

## THIS WEEK

commencement  
May 19, 2008  
Full Story vol. 14, no. 33



### RITE OF PASSAGE—

Graduating students will gather at Arco Arena May 23-24 for spring commencement.

## Generous offer helps student scoot between job and school

When a student in Sacramento State's Guardian Scholars program suddenly found himself without transportation, and a job pending, he got help from a guardian angel with a set of two wheels.

[Full Story](#)

## Building bonds through research

For one chemistry major on campus, bonds come in all forms, and they're benefiting him in more ways than one.

[Full Story](#)

## Staff picnic set for June

The annual USA Staff Appreciation Picnic will be held from 11:30 a.m.– 1:30 p.m., Friday, June 6, in the Outdoor Theater. Tickets are complimentary to staff and \$10 for non-staff. Children under five are free but must have a ticket. Contact your USA representative for tickets to the event. Visit [www.csus.edu/usa](http://www.csus.edu/usa) for more information.

## President's Fall Address

President Alexander Gonzalez will give his annual fall address to the campus community at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 28, in the University Union Ballroom. The event will begin with coffee at 9 a.m. University staff members who wish to attend should secure the permission of their supervisors.

## Last Bulletin

This is the last edition of the Sacramento State Bulletin for the Spring semester. The first edition for the next academic year will be Monday, August 25. Monday Briefing will continue through the summer.



## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES >>

### PROFILE



## Outstanding University Service Award: Mark Siegler

Economics professor Mark Siegler doesn't have any trouble finding things to do. His interest and involvement in several aspects of Sacramento State have been recognized with an Outstanding University Service Award.

[Full Story](#)

## EVENTS



### Art exhibition

Nan Roe's "The Green Cart" will be on display as part of the Alumni Association's Art Chapter Annual Membership juried art show in the Robert Else Gallery June 2-26. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. A reception will be held from 5 to 8

## MORE CAMPUS NEWS

[Japanese tea ceremony planned at Sacramento State](#)

[Big brass heads to Sac State for tuba festival](#)

[Football Hall of Fame Induction](#)

[Faculty Senate](#)

[Professional Activities](#)

[Monday Briefing](#)



### Vanpooling

Vanpooling is a great alternative commute mode. If you are interested in commuting to campus via a vanpool, please call Maryam Amiri at Enterprise Rideshare, (916) 480-4961. Additionally, information about CNG vans is available by calling the Department of General Services at (916) 327-1078.

For vanpool lists, please visit [www.sacramento-tma.org](http://www.sacramento-tma.org) or call (916) 441-7074. You may also contact Noel Carolipio, Employee Transportation Coordinator, at

[ncarolip@saclink.csus.edu](mailto:ncarolip@saclink.csus.edu) or extension 87527.

## 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 278-6156.

Vice President,  
University Advancement  
Carole Hayashino

Writers  
Carolyn Filomeo  
Laurie Hall  
Craig Koscho  
Gloria Moraga  
Kim Nava  
Mike Ward

Electronic Communications  
Mark Konrad

Photographer  
Mary Weikert

California State University, Sacramento • Public Affairs  
6000 J Street • Sacramento, CA 95819-6026 • (916) 278-6156 • [infodesk@csus.edu](mailto:infodesk@csus.edu)

p.m., Friday, June 6 in the gallery.

## [Campus Calendar of Events](#)

### ATHLETICS

#### Tellez becomes third member of the 2008-09 men's soccer recruiting class

Sacramento State men's soccer coach Michael Linenberger announced the third student-athlete signee of the team's 2008-09 recruiting class, 6'1" forward Matthew Tellez from Canyon Country, Calif. He will enroll at the University as a freshman in the fall.

[Full Story](#)

#### [This Week in Hornet Action](#)

#### [Hornet Sports Home](#)

## Campus ready for spring commencement

For some, it will seem like the culmination of four short years and for others, the end of a long journey as almost 5,000 University students prepare to graduate on May 23 and 24.

The seven colleges on campus will graduate 4,812 candidates. The largest class is from the College of Health and Human Services, with 967 students. Of the 4,812 graduating students, 801 will receive a master's degree.

Each of the colleges will hold a commencement ceremony on either May 23 or 24 at Arco Arena. The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics will be the first with a ceremony at noon, Friday, May 23. That will be followed by the College of Arts and Letters at 3 p.m. and the College of Business Administration at 6 p.m.

Ceremonies begin at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, May 24 with the College of Health and Human Services, followed by the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies at 11:30 a.m., the College of Engineering and Computer Science at 2:30 p.m., and the College of Education at 5 p.m.

At commencement ceremonies, University President Alexander Gonzalez will present the President's Award to the top graduate. He will also present the President's Medal for Distinguished Service to former Hornet football coach and current development consultant Bob Mattos. The award is not given every year, but rather at the President's discretion.

"For more than 45 years, dating back to when he was a student here, Coach Mattos has been the epitome of Hornet pride," says President Gonzalez. "On and off the field he has been a tremendous supporter of the University, its programs and its student athletes. It will be a great pleasure and a personal honor to present this award to 'Coach.'"

Each college will also present its Dean's Award. Recipients are: Jesse West Manton, College of Business Administration; Stacie Hiratsuka, College of Engineering and Computer Science; Jason Cooper, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Charles Stuthard, College of Arts and Letters; Sarah Sanderson, College of Health and Human Services; Daniel Sanchez, College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies; and Aurora Murillo, College of Education.

This year's class, including the 3,604 students who graduated in the winter, totals 8,416. Sacramento State has an annual enrollment of about 28,500 students.

### **The graduation breakdown by college:**

Arts and Letters: 809

Business Administration: 797

Education: 854

Engineering and Computer Science: 262

Health and Human Services: 967

Natural Sciences and Mathematics: 227

Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies: 867

Special Majors: 29

For more information on commencement, call the commencement office at 278-4724 or visit [www.csus.edu/commence](http://www.csus.edu/commence).

## **Generous offer helps student scoot between job and school**

When a student in Sacramento State's Guardian Scholars program suddenly found himself without transportation and a job pending, he got help from a guardian angel with a set of two wheels.

Freshman Michael Contreras, who lives in the residence halls, was driving a 1990 Chevy Silverado pickup when it was totaled in an accident, leaving him without a way to get around town. Little did he know that West Sacramento resident Russell Smith had already contacted the University with an offer that would help put Contreras back in the flow of traffic.

Smith had bought a 2006 Yamaha Vino motor scooter from a friend who had it only a short time, putting just 113 miles on the vehicle.

Smith took it off his friend's hands with the intent of giving it to some young person in need of transportation and contacted Sacramento State. Although Sacramento State does not accept gifts of vehicles on behalf of students, director of development operations Fran Baxter-Guigli and stewardship officer Craig Perez felt it was reasonable to do a little checking around for a student who might fit Smith's criteria.

They brought the matter to officials with Guardian Scholars, the program that helps former foster children through college, and they knew just who needed it most.

"Losing his truck was devastating for Michael," says Guardian Scholars director Joy Salvetti. And Smith's offer came in the nick of time. "The day we told Michael about the scooter, he found out he was hired," Salvetti says.

Contreras works at the Department of General Services in Natomas, so some type of transportation was needed for him to get back and forth. "It was a real nice gesture," Contreras says of Smith's gift to him.

Too many young people are held back from getting a college education, Smith says, and he wanted to change that. "All you have to do is help one kid out and then all the generations after that are helped out," he says.

And, with gas costing more than \$4 a gallon, it doesn't hurt that the scooter gets about 80 miles to the gallon. "It's perfect," Contreras says.

For more information on Guardian Scholars, call 278-2603, or visit [www.csus.edu/gc](http://www.csus.edu/gc).

## Building bonds through research

For one chemistry major on campus, bonds come in all forms, and they're benefiting him in more ways than one.

Michael Skidmore works in one of professor Kathie McReynolds' student research teams outside of his normal class work. The group designs molecular decoys that are capable of binding to viruses, like West Nile or HIV, to prevent them from binding to, and infecting host cells. But while he's busy binding molecules, it's his research that is connecting him to opportunities outside of the classroom.

Skidmore was one of 543 people at the State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) Symposium in January at the Oakland Marriott City Center. The event included CSU science and engineering faculty and students, as well as government and science industry professionals for a series of lectures, presentations and a poster session where students presented their research.

Skidmore won a \$3,000 Howell-CSUPERB Scholars Award for his research and presentation.

"It was, in a way, humbling," Skidmore says. "I think even if I had just been nominated and didn't win, it would have still been great. It's just a good opportunity."

For chemistry majors the degree is important, but the hands-on lab experience is the icing on the cake, says McReynolds. "It's critical for students to go on, to go to graduate school or get that first job, and the industry is interested in whether that student has research experience outside of the classroom."

Skidmore, who will graduate in May, has worked with McReynolds for the past year and a half on the student research team. McReynolds provided the opportunity for students after receiving a \$27,000 joint venture grant funded in part by CSUPERB.

"These students are highly trained in research—not everyone does it as it's not required for graduating," McReynolds says. "But I don't want my students waiting tables in the summer when they could be doing research to help themselves prepare."

In addition to winning the Howell-CSUPERB Scholars Award, Skidmore also competed in the local CSU Student Research Competition and the state-wide CSU Student Research Competition. He will present his research again in July at a luncheon with the Howell scholarship sponsors.

"I'm prepared for it. I'll wear the suit and tie. I feel if people are going to contribute to research, it's the least I can do to present what I've been doing to the sponsors."

## **Last *Bulletin***

This is the last edition of the *Sacramento State Bulletin* for the Spring semester. The first edition for the next academic year will be Monday, August 25. Monday Briefing will continue through the summer.

Monday Briefing is a way for campus units to communicate items related to the campus and campus-related activities. These items can range from policy announcements from the President's Cabinet, to reminders about vacation use to retirement parties. The basic requirement is that the announcement should be of interest to a broad number of faculty and staff members.

---

Items for Monday Briefing may be submitted by visiting [www.csus.edu/bulletin/mondaybriefingsubmit.htm](http://www.csus.edu/bulletin/mondaybriefingsubmit.htm).

The deadline is noon the Thursday before Monday publication. All submissions are subject to editing for style and space. More information is available at 278-6156.

## **Japanese tea ceremony planned at Sacramento State**

The next tea ceremonies for Sacramento State's Sokiku Nakatani Tea Room and Garden are 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 21, and 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Thursday, May 22.

The Sokiku Nakatani Tea Room and Garden is located on the lower level of the University Library.

Sacramento State is one of only a few campuses in the United States to have a tea room that allows students, faculty and members of the community the opportunity to experience the art of tea through traditional Japanese tea ceremonies. The Sokiku Nakatani Tea Room and Garden was made possible by a gift from an anonymous donor in honor of his mother.

"The practice of tea originated in China, was introduced to Japan in the 12th century by Zen monks and became a spiritual and aesthetic discipline that has had a profound impact on Japanese civilization," says Sally Hitchcock, University Library outreach coordinator.

Hitchcock says tea was used by the monks as a mild stimulant for clearing the mind during meditation and was valued for its medicinal qualities, then enjoyed by nobility for lavish functions. Eventually tea gatherings became common among all classes of people and thus, the creation of tea rooms especially for such gatherings.

"Since the room was dedicated in June 2007, we have held more than 20 tea ceremonies and have enjoyed hosting every age group from kindergarteners to retirees," Hitchcock says.

For more information on tea room ceremonies, contact Hitchcock at 278-5954.

## **Big brass heads to Sac State for tuba festival**

The band's big gun, the tuba, will finally get the attention it deserves during Down in the Valley 2008: A Festival of Tuba and Euphonium, an all-day event at Capistrano Hall on Saturday, May 31.

The day begins at 9 a.m. and includes clinics and master classes. It concludes at 7 p.m. with a concert in the Music Recital Hall featuring international soloist Velvet Brown.

Most people think of marching bands or the music of a German beer garden when someone says "tuba." Even organizer Julian Dixon, director of the University's tuba studio, acknowledges the instrument is an isolated one, often limited to one or two in a band.

"Part of the festival is to enlighten the general populace and young players about this whole spectrum of the tuba world," Dixon says. The festival offers tuba performers a chance to get together and challenge themselves, he adds.

When a tuba ensemble performs music written specifically for the instrument, Dixon says it's quite an experience. "It's a beautiful sound. It's powerful and rich."

Guest artist Brown is proving how versatile an instrument the tuba can be, performing solo and ensemble programs throughout Europe and the Far East.

Portia Njoku, a master's student in the University's Tuba Quartet, says a tuba group envelopes the room with sound.

Senior Bryan Stroh, another quartet member, describes the tuba sound as "touching velvet."

He and Njoku also note the contributions tubas make to larger ensembles. Without it, says Njoku, a band sounds bland. Stroh says a band needs the "cannon" of a tuba to give a piece a triumphant feeling. "We're the heavy artillery in the back," he says.

The closing concert also will feature music composed especially for the festival by tuba pioneer Barton Cummings—"Four Short Pieces for Four Tubas" and "The Down in the Valley Suite."

For the University's Tuba Quartet, the festival is just the beginning of a big summer. They'll perform a 20-minute program at the International Tuba Euphonium Conference in Cincinnati in June. The performance includes "Elegy for King," a memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., composed by Njoku.

Because the tuba has only recently broken out on its own, new music is being written every day, offering more chances for people to catch the brass instrument's rich sound. "It's a really beautiful, expressive instrument," Dixon says.

Festival registration costs are \$30 for adults and \$20 for high school or younger students. A reduced price of \$25 and \$15 is available to those who register before May 21. Concert-only admission is \$10 general and \$5 for students. To register, visit [www.csus.edu/music/brass/DITV](http://www.csus.edu/music/brass/DITV). For more information, call 278-2784.

## Football Hall of Fame Induction

The University's Football and Spirit chapter of the Alumni Association will host this year's 2008 Hall of Fame Induction and Football Reunion at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, May 24 at the Sacramento State Alumni Center.

The event will welcome new Football Hall of Fame inductees, including Lonie Paxton, Dave Hall, Rob Harrison, Bobbie Jackson, Gary Lunsford, Marlan Meggers, Jon Osterhout, Charles Roberts and Ryland Wickman. Wally Borland will receive the Community Award.

The event will begin with a no-host cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the ceremony. Registration is \$50 per person. [Registration online](#) or call 278-6295.

For more information, contact Sacramento State's Alumni Affairs office at 278-6295 or visit [www.sacstatealumni.com](http://www.sacstatealumni.com).

## Professional Activities

### Scholarship

**Stanislaus Dundon**, Philosophy Emeritus, gave a presentation titled, "The Physical Risks and Corresponding Moral Responsibilities in Assisted Reproductive Technologies," at St. Hilary's Parish in Tiburon on April 14. He also gave a presentation titled, "Professional Ethics and Moral Codes Governing Hospital Ethics Consultation," at Methodist Hospital in Sacramento on May 6.

**Jana Noel**, Teacher Education, has been appointed to the Editorial Review Board of the *Journal of Urban Learning, Teaching, and Research*.

### In the News

**Tim Hodson**, Center for California Studies, was interviewed on April 14 on Capital Public Radio about the effectiveness of a new bill; and on March 27 in Long Beach's *Press Telegram* about immigration legislation.

**Amy Liu**, Sociology, was quoted on April 4 in the *Sacramento Bee* about homeowners in Sacramento; and was interviewed on April 25 on Capital Public Radio about a Sacramento State survey of Sacramento residents about the city and where it is headed.

**Mary Maguire**, Criminal Justice, was quoted on April 6 in the *Sacramento Bee* about prostitution and its ties to women.

**Kerry Marsh**, Music, was quoted on April 13 in the *Sacramento Bee* about Sacramento State's Jazz Singers co-winning the DownBeat award.

**Barbara O'Connor**, Communication Studies, was quoted on March 24 in West Covina's *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* and on March 25 in the *San Mateo Co. Times* about House Speaker Nancy Pelosi; on April 18 in Pleasanton's *Valley Times* and on April 20 in San Jose's *Mercury-News* about new Democratic legislative leaders, Assemblywoman Karen Bass and Senator Darrell Steinberg; on April 19 in San Jose's *Mercury-News* about education in California and its response to proposed budget cuts; on April 16 in the *San Francisco Chronicle* about Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and her campaign tactics and message; and on March 24 in the *Whittier Daily News* and Pasadena's *Star News* about House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

**Ines Garcia**, Foreign Languages, was interviewed on April 24 and 25 on KUVS Channel 19 about "Spanglish."

**David Zuckerman**, Communication Studies, was interviewed on KCRA Channel 3 about the controversial photos of Miley Cyrus circulating in the media.

**Tim Hodson**, Center for California Studies, was quoted on April 28 in the *Sacramento Bee* about possible salary cuts among state officials.

**Suzanne O'Keefe**, Economics, was quoted on April 24 in the *Sacramento News and Review* about rising energy costs.

**Kristin van Gaasbeck**, Economics, was quoted on April 24 in the *Sacramento News and Review* about possible effects of long-term union contracts for Sacramento employees.

**Raghuraman Trichur**, Anthropology, was quoted on April 23 in the *Sacramento Bee* about Indian immigrants and IT fields.

**Emir Jose Macari**, Engineering and Computer Science, was quoted on April 2 in Folsom's *Telegraph* about the domestic job market and enrollment in Sacramento State's computer science courses.

**Denver Travis**, Business Administration, was quoted on April 4 in the *Sacramento Business Journal* about financial professionals.

**Michael Semler**, Government, was quoted on April 16 in the *San Francisco Chronicle* about Democratic presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.

**Timi Poepelman**, Communication Studies, was quoted on March 22 in Sacramento's *Catholic Herald* about Craigslist and the Internet.

## Recognition

**Mary Brentwood**, Environmental Studies Emeritus, received an award recognizing her three years of service as a member of the Executive Council for the Western Social Science Association at their 50th Anniversary Conference held in Denver, April 23-26.

The Urban Teacher Education Center, represented by **Jana Noel**, Teacher Education, received the "Quality Education Partnership Award for Distinguished Service to Children and Preparation of Teachers." This state-level award was presented by the California Council on Teacher Education on March 7.

## Student Spotlight

A group of University students will participate in an international and national summer service learning program known as Camp Adventure. The students -- Kasey Alderson, Carli Batchelor, Tyler Cerro, Jaclyn

Chase, Sarah Ruch (Liberal Studies), Jasmine Aguila (Credential Program), Jennifer Hubbard (Family and Consumer Sciences), Elise Hawkins (Communication Studies) and Jessica Fuller (Marketing) -- will be working with the children of U.S. military personnel in England, Japan, Korea, Italy, Hawaii and Germany. Having participated in a ten-week leadership development program, which included theoretical and technical skills of day camp and aquatic program implementation, the students will work as child development interns, camp counselors and swimming instructors.

## **Campus Announcements**

### **Summer hours 2008**

This summer the University will continue the practice of a modified work schedule with normal business hours for the campus of 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch break. These hours will be effective on Monday, June 2, and continue through Friday, August 22. As always, authorized supervisors may modify individual work schedules to address special situations as long as these basic hours are covered. It is important that offices are staffed during these announced hours.

As in past summers, this schedule enables the University to realize substantial budget savings by reducing energy consumption during the late afternoon hours when energy demand is highest. We hope that this change will also permit many people to get the most from the longer summer days.

For questions or concerns that cannot be answered by supervisors or managers, contact Elizabeth Redmond, associate vice president for Human Resources at 278-4488.

*Submitted by Human Resources*

### **Employee Assistance Program summer hours**

The Employee Assistance Program for faculty and staff counseling and consultation located in the Student Health Center will be open for summer. Hours begin at 7:30 a.m. with the last scheduled appointment at 3 p.m. Two counselors will be on staff. To schedule an appointment, call 278-5018, drop by, or e-mail (e-mail is not confidential).

*Submitted by the Student Health Center*

### **California conference focuses on the arts**

The Center for California Studies' 20th annual Envisioning California Conference is September 18-19 at the Sacramento Convention Center. Organizers are soliciting ideas for panels and speakers for the event. The conference typically focuses on public policy or governance issues, but this year will explore and celebrate the arts in California. The conference will cover issues such as whether there is such a thing as California art, as well as arts education, contemporary visual arts and how the arts are enriched by California's diversity.

For more information, visit [calstudies@csus.edu](mailto:calstudies@csus.edu). To submit ideas, call 278-6906.

*Submitted by the Center for California Studies*

### **2008-09 Faculty Senate officers**

The following were elected to serve for 2008-09:

Chair

Bruce Bikle (Criminal Justice)

Vice Chair

James Sobredo (Ethnic Studies)

Chair, Academic Policies Committee

Bob Buckley (Computer Science)

Chair, Curriculum Policies Committee

David Lang (Economics)

Chair, Faculty Policies Committee  
Wendy Cunningham (Family and Consumer Sciences)

Chair, General Education Policies/Graduation Requirements Policies Committee Janet Hecsh (Teacher Education)

At-large members:

Sylvester Bowie (Social Work)  
Tony Sheppard (Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration)  
Kristin VanGaasbeck (Economics)

In addition to his election to the Faculty Senate, Bob Buckley (Computer Science) was also elected as vice chair for the Executive Committee of the California State University Academic Senate.

*Submitted by the Faculty Senate*

### **Sac State Striders succeed**

The Sac State Striders recruited 55 team members from the campus to participate in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on May 10. Picture-perfect weather coupled with positive energy and excitement set the tone for success. The team raised more than \$1,600 for the cure.

*Submitted by the Student Health Center*

### **Library relaxes rules so students can relax during finals**

Follow the signs from the tiki-hut in the Library's main lobby downstairs and find the new Stress-Free Zone set up for study breaks during finals week. The alcove adjacent to the Friends of the Library book bin has comfortable chairs and a tropical theme with palm trees, hula hoops, games, toys and puzzles to take students' minds off their finals. The Library will also relax the "no food rule" by offering popcorn fresh from an old fashioned cart. Students can also bring their own food and drink downstairs without guilt for the week of finals.

Relax even further when librarian Alicia Patrice, registered Yoga instructor, offers free relaxation sessions during finals week. Sessions will be offered from noon to 12:30 p.m. and from 3:30 to 4 p.m., Monday and Tuesday, and on Wednesday from 9:30 to 10 a.m. and 4:30 to 5 p.m.

## **Human Resources**

### **Catastrophic Leave**

Sacramento State employees may voluntarily donate to other employees up to a maximum of 16 hours of sick or vacation leave credits each fiscal year in one-hour increments. CSUEU, MPP, Unit 4, Unit 6 and confidential employees may donate up to 40 hours per fiscal year.

If employees are interested in donating time, a donation form can be obtained at [www.csus.edu/hr/forms.htm#Disability](http://www.csus.edu/hr/forms.htm#Disability), or by visiting the Human Resources Disability Leaves office in Sacramento Hall 162, or by calling 278-3522.

The following employees have been approved for the Catastrophic Leave Donation Program:

Steven Borden, Facilities Services  
Martha Jean, University Transportation & Parking Services  
Lisa Collins, Admissions and Records  
Sharon Kelley, Academic Information Resources Center  
Aleia Luster, Student Activities

## **Outstanding University Service Award: Mark Siegler**

Economics professor Mark Siegler doesn't have any trouble finding things to do. His interest and involvement in several aspects of Sacramento State have been recognized with an Outstanding University Service Award.

To help his students, Siegler has served as the advisor to the Economics Club and the International Economics Honor Society and is also the coordinator of the department's internship program. He's supervised the department tutors, been on the Faculty Endowment for Student Scholarships Committee and the Institutional Scholarship Committee, and worked as a thesis advisor for many students completing their master's.

Siegler is also accomplished at research and has had 10 papers published or accepted for publication since 2002, including many in top field journals.

He took take on even more responsibility when he became department chair last fall.

Siegler's involvement at the University began when he started in 2002 during a period that saw a lot of new arrivals in the Economics Department. It was a big change from his former university, Williams College, where the Economics Department had people who had been there 30 years. "Here, pretty much right away, you could have a big say on how things were run," says Siegler.

Economists tend to view positions for entry and exit, with a philosophy of leaving if the situation is not to their liking, says Siegler. But when you have a family, children and community connections, leaving is not the best alternative, and working for change becomes a better option, says Siegler.

He has no illusions about having an overwhelming influence, but notes that one voice can be joined by others. "If you start speaking up about things, you often find out that other faculty members feel exactly the same way," says Siegler.

Siegler's first taste of economics was almost his last. He took a college economics course as a high school senior and hated it. But while attending UC Santa Cruz, many of his basketball teammates were economic majors and talked him into trying a second class. "I enjoyed it a lot and was very good at it," says Siegler.

His young age may have contributed to his disinterest the first time around, but Siegler adds that a difference in teachers was a big contributing factor. Not that the first instructor was bad, "but the second person was outstanding," says Siegler.

One of Siegler's most challenging duties is putting the course schedule together each semester. Balancing the needs of hundreds of students with those of 15 full-time and 10 part-time instructors can be difficult, he says.

Siegler said he wasn't planning any sweeping changes as chair beyond maintaining a high quality of education. "I have no grandiose plan. Just trying to provide an environment where people can flourish."

## **This Week in Hornet Action**

### **Baseball**

Thursday, May 22- Sunday, May 25  
Sacramento State at the WAC Tournament in Rouston, La.

### **Softball**

Friday, May 23-Saturday, May 24  
NCAA Super Regionals (teams to be determined)

### **Outdoor track**

No meets scheduled

## **Rowing**

No meets scheduled