art and design fusing with technology. And King, CSUCI assistant professor of art, embraces the new art-tech media — from computer graphics, to animation, to interactive media, to Web sites — with endless fascination.

“It’s exciting and creative,” King says. “At the core of our philosophy is the integration of fine arts training alongside computer graphics training. Anyone can learn software. It’s the original ideas and traditional artistic training that we bring to the software that is important and gives us the edge.”

King has the credentials to be one of leading practitioners and teachers of computer art. The CSUCI professor has won awards for both her fine art as well as for her computer design work.

After obtaining her B.A. and M.F.A from UCLA, she took classes in virtually every aspect of the field — computer animation, special effects, multimedia, Web design, digital production, drawing for animation, figure and animal drawing, storyboard for television animation, and just about every design software program in existence.

King soon put all this burgeoning talent and abilities to work. She garnered an impressive list of high profile clients, including KCRW radio in Santa Monica, UPN Channel 13 in Los Angeles, the Oxygen cable TV network, NASCAR, as well as segments for CBS This Morning, ABC Monday Night Football, and ESPN.

While all of this has been exciting and gratifying, King wanted to use her knowledge and experience for another purpose. She became a full-time CSUCI professor of graphic design technology in 2003.

“I met Jack Reilly, (professor of art and) head of the Art Program, and listened to his vision of the program. His idea is that art and technology feed into one another. What you can do in a painting you can do in a computer.”

Another distinction is the University’s commitment to interdisciplinary teaching. “Recently, I worked with Antonio Jiménez-Jiménez, CSUCI assistant professor of Spanish,” King says. “His students worked with my Web design and multimedia students on Web sites and animations based on their Spanish compositions about such subjects as racism and human rights, using animation and Macromedia Flash. The results were extraordinary. It just shows you what we can do together. Integrative learning is a hallmark of CSUCI. I really believe in it.”

Her CSUCI experience has exceeded her expectations. On a daily basis, she inspires and is inspired. “I want students to find their own way,” she says. “When our students leave the University, I want them to go out there and create completely original and intriguing work that can compete in today’s market. I want them to succeed. And I hope they’ll come back and share their experiences with me and other students. That would mean a lot to me.”

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Assistant Professor Liz King

**Art in Motion**

Designer in motion: Samples of King’s projects and King at work.
Ideas and energy come bubbling and bursting forth. For her, life’s a non-stop whirlwind of activities, with a to-do list that’s longer than the day itself.

And a great deal of Linda Dullam’s activities is focused on the University. She is one of CSUCI’s original and most dedicated supporters, going back to the late ‘90s.

Dullam is everywhere, supporting CSUCI in a variety of ways. She and her husband John, a well-known area strawberry farmer, are generous contributors to the University. But Linda Dullam is much more than that. She is an original member of the CSUCI Foundation Board and defines what participation and involvement are all about.

“I’m a lifelong learner,” Dullam says. “From the very beginning, I was interested in a four-year university in the county. When I got involved, I was told that much of the University’s support would have to come from private sources. As a community person, the best way to help was to get out there and spread the word about this place.”

In the early days of the University, she gave presentations at Rio Mesa, Channel Islands, and Oxnard High Schools to recruit students. As a member of the CSUCI Foundation Board, she signed up for committees and participated and attended many of the University’s functions on campus and in the community.

As a member of the Foundation, she helped in the creation of the University’s first scholarship awards, as well as in the recent courtyard design contest as a member of the Landscape and Courtyard Committee. With all that, she also found time to plan the annual President’s Dinner — and is now planning to chair a second one.

In essence, Dullam is one of the University’s most enthusiastic and effective ambassadors. Everywhere she goes, she brings people into the CSUCI fold — to contribute funds, to serve, to create, to advise, or simply lend a helping hand at an event. “It’s so gratifying because the people who do become involved are so committed, are so devoted to making this University a great place,” she says. “We’re all part of the CSUCI family.”

Her ideas for the future of the University are boundless. She’d like to see a faculty club that would be open to the public to expose more of the community to the University. She wants to see a center for performing arts. And she is brimming with ideas to beautify the campus.

In short, there’s more work to do for Dullam and her community cohorts. “The people who have become involved with CSUCI are so focused and we’re in this for the long run,” she says. “I love that. This place is going to succeed. There’s no doubt about it.”

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**Center Opens** – continued from page 5

“When I first came to Cal State Channel Islands I knew that we as students had the task of establishing an identity for our University, and I wanted that identity to be a positive one. So I met with other interested students about what was needed on campus and started talking to campus administration about the center.”

A year-and-a-half later, Glazier and her fellow students saw their efforts realized with the opening of the center. Located in two rooms within the campus’s Bell Tower Building, the center is funded by Associated Student fees and is staffed by student assistants.

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**Programs Approved** – continued from page 5

credentialed in their teaching area but work full-time while taking coursework toward their credential.

For more information, contact Jeanne Grier, assistant professor of education and coordinator of the Single Subject Program, at (805) 437-8979, or Maria Denney, assistant professor of special education and coordinator of the Education Specialist Program, at (805) 437-2766.
Sunset/CSUCI Announce Courtyard Competition Winners

Transforming the campus’s courtyards to lush and functional spaces proved to be a perfect opportunity for landscape designers and architectural firms from across the state to assist the young University in its early stages of development. Announced last fall, the CSUCI Landscape and Courtyard Design Competition, held in conjunction with Sunset magazine, attracted 24 submissions for four of the University’s most prestigious and frequented courtyards. Of those 24 impressive entries, the following four talented designers were selected.

Scott Menzel, a landscape designer from Santa Barbara, submitted the winning design for the President’s Courtyard, located outside the president’s office within the center space of the newly refurbished Administration Building.

Oxnard resident and architect Miguel V. Fernandez teamed up with landscape architect Kathie Kottler to design Courtyard X, located between the library and the faculty offices in Bell Tower West. Kottler, a long-time resident of Oak View, was thrilled to take part in the local project and submitted an additional winning design for the South Bell Tower Courtyard.

The design chosen for Courtyard M, which is adjacent to the President’s Courtyard and behind the future Business Building, was submitted by Karen Adnoff, principal of Olea Landscape Architecture in Los Angeles.

The winners received their awards and described their design philosophies in full detail to an auditorium filled to capacity at the spring President’s Circle event. With a gardening theme, the event featured a display of all 20 designs, a presentation by the newly refurbished Administration Building.

In top photo, from left, Candy and Chuck Menzel, representing their son Scott, pose with Sunset magazine’s Kathleen Brenzel and CSUCI President Richard R. Rush. In middle photo, Karen Adnoff accepts her award and in the bottom photo, Miguel V. Fernandez and Kathie Kottler accept their award.

CSUCI Foundation Awards First Scholarships to 31 Students

At a special reception held in June on campus, the president and the CSUCI Foundation awarded its first scholarships to thirty-one students.

The 2003-04 scholarship awards totaled $30,500. Students were chosen on the basis of academic merit by a University committee comprised of University Foundation Board members, faculty, and staff. Here are the scholarship winners:

Altrusa Club/Dorothy Huston Scholarship recipient: Cassandra Weir.
Bernard and Barbara Bobitch Scholarship recipients: Dev Chahil, Alexis Rae Del Castillo, Cristine Campos Lee, and Heather Renee Maves.
Bostwick Endowed Scholarship recipients: Christopher Anderson, Justin Rae Goleno, Elizabeth Anastasia Grimes, Sam Hunter, and Patrick Laughlin.
CSUCI Foundation — Camarillo Noontime Optimist Scholarship recipient: Thomas W. Barker.
CSU Foundation — Carolyn Lundgren/Angel Scholarship recipients: Marissa Lee Allen, Miriam Andrews, Aline Baca, Michelle Rene Bennett, Lydia Etman, Richelle Fullilove, Arrate Paulina Garcia, Pamela Palomarez, Kathy Roches, and Debra-Lee Sawyer.

Clockwise, from top, left: Scholarship recipient Michelle Bennett and family; scholarship benefactor Carolyn Lundgren and Vivian Woo, representing the Altrusa Club/Dorothy Huston Scholarship; scholarship benefactors Bernard and Barbara Bobitch with President Richard R. Rush; and scholarship recipient Marissa Allen and family.

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Calendar of Events

All events listed are open to the public. For more information, please call (805) 437-8916.

July – Transfer and New Student Orientation
August 29 Housing Grand Opening:
Plans are underway for the opening of Anacapa Village Student Housing.
August 30 Classes Begin

October 1 Welcome Home Team USA Celebration
Meet local area Olympians returning from the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.
October 30 President's Dinner
The fund-raising event of the year for CSUCI. At Embassy Suites/Mandalay Beach Resort.

Catch the Wave: JOIN Alumni & Friends

The University now has its first full class of graduates — and with that the need to keep them connected and involved with their alma mater. The Alumni & Friends Association has been established to do that and more by providing resources and services that will help them in their new careers and lives.

Association Benefits Include:
• 10% discount on merchandise at the student store, The Cove
• Access to the CSUCI University Library
• Free first-year gym and fitness center membership
• Consumer discounts and invitations to CSUCI special events

“By becoming an active member of Alumni & Friends, you will be linked to events and activities of interest held on and off campus. Our first event, an outing to Dodger Stadium in late June, was enjoyed so much by alumni, friends, and their families that it is expected to become an annual tradition. Similarly, the August 29 welcome barbecue is a campus event that is expected to attract many alumni back to their alma mater.”

Kirsten Moss
President
Alumni & Friends Association

Stay Connected! For more information, contact Tania Garcia at (805) 437-8952 or tania.garcia@csuci.edu, or visit http://www.csuci.edu/about/alumni/index.htm