

THIS WEEK

October 22, 2007
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Students mold pixels in new modeling class

[Full Story](#)

ART MEETS TECHNOLOGY-- Rachel Clarke and John Clevenger combine art and technology in their new 3-D modeling course.

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Security Assessment Protects Privacy

Protection of the privacy of faculty, staff, and student identity information is a critical priority for the campus.

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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES >>

PROFILE



25-year Profile: John Graff

It took a lot of struggle, but psychology department technician John Graff has found himself just where he wants to be.

[Full Story](#)

EVENTS



Sun sets performance

The Sun Quartet will take the stage as part of the autumn faculty concert offerings when it performs at 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 27, in the Recital Hall of Capistrano Hall. Ian Swensen, Anna Presler, Anna Kruger and Andrew Luchansky will perform the Arensky Quartet for Two Celli with guest artist Andrew Smith, and the Schumann String Quartet in A major. The Quartet is the nationally regarded Artists in Residence at Sacramento State, a

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Recycling books

The campus community can donate hardback books to the Book Bin at the Library. Visit the book bin website at library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=53. Books the Library cannot use will be recycled by a company that turns the used books into attic insulation. Paperback books, soft-cover catalogs and magazines can be placed in any blue desk-side or copier-side recycle container.

For more information, visit the "Sacramento State Recycles" website at www.fm.csus.edu/iwm.

Bulletin Staff



The *Bulletin* is distributed on Mondays of the academic year. Campus news may be submitted by e-mail to 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

Associate Vice President,
Public Affairs
Frank Whitlatch

Writers
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

recognition awarded to groups in the finest music programs. Tickets are \$8 general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. They are available at the Sacramento State ticket office, (916) 278-4323, or at www.tickets.com. Call (916) 278-5155 for more information.

[Campus Calendar of Events](#)

ATHLETICS

Rowing begins 2007-08 season with a pair of silver medals

The Sacramento State women's rowing squad kicked off the 2007-08 season by winning silver medals in both the open pair and open four events Sunday morning at the Head of the Port.

[Full Story](#)

[This Week in Hornet Action](#)

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Students mold pixels in new modeling class

At first they might seem like very different disciplines: science and art. But two University professors have found success mixing the diverse pursuits into one class that's attracting students with divergent interests and backgrounds.

Rachel Clarke, associate professor of art, and John Clevenger, professor of computer science, pooled their efforts to create Computer 3-D Modeling. Cross listed as Art 142 and Computer Science 126, the class is envisioned by the professors as the beginning of a larger effort.

"This is the first course we're planning. The next will focus on 3-D animation," says Clarke, who teaches the new course.

The idea partially grew out of Clevenger's computer gaming course. To build a 3-D game, you have to do 3-D modeling, and that requires an overlap of computer programming and art aesthetics, Clevenger says.

In addition, Clarke, who teaches electronic art classes, wanted to expand the digital media offerings in that curriculum, which currently includes imaging, 2-D animation, interactivity and video art. Animation, 3-D modeling and virtual reality are at the forefront of digital media culture, "so it represents a natural evolution of the curriculum," Clarke says.

Hammering together an overlapping program was a challenge for the two professors. "We're not only working in two different departments with different education backgrounds, but our departments are in different colleges at the University," Clevenger says.

Students learn the basics in the new course, taking a computer-generated basic object, such as a cube or sphere, and forming it through modeling techniques to create fully three-dimensional objects on the screen. The object is then illuminated with virtual lights and textured for realism. As an example, a table lamp created through the process can be viewed from below to reveal the bulb and switch within the lampshade.

The class has attracted about 20 students representing not only art and computer science, but also engineering, graphic design and biology. "There are so many applications," Clarke says.

While art and technology might once have been two exclusive disciplines, Clevenger notes they are mixing often now, particularly in the entertainment field. Pixar, the animation studio that produced *Toy Story* and *Monsters, Inc.*, among others, has applied artists and computer scientists working together on projects, Clevenger says. "They're not experts in each other's field, but they understand how to talk to each other."

For more information on the new course, contact Clarke at rclarke@csus.edu or Clevenger at clevenger@csus.edu.

About the writer:

Sacramento State's Craig Koscho can be reached at ckoscho@csus.edu

Sacramento State makes connection with Chinese university, alumni

Sacramento State has created a strong international connection with the announcement of a partnership between the University and Yunnan University in China, as well as an alumni chapter in Hong Kong.

The partnership entails a joint certificate program in logistics on the Yunnan campus at the newly opened Wong Sam Hang China America Management Education College. President Alexander Gonzalez and College

of Continuing Education dean Alice Tom will make the announcement Oct. 26, at the opening of the Management Education College on Friday, at the Yunnan campus in Kunming, China.

"This new joint certificate program was developed as a specific response to increasing globalization and the interdependence of countries and people on common economic, technological and educational issues," Gonzalez says. "We're meeting this challenge head on, and our ties with Chinese universities will serve us and them well."

The course will focus on logistics and supply-chain management. College of Business Administration associate dean Chiang Wang and emeritus professor Joel Knowles, along with other logistical experts in the United States, prepared the curriculum for the course.

"Sacramento State can feed a much-needed western influence into the curriculum," Tom says. "California is the world's fifth largest economy and is recognized as unique and one well worth studying. Sacramento, as the headquarters of the state government regulating that economy, deepens the University's appeal."

Sacramento State is among the first universities to establish a partnership within the southwest region of China, which puts California in a good position to work with universities and businesses in that area, Tom says.

"The eventual goal is to have programs from the entire California State University in that area," Tom says. "Sacramento State is leading that effort."

Other goals of the partnership include increased student exchange opportunities; faculty exchanges, sabbaticals, and funding for scholarly work internationally; staff exchanges; and hosts for international students studying at Sacramento State.

Gonzalez will also address the annual Chinese Continuing Education Association conference on Friday, Nov. 2, at Tsinghua University in Beijing. The conference will focus on common goals of U.S./Chinese university cooperation, program quality assessment and assurance and emerging technologies in a globalized higher education environment.

Another highlight of the trip will be the installation of Sacramento State's Hong Kong alumni chapter. The chapter was founded by alumna Winnie Leung (Business, '66). There are approximately 100 alumni in Hong Kong.

Currently, 593 international students attend Sacramento State; 40 of those students are from China.

The University already has several student and faculty projects in place with China. Sacramento State welcomed 18 Hubei Province Taxation Bureau staff in August. The group, here for 12 months, is studying the American tax system, business practices and international accounting. Additionally, 11 Guangdong Province government staff arrived in early October for a five-month study trip to learn about the public and private pension and retirement systems used in America.

Also in place are "2+2" agreements signed with three universities—Beijing Normal University, Beijing University of Technology and Hong Kong's Chinese University—which allow students to complete their undergraduate general education classes in China and finish their degree at Sacramento State. Faculty members are also working on research projects focusing on the health and safety of Southeast Asians in Hong Kong and China, as well as issues related to mental health.

Computer science: It's not all fun and games...is it?

Are video games simply toys or are they tools that make them candidates for serious academic study? That's the topic of the second science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) lecture program, 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 6, in the University Union's Redwood Room.

John Clevenger, a professor in Sacramento State's College of Engineering and Computer Science, will examine the \$60 billion a year video gaming phenomenon and discuss how video games are moving beyond entertainment and gaining the attention of the academic world.

"A common reaction of professionals in scientific disciplines, academicians in general and parents everywhere is that games are not a serious topic," says Clevenger. "However, video games are increasingly being used in medicine, public service, corporate business, education and the military. Because of that, a number of universities have begun offering courses, and in many cases entire degree programs, in game design and implementation, and many of these programs place heavy emphasis on the scientific and technical aspects of computer games."

Clevenger earned his doctorate degree in computer science from UC Davis and has more than 30 years experience teaching introductory programming, algorithms and data structures, software design, computer architecture, computer graphics and computer games. He has received the College of Engineering and Computer Science's Outstanding Teaching Award twice and the Upsilon Pi Epsilon Computer Science Honor Society's Outstanding Faculty Award five times.

The lecture is the second of four in the annual STEM lecture series. The next lecture is Feb. 26. The topic will be announced at a later date.

For more information, contact Clevenger at 278-6087.

About the writer:

Sacramento State's Mike Ward can be reached at mward@csus.edu

Herky tribute YouTube contest winners announced

A Sacramento State student and a staff member received iPods last week courtesy of Herky, the school mascot.

The two winners competed in the Herky video tribute contest honoring Herky's 60th birthday, which just happened to coincide with Homecoming Week Oct. 7-13.

Tom Carroll, a program advisor with the Student Activities Office, received an 80-gigabyte iPod Classic for the best video, and Sarah Thomas, a child development and recreation major, received a 4-gigabyte iPod Nano as the People's Choice winner.

As part of the contest, videos had to be posted to YouTube. Videos can be viewed at www.youtube.com/group/HerkyContest.

'Nubian Visions' inspire student dancers

Finding inspiration in an ancient civilization that rivaled Egypt, Sacramento Black Art of Dance presents *Nubian Visions in Movement* at Sacramento State, featuring work by six choreographers—Nathan Elvin Jones, Sarah Silva, Nzinga Woods, Lisa Ross, Sheila Coleman and Linda Goodrich.

Performances are at 8 p.m., Oct. 25-27 and Nov. 2 and 3; at 2 p.m., Oct. 28 and Nov. 4; and 6:30 p.m., Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. All performances are in Dancespace, Room 1010 of Solano Hall.

Nubia was a culture that thrived at the dawn of civilization along the banks of the Nile River. "In African-American culture we use the word 'Nubian' to mean the Black aesthetic," says Goodrich, concert director and chair of the Theatre and Dance department.

The choreographers will interpret that vision in their own pieces, which can have up to three sections each, Goodrich says.

Her selection's first part, "Lament," is similar to a dirge and represents the loss of womanhood and identity of Sudanese women, Goodrich says. The second part, "Woman Warrior," looks at how they pick themselves up and become strong again.

Silva uses personal experience to explore the loss of a family member or other loved one before having a chance to talk to them one more time. "You still see them there, and you want to connect with them again, but there's no way you can physically do that," she says.

Woods is a graduate student who also directs the Footworks Dance Company of Valley High School in Elk Grove. Her piece mixes styles such as jazz, modern, ballet, African and Afro-Cuban.

Jones choreographs his dancers in a tribute to working class people, using anthems out of the folk music tradition.

Sacramento Black Art of Dance was formed by Goodrich in 1993. She turned it into a student-run organization in 1996.

The choreographers are senior members of the group who have taken choreography and expressed an interest in it. "Most of them are veteran choreographers," Goodrich says.

Tickets for most performances are \$12 general admission, \$10 for students, seniors and Sacramento State employees; and \$8 for children 11 years old and younger. Costs for the Nov. 14 and 15 performances are \$8 general admission and \$5 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the Sacramento State Ticket Office, 278-4323 or at www.tickets.com.

For more information, contact the Theatre and Dance Department at 278-6368 or www.csus.edu/dram/.

About the writer:

Sacramento State's Craig Koscho can be reached at ckoscho@csus.edu

Security Assessment Protects Privacy
by Larry Gilbert, Information Resources and Technology
vice president and chief information officer

Protection of the privacy of faculty, staff, and student identity information is a critical priority for the campus. We're all painfully aware that hackers are constantly scanning the Internet for information that is vulnerable to attack. In order to be proactive in protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all identity information on campus, Sacramento State is conducting a comprehensive information security vulnerability assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to identify potential threats to the exposure of such confidential information and to advise the campus on ways that our private information can be better protected.

The Information Resources and Technology division has already worked with departments and colleges campus-wide to complete a comprehensive risk assessment questionnaire. The results of this questionnaire are being analyzed to provide a picture of the strengths and weaknesses of our information security

processes. By the end of this semester, IRT will advise the campus of the most serious vulnerabilities found and will provide guidance on how we can all work together to better protect our information from hackers, malware and other threats.

IRT has also contracted with the Center for Information Security (CIAS) to conduct a vulnerability scan of our campus network and servers. This technical scan probes the network to identify potential holes in the security of our computing systems. For example, the scan might identify servers with software that is not patched to the current security level or a server without current anti-virus software. The CIAS will identify such vulnerabilities campus-wide and advise the campus on how best to correct those information vulnerabilities.

The most serious threats to our private information are those that have the potential to compromise critical identity information such as Social Security Numbers (SSN). For that reason, the final phase of the information security review at Sac State entails our Auditing Services unit conducting further scans of randomly selected computers across campus for the presence of SSNs. Data from this final phase will be matched with data from the CIAS vulnerability assessment to see if we have SSNs that may be vulnerable to attack. During this scan for SSNs, no individual files will be accessed. This is strictly a scan to measure the general incidence of identity information on vulnerable systems. This information will be used to advise us on the average level of risk to our identity data across campus and how we can eliminate that risk.

Protecting the confidentiality of private information will take all of us working together to remove risks to information security. You can help by paying attention to information security advice that will be coming your way and by following that advice to protect your data and that of others.

If you have questions or comments about this information vulnerability assessment, please direct them to Larry Gilbert at larry.gilbert@csus.edu.

Serna Scholar examines male Latino college drop-out rate

The problem at hand: male Latinos are graduating from institutions of higher education at a lower rate than their female counterparts. And although the solution is complex and the reasons for the discrepancy are not entirely clear, a dialogue needs to happen, according to Professor Julie Figueroa, 2006/07 Serna Center Scholar in Residence.

Figueroa will address the issue in a lecture titled, "Building Capacity to Insure Academic Success: Identifying the Challenges and Responses of Latino Undergraduate Males in Higher Education," from 1 to 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 1, in the University Union Hinde Auditorium. A reception will precede the lecture at 12:30 p.m. in the University Union Lobby Suite.

"I've been studying male Latino attrition rates for the past 10 years and the numbers were dismal," says Figueroa. "But the more I read about the culture of higher education, the less I understood the attrition rates. The literature indicated that the culture of higher education inherently supported men. They got more attention in class. I couldn't understand the phenomenon, given that the students in my courses were less male and increasingly more female.

Some of the challenges Latino males face, Figueroa found, included how they perceived themselves in the context of the college community, as well as gender and cultural expectations. "It's important for Latino men to see themselves as an asset to the campus community," she says. "There are also cultural roadblocks if a male wants to be an elementary schoolteacher, for example. That is not a profession that is strongly encouraged for men. And the eldest son in a Latino family is expected to be a provider for the family, which may impact college studies. The tension of meeting responsibilities in school and the home is difficult. These are serious financial constraints that stretch beyond family-defined needs to include the cost of a college education.

"It's really important to have many different entry points and ways of conceptualizing how academic success happens, not only for the diverse student body at Sacramento State broadly, but for Chicano/Latino males in particular," says Figueroa. "We can do this through community service, relating with students and relating with faculty."

The Serna Scholar-in-Residence program is designed to allow Sacramento State faculty to conduct original research relevant to the Latino community. Past research has included studies on bilingual services offered in the Sacramento community, perceptions of Latino faculty and a needs assessment for AIDS prevention.

For more information, contact the Serna Center at 278-4512.

About the writer:

Sacramento State's Kim Nava can be reached at navak@csus.edu

Sacramento State course helps take the blues out of turning green

A lot of businesses say they are going green, but Sacramento State can help show them how to do it right.

The College of Continuing Education is developing a Green Business Operations Certificate program designed to help facility managers, building engineers, purchasing and contract managers, office managers and small business owners incorporate environmentally friendly practices into their businesses.

"Operating a green business is uncharted territory for many businesses and many government agencies because their employees tend to have no formal training or experience in green operations," says Kirsten Ryden, professional development programs, College of Continuing Education. "They don't know how to identify attributes of a green product or how to measure the fiscal impact of their new green policies."

Courses will show organizations how to operate a green facility, define and report on key performance indicators, establish new procedures and sustainable procurement of materials and services used in a green business and develop financial justification models for programs and projects, Ryden says.

Courses begin in April, but CCE is getting the word out early so businesses have an opportunity to add it to their calendars. Several organizations are already on their wait list, Ryden says.

For more information on the Green Business Operation Certificate, contact CCE at 278-4433.

About the writer:

Sacramento State's Mike Ward can be reached at mward@csus.edu

Faculty Senate

Tuesday, Oct. 23

1:30 p.m., Program Review Oversight Subcommittee, SAC 275

3 p.m., Executive Committee, SAC 275

Wednesday, Oct. 24

9 a.m., Writing and Reading Subcommittee, Camellia Room, University Union

3 p.m., GE Course Review Subcommittee, SAC 275

Thursday, Oct. 25

3 p.m., Faculty Senate, Foothill Suite, University Union

Friday, Oct. 26

1 p.m., Academic Information Technology Committee, SAC 275

Professional Activities

Scholarship

Robert Ortbal, Art, is one of 12 artists participating in the show "Workaday" ("Twelve Artists: Three Works: One Work Each Day") at the blankspace gallery in Oakland (Oct. 20-Nov. 19; artists' reception on Oct. 20, 6-9 pm). For further information: www.blankspacegallery.com/.

Donald Kendrick, Music, recently toured Seattle, Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia with the Sacramento State Concert Choir, where they performed in various Cathedrals in both countries as part of their Pacific Rim Concert Tour. Kendrick was also presented with a certificate as "Music Educator of the Year" by the California Music Educators Association "in recognition of his exemplary performance and continuing commitment to the high standards of music education." Kendrick also toured to Italy in June where his Schola Cantorum Choir from Sacred Heart Church performed in Milan, Como, Lucca and in the Vatican in Rome for the Pope.

Celeste Roseberry McKibbin, Speech Pathology and Audiology, gave a presentation entitled "ELL students who struggle in school: Language difference or language disorder?" at Rio Linda Union School District in August 2007.

Ron Coleman, Biological Sciences, as part of the Sacramento Aquarium Society, co-hosted the Annual Convention of the American Cichlid Association, this summer in Sacramento, July 19-22. The convention brought 400 speakers and attendees from around North America (plus a few from Europe and Asia) to talk about the fish family Cichlidae.

Bill Leach, Center for Collaborative Policy, led a seminar on "Collaborative Governance of Water in California: What Role for the Legislature?" for legislative staff at the 2007 Capital Campus California Fall Retreat in Olympic Valley, Sept. 28.

Carolyn Gibbs, Design, published an article titled "ADT and SketchUp Team for Presentations" in the September/October issue of *AUGI World*, the journal of Autodesk User Group International.

Campus Announcements

Professors present preview lecture

English professors Catherine Gabor and Hellen Lee-Keller will present the preview lecture for Booker Prize-winning author Yann Martel and illustrator Tomislav Torjanac at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 24, at the Crest Theatre, 1013 K Street, Sacramento. The lecture is part of the California Lectures series. Tickets are \$25. More information is available at <http://www.californialectures.org/tickets.html>.

Submitted by the English Department

Campus climate

Sacramento State's Office of Institutional Research will conduct a survey between Oct. 22 and Nov. 16 to gather information about the campus climate, particularly with respect to intergroup dialogue about issues of diversity on campus. Faculty members who have been contacted about this survey are asked to consider participating in this important endeavor and return the participation request form to the Office of

Institutional Research, Sacramento Hall 250, campus zip 6028, by Oct. 22. Or reply by e-mail to oir-01@csus.edu.

Concerns regarding the survey should be forwarded to the Office of Institutional Research, at oir-01@csus.edu or 278-6566.

Submitted by the Office of Institutional Research

McGowan exhibits works

Art student Jayme McGowan will display paintings and drawings in the Witt Gallery at Kadema Hall Monday, Oct. 22 through Friday, Oct. 26. For hours, contact the Art Department at 278-6166.

Submitted by the Art Department

Exhibit honors Favela

"Calacalandia: Somewhere Between Aztlán and Mictlán," a memorial exhibition featuring the life and art of late Sacramento State art professor Ricardo Favela, will be held Oct. 29 – Nov. 2. in the Witt Gallery at Kadema Hall. Calacalandia, or "Land of Skeletons," was chosen as the exhibit's title, because Favela often used skeleton figures in his work in the tradition of Day of the Dead themes. The exhibition is curated by Xico Gonzalez, one of Favela's former students. A reception will be held from 6 to 9 p.m., Friday, Nov. 2. There will be an Aztec blessing by Quetzalcoatl Citlalli and musical performance by Atapaz. Contact the Art Department office at 278-6166 for exhibition hours.

Submitted by the Art Department

Scholarship deadline nears

The Hornet Bookstore and University Enterprises, Inc. remind everyone that the second annual Bookstore Scholarship deadline is Friday, Oct. 26. The "Books Without Bills" program provides \$250 to the winning student for texts, supplies, or just about anything else for the upcoming semester.

To enter, submit a typed, double-spaced, 250 word (maximum) essay on the theme of "The Greatest Book Never Written" in 12-point Arial type. On a separate sheet of paper type your name, the essay's word count, a list of your Fall 2007 classes, your class standing and major and the best way to reach you in early December. Place the items in an envelope and submit it in person to the customer service desk at the bookstore no later than 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26.

Students must be enrolled in at least one class to be eligible. The essays will be judged on quality and creativity. Only original material may be submitted.

Submitted by the Hornet Bookstore

Toastmasters hosts campus reception

The Sacramento State Toastmasters Leadership Club has been chartered as an official Toastmasters International chapter and will host a reception from 5 to 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 1 in the Summit Room of the University Union. Guests will include members of the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the press. The gathering will be followed by a club general meeting.

Submitted by Toastmasters Leadership Club

Destination 2010 students sought

The Public Affairs Office is looking for students to profile for the Destination 2010 page of the University's website. The students will also be featured in various publications including *Sac State Magazine*, the *Sacramento State Bulletin*, as well as campus recruitment and donor recognition materials.

Public Affairs is especially interested in students with interesting stories about where they came from, what they hope to do with their education, or who have had a transforming experience at Sacramento State, or have any other unique experiences or accomplishments. Destination 2010 profiles also reflect the campus' diversity in gender, ethnicity and life experiences.

Names of students should be submitted to Laurie Hall at laurie.hall@csus.edu. For more information, call 278-4282.

Submitted by Public Affairs

Special faculty, staff OneCard re-issue

Faculty and staff are urged to stop by the old bookstore, next to River Front Center, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23 for an early pick-up of their new OneCards. All that's needed is a photo ID (an old OneCard will do) to pick up the new card. The new cards have been pre-printed with the recipients' photos, so a new picture does not need to be taken. Those who cannot make it on that day will be able to stop by at any time when students also pick up their cards from Oct. 25 through Nov. 10. The OneCard Center will be temporarily re-located to the old bookstore during the re-issue period.

Submitted by Business Operations

Transit riders need old OneCard

Even though new OneCards are being issued, bus and light rail riders will still need the old OneCard with the current commuter sticker adhered to the back. The current sticker is valid through Dec. 31, so the new OneCard will not be accepted by regional transit until Jan. 1, 2008. Beginning at that time, the commuter pass will have a new look. The new OneCard will need to be slipped into a clear-plastic sleeve with the Spring 2008 commuter sticker adhered to the front of the sleeve. The new card must be placed into the sleeve facing the sticker to be a valid transit pass. Failure to display any one of the three components while boarding a bus or light rail will prohibit ridership and may result in a citation. The old OneCard will not be valid after that date.

The sleeve, with the spring commuter sticker, will be available in mid-December through University Transportation and Parking Services, the OneCard office, Student Financial Services Center and Associated Students, Inc. in the Union. A specific date will be announced later.

Submitted by the Information Resources and Technology

Hallway storage is a hazard

Officials with Risk Management Services remind everyone that equipment and furniture cannot be stored in corridors or stairwells for any length of time because it could impede emergency egress from a building and interfere with the ability of emergency responders to perform their duties. It is also a violation of the State Fire Code. Instructions for proper disposal can be found at www.fm.csus.edu/iwm/. The Integrated Waste Management and Moving Services department on campus can assist with the timely removal and reuse or recycling of large surplus equipment and furniture. This service can be requested through the Facilities Services Customer Service website, www.fm.csus.edu/Service_Request.htm, or by calling 278-6242. It is the responsibility of the equipment owners to plan ahead and work with Facilities Services to assure their surplus does not become a safety hazard or result in a regulatory violation for improper storage.

Submitted by Risk Management Services

Human Resources

Excess vacation hours

Sacramento State employees are limited in the amount of vacation they can keep as an unused balance. Those hours are reconciled annually and hours in excess of carry-over maximums must be used by Dec. 31 or be forfeited.

To view a vacation balance, go to www.csus.edu, log onto My Sac State using your username and password, and click on View Balances under Leave Accounting. The page will display current vacation balance and maximum vacation carry-over hours and alert you if it is approaching the maximum. Those who do not have access to a computer may request a print-out from the HR Payroll Office at 278-6211.

Exceptions to the carry-over policy must be approved by David L. Wagner, vice president for Human Resources, prior to the end of the calendar year. The request must include the reasons for the exception and be submitted in writing to the employee's Program Center manager for a recommendation. If approved, the recommendation must include a plan for using accrued vacation by Dec. 31, 2008. The recommendation must be forwarded to Wagner by Dec. 3, 2007 for approval. For more information, contact Human Resources at 278-6078.

Catastrophic leave donation program

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 a maximum of 40 hours per fiscal year.

If employees are interested in donating time, a donation form can be obtained by going to www.csus.edu/hr/forms.stm#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:

Mike Mullen, Facilities Management

Marcelino Coelho, Housing and Residential Life

Julie Villescás, Photocopy and Technical Support

Susan Wykoff, Counselor Education

*Lien Nguyen, Admissions and Records

*only vacation credits may be donated to this employee

25-year Profile: John Graff

It took a lot of struggle, but psychology department technician John Graff has found himself just where he wants to be.

When he graduated from high school, Graff had a scholarship to a small private college "and lots of big dreams," he says. But when his father became ill, Graff had to take out some loans, work every day and take only six to nine units a semester to keep his dreams alive. "In that respect, I was no different from the vast majority of other college students I see here on campus," Graff says.

He attended several different colleges in the Los Angeles area and eventually moved north where he attended Sacramento State.

Again, there were more obstacles to overcome. Graff suffered heart disease as a child, and in his senior year developed inherited neurological problems and sight loss. Psychology Department faculty members helped him through this difficult time. One of them, Murray Work, was particularly helpful and Graff began doing research with him. To assist them, they turned to desktop computers, which were just making their way into scientific venues at the time, using software developed at Sacramento State.

Graff and Work conducted research involving sea anemones and lampreys and, later, rodents. Studying animal learning fascinated Graff, who says he knew then this was the place and the educational environment in which he wanted to stay.

When Graff's predecessor left the position, he wasted no time applying for the post, and now assists faculty with the kinds of research projects he worked with in graduate school. The job also has provided him with opportunities to take classes, and pursue professional writing and photography. "It's great to know that I could make a life here in spite of some of my handicaps," Graff says.

Graff adds that he cannot think of a better place to work than a university. "I recommend this kind of life to any student who wants a career filled with the joys of life-long learning," he says.

Noting that Sacramento State faculty and staff are there for the students, Graff says everyone works together to get the job done. "It's a good feeling to be part of that, and I treasure every moment that I have spent here," he says.

About the writer:

Sacramento State's Craig Koscho can be reached at ckoscho@csus.edu

This Week in Hornet Action

Football

Saturday, Oct. 27

Sacramento State vs. Eastern Washington, 2:05 p.m.

Men's soccer

No games scheduled

Women's soccer

Friday, Oct. 26

Sacramento State at Northern Colorado, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 28

Sacramento State vs. Northern Arizona, noon

Volleyball

Thursday, Oct. 25

Sacramento State at Northern Colorado, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 27

Sacramento State at Northern Arizona, 7 p.m.

Cross country

Saturday, Oct. 27

Sacramento State at Big Sky Championships in Missoula, Mont.

Men's Tennis

Friday, Oct. 26 through Sunday, Oct. 28

Sacramento State at the Bronco Classic in Santa Clara, Calif.

Women's tennis

Friday, Oct. 19 through Monday, Oct. 22

Sacramento State at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Northwest Regionals in Stanford, Calif.

Rowing

Saturday, Oct. 27

Sacramento State at the Head of the American meet at Lake Natoma

Men's Golf

Monday, Oct. 22 and Tuesday, Oct. 23,

Sacramento State at the Santa Clara Invitational in San Jose, Calif.

Women's Golf

No tournaments scheduled