Campus offering bachelor’s degrees in Placer County

Thanks to a new partnership between the University and Sierra College in Roseville, students living in Placer County can now complete bachelor’s degrees from Sacramento State at the Sierra College Gateway Center. They can major in psychology, organizational communication and a special major in arts and humanities. Employees surveyed in the Placer County area as part of a 2002 study, indicated that majors in social science, humanities and liberal arts would provide the broadest application in the workplace.

“We looked at the majors and skills that the people and businesses in Placer County were interested in when forming this program,” said Jill Matsueda, program director for Sacramento State’s College of Continuing Education.

The program is designed for people already in the workforce who have completed all required lower-division general education coursework. The students enroll in the program as a cohort and follow a sequence of courses offered in the evenings and on weekends. The classes are accelerated six-week courses that allow students to graduate within two and a half years. “The target students for this program are adults between 35-35 who work full time and are looking to finish their degrees,” Matsueda said. “This is a quick way for a working adult to finish a degree that would otherwise take a long time.”

Sixteen students are currently enrolled in an upper-division course for the arts and humanities major. Courses for psychology and organizational communication majors will begin in the fall. Three upper-division core classes for business administration and nine units of upper-division general education will be offered, and there are plans to begin administering the Writing Proficiency Exam at the campus as well. Jackie Donath, chair of Humanities and Religious Studies, is currently teaching a course at the Sierra campus and says the program is a great way for Sacramento State to serve the community.

“The students in the program are extremely focused, enthusiastic and dedicated,” Donath said. “They are appreciative of the program because it is structured with a realistic understanding of what people need. The students really have excelled in their chosen field after graduation from the university, making significant contributions to their respective communities.”

The annual Distinguished Service Awards, recognizing Sacramento State alumni for outstanding service to the community and their alma mater, will be held at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 14 in the Alumni Center.

The evening includes dinner, entertainment and a presentation of awards by University President Alexander Gonzalez and Alumni Board President Larry Cook. Alumna Cristina Mendonca, news anchor for KXTV News 10, will emcee the proceedings.

Each recipient of the award has contributed in a way for a working adult to finish a degree. “The target students for this program are adults between 35-35 who work full time and are looking to finish their degrees,” Matsueda said. “This is a quick way for a working adult to finish a degree that would otherwise take a long time.”

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This year’s recipients are:

- Michael L. Brown, commissioner of the California Highway Patrol.
- Todd Murch, president and CEO of Eskaton.
- Albert Najera, Sacramento Police Chief.
- Kirk B. Sturm, chief of the central division of California State Parks.
- Scott C. Syphax, CEO of Nehemiah Corp.
- Rosemary Baldi Younts, senior development officer for Mercy Foundation.
- Emeritus English professor and author Ann Widdy, will receive the Distinguished Faculty Award. And south Sacramento dental practitioner Sonney Chong will become an honorary alumna.

For photos and additional information on the honorees, see page 3. Seats are $75 per person or $600 for tables of eight. Reservations can be made by calling 278-6295 through April 5.

Alumni contributions focus of Awards

Luncheon to honor staff for service

The annual Staff Awards Luncheon will be 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 26 in the University Union Ballroom. The event will honor University staff and administrators, as well as employees of the Foundation and Associated Students for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service.

Tickets are $8 and are available in advance from: Julie Bard, 278-7001; Amanda Cruz-Golberg at 278-6326, Lillie Jones at 278-3853, Denise Nicholls at 278-6127, Barbara Oseto at 278-5694, Robin Rhodes-Camhi at 278-0415, Rolly Robinson at 278-6607, Katy Romo at 278-7012 and Leigh Spratt at 278-5848.

Group tickets to reserve a table of 10 are available from Kerry Wood at 278-5848. The deadline to buy tickets is Friday, April 8. They will not be sold at the door.

Those to be honored are:

- Academic Affairs
  - 10 years: Nancy Loeb, Research and Sponsored Projects

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- Administration and Business Affairs
  - 10 years: Vanessa Vaison, Public Safety
  - 11 years: Brian Burger, Public Safety
  - 10 years: Justine Conner, Accounting Svc.
  - 20 years: Carol Vickers-Harper, SFS
  - 20 years: David Preschul, Support Svc.

- Social Services
  - 10 years: Suzanne Sminter, Procurement

See STAFF AWARDS, Page 2

Campus settles on its name(s)

Sacramento State has settled on a standard naming system that officials hope will reduce community confusion and help the University raise its visibility.

The formal name of the University will remain “California State University, Sacramento.” The nicknames will be “Sacramento State” and “Sac State.” No other names will be used (CSUS, Sacramento State University, Cal State Sacramento, etc.).

A new identity package that utilizes the nicknames is being created. Specific guidelines about how the formal name and nicknames should be presented, and how they should interact with one another, in both printed and electronic material are being developed. These should be available by mid-summer.

Under the adopted name, the formal name will be used primarily on formal documents, including diplomas. “Sacramento State” will be used on materials created for general audiences, while “Sac State” may appear on materials for audiences that are highly familiar and close to the University, such as alumni.

The decision follows an extensive campus and community process that began early last year with town hall meetings hosted by Sacramento State President Alexander Gonzalez. The process continued through Web- and paper-based surveys, a random survey of 2,496 students as they registered for fall classes, and consideration of research and materials by a campus committee.

President Gonzalez then consulted with various campus groups before determining that a change of the formal name of the University, which had been recommended by the campus committee, did not have the necessary support.

The new naming system does not require approval by the CSU Board of Trustees. It will be used immediately wherever practical, and will be fully phased in over the next year so that campus units can deplete current stocks of printed material.

More information is available at www.csus.edu or by contacting the Public Affairs office at 278-6156.

BUDGET BRIEFING SCHEDULED

The campus budget briefing for fiscal year 2005-06 will be held on Wednesday, March 30 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the University Union Hinde Auditorium. All members of the campus community are invited to attend.
The SACRAMENTO STATE DEBATE TEAM won second place in the novice division of the California State Polytechnic State University Tournament at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Feb. 27. Senior Tiffany Clayborn at the Sierra Nevada Eastern Sierra Reserve grant to DEBATE TEAM in the 19th annual CSUS Student Technical Engineering graduate against Bakersfield College.

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Six Sacramento State alumni will be honored for their service to the campus and the community at the annual Distinguished Service Awards on April 14. The event will also recognize a Distinguished Faculty Member and an Honorary Alumnus.

The honorees are:

- **Michael L. Brown**, commissioner of the California Highway Patrol. Raised in Sacramento, Brown has served with the CHP since he graduated with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 1977. Brown was named commissioner by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004, and currently oversaw the more than 7,000 officers and 3,000 skilled workers in the CHP.

- **Todd Murth**, president and CEO ofEkaton. Murth's company offers residential and social responsibility services for seniors and their relatives. Murth has worked with the company for his entire career, becoming head of the organization this year. Originally from Palo Alto, Murth received a bachelor's degree in business administration, with concentrations in finance and management information services, in 1981.

- **Albert Najera**, Sacramento Police Chief. The native Sacramento- mentan earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 1978, rising to become the city's 43rd chief of police in 2003. Najera is the national president of the Hispanic American Command Police Officers Association, an active member of the local American Leadership Forum chapter and a member of numerous other police associations.

- **Kirk B. Sturm**, chief of the central division of California State Parks. Sturm recently worked as chief of the Central Division of California State Parks and was the former general manager of Yosemite Castle. He was awarded the Drury Award for Professional Integrity and Four Human Rights Awards. Hailing from San Luis Obispo County, where he currently resides, Sturm earned a bachelor’s in recreation administration in 1981, later earning a master's degree from CSU Northridge and a law degree from University College of Law.

- **Scott C. Syphax**, CEO of Nehemiah Corp. Syphax earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration with an emphasis in real estate development and land use from Sac State in 1988. A native of Detroit, Syphax is a member of the University’s College of Business Administration Advisory Committee and has served as vice chairman of the Corporate Fund Board of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

- **Rosemary Baldi Younts**, senior development officer for Mercy Foundation. Receiving her master's degree in family and consumer sciences in 1979, she now oversees fundraising efforts for Mercy Hospital’s charity efforts in the community. She was senior vice president and corporate officer for GenCorp Arroyo, also serving as the president of its $50 million nonprofit foundation. She was listed among Who’s Who in American Women in 2001. Younts, born in Dallas, lives in El Dorado Hills.

- **Ann Weedy**, emeritus English professor. Weedy, a 1968 graduate of Missouri State University, will conduct research abroad will be available at the CSUS Ticket Office 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 2 in the University Union Capital Room.

## Distinguished Service Award recipients

### EXTRA ROBOT SHOW

ASIMO, the humanoid robot created by Honda Motor Co., Ltd., will make an additional free public appearance at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, in Sacramento State's University Union Ballroom during the robot's three-day visit to campus, March 31 to April 2. The extra public demonstration was added after ASIMO attracted overflow audiences during recent public appearances at the University of Minnesota and Purdue University. ASIMO will also appear in free public demonstrations at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 31 and Friday, April 1 and at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 2 in the University Union Ballroom.

Details: 278-6977.

### INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS RECEPTION

Phi Beta Delta, the honor society for international scholars, will host a reception on Friday, April 1, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the University Union Food Halls in honor of the International Research Scholars at Sacramento State. The International Research Scholars come from a variety of countries and disciplines. The campus community is invited to RSVP to the Office of Global Education at 278-6686.

### PHYSICS TALK

Tom Ramos from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will give a lecture on “Skeptics National Defense: Do They Mix Well?” on Tuesday, March 29 from 4 to 5:20 p.m. in Mendocino 1015. The lecture is the latest in this semester’s physics colloquium series and is a switch from the normal Tuesday schedule.

To view the entire schedule visit www.csus.edu/physics.

### PARTNERSHIPS TALK

Ethnic Studies will host a colloquium on “Building Innovative Community Partnerships: The Ethnic Studies Model” from noon to 2 p.m., Monday, April 11 in the University Union Ballroom.

Details: 278-6445.

### LEARN ABOUT LEAVES

Human Resources is offering its annual workshop on sabbatical and difference-in-pay leaves from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Friday, April 29 in the University Union Capital Room. RSVV: no later than Monday, April 25 at 278-6779.

### FULBRIGHT FACTS

Workshops on the student Fulbright program to study or conduct research abroad will be offered:

- Friday, April 8, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 26, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Friday, May 6, 3 to 5 p.m.

Sign up in Global Education, Lassen 2304 or call 278-6868.

### NATURE HIKE

The Sacramento Valley Conservancy will offer a special docent-led Alumni Tour of Deer Creek Hills, a 4,000-acre working cattle ranch and nature preserve from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, May 1. The tour is also available to current and emeritus faculty and staff and will examine the multiple efforts necessary to combine and accommodate habitat preservation, public access and active cattle ranching. Reserves are required. Details: 737-8791.

### COUNTRY CONCERT

Musician Julie Roberts will bring her country-soul act to campus at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 7 in the University Union Ballroom. Roberts has been creating a buzz in the Country Music scene since the release of her debut album, Julie Roberts. Often described as mainstream country’s answer to Norah Jones, Roberts’ sound is more than just honky-tonk, she’s also rock and soul.

Two-time Sammie-nominated singer-songwriter Richard Marx will open for Roberts. Tickets are $15 general, $8 for Sacramento State students, and available at the CSUS Ticket Office at 278-4323 or Tickets.com.
ongoing
Exhibit, paintings and poetry by Ryan and Sina Seng, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tues.-Sat., University Library Gallery. (916) 278-2368. Continues to March 30.
Exhibit, “Bay Area Figurative Show,” works by Bay Area artists from the ’50s and ’60s including David Park, Richard Diebenkorn, Elmer Bishof and others, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tues.-Sat., University Library Gallery. (916) 278-2368. Continues to May 22.
Exhibit, “The Phenomenal Women Exhibit,” multimedia student presentation showcasing accomplishments and contributions of “phenomenal” women, Women’s History Month, 1-3 p.m., Women’s Resource Center. (916) 278-7388. Continues in various campus locations to March 31.
Exhibit, Works by graduate student Steven Moore, noon-4:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Robert Eise Gallery, Kadema Hall. (916) 278-6166. Continues to April 1.

Placer
Continued from page 1
value what we have to offer them.” Students were first recruited for the program last fall with help from Sierra College. Students in the program are formally admitted to Sacramento State, and must have completed the lower division GE program. The College of Continuing Education handles the administrative responsibility and logistics of the program, but the curriculum and instructors are from the academic departments.

“This is just the beginning,” Mothers of Placer said. “The program establishes our presence in Placer County, and it could eventually be incorporated into the pro-