

THIS WEEK

December 18, 2006

vol. 13, no. 16



Positive outlook for 2006 graduates

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POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE--
Arco Arena brims with students as they become graduates

Doug Rice's novel approach to storytelling

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[Full Story](#)

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Last Bulletin

This is the last edition of the Sacramento State Bulletin for the fall semester. The first edition for the next academic year will be Monday, Jan. 22. Items may be submitted to the Sacramento State Bulletin at bulletin@csus.edu. The deadline is 10 a.m. the Wednesday before Monday publication. All submissions are subject to editing for style and space. More information is available at 278-6156.

monday BRIEFING

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

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PROFILE

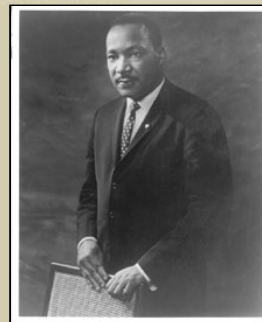


Outstanding Teacher -- Debra Harms

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[Full Story](#)

EVENTS



Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast

Sacramento State will hold the 24th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast on Monday, Jan. 15 at 8 a.m. in the University Union Ballroom.

MORE CAMPUS NEWS

[Faculty Senate](#)[Professional Activities](#)[Monday Briefing](#)



Sacramento State has a new carpool matching system—AlterNetRides—just for Sacramento State faculty, staff and students. To log on to the system and for more information regarding carpooling, visit the University Transportation and Parking Services web page at www.csus.edu/utaps. Click on Alternative Transportation and then the AlterNetRides button. Or visit www.sacregion511.org for a Sacramento regional carpool matching system.

A carpool consists of two or more occupants. Faculty/staff carpool permits are valid in any Sacramento State carpool parking spaces, located in Lots 1, 2, 4 and Parking Structure I. On days when carpool members drive to campus alone, a Faculty/Staff carpool permit is valid in Faculty/Staff spaces. Carpool permits may be obtained at the University Transportation and Parking Services office in Foley Hall.

For more information contact Alfredo Orozco at orozcoa@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. Deadline for all materials is 10 a.m. on the Wednesday before publication. For more information call 278-6156.

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[Full Story](#)

[Campus Calendar of Events](#)

ATHLETICS

Former Hornet Fred Amey signed by Austin

Former Sacramento State wide receiver Fred Otis Amey was signed by the Austin Wranglers of the Arena Football League, it was announced today. Amey will make his AFL debut on March 4, 2007 when the Wranglers host the Las Vegas Gladiators.

[Full Story](#)

[This Week in Hornet Action](#)

[Hornet Sports Home](#)

Positive outlook for 2006 graduates

This year's college graduates have a lot more to celebrate at commencement than the cessation of term papers and tests. A recently released survey indicates that the class of 2006 has the best job market in the past four years—a fact that should make the 3,500 graduates' smiles even broader than usual at Sacramento State's commencement ceremonies on Dec. 21-23.

A National Association of Colleges and Employers survey found that employers plan to hire 17.4 percent more college graduates this school year than a year ago. The survey also said that employers across the country are continuing to increase starting salaries for new college graduates.

Starting salary offers rose in almost all curriculum areas, with business disciplines and information sciences seeing the biggest jumps. Economics/finance graduates raised their average starting offer 6.2 percent, and accounting graduates' offers grew by 4.6 percent. The average offer to information sciences and systems graduates went up 7.5 percent.

"One of the most exciting changes we've seen is the increase in demand for accounting majors," says Eva Gabbe, manager of the Career Center's Recruitment Program. "Accounting graduates are doing exceptionally well in the job market. Graduates who choose jobs in sales are always in high demand—sales is the bread and butter of any company. And certainly construction management and engineering graduates are heavily recruited."

Gabbe also indicated that more than 100 companies—including KPMG, Intel, PG&E, Target and Granite Construction—come to campus during the year to collect resumes and schedule interviews.

"Corporations are looking for strengths such as oral and written communication skills, problem-solving abilities, leadership skills and good attitudes," says Gabbe. "Students often wonder how they can get these skills during their college years, and we encourage them to become officers in clubs and organizations, get internships and find co-op experiences and relevant part-time jobs.

When they attain these skills and use them in a professional setting, they certainly become the true executives of tomorrow."

And the large number of employee retirements has an effect on newcomers to the job market. "The demand for college graduates is going to explode over the next several years with the growing number of retirements of Baby Boomers," says Beth Merritt Miller, Director of the Career Center. "This is a change for the better for college grads."

Another change for Sacramento State graduates this year is the return of a winter commencement ceremony to the campus. This year's College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics commencement will be held in the University Union Ballroom. The remainder of commencement ceremonies will take place at Arco Arena on Dec. 22 and 23.

The schedule for Sacramento State's winter commencement ceremonies is:

Thursday, Dec. 21 – University Union Ballroom, Sacramento State

5:30 p.m.

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Doors open and candidates assemble at 5 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 22 – Arco Arena

Noon

College of Education
Doors open and candidates assemble at 11:30 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies
Doors open and candidates assemble at 2 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Doors open and candidates assemble at 4:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

College of Arts and Letters
Doors open and candidates assemble at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 23 – Arco Arena

8 a.m.

College of Health and Human Services
Doors open and candidates assemble at 7:30 a.m.

11 a.m.

College of Business Administration
Doors open and candidates assemble at 10:30 a.m.

For more information on commencement, call 278-4723 or visit www.csus.edu/commence. For more information on Sacramento State's Career Center, call 278-6231.

Doug Rice's novel approach to storytelling

Doug Rice hears voices in his head. But before drawing conclusions about his state of mind, you need to know that the voices are from characters in his next book.

Rice, a professor in the English Department and author of three published novels including *Skin Prayer and Blood of Mugwump*, says his writing process starts with a single character saying a single line. In one instant, he knows the nature and complexities of his novel's protagonist. "By the time the character has uttered the first sentence, I know its entire life story," says Rice.

For Rice, character development comes ahead of a storyline. "When I start to write a novel, I don't know what the book will be about. I put the character in a situation that causes complications in his or her life and sit back and watch how the individual behaves in that particular situation." He also does his level best to strike minutia from the story. "In our everyday lives, we don't go home and bore our partners with every single detail of the day. I don't do that when I write either. I include in the story the moments that matter, because those are the instances that change who my characters are as people.

"It's impossible to know what the story's beginning, middle and ending is going to be for these people. The root of the word 'read' means 'to pick up along the way.' So that's how I write. The character's personality dictates what's coming up next."

And what if he runs into a boring character or situation? "Luckily, art isn't exactly like life," says Rice. "I get to orchestrate what happens, so if I find my character in a situation that doesn't matter, I can 'fast forward' through that and move on to something more significant."

And Rice puts his money where his mouth is—wasting the reader's time with an irrelevant scene is something he avoids at all costs. "There was a scene in one of my books where two characters were sitting under a dogwood tree, and it was important to the story, although I wasn't sure why," Rice explains. "I wrote 15 drafts of the same scene before I realized why it was important."

The moral to the story, Rice learned, was that not everything is idea-driven. His goal was to write "inside the details," because that was how his stories were ultimately guided.

So how does Rice know when a story is finished? "Total exhaustion," he says. "I know when I've pushed a story as far as it can go. When I get to the point of suffocation, there isn't any language left in me to tell the story." He adds that the ends of his novels never tell the whole story. "I want the readers to be able to provide their own ending," he says. "That way, the story doesn't just belong to me. It belongs to the reader as well."

December 14, 2006

Budget Task Force

Sacramento State President Alexander Gonzalez has established a campus-wide Budget Task Force to examine the 2006-07 budget, determine the extent and sources of any structural deficit that may exist, and make recommendations regarding current and future spending regarding that deficit. The Budget Task Force will meet for the first time in December. Its membership includes members of the faculty, staff and administration as well as two student representatives.

The members of the Task Force are faculty members Steve Perez, Chris Castaneda, Tom Krabacher, Laureen O'Hanlon, Karen Davis-O'Hara, James Sobredo and Scott Farrand; administration/staff representatives Paul Edwards, Lillie Jones, Emir Macari and Suzanne Ogilby; and student representatives Tiffany Huang and Sabrina Barbarena.

The President has also indicated his plan to form a University Budget Advisory Committee once the Task Force has completed its work. That committee will be charged with involving the campus community in the budget process, ensuring that budget information is clear and easily accessible and making recommendations for annual budgets.

The current Sacramento State budget has a structural deficit that must be addressed in coming years. The Budget Task Force and the eventual University Budget Advisory Committee will play a key role in finding solutions and leading the campus community in informed budget discussions.

Some facts about the Sacramento State budget:

- CSU funding is based on enrollment and student fee revenue. The California Legislature mandates that the CSU system enroll a specific number of students each year, and the CSU in turn sets enrollment targets for each campus. Sacramento State has not met its enrollment targets for the past three years, missing by about 1.5 percent each year, and the problem has compounded. This is a structural problem that has been addressed for many years by carryover funds and reserves.
- Even though enrollment targets have not been met, the campus has continued to operate at the same level (as if it had made enrollment targets), which has contributed to the structural problem. In addition, mandatory costs have not been fully covered. These costs include salary/benefits, energy and insurance.
- The campus has relied on carry-forward funds to make up the difference between revenue shortfalls (of not meeting enrollment targets) and the permanent expenditure base, which has been kept at the same funding level.
- Continued funding of annual operations through carryover funds might have continued if enrollment had grown as quickly as expected. But while there has been growth, it has been slower than planned. After implementing a number of efforts related to student recruitment for 2006-07, such as adding student callers and increasing the number of visits to high schools and community colleges, the campus may meet its enrollment target. Specifically, in fall 2006, first-time freshmen enrollment at Sacramento State increased by 10 percent over fall 2005, but the campus at this point is 0.7 percent short of meeting the 2006-07 enrollment target.

- For 2006/07, the total funding available to Sacramento State from the General Fund is \$229 million. The campus budget called for General Fund spending of about \$235.5 million, which is \$6.5 million over the amount available.
- The existing Budget Advisory Group made the recommendation to eliminate this gap over three years by making cuts as well as utilizing some carryover and reserve funds. The President approved the recommendation.
- At the request of the Provost, and to allow the Budget Task Force the necessary time to make recommendations, the President has deferred permanent baseline cuts to Colleges and the Library for the 2006-07 fiscal year.
- Other units will implement cuts this year as planned. However, there have been increases for student recruitment, transcript evaluations to help retain transfer students, and initiatives to increase private funding. This amounts to about 0.5 percent of the budget.
- The compact agreement between the Governor and the CSU, while important, primarily covers salary increases, enrollment growth and a portion of the mandatory costs.
- The Budget Task Force will be expected to meet at least twice before the end of the fall semester and to make recommendations about the current budget in early 2007.

For media assistance, call the Sacramento State Public Affairs office 278-6156.

Faculty Senate

Monday, Dec. 18

3 p.m., General Education/Graduation Policies Committee, Sacramento Hall 275

No other meetings are scheduled.

Professional Activities

Students

Gabriel Apgar, Nicholas Weikel, and Sam Miller, the leaders of the ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) student chapter, received a certificate of appreciation from Emir Macari, Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science on December 7. The students were recognized for their contributions in leading the student organization for regional and national competitions, and for their service as president, treasurer and professional coordinator, respectively.

Scholarship

Mary Mackey, English, reads her poetry and discusses the history of poetry in Sacramento in the recently feature-length documentary film "I Began to Speak," produced by former Sacramento State graduate students B.L. Kennedy and Linda Thorell.

Mark Brown, Government, was an invited speaker at "The Stuff of Politics: Technoscience, Democracy, and Public Life," a workshop exploring the role of science and technology in democratic politics, held at Oxford University, December 7-10.

Bill Owen, Communication Studies, won a merit book award from the Haiku Society of America for the book he edited, entitled "If I Met Basho."

Rodney Kingsnorth, Sociology, had a letter published on September 23 in the *London Times* on American prison policy. The letter was a rejoinder to an article urging increased use of incarceration in the United Kingdom, on the grounds that high incarceration rates in the United States accounted for recent dramatic declines in U.S. crime rates.

Ron Coleman, Biological Sciences, was quoted in Denise Caruso's recent book *Intervention: Confronting the Real Risks of Genetic Engineering and Life on a Biotech Planet* (2006, Hybrid Vigor Institute, San Francisco) about the unexpected consequences of genetic engineering.

Laurel Zucker, Music, won the best classical solo instrumental album of the year 2006 award from J.P.F.-Just Plain Folks Award. She also was featured by the New York Flute Club in a flute and guitar recital at the Yamaha Artists Salon in New York City on December 17.

Kazue Masuyama, Foreign Languages, has been presented the 2006 Teacher Award (Community College/College/University) by the National Council of Teachers of Japanese Language (NCJLT). The Council is an organization dedicated to the promotion and development of Japanese language teaching at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels across the United States. The Award Ceremony was held Nov. 18 at the 40th Annual American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference, Nashville, Tennessee.

Ernie M. Hills, Music, was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) at their annual meeting in November. NASM is the national accrediting agency for music with more than 600 member institutions. He will serve a three-year term on the board and will chair of the Associations Region 1 representing Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

Gregory Bourne, Center for Collaborative Policy, served on a panel titled "Getting to Yes - Insider Tips From Three Top Mediators," at the Finding Common Ground, Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference held in Anaheim, Dec. 6.

In the News

Christopher Taylor, Astronomy and Physics, was quoted in the Nov. 7 *Sacramento Bee* about the rare planetary "transit" of Mercury passing between the Earth and sun.

Barbara O'Connor, Communication Studies, was quoted: in the Oct 30 *San Francisco Chronicle* about candidates' use of veterans in television ads to sway voters; in the Oct 21 *San Diego Tribune* about U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter's unusual move of buying a full page newspaper ad to rebut an article regarding his purchase of property; in the Oct. 24 *Pasadena Star News* about Jerry Brown's bid for the job as California's attorney general; in the Oct. 31 *Contra Costa Times* about the effectiveness of first lady Laura Bush's campaigning in California for candidate Richard Pombo; and interviewed on Oct. 2 *Pasadena Star* about using new technologies to overcome low voter turnout. She was interviewed on Oct. 25 on KQVR about the clutter of political advertisements on television; on Nov. 13 about the effect of budget cuts at Sacramento State; on Oct. 26 on KXTV about the governor's bond package; and on Nov. 2 on KCRA Channel 3 in their "Ad watch" series.

Ayad Al-Qazzaz, Sociology, was interviewed on Nov. 5 on KTXL Channel 40 about reactions to the sentencing of Saddam Hussein.

William Vizzard, Criminal Justice, was quoted in the Nov. 10 *Sacramento Bee* about the extensive manhunt for the killer of Sacramento County Deputy Jeffrey Mitchell.

Robert Waste, Public Policy and Administration, was quoted in the Nov. 9 *Sacramento Bee* about the defeat of two arena measures at the November polls.

Nancy Shulock, Institute for Higher Education Leadership & Policy, was quoted: in the Oct. 23 *Contra Costa Valley Times* and *Contra Costa West County Times* on the declining number of California students going to college directly after high school and in the Oct. 20 *Santa Rosa Press Democrat* about the gap in achievement in California schools.

John Corless, Accountancy, was quoted in the Nov. 3 *Sacramento Business Journal* about the rising demand for accountants and the role of universities in meeting this demand.

Andrew Anker, Design, was quoted in the November issue of *Commercial Architecture* about architecturally distinctive design in the workplace.

Timothy Hodson, Center for California Studies, was quoted in the Oct. 27 *Contra Costa Times* about political contributions by gaming tribes in the November election. He was interviewed on Nov. 8 on KXJZ about the governor's reelection and on Nov. 9 about the Sacramento arena measures.

Dong Shen, Family and Consumer Sciences, was interviewed on Nov. 13 on KMAX about changes in body image over the last 100 years and its influence on fashion marketing.

Campus Announcements

University Library's "wish list" online

Sacramento State's University Library maintains a "wish list" on Amazon.com for books the librarians have identified as needed. Most of the items are scholarly works. [The wish list.](#)

After selections are made and purchased, the books ship directly to the Library. Once the books are logged in there, the donor is acknowledged by the Library.

For more information, contact the University Library at 278-5679.

Submitted by the University Library

Stickers communicate importance of hand washing

New stickers placed on University restroom mirrors remind everyone that hand washing is the single most important act for preventing communicable disease. Every year, according to the Centers for Disease Control, poor hand washing practices result in 5,000 food borne illnesses, 78 million communicable illnesses, and greater than 79,000 deaths from hospital contracted diseases.

It is important to wash hands: before eating and after using the bathroom; before, during and after preparing food; after playing sports; after changing diapers; and anytime hands become dirty. Use soap and water, scrub and rinse for 20 seconds and dry.

Submitted by Risk Management Services

University Village moving forward

As part of Sacramento State's "Destination 2010" strategic plan, the 25-acre Ramona Avenue site is on track to develop into an urban village for faculty and staff. At build-out, the village will have several hundred new single- and multi-family homes, plus streets, parks, community facilities, and perhaps a business district. Homes will be priced below market rates, because the University will retain ownership of the land, selling only the improvements. "Smart growth" and "green construction" principles will be incorporated throughout the village. The project will emphasize pedestrian-friendly site planning features, significant transit orientation and sustainable building construction, focusing on the efficient use of energy, resources, and materials.

A conceptual village development plan and financial feasibility analysis will be prepared and presented at the end of January. Demolition of peripheral buildings will take place in January and February, with the main demolition later in 2007. The final development plan, the building designs, and the project's environmental impact analysis will be ready toward the latter part of 2008. If all goes well, the first buildings should be occupied before the end of 2009. The City and Redevelopment Agency will simultaneously be working on street and utility improvements in the surrounding area.

Submitted by University Enterprises, Inc.

Holiday Food Drive

The 2006 Sacramento State Holiday Food Drive ends Dec. 22. Monetary donations go the farthest. Send

checks, payable to "State Employees Food Drive," to Nancy Fox, department zip code 6076, or deliver to University Transportation & Parking Services in Foley Hall.

Employees may also pick up a bag at an Information Booth, located at each entrance to the campus, to take home and fill with food. Once bags are filled, employees may drive through an Information booth and drop it off.

Donations are greatly appreciated. For questions, call Nancy Fox at 278-5241. More information is available at www.csus.edu/utaps.

Submitted by Administration and Business Affairs

EAP Program available to faculty, staff and students

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offers short term counseling—up to 6 sessions—and assessment and referral services for a variety of problems and situations. These include both work and non-work related difficulties. Among the more common issues that lead people to contact EAP are work-related or personal stress, depression, anxiety, marital/relational problems, parenting concerns, behavior problems of children, life circumstances and alcohol/drug use.

EAP services are available, free of charge, to all employees of Sacramento State, University Enterprises Inc., Capital Public Radio, Associated Students Inc., and their eligible family members. All services are entirely confidential except as required by law, and release time from work is available.

The program is accessible Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Other hours can be arranged at staff discretion. EAP is located on the first floor of the Student Health Services building.

For more information, call 278-5018 or visit www.csus.edu/eapprogr.

Submitted by the Employee Assistance Program

Construction update

The Infrastructure utilities upgrade project continues in various locations. Work on the steam and chilled water pipe installation may at times disrupt pedestrian traffic on walkways between the Tahoe Hall and AIRC buildings and between the Parking Structure II and the University Union. Detours will be available.

Fire alarm system installation will occur in Capistrano, Lassen, Sacramento, and Yosemite Halls this week. Work will mainly be conducted after hours. Work notices will be posted in the building.

Stadium Drive will be closed next week to connect utilities to the new Broad Athletic Facility. Parking immediately to the north and west of the Alumni Center will also be closed. The construction will start Monday, Dec. 18 and continue to Friday, Jan. 26. Parking Lot 8 will be accessible from State University Drive East and by the information booth.

Submitted by Facilities Services

New certificate program offered in Web development

In light of rapidly changing Web technologies, the Department of Computer Science at Sacramento State is offering a newly updated Web Development Certificate program beginning Spring 2007 with full implementation in the Fall 2007.

The updated program provides hands-on training and covers the full cycle of the Web development process using the latest Web technologies. Topics such as Blogs and Wikis, E-Commerce and content management systems are covered. Standards-based and open-source technologies, such as PHP, AJAX, .NET, and J2EE are emphasized in the updated program.

For additional information, see the program Web site at:

www.ecs.csus.edu/csc/webcertsite.

Submitted by the Department of Computer Science

Holiday Thanks from University Enterprises

As we celebrate the joys and accomplishments of 2006, we are reminded and inspired by our connectedness with Sacramento State and the people who work, grow, and flourish here together. From everyone at University Enterprises-we extend our sincere appreciation and best wishes for a healthy, productive, and very happy new year.

Submitted by University Enterprises, Inc.

Food/Merchandise

Dining Services Winter Break Hours

Jan. 2 - 28, 2007

North Campus :

Togo's: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

GBX!: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

River Front Vending: Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Java City – Roundhouse: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

South Campus:

Round Table: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Burger King: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Gordito Burrito: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Java City - Union Station: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Kung Fu Fat's: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

University Center Restaurant: Breakfast - Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Lunch - Monday - Friday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Union Vending: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Java City - Modoc Hall: Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Submitted by University Enterprises, Inc.

Human Resources

Release of Dec. 2006 payroll warrants

Master payday falls on Friday, Dec. 29 during the winter break. This year, paychecks will be released in person only upon written request from the individual employee. Checks will be available from 1 to 3 p.m. on Dec. 29 in Lassen Hall Room 1001. The check pick-up request form is available at www.csus.edu/sfsc/disbursement.htm.

Checks not requested for pick-up will be distributed to the appropriate warrant officer on Jan. 2, 2007. Employees who choose to but become unable to pick up checks on Dec. 29 can pick them up in the Student Financial Services Center on Jan. 2. Individuals participating in the direct deposit system will have their funds deposited to their bank. Warrant officers will distribute direct deposit slips on Jan. 2.

For more information, contact Elvia Garcia, Student Financial Services Center, at 278-7422.

Supervisors/managers of those employees who do not receive personal e-mail should arrange to distribute or post this notice for their employees' information.

Submitted by Human Resources

New vision plan insurance carrier

The Chancellor's Office recently completed a competitive bid process to select the insurance carrier for the employer-paid California State University (CSU) vision plan. As a result, the CSU has awarded a three-year contract to Vision Service Plan (VSP), replacing Medical Eye Services (MES/Blue Shield), effective Jan. 1, 2007. The CSU continues to pay the full monthly premium cost for the vision benefit for eligible employees and their dependents. For details regarding VSP and new benefit enhancements and/or co-payments under the plan, go to the Office of Human Resources Benefits website and click on "What's New". A benefit program announcement and a vision plan benefit summary are available for viewing. For more information regarding the VSP Select Network of providers, visit the VSP website at www.vsp.com. VSP's Customer Service Center is available Monday – Friday, 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday, 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. via their toll-free number: (800) 877-7195.

Submitted by Human Resources

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 extension 278-3522.

The following employee has been approved for the Catastrophic Leave Donation Program:
Nabor Lopez, Facilities Services

Submitted by Human Resources

Outstanding Teacher -- Debra Harms

Learning comes in a variety of forms. Sometimes it's through a lecture. Other times, a lab experience. For Debra Harms' students, it's as the result of supervision in the University's Mary Jane Rees Speech, Language and Hearing Center.

On the path to their master's degrees, speech pathology and audiology students take part in a clinical experience where, under the supervision of faculty members like Harms, they gain experience in treating members of the community for a number of communication disorders.

Harms, this year's recipient of the Outstanding Teaching Award in the College of Health and Human Services, says that it's important for students to learn through trial and error to bring who they are to their skills of the profession rather than becoming "a mold of me."

"I can give them wings to fly but I encourage them to fly on their own," she says. "My goal is to give them the tools they need to venture out on their own. But I think it's also important for them to discover what they need to focus on in therapy that will be meaningful and functional for the individual."

It's an approach that resonates with students.

One student who recommended Harms for the Outstanding Teaching Award wrote, "Her ability to give the proper amount of feedback to foster my growth of knowledge was unsurpassed in my experience. She

provided both positive feedback and constructive criticism in a positive manner which directly and profoundly contributed to my growth as a competent and confident clinician.”

Another wrote, “She creates an environment of learning that is both nurturing and informative to the students. She has the unique gift of genuine care and compassion for not only the clients we provided service to, but the students as well. In addition to her role as clinical supervisor, Mrs. Harms provides vital information to classes of students through in-services and conferences in the field of sensory integration.”

Harms balances her teaching work at the University with a position as an early intervention speech-language pathologist working with infants and toddlers at Alta California Regional Center. She also is a clinical team member of its monthly Down syndrome clinic.

She has also worked with children and adults as a speech therapy coordinator in the neurological program at Mercy Outpatient Rehabilitation Center in Roseville and in preschool, elementary and high school special education. Before coming to Sacramento State, she taught speech pathology and audiology courses at the college level in Walla Walla, Wash.

Harms says these experiences have influenced her teaching philosophy by giving her the opportunity to work as a member of a clinical team that often includes occupational therapists, physical therapists and respiratory therapists, as well as clinical psychologists. “I emphasize to the students that they need to look at the client as a whole, not just through the lens of a speech-language pathologist.”

Harms holds a bachelor’s degree in speech pathology and audiology from Loma Linda University and a master’s degree in speech and hearing sciences from Washington State University.

In addition to her clinic work, Harms has been putting in time in the front of the classroom, filling in for a colleague who is on sabbatical.

“I love what I do here at Sac State. I love seeing students succeed and seeing their enthusiasm that I saw in myself 25 years ago,” she says. “I appreciate their willingness to learn and grow. And the learning process is very reciprocal. I learn a lot from the fresh ideas and fresh approaches they bring with them.”

Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast

Sacramento State will hold the 24th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Prayer Breakfast on Monday, Jan. 15 at 8 a.m. in the University Union Ballroom.

The event, “God’s Promises: Looking Beyond the Dream,” is presented by the Northern District Baptist Association Women’s Auxiliary. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Claybon Lea, Jr., pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Fairfield and vice-president-at large of the California State Baptist Convention.

Admission is \$22 for adults and \$17 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at the Sacramento State ticket office at 278-4323 or visit Tickets.com.

For more information about the event, contact Kim Harrington at 278-6327.