

Center's 14th Envisioning Conference—The Best Yet

With an array of attendees from across California, the United States and the world, the 14th Annual Envisioning California Conference, *Envisioning a State of Learning: Moving California's Master Plan for Higher Education into the 21st Century*, was one of the best-attended conferences in the Center's history.

It was a day and a half of spirited, provocative, educational and interesting conversation and debate. Unique to the Conference this year was the buzz, the energy, and the indefinable but almost palpable synergy of the people, the time and the event.

Scheduled around the release of the final report of the state Legislature's Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education and with considerable cooperation with the Joint Committee's chair, Senator Dede Alpert and her staff, the Conference was the first independent public discussion of higher education issues following the final report's release. The conference provided the opportunity to cover a wider range of higher education issues than those addressed in the Joint Committee's Report.

Conference participants were a compelling mix that reflected the many facets of higher education policy. Leaders of the UC, CSU and Community College systems, such as CSU Chancellor Charles Reed were joined by constitutional officers, legislators, legislative staff, and other public officials, including Superintendent of Public Instruction Delane Eastin, ranking Republican on the Joint Committee Assemblymember Lynne Leach (R. Walnut Creek) and Senator and former college president Jack Scott (D. Pasadena). Faculty leaders such as Gayle Binion, Linda Collins and Jacquelyn Kegley, respectively the current or former chairs of the UC, Community College and CSU statewide academic senates, met with state and national education experts like



Melinda Melendez, moderator of the opening plenary session, sits with the panelists (left to right) Dennis Jones, President, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, Patrick Callan, President, National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education and Ruben Arminana, President, Sonoma State University.

Dennis Jones, Patrick Callan, Robert Berdahl, and Jane Wellman. Of particular interest were the higher education experts from Australia, Canada, India, Norway, Rumania, and South Africa who shared their national insights on California's Master Plan.

The event provided opportunities for airing a wide range of opinions, ideas and suggestions. Panels covered such disparate subjects as admissions, workforce preparation, shared governance, diversity in higher education, campus architecture, accountability, faculty preparedness, technology, literature of universities, education leadership, journalism, global perspectives, decentralization and master planning.

Bracketing these panels were two plenaries. The

continued on next page

While the content of our newsletter is the same, our look is new. We hope you continue to enjoy hearing what we're up to at the Center. This newsletter and more information about the Center can be found at www.csus.edu/calst.

Inside

- Book Review
- Policy Snap Shots
- LegiSchool News
- Featured Alum



Alum Harry Shearer, page 7

Panelists engage in a provocative discussion of the Joint Committee's work. From left to right: Charles Ratliff, Consultant to the Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education; Lynne Leach, State Assemblymember (R-15); Christopher Cabaldon, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor, California Community Colleges; David Spence, Executive Vice Chancellor, CSU; Delaine Eastin, Superintendent of Public Instruction; and Dan Weintraub, Columnist, *The Sacramento Bee*.



Envisioning California Conference

continued from front page

opening plenary Thursday night set a tone of tough questions and open challenges to our comfortable and (at times, smug) conventional wisdom about the Master Plan. The concluding plenary on Friday appropriately brought the various themes of the Conference together with a provocative and animated discussion of the Joint Committee's work.

Together, the timing, people, and the event sparked bold, creative and challenging discussions about higher education policy. Some participants argued that the current debate and Master Plan are overly focused on access and thus ignore truly critical questions of capacity and the shift of useful segment differentiation into dysfunctional segmental silos.

Particularly provocative were the arguments that the Master Plan's focus on procedural issues obscures the "dirty little secret of California higher education," a

retention rate that is among the lowest in the Nation.

Spirited debates also arose over the traditional emphasis of attention and resources on higher education at the expense of workforce preparation. Acknowledgment of the great successes and vision of the Master Plan and the proven strengths of California public higher education underscored all of these open and candor debates. The *Envisioning California Conference* created real momentum for continued debate and future actions in higher education policy. And it was that atmosphere that made the 14th Annual Envisioning California Conference such an uncommon event.

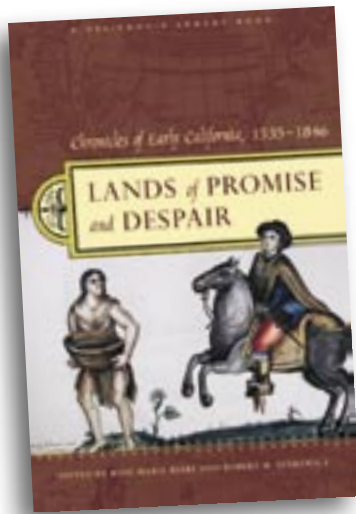
The Center would like to thank ETS, Pearson Education, the California Cable Television and Telecommunications Association as well as the help of our partners at the Center for Southern California Studies at CSU Northridge for their generous support of this year's conference.

Milton Chan, Executive Director of the George Lucas Educational Foundation, inspires the luncheon audience on the use of high technology in education.



During the Vocational Education session, panelists Robert Johnson, Executive Director of the California Association of Private Postsecondary Schools (left) and Gwyneth Tracy (right) listen to CSUS Professor Duane Campbell make the point that 40 percent of the jobs in the next ten years will not require a college education.





Before the Gold Rush

When Mexican Californios and Europeans Met—First Hand Accounts

by Jonathan Kirsch

Reprinted with permission by *The Los Angeles Times*

Much of what is written about California has been the work of visitors who bring their own presumptions and prejudices along with them, stay only briefly and then go back home and tell the rest of the world what they think they saw here.

The phenomenon, as we discover in *Lands of Promise and Despair*, is hundreds of years old. The word “California” in fact first appeared in print in 1510, when the Spanish author Garci Rodriguez de Montalvo was inspired by the reports of early New World explorers to conjure up an island paradise where black women in gold armor (their queen was named “Calafia”) procreated with kidnapped sailors. The name came to be attached to the Golden State, which was depicted as an island by early Spanish map makers.

“Sometimes, without realizing it, we give foreign authors the last word,” write Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz, the editors of *Lands of Promise and Despair*, a richly illustrated anthology of witness accounts of the troubled but crucial period when native Californians and Europeans first came into contact with each other. The authors’ self-declared goal—and one that they accomplish with scholarly authority and a flair for storytelling—is to restore to the modern reader “a genuine experience of Spanish and Mexican California from the inside.”

Lands of Promise and Despair surveys what we might call the pre-history of California. Much has been written about the era that began with the Gold Rush in 1849, but Europeans had already been here for some 300 years when gold was found at Sutter’s Mill. And the first Spanish conquistadors, of course,

encountered a native population whose own history goes back thousands of years and a native culture that had produced an oral tradition so rich that it was expressed in 100 different languages.

Professors at Santa Clara University, Beebe and Senkewicz, have selected and collected the most colorful and revealing passages of the oral histories known as *testimonios*, as well as the letters and journals of explorers and settlers and the official reports of Spanish colonial bureaucrats who saw it all with their own eyes. From the outset, and over the centuries, the constant theme is conquest.

Witness accounts depict conflicts between missionaries and soldiers, Indians and non-Indians, Hispanic settlers and Anglo newcomers, friends and neighbors revealing the reality of daily life. The occasional murder of a soldier or priest, of course, was ultimately futile, as we are constantly reminded in *Lands of Promise and Despair*. The Old World planted itself in the New World, and the original Californians survived only on the ragged edges. Still, here and there, embedded in the writings of Europeans, we find fragments of the oral traditions that were nearly obliterated, including a poignant lament by the Aztec victims of the original Spanish conquistadors:

*Broken spears lie in the roads;
we have torn our hair in our grief.
The houses are roofless now, and their walls
are red with blood.*

About the Authors

Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz teach Spanish and history, respectively, at Santa Clara University. They translated and edited *The History of Alta California* by Antonio Maria Osio and have written a number of essays on Spanish and Mexican California. Beebe is the president of the California Mission Studies Association.

• *Lands of Promise
• and Despair:
• Chronicles of
• Early California,
• 1535-1846,
• Edited by Rose
• Marie Beebe
• and Robert M.
• Senkewicz,
• Santa Clara
• University/
• Heyday Books;
• 544 pp., \$21.95
• A California
• Legacy Book*

A richly illustrated anthology of witness accounts when native Californians and Europeans first came into contact with each other.

•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•

California Budget Project Rebuttal

by Assemblymember Bill Leonard (R-63rd District)

Editor's Note:

The spring 2002 Californiana included a Snap Shot devoted to the state's budget crisis. Written by Jean Ross of the California Budget Project, the SnapShot elicited a request for an opportunity to respond from Assemblymember Bill Leonard (R. Upland). We were happy to give Mr. Leonard that opportunity as he offers a legitimate, interesting and provocative perspective very different than that of Ms. Ross. Mr. Leonard's request also gave us an opportunity to acknowledge his great contributions to the Center and the Capital Fellows Programs.

This is Bill Leonard's last year in the state Legislature. He is precisely the type of legislator voters want in office and both California and its legislature will be poorer for his departure. As a legislator he argued passionately and skillfully for his beliefs but never forgot that compromise and respect for opposing views are essential virtues in representative democracies. He refused to shy away from policy debates, especially those where costs are high, glory is absent, and benefits are not public acclaim but the public good. In terms of the Center and the Fellows, Bill Leonard is an alumnus, an outstanding mentor, and a much-appreciated supporter.



BILL LEONARD

I find it disturbing that the California Budget Project, in their article "The Surplus that Dot-Gone" contends that our budget deficit is a result of insufficient tax revenues when it is clearly runaway spending.

How can one reach that conclusion when our budget grew by 37% while our population only grew at a rate of 5% during the first three years of Governor Gray Davis' administration?

The assertion that population growth (5%), inflation (8.45%), and "recession-driven increases in demand for services," caused state spending to rise at the rate it did is ridiculous.

- California taxpayers, per capita, pay nearly \$3000 in state taxes. On the other hand, in Arizona, which has a larger percentage population of senior citizens, putting a potentially higher demand on social services, taxpayers pay only \$1800 per capita.
- Meanwhile, California state expenditures per \$100 of personal income are currently at \$9.27 – an all-time high! Just six years ago, state expenditures were \$7.76 per \$100 of personal income.
- If one were to use the Gann Limits as the baseline for budgeting since Governor Davis took office, the budget should have grown 21.8%. In this scenario there would be a \$38.2 billion cumulative surplus, which would allow for further tax cuts, ratepayer rebates, and a healthy reserve for emergencies.
- Following is just one scenario that, had our Governor been responsible with the previous three years' budgets, could have been discussed instead of the current tax increases being proposed for this year's budget:

- \$12 BILLION** Completely abolished the Car Tax (Vehicle License Fee)
- \$5.2 BILLION** Sent \$525 “power rebate” to ratepayers
- \$5.1 BILLION** Canceled all new Davis-proposed tax increases
- \$3.6 BILLION** Canceled “Enron Accounting” electricity tricks
- \$4.5 BILLION** Canceled Tobacco Settlement Securitization
- \$3.0 BILLION** Restored a prudent reserve
- \$3.8 BILLION** Balance for additional taxpayer rebates

California State Controller Kathleen Connell recently released the General Fund Cash Basis Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2002. Contained in the report is a stunning figure that bears scrutiny:

The cash balance in the California General Fund as of June 30, 2002 was a negative \$10.4 billion dollars. Just one year ago there was a \$3.4 billion cash surplus in the General Fund.

- By contrast Colorado, a state with only 12% of California’s population, returned \$927 million in tax rebates along with a balanced budget according to the Colorado Department of Revenue. What is the difference? Colorado is a low tax state that has a constitution that limits state spending to the rate of inflation and population growth. A comparable rebate in California would be \$3.89 billion!
- Colorado Governor Bill Owens has served during the same period as our Governor Davis and Colorado’s per capita general fund expenditures grew only 8% while California’s grew 31%. Colorado has also returned over \$3 billion in surplus revenue and additional tax cuts over the past three years.

Davis has wiped out potential future tax cuts and rebates of up to \$12 billion by increasing spending far beyond what is prudent and necessary.

The California Budget Project assumes that the only way to recover approximately half of the budget deficit is by increasing tax rates.

Of course an increase in rates would result in slowing the economy further and lowering state revenue even more. This is what happened in the early 1990s when tax increases led to a massive business exodus from the state and delayed our recovery by several years.

- Legislative Analyst Elizabeth Hill has calculated that the amount of money raised in 1992, 1993 and 1994, because of tax increases imposed during the budget crisis of 1991-92, was not as much as the original revenue estimates predicted. The Analyst’s office looked at the three main components of the 1991 tax increase: the increase in the Sales and Use Tax (SUIT) rate; the establishment of high-income tax brackets; and the suspension of Net Operating Loss (NOL) carryovers.

■ The LAO found that the total difference in 1991-92 between the original revenue estimates and the actual revenues for the three major provisions was about \$800 million, approximately 20 percent lower than forecast. Shortfalls also occurred in 1992-93 and 1993-94 as well, totaling \$475 million and \$560 million respectively.

California’s recent history shows us that revenue projections from new taxes are not reliable. We cannot count on this money coming into the state coffers. The shortfalls were in large part due to the prolonged stunting of the California economy as a result of these tax increases.

THE CALIFORNIA BUDGET PROJECT ASSUMES THAT THE ONLY WAY TO RECOVER APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE BUDGET DEFICIT IS BY INCREASING TAX RATES.

The LegiSchool Corner

Engaging Young People In Matters of Public Policy and State Government



Students vote on touch screen voting machines at LegiSchool's October Town Hall Meeting.



The start of fall also means the start of a new year for LegiSchool and this year's events, topics and opportunities are better than ever!

■ From the November election to civil liberties in light of heightened state security to a debate on stem cell research, this year's LegiSchool Town Hall Meetings are sure to stimulate fascinating discussions.

■ LegiSchool's sixth annual essay contest will ask students to write about the use of cell phones on campuses. Winning essayists will take part in our annual Student Journalism Summit, including a Student-Run Press Conference with members of the legislature. **Postmark deadline is January 17, 2003.** Call (916) 278-4642 for more information.

■ In conjunction with the California Channel, LegiSchool offers videos and curriculum materials on state government basics—from the ins and outs of voting to the legislative process to checks and balances. These free materials can be easily used to teach California's History and Social Science Content Standards. The materi-

als also help to develop students into politically astute members of society.

■ LegiSchool would like to thank the Wells Fargo Foundation for its generous contribution to the Real World Civics Summer Internship, a unique program for high school students run by LegiSchool with help from the Capital Fellows Programs.

The award-winning LegiSchool Project is a civic education collaboration between CSU Sacramento and the California State Legislature. For more information, contact LegiSchool at (916) 278-6906 or visit LegiSchool's website at www.csus.edu/calst/legischool.htm.

2002-2003 LegiSchool Calendar

■ September 19

Native American Rights vs. Development in California: Balancing Competing Interests

■ October 10 (Sacramento) and October 30 (Los Angeles)

Election 2002: California's Race for Governor—High School Students Debate and Vote in Mock Elections

■ January 17

Essay Contest Deadline

■ February 6

Protecting California: Keeping the State Safe While Maintaining Civil Liberties

■ March 20

Cell Phones at School: Necessary Convenience or Irritating Intrusion?

■ May 1

Science in the 21st Century: Have We Gone Too Far or Not Far Enough?

Fellow News

Opportunity to Purchase PERS Credit

Recently enacted legislation permits members of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) who are former Capital Fellows to purchase service credit for the time they were employed under the four fellowship programs administered by the Center. The new statute, which becomes effective on January 1, 2003, is applicable to fellows who served on or after October 14, 1991.

Fellows who served prior to 1991 are already eligible to purchase service credit for their fellowship employment. The new legislation (SB 183, Burton) affects hundreds of Assembly, Executive, Judicial Administration and Senate Fellows. The law also applies to PERS contracting agencies at the discretion of the individual agency.

Individuals who are interested in purchasing service credit for the time they spent as Capital Fellows should contact the Member Services Division of PERS at (800) 352-2238 or www.calpers.ca.gov.

Harry Shearer

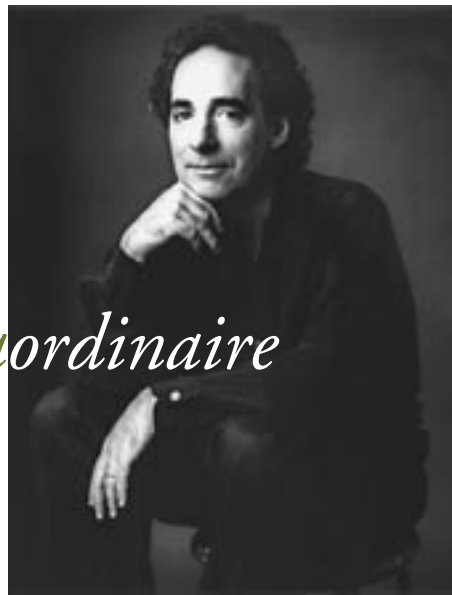
Fellow Extraordinaire

Former Fellow Harry Shearer is one of Hollywood's most acclaimed political satirist and voices. Harry Shearer, from the international hit television series *The Simpsons*, was in the 1965-66 Class of Assembly Fellows. He is now heard but never seen as three of the show's leading characters on *The Simpsons*—Mr. Burns, Smithers and Ned Flanders—as well as dozens of other voices.

Shearer, a Los Angeles native, began acting at the age of seven at the suggestion of his piano teacher-turned-agent. His first film debut was in the classic *Abbott and Costello Go To Mars* movie, and had a bit part in the first Cinemascope movie *The Robe*. He also appeared often on various TV shows including *The Jack Benny Show*, the *GE Theatre*, and *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*. He even played the role of Eddie Haskell in the pilot episode of *Leave It to Beaver*.

During the turbulent sixties, Shearer was accepted into the 1965-66 Class of Assembly Fellows. Shearer remembers, "I had a great experience in the fellowship program. I got to run some hearings, to do some constituent service that really served some people, and to learn what separates good people in the legislative process from other types."

Mr. Shearer's motivation to become a Fellow after being a child star and being part of the Hollywood circle developed after graduate school. He asserts, "I had been in the biz as a kid but was considering going straight. The fellowship program followed a year at Harvard Grad School...and there was a little thing called the draft."



In the late sixties, after leaving the fellowship program, Shearer joined the Credibility Gap—a male foursome doing topical comedy on LA radio—a satirical daily newscasts on Pasadena rock station KRLA-AM. The group stayed together until the mid-seventies with several radio broadcasts.

Since his radio days Harry's film credits include *The Right Stuff*, *Oscar*, *The Fisher King*, *Wayne's World II*, *Pure Luck*, *The Truman Show*, and *Godzilla*. He gained national recognition as one of the creators and stars of *This is Spinal Tap*, and was a writer and cast member of *Saturday Night Live* for two seasons. Shearer is as popular on television as he is on film, appearing in various television shows including *Friends*, *ER*, *Politically Incorrect*, *Portrait of a White Marriage*, *HBO Comedy Hour Live: The Magic of Live*, *Fernwood 2 Night*, *Ellen*, *Murphy Brown*, *LA Law*, *the News Hold*, *Just Shoot Me*, and *Chicago Hope*.

Who would have thought that an actor, author, director, comedian, musician, philosopher, political satirist, multi-media artist, radio personality, and one of the best "voices" on *The Simpsons* would also be an alumnus of the Assembly Fellowship Program? During our outreach events we often state that the Capitol Fellows Program is not just for those interested in a career in public service, and this proves it.

CENTER FOR CALIFORNIA STUDIES

The Center for California Studies is a public policy, public service, and curricular support unit of California State University, Sacramento, dedicated to promoting a greater understanding of California's history, cultures, governments and public policies.

Tim Hodson
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Daniel Friedlander
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS/
DIRECTOR OF CALIFORNIA SENATE
FELLOWS PROGRAM

Donna Hoenig Couch
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF JUDICIAL
ADMINISTRATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Robbin Lewis-Coaxum
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF
JESSE M. UNRUH ASSEMBLY
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Sandra Perez
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF
EXECUTIVE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Kolleen Ostgaard
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

Sandra Bernard
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Claire Bunch, Nicole Howard,
Patricia Jackson, Megan Libal,
Don Nahhas, Shela Schubin
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF

Marisela Rodriguez
STUDENT ASSISTANT

MAILING ADDRESS

California State University, Sacramento
Center for California Studies
6000 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95819-6081
Telephone: (916) 278-6906
FAX: (916) 278-5199
E-mail: calstudies@csus.edu

www.csus.edu/calst

Faculty Research Fellows

Today the CSU and CSU faculty are becoming a respected and influential presence in the state public policy research community.

It was a common message containing an uncommon milestone. An email from Assemblymember Dion Aroner announcing a legislative briefing by Dr. Eileen Pasztor of CSU Long Beach, on her report on “The Demand for Social Workers in California... supported by the CSU Faculty Research Program.”

The uncommon milestone was the reference to Dr. Paztor’s work and the Center’s Faculty Research Fellows Program (FRFP). It is a milestone precisely because it was so ordinary. A major legislative effort addressing a serious public policy issue included research done by a CSU faculty member; research deemed so valuable that Assemblymember Aroner arranged a briefing to “help ensure that more legislators’ offices are aware of the social worker shortage.”

For decades, the California State Legislature routinely, almost reflexively, turned to the University of California for scholarly research. When Center

Director Tim Hodson worked in the state Senate, from the late 1970s to the early 1990s, the CSU was nearly invisible in public policy research circles. Hodson, who worked with the Senate Office of Research and was the state Senate’s representative on the UC Policy Research Center (now known as the California Center for Policy Research) recalls that when a need for policy research arose, the CSU would rarely be mentioned and then usually in the context of an individual professor with a personal tie with a legislator.

That, however, was yesterday. Since 1995, when the Center first organized and arranged funding for it, the program has linked the policy research needs of the state Capitol with the research resources of the CSU. The Center has distributed more than \$700,000 to 65 individual faculty members and staff at 13 different CSU campuses but, most important, the FRFP has become the catalyst for CSU becoming a player in the development of public policy in the state’s Capitol.

Address Service Requested



Center for California Studies
6000 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95819-6081
114553

California State University, Sacramento

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage PAID
Sacramento, CA
Permit No. 47