Inauguration highlights Homecoming Week

Sacramento State is set to launch an exciting week of homecoming activities Oct. 4 through 9 starting with the inauguration of Alexander Gonzalez as its 11th president and closing with a campuswide open house and football game.

Seating will start at noon for the 12:30 p.m. inauguration ceremony Monday, Oct. 4 in the University’s Outdoor Theatre. Steeped in tradition that dates to medieval times, the event will include a procession in academic regalia, formal investiture ceremony and speeches. A reception with light refreshments will follow. The event is free and open to the public.

The celebration continues with a concert that evening by the University’s Symphonic Wind Ensemble along with the Maria Carrillo High School band at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall.

The activities following the inauguration will build on the success of last year’s expanded Homecoming Week and continue through Saturday, Oct. 9, when the Hornets take on Portland State at 6:05 p.m. at Hornet Stadium.

The film will show their film “A Day Without a Mexican” will be at noon, Friday, Oct. 8 at the Alumni Center. Cost is $25 and reservations are required. A reception in honor of the recipients will be held at 11:55 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 7 in the Library Quad. The gathering is just one of many exciting events campuswide during a Homecoming Week that opens with the inauguration of President Alexander Gonzalez Oct. 4 and closes with a University open house and football game Oct. 9.

Alumni to be honored at Homecoming

Homecoming Week includes two special events honoring Sacramento State graduates. This year’s Golden Grads Luncheon honors alumni from the classes of 1949 through 1955 and will be followed by a tour of the University Union and the Library Archives. It will be held at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 6 in the Alumni Center. The cost is $20 and reservations are required.

The annual Alumni Honors Luncheon, recognizing distinguished alumni, will be at noon, Friday, Oct. 8 at the Alumni Center. Cost is $25 and reservations are required. A reception in honor of the recipients will be held from 11 to 11:45 a.m.

To reserve a space at either event, contact the Alumni Association at 278-6295.

Director, actress to screen film

Critically acclaimed director Sergio Arau and his wife, actress Yareli Arizmendi, who starred in Lake Water for Chocolate, will show their film A Day Without a Mexican at 7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Oct. 6 in the University Union Ballroom as part of Hispanic Heritage Month at Sacramento State.

The event will include a lecture by Arau and Arizmendi about the making of the film, which had the second-bests per screen average gross its opening weekend, an impressive feat for first-time director Arau. Arau is the son of Alfonso Arau who directed Lake Water for Chocolate.

A Day Without a Mexican actress Yareli Arizmendi, left, and director Sergio Arau.

University Affairs reorganized with two appointments

Garcia’s appointment was immediate and Hayashinho’s will take effect on Oct. 25.

“Theses appointments will allow us to move forward quickly in areas of great importance to the University. I am delighted to have persuaded individuals of such high quality and experience to join our team. I look forward to working with them,” said Gonzalez in making the appointments.

Hayashinho, currently associate vice president for university advancement and development, has been at SSFS since 1997. She has served as a lecturer in the department of Asian American studies. Strongly committed to diversity, she has in the past served with the national office of the Japanese American Citizens League.

She received her bachelor’s degree from SSFS and her master’s degree from the University of San Francisco.

Over the years at SSFS she has held increasingly responsible positions including director of foundations and corporate relations and director of development. She has been closely involved in developing the fundraising infrastructure and encouraging a culture of giving.

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Settling the groundwork for a reorganization of the Office of University Affairs, President Alexander Gonzalez has made two major appointments, both reporting directly to him.

Carole Hayashino of San Francisco International Standup Comedy Competition will kick off at 7:30 p.m. in the University Union Ballroom.

An event-packed Friday includes the Alumni Honors Luncheon at noon in the Alumni Center, a parent’s reception with President Alexander and Gloria Gonzalez at 8 p.m. in the residence halls, men’s and women’s soccer games and an evening Homecoming football game rally with live music, fireworks and more starting at 7 p.m. in Serna Plaza.

Saturday a campuswide open house will feature lectures, demonstrations and displays from University colleges and departments. Other events include a Homecoming concert showcasing alternative music bands at noon in Serna Plaza and a volleyball match against Eastern Washington at 1 p.m. in the Hornet Gym.

The activities lead into pre-game partying at the Alumni Center and outside Hornet Stadium until kickoff of the game against Portland State at 6:05 p.m.

Performance and game tickets are available from the CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or through Tickets.com. For more information, call (916) 278-6295.

See HOMECOMING, Page 2

See HOMECOMING, Page 2
Homecoming
Continued from page 1

Homecoming Week highlights
All events are free unless other- wise noted. A complete schedule is available at www.csus.edu/ events.

Monday, Oct. 4
• Inauguration of President Alex- ander Gonzalez, seating begins at noontime, Mac Arr- oyo, Outdoor Theatre. (916) 278-6136. Reception with light refreshments follows.
• Sacramento State Symphonic Wind Ensemble with Maria Carrillo High School Band, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall in the University Center.

Tuesday, Oct. 5
• Breakfast Club Speaker Series, Christian Science Monitor’s Dis- order? Language Difference or Disorder? at the Second International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities in Plymouth, Prato, Italy in July.

Homecoming
Continued from page 1

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Prof tackles toxin in Delta drinking water

Chemistry professor Susan Crawford

Talk about efficient. At the same time Sacramento State chemistry professor Susan Crawford is tracking the cause of a toxin lurking in drinking water from the Sacramento Delta, a second experiment she’s conducting with absorbent materials called zeolites may turn out to be a possible solution.

More than 22 million people depend on Delta water, but before it can be used it goes through the chlorination process. Unfortunately, Crawford says, the good work of chlorination sometimes results in another problem: “When you chlorinate Delta water, dissolved organic or DOC, associated with peat and other remnants of the land around the Delta—form trihalomethanes or THMs, such as chloroform, which is considered a carcinogen.”

Working with the U.S. Geological Survey, Crawford uses a variety of sophisticated equipment including nuclear magnetic resonance and infrared spectrometry to test water samples. She looks at the samples before and after chlorination to see what happens when the THMs form, looking for a link. “We’re trying to determine if there’s something similar between the DOC and the amount of THMs formed,” she says. “Can it be traced to a site, such as near a peat island? Does it happen at a certain time of year, such as during tilling, during flooding or when irrigation takes place?”

“There’s a tendency to blame agriculture. But it may be something that occurs in the Delta naturally such as plant decomposition,” Crawford says, noting that before taking a radical, disruptive step such as modifying farming practices in the region, scientists need to be relatively sure of the culprit.

If the source turns out to be a naturally occurring process, Crawford thinks she has a possible solution: Zeolites.

Crawford has been studying the filtering qualities of zeolites for years, including the ability of some zeolites to transform harmful materials into less dangerous ones. The porous rock materials are extremely absorbent, grabbing and holding waste products sort of like a molecular sponge.

If it turns out that the carbon in the Delta can’t be controlled at the source, Crawford thinks zeolites might be an effective way to absorb the chloroform from the water.

In yet another project with Sacramento State’s Office of Water Programs, Crawford is also looking at whether zeolites might be able to play a role in removing metals from storm water that runs off area roads.

30-YEAR PROFILE

Raymond Grant

Raymond Grant is pleasantly surprised he has spent 30 years at Sacramento State. “I never thought I’d be here this long,” the admission counselor says. “But I’ve really enjoyed myself. It has been excellent.”

Grant started as a Sacramento State student soon after leaving the Army where he had served as a medical laboratory specialist. His original career goal was to work in a hospital. “But working here just happened upon me,” Grant says. His first on-campus job was as a student assistant in admissions and records. He then moved on to clerical assistant, supervisor, evaluator, and finally took his current position of admission counselor.

Grant says he has watched the campus grow a lot in 30 years, but he especially loves the greenery. “The campus is a beautiful place. I bring my lunch a lot and sit under a tree.”

In the past three decades, he has gathered fond recollections of his co-workers. “I’ve seen a lot of people come and go, but many have been here long enough to say they have great memories of the day my wife phoned to say she was in labor. I was so excited.”

The longtime Sacramento resident has two children. One attends the University as an engineering major. Grant says he tells his son exactly what he tells others who come to him in admissions and records. “They’re required to earn a C average, and if they want better grades, they need to put in the effort.”

Garcia is a former journalist who also draws on past experiences with the state Legislature and Congress. For 10 years he worked at the Sacramento Bee prior to working for the Office of California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, the State Board of Education and for the past several months as a consultant to EdFund and the California Student Aid Commission. In these positions he was responsible for policymaking and strategic communication functions.

Between 1986 and 1988, he was in Washington D.C. as a reporter for the wire service UPI and the Space Business News. He also was a Congressional fellow with the American Political Science Association. Previously, in 1981, he was a journalism fellow with the Inter American Press Association in Mexico City.

In Sacramento, he worked with the Sacramento Bee, rising from a business staff writer to state editor and then to deputy capital editor. “The Bee was a great place. They helped manage the bureau’s team of reporters who cover the California Legislature and state politics.”

A graduate the University of Kansas, he is currently a board member for the Capital Unity Council and a founding member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.
West Sacramento mayor Christopher Cabaldon will be the fi rst speaker in this year’s Breakfast Club Speaker Series, hosted by the Alumni Association. Cabaldon will speak at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 5 in the Alumni Center as part of Homecoming Week activities.

The events, which feature breakfast, feature a range of guest speakers speaking on hot topics in the Sacramento region in a low-key, off-the-record format that allows audience interaction.

Cabaldon is now serving his fourth term as mayor of West Sacramento and is credited with helping to bring baseball to the city and with efforts to revitalize the waterfront. He is president of EdVoice, a statewide non-profit network of citizens and educational philanthropists fighting for public schools. He serves on the boards of the California Environmental Rights Foundation, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. In 2002, Cabaldon was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to the Bay-Delta Committee which oversees implementation of the CALEOF water program.

Other speakers in this year’s Breakfast Club series include California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell on Oct. 7. Sacramento Bee reporter and president James Heaphy on March 8, and River City Bank president-CEO Jeannie Reaves on May 3. Cabaldon’s talk is sponsored by the government chapter of the Alumni Association.

The events are free to Alumni Association members and $15 for non-members. Seating is limited. For reservations or additional information, contact the Alumni Association at 278-6295.