CSUS Faculty and staff continue to publish books that add to their field and enhance their teaching in the classroom.

Dozens of their books have been published recently (see page 3).

Among them are *Spanish for Life* by foreign language professors Carol Brown and Kathy Moore, *Physical Geology* by geology professor Charles Plummer, *Media Impact* by communication studies professor Shirley Biagi, and *Birth Chairs, Midwives and Medicine* by development director for the College of Engineering and Computer Science Amanda Banks.

Foreign language professors Carol Brown and Kathy Moore were on the mark when they decided to call their book *Spanish for Life*. Between the text and the workbooks, students learn basic Spanish culture specific to their career goals.

“Students now want to study language so they can put it to use in their careers,” Brown says. “The core text, *Spanish for Life*, is the foundation for the program, but the workbooks are designed to fit the student’s specific needs.”

Each chapter in the text focuses on one or two Spanish-speaking countries and students learn about the country’s culture. The workbooks are used in conjunction with the book, but are specific to business, medical and law enforcement majors. Brown and Moore hope to have a workbook focusing on social work soon.

“We tried to gear the workbooks toward majors where there is the most need for Spanish speakers,” Brown says.

The workbooks are for use during class time and focus on vocabulary and culture within the student’s field of study.

Shirley Biagi’s book, *Media Impact*, has helped the communication studies professor encounter students from all over the world.

Now in its fourth edition, *Media Impact* is used at more than 100 colleges and universities and has been translated for Canadian, Greek and Spanish editions. A Chinese edition is in the process.

“The book travels in ways I can’t,” Biagi says. “I get e-mails from students all over the world giving me feedback on the book.”

The professor says the students who write her are extended family. “The comments I get make for a bigger connection with students than just here,” she says.

Highlights of the book include new technologies in media, media history, American journalism and the economics of media industries.

Biagi wrote the book after becoming frustrated with what was then available, and the first edition was published recently (see page 3).

CSUS Authors

Books Explore Language, Geology, Media and More

CSUS AUTHORS

Group Working to Simulate Birth

Nurses and doctors might someday learn to deliver a baby before they ever take their first rotation, if an innovative project at CSUS to turn motors into muscles and wires into nerves proves successful.

The project is a “childbirth simulator,” and a group of professors and students have been working on it for nearly a year.

The simulator is envisioned as a variation on the mannequins used to teach CPR. Driven by a computer, the simulator would have “contractions” and mimic birth-related complications. It would also allow students to watch the movements the baby goes through.

In pursuing their idea, the professors and a group of their students have worked their way to the cutting edge of so-called “haptic interface” technology — integrating touch with computer software. This technology is more popularly known through devices such as computer mouses that simulate touch.

The CSUS group has succeeded in creating engineering equations to match the movements of the cervix and uterus during birth. That step alone took countless meetings in which nursing students taught their peers in engineering the basics of birth.

Then, engineering students Husam Alesawi and Heather Nykals worked the equations into software known as LifeView.

Eventually, the software will drive as many as three precision motors embedded within the simulator. The software will also give an instructor control of the birth simulation.

For now, though, the students are content with the complex waves and numbers on a computer screen, though they also draw inspiration from a rubber hand-driven mockup Alesawi built in his garage. It sits proudly among more sophisticated projects in the crowded Biomedical Engineering Project Area.

“It’s challenging, but I’m learning a lot,” Alesawi says of the project. He plans to enter graduate school next year, and wants to continue working on the project.

CSUS, Russian Professors Team Up for Business

A partnership of professors from CSUS and Russia is working together to build a Russian university’s business curriculum.

Since Feb. 26, professors and administrators from Far Eastern State Technical University in Vladivostok on the southeastern coast of Russia, have been on campus working with CSUS economics professor Kevin Calandr, accounting professor Charles Davis, and organizational behavior and environment professors Jaime Alavyan, Donald Carper and Richard Guarino. The Russians will be at CSUS through March 19.

Many of Russia’s accountants, economists, tax experts have been trained in American curriculum, says Crusty Jensen, project director for the exchange program and a professor of public policy and administration. But their training has focused on large industrial business enterprises. Jensen says future Russian business leaders want training in local economic development. The CSUS professors will help their Russian counterparts develop a curriculum that
The warm weather beckoned Jim Cox back to Sacramento. Before coming to CSUS, he was a visiting assistant professor at the State University of New York, Binghamton in the chilly upstate of New York. After having lived in California and North Carolina, Cox had a hard time adjusting to the New York temperature. He had lived in Sacramento before, while working as a research assistant for the California Taxpayers Association. The move to Sacramento also brings him closer to his family, as his parents also live here. The new appointment professor says he always wanted to work with students at a university. Cox, who specializes in the U.S. Congress and public policy, said that understanding politics and sharing that understanding with his students is what he likes most about being a professor.

“I’ve always been drawn to politics, and working at a university allows me to convey that to my students,” said Cox. “I like to teach what I find.”

This semester, Cox is teaching public policy development, which focuses on the policy process of the U.S. government. He also teaches essentials of government, which introduces students to issues of American democracy, politics, policies and government institutions. In addition, he teaches introduction to research methods for political science.

Cox earned his bachelor’s degree in political science and both his master’s and doctorate degrees at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Before coming to CSUS, Cox taught political science at Iowa State University, North Carolina State University and Wake Forest University. Prior to being a professor, he worked as a policy analyst for the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina.

Cox is currently finishing a book about the reauthorization process and the changes in Congress over the years. He is also enjoying the mild Sacramento winter and the short commute from his east Sacra- mento home as he thinks of his former colleagues in freezing upstate New York.

**Birth Simulator**

A recent survey by nursing students Christi DeLemos and Roxanne Ferguson indicates the group’s idea has appeal. It shows strong interest from regional nursing programs, health clinics, ambulance services, fire stations and the like. The group has been working with a creative activities grant from the University.

**Professors Team Up**

The Political Theory Forum, an informal discussion group at CSUS, will host a discussion titled “Privacy Matters (But Not That Much),” led by CSUS philosophy professor Randy Mayes. The event is open to all and will be at 7:30 p.m., March 14th at 1170 13th Ave. More information is available by contacting Jim Lindburg at 278-7443.

**Recognition**

Doman Lum, social work, received the 2000 Distinguished Recent Contributions in Social Work Education Award at the opening plenary session of the Council on Social Work Education’s annual program meeting, Feb. 26 in New York.

**Grants**

Doreen Starinsky, environmental studies, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and conduct research at Central Luzon State in Nueva Ecija, Philippines. Her research project is “Contested Knowledge, Contested Ownership: Struggles over Intellectual Property Rights and Rice in the Philippines.”
Science and Math Dean Ventures into Music

Music and science will fuse during the premiere of CSUS College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Dean Marion H. O’Leary’s piece “Illinois Tryptic.” The piece will be performed by senior music student John Leggett during his senior trombone recital at 8 p.m., Thursday, March 16 in the Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall.

Music department interim chair Ernie Hills says this is the first time that a CSUS dean’s piece has been performed at a senior music student’s recital.

“Because O’Leary’s academic area, biochemistry, is not music it’s even more unusual,” says Hills.

O’Leary says he was flattered Leggett was interested in playing his piece. “Illinois Tryptic” was introduced to Leggett by Hills who was helping Leggett find something to perform. Hills says O’Leary’s composition is a very effective piece for trombone and piano. He described it as “moody.” According to Hills, finding the perfect piece for a trombone recital can be daunting. “There are no major solo works for trombone done by major composers,” he says.

Other works in Leggett’s 5-piece recital include a trombone standard concerto by 20th century Danish composer Launy Grondahl. Student and teacher together choose pieces for recitals. Hills says Hills was introduced a few years ago to O’Leary, who mentioned he composed music. Hills invited him to bring his work to the music department where he put it in a file of other potential works for future use by students for their recitals.

“It’s fun to hear somebody else play your music,” O’Leary says. But isn’t the only reason the music was chosen. Hills insists. “O’Leary is a wonderful musician and a fine pianist.” Hills says. The dean and his wife accompany Leggett during his performance.

O’Leary says the music brings back fond memories of college. “This piece is actually written for three friends of mine from my Illinois days,” says O’Leary, who played trombone with these three friends while he attended University of Illinois in Urbana.

O’Leary hopes his example will encourage others to venture out of their focused field.

“I think it’s really important for administrators to have a broader appreciation of our areas on campus,” O’Leary says, adding that is what is happening more with the University’s new School of the Arts. The new School brings visual and performing art programs from throughout the College of Arts and Letters. It’s a big debut will be scheduled during the University’s eighth annual Festival of the Arts, April 1 - April 9.

— Robyn S. Eiffertsen

Continued from page one

CSUS Authors


After the book was written, Biagi’s task was to make sure it stayed current. “I feel a responsibility to people that the information be correct. The information in this field is constantly changing and I have to be satisfied knowing that by the time the book is printed it will be out of date,” she says.

Geology Professor Charles Plummer’s writing journey began in 1975 with the first edition of his book *Physical Geology*, which was published in 1979. It is now in its eighth edition. Plummer and his co-authors have traveled extensively to get the exquisite pictures that make the book superior.

“Most of the pictures we’ve taken ourselves. I’ve taken pictures in Alaska, the Andes and elsewhere for different aspects of physical geology,” Plummer says.

Now, two CD-ROM disks come with the book. “The CD’s are from interactive displays that are part of the Smithsonian Museum,” Plummer says.

“When the first edition of the book came out, CD ROM didn’t even exist,” Physical Geology, according to its publicists, is probably the best selling book on geology because it accounts for the largest segment of the market. Outside the textbook genre, Amanda Banks, development director for the College of Engineering and Computer Science, has turned her dissertation into a book. *Birth Chairs, Midwives and Medicine* is a study of birthing methods that have evolved and how key practices have returned.

“There was a time when birth was treated as a natural process rather than a medical condition,” Banks says. “Before 1800, women gave birth seated in birth chairs or on stools and were helped by maids. Then societal changes and attitudes toward women and the practice of medicine made the birthing process a division of the male-dominated medical profession.”

Banks’ book examines the history of the birth chair and tells how this birthing device has changed over time.

— Heather Vandenburg

Recent CSUS Publications

Recently published works by CSUS faculty, staff and emeritus faculty, most of which are available through the Hornet Bookstore, include:

Leigh Aldrich. *Covering the Community*, 1999


Amanda Banks. *Birth Chairs, Midwives and Medicine*, 1999


Christopher Castaneda. *invisible Fuel, Manufactured and Natural Gas in America, 1800-2000*, 1999


Dorothy L. Corrigan. *Deer’s Ear, Eagle Song and Bear’s Grace*, 1999


Dana Ferris. *Teaching ESL Composition*, 1998

Sheryl Fontaine and Cherri Smith. *Shinkoff for College Writers*, 1999


Raymond Haring. *Shattering Myths and Mysterious*, 1999; *Smallest Things Make the Biggest*, 1999


Jeffrey Lichtig. *Intercultural Competence*, 3rd edition, 1999

Mary Mackey. *Fires of Spring*, 1999


Joseph Pratt. *Builders*, 1999

Arlene Prigoff. *Community Health Education Readings and Resources*, 1998

Patricia Roberts. *Literature Based Historical Activities*, 1998


Charles Varano. *Focused Choices*, 1999


Sherifa Zubair. *Images of Enchant-
Ongoing

“The Who Holds the Mirror?” breast cancer awareness mural, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Multi-Cultural Center, library.

“Untold Atrocities: World War II in China,” photographic exhibit and series of events examining the war, continues on March 14 with a panel discussion on state-sponsored killings at 1:30 p.m. in the University Union Forest Reading Room.

The exhibit is open in the University Library’s South Reading Room through April 2 and open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends.

Erich Lewy, a UC Davis professor, will speak on the bio-ethics of human experimentation at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 12 in the University Library’s South Reading Room, and again at noon, Thursday, March 16 in the University Union Foothill Suite. Faith Fitzgerald, associate dean of the UC Davis Medical School, will speak on human experimentation at noon, Monday, March 27 in the University Union Auditorium.

Three different films will be shown in Library 1533. “In the Name of the Emperor” will be shown at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 19 and “Rape of Nanking” will be shown at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 26.

Thursday, March 16

“Paintings: Experiments in Form, Shape and Texture,” Mary Cole, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday and from 5 - 8 p.m., Wednes-
day and Thursday. University Union Exhibit Lounge. Continue to March 31. Reception 6 - 8 p.m., March 16.


Visiting scholar speaker, Scott Carns, poet and artist, 4 p.m., University Union Hinde Auditorium.

Tuesday, March 14

CSUS Symphony Orchestra, first concert of the year, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $5/3 students and seniors. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS.

“Don’t Get Caught in the Web,” 10 a.m. - noon, drop-in workshop, Library Instruction Lab. Library 2024.

“Flower Art,” Lillian McIntyre, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Multi-Cultural Center, library. Continues to March 31.

“Optimization Techniques for Ground Water Supply Management and Plume Containment at a California EPA Site,” Rob Gadek, SSECOR International, geology spring colloquium, 4 - 5 p.m., Mendocino Hall 1015. Reception to follow, Place Hall Commons Room.

“Privacy Matters – But Not That Much,” political theory forum, 7:30 p.m, 1179 1st Ave. Details: 278-7443 or 466-2998.

“Three Step Approach to Breast Health/Cancer Survivor Panel,” Women’s History Month, noon, Multi-Cultural Center.

“Untold Atrocities: World War II in China,” panel discussion on state-sponsored killings, with Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the Museum of Tolerance, Los Angeles, and psychiatrist Albert Glous, and CSUS professors: Shuto Hayashigatani, ethnic studies, Tom Kado, sociology and Tony Platt, social work 1:30 p.m., University Union Forest Suite.

Wednesday, March 15

“Problems Inherent to All Statewide Social Policy in California,” Jim Meyer, director California Little Hoover Commission, public policy spring colloquium, 4 - 5:30 p.m., Amador Hall 261.

Thursday, March 16

Binge Drinking: From Understanding to Action, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition, University of South Carolina, 2000 Teleconference Series, to be aired live via satellite, multimedia theatre, library 1 (lower level west wing of the library).

Department chair assessment workshop, 9 a.m. - noon, with lunch to follow, University Union Orchard Suite. RSVP by March 13 to Pat Reberth in Academic Affairs at 278-5933.

The America Play, Playwrights Theatre, Shasta Hall, 8 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. 2 p.m., Sunday. $10/$7 CSUS students/students (10 or more) Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS. Continues to March 19.

“Untold Atrocities: World War II in China,” photo exhibit, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Multi-Cultural Center, library.

“The America Play, Shasta Hall, 8 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. 2 p.m., Sunday. $10/$7 CSUS students/students (10 or more) Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS. Continues to March 19.

Sacramento State Special Olympics Basketball Tournament, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Yosemite Hall, 100 and 171. Continues March 19.

The America Play, Playwrights Theatre, Shasta Hall, 8 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. 2 p.m., Sunday. $10/$7 CSUS students/students (10 or more) Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS. Continues to March 19.

Saturday, March 19

Piano Series recital. Stephen Putsman, 7:30 p.m. Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $30 1/2 students and seniors. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS.

Sacramento State Special Olympics Basketball Tournament, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Yosemite Hall, 100 and 171. Continues March 19.

The America Play, 2 p.m., Playwrights Theatre, Shasta Hall, 8 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. 2 p.m., Sunday. $10/$7 CSUS students/students (10 or more) Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS. Continues to March 19.

Tuesday, March 21

CSUS Saxophone Quartet, Jack Footiere, director, 8 p.m., Multi-Cultural Center, library.

Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS.