New, Improved Union Bustling with Activity

The new and improved University Union has grown into a major venue for campus and community events.

Since additions were completed in 1998, the 183,000-square-foot building has hosted a range of affairs, from Spanish literature conferences to visits by presidential candidates.

And the potential for hosting even more events grows with the adjacent, newly named Joe Serna Jr. Plaza, and an upcoming facility of the Union’s popular Redwood Room.

“The Union’s variety of venues means we can host many, many different groups and events,” says Don Tucker, assistant director of operations in the Union.

Last fall more than 3,200 events took place in the Union. Of that, 1,970 were held by student organizations and nearly 900 were held by University departments.

Union officials give booking priority to student organizations and then to CSUS departments, but officials also open the Union’s doors to community organizations. The facility is funded primarily by student fees, as well as generated revenue and support from the University.

The Union is home to well over 100 rooms, including the large University Ballroom. With the capacity to seat 1,500 people for lectures and 900 for banquets, the ballroom was a stop for presidential candidates Alan Keyes and Sen. John McCain early in the spring. A dinner to honor Sen. Robert Matsui was held in the Union last fall.

The popular band Fastball and a movie screening of the film The Blair Witch Project also took place in the Ballroom. Another popular venue is the Union’s intimate Hinde Auditorium. It has the atmosphere of a “little theater” with its sloped floor and fixed seating.

“It’s a great room for music because the acoustics are crystal clear,” says Tucker. The auditorium can also accommodate film and slide viewings as well as lectures and meetings.

Efforts have been made to make much of the Union’s new space a comfortable place to unwind.

“We try to make things as much like home as possible for students,” says Tucker. “We have upholstered furniture, carpeted floors, background music and televisions. It’s more relaxed than what students would get in an academic environment on campus, like classrooms or in the library.”

Students can choose to nap or lounge in the second floor’s open area or in the Fireplace Lounge, where a variety of environmentally themed music is played throughout the day and evening hours. The lounge has built-in, step-style seating areas. It is located on the second floor near the Student Union’s offices and the Union’s listening room, the student radio station KSUS, Peak Adventures and Campus Recreation.

On a typical school day up to 10,000 people use the Union.

One of their destinations has been the University Union Exhibit Lounge. The lounge, which has hosted works by Gregory Kondos and CSUS professor Maria Winkler, is on the second floor. It is currently showing a juried student art show in which art students’ works can be admired and purchased.

Other popular destinations at the campus community and visitors are the Union’s restaurants.

The second and third floors are made up of several offices and 24 meeting rooms. Student Activities offices are on the third floor.

For information about booking an event at the Union call 278-6743.

— Robyn Efertsen

PROMOTING POETRY – CSUS emeritus professor Dennis Schmitz is one of Sacramento’s first two poet laureates, charged with building interest in poetry throughout the Capital Region.

— Courtesy Photo

‘SportsMath’ Helps Kids With Tough Subject

Rita Johnson could hardly have guessed her master’s degree would lead to an in-depth understanding of NBA policies, box scores and marketing. But it did.

Five years ago Johnson needed a thesis topic and she needed one fast. Inspiration came from her middle school-aged son and his friends.

“I was impressed that they could all talk about statistics in the context of basketball games and players, but not in other contexts,” says Johnson, who taught middle school math for 12 years before turning to teacher education.

So she went to work on her idea. The result was SportsMath, a detailed math curriculum for middle school students that uses basketball box scores to teach all types of math lessons. Using current free throw, playing time and other statistics, students learn about percentages, averages, probability, graphing, word problems and much more.

“The whole idea was to have something in addition to the regular curriculum,” Johnson says. “I designed this especially for students who don’t really have their hearts in school, though it is also good reinforcement and practice for all students.”

Now Johnson has a growing hit on her hands.

Since being sponsored by the Sacramento Kings, Hewlett-Packard and Intel in 1996 and 1997, the program has gone national. Four teams picked it up this year – the Dallas Mavericks, the Golden State Warriors, the Los Angeles Lakers and the New York Knicks.

— Courtesy Photo

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Scholarship

ELAINE O'BRIEN, art, presented a lecture, “Mélissine After the Cry: The Art of Julia Couzens,” at the annual conference of the British Association of Art Historians April 4-9 in Edinburgh, Scotland. O’Brien’s paper put Couzens’ work in the context of contemporary art which inverts the premises of the fin de siecle decadent femme fatale.

CANDACE GOLDWORTHY, speech pathology and audiology, gave an update on phonological training and speech language pathology at an all-day workshop for the Mt. Diablo Union School District. She also presented “New Advances in Phonological Awareness Training” at a meeting of the California Speech Hearing Association.

HEATHER CARLING-SMITH, physical therapy, hosted the American Physical Therapy Association’s clinical instructor education and credentialing program in March.

ANTHONY SHEPPARD, recreation and leisure studies, spoke on “The Goldilocks Approach to Technology: Too Much, Too Little, Just Right” at the campus symposium on University teaching Feb. 26. He also conducted a session on a Teacher vs. A Teacher or a Computer: A Simple Two-Page Approach to a Distance Without Being Distant” at the Convention/Expo VIII at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

ERNEST UWAZIE, criminal justice, presented “Examining the Prospects of Judicial Reform in Ghana, West Africa” at the Academy of Criminal Justice Meeting in March. He was also involved in a roundtable discussion on “Organized Crime, Terrorism and Drug Trafficking in Africa: European and American Connection.”

ROB WASSMER, public policy and administration, had his co-authored book, Bidding for Business: The Efficacy of Local Economic Development Incentives in a Metropolitan Area, published by the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. On April 13, Wassmer talked about the book at the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank. In early May, he will do the same at UC Irvine.

MATT MCCORMICK, philosophy, published a paper in the spring issue of Philosophy titled “Why God Can’T Think: A Kantian Argument for the Incompatibility of God’s Omnipotence and Omniscience.”

CRAIG A. KELLEY, management, presented two papers, “A Comment on Third Party Certification of Business Programs and ‘Vaguely’ Right Way to Teach a Personal Selling Course,” at the 2000 Western Marketing Educator’s Conference.

MACKY ABEL, English, had her novel, The Fire of Spring published in a Swedish translation by Prisma Press in Stockholm under the title Varelär. CHERYL OSBORN, nursing and gerontology, presented a workshop on “Facing Change and Finding Meaning: Using Experiential Learning Strategies in Exploring Aging and Caring” at the American Society of Aging 46th Annual Conference in San Diego. She also presented “Timely Dose of Stress” at the UC Davis Center for Aging and Health lecture series “Coming of Age.”

JANICE GAGGERO, social work, presented “Integrating Group Psychotherapy with Self Psychology and Intersubjectivity” at the California Society for Clinical Social Work in Los Angeles last semester. She also presented “Issues and Ethics in Clinical Supervision” to the Butter/Glen/Challenor of the National Association of Social Workers in Chico April 6.

BILLY KUTZER, kinesiology and health science, conducted a strength clinic for coaches at Cabrillo Junior College in Santa Cruz April 6.

LARRY BOIES, speech pathology and audiology, will participate in a weeklong counseling workshop at Emerson College in Boston in August. The workshop will focus on helping colleagues with innovative methods of teaching for counseling speech language pathologists and audiologists.

Several speech pathology and audiology faculty gave presentations at the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education Recreation and Dance annual conference in Orlando.

ROBIN RULE, presented on staff development and, with Debby Vigil, “Teaching Movement Skills to Children.”

LOUISE ELFENBAUM presented “Quality Professional Development: Key Concepts and Models” and “Creating and Using Technology Programs in Instruction.”

PAMELA MCLINTICH presented “Teaching Speaking in Higher Education.” And SCOTT MORELL presented “Balance of Life: Strategies for Enhancing Balance for students with Neuromotor Dysfunction.”

LAUREN O’HALLORAN, speech pathology and audiology, presented on “Word Retrieval Processes In Older Adults: Distinguishing Phonological Transmission Processes and Memory Deficits” at the Cognitive Aging Conference 2000 in Atlanta April 27-30.

LINDY VALDRIN, kinesiology and health science, presented “An Overview of the California Physical Education Framework and Standards” at the California Arts Project Leadership Academy at Mills College. He also presented two sessions, “Avoiding Teacher Burnout: Renewing the Spirit, Rekindling the Fire” and “Education for the First Year Teacher,” at the California Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance conference.

SUSAN MCGINTY, physical therapy, had her article “Case-Meet-Teaching: An Overview of the Pedagogy and Rationale for Its Use in Physical Therapy Education” published in the spring 2000 issue of the Journal of Physical Therapy Education.

CAROL MAYER, speech pathology and audiology, presented “What in the World Is Auditory Integration Training?” and moderated “Recognizing Continued on page 3

Residence Halls Get High-Speed Connections

During the last school year, students living in the residence halls were connected to ResLink, a new infrastructure of network wiring and hardware. The $2 million communication system provides each resident with a high-speed computer network data-line and telephone. The data system provides direct access for each student to the networked computing resources at CSUS and the Internet.

With ResLink, downloading and uploading files is significantly faster. The ResLink system has numerous other advantages.

Students have direct access to campus computing resources such as e-mail, SacLink accounts, online courses and the CSUS library. They are not limited by computer lab hours. Director of Housing and Residential Life, Cynthia Cockrell said, “The new system is very fast, so it saves students valuable time when they are studying. Plus, it is free to students living in the residence halls as long as they have their own computers.”

Andrew Singletary, a business major, loves the new system. He said, “Because all the computers are connected to one network, we can all share files, study together from different rooms, or even play games together. One day we had about 15 people at 15 separate computers interacting.”

The ResLink system also provides residents with a new telephone service. The system gives each resident his or her own telephone number and authorizations for making local and long distance calls.

Features and benefits of the new system include: room to room calls, room to room calls, voice mail, call waiting, call forwarding, call transfer and conference calls. Residence Hall telephone numbers are now on the campus system, which means residents can be reached by dialing their five-digit extension from any phone on campus within the system.

—Lisa Haley
Com Studies Offers New ‘Digital Media’ Option

Communication studies students will soon have a chance to focus on the latest advances of the information age, with a new degree concentration in digital media. The specialized courses begin in the fall.

“We are very excited,” says department chair Val Smith. “With the addition of this concentration, the communication studies department is on the cusp of the future of communication.”

The plan is so popular that the department has already received support from Play, a Rancho Cordova high tech company. Play, founded in 1994 by computer and video industry pioneers with the goal of melding high-end video and graphics, has donated $70,000 of equipment to support the degree program.

Smith says there are booming opportunities in the digital and multimedia industry. The new concentration will give students the background they need to work for multimedia and digital companies such as Industrial Light and Magic, and Play.

During their first semester, students will take four core courses that include a survey of communication studies, graphics or media aesthetics, introduction to digital media, and writing for interactive media. From there, students branch out into one of two disciplines — digital video or multimedia.

Students who take the multimedia option will be prepared to work, for example, in media authoring. Digital media courses will teach students how to produce video for the Internet, CD-ROMs, DVDs and corporate network computer training programs.

While the concentration is focused on communications skills, there are opportunities for students to enrich their artistic abilities. Smith says students will be encouraged to take courses in graphic design.

Students who complete the concentration will be able to take with them at least three professional pieces as they enter the job market — an individual project, a group project and a project proposal.

The program was designed with the community in mind. Consultation with area professionals, as well as communication professors and teachers in other colleges, was part of the planning process.

Smith says the new concentration is a must in today’s communication market.

“It would be a very big mistake in my mind to limit the field of communication to oral communication and the more traditional liberal arts. If we did that we’d be left behind,” Smith says.

— Robyn Effertsen

Scholarship

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Students and faculty members are invited to submit articles for consideration in the upcoming volume of the CSUS Bulletin. Articles are welcome on any topic related to the university community, with the one exception that there will be no announcements of events. Articles should be 1,000 words or less and are due by the end of May.

News Digest

Study Abroad Students

A reception to honor the CSUS students selected to study abroad for the 2000-01 academic year will be 3 to 5 p.m., Friday, May 19 in the Univer- sity Union Foothill Suite. The campus community is invited and study abroad alumni are encouraged to attend and share their experiences with the newly selected participants.

RSVP to International Programs at 278-6686.

Picnic Time is Coming

The University Staff Assembly will hold its 10th Annual Staff Picnic on Friday, June 2 on the Main Quad. This year’s event will feature entertainment by staff, faculty and friends. Tickets are $4 per person and are available from the USA representative for your unit. A list of representatives can be found at www.csus.edu/usa.

Details: Suzy Lubin, 278-5068.

Faculty Senate Election

In a May 3 Faculty Senate election, Tom Krabacher, geography, was elected to represent CSUS on the Statewide Academic Senate for 2000-03.

Event Looks at Adoption

International adoption is the theme for the films “Good Fortune: Families with Chinese Children Share Their Stories” and “Please Don’t Forget Me: A Look Inside Orphanages” to be shown at 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 19 in the University Theater in Shasta Hall. The films is not recommended for younger children.

The program will focus on the cultural and social underpinnings of China’s current adoption policies. A tax-deductible $5 to $10 donation is suggested. Details: 927-6518.

Bulletin Board

There will be a Jo Ann Bull Memorial Scholarship presentation and reception at 5 p.m., Monday, May 15 in Sequoia Hall 105.

The division of nursing is hosting a reception in recognition of the retirement of Mollity Bohnen from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Friday, May 19 in Al Durado Hall. In lieu of gifts, donations may be made to the Nursing Resource Center.

There will be a retirement party for Ed Christenson, professor of management information systems, from 3 to 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 24 in the University Union California Suite. Christenson has worked for CSUS for 32 years. To RSVP contact Gwen Anderson at 278-6536.

Kim Harrington and her family send their appreciation to members of the campus community who supported them during their difficult time.
Ongoing  
Juried student art show, 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday and 5 - 8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, University Union Exhibit Lounge. Continues to May 25.

Monday, May 15  
Jo Ann Bull Memorial Scholarship Award reception, 5 p.m., Squeisa Hall 105.

Tuesday, May 16  
Celebrating Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship, reception, 4 - 5:30 p.m., University Union Ballroom.

CSUS Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. 6058 students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4232, or at BASS.

Senior geology thesis presentation, geology spring colloquium, 4 - 5 p.m., Mondello Hall 1015. Reception to follow, Plaza Commons Room.

"Parties, Voters and Political Reform in Latin America," Nancy Lapp, government, political science spring colloquium, 4 - 5:30 p.m., University Union Lobby Suite.

Wednesday, May 17  
CSUS Symphony Wind Ensemble and CSUS Concert Band, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. 6058 students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4232, or at BASS.

CSUS Friends of the Library, annual meeting, Shirley Ann Wilson Moore, history, author of To Place Our Deeds: The African American Community in Richmond, 3 p.m., University Union Lobby Suite.

CSUS Renaissance Society Scholarship Award presentation, 3 p.m., Mondello Hall 1005.

Friday, May 19  
Good Fortune, a film by Corby Merrin, San Francisco Bay Area Families with Children From China. 7 p.m., reception, 7:30 p.m. program, University Union Lobby Suite.

Reception for CSUS students studying abroad, 3 - 5 p.m., University Union Lobby Suite. RSVP to International Programs at 278-6686.

Saturday, May 20  
Aired Force Day Choir Concert, CSUS Chamber Choir, CSUS Concert Choir and University Chorus. Donald Kendrick, conductor, 8 p.m., St. Ignatius Church, 3235 Avenue Way, $10/5 students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4232, or at BASS.

California State Wrestling Championships at California Senior Games 2000 Olympic Weightlifting Open, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Solano Hall weightroom, room 1020. Details: Bill Kutzer, 278-6298.

Friday, May 26  
College of Education commencement, 1 p.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 12:30 p.m.

College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies commencement, 5 p.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

College of Engineering and Computer Science commencement, 8 a.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 27  
College of Health and Human Services commencement, 8 a.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 7:30 a.m.

College of Business Administration commencement, 12 p.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.

College of Arts and Letters commencement, 4 p.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 3:15 p.m.

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics commencement, 7:30 p.m., Arco Arena. Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Friday, June 2  
Sports and Talent Show, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Main Quad. 54 RSVP to University Staff Assembly representative.

Saturday, June 3  
Sacramento Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Fun Run and Walk, 8:30 a.m. - noon, intramural fields behind Yosemitie Hall.

Monday, June 19  
Workshop on Conflict Resolution, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., negotiation and mediation techniques, place to be announced. Details: 278-6822.

Tuesday, July 4  
Fourth of July Holiday. Campus closed.

Friday, July 14  
Opening Day 2000 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Track and Field, events include 300-meter men’s and women’s qualifying heats, 100/200 long jump, heptathlon and 10,000-meter run, beginning at 4 p.m., Hornet Stadium. For tickets call (916) 278-4323, or visit www.sacsports.com.

Saturday, July 15  
2000 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Track and Field, events include men’s 400, men’s and women’s 1,500 and women’s triple jump finals, beginning at 11 a.m., Hornet Stadium. For tickets call (916) 278-4323, or visit www.sacsports.com.

Monday, July 17  
2000 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Track and Field, events include men’s pole vault and men’s and women’s 400, beginning at 6 p.m., Hornet Stadium. For tickets call (916) 278-4323, or visit www.sacsports.com.

Hammer Throw," Kenneth Norlot, UC Davis throwing coach, CSUS Olympic Showcase, lecture, 1 p.m., University Union Hinde Auditorium. (916) 278-6156.

Thursday, July 20  
2000 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Track and Field, events include decathlon and men’s 3,000-meter steeplechase, beginning at 4 p.m., Hornet Stadium. For tickets call 1-877-873-9690, or visit www.sacsports.com.