CSUCI Presents Check to Red Cross
by Ben Gallagher

The morning of December 1, 2005 started off the season of giving in rare form. The CSUCI community gathered together to present a check of $10,155.55 dollars to the American Red Cross Association of Ventura County. Present, were CEO of the American Red Cross, Jason Smith, CSUCI student and board member for the Ventura County Red Cross, Scott Boczek, student government president and vice president, Anneka Busse and Elizabeth Freeman, and many other members of the CSUCI community.

Mr. Trae Cotton, Associate Dean of Student Life, opened the ceremony with words expressing campus pride that was abundantly apparent at the day’s events. President Richard R. Rush spoke shortly thereafter expressing his own pride in the student and community members who gave their time and money to the relief effort. Jason Smith thanked all who contributed to the effort on behalf of the American Red Cross. He spoke of the pride he felt as a resident of Ventura County and expressed his own gratitude for the unexpected and overwhelming support from the members of the CSUCI community. The event’s attendees also heard words of gratitude and expressions of humble pride that was abundantly apparent at the day’s events. President Richard R. Rush spoke shortly thereafter expressing his own pride in the student and community members who gave their time and money to the relief effort. Jason Smith thanked all who contributed to the effort on behalf of the American Red Cross. He spoke of the pride he felt as a resident of Ventura County and expressed his own gratitude for the unexpected and overwhelming support from the members of the CSUCI community.

All over campus, community members could be found wearing large red ribbons across their chest in support of these efforts as well as for the blood drive that took place on campus on this same day. If this was not enough, there was another event taking place on campus which promoted the spirit of giving. In the student lounge, a Giving Tree stood adorned with paper ornaments with the Christmas wishes of many Ventura County youths who without the support of events such as this, would otherwise receive no Christmas presents. Every ornament was taken on behalf of the American Red Cross. He spoke of the pride he felt as a resident of Ventura County and expressed his own gratitude for the unexpected and overwhelming support from the members of the CSUCI community.

This solemn event could not have happened to fall upon a more opportune day. This event also signified the beginning of National AIDS awareness day. President Richard R. Rush spoke shortly thereafter expressing his own pride in the student and community members who gave their time and money to the relief effort. Jason Smith thanked all who contributed to the effort on behalf of the American Red Cross. He spoke of the pride he felt as a resident of Ventura County and expressed his own gratitude for the unexpected and overwhelming support from the members of the CSUCI community.

Elizabeth Freeman, and Scott Boczek, Student Government president, Anneka Busse concluded the day’s events by thanking all who attended and allowing Elizabeth Freeman, who headed up the fundraising effort, to present the check to Smith.

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Letter from the Editors

First and foremost, we would like to apologize for any disrespect or dishonor we may have caused to Cynthia Scott, her friends or her family by the careless misspelling of her name in last month’s issue. It was simply a typographical error that we made and did not catch before we sent the paper into printing. We are very sorry and we will do our best to prevent something like that from ever happening again.

Beyond that, we would like to wish everyone a merry and happy Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa or any other holiday you may be celebrating over the break. We would also like to encourage you to have a fun and safe New Year. Be sure to make good on those resolutions as well.

Check this issue for news from Student Programming Board and Student Government, a note from CSU Director of International Programs Leo Van Cleve, another opinion page from the elusive Dr. Why, the next comic from Elliot Rodriguez and whatever else we were able find that sounded relevant to want we are trying to do here. We have news reports from the Gym and Fitness Center and an article from Ben about the Peace Corps to wet your news whistle.

Look for us around campus next semester to be giving away free stuff at all the events, and we may even start giving out cash in exchange for writing articles starting in January.

Until then, we wish everyone good luck on their finals and hope to see some of you around the office in 2006. Stay out of trouble, guys.

What Do I Need to Do to Graduate?

Academic Advising

Part of our mission statement at the Advising Center is "to promote student success by empowering undergraduate students to take responsibility for achieving their academic goals". With that in mind, the Advising Center has come up with some helpful tips to keep you focused on your course to graduation.

Key Steps to your Graduation:
1. Make an appointment with an Advisor for a preliminary major graduation evaluation approximately two semesters prior to your anticipated graduation date.

2. During this appointment, you will complete the application for Bachelor's Degree and Diploma. Your academic advisor will complete a preliminary major graduation evaluation and a graduation worksheet (grad pack) and give you a special gift from the advising center. The advisor evaluation and your completed application for Bachelor's Degree and Diploma will be attached for submission to the Enrollment Center.

3. You will submit the completed preliminary graduation packet from your advising session to the Enrollment Center cashier and pay the fee for the graduation application.

4. The cashier’s office sends the application for degree, the grad pack, and certification of payment to the Evaluations Center. If everything was handed in within an appropriate deadline, then a completed graduation evaluation will be mailed to you prior to enrollment in your last semester. This evaluation confirms your remaining requirements and is a formal statement on the expected semester of graduation.

The chart below lists the important dates you need to know so that you can file your Preliminary Graduation Evaluation in a timely manner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Degree will be completed (by the end of the semester listed)</th>
<th>Deadline for submission of Preliminary Graduation Evaluation packet to Admissions and Records</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2006</td>
<td>September 23, 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2006</td>
<td>November 15, 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2006</td>
<td>February 15, 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2007</td>
<td>September 15, 2006</td>
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In addition to providing assistance with the graduation process, the advising center offers other services such as working on a complete educational plan, changing majors or choosing minors, degree planning and help choosing classes for your next semester. Come visit us in room 1552 of the Bell Tower or call 437-8571 to make an appointment.
Our Story: Part Three
by Brendan Malloy

Last month, we took a look back at the decline of Camarillo State Hospital and the eventual closing of its doors. With the closing of the hospital, however, came an opportunity for a dramatic conversion into Ventura County's only four-year university. This month's report will document the efforts of the first faculty members who worked to make the transition possible.

An archaeologist, local historian, a Chinese immigrant, an avid surfer, a textbook photographer and others stepped onto One University Drive with a daunting task. These twelve professors were selected to be the inaugural faculty members for California State University Channel Islands in late 2001. They were assigned with starting a brand new university's curriculum and establishing the academic foundation on which future students would stand for years. They could not have been more prepared.

Lillian Castaneda left her position at CSU San Marcos to develop a liberal studies program.

William Cordeiro jumped at the opportunity to start a new business program.

Jacquelyn Kilpatrick found enough desire for Camarillo's warm weather and proximity to the ocean to start an English program.

Ching-Hua Wang overcame several obstacles in her native China to help with a biology program.

Kevin Volkan, a former state hospital psychologist, wanted the challenge initiating CSUCF's psychology program.

Childhood scientist Phillip Hampton came aboard to form the chemistry curriculum.

Joan Karp extended her desire to assist those with special needs into a special education program.

Ivona Grzegorczyk left the University of Massachusetts to head the mathematics program.

Historical archaeologist William Adams wanted the interdisciplinary approach to education when he decided to start the anthropology program.

Local historian Frank Barajas used his broad experience in the construction of the history program.

Jack Reilly left his surfboard at home and picked up his paintbrush when building the university's art program.

Dennis Muraoka decided to make the trip from Santa Barbara everyday when developing the economics program.

Under the direction of newly-appointed President Richard Rush, these professors worked long and hard to bring California State University Channel Islands to where it is today. These twelve were only the first of many individuals who made the transition from state hospital to state university smooth and feasible. That story is to come next month.

Dr. Why asks "What would you do?"

Jay Mathews reported in an October 18th article in the Washington Post that Agoura High School teacher Jason Busby offered his students a choice between learning something in his class and being given an automatic A without attending or doing any work. Ninety-nine percent, he reported, chose the easy A.

I wonder why.

Several colleagues helped me survey CSUCI students to see what choice they would make. We asked them to imagine it was the first day of class, the professor walks in and offers them the chance to receive an A in the course without attending or doing any of the assignments. Would they take the offer?

Of the 101 students polled, 28 said they'd take the offer, 42 said they'd refuse it, and 31 said maybe, depending on other factors. What tentative conclusions can we draw from this very unscientific survey?

First, either Jason Busby is blowing smoke out his anus or his students so loathe his class they'd make a pact with the devil to get out of it. Ninety-nine percent indeed!

Second, students are less naive than we faculty sometimes believe. Several said they wouldn't believe such an offer. Oh, wise youth. Teachers making such offers ought to be required to read and reread Faustus aloud, in public, every day for a year.

Third, students are not so uniformly addicted to grades as we sometimes want to believe. Seventy-three percent either turned the offer down, were too conflicted to choose, or asked for further information. The reasons for the uncertain responses are revealing: one student asked to meet with the professor outside class to continue learning; another said it depended on whether the professor was a good teacher or not; still another said they would have taken the deal in high school but they weren't so certain in college.

As a follow-up question in the survey, we asked students which was more important to them: the grade they get or what they learn. Seven students said both were equally important. Only three said the grade was the most important, and two of those explained that the grade reflected what they learned, so earning an A assured they were learning. One said any teacher willing to make such a deal "has nothing good to offer." (Faculty needn't worry about the critical thinking skills of these students.)

Of the 28 students who would accept the easy A, 25 said learning was more important to them than the grade. Are they contradicting themselves? Not when you understand their thinking. One student wrote that while learning was more important, it would be very hard to find the motivation to do the work in a class after such an offer had been made.

What have we learned from our little survey? Not to believe what's printed in the paper, obviously. To question the motivation of cynical teachers, of course. To refrain from generalizing about our diverse students—they never cease to surprise us. And always to ask life's most pertinent question: Why?
New Major Spotlight - Economics
By Keith Gross

This month's new major spotlight currently shines on the Economics major. The social science part of Economics seeks to explain and predict the behavior of consumers, producers, governments and citizens by examining the interactions of incentives and constraints in an environment limited of time, skills and resources. There are two types of economics: microeconomics and macroeconomics. Microeconomics focuses on the individual consumer, their choices and how their choices affect the overall marketplace. Macroeconomics looks at economics on the national level and analyzes trends in economic activity.

The Economics program here at California State University Channel Islands offers flexibility through its emphases that include general, environmental resource, international, managerial and quantitative economics. These emphases allow students to pursue specific interests and allow more connections to disciplines involving economics. Economics is a unique major because it is so diverse and connects with other majors so well. Because of this, many students end up double-majoring.

The Economics major is a so-called core major. This means that virtually every university in the California State system offers this major. The Economic major in more developed universities is quite often the largest major. Many students who major in economics do not start off with the major in mind. Often, a student takes an economics class for general education, becomes fascinated with the subject and wants to learn more about the field, and decides to become an economics major.

The staff members that make the economic major team consist of three full time tenure track professors and many other part-time professors. Professors Dennis Muraoka, Paul Rivera and Ashish Vaidya are the full time professors and come from such schools as UC Santa Barbara, CSU Long Beach, and UC Davis. When I went in to interview Dr. Muraoka, he was very open to letting me come into his office and chat even though I had only contacted him ten minutes prior to our meeting. His availability and desire to help the students had such an effect on me that I am sure the other teachers offer the same openness when they teach.

Although only ten students are enrolled so far, the Economics major is new and has the potential to grow into one of the largest enrolling majors on campus. There are so many different emphases which will allow a student majoring in Economics to truly enjoy what they do.

Friendly Faces with Sara Lujan
By Alyssa Ervin

Having trouble enrolling in classes? Been in the advising center recently? You may have run into Sara Lujan while you were in there.

Sara is new to our school. She started her career here in September, just in time to help with the hectic beginning of the school year and is now a relief to have during spring registration. Actually, she took her job here thinking she would work part time. Thankfully, she now is a full time employee here to serve everyone who asks.

One of her many tasks is to take care of Nemo, the Advising Center beta fish in the office. She loves working with students, and she says, “The work is quite rewarding, and to work with the students is fulfilling.” Sara also enjoys being with her co-workers, Wendy, Ed, and Tami. Working at CSUCI isn't her first college job. She's been to Ventura College, UC San Diego, CSU Northridge (for those of you who don't know, this is where CSUCI started), and then California Lutheran University.

Over the next couple of weeks, Sara will be extra busy trying to schedule appointments for students worried about next semester's schedule. Academic Advising is also in charge of the Writing Center and the Math Tutoring Lab. Sara is responsible for ensuring that everything that Advising does is running smoothly.

She lives locally in Oxnard with her mom, dad and three sisters who are 22, 23 and 26. Her cat, Mr. Milo P. Whiskerson, also lives with them. She says the scariest moment of her life was when her dad was close to death because of a heart condition. He is now healthy. Sara says she's in a wonderful relationship with her boyfriend of two years and loves to spend time with him and his family.

Her favorite vacation spot is in Arizona, with her boyfriend's family. She says it is “relaxing, peaceful, and tranquil,” and a good place to watch movies and catch up with everyone. In her spare time, Sara likes to read, read, read! I wish this was true for everyone here (especially me)! But this might explain why she was on the Dean's list and received pretty much straight A's throughout school. She likes school so much that she is currently enrolled in classes at CLU. Her favorite subject and area of expertise is psychology and her worst subject is math, particularly statistics and calculus. It's nice to know that administrators don't like those subjects either.

Sara is easygoing, humorous, open-minded, and fun to be around. Next time you're in the administration office in BT 1552, crack a joke, and see if you can make her laugh.

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**Student Government Report**

by Ronnie Sullivan

Aloha once again from your Student Government! We've reached the culmination of a spectacular Fall semester. Hopefully you've all been able to keep on track for the semester. We wish you all the best when it comes to Finals Week. We're looking forward to seeing your faces again around campus next semester, along with the new faces that will come with the Spring semester.

This Fall semester was memorable to say the least. We've broken ground on the new John Spoor Broome Library. We've dedicated the absolutely beautiful President's Courtyard. The California State University system has decided to raise student fees. We lost a dear friend within our very own campus community. The CSUCI Campus Reading Celebration was a great success. There were a number of things which will make the Fall 2005 semester hard to forget.

Student Government has had a wonderful semester, in part because of the support that you, the students, have given us. Our Rock the Vote Week was amazing! Remember, the gubernatorial (governor) primaries for California are coming up in 2006, if you haven't registered, do so now! Alongside Rock the Vote, we raised over $10,000 for the Hurricane Relief Effort in simply a month. Once again, on behalf of Student Government, to those who gave ANYTHING (money, time, etc.) we thank you whole-heartedly.

However, next semester Student Government isn't finished. We're still working hard on getting more businesses involved in the Dolphin Discount Program (DDP). Flyers of businesses participating are around the halls of the Bell Tower. Just look for the posters!

In March, Student Government (and possibly other student leaders from CSUCI) will be going to Sacramento to participate in the California Higher Education Student Summit (CHESS). CHESS is an annual conference meant to bring students from around the state together and advocate student leadership for their respective campuses.

We here at Student Government are all about the students. We're meant to discuss concerns, ask for input, provide information around the campus community, and to instill a strong sense of school spirit. We're here to work as a team to ensure that we meet each and every goal.

If you have any questions or comments about your Student Government feel free to drop by and say hello, leave us an e-mail or give us a call. We're here for you.

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**Why International Education?**

by Leo Van Cleve

Every year since 2000 the President has declared International Education week in November. This year it took place during November 14 - 18. At colleges and universities across the country, there are presentations, panel discussions, speeches, celebrations, lunches, flags and numerous other activities celebrating the world.

But why promote international education? Many see international education in the soft focus of romance and youthful idealism. That is important, but you may be surprised to hear that there are harder hitting reasons to encourage international education and exchange.

International education can enhance national security. The basic foundation of our national security is an understanding of the world around us and that understanding must be built on a foundation of basic knowledge. As we gather information and intelligence we need people who speak the language fluently to translate it from its original language for use by our policy analysts. Once that is done we need policy analysts who have a deep and thorough understanding of those countries, their culture and their history and who are then able to place the information into a broader context. Finally we need leaders who can take that analysis and make sound judgments about what direction we take in a complicated world.

International education can enhance our economic competitiveness. Products, services and capital move with increasing ease through today's world. Free flow of capital, electronic communication, rapid shipping, and global supply chain management have increased worldwide trade and contributed to an ever more global economy. Although the lingua franca of today's international marketplace is English, the truism remains that "the language of business is the language of the customer." It is always in the interest of business to speak the language of the customer both literally and figuratively. The number of students learning languages continues to decline in the United States and the mounting trade deficit tells us that the United States has become one of the world's best customers. Reversing that trend requires the development of more people who can speak languages, have international skills and global competence.

Economic competitiveness rests on another important foundation and that is the strength of our research and development base. The university system of the United States has long enjoyed the respect of the world. It has also attracted the best and the brightest from around the world to its seminar rooms, its laboratories and its research institutes. This basic research has been the foundation of scientific and technological excellence that has kept the economy growing for the last sixty years. Without that foundation and the advances it has brought the economic future would not look nearly as bright. We benefit when the world's top minds come here to research and teach. For example, 40% of the Nobel Prizes awarded to Americans in Medicine and Physiology since 1949 went to scientists born outside the U.S. Their research helps drive innovation in our economy and their teaching helps create and develop our next generation of leaders.

Individually each of these represents a good reason for international education. Taken together they provide a compelling rationale for paying more attention to the world we live in. The university has a critical role to play in this area by teaching languages, explaining people, countries and cultures and by creating the research and knowledge base that will make a difference in the years to come. It can also facilitate and encourage the exchange of students, researchers and teachers that will be at the cutting edge of these developments.

Leo Van Cleve is Director of International Programs at the California State University system

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Editor's Note: This week's Student Art page features a comic from Anacapa Village Resident Assistant Elliott Rodriguez along with a poem by Courtney Pogh, a student in Professor Andrea Marzell's creative writing class.

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**Goonies Over Till Tuesday, 2-1**

*by Raquel Landin*

On Tuesday, November 22, 2005, the Goonies hit swinging points and scored at will against Till Tuesday in the championship volleyball game presented by Recreation and Leisure services. The CSUCI gym was filled with onlookers and fans that had come to root on their friends, roommates, and team-mates. The volleyball league this year was composed of six teams: Till Tuesday, The Goonies, Free Agents, Dolphin’s, Daggers, and Dolphin Floggers. This year’s volleyball league consisted of 36 participants.

"It was pretty cool to see the high level of competition, and to see that the faculty members, staff, and students were taking the game seriously. It was nice to see that they were taking it to another level. As we work our way into the NCAA, maybe this is a sign that there is a future for volleyball at Cal State Channel Islands", said RLS Intramural Coordinator Neal Spearman.

The Goonies as well as Till Tuesday joined together to give everyone in attendance a great game. The beginning game had the Goonies worried, because Till Tuesday came in with a winning score. The Goonies were given another game to recover and swiped away Till Tuesday’s glory and conquering the second game. The third game was impressive and the Goonies players all pulled together to take the championship title with a score of 25-19.

"They were formidable opponents, but they came up a little bit short. They couldn't cash it like it's hot," commented Goonies Player Nima Rad.

The season was very strong in itself, and to see so many participants on campus was an achievement for RLS. There was tons of excitement in the gym that night as well as during season games. The players were focused and determined to try their best. With 19 men and 17 women, the Dolphins made an incredible season end with great games and an awesome championship. Way to go Goonies!

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*Are you my (m)other?*

*By Courtney Pugh*

You say yes but how can I be sure
Show me how you are my mother
You talk like me but aren't me
So you mustn't be my mother

Hello...will you be my mother
I'm lost can't you see won't you
Help me find my mother
If you're not her it's the least you can do

A moment please ma'am but
Might I ask if you are my mother
Any way you might see fit to
Move me in the direction towards her

Don't you see me standing here alone
Looking confused staring out
Down the white halls searching
Left and right for her

No I yell turning around
What do my eyes see but
Never-ending visions of me
Why do they stare at me thus

Thinking I wonder if I am
The one that I have lost
Standing there staring into the reflection
Seeing me, myself, and my mother
One Student's Opinion
by Ben Gallagher

Have you ever considered what it would be like to leave your home, your family and your friends for two years? What about living in a foreign country for that same amount of time? Believe it or not, this is a decision that hundreds of college students decide to make each and every year. How do they have the means to undergo an endeavor like this you might ask, and the answer is simple. These students are among those whom enlist in the Peace Corps.

So what does it mean to join the Peace Corps? Basically, it means that you’ll go to a foreign country (where English may not be spoken) and do some kind of service there at the request of its government. The Peace Corps was founded by John F. Kennedy in 1961 and has grown and evolved immensely since then. While you may still be able to find volunteers working in third world countries constructing wells and homes for those in need, you are just as likely to find a Peace Corps volunteer working in a more developed country teaching educated individuals how to use specific computer software.

What many people do not realize is that when you enlist in the Peace Corps, you are also accepting a job offer. When you finally do move to the country in which you will be working, after extensive training in culture assimilation and language training, you will be getting paid for whatever teaching, training, or other forms of labor that you may be part of. Beyond that, you will be learning all about a new culture and representing the United States. What the people of your specified country will be learning from you will instill a lasting image of what it means to be American. What you undertake when taking on this endeavor is both a great opportunity and a great responsibility.

There are nearly seven thousand volunteers working in 78 countries across the world at any given point in time. The age range of volunteers spans from 18 to 65 years of age. I spoke with Kathleen Klompien, supervisor of the CSUCI writing center who after she graduated from college joined the Peace Corps. She spent two years in Poland teaching English to the citizens there. She spoke to me at length about her experience there and expressed to me how much confidence she gained from it. “It was an experience that I would recommend to anyone”, says Klompien.

If you have any questions regarding involvement in the Peace Corps, e-mail us at CIView.editor@csuci.edu, we will be working on getting together an informational session for any students interested in becoming involved with this organization.