Survey shows lower alcohol, drug use

CSUS students drink less alcohol than their counterparts nationwide and are considerably less likely to engage in high-risk drinking, according to an ongoing, nationwide study of college students.

The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey by the Core Institute at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, shows CSUS students on average consume 2.6 drinks per week, compared to 5.2 for students nationwide. And 28.9 percent of CSUS students had “binged” (drank five drinks at a sitting) within the previous two weeks compared to 42 percent nationwide.

The spring 2002 survey includes responses from 1,627 students at CSUS, as well as students at 159 other universities. The survey also found marijuana use is somewhat lower among CSUS students than college students nationwide. At CSUS, 15.7 percent of students reported using marijuana in the previous 30 days, compared to 19 percent nationwide. The use of other illegal drugs among CSUS students was generally a little lower than the national sample.

“While our students may be exhibiting somewhat healthier behavior than their peers on other campuses, we must continue our efforts to reduce high-risk behaviors related to alcohol and other drug use,” says Shirley Uplinger, vice president of student affairs at CSUS.

In addition to extensive information on alcohol and drug use, the survey examined a variety of opinions about the campus environment.

Among the key findings was that 92.3 percent of CSUS students felt safe on campus. This is in line with CSUS police statistics, which show the campus has a lower crime rate than the surrounding area and the city as a whole.

Other findings from the CSUS portion of the report include:

• 52.2 percent of undergraduate CSUS students had consumed alcohol in the previous 30 days.
• White and Hispanic students, and students ages 21 to 22, are more likely to binge drink. Binge drinkers tend to drink weekly.
• 33.1 percent of CSUS students would prefer not to have alcohol available at parties they attend; 83.6 percent would prefer not to have drugs available at parties they attend.

• 64.7 percent of CSUS students said the campus’ social atmosphere does not promote alcohol use; 86.7 percent said the campus’ social atmosphere does not promote drug use.

• 69 percent of CSUS students said their friends would disapprove if they binged drank; 59.8 percent say their friends would disapprove of them using marijuana occasionally, and 86 percent say they would disapprove of them experimenting with cocaine or LSD.

Recent years have seen increased efforts at CSUS to promote healthier lifestyle habits among students while encouraging responsible use of alcohol and discouraging illegal drug use.

Incoming students and their parents are involved in counseling and audiology professor, speech therapist, will talk at California State University, Sacramento at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 14. The event is sponsored by the University’s National Hispanic Heritage Month celebration and is co-sponsored by the CSUS Multi-Cultural Student Center.

Guatemalan civil rights leader and 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu Tum will talk at California State University, Sacramento at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 14. The event is part of the University’s National Hispanic Heritage Month celebration and is co-sponsored by the CSUS Multi-Cultural Student Center.

Like many other countries in South and Central America, Guatemala has experienced great tension between the descendents of European immigrants and the native Indian population. At a very young age, Menchu Tum — a native Mayan — got involved in social reform activities and became prominent in the women’s rights movement.

After a guerrilla organization established itself in their area, the Menchu family was accused of taking part in guerrilla activities and Rigoberta’s father was imprisoned and tortured for allegedly having participated in the execution of a local plantation owner. After his release, he joined the newly founded Committee of the Peasant Union.

In 1979, Rigoberta also joined the Peasant Union. Because of her work as an activist for the native people she also had to flee Guatemala for Mexico. That year her brother was arrested, tortured, and killed by the army. The following year, her father was killed when security forces in the capital stormed the embassy where he and some other peasants were staying. Shortly afterwards, her mother also died after having been arrested, tortured and raped.

In 1983, Tum told her life story in the book, I, Rigoberta Menchu which attracted considerable international attention. In 1987, she was the narrator of a film called When Mountains Tremble, a documentary about the struggles of the Mayan people.

Civil rights leader, Nobel Peace Prize winner to speak

An unintentional result of California’s increasing diversity may be an overtaxing of the state’s special education programs. A CSUS professor says children learning English as a second language are being referred to special education for communication disorders more often than primary English speakers, even though the incidence of communication disorders is the same across ethnic groups.

Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin, a speech pathology and audiology professor and speech therapist, first noticed the problem years ago as a school speech therapist working with bilingual children and continues to see it in her consulting role with a local school district. The question is: Do they have underlying speech and language learning problems or do they just need more time to learn English?

“Often, the children are referred because they aren’t progressing academically and have been slow to learn English,” she says. “It’s important to differentiate a language difference versus a disorder.”

If the child’s skills in his or her primary language are normal, but he or she is behind in English, it may be a language difference issue. But if the child is slow in both, it could be an underlying disability. “I look at patterns that are atypical for both languages,” Roseberry-McKibbin says. If a child has underlying language issues they may not be...
Rosemary Papalewis, education and administration policy, co-authored a book titled Leadership: On Purpose: Promoting Practices for African American and Latino Students that was published by Corwin Press, in August.

Tom Knutson, communication studies, spent the summer continuing his research on rhetorical sensitivity at Bang- kok University in Thailand. He delivered a series of lectures at Kasetsart University in Bangkok on “Communication for Sustainable Development.” He traveled to Seoul, Korea, to present a co-authored paper, “Factors of Thai Rhetorical Sensitivity,” at the International Communication Association Conference.

Val Smith, communication studies, co-authored a paper on “Factors of Thai Rhetorical Sensitivity” that was presented at the International Communication Association Conference.

Brenda Louie, art, has been invited to participate in the 5th Annual International Art Exhibition in HangZhou, China, Oct. 10-16.

Kay Moore, teacher education, presented “Expository and Summary Writing in Content Area Literacy” at the 19th World Congress on Reading in Edinburgh, Scotland, July 29-Aug. 1. The conference was sponsored by the International Reading Association.


Fausto Avendaño, foreign languages, received honorable mention for his short story, “Los cazadores de perfiles,” in the annual AJDICO literary contest sponsored by Arkansas Tech University’s foreign languages and international studies program. The short story was published in July.


Ben Amata, library, reviewed the “Encyclopedia of the U.S. Census” for the journal Government Information Quarterly and donated the volume to the University Library.

Gloria Solomon, kinealeolgy and health science, had an article on “Confidence as a Source of Expectancy Information: A Follow-up Investigation” published in the International Sports Journal. She also had an article on “Sources of Expectancy Information Among Assistant Coaches: The Influence of Performance and Psychological Cues” published in the Journal of Sport Behavior.

Students

Students Dawn Becker, Lindsey Bower, Denise Brazel, Mary Burns, Linda Calver, Chris Topher Chambers, Kerri Chapin, Kathryn Conner, Christine D’Onofrio, Jeanne Duma, Elizabeth England, Lisa Espinosa, Matthew Green, Kelly Hein, Mark L., Cassandra Maloney, Maria Martin, Christopher Paular, Rene Porche, Monan Shoman, Nancy Todd, David Wilson and Shan-non Wylie were part of the research team that conducted the first “Annual Survey of Public Opinion and Life Quality in the Sacramento Region” this spring. The project was led by Amy Liu, sociology.

In the news

People of Hispanic heritage are a fast-growing segment of our nation’s population, and they play an integral role in the country’s success in science, business, government and the arts as well as myriad other disciplines. 

National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. CSUS will join the country-wide celebration of Hispanic achievements.

CSUS is sponsoring a series of free and ticketed events including an RCAF exhibition featuring Sacramento’s poet laureate Jose Montoya, lectures, slide presentations, photo exhibits, music concerts and dance concerts will take place on campus and in the community.

The month-long celebration concludes with a lecture by 1992 Nobel Prize recipient Rigoberta Menchu Tum entitled When Mountains Tremble, at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 14 in the University Union Ballroom. A leading advocate of Indian rights and ethnic-cultural reconciliation in Guatemala and throughout the Western Hemisphere, Menchu Tum is the recipient of numerous international awards.

National Hispanic Heritage Month evolved from a Congressional declaration of Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968. Originally, it was celebrated during the week of Sept. 15 and 16 to cover a wide number of independence days for Latin American countries including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Mexico.

In 1988, Congress officially extended the Hispanic Heritage holiday to 31 days. Now the celebration includes the independence of Chile on Sept. 18 and Dia de la Raza – a holiday that recognizes the first immigration of Hispanics from Europe, Africa and Asia to the Americas – on Oct. 12.

For more information call (916) 278-6301 or see the schedule below.

Monday, Sept. 16


“Celebrating Raza Unity: 16 de Septiembre”, cultural performances, art and food, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Serna Plaza adjacent to the University Union. (916) 278-6997.

Photos exhibit featuring Xico Gonzalez, Victoria Lemus, Consuelo Hernandez, Cesar Ramos and Dominick Porras, various times, Monday - Friday, Java City Coffee House University Union. (916) 278-6979. Continues to Oct. 15.


Tuesday, Sept. 17

“Mountains Tremble,” exhibition featuring works by Jose Montoya, Tum, 7:30 p.m., University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-6501.

Saturday, Sept. 21

“An RCAF Raza Concert,” entertainment by Jose Montoya’s Trio Casindio, Rondalla de Gualapalque, Revoltooss, Radul and Phil Goldygart, 8 p.m., Guadalupe Church, 8th and Streets. (916) 278-6101.

Sunday, Sept. 29

“Women and Immigration: the California/Mexico Border,” lecture and slide presentation by Martha Castaneda, noon, University Union Hinde Auditorium. (916) 278-6101.

Saturday, Oct. 5

Mexican Film Festival, 6 - 9 p.m., Riverside 1015. (916) 278-6101. Continues Oct. 6.
monday, sept. 9 “Native North American Art Before the Encounter,” a talk by CSUS professor emeritus Frank Le Pena, will be held at 3:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 9 in Kadema 145.

La Pena is a nationally recognized artist and former director of the University’s Native American studies program. An active poet, dancer and artist, La Pena was one of two people from throughout the Western Hemisphere selected by the Smithsonian Institution as advisors in the creation of its new national museum dedicated to Native American art and culture. A reception for Le Pena immediately follows his lecture. For details call 278-6166.

Tuesday, sept. 10

Annual Benefits Fair for faculty and staff, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-6156.

Wednesday, sept. 11 “Sept. 11 Memorial,” music, poetry, art, color guard service, discussions and more, 10 a.m., University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-6156.

Thursday, sept. 12 Faculty and staff grant writing workshop, 4 p.m., Library, Room 1013. (916) 278-7765.


Saturday, sept. 14 “Tuvan Throat Singers,” World Music Guest Artists Series, 9 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. Tickets $15 general/$10 non-CSUS students and seniors/CSUS students free with ID. Tickets at the event. (916) 278-4590.

Sunday, sept. 15 Men’s soccer vs. UC Irvine, 4 p.m., soccer field. Tickets $5 general/$4 non-CSUS students and seniors/CSUS students free with ID. Tickets at the event. (916) 278-4590.

Monday, sept. 16 “An RCAF Exhibition,” featuring works by Jose Montoya, Esteban Villa, Ricardo Favella, Jaunish Orozco, Stan Paddilla, Louie the Foot, Xico Gonzales and Sterling Phillips, National Hispanic Heritage Month, noon - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, Else Gallery. (916) 278-6166. Artist reception, 6 - 9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20.

Tuesday, sept. 17 Campus Job Fair, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-6872.

Wednesday, sept. 18 Drowning Adam, alternative rock concert, noon, Serna Plaza adjacent to the University Union. (916) 278-6997.

Thursday, sept. 19 “New and Renewing Alumni Member Reception,” guest Terry Wansel, new CSUS athletic director, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Yarnshon Alumni Center. RSVP (916) 278-6295 or email at alumni@csus.edu. Concert featuring local bands the Willknots, Daycare and 10 After, 7 p.m., Serna Plaza adjacent to the University Union. (916) 278-6997.

Tuesday, sept. 17 “Celebrating Raza Unity: 16 de Septiembre,” cultural performances, art and food, National Hispanic Heritage Month, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Serna Plaza adjacent to the University Union. (916) 278-6997.

Photo exhibit featuring Xico Gonzalez, Victoria Lemus, Consuelo Hernandez, Cesar Ramos and Dominick Porras, National Hispanic Heritage Month, various hours, Monday - Friday, Java City Coffee House University Union. (916) 278-6997. Continues to Oct. 18.


Friday, sept. 20 “Our Milky Way Star Clusters Shine Light on Our Galaxy,” talk by CSUS professor Randy Phelps, Renaissance Society Forum, 3 p.m., Mendocino 1001. (916) 278-7834.

Women’s soccer vs. Idaho, 4 p.m., soccer field. Tickets $5 general/$4 non-CSUS students and seniors/CSUS students free with ID. Tickets at the event. (916) 278-4590.

Saturday, sept. 21 RCAF Raza Concert, entertainment by Jose Montoya Trio Casinio, Rondalla de Galadali- ure, Revolucion, Barbero, and Phil Goldvarg, National Hispanic Heritage Month, 8 p.m., Guadalupe Church, 8th and S streets, downtown Sacramento. (916) 278-6101.

Alumni Association Pre-Game Party, food, refreshment and games, 4 - 6 p.m., Yarnshon Alumni Center. (916) 278-6295.

Foothall vs. Cal Poly, 6 p.m., Hornet Stadium. Tickets $15 reserved/ $10 general/ $7 seniors and non-CSUS students/CSUS students free with ID. Tickets available at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323, or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277. Season tickets available at (916) 278-4590.

Sunday, sept. 22 “Iditarod Sled Dog Race,” slide presentation and lecture with four-time Iditarod Sled Dog Race winner Martin Buser and veteri- narian Al Townsend, 1 - 5 p.m., Yarnshon Alumni Center. Tickets $15 general/$10 students and seniors. (408) 370-1471.

Survey

Continued from page 1

campus staff have been assigned to coordinate and develop alcohol and drug information programs. Among the new efforts this year will be a “social norms” campaign aimed at reducing drug use and alcohol abuse by clearing up student misperceptions. For example, 85.6 percent of CSUS student believe the average student on campus drinks more than once per week – four times higher than the actual number reportedly drinking at that frequency (16.9 percent). In addition, the University has received a competitive grant from the Office of Traffic Safety to increase its ini- tiatives relative to alcohol abuse. More information about the survey is available at the website of the SIUC/CoR, Institute website at www.siu.edu/departments/ corent/public_html/index.html. For information about social norms is available at www.socialnorms.org.

— Frank Wielachtch