CHEMISTRY LESSONS

Students Develop New Approaches for Industry

A rotary evaporator bubbles in the background and nearby a reaction mixture stirs in a large flask, as students at CSUS scurry to record data that will help Aerojet Fine Chemicals develop new pharmaceuticals. The students are part of an applied research project on campus that allows them to improve their laboratory skills while providing needed research and materials to area industry. The project was launched in the summer of 1998 through the efforts of chemistry professors David Forkey and Jack Russell.

"I was tired of our students working elsewhere in non-technical employment during the summer," said Forkey. He credits Rob Mierle, the president of Aerojet Fine Chemicals, and Tom Archibald, the company’s director of technical services, for strongly supporting the project in which students conduct studies, research and experiments that Aerojet may need in developing medicinal chemicals.

As a result of the partnership, said Russell, "we have our chemistry students doing actual chemistry." Forkey said, "Our students have the opportunity to use equipment and perform tests that are only done by graduate school students in (major research) universities, and these are juniors and seniors.

There are benefits to all parties, he explained. The results or products from the experiments are delivered to the company. The University receives funds to purchase specialty equipment needed for the projects, plus financial support for the students. The students build excellent laboratory skills, and those going on to graduate school will have advanced laboratory study.

Students are also required to give presentations on their work and research the chemical literature.

"We’re grooming potential employees for the chemical industry. There is a lack of bachelor’s degree students with the skills to go into synthesizing organic compounds," Russell said.

"This kind of collaboration between a company and academia at an undergraduate institution is probably uncommon. Most institutions don’t want to be bothered – it is too applied, not basic research," he said, while pointing out findings that are interesting chemically, including one result that was reported at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society (ACS). "It’s some very interesting chemistry."

"Our collaboration with SAC State and Tom Archibald from the company were strongly supporting the project in the early days," Russell said.

"Our collaboration with SAC State, Tom Archibald, and Jack Russell has been a win-win situation for everyone," he added.

A longtime physical therapist, a banker and a state Department of Forestry employee are among two dozen people now studying to be teachers in a new evening credential program at CSUS.

The program allows students to keep working in their current jobs while pursuing a teaching credential. For most, the move wouldn’t have been financially possible if they had to take traditional daytime classes.

"We specifically designed this program for people who are working full time, and from the response we’ve received, it appears there is demand for such a program," says Jan Cross, the University’s teaching credential program coordinator.

About half the students in the program are making significant career changes. The other half are currently working with children in preschools, private schools or other positions that do not require credentials.

"We have students who are a bit older, and in many ways more experienced, than our typical credential students," says Ken Futemick, who teaches one of the two classes offered this semester’s evening credential program.

"Many of them, in fact, have children of their own," Plans call for enrolling a new group of about two dozen students in the program every semester.

The evening credential will take four terms to complete, including one summer session. And because student-teaching requires working in classrooms during the day, students will have to adjust their current jobs during the final semester.

Even so, the program provides the flexibility and low cost that allow working professionals to move into the classroom. It is expected to be an important part of the University’s effort to help meet a growing need for new teachers in the state.

CSUS has been committed to teacher education since its founding, and is typically one of the state’s largest credential-granting institutions. Last semester CSUS began offering an evening and weekend liberal studies program, easing access to a degree typically sought by undergraduates planning to pursue a teaching credential. In addition, the University has begun offering year-round classes for credential students and has increased enrollment in programs that allow students to earn credentials at off-campus sites or while working as interns in schools.

More information is available by contacting the teacher credentials office at 278-6403. Information about the liberal studies evening and weekend program is available at 278-6342.

Evening Option Helps Teacher Recruiting

Alumnus Now President of University of Liberia

CSUS has its share of successful alumni. But the career path Ben Roberts is on puts him in a class by himself.

The former social sciences graduate student was recently named president of the University of Liberia, the only public university in that West African country.

More than 20 years after he graduated, Roberts returned to campus Oct. 1 and was overwhelmed by the development since he was here last.

"I left a small campus and now I come back to tremendous growth," he marvels.

Roberts came to CSUS in 1974 as an exchange student from the University of Liberia, the university he would later run. On the advice of his economics professor, Bob Curry, and his advisor in international programs, Preston Stegenga, he stayed on in

Sacramento to complete his master’s in social studies specializing in developing economies.

“It was great," Roberts says. "I made a lot of friends. The professors were good. I was really encouraged.”

After graduation, Roberts taught in Liberia for four years before earning his doctorate degree in geography at Arizona State University. Back at the University of Liberia, he rapidly climbed the academic ranks from professor of geography to chair of the geography department and then director of continuing education.

Then his academic career took a horrific hiatus. Civil war broke out and the University of Liberia campus was closed for two years.

“There was fighting all around the university,” Roberts says. "It was closed for two years.

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CSUS is a tuition bargain compared to its public university counterparts across the country. For the 1999-2000 school year, CSUS in-state undergraduate students taking more than six units pay $1,867 per year in tuition and fees. Nationwide, according to the College Board, the average in-state undergraduate tuition at a four-year public college is $3,356 per year.

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Recognitions

DONALD R. GERTH, University President, has been appointed to the Capital Unity Council. He will join other community leaders in developing a regional plan to promote tolerance and respect. The council, with support from the City of Sacramento, the California Legislature and Gov. Davis, will work toward strategies to encourage harmony, reduce prejudice and bigotry, and eradicate hate and intolerance.

NANCY SHIELOCK, public policy and administration and associate vice president for academic affairs, won the Vernon Prize for the best paper in the Spring 1999 issue of the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. The award is given by the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.

ALI FAYAD, civil engineering, was named an International Man of the Year for 1999/2000 by the International Biographical Centre.

METWALLI B. AMER, accounting, was elected president of the Interfaith Bureau, Sacramento, effective July 1999.

Grants

JAY CHAIN, anthropology, was awarded a research grant by the American Philosophical Society for “Fieldwork on language and history among the Lundayeh of East Kalimantan.” Chain and VICKI PEARSON-ROUNDS, research and sponsored projects, studied in Indonesian Borneo during July and August.

SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL EQUITY, in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, received a grant renewal from the National Institutes of Health for their project “Sacramento College Education for Future Scientists.” The program supports minority students who start at community college and then transfer to CSUS. The three-year award totals $492,000.

In the News

DENNIS TOOTLELLAN, management, had results of his national survey on consumer decisions related to infant feeding methods reported in the July 20 issue of USA Today.

ROBERTO QUINTANA, health and physical education, was interviewed by KTXL Fox 40 for a news feature story on fat loss strategies.

WILL VIZARD, criminal justice, was profiled in the Sept. 12 issue of the Sacramento Bee. He was also interviewed Aug. 20 for an episode of the Discovery Channel series “On the Inside” that will air this fall.

Aaron Cohen, a new CSUS professor of history, hopes to raise student interest in Russian culture and history.

Sacramento is a natural place for such a focus, he says, because of the large number of Russian immigrants who live here. He says he can provide perspective on the often overlooked country.

“People know a bit about Russia in this century, because it was our Cold War enemy,” he says. “But they don’t think much about how it was in earlier times. For instance, people are amazed to find out that medieval Russia existed.”

Cohen’s focus is Russian history since the 17th century, as well as the German-speaking world since 1500. He comes to CSUS from Johns Hopkins University, where he recently completed his doctorate degree in history. His final project there focused on changes in Russian

Scholarship


WYNNE DUBRAY and Adelle SANDERS, social work, contributed a chapter titled “Intersections Between American Indian Ethnicity and Health Care” in a new book, Health and the American Indian, published by the Haworth Press and edited by Priscilla Day and Hilary Weaver.

FRANCIS CHEHONG-SAY-MOV, civil engineering, presented a paper “Deflections of Tall Steel Buildings,” at the sixth international conference on Steel and Space Structures on September 3 in Singapore.

CHERYL OSBORNE, nursing, presented on “Successful Aging” at UC Davis’ Women’s Health and Aging Conference and Fair, and Coming of Age lecture series. She will be a panel member for the California Wellness Information Network’s forum Healthy Through the Ages.


BETTY ROSANOV and DEBBIE ROSENHOLZ, library, will present a paper “Library Instruction for Distance Education Students: An Interactive Multi-media Approach” at the Online Northwest 2000 Conference in Portland, Ore. in February.

He speaks fluent German, and also has language skills in Russian, French and Latin.

Originally a science major, Cohen was inspired to study history in a general education course. He says he went into teaching “because I like to talk about interesting people and places.”

His classes this semester are on 20th century Russia and world history. He plans to develop a new class on contemporary Russia.

Cohen completed his bachelor’s degree in history at Pomona College. He earned his master’s degree in history from the University of Oregon before beginning doctoral studies at Johns Hopkins. He has been an adjunct assistant professor at Portland State University and at Western Oregon University.

Conference to Explore Modern Literacy

Reading and writing just aren’t enough anymore.

For modern Americans to be literate, says CSUS English professor Sheree Meyer, they must understand television and other media, be able to access electronic information and, and recognize differences in cultures.

To explore how college professors are meeting this challenge, Meyer has organized the state’s first “multiple literacies” conference. The two-day event will be Friday, Oct. 22 and Saturday, Oct. 23 at the CSUS University Union.

“Our understanding of literacy has expanded dramatically, to include ever more complicated sets of skills,” explains Meyer. “For instance, we are being inundated with new tools for accessing information, and we have plenty of examples of how we can use the technology. But they don’t necessarily know how to critically assess the information and use it.”

The conference’s keynote address will be at noon, Saturday by San Francisco State University professor Kate Kinella, who specializes in education for diverse student bodies.

Other presentations by faculty and students from throughout the CSU system will be on such topics as environmental literacy, the Internet’s impact on higher education, information competence, and community technology partnerships.

There will even be a session on “oral signatures,” in which participants will sing and recite poetry partnerships. There will even be a session on “oral signatures,” in which participants will sing and recite poetry.

Aaron Cohen society during World War I as re- flected in art.

Naturally, his area of study has changed.

He lived in East Germany in the years just before the Germanys reunited, and met his wife, Ilka, in Leningrad.

New Bulletin

Catastrophic leave has been approved for Kim Harrington, faculty and staff affairs, and James Reed, facilities management.

According to the CSEA Memorandum of Understanding, only vacation leave credits may be donated in Harrington’s case. CSUS employees may donate up to a maximum of 16 hours of vacation or sick leave per fiscal year to employees who have been approved for the Catastrophic Leave Donation Program. CSEA employees may donate up to a maximum of 32 hours of sick or vacation leave credits per fiscal year. For details call 278-6213.
For Reardon, Machines and Students are Perfect Combo

Fred Reardon says he's primarily a people-person, and it's obvious after seeing him work with students that it's true.

Sure, the longtime CSUS engineering professor enjoys his field. He's known he wanted to be an engineer since he was a child and has been researching propulsion, thermodynamics and the like since the go-go days of rocket building in the 1950s. But through students into the mix - such as in the confines of the measure- ment lab or at Sacramento's recent "kinetic sculpture" race, in which students raced their 30-foot Herky the Hornet across both land and water - and Reardon shines.

The latest Outstanding Teacher in the College of Engineering and Computer Science says students keep him energized.

"I just like the interaction with students," Reardon says. "I never get burned out while teaching. Administr- ative duties, paperwork, that gets old, but never the teaching."

Students lucky enough to take courses from Reardon over the years have certainly picked up on that dedication.

Robert Wichert, a former student now with SMUD, wrote in support of Reardon's nomination for the Outstanding Teacher award. "As an instructor, I found Professor Reardon to be both demanding and enlightening. His efforts to make me a better student of thermodynamics have led to my professional success."

And a current student, Steven Crosby, wrote: "Not only has Professor Reardon demonstrated excellence in his ability to teach, but also he has provided exceptional one-on-one student counseling as a faculty advisor to myself and many others."

Reardon earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. And because a professor had convinced him to teach a course in drafting, he enrolled at Princeton University with the goal of someday being a professor.

At Princeton, he completed his doctorate degree in aeronautical engineering with an emphasis on jet propulsion and then went to work at Aerojet in Sacramento. He was a supervisor in the combustion dynamics section.

Fred Reardon

Science of Friction and More in Series

Mathew Mate of the IBM Almaden Research Center will give the next talk in the fall Physics Colloquium Series at 4 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 14 in Mendocino 1015.

Mate’s talk will be on general principles of friction using examples from everyday life such as hourglasses, hardwood floors and string instruments. He will discuss how a better understanding of friction could lead to improvements in disk drive technology. The talk is titled “Friction in Disk Drives and Other Household Devices.”

The remaining talks in the series, all at 4 p.m., Thursdays in Mendocino 1015, are as follows:

On Nov. 4, Andreas Albrecht of UC Davis will give a talk titled “What Do We Know About the Universe?”

On Nov. 11, Lynn Cominsky of Sonoma State University will talk on “Using X-ray Emission From Compact Objects to Study General Relativity.”

On Nov. 18, Alan Dressler of NASA will give a talk on “The Physics of Friction.”

On Dec. 2, Alan Dressler of NASA will talk on “NASA Origins Project.”

Finally, on Dec. 9 William Saphir of Lawrence Berkeley National Labora- tory will give a talk on “The Physics of Forensic Science.”

On Dec. 16, Al Dressler of NASA will talk on “NASA Origins Project.”

On Dec. 9 William Saphir of Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory will present a colloquium/workshop on "LINUX and Parallel Processing in Scientific Computing."

More information is available by contacting the physics and astronomy department at 278-6518.

Nominations Sought for Wang Family Excellence Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the Wang Family Excellence Awards. The awards, to be given each year through 2008, recognize four faculty members and one administrator from the CSU system who have "distinguished themselves by exem- plary contributions and achievements in their academic disciplines." Each honoree receives $20,000.

The award was established in 1998 by CSU Trustee Stanley T. Wang. Candidates must be probationary or tenured faculty members. Nominations from CSUS may be made by any member of the campus community and should be submitted to the Wang Family Excellence Subcommittee. Nominations are due by 4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 5 in the Faculty Senate office. More information is available by contacting the Faculty Senate office at 278-6593.

Get a Job

The Career Center will hold its fall 1999 Career Fair Wednesday, Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Union Ballroom. More than 100 employers representing the private sector, government and non-profit agencies will be on hand to discuss career opportunities with their organi- zations. For details call 278-6231.

Seeking Outstanding Teachers

Nominations are being accepted for this year's Outstanding Teacher Awards. All full-time and part-time teaching faculty members are eligible for recognition.

Selections will be made by a committee of faculty members in each College and will be based on teaching effectiveness and impact on the lives and careers of students. The deadline to send letters of nomination to the dean of the nominee's College is Friday, Dec. 3. The awards will be announced in April. For details call 279-6593 or 278-6784.

Rock Talks

The CSUS geology department and the USGS have a series of talks scheduled for this semester. Each session will be from 4 to 5 p.m. in Mendocino 1015. A reception in the Placer Hall Common Room will follow each talk.

On Tuesday, Oct. 19, Eldridge Mores, geology professor at UC Davis, will speak on "Geology and Society: Why Earth Science Matters." On Tuesday, Nov. 9, Reid Buell, senior engineering geologist for Caltrans, addresses "San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge East Span Replacement, Engineering Geology and Founda- tions." And on Tuesday, Dec. 7 there will be senior thesis presentations. For details call 278-6337 or 278-3112.

Thats the Ticket

Top Ticket Town, a social for CSUS business faculty, students and alumni takes place Thursday, Oct. 14 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The event will be in the First Union Ziggurat (formerly the Money Store) at 703 Third Street in West Sacramento. CSUS head football coach John Voelk will be the guest speaker. Music will be by Lighthouse Jazz Groove. Tickets are $25 in advance, $30 at the door and $10 for CSUS students and are available by calling 278-7191. Proceeds benefit the CSUS College of Business Alumni Chapter Scholarship Fund.

Rock-Climbing Demo

Disabled athlete Mark Wellman will give a lecture and rock-climbing demonstration Thursday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the CSUS Library Quad. Though permanently disabled with a spinal cord injury, Wellman has climbed El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. He also lit the torch at the 1996 Paralympics. For details call 278-6101.

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Monday, Oct. 11
Volleyball vs. Montana State, 7 p.m.
Honors Gym. SSU students free. Tickets at the door.

Poetry reading, featuring CSUS English professor Mark Mackey, Sacramento State Reads Festival. 7:30 p.m., Downtown Plaza, 500 block between J and L streets.

Paintings in Oil and Acrylic,” Margit Groigan and Helen Gallier, 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, and from 5 - 8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, University Union Exhibit Lounge. Reception 6 - 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 14. Continues to Oct. 29.

Tuesday, Oct. 12
Volleyball vs. Nevada, 7 p.m. Honet Gym. SSU students free. Tickets at the door.

Wednesday, Oct. 13
1)Buho!, Latin alternative band, noon, University Union South Lawn.

Society for Advancement of Management Learning, Oracle Corp. senior sales consultant, 7 p.m., University Union Orchard Room.

Honor Bookstore’s “Computer Learning Month” event 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., University Union Lobby Suite.

Visiting Scholars Program, “The Feminist Poet as Critic, Journalist, Historian, Environmentalist and Fiction Writer,” poet Sharon Doucabo, who holds the Oregon Book Award for Poetry, 4 p.m., Commons Room in Caldera Hall 126.

Demystifying Library Databases, 3 - 5 p.m., Library Instruction Lab 204.

Thursday, Oct. 14
Lecture and rock climbing demonstration, Mark Williford who despite a permanent disability climbed El Capitan in Yosemite, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Library Quad.

On the Verge,” theatrical comedy, Playwrights Theatre, Shasta Hall. Continues Oct. 15 - 17 and Oct. 21 - 24. Evening performances 8 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. Sunday matinees 2 p.m. $10/$7 CSSU students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS.

“Insuring Against the Risk of Business” brown-bag seminar, 1 - 3 p.m., Library Instruction Lab 204.

“Comedy Joke-off,” audience members tell jokes on stage, hosted by Howie Nave, noon, University Union Ballroom.

Friday, Oct. 15
Renaissance Society, annual meeting, 3 p.m., Medinical Hall 105.

“An Evening with Tom Ammann,” the “mother of gay comedy,” 7:30 - 8 p.m., University Union Redwood Room. $10/$5 students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323.

Women’s soccer vs. Northern Arizona, Big Sky Conference match, 4 p.m., Hornet Soccer Field. $5/$3 CSUS students free. Tickets at the field.

Saturday, Oct. 16
Emrie Barnes, painter of African American figurative, art exhibition and sale, 1 - 4 p.m., University Union.

Piano series, master classes, music professors Lorra Peters, Kirsten Smith and Richard Cincos. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Capitoliano Hall 151.

Sunday, Oct. 17
Piano series, recital commemorating the 180th anniversary of Frederic Chopin’s death, pianist Alyce Simon, 4 p.m., Music Recital Hall. $10/$8 students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323.

Women’s soccer vs. CSU Northridge, Big Sky Conference match, 2 p.m., Hornet Soccer Field. $5/$3 CSUS students free. Tickets at the field.

Tuesday, Oct. 19
CSUS Saxophone Quartet, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall. $6/$4 students. Tickets at Central Ticket Office, 278-4323, or at BASS.

Geology fall colloquium series, “Geology and Society: Why Earth Science Matters?”, Dr. Eldridge Monroe, UC Davis geology professor, 4 p.m., Medinical Hall 1015.

Wednesday, Oct. 20

Thursday, Oct. 21

New faculty seminar, “Course Grades and Communicating with Students,” 9 - 11 a.m., University Union Capital Room.