Learning Skills Center gives students solid foundation

What began as a small tutor-
ing center in 1979 has evolved and grown until it is now virtually be-
ing a full-fledged academic department to meet the changing needs of the University. The center still offers tutoring, but it has since been renamed the Learning Skills Center to reflect its primary mission of providing students with the skills and courses in reading, writing, algebra, geometry and study skills.

Often students are surprised by the fact that they need preparatory classes at all, says Roberto Ching, the Learning Skills Center coordinator. But a recently released CSU system study of Fall 2004 incom-
ing Sacramento State freshmen showed that 41.4 percent needed remedial classes in math and 53.1 percent needed them in English.

The mean high school grade point average of those needing remedial classes was 3.19. “Students are amazed they have to take these classes because they got good grades in high school, but unfortunately sometimes high school just doesn’t prepare them well enough for college-level courses,” Ching said. “Almost all students need to get up to speed, and we help to level the playing field.”

The center has expanded as enrollment has increased, but it experienced its most substantial growth for the 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Thursday, April 14 talk by Paul Kagame, president of the Republic of Rwanda. Kagame will speak on “Managing Ethnic Relations and National Reconciliation in Post-
genocide Rwanda” in the Alumni Center. Seating for the event begins at 9:45 a.m.

During a convocation, classes may be cancelled at the discretion of faculty members. Even if classes are not dismissed, students will not be penalized for attending the convocation. University staff members are encouraged to attend the convocation with the permission of their supervisors.

In the event of an overflow crowd, a closed-circuit broadcast of the event will be available for viewing in the University Library, room 11.

Kagame leads a country still reeling from the effects of civil war and the 1994 genocide that caused the deaths of more than 800,000 Rwandans. He will dis-
cuss steps being taken to improve the economy, heal the ethnic divi-
sions between the Huta and Tutsi populations and provide national reconciliation. After his talk, Kagame will take questions from the audience.

Kagame, representing the Rwandan Patriotic Front party, won a landmark victory in Rwanda’s 2003 election and became the country’s fifth president. Since the end of the genocide and under the leadership of Kagame, Rwanda has written a constitution that helped put women in office, and he heads the current Government of National Unity which aims for national reconciliation and justice, and hopes for a stable Rwanda.

He played a vital role in creat-
ing the new Economic Plan for Rwanda, Page 2

Sacramento State Night with the River Cats

Join alumni, students, faculty and staff at 7:05 p.m., April 28 at West Sacramento’s Raley Field for this celebration of University graduates and graduates-to-be.

Enjoy the River Cats game along with entertainment and perfor-
mances provided by Sacramento State students past and present. One-dollar hot dogs and ice cream bars will be available, and Sacramento State students will be eligible to win a six-person raft-
ing trip from Peak Adventures. Don’t forget to show your pride by wearing green and gold.

Tickets are $12, $9 and $6 and are available from the CSUS Ticket Office at 278-4123 or at www.rivercats.com/tickets/ window. For more information contact the Alumni Association at 278-6295 or alumni@csus.edu.

Rwandan president to speak

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Staff Appreciation Event, June 3

This year the University Staff Assembly Picnic and Administrative Professional’s Day will be combined into a staff appreciation event for the entire staff. To express that gratitude, the President’s Office will pay the price of admission for all staff members.

The Staff Appreciation Picnic is scheduled for June 3.
American River Focus of conference

Learning
Continued from page 1

There’s no reason to have students in the master’s program if they will be unable to practice upon graduation. It’s no longer the entry degree,” Brown says.

The loss of the master’s program is expected to have an impact on the department’s ability to provide hearing tests at the Mary Janee Rees Language, Speech and Hearing Center because the testing was formerly part of the master’s students’ clinical training.

And the future looks even more grim. “Pretty soon, without any public universities providing the clinical doctorate, the state of California will have a shortage of trained audiologists,” Brown says.

That would limit the number of practitioners who can provide hearing assessments and rehabilitation to the state’s children and adults. “We’re not going to be able to fill the demand,” says James McCartney, president of the Speech Pathology and Audiology department, who notes that most of Sacramento State’s practicing audiologists are Sacramento State graduates.

And while audiology has the most pressing need for a clinical doctorate, Brown says that the next area of concern could be physical therapy. “The profession is not demanding the professional doctorate yet, but it’s coming,” he says.

“T’s also a lack of having it in nursing on certain levels.”

The pending legislation would only authorize the CSU to offer professional doctorates in limited fields. And while the UC has the option to begin offering doctorates in these areas, “It would be expensive for another university to start a program,” Brown says. “Audiology, for example, requires labs, faculty, a clinical site. And we are already at a point where we are not creating a new program. To expand is a natural.”

In the meantime, Sacramento State is looking into joint programs with UC and private schools, or even an out-of-state effort. The legislation gives the board latitude for all materials in a 10 a.m. on the day of preclearance publication. Stories will be published in a package available online and are subject to change. Writing should be in news style, short and direct. For inquiries call (916) 278-4134.
Sacramento State’s Alumni Theatre Project will present Smart Love: A Musical Tribute to Bob Smart, honoring the late Sacramento State professor. The musical is part of April’s Alumni Month, celebrating current and future alumni with a variety of on- and off-campus events.

The musical opens at 8 p.m. April 12 at the University Theatre in Sartor Hall. Performances will continue at 8 p.m. on April 23, 29 and 30 and at 2 p.m. on Sunday April 24.

The original musical revue will feature a talented group of alumni performing several numbers from such block-buster musicals as: Chicago, A Chorus Line, Guys and Dolls, Jekyll and Hyde, Les Miz, Rent, Pajama Game, and Chess.

The musical is a fundraiser for the Robert Smart Memorial Lenaea Scholarship. Bob Smart was a beloved and influential theatre professor during his 35 years of teaching at Sacramento State. Smart directed more than 40 productions during his tenure and spent a decade directing Sacramento State’s Lenaea Festival, one of the largest high school festivals in the nation. Tickets are $20 general, $18 seniors and Alumni Association members, and $5 students. Tickets are available at the CSUS Ticket Office at 278-4323.

International experts on Southeast Asian art, including two Sacramento State professors, will discuss the legacy and art of the ancient kingdom of Siam—what is now Thailand—from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 26 in Mariposa Hall 1000.

Co-sponsored by the University and the Society for Asian Art in San Francisco, the “Kingdom of Siam Symposium” is presented free of charge in conjunction with a major West Coast art exhibit, “The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800,” currently running through May 8 at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Sacramento State Art professor Pattaratorn Chirapravati is one of the exhibit’s two curators and moderate the symposium.

A highlight of the program will be the keynote address by Forrest McGehee, curator of Asian art at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, on art from Siam’s capital city Ayutthaya, once one of Southeast Asia’s most cosmopolitan cities and a major trading hub linking India and China.

From 11 a.m. to noon, three internationally known scholars of Thai art, including Forrest McGehee, co-curator of the Asian Art Museum exhibit, will discuss Siam, Ayutthaya and Buddhist influences. Later in the program, Chirapravati will discuss royal influences on temple architecture. Sacramento State Religion professor Richard Shek will also take part in the symposium.

Following the symposium from 3 to 6:30 p.m. will be a reception at the Raymond Witt Gallery in Kademia Hall for the exhibition “Thai Art from the Past into the Present,” an exhibit organized and curated by Sacramento State graduate art students.

To register for the event, call Chirapravati at 278-3880.

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**Town Hall Scheduled**

President Gonzalez will hold his last Town Hall Meeting of the academic year from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 12 in the University Union Hindi Auditorium.

The topic will be “Developing Community Support.”

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**Learn About Service Dogs**

The University will host a free Service Dog Event from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, April 14 in the University Union Redwood Room.


The event is designed to provide education about the variety of service dogs available from hearing dogs to seeing eye dogs with demonstrations, discussions and a Q & A. It is open both for people who might be interested in training a service dog or for those who already have one.

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**Renaissance Forum Set**

The Renaissance Society has announced its Forum schedule for the rest of the semesters. Forums are in the heels, 1 to 4 p.m., and are:

- April 15, Mendocino 1003: Roger S. Patching, History and Political Science professor at Cosumnes River College, “Current American Foreign Policy and Related Concerns: Is the United States a Republic or Empire?”
- April 22, Mendocino 1003: David Corin, Government and Ethnic Studies professor at Sacramento State, “Racism: RacIALIZATION IS SO Endemic To Today’s World, that Whole People are Familiar With the Term Racism, Most Are Unaware of the Depth of its Roots.”
- April 29, Union University Hindi Auditorium: Ren A. Rich, Bioethics professor at UC Davis School of Medicine, “Perspectives on Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill.”
- May 13, University Union Redwood Room: Renaissance Society Annual Meeting Details: 278-7834.

**Writers on the Radio**

Spoken Wired, a reading series on KSSU 1580, the campus student radio station, will feature Sacramento State and community-based creative writers reading their work during April.

The schedule of times and readers is:
- Thursday April 14, from 7 - 8 p.m. Readers will include BJ Shaw, Nicki Over, Bob Stanley and John Hering.
- Wednesday April 20, from 3-4 p.m. Readers will include Sacramento State professor Doug Rice and Rain Annanael.
- Friday April 29 from 9-10 a.m. Readers will include Sacramento State Professor Mary Mackey.

Details: 278-4856

**Students with Disabilities Workshop**

The Center for Teaching and Learning will host a Faculty Teaching Strategies Brown Bag discussion on Working with Students with Disabilities from noon to 1 p.m., Thursday April 14 in Library 4026. Staff members from Services to Students with Disabilities will lead the discussion and other strategies on working with students with disabilities.

Topics to be discussed include faculty, staff and student rights and responsibilities, special accommodations, strategies and procedures, and legal mandates, including web accessibility.

Confirmed attendance at crflccsu.edu or 278-3945 though RSVP is not required.

**Economics Lecture**

The Department of Economics and Political Science will present the annual Ranlett Lecture, at 2 p.m., Thursday, April 28 in the University Union Delta Suite. The lecture is named in honor of one of its longstanding faculty members who retired from the University in 1968. The 2010 lecture is Thomas Mayer, a distinguished monetary theorist and former professor and chair of the economics department at UC Davis. The topic of the presentation is “Who Sets Monetary Policy?” The campus community is invited. Details: 278-6223.

**Meet Dean Candidates**

Interviews for candidates for the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Letters are scheduled for the following dates:
- Wednesday, April 13, 2010, 10:30 a.m., University Union Forest Suite: Solomon O. Fysere, professor of English, CSU Bakersfield.
- Monday, April 25, 10 a.m., University Union Foothall Suite: A. Jacqueline Swansinger, Director, Graduate Program, History, State University of New York - Fredonia.
- Wednesday, April 27, 9:30 a.m., Library 11: Earl R. Anderson, Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Cleveland State University.
- Thursday, April 28, 9:15 a.m., University Union Orchard Suite, Jeffrey D. Mason, Head, Department of Theatre Arts, University of Oregon.
- Friday, April 29, 11:15 a.m., Tahoe Hall 1003: Edward Sangwirawong, Associate Professor, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma.

Vitae may be reviewed in Sacramento 230. Written comments should be sent to Vice President for Academic Affairs Ric Brown no later than May 2 at rich.csus.edu.

**Talk on Community Partnerships**

The College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies will present a colloquium on “Building Innovative Community Partnerships: The Ethnic Studies Model” from noon to 2 p.m., Monday, April 11 the University Union Ballroom.

It will feature the department of Ethnic Studies presenting on their nationally recognized community partnership and service learning program for which they were awarded a $375,000 federal grant. Details: 278-6646.

**Learn About Service Learning**

A CSU Reverberation Collaboration is hosting a Service Learning Expo from noon to 3:30 p.m., May 3 in the University Union Ballroom. The free event will showcase the projects of service learning students across campus. Service Learning courses focus on hands-on community involvement, through local agencies, with classroom theory and knowledge giving students the opportunity to apply classroom concepts in real life settings.

Details: 278-4610.

**Track Volunteers Needed**

The Sacramento Sports Commission is seeking volunteers for the 2005 NCCA Division I Track and Field Championships, June 14-17 at Hornet Stadium. To volunteer, visit www.sports.com to download an application.

Details: 566-2400.
**possession play**

A cat named Vinegar Tom lends his name to a play about efforts to kill curiosity, intelligence and sexuality in seven women in a 17th century English village in Vinegar Tom, the final theater production of the season for the Sacramento State department of Theatre and Dance. Professor Juanita Rice directs the tale by British playwright Cyril Churchill opening at 8 p.m. Friday, April 8, the university’s Playwrights Theatre. Performances continue April 10 through May 1 and May 7 through 10. The production is part of the university’s April Alumni Month activities.

The feline weaves his way through the story as the women are accused of witchcraft and possession by the Devil because they are seen as a threat to the mores of the time and place. Poverty, humility and prejudice are the background to the tale of the power and pain that comes with charges of sorcery with Satan. As hysteria surrounds them, the women accused begin to doubt their innocence, believing that they are what they are said to be.

In the 1600s setting of Vinegar Tom, the audience is made more accessible to a contemporary audience through Rice’s use of irreverent and rebellious modern music. The play includes several songs, and Rice furthers her production’s relevance by subtle changes to lyrics. Updating them to mention modern conflicts faced by African Americans, women, Arabs and Jews, Symbolic costumes covering character’s eyes and mouths is also used to represent the women’s manipulation and silencing. Tickets are $15 general and $8 for students, seniors and Alumni Association members. They are available from the CSUS Ticket Office at 278-4323 or at Tickets.com.

**sunday, april 17**

Athletics, Baseball vs. Utah Valley State, 1 p.m., Hornet Field, $5 general/$3 youth ages 2-17. Tickets at (916) 278-4323 or Tickets.com. Athletics, Softball vs. Saint Mary’s, noon, Shea Stadium, $5 general/$3 youth ages 2-17. Tickets at (916) 278-4323 or Tickets.com.

Friends of the Sacramento State Library book sale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., University Library Lower Level. (916) 278-5154.


Alumni Association Annual Mixer, meet the Sacramento State Alumni Association board of directors, staff and fellow alums, hors d’oeuvres, wine and refreshments served, Alumni Month, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Alumni Center. $10 general/$1 free for Alumni Association members. Tickets at door. Reservations required. (916) 278-6295 or alumni@csus.edu.

**thursday, april 21**

Friends of the Sacramento State Library book sale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., University Library Lower Level. (916) 278-5154.