

## THIS WEEK

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**RUFF WORK**--The Library went to the dogs last week as more than a dozen aspiring guide dogs and trainers from the Gold Rush branch of Guide Dogs for the Blind used the facility to brush up on essential socialization and navigation skills.

### Center puts focus to student-athlete success

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[Full Story](#)

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[Full Story](#)

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The broad experience and expertise of Sacramento State's researchers and scholars could play an even more pivotal role in public policy discussions in California through the work of the University's Applied Research Center, says Robert Fountain, research director of the center and professor emeritus of real estate and land use affairs.

[Full Story](#)

### Aquatic Center to dedicate Founders' Grove

As part of its 25th anniversary, Sacramento State's Aquatic Center on Lake Natoma will hold its Founders' Grove dedication and picnic at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 6. The event is free and open to the public.

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#### Alumni Month Profile: Ann Albright

Ann Albright (Physical Education '87)—a dietitian, exercise physiologist, researcher, professor and a state health administrator—has dedicated her life to battling diabetes. And she recently took that fight to the nation's capital.

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### Bulletin Staff



The Bulletin is distributed on Mondays of the academic year. Campus news may be submitted by e-mail to [bulletin@csus.edu](mailto:bulletin@csus.edu). Deadline for all materials is 10 a.m. on the Wednesday before publication. For more information call (916) 278-6156.

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### "Under a Western Sky" tells tale of violence, betrayal, pain

Five actors play the roles of 19 different characters in the true story of a Mexican American community cast into the national spotlight following a gang rape in the production of Under a Western Sky, opening at 8 p.m. Friday, April 28 at Sacramento State in the Playwrights' Theatre in Shasta Hall.

[Full Story](#)

### Events Calendar

## ATHLETICS

### Women's Golf takes third in conference championship

The Sacramento State women's golf team shot a tournament low 295 in the third and final round of the Big Sky Conference Championships to finish in third place. The score is the second best in school history.

[Full Story](#)

### Hornet Sports

## Center puts focus on student-athlete success

Increasing student-athletes' ability to succeed in and out of the classroom is the goal of a "new" center in Student Services. The Student-Athlete Resource Center brings together three existing programs for student-athlete support under one umbrella to better serve the students, the faculty and the athletics staff.

The departments—Compliance and Athlete Financial Services, Athletic Academic Services, and Life Skills and Student-Athlete Development—have always worked together, says Vice President for Student Affairs Lori Varlotta, but Compliance and Life Skills used to be under Athletics. Athletic Advising has always been a part of Student Affairs.

"The new setup will augment that relationship into seamless academic support for student athletes," she says.

One of the goals of the center, under the direction of long-time student-athlete advisor Paul Edwards, is to raise the visibility of services offered to student athletes, making the services more coherent and cohesive, Varlotta says. And while the primary aim is to provide services to student-athletes it will serve the coaching staff and faculty as well. Varlotta notes that while most faculty are familiar with athletic advising, they aren't as aware of the other options available.

Compliance and Athletic Financial Aid verifies that student-athletes are in compliance with NCAA regulations for eligibility. It also tracks the all-important scholarships that student-athletes receive.

Life Skills and Student-Athlete Development deals with transition issues and decision-making outside the academic areas, such as time management and being responsible representatives of the University. Among the areas involved are freshman seminar courses and academic support such as study groups and other resources.

And Athletic Academic Services differs from advising for non-athletes in that it takes into account the needs of student-athletes such as NCAA eligibility rules advising, graduation requirements and travel schedules. "Scheduling is crucial," Varlotta says. "It's part of the strategic decision process and enables the student-athlete to thrive in both arenas."

In addition to services, the center also has a physical presence in Lassen Hall. Along with places to meet with advisors, there are rooms for studying and a computer lab. And students are taking advantage of the opportunity, with entire teams stopping in before and after practices and in between classes.

All the pieces add up to a new and improved operation, says David Raske, a professor in the College of Education and faculty athletic representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, of which the University is a member. Among the benefits of moving compliance from under the purview of Intercollegiate Athletics is the removal of any perception of conflict of interest. "I have never seen it," Raske says, "but this removes the potential for it. The move clearly aligns the program with academics."

And while the center's creation is not related to the NCAA's recent Academic Performance Rate findings, it is expected to help the University pursue its efforts to increase retention rates for students, particularly student-athletes. Varlotta says that retention rates are not as "doom and gloom" as the Academic Performance Rate suggests, but it shows the University has strides to make. "I believe the structure will allow us to better collect, manage and distribute data on progress toward degree," she says.

"We see the unit providing support for retention programs for students from the beginning of their academic career until the completion of a degree," Raske adds.

The center also offers more opportunities for faculty and staff to bridge the relationship with athletes and coaches, Raske says, an effort that is already paying off. He notes that as a result of a meeting between Athlete Resource Center personnel and faculty members from the Learning Skills Center, faculty from Learning Skills are able to get more involved early on with students who might need help.

"In past, academic progress reports were sent at mid-semester. The faculty told us that is too late," Raske says. Out of the discussion came an "early alert" system to involve the staff in the support center, and to contact the student and the coach. Raske says the early alert could soon be used in English and math courses as well.

Varlotta says the Student-Athlete Resource Center has already developed new vision and mission statements and is working on an assessment plan, highlighting learning outcomes for students. There are also monthly meetings with key staff in admissions and financial aid.

## **Big-time track and field returns to campus**

For the third time in four years, Sacramento State will play host to the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships. The 2006 event will be held June 7-10 at the A.G. Spanos Sports Complex.

The U.S. collegiate system is without equal in terms of developing talent. In the 200- and 400-meter dashes last June, Wallace Spearmon and Tyson Gay of Arkansas, and Darold Williamson of Baylor took turns running the fastest times in the world.

Three collegiate records were set within the span of 2½ hours on the final day of competition, including a new NCAA record by LSU in the men's 4 x 400 relay. Olympic talent and furious team competition combine to make the NCAA meet unique in the world of track.

The NCAA track and field committee broke with tradition in awarding the 2005, 2006 and 2007 collegiate track championships to Sacramento. The NCAA meet hadn't been held at the same site in successive years since Marquette University in Milwaukee played host to the 1944-45 championships.

Tickets for the 2006 Championships are now on sale. Four-day packages begin at \$55 for general admission and cost \$70 for reserved seats. For tickets, call (916) 566-6560. Additional information is available at [www.hornetsports.com](http://www.hornetsports.com).

— *Sports Information*

## **Program to call on faculty expertise**

The broad experience and expertise of Sacramento State's researchers and scholars could play an even more pivotal role in public policy discussions in California through the work of the University's Applied Research Center, says Robert Fountain, research director of the center and professor emeritus of real estate and land use affairs.

"By using a multi-disciplinary approach among our faculty, we will have the ability to do research that could have substantial impact on policy decisions throughout the state," said Fountain, who has taught and conducted research on economic trends for more than 25 years.

The center, which is housed in the College of Continuing Education, was created last fall to provide research services to clients such as California state agencies, local governments and businesses.

Fountain and the center staff recently finished work on a soon-to-be released study for the California Business Roundtable and The Campaign for College Opportunity on educational preparedness for the workforce of tomorrow in California. And several other projects are pending.

"With our location in the state capital, we are close to so many state agencies that need solid research on which to base their decisions. We have the expertise on our faculty to provide that valuable information," said Fountain

The center, which has a staff of researchers, offers an array of research services, Fountain said. For example, the center conducts economic impact studies to gauge the economic benefits of services or activities either locally or statewide. Housing studies can produce a market and pricing analysis. Financial evaluations can predict rates of return for businesses. The center can also use 2000 U.S. Census data to forecast demographic and economic trends.

One of the most important services the center can offer is the knowledge of the faculty, Fountain said. "Faculty are extremely busy with their teaching duties, but they have very valuable research skills. Working with the center, faculty could do research on one part of the study and would not have to be responsible for the entire project," he said.

Over time, the center could evolve to join with other CSU campuses to conduct statewide research projects. "We believe we can offer broad-based research that state agencies, local governments or businesses won't be able to find elsewhere," Fountain said.

For more information about the center, call Fountain at 719-2037.

### **Aquatic Center to dedicate Founders' Grove**

As part of its 25th anniversary, Sacramento State's Aquatic Center on Lake Natoma will hold its Founders' Grove dedication and picnic at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 6. The event is free and open to the public.

The event will pay tribute to some of the founders of the center by honoring Sacramento State faculty and staff including the late Ray Clemons of Intercollegiate Athletics, the late Don Hinde of the University Union, Bruce Drummond of Physical Education, Cary Goulard of Recreation and Leisure Studies and Craig Perez of Advancement. Other honorees include Garth Tanner of the California State Department of Parks and Recreation and Mike Ammon of the California Department of Boating and Waterways.

The event also features a rowing demonstration by members of the Sacramento State football team assisted by members of the Sacramento State men's rowing team.

Those attending the event are encouraged to wear comfortable summer attire for the free boating and water activities that will be available.

Established in 1981, the Aquatic Center provides boating instruction and safety programs for the campus community, alumni and the general public.

For more information about the event, call 278-2842.

### **Symposium to challenge religion, politics and education**

Provocative discussions on allegations of deception in the Bush administration, the rationale behind religion and the question of teachers lying to their students will be features of the Philosophy Department's annual Nammour Symposium on April 25 and 26 at Sacramento State. Two sessions will be held each day from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. in the University Union Hinde Auditorium.

Professors, poets and media experts will examine this year's theme "Beautiful Lies, Terrible Truths" and discuss the ways lies give people a sense of security.

"The speakers will help explain to what extent we find it comforting or useful to believe things we don't have evidence for," said Randolph Mayes, Sacramento State philosophy professor.

The symposium will kick off on Tuesday, April 25 at 10 a.m. with a panel of student essay contest winners who will discuss the theme of this year's event. A discussion about academic integrity and the limit of how far poets can steer from the truth will begin at 1 p.m.

Religion and the logic of believing in something that cannot be seen or heard will be the topic of the 10 a.m. panel on Wednesday, April 26. Widely recognized Sacramento State government professor William Dorman will present a lecture at 1 p.m. on what he views as dishonesty in the White House in his speech "Leading with Lies."

Media relations expert Rebekah Donaldson will conclude the symposium with a talk on some of the less-publicized positive effects corporations have on the mainstream media.

The symposium is named in honor of philosophy Professor Jamil Nammour who taught at Sacramento State from 1969 to 1986. The first symposium was held in the spring of 1979.

For more information contact the Philosophy Department at 278-6424.

— Megan Lloyd-Jones

## **Africa Conference to tackle domestic violence in Sacramento and more**

A roundtable discussing conflicts and domestic violence cases involving African families in the Sacramento area will be a focus of the 15th annual African/Diaspora Conference from April 27 to 29 at the University Union.

The roundtable grew out of a landmark town hall meeting held in November last year on campus where African community organizations and social services agencies discussed mediation and conflict resolution. The purpose of the roundtable discussion is to create a plan to implement recommendations made at the town hall meeting. The discussion will take place at 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 29 in the University Union Redwood Room.

The theme for this year's conference, "Indigenous African Institutions/Systems in an Era of Globalization," will feature panel discussions from experts from across the United States, Nigeria, Kenya, Canada, Denmark and the United Kingdom. The conference is presented by the University's Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution and Pan African Studies Program.

Sacramento State Professor Lila Jacobs will lead a discussion on women, the law and indigenous justice on Thursday, April 27, with experts from institutions like the Center for Development and Empowerment in Kenya, the Women's Aid Collective in Nigeria and several African universities.

The second day of the conference will open with African drumming by Kamau Mensah on Friday, April 28, followed by a keynote address by Professor Chudi Uwazurike from the City University of New York who will discuss the conference theme. Uwazurike holds a doctorate from Harvard University and specializes in the political sociology of comparative development.

Uwazurike is a novelist-playwright whose dramas have been performed in New York and he is a senior fellow at the Institute for Research on the African Diaspora in the Americas and the Caribbean at the City University of New York.

Three concurrent panels on global values and local youth, women's rights and Africa development, and the role of indigenous institutions in peace, democracy and health will follow. African culture and family-building, indigenous conflict management institutions and human rights will be covered in two panels, as well as the roundtable on domestic violence, on Saturday, April 29.

The conference will close with the annual Peace Awards ceremony and dinner at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 29 in the University Union Ballroom. This year's award recipients are Barry Loncke, retired Sacramento Superior Court Judge; Joy Ezeilo, Women's Aid Collective, Nigeria; Isaac Albert, University of Ibadan, Nigeria; and Adam Sterling, Jason Miller and Adam Rosenthal of the UC Sudan Divestment Task Force.

A complete conference schedule is available at [www.csus.edu/org/capcr](http://www.csus.edu/org/capcr).

More information on the conference is available by calling (916) 278-6282.

## Faculty Senate schedule

### Tuesday, April 25

1:30 p.m., Curriculum Subcommittee, Mendocino 4003 – note room change  
3 p.m., Executive Committee, Riverfront Center Del Rio Room – note room change

### Wednesday, April 26

9 a.m., Writing and Reading Subcommittee, University Union Camellia Room  
1 p.m., Faculty Policies Committee, special meeting, Sacramento 150 – note room change  
3 p.m., GE Course Review Subcommittee, Sacramento 150

### Thursday, April 27

2:30 p.m., Senate tutorial, University Union Capital Suite  
3 p.m., Faculty Senate, University Union Foothill Suite

### Friday, April 28

1 p.m., AITC, Sacramento 150

All meetings are in Sacramento Hall 275 unless otherwise noted.

## Professional Activities

### Recognition

**Patricia Sonntag**, Services to Students with Disabilities, has been named special projects coordinator effective March 20. In her new capacity, Sonntag will work with Facilities and Transportation and Parking Services as a resource on ADA, 504 and 508. She has more than 31 years of experience assisting and facilitating access to students with disabilities in higher education.

### Scholarship

**David Gharagozlou**, Economics, has been invited to participate in the UC Economic Historian Group conference "American Exceptionalism Revisited" taking place at UC Riverside May 12 to 14.

**Cindi SturtzSreetharan**, Anthropology, gave a presentation at the annual Association for Asian Studies Conference, held in San Francisco, April 6 to 10. She co-chaired the panel entitled "Logics of Expressivity: Discourses of Desire, Interest and Emotion in Contemporary Japan" and presented an individual paper in the same panel entitled "Regional Rage: Linguistic Expressions of Anger among Japanese (Kansai) Men."

**Tony Platt**, Social Work, recently gave talks about his new book *Bloodlines: Recovering Hitler's Nuremberg Laws, From Patton's Trophy to Public Memorial* at the annual conference of the National Association for Ethnic Studies in San Francisco and the 26th Annual Millersville University Conference on The Holocaust.

## In the News

**Liam Murphy**, Anthropology, was interviewed for an Easter Sunday story "Solving the Colorful Mystery of Easter Eggs" by Gina Kim in *The Sacramento Bee* on April 16.

## News Digest

### Partnerships focus of Education banquet

The College of Education will hold its annual awards banquet "Better Together: A Partnership of Education, Business and Community" on Friday, April 28. The event will start with a reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner and program beginning at 7:15. The event will honor educators of the year, community partners of the year and business partners of the year, along with alumnus of the year Kelvin K. Lee, superintendent of Dry Creek Joint Elementary School District.

Details: 278-3618

### Business banquet planned

The College of Business Administration's Annual Awards Banquet will be from 6 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, May 3 in University Union Ballroom. Master of Ceremonies will be Barbara Hayes, executive director of SACTO. The event will honor Alumnus of the Year Randy Sater, president of Stonebridge Properties, and celebrate outstanding student achievement.

Details: 278-7291 or [rumleyc@csus.edu](mailto:rumleyc@csus.edu).

### Lecture on France events

Olivier Richomme, University of Paris and La Sorbonne Scholar, will speak at noon in the University Union Foothill/Auburn Room on Wednesday, April 26. His lecture is entitled "French Identity Crisis and the 2005 Urban Violence: An International Perspective."

Details: 278-6646

## Campus Announcements

### Sponsored Project newsletter available

The April issue of *Sponsored Projects Funding Alert* is now available. The newsletter is published monthly to alert the campus community to upcoming workshops and possible sources of external support for research, scholarly and creative activities. Both an abbreviated listing and a more detailed version are available at [www.csus.edu/rsp/Funding%20Alert.htm](http://www.csus.edu/rsp/Funding%20Alert.htm).

Additional information about any of the opportunities announced in *Sponsored Projects Funding Alert* can be obtained by clicking on the link above or by contacting the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects at 278-7381.

### Send-off for Linda Clemons

A farewell reception for Linda Clemons will be held from 3-5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2. She has accepted a new appointment as director of financial aid at the University of Hawaii in Manoa. Hawaiian attire is encouraged. Donations for her gift may be made to Jan Applegate in Lassen Hall 1006, campus zip 6044 or Lupe Lopez, Lassen Hall, Room 3008, campus zip 6062 by April 28.

## **Alumni Month Profile: Ann Albright**

Ann Albright (Physical Education '87)—a dietitian, exercise physiologist, researcher, professor and a state health administrator—has dedicated her life to battling diabetes. And she recently took that fight to the nation's capital.

For nearly two years, Albright was the senior health policy fellow for U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona and Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson in the Office of Public Health and Science.

"Together, we were able to get more information out on early detection, raising awareness and helping people not develop the disease," Albright says.

Albright is the chief of California's diabetes program in the Department of Health Services. She took a leave of absence to complete her fellowship, sponsored by the American Diabetes Association.

In Washington, Albright advised Carmona on diabetes-related topics and consulted with him on his speeches and correspondences. Albright also spoke on behalf of then-Secretary Thompson and worked on the office's Diabetes Detection Initiative, developed to help identify those with undiagnosed Type 2 diabetes.

"As senior health policy fellow in the office of the Surgeon General, Dr. Ann Albright became a trusted advisor and friend to me over the course of her tenure," says Dr. Carmona. After her one-year fellowship, Albright was asked to stay and worked an additional eight months in Washington before returning to California in January.

"I think where you are most effective at the national level is to maintain experience at the local level," Albright says. "People who work in these larger arenas need to never forget that action happens at the local level."

More than 18 million people have diabetes in the United States. Of those, more than 5 million do not know they are afflicted. Delays in diagnosis can lead to serious complications such as blindness, amputations, kidney failure, heart attacks and strokes. Such statistics are personal for Albright, who was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when she was nine.

In her 10 years as chief of the California Diabetes Program, Albright has grown the program from a few employees with a \$250,000 budget to a program with a staff of 11 and a \$1 million budget. Her position includes an appointment with the Institute for Health and Aging at UC San Francisco.

Over the years, Albright has also worked as a part-time nutritionist for the Placer County Health Department and a diabetes specialist for UCSF and the Department of Health Services. She has conducted a range of diabetes research projects. At one time she taught courses in exercise physiology and kinesiology at Sac State.

In June, she became one of three national presidents of the American Diabetes Association. She continues to speak across the country about the disease.

### **'Under a Western Sky' tells tale of violence, betrayal, pain**

Five actors play the roles of 19 different characters in the true story of a Mexican American community cast into the national spotlight following a gang rape in the production of *Under a Western Sky*, opening at 8 p.m. Friday, April 28 in the Playwrights' Theatre in Shasta Hall. Performances continue April 28-30 and May 3-7.

Manuel Pickett, professor of theatre and dance, directs the production of acclaimed Latina playwright Amparo Garcia-Crow's memory play that serves as a cautionary tale of violence, betrayal and pain. In the aftermath of an illegal cockfight, a young girl is brutally raped and a Mexican American community in Texas becomes the focus of the country.

Each member of the cast plays multiple roles as the audience hears from the victim, her husband, the sheriff, and an amusing priest along with numerous witnesses to the crime. Characters in the play also include watercolorist Georgia O'Keefe, whose presence in the town creates a focal point of beauty in the midst of violence and danger.

*Under a Western Sky* opens Friday, April 28 at 8 p.m. and continues April 29 at 8 p.m. and April 30 at 2 p.m. Performances resume on May 3 at 6:30 p.m., May 4-6 at 8 p.m., and May 7 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 general, \$12 students, faculty and staff, and \$10 senior citizens and high school students.

For ticket information, call the Sacramento State Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323.