December 10, 2012

News

Sanjay Varshney to represent University in business community
President Alexander Gonzalez has asked Dean Sanjay Varshney to represent Sacramento State in the numerous economic and business organizations that partner with the campus.

“It is crucial that we continue to promote our value as an engine of growth and as an essential provider of educated graduates for the state’s workforce,” Gonzalez said. “In this regard, the business community is a key stakeholder for our campus, and it has only grown in importance, given recent election cycles and the economic downturn.”

This change will allow Sacramento State to continue to focus on these partnerships as the Office of Public Affairs and Advocacy has assumed more marketing duties and has boosted University communications since its reorganization. Varshney’s new title will be vice president for economic and regional partnerships, and dean of the College of Business Administration. His expanded role follows his strong contributions to the regional business community.

Submitted by the Office of the President

Lee Simpson appointed director of GE Honors Program
It is our pleasure to announce that Professor Lee Simpson has been appointed director of the GE Honors Program. A tenured full professor of History, she came to Sacramento State in 2005 and has been highly involved in the GE Honors Program since its inception in 2006. She has served as interim director since July. As members of the nominating committee noted, in her one semester as interim director, she already has significantly improved student advising and made progress in assessing the program and documenting its accomplishments.

As the committee also noted, Simpson is “passionate about the program” and adept at outlining her vision and plans for its future. Students in GE Honors, members of the community advisory committee, the campus advisory board, faculty and staff alike have expressed confidence in her leadership.

Submitted by Academic Affairs

Campus eatery hours during finals week
University Enterprises Inc. Dining Services has announced changes to campus eatery business hours for the week of Dec. 10-14. For a complete list of eateries and their scheduled hours of operation during finals week, please look under the News & Events heading at www.dining.csus.edu. For questions, please contact Dining Services Manager Nicole Johnson at 278-6376.

Submitted by UEI/Marketing Services

Electrical outage schedule during winter break
Facilities Services will perform electrical system maintenance Dec. 22-31 on buildings shown in the schedule at the link below. Some buildings will have up to an eight-hour power
outage. There also will be two- to three-minute outages in some buildings so that circuits can be rerouted for construction activities related to the Smart Grid project. If you work in one of the listed buildings, please be sure to turn off all electronics, computers and other electrical equipment to avoid damage from power surges. To view the outage schedule: www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/2012/12/documents/2012WinterBreakOutageSchedule.pdf.

Submitted by Facilities Services

**Date change for UTAPS senior director candidate’s open forum**
The date of the open forum for senior director of University Transportation and Parking Services candidate Tony Lucas, director of Business and Finance, Public Safety Services, at Sacramento State, has been changed to 1:30-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, in the University Union, Hinde Auditorium. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Donaville at donavil@csus.edu.

Submitted by Administration and Business Affairs

**Copy Graphics Center closing**
University Enterprises Inc. has announced that the Copy Graphics Center will close its doors at the end of business Friday, Dec. 14. A combination of increasing maintenance costs and budgetary constraints played a significant role in making this very difficult decision. For questions or more information, please contact Craig Barth at (916) 278-7326 or craig.barth@csus.edu.

Submitted by UEI/Marketing Services

**Journal of Transformative Leadership and Policy Studies accepting submissions**
The Journal of Transformative Leadership and Policy Studies is accepting submissions of scholarly manuscripts authored by faculty and other educational leaders. A peer-reviewed online journal sponsored jointly by the 13 Doctorate in Education programs in the CSU and the Chancellor’s Office, JTLPS showcases scholarship that speaks to problems and issues that educational leaders at all levels must address to serve California’s diverse student population equitably and effectively. We have a strong interest in manuscripts dealing with STEM education.

Visit edweb.csus.edu/edd/jtlps/index.html to view the journal. Contact Terry Underwood, JTLPS editor, at tlunder@csus.edu for more information.

Submitted by the College of Education

**Fall 2012 Faculty Teaching Assignment Report available**
The Faculty Teaching Assignment Report is available on the Office of Institutional Research website. This report is based on the Academic Planning Data Base submitted to and approved by the Chancellor’s Office on the Fall 2012 census date. It displays detailed information regarding faculty teaching load such as courses and sections, student course credits, section enrollment, student FTE and weighted teaching units by individual faculty member and department.

To view the report, go to www.csus.edu/oir. Click on “Data Center,” then “Faculty: Special Reports.” Please contact the Office of Institutional Research at 278-6566 if you have any questions.

Submitted by the Office of Institutional Research
2012 California State Employees Food Drive
This year’s California State Employees Food Drive at Sacramento State runs through Tuesday, Dec. 18. Please reach as deep as you can to help make the holidays and the new year a little better for the many children and families helped by your donations.

Monetary donations and canned goods: Your monetary donations go the farthest, as bulk food can be purchased at lower cost. Make checks payable to “California Emergency Foodlink” and mail them to Nancy Fox, department zip code 6076. Food collection boxes for canned goods have been placed in most department offices and information booths at campus entrances.

Holiday events: As you plan your department holiday events, please consider doing one or more of the following:
- Ask folks to bring canned or monetary donations to the holiday events.
- Put out donation jars so people can drop in their change.
- Hold a silent auction with donated items.
- Ask folks to bring canned goods to campus events.
- Have a book or rummage sale.

For more information, go to www.csus.edu/utaps. If you have questions, contact Nancy Fox, food drive coordinator, at foxna@csus.edu or 278-5241.
Submitted by University Transportation and Parking Services

Sac Pack Drive
The Community Engagement Center is hosting its fall Sac Pack Drive through Friday, Dec. 14. Donate new or gently used school and art supplies to benefit children in need. Thanks to the generosity of the campus community in last year’s Sac Pack Drive, Loaves & Fishes’ Mustard Seed School received backpacks, paper, writing utensils, art supplies, folders, notebooks and binders that will directly benefit homeless youths. Visit csus.edu/cec/sacpack for the donation wish list and more information. Donations can be dropped off from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Community Engagement Center, Library 4028.
Submitted by the Community Engagement Center

Professional activities
The latest professional activities are available at www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/2012/11/ProfessionalActivities11-26-12.html.
Submitted by the Office of Public Affairs and Advocacy

Faculty Senate schedules
The Faculty Senate schedule for December is available at www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/20Dec. 10/FacultySenateDec2012.html.
Submitted by the Faculty Senate

Security quick tip
Websites can pose risks of spyware and malware. This is especially true of unknown websites, as there are increasing numbers of “distribution sites” – malicious websites that infect your computer when you visit them. Even legitimate websites can be hacked and infected with malware. Your computer’s antivirus software may send you warning signs to indicate when a site could be dangerous or untrustworthy. It is always best to avoid sites that your antivirus software warns against. It is also important to keep antivirus software updated.
Submitted by the Information Security Office
Human Resources

Address changes
Verify and/or correct your address no later than Friday, Dec. 14, as W-2s for 2012 will be mailed to the address listed on your pay stub as of that date.

Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2013
On Sept. 12, Chapter 296, Statutes of 2012 (AB 340, Furutani), was signed into law by the governor. This legislation established the Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2013. The act provides various retirement-related changes that, in some cases, are complex and require additional analysis. CalPERS and the CSU Chancellor’s Office are working together on the implementation details, PEPRA requirements and employee communications.

As the analysis unfolds, information is continuously updated by the CSU Chancellor’s Office through The Benefits Insider: Pension Reform FAQs and by CalPERS through California Public Employees’ Retirement System Pension Reform FAQs. Please refer to these websites periodically for updates that may affect you.

For questions regarding the CalPERS Retirement Program and/or retirement processing, see “Steps to Retirement” on the HR Benefits website or call Mary Ford, benefits manager, at 278-6213.

Retirement reception for Mary Ford
Please join us in a fond farewell to Human Resources Benefits Manager Mary Ford as she retires after more than 29 years at Sacramento State. A University-wide retirement reception will be held in her honor from 3-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, in the Terrace Suite of The WELL. We hope to see you there!

Catastrophic leave donation
Sacramento State employees may voluntarily donate to other employees up to a maximum of 40 hours of sick or vacation leave credits in one-hour increments each fiscal year. Bargaining Units 1, 10 and 11 may donate only up to 16 hours per fiscal year. If employees are interested in donating time, a form can be obtained at www.csus.edu/hr/forms.htm#Disability, by visiting the Human Resources Disability Leaves office in Del Norte Hall, Suite 3002, or by calling 278-3522.

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

Richard Filson, Mail Services
Florence Jackson, UTAPS
Rorie Oliver, Housing
Laura O’Neill, Mechanical Engineering
Geetha Ramachandran, Math Department