LA FÊTE FRANÇAISE

Events Celebrate French Impact on American Art

T

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The CSUS Bulletin welcomes submissions to the Professional Activities section from faculty, administration and staff. Items are run on a space available basis. They should be no longer than 75 words and may be submitted to bulletin@csus.edu or faxed to 278-5290.

Recognition

DONALD R. GERTH, CSUS President, was honored with a Leadership Award for 2001 by the American Council On Education Office of Women in Higher Education on Feb. 18 in Washington, D.C. Dr. Geth was recognized for “supporting and sustaining the tenure of women in higher education.”

Grants

THOMAS STRASSER, humanities and religious studies, and history, was awarded a $9,680 grant from the Institute for Aegae Prehistory to continue his research on Neolithic stone axes in Greece.

Scholarship

FELICIANNE RAMBY, Dean of the College of Business Administration, was the keynote speaker for the “Fast Forward: Get There Before Your Parents Did” conference on Feb. 27 in Sacramento.

The CSUS Bulletin is published on Mondays of the academic year. Campus news may be submitted by e-mail to bulletin@csus.edu, mail, fax to 278-5290 or may be delivered on disk or paper to Public Affairs, Sacramento Hall Room 215, campus mail code 6026. They may be faxed to 278-5290 or may be delivered on disk or paper to Public Affairs, Sacramento Hall Room 215, campus mail code 6026.

Eric Matsumoto

Eric Matsumoto describes himself as a “concrete guy.” And he hopes to put his concrete expertise to work in a big way.

Matsumoto thinks he can help bridge builders finish their work dramatically faster, getting those orange construction signs down sooner and limiting traffic snarls.

That’s a big reason the new CSUS professor of civil engineering joined the faculty here. The University not only has a well-respected civil engineering program and a lab for testing concrete structures, it’s also right near the Caltrans headquarters, which is gearing up for big growth in freeway construction.

Matsumoto figures Caltrans might be interested in his research, while he also gets to spend time in the classroom.

“I wanted that interaction with students. I enjoy teaching, and I knew in graduate school that I was going to keep teaching,” Matsumoto says. “But I also really enjoy applied research, so this position offered me a good balance between teaching and research.”

At the University of Texas in Austin, Matsumoto’s doctoral research focused on structural connections for tying bridge columns to precast concrete beams, called bent caps. Bent caps come in various shapes and sizes, but are always built on-site.

Based on experimental testing and full-scale construction, Matsumoto showed that bent caps that are precast ahead of time and then connected at the job site were not only constructible and safe, but can reduce construction time, save money and improve quality. A large contractor in Texas estimated that a precast bent cap system used for a half-mile stretch of freeway could be completed in about 20 percent of the time required for a similar system built on-site. That means fewer delays for drivers.

With funding from the Texas Department of Transportation, Matsumoto developed a workable system that is already being used on two bridge projects in the state.

The trick now is making the system work in California, where engineers have to contend with the possibility of earthquakes.

Before embarking on his doctoral studies, Matsumoto completed his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Cornell University. Prior to his doctoral research, he worked in structural design and research with Fluor-Daniel, Inc. and served in the U.S. Air Force.

Here at CSUS, Matsumoto teaches a variety of courses in civil engineering and construction management, includ- ing reinforced concrete design, structural laboratory, senior design project and statistics. He hopes to involve both undergraduate and graduate students in practical research related to concrete structural systems.

New Faces

Eric Matsumoto was based upon Tanaka’s Byen sonata, which was published in the Journal of Ethnomusicology Studies in 1992.

FRANCIS YUEN, social work, recently had two co-authored articles published. “Family Health: An Emerging Paradigm for Social Workers” was published in Journal of Health and Social Policy and “From Cambodians to Bizen Sonata, English and humanities, by English and humanities, and history, was awarded a $9,680 grant from the Institute for Aegae Prehistory to continue his research on Neolithic stone axes in Greece.

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RONALD TANAKA, English and ethnic studies, had his work used as the basis of a new dance work by Judith Kajiwara, founder of the Butoh School of Dance. The piece, Samishii, which was performed at the Theatre of Yugen in San Francisco on Feb. 12 and 13, was based upon Tanaka’s Byen sonata, which was published in the Journal of Ethnomusicology Studies in 1992.

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Diversity II
The second forum on diversity sponsored by the College of Health and Human Services will be held from 1 - 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 6 in the University Union Ballroom.

"Forum on Diversity II: The Sequel" will focus on future strategies and intervention techniques for teaching diversity issues.

The forum will be presented in two segments. The first portion of the event will include welcoming speeches by CSUS President Donald R. Gerth and interim dean Marilyn Hopkins. The second portion of the event includes a lecture by CSUS professor Susan Algert, Mariposa Hall 3007.

4 - 5 p.m. "Being Baudelaire: French Decadence and American Art Criticism," lecture, CSUS professor Elaine O'Brien, Kadema Hall 145.

6 - 7 p.m. Wine and Cheese Reception, Mariposa Hall 3007.


Wednesday, March 14
10 - 11 a.m. "Coffee and Croissants with CSUS Flute Studio," informal breakfast and concert, Capistrano Hall lobby.

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. "20th Century French Music," flute masterclass, CSUS professor Laurel Zacker, Capistrano Hall 319.

5 - 6 p.m. "French Unmeasured Preludes for the Harpsichord," concert and lecture, CSUS professor Lorna Peters, Music Recital Hall 151.

6 p.m. "Claude Bolling Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano Trio," concert and reception, Capistrano Hall 151.

Thursday, March 15
2 - 3 p.m. "Writing the Unutterable: The Legacy of Arthur Rimbaud," lecture, CSUS professor Joshua McKinney, University Union Student Board Chambers.

3 - 4 p.m. "New Wave Revised: Jean-Luc Godard and Francois Truffaut," lecture, CSUS professor Jonathan Price, University Union Student Board Chambers.

noon - 12:50 p.m. "Politics in French Theatre," lecture, CSUS professor Kevin Elstob, Mariposa Hall 2030.

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. "Becoming Deleine: Post-Modern Theory," lecture, CSUS professor Douglas Rice, University Union Student Board Chambers.

3 - 3:50 p.m. "Women and Art," demonstration, CSUS professors Juanita Rice and Vicky Hall, Playwrights' Theatre in Shasta Hall.

Friday, March 16

noon - 12:50 p.m. "Politics in French Theatre," lecture, CSUS professor Kevin Elstob, Mariposa Hall 2030.

5 - 6 p.m. "French Unmeasured Preludes for the Harpsichord," concert, CSUS professor Andrew Luchansky, Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall.

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For many foreign governments, it is the vital foreign policy question of the post-Cold War world.

Many observers have argued that demand for action following televised media coverage -- the so-called "CNN Effect" -- has become a major factor in an otherwise unfocused U.S. foreign policy.

Humanitarian military interventions are apt to become more common, they say, citing intervention in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia.

But in an essay in the influential South African Yearbook of International Affairs 2000-01, CSUS government professor Bill Dorman warns African leaders that the issue is far from settled.

He says there seems to be some merit to the theory that humanitarian concerns have begun to replace ideological concerns when American leaders in the future will be interested in foreign conflict, he says.

"It is simply too much even in the post-Cold War period to make sweeping generalizations about how the humanitarian card is likely to be played in the future," Dorman writes.

He points out a number of recent examples in which the U.S. did not intervene militarily, including the 1994 genocide in Rwanda in which hundreds of thousands, or possibly more than 1 million, perished. Similarly, the U.S. has not gotten involved in the war now raging in Congo, which former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has called "Africa's First World War."

Rwanda received very little media coverage until after the slaughter began, and the Congo conflict is being largely ignored by the media today.

But Dorman says yesterday's humanitarian disasters will influence American leaders in the future.

"For instance, what happens if there is another genocide like there was in Rwanda on George W. Bush's watch? If the media covers it, will it..."
we be able to stand by and say ‘no, no, no we won’t go there?’ I kind of doubt it.”

He adds, “I think it’s clear is that under some circumstances are. Unfortunately I think we’ll get more chances...