Gonzalez named CSUS president

Alexander Gonzalez, president of CSU San Marcos, was named the new president of CSUS by the CSU Board of Trustees on March 13.

Gonzalez, who has been president at San Marcos since 1997, succeeds President Donald R. Gerth, who is leaving the presidency this summer after 19 years at the campus. Gonzalez will be the 11th president of CSUS.

“It is a distinct honor to be selected to lead such a significant campus—significant because of its size and accomplishments, but also because of its location at the seat of state government,” Gonzalez said. “I look forward to building on the great foundation provided by President Gerth.”

Board of Trustees member and search committee chair Bill Hasack said that Gonzalez “has a proven record in the CSU. Alex will be an outstanding president for Sacramento, and he is the right choice to lead the campus in the near future as it deals with growth and community involvement, including forging connections with business leaders and relationships in the state capital.”

“I have had the opportunity to work with Alex Gonzalez over the years,” said President Gerth. “He is an experienced faculty member and leader in the CSU. This University community will benefit from his leadership.”

Gonzalez, 57, was the second president of San Marcos. He received his doctorate and master’s degree in psychology from UC Santa Cruz, and his bachelor’s degree in history from Pomona College. Gonzalez did postgraduate work at Stanford University as a postdoctoral fellow of the Ford Foundation and National Research Council. He also attended Harvard Law School.

The CSU Board of Trustees will set Gonzalez’ salary at its May meeting.

For more information, see the campus website at www.csus.edu.

Prof examines bedside chatter

Communication studies professor Marlene von Friederichs-Fitzwater credits a life-threatening illness as motivation for research she has conducted since doctors diagnosed her with cervical cancer 20 years ago.

During the course of her illness von Friederichs-Fitzwater, who was studying mass communication, observed changing dynamics with her doctors. “I noticed that the worse the prognosis, the more trouble physicians had in communicating with me.”

She says she wanted to know why medical personnel spoke to her differently as her illness grew more serious and of the experience she had was similar to other patients’. She wanted to help people, especially after her health improved.

She founded Health Communication Research Institute, Inc. in 1999 with the goal of improving the outcomes of health care by improving communication.

Von Friederichs-Fitzwater, also a public relations specialist, uncovered doctors’ tendencies to dominate patient interviews. She says physicians interrupt every 18 seconds and they often change the subject. “When the patient mentions something on an emotional level, the physician usually turns the conversation back to physical symptoms,” she says.

One way she’s ensuring the research helps others is by instructing professionals and medical students. HCRI offers free online classes about pain management and how to treat terminally ill patients. Von Friederichs-Fitzwater says she likes applying the research. “I enjoy being able to translate, educate, I’m happy seeing the research put to use. It’s my passion.”

The institute’s next big project is a $500,000 undertaking to install interactive, video-based kiosks in Sacramento-area community centers, churches and schools. They will dispense medical information in several languages including Russian and Hmong. “We’re trying to reach at-risk populations who don’t have access to quality health information and change risky health behaviors,” she says.

For more information, visit the institute’s website at www.hcri.com.

Survey: Region mixed on war

Capital Region residents are less enthusiastic about a war with Iraq than the country as a whole, with 51 percent in support of the idea compared to 59 percent nationally, according to a survey released this week by researchers at CSUS. It found 43 percent of Capital Region residents oppose an Iraq war.

The annual survey’s findings on issues of national concern are the first to be analyzed and released.

Researchers found strong differences among counties and groups in the survey of the four-county region of Sacramento, Yolo, Placer and El Dorado counties. In Sacramento County, 49 percent supported a war with Iraq while 44 percent were opposed; in Yolo 42 percent supported and 53 percent opposed; in Placer it was 53 percent and 39 percent; and in El Dorado it was 65 percent and 32 percent. Republicans (72 percent), men (53 percent) and Caucasians (52 percent) showed stronger support than Democrats (32 percent), women (47 percent) and ethnic minorities (44 percent).

Capital Region residents gave President Bush a 58 percent approval rating, about the same as the nation as a whole. They gave the highest approval rating to Bush’s handling of homeland security (59 percent).

NEW PRESIDENT – Alexander Gonzalez (center), who was named the next president of CSUS last week, chats with criminal justice professor Cecil Canton (left) and College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Dean Marion O’Leary during a visit to campus.

Photographer puts focus on work

Photographer Alex Webb, whose photos have appeared in National Geographic, Life and the New York Times magazines, will discuss his work at 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, March 27 in Mendocino Hall 1003.

The event, offered as part of the CSUS Visiting Artists Program, will also feature an exhibit of Webb’s color photos from March 12 to April 1 in the Design Gallery, on the fourth floor of Mariposa Hall. For exhibit hours, call 278-3962.

Webb became interested in photography in high school and majored in history and literature at Harvard University before studying photography at the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts. He began working as a photojournalist in 1974 and has traveled extensively, documenting small town life in black and white. While traveling in the Caribbean and Mexico in the late 1970s, he began a body of color work that continues to this day.

Webb is the author of five books and has received numerous grants and awards for his work, including a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and the Lesa Medal of Excellence. Among the museums that have exhibited his work are the Walker Art Center, the Museum of Photographic Arts, the International Center for Photography and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

The event is free and a reception will be held immediately after the presentation.
BRIAN HAUSBACK, geology, will make a presentation on “Isla San Luis Volcano, Baja California” at the 99th annual meeting of the Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section, April 3-5 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

DUANE CAMPBELL, bilingual/cross-cultural education, and Dolores Delgado Campbell of American River College made a presentation on “Defending the public schools from corporate privatizers” at the 99th annual Multicultural Education Conference at CSUS March 1. Campbell also made a presentation on “Teaching about War and Resis- tance” at the conference.

WILLIAM A. DORMANN, government, delivered the Milford White Lecture at Baker University in Kansas in early March. He spoke on “The Press and Foreign Policy After September 11.” He also recently spoke to the Auburn Rotary Club on “In War, Truth is the First Casualty” and to Sacramento/ Yolo Peace Action on “Pax Americana? U.S. Foreign Policy After Sept. 11.” In May, he will conduct a workshop in criti- cal thinking as part of a series of presentations sponsored by the California Endowment and San Francisco State University aimed at linking internationally trained health workers living in California with underserved communities. He gave a similar workshop in November.

CELESTE ROSEBERRY-MCKIBBIN, speech pathology and audiology, had an article on “Principles and strategies in intervention” published in The Hispanic Child: Speech, Language, Culture and Educa-

MARY MACKEY, English, former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Hass, poet Brenda Hillman, author Maxine Hong Kingston and author Michael Odosarte read from their recent work to raise money for a scholarship fund for creative writing students in the MFA program at Saint Mary’s College. On March 8, Mackey was one of the “Authors of Distinction” at the Sacramento Public Library Foundation’s “Authors On The Move” gala fund-raising dinner.

CARLOS DAVIDSON, environmental sciences, gave a talk on pesticides drift and the disappear-
ance of Sierra Nevada frogs to the Desert Research Institute in Reno on March 7.

When Beverly Reed sent her daughter off to first grade, she took the opportunity to find a job. Reed found herself a clerical position in the English department at CSUS. Now 26 years later, Reed’s children are grown adults who hold bachelor’s degrees from CSUS, and she is still working for the same department.

“The English department is notorious for ‘once you get here, you stay forever.’ “I’ve already told my two-year-old granddaugh-
ter, Ruthanne, that I won’t be working here when she gets ready to go to college,” Reed says. “But I’m not retiring any time soon, probably in the next five years.”

She was honored for her years of service last semester at the annual staff awards luncheon. Reed is now the administrative support coordi-
nator for the English department, specializing in the

Wright has a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in physical education from Central China, and a doctorate in health and human performance from Oregon State University. He has worked as both a middle and high school physical education teacher and coach. His expertise is in teacher effectiveness in physical education, assessment and accountability in physical education and in training of student teachers in physical education.

The University Union marketing and graphics unit recently won the most awards of any university at the Association of College Unions International annual conference. BILL OLMSTED received best of show, first place for a promotional campaign, second place for a parking sign, honorable mention for a four-color poster, honorable mention for a logo/brand identity and honorable mention for holiday cards. GORDON TSUH received first place in two-color brochure and first place for a website; and BOYANA TUFJEKCI received second place for one-color poster by a student.

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 submit-
ted to bulletin@csus.edu or faxed to 278-5290.

The CSUS Bulletin is published on Mondays of the academic year. Each department may be submitted by e-mail to bulletin@csus.edu or by regular mail to (916) 278-5290 or may be delivered on disk or paper to Public Relations, Room 215, campus mail code 0626. Deadline for all materials is 10 a.m. on the Wednesday before publication. Items will be published if space available and are subject to editing. Writing should be in news style, short and direct. For inquiries call (916) 278-6516.


**Helping students grasp concepts is Mayes’ philosophy**

It’s a good thing that Randy Mayes’ chosen field is not music because he has a difficult time tooting his own horn. Perhaps that’s because as a philosophy professor he’s more practiced at thinking things through.

Mayes is initially reticent to discuss why he was honored as the most recent recipient of the Outstanding Teacher Award in the College of Arts and Letters. “I’m actually kind of embarrassed about the things people say are good about me—they’re pretty unassuming,” says Mayes. “I show up. By that I mean that I’m not just there in the physical sense but really there for students, giving them my whole attention and interest in a sincere way. I give a well-organized lecture and am effective at getting people to learn.”

While Mayes may have difficulty singing his own praises, his former students do not. “I see genuine care and concern for each of his students,” wrote Joshua Kim in support of the award. “Professor Mayes takes the time to prepare each class lecture and exam to bring out the full potential and understanding of the subject material by the students. He lectures with confidence and complete proficiency.”

Frank Brown, also a former student, writes, “He clearly senses whether or not students understand concepts and sticks with us until we get it. His lectures contain enough humor to keep them enjoyable but it is not a circus or entertainment. He provides adequate opportunities for students to obtain individual help from him. He is extremely fair but insists that we learn the material we need to grasp philosophical inquiry and progress.”

Philosophy initially can be a struggle for students, Mayes acknowledges. “It’s a strange subject. I have a lot of understanding about how difficult it is. Thinking about our own thoughts and evaluations is not the sort of things our minds do naturally. Before you learn to do that, it’s awkward—I’m pretty patient with that. One of my research areas is on what it means to give an explanation. This has made me better at explaining difficult concepts in a simple way.”

Mayes’ teaching philosophy developed during his own college years. “As a student I was never too impressed with teachers. I had a sense that they weren’t there. The kind of teachers I respected made it clear that they valued my intelligence and what I was trying to accomplish,” he remembers.

“What makes a teacher unsuccessful is when he doesn’t think things are worthwhile and doesn’t take the necessary time. I think we forget that being a university professor teaching students at this level is an incredible privilege. I always want that awareness to show through.”

It appears that it does, according to philosophy department colleague Brad Dowden, who wrote the following in his recommendation of Mayes for the award: “I have visited his classes. Each time I have found the classroom atmosphere to be non-threatening, for open discussion, and generally an academically nurturing environment.”

He continued, “He never humilates students or shows contempt for their silly mistakes or for their having failed to read the assignment. His explanations are clear and they offer materials at multiple levels for the weakest and the brightest students in the classroom.”

Mayes has been teaching since 1983, coming to CSUS in 1992 as a lectures. He became a full-time faculty member in 2001. He has also taught at the University of California, Davis. Mayes has a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Texas, Austin, and a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

His most recent research has been in privacy and the meaning of explanation.

**CAREER FAIRS**

The spring career fair is set for March 25-26. The fair gives CSUS students an opportunity to visit with numerous employers offering full-time career positions.

It will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days in the University Union Ballroom.

The education recruitment expo will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 14 also in the University Union Ballroom. It will feature school systems, summer camps, and job fairs.

**CHEAP RIDES**

The price of gas keeps going up, and the price of a ride to CSUS is cheaper than you might think.

CSUS employees can commute to campus on Regional Transit buses and light rail for just pennies a day. The CSUS commuter sticker, which can be purchased through RT (Sacramento Regional Transportation), is valid from January 6 through June 26, 2023. The sticker is available at the CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 and at www.csus.edu/studentfinancialservices.

**DEFEND YOURSELF**

There will be a free class on self-defense at 5 p.m., April 28 in the University Union. The class is open to all CSUS students, faculty and staff.

The class is sponsored by the University Student Health and Center for Student Safety.

**LAWMAKER TALK**

State Assemblymember Judy Chu (D-Monterey Park) will talk at 3 p.m., Tuesday, April 3 in the University Union Hinde Auditorium.

She will address issues of sexual violence legislation as well as Asian American women as community leaders.

The event is free and open to the public.

Details: 278-7388.

**LOVED ONE IN MIDDLE EAST?**

A campus support group is being formed for those who have family members or loved ones who are serving in the military in the Middle East.

To join or for more information, contact Clary Tepper in the University’s employee assistance program at 278-5018 or tepper@csus.edu.

**LIVING WAGE TALK**

Susan Chandler, a professor of social work at the University of Nevada, Reno will give a talk on living wages at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 10 in Douglas Hall 212.

The title of her talk is “Working Hard, Living Poor: Social Justice and the Struggle for Livable Wages.” The talk is free and open to the public.

Details: Lynn Cooper at 278-5820.

**LIVING WAGE CONFERENCE**

There will be a two-day conference on Hispanic literature from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 21-22 in the University Union.

The event is free and open to the public.

Details: 278-5511 or www.csus.edu/livingwage.

**HISPANIC LIT CONFERENCE**

The conference is a celebration of African and Caribbean music and culture. It features an afternoon clinic that explores the heritage and techniques of Caribbean music followed by an evening of danceable African and Caribbean music performed by drummers from the Drumology Project, a 12-piece drum orchestra accompanied by dancers.

Also on the bill, the bands Freelease and Jungla APART.

**Let loose’at campus Caribbean showcase**

Danceable African and Caribbean rhythms will fill the University Union Ballroom for the “Let Loose” Caribbean Concert Showcase on Thursday, March 27.

The showcase is a celebration of African and Caribbean music and culture. It features an afternoon clinic that explores the heritage and techniques of Caribbean music followed by an evening of danceable rhythms featuring music by Drumology Project, a 12-piece drum orchestra accompanied by dancers. Also on the bill, the bands Freelease and Jungla APART.

**Extreme adventure comes to campus**

Heart-thumping thrills from the comfort of a theater seat await moviegoers at the Adrenaline Film Festival, 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26 in the University Union Ballroom.

Featured short films include:

- **Valhalla**, kayaking from the waterfalls of Norway.
- **Dirt Divas**, inside the world of women’s mountain biking.
- **Outer Tree**, a descent of Mt. Whistler on a unicycle.
- **Base Jump Baffin Island**, base-jumping from the island’s frozen fjords.
- **Rusted**, kayaking and descents from Indonesia.
- **Four Play**, snowboarding from the backcountry of British Columbia.
- **San Francisco Cronicals**, kite boarding from the San Francisco Bay.

The film festival is hosted by the CSUS department of recreation and leisure studies, which will also accept video submissions from local adventure-sport filmmakers at the event.

Tickets are $10 for general admission and $8 for students. Tickets are available at the CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 and at www.tickets.com.
LUCK OF THE IRISH ROVERS

The musical quintet Irish Rovers is stopping to celebrate at CSUS during its St. Patrick’s Day tour. The band performs at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 20 in the University Union Ballroom. The band members hail from Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Irish Rovers have been singing and playing for more than 35 years and recorded nearly 30 albums. The band has a timelessness ability to deliver a rousing performance that captivates people to sing, clap and dance at live performances. Band member George Millar says, “Our shows are the fastest two hours around. After all these years, it still does feel like a party every time we go out on stage.”

Tickets are $8 for students and children under 12. General admission is $12. Tickets are available through the CSUS Ticket Office (916) 278-4323 or Tickets@csus.edu.

sunday, march 23

Pitcher, 1 p.m., Hornet Field. $5 adult/$4 seniors and non-CSUS students/$2 children ages 6-12/CSUS students with ID and children under 5 free. Tickets at the event.

Baseball vs. Cal, 2 p.m., Horne Field. $5 adult/$4 seniors and non-CSUS students/$2 children ages 6-12/CSUS students with ID and children under 5 free. Tickets at the event.

CSUS Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $8 general/$4 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277.

tuesday, march 25

Women’s Tennis vs. Fresno State, 2 p.m., Rio Del Oro Raquet Club. (916) 278-6481.

Baseball vs. Cal, 2 p.m., Horne Field. $5 adult/$4 seniors and non-CSUS students/$2 children ages 6-12/CSUS students with ID and children under 5 free. Tickets at the event.

CSUS Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $8 general/$4 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277.

wednesday, march 26

Women’s Tennis vs. Saint Mary’s, time TBA, Rio Del Oro Raquet Club. (916) 278-6481.

Softball vs. Cal Poly, doubleheader, 1 p.m., Shea Stadium. $5 adult/$4 seniors and non-CSUS students/$2 children ages 6-12/CSUS students with ID and children under 5 free. Tickets at the event.

Softball vs. Cal Poly, doubleheader, 1 p.m., Shea Stadium. $5 adult/$4 seniors and non-CSUS students/$2 children ages 6-12/CSUS students with ID and children under 5 free. Tickets at the event.

Poetry Reading, Stephanie Brun-"Artnoire," noon, Serna Plaza. (916) 278-6997.

Poetry Reading, Camille Roy, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., Library Gallery. (916) 278-5989.

“Women in Afghanistan after the Taliban,” lecture by Soheir Stolba, SHARE Institute, Women’s History Month noon, University Union Hinde Auditorium. (916) 278-7388.

Family Feud, campus version of TV game show, hosted by Shawn and Jeff of “The Zone,” noon, University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-6997.


Teaching Using Technology roundtable, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., University Union Foothill Suite. RSVP at (916) 278-5945 or cl0@csus.edu.

International Conference on Hispanic Literature, 8:30 a.m. - 9 p.m., University Union.

Survey

Continued from page 1

percent) and the lowest to his han- dling of the budget (40 percent).

The second “Annual Survey of Public Opinion and Lile Quality in the Sacramento Region” was conducted by CSUS sociology professor Amy Liu and more than 30 students. They surveyed 824 randomly selected adults in the Capital Region from Feb. 15 to March 9. The margin of error is 3 percent.

A copy of the findings is avail- able as a link from the press release at www.csus.edu/news.