New Master of Science Program Planned for 2005

The scope of the University’s academic programs continues to grow with the announcement of a new master of science program in biotechnology and bioinformatics, which will be launched by the Extended Education Division during the 2005 academic year. The two-year program responds to a strong regional demand since approximately 40 percent of the national biotechnology and bioinformatics businesses are located in California. A degree in these specific areas has not been offered in Southern California until now. The program, directed by Nicole Bournias, visiting professor of biology, will prepare students for rewarding careers in laboratory research, regulation of drug approval and other biotechnology applications; positions in management and at companies that are investing in biotechnology; and working for biotechnology law firms.

For more information, contact Gary Berg, dean of Extended Education, ext 8580 or gary.berg@csuci.edu.

Foundation Creates Faculty Grants, Donates Equipment

The University’s Foundation is actively contributing to the University’s mission through major gifts and programs. Recently, the organization established twelve faculty innovation and excellence grants for 2004, which will enable faculty members to purchase equipment and pursue projects. The grants were supported by $60,000 from the $5 million Martin V. Smith Endowment Fund.

Receiving grants are Mary Adler, assistant professor of English; Simone Aloisio, assistant professor of chemistry; Rainer Buschmann, assistant professor of history; Geoff Dougherty, professor of physics; Jesse Elliott, assistant professor of mathematics; Matthew Furmanski, assistant professor of art; Scott Frisch, assistant professor of political science; Jill Leafstedt and Maria Denny, assistant professors of special education (joint project); Joan Peters, assistant professor of English, and Nian-Sheng Huang, associate professor of history, chair of the program (joint project); Paul Rivera, assistant professor of economics; Ashish Vaidya, professor of economics and director of the MBA program, and Irina Costache, associate professor of art history (joint project); and William Wolfe, professor of computer science and chair of the program.

The board also donated $85,000 to ITS for the purchase of computers. Two classrooms and an open lab have received 60 of the latest computers, including 17-inch flat-screen monitors.

For more information on Foundation activities, call Marti Delao, acting director of Development, at ext. 8919 or marti.delao@csuci.edu.
On the Web: Speakers’ Bureau Features Faculty Experts

Information Technology Services, faculty, and Communications and Marketing have created a Speakers’ Bureau of faculty experts who are able to make presentations on a number of interesting topics to media and various community organizations. The Speakers’ Bureau features a user-friendly Web page that allows individuals to search by keyword, speakers, topics, or speech topics. The page is now live at http://www.csuci.edu/speakersbureau/. Communications and Marketing is now obtaining photos to develop a printed version of the Web site and will distribute the booklets to local media and interested organizations.

For more information, contact Richard Suenaga, communications specialist, at ext. 8940 or richard.suenaga@csuci.edu.

Blood Drive to Be Held on Campus September 21, 22

The American Red Cross will be on campus next Tuesday, September 21, and Wednesday, September 22, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Conference Hall 1 for blood donations. To sign up to donate blood, please visit http://www.givelife.org and enter the sponsor code: “CSUCI.” If you cannot make the above dates, United Blood Services will be on campus November 30, 2004. Everyone who signs up to donate blood through September 30 can enter a random drawing to win a gasoline card worth $1,500.

For more information, contact Matt Hewitt, president, or Maegen Anderson, vice president, Student Government, at ext. 2734.

University Community Invited to Student Life Open House

The Student Life staff will host an open house event, called “A Buffet of Opportunity,” on Tuesday, September 21, in the Student Life area of Bell Tower East. Staff will be present to discuss programs, services, and resources. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Lisa La Frenz, Student Development assistant, at 8961 or lisa.lafrenz@csuci.edu.

Information Meetings on Credential Programs Scheduled

The education faculty has scheduled information meetings to introduce prospective students to its credential programs, including Multiple Subject; Special Education – Education Specialist Level I in Mild to Moderate Disabilities; and Single Subject – Foundational Level Mathematics, Mathematics, English, and Science (biological sciences, chemistry, geosciences, physics, specialized). Information will be provided on California credential requirements, program prerequisites and application process, and career opportunities in education. All meetings will be held in Room 154 of the Enrollment Center (Professional Building). Free parking is available; signs posted in front of the Enrollment Center will direct attendees. Information meetings will be held on twice a day, at 2:30-4 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m., on Thursdays, October 14, November 11, December 9, January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, and May 12.

Please RSVP to (805) 437-8953 or credential.assistant@csuci.edu
All Aboard

Carolyn Hirsch is the new project assistant for Child Abuse Training and Technical Assistance, Academic Affairs, reporting to Sonia Edinger, associate director. Carolyn may be reached at 383-2288 in the California Institute on Human Services Building on campus. Sherie Frame is the new administrative assistant to Jane Sweetland, dean of Enrollment Services. Sherie may be reached at ext. 8576 in the Professional Building. Please welcome these members of the University community.

Around Campus

Speaking Out
Well-known local author Victor Villasenor was the first guest speaker of the inaugural Celebration of Reading program held this week. The author entertained audiences with lively talks about his life, books, and intriguing views. During his three-day visit to CSUCI, he spoke to several groups, including students, faculty, staff, and members of the University Foundation and special guests at the President’s Circle event.

The Student Programming Board sponsored its “Hands Across CSUCI” last Tuesday on the South Quad. Students, faculty, and staff were asked to join hands in a show of campus solidarity and pride. In addition, participants made handprints on one canvas for display on campus and another for delivery to American troops in Iraq in a demonstration of support for them.