CSUS Offers Webmaster Training for All Majors

Students of business, geology, philosophy and others are learning the art of webmastering through a new series of computer science courses at CSUS.

The six courses cover such topics as information exchange on the Internet, maintaining a Web server, using databases with the Web and programming with Java. The series is expected to become a certificate program on “Information Management on the Web” as soon as this fall.

“There is a huge demand for students who have the skills and the desire to go out there and be webmasters,” says Floyd Lecureux, the computer science professor who helped create the new series. “Students from other majors can definitely learn to manage Web information.”

The series is part of a growing effort at the University to offer more computer courses to non-computer science majors.

Lecureux himself was educated as a mechanical engineer and has always been more interested in using computers than working with their insides. He currently teaches three computer science courses for non-computer science majors.

Lecureux expects 30 to 50 students to take courses in the series this spring. And, the series has spurred the creation of a new student club, which shares ideas on improving websites and using new Internet applications.

Students in the new series and other courses for non-computer science majors will be supported by a new computer lab in the College of Engineering and Computer Science with 35 Pentium II computers, as well as scanners and digital cameras.

Alumnus Solves 75-year-old Math Problem

CSUS alumnus Vladimir N. Akis will visit his alma mater to present, for the first time, his solution to a 75-year-old math problem that was considered the most interesting puzzle in plane topology.

Aki's paper, “Brouwer fixed-point theorem: A new solution,” will be presented at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 12 in Mendocino 1015.

Aki’s has succeeded in generalizing Brouwer’s fixed-point theorem, which shows that every disk (filled circle) has at least one point that remains in place when moving, transforming (it can't be torn or cut) twisted or otherwise continuously twisted or otherwise continuously transformed (it can’t be torn or cut).

Brouwer, who many call the founder of topology, mathematicians have tried to extend the theorem to every plane continuum that does not separate the plane (such as arcs, partially severed disks and countless other intricate figures).

Aki solved the problem with a combination of variation theory, complex analysis and differential topology. The solution was announced in mid-January at the American Mathematical Society's meeting in San Antonio by Aki’s mentor and CSUS math professor Charles Hagopian.

AMS Secretary Robert Daverman called it the best result of 1998.

Aki is a professor of mathematics at CSU Los Angeles. He earned his bachelor’s degree from CSUS, master’s degree from UC Berkeley, and doctoral degree in a joint program between CSUS and UC Davis.

More information is available by contacting the CSUS mathematics/statistics department at 278-6534.

Thanks for United Way Campaign Contributions

I would like to say thanks to all of those who have been involved in the United Way Campaign — to Joe Sheley for his leadership as chair, to the many individuals who worked on the campaign, including most especially Jean Hansen for all of her support and for all of her good work, and to all of those who were involved in the campaign and are donors.

This year we have seen a number of notable advances in the University’s United Way campaign:
- The funds raised increased 16% from the prior year’s contribution level to a total of $84,704.
- CSUS employee donations increased by 12%.
- The Foundation employees were involved in a very significant way.
- The Associated Students entered into the campaign and helped significantly.
- All of those who were involved should be very pleased with the progress and proud of a significant accomplishment.

The contributions of members of the University community demonstrate once again that California State University, Sacramento, is an institution where people care about their community and who care about each other. There is no question in my mind but that the University will ultimately receive greater support in the community in that measure with which we give our support to programs in the greater community, whether the support is financial or individual involvement. I should like to thank each one of you who have helped to lay a firm foundation for a better future. Together we are making this a better community in which to live and a better community for the University.

Education Leader’s National Address to be Simulcast

A major address on the state of the nation’s schools by Richard Riley, secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, will be shown via satellite at the CSUS Library room 11 at 11 a.m., Feb. 16.

Riley will discuss the critical role of teachers in preparing students and the need to recruit more than 2.2 million teachers during the next decade. About 300,000 are needed in California alone, and most of them will be educated at CSU institutions.

Riley will also talk about efforts to raise educational standards, the need to build and modernize schools, the importance of going to college, the increased availability of federal financial aid, and other educational issues.

“California is seriously looking for ways to tackle some of the most challenging issues facing public education today,” Riley said. “With its growing student enrollment, California will continue to need innovative solutions to address school overcrowding and modernization, teacher recruitment and preparation, and cultural diversity in classrooms while making sure all students learn to read and reach for high standards.”

In attendance at the CSUS simulcast will be Peggy Kerns, deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

Following the event, there will be a panel discussion featuring County Teacher of the Year Taffy Maurer of Rio Linda School District’s Madison Elementary School, Elk Grove Unified School District Superintendent Dave Gordon, Tracy Unified School District Superintendent Keith Larick and Sacramento County Schools Superintendent Dave Meany.

More information is available at 278-5088.

Photo by Frank Whitlatch

NEW LOOK — Workers put the final touches on the new plaza entrance to the Guy West Bridge and the adjoining bicycle compound. The project is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.
Jeffrey Dym is one of those people for whom just about everything is interesting. He says he would have been happy studying and eventually teaching a variety of subjects.

As it was, a professor of Asian studies proved interesting when Dym was an undergraduate. Dym, a new history professor at CSU, proceeded to study Japan and the rest of Asia for the next decade. Half that time was spent in Japan, where he conducted research on silent film narrators that will be used in his doctoral dissertation.

“There are certain professors who can take a subject and make it really interesting for a large group of students,” Dym says. “I’m working to be like that. You know, it just feels great when a lecture goes well.”

Dym’s areas of expertise include modern and pre-modern Japanese history, modern Chinese history, world civilizations, and, of course, silent film history and Japanese film history. Last semester, he taught Japanese history, Asian civilizations and two sections of world civilizations. Dym earned his bachelor’s degree in East Asian studies from Colby College in Maine and his master’s degree in Asian studies from the University of Michigan. He earned his doctorate degree in history from the University of Hawaii, where his dissertation was on “Bencho, Poets of the Dark: Japanese Silent Film Narrators and Their Forgotten Narrative Art of Setsumei.”

Dym has been a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Hawaii and an instructor at Japanese at Oakland Community College in Michigan. He is married to Eiko Dym, and the two have a 7-month-old daughter named Zoe.

Research Competition Scheduled

The thirteenth annual CSUS Student Research Competition will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., March 6. Up to 10 CSUS papers will be submitted to the statewide competition at CSU Bakersfield on May 7-8.

Research procedures and guidelines are available from the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects. Time limits may be found at 278-0210 or may be delivered in WordPerfect on disk or paper to Communications and Public Affairs, Sacramento-Bullen Rooms 303, campus mail code 6026. Deadline for all materials is 10 a.m. on the Wednesday before publication. Items will be published on a space available basis and are subject to editing. Writing should be in news style, short and direct. For inquiries contact Renee Hayes 278-6156.

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Few college students expect health care to improve in coming years, and most feel that rising health costs will affect their ability to get service, according to two professors at Califor-nia State University, Sacramento. At the same time, the professors say, college students are becoming more interested in “alternative” therapies such as herbal medicine, chiropractic, massage, and Eastern exercise and medicine.

The findings, noted in two forth-coming studies, suggest health care providers could face tough marketing challenges with Gen-Xers, even as they’re pressured to provide an additional range of therapies.

**Geology Series Begins Feb. 9**
The USGS and the CSUS geology department’s spring colloquium series begins at 4 p.m., Feb. 9 in Mendocino Hall 1015 with “Natural Remediation of Contaminated Ground Water by Barometric Pumping,” presented by James A. Smith from the University of Virginia. A reception follows his talk in the Placer Hall Commons Room.

Smith will be available on campus between 1 and 3:30 p.m. for discus-sions with students and faculty. Contact Walter Swain at 278-3024 for an appointment.

**Transfer Day Feb. 12**
The third annual CSUS Transfer Day is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 12. Prospective transfer students and those who have already applied for the Fall 1999 semester are invited to visit the campus.

After the opening general session, there will be workshops on financial aid, coursework transfers as well as campus tours. Participants will have an opportunity to meet with admissions counselors and faculty in their major, and obtain information about campus programs and support services such as housing, childcare, the Study Abroad program and more.

Registration is from 8:30 to 9 a.m. in the University Union. Parking is available in student parking lots with a special “Transfer Day” parking permit available in the invitation or at the Kiosks. More information is available by calling 278-7362.

**Job Fair**
The Spring 1999 Job Fair is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Feb. 17 in the University Union Ballroom. More than 70 employers from private sector, government and non-profit agencies will be avail-able to discuss summer jobs, internships and volunteer positions. More informa-tion is available from the Career Center at 278-6231.

**Purchasing Reminder**
The last day to submit annual requisitions for 1999/2000 renewal service contracts more than $1,000 is Feb. 19. The 1999-2000 fiscal year procurement deadlines are available online at www.csus.edu/calc/mstrcal.

**Counseling Services New Drop-in Hours**
Psychological Counseling Services has revised its drop-in schedule for this semester only. Drop-in counseling hours are now Mondays and Fridays, 10-11:45 a.m. and 1:25-4 p.m.; Tuesdays, 1-2:45 p.m.; and Thursdays, 10-11:45 a.m.

Counseling for emergency cases will be available Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**CSUS to Host College Awareness Day**
CSUS will host a college prepara-tion program designed especially for 6th- through 9th-grade students and their parents from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 20 in the University Union.

College Awareness Day will be conducted along with the Los Rios Community Colleges, the University of California, Davis and the University of the Pacific.

It will include a showing of the video College: Making it Happen, which offers practical tips on preparing academically and financially for higher education.

The program is one of a number of events scheduled throughout the state during February, which has been designated College Awareness Month by the California State Legislature and the Governor’s Office.

More information is available by contacting Elmo Slider or David Ortega at CSUS University Outreach Services at 278-7362 or (800) S A C IS IT.

**Year-long Schedules Coming this Fall**
This fall, the University will begin a year-long class schedule which will be available before the start of each academic year. Currently, class schedules are printed before each semester.

Cecilia Gray, associate vice presi-dent for undergraduate programs, says the change will help both students and the University plan better.

A new CSUS master’s degree in education that emphasizes technology and is taught on-site in Lodi has proven quite popular, and is expected to be offered on-site to teachers in the Rio Linda/Roseville area as well.

Last year, nearly 80 people attended an informational meeting about the program. It is taught at Lodi School District offices and open to cohorts of up to 30 students. Most of the first 27 students who began last fall are expected to finish in the spring.

“Schools are investing a lot of money in technology, but in too many cases they don’t know what to do with it,” said Larry Hannah, the teacher education professor who began and administers the Lodi program. “There is so much that can be done with that technology, and it is rewarding to see people able to use it.”

A recent report by Educational Testing Services underscored Hannah’s point, concluding that teacher training is critical to successful use of comput-ers in the classroom.

The Lodi program stresses computer usage in the classroom and in school computer labs. It arms teachers, librarians and others with information about educational software, multimedia applications and Internet use.

Students in the program must complete a number of computer-based projects for each of ten courses, which are taught by CSUS faculty and district personnel. Students also work in pairs to complete a final project.

“These students are going to take back important knowledge to the classroom, and they will be a tremen-dous resource not only to students but to other teachers,” Hannah said.

The program was begun in Lodi at the request of the school district. Likewise, the planned expansion to the Rio Linda/Roseville area is due to interest from other school districts.

“This is one of a number of things the college is doing to partner and collaborate with the schools,” said Maurice Poe, associate dean of the College of Education. “These districts informed us their teachers needed help using technology to enhance learning.”

**Students Fret About Health Care, Like ‘Alternatives’**

Of six types of health insurance, 81.9 percent said basic medical was very important, followed by vision (72.5 percent) and prescription drugs (66.0 percent). Just 50.3 percent said long-term care was very important.

Among the findings of the perceptions study:

• Most felt that the range of services covered, access to care and personalized service will stay the same or get worse in coming years. Most also felt the quality of hospitals and doctors will stay the same or get worse. One-third felt these five areas will get better or much better.

• Most felt that they will personally pay more in coming years and that there will be more limits on what is covered.

• Of 11 factors in choosing a health plan, 73 percent said co-payment was very important. The factor which the second highest percentage of students called very impor-tant was the location of providers (70.5 percent), followed by whether hospitals accept the plan (69.2 percent) and reputation for quality (65.5 percent).

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Health Studies

Continued from page three

Among the findings of the alternative therapies study:

• More than three out of four respondents were aware of acupuncture (81.4 percent), chiropractic (80.12 percent), herbal medicine (77.3 percent) and therapeutic massage (75.5 percent). A majority were aware of meditation (71.3 percent), hypnosis (68.9 percent) and Eastern exercise/medicine (54.6 percent).
• Herbal medicine was the most commonly used therapy (29.3 percent). Therapeutic massage and/or chiropractic had been used by 25.8 percent, while 16.7 percent had used Eastern exercise/medicine and 9.5 percent used hypnosis. Few used them because conventional therapies had not worked, and even fewer used them because they were perceived as less expensive.
• Health care organizations and doctors need not worry about harming their reputation among college students if they recommend alternative therapies.

Ongoing

“Enca & CSUS,” recent work by the Encina High School art depart-
ment, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mon., Fri., (5-8 p.m. Wed., Thurs.), University Union Exhibit Lounge; exhibit continues to Feb. 26.

Thursday, Feb. 4
Friends of the Library used book and poster sale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Library lower level.

Black History Month event, “Black History: A Candid Discussion,” by Rickey Green of the CSUS ethnic studies and government departments, noon, University Union Orchard Suite.

Women’s basketball vs. Montana State, 7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium.

Friday, Feb. 5
The 43rd annual Lenaea Festival, student-one-act plays and monologues begin at 1 p.m. and will continue with productions through Sunday, Feb. 7. $3 donations are requested.

Renaissance Society, a learning-in-concert organization, orientation and informational meeting for new and prospective members, 1 p.m., University Union Redwood Room. Call 278-7834 for more information.

Saturday, Feb. 6
Women’s basketball vs. Weber State, 7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium.

Sunday, Feb. 7
Dale Scholl Dance/Art will perform feature works in Berkeley’s Jala Morgan Theatre. Tickets are $8; call (916) 451-3732.

Monday, Feb. 8
Black History Month event, “African-Americans in Music: A Historical Account Past to Present,” by Jerry Blake, CSUS student activities program advisor, noon, University Union Orchard Suite.

Tuesday, Feb. 9
Author’s Showcase featuring Nancy Kalish, psychology, and author of Lost and Found Lovers, 4 p.m., Library South Reading Room. Presented by the Friends of the Library.

Wednesday, Feb. 10
Black History Month event, “Why We Need More Black Law Enforcement Professionals,” by Victor Vinson, CSUS police officer, noon, University Union Foothill Suite.

Michael K & The Chapman Stick, instrumental jazz/pop/rock, noon, University Union Auditorium.


Thursday, Feb. 11
Talk of Da Town & Mighty Prince Singers, rhythm & blues/rock, 11:45 a.m., University Union Redwood Room.

Men’s basketball vs. Portland State, 7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium.

Friday, Feb. 12
“Transfer Day,” informative workshops and tours for prospective students, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., University Union; call 278-6523 for more information.

Lecture on the Crypt of Demeter in Kerch, Crimea, 6th Century B.C., by Victoria A.D., presented by Vasily and Elena Zinko, 7 p.m., Mendocino Hall 1003.

The Dirty Dozen and The Reggie Graham Trio, 7:30 p.m., University Ballroom, $8 general, $5.50 CSUS students, in advance, available at the ASI Business Office or at all BASS Ticket Centers. At the door: $10 general, $7.50 CSUS students.

Angels in America Part Two: Perestroika, 7:30 p.m., Solano Hall 1010. Performances continue at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. through Feb. 14. Tickets are $15 and are available by calling 922-9774.

Saturday, Feb. 13
Men’s basketball vs. Eastern Washington, 2 p.m., Memorial Auditorium.

Annual Valentine’s Day Dinner and Dance featuring Arte Shaw and the CSUS Jazz Ensemble to benefit the music department, 6 p.m., University Ballroom. Tickets are $125. Call Tony Roberts at (916) 492-1347 for reservations.

Monday, Feb. 15
Student Awards Show Artwork of students who have been awarded scholarships and fellowships through the art department endowments, noon-5 p.m., Robert Else and Raymond Witt Galleries. Reception and presentation of awards, noon-2 p.m., Exhibit continues to March 17.

Black History Month event, “Color Blind Racism: One More River to Cross,” by Otsu Scott, CSUS ethnic studies department, noon, University Union Orchard Suite.

Tuesday, Feb. 16
Ergonomic awareness training for CSUS faculty and staff, 11 a.m.-noon and 1-2 p.m., Library 11. Call Valerie Torres at 278-6456 to reserve a seat.

Wednesday, Feb. 17
Job Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., University Ballroom. Call the Career Center at 278-6231 for more information.

John Sirkis, folk, bluegrass and humor, noon, University Union Auditorium.

Black History Month event, “Growing Up in Montgomery, Alabama in the 1950’s,” by Otsu Brown of the CSUS criminal justice department, 1 p.m., University Union Foothill Suite.

Thursday, Feb. 18
Friends of the Library used book and poster sale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Library lower level.

Marcus Shelby Trio, jazz, 11:45 a.m., University Union Redwood Room.

Women’s basketball vs. Montana, 7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium.

Saturday, Feb. 20
College Awareness Day, a college preparation program designed for 6th- 9th graders and their parents, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., University Union; Call 278-7862 for more information.

Women’s basketball vs. Idaho State, 7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium.

Tuesday, Feb. 23
“Prophecy in America,” a dramatic portrayal of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Felix Justice, 7:30 p.m., University Union Ballroom.

Wednesday, Feb. 24
Black History Month event, “Teaching and Traveling in West Africa,” by Cecil Canon and Ernest Uwase of the CSUS criminal justice department, noon, University Union Foothill Suite.

Animation Festival; noon-2 p.m., University Union Auditorium.

O El Baile (The Dance) performed by Dale Scholl Dance/Art, 6 p.m., Solano Hall 1010, $15 general, $12 students/ seniors. $8 children 12 and under. Performances continue Feb. 25-27, March 5, 6, 12, and 13. For more information and reservations, call 451-3732.