New faculty arriving at record-setting rate

Those new faces you’ve seen this fall are not all new students. Many are new professors. In fact, 10 of them are new tenure-track professors, the largest class of new faculty in the University’s history. They’ve arrived just in time to fill big gaps left by retirements and take on a growing number of classes needed for this year’s record student enrollment.

“We are experiencing, as we work together, substantive reshaping of the University through the appointment of new faculty,” noted CSUS President Gerth at his annual fall address this year. He then told the new faculty what was on so many other minds: “You have no idea how welcome you are.”

This year’s growth in new faculty tops the increases seen in the late 1980s and early 1990s. And it is no anomaly. Large numbers of faculty have joined the University in each of the last three years. This latest hiring blitz has been compared to the early 1960s, when the University was growing rapidly and hiring many new faculty. That group created and shaped the academic program for decades.

David Wagner, dean of faculty and staff affairs, describes the new group as having “a good mix of experience.” He says they come from different backgrounds, are different ages and have different experiences, with some who completed their doctorate right away and others who are starting a second career.

Wagner says faculty hiring will probably continue at about the same rate in coming years. There will be about 110 searches next year, and if the hiring rates continue, he says, 40 percent of the full-time faculty will be untenured in just a couple years.

“All this hiring is creating an ongoing set of organizational challenges for the University – both philosophically and practically,” Wagner says. “There are questions of passing on organizational values and academic culture. And there is the need to mentor all these new faculty.”

Evaluation and tenure decisions alone will be time-consuming. Already, Wagner points out, some departments have undergone major changes.

In the last few years, environmental studies and ethnic studies have hired nearly all new faculty. History has hired a number of new faculty and will be seeking four or five new hires next year. And child development, which just recently became its own department, will be seeking three new faculty next year after hiring the same number this year.

– Frank Whitslatch

Students help launch pioneering course in ethnic studies

This fall, students at Sacramento’s Hiram Johnson High School are the first to take a brand new class in ethnic studies. The course, which was developed by a team of CSUS students and faculty along with Hiram Johnson faculty and administrators, comes at the forefront of legislative effort that will require ethnic studies in California’s high schools statewide.

The new curriculum kicked off the week of the start of the fall semester.

“It could have a statewide effect,” says Gregory Mark, chair of the ethnic studies department. “It could become a model curriculum for the ethnic studies component that will soon be required in high schools.”

Hiram Johnson history teacher James Fabionar will lead four sessions of the class for about 100 freshmen. On some days, the class will be taught by CSUS ethnic studies students, and throughout the year CSUS faculty members will serve as guest speakers. In addition, seniors from Hiram Johnson will act as teaching assistants.

Mark says one of the goals of the program is to head off violence by teaching tolerance. It’s a message that Fabionar, who earned his teaching credential at CSUS, says is needed. “There are significant cultural conflicts that occur within groups and between groups at the school,” he says. The school’s population is 30 percent Asian, 26 percent white, 23 percent Hispanic and 14 percent black.

Research on the new curriculum began last semester when students in a CSUS ethnic studies class conducted door-to-door trying a slam dunk was a little more difficult than usual because he was wearing the full costume. The second part of the audition involved a three-minute dance routine. Finally, he underwent an interview.

The next thing Herky knew, he had the job and was attending a mascot camp in Southern California. Herky says the camp taught him important dos and don’ts. For example, the mascot is never to speak while wearing a costume. He did well with that rule. But in the beginning of camp, the teachers had a complaint. “I was too human,” he says. “They said ‘I was tired.’” Herky says he has learned to be

Forums examine global impact of religion

CSUS will present a pair of discussions about how world religions contribute to shaping the post-Sept. 11 world. “War or Peace: World Religions Shaping the Future: Asian Traditions,” takes place from 2-5 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 22 in the University Union. The panel discussion is about Judaism, Christianity and Islam with CSUS professors Maria Jaoudi, Robert Plutzar, Brad Nystrom and Rosalie Amer.

The discussions are free and open to the public. For more information (call 916) 278-6444.

See ETHNIC STUDIES, Page 2

See HERKY, Page 3

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The CSU Bulletin welcomes submissions to the Professional Activities Section from faculty, administrative staff, and students when they 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.

Administration and business affairs has launched a number of its staff members for quality performance. The honorees were nominated by the University community. They are: SUZANNE SWARTH, purchasing, and PATRICIA VERCVRUYSSEN, accounting, for customer service; LINCOLN BEATTY, custodial services, for friendliness; JAMES REED, paint shop, for pride in work; DENEILLA PAPPAS, space management, for problem solver; and ANNETTE KARLE, vice president’s office, for team member.


BRENDA LOUIE, art, was featured in the World Journal, the Chinese language paper with the largest U.S. distribution, on Aug 18.

NAOMI COOK
Administrative Support Coordinator II
Organizational Behavior and Environment
Cook has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Wellesley College. Her prior position was as an legal secretary for a firm specializing in employment and labor law. Before that, she worked for 11 years in the Palo Alto area as an assistant and paralegal for a retired superior court judge and for a court special master.

MARY ANN PAYNE
Executive Director of Development
College of Business Administration
Most of Payne’s career has been spent in higher education working for several private colleges and a public research university. Most recently, she was director of capital campaigns for a major university and the state director for a national environmental organization. Payne earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology and a master’s degree in education from Holy Names College in Oakland.

MAGALY EVANGELINA SALGADO DE WILSON
Administrative Support Assistant
A native of Merida, Mexico, Salgado de Wilson studied at the University of Yucatan prior to coming to the United States.

Psychologists examine Sacto traffic tie-ups

A new website unveiled by the Sacramento Institute of Traffic Safety – www.SacTraffic.org – provides drivers with a forum for discussing the Capital Region’s growing traffic congestion and for offering suggestions for improving traffic flow on local freeways.

The institute is associated with CSUS. Funding is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety under the Business, Transportation and Housing. “Ask anyone about traffic congestion and you will likely get a litany of complaints, but this summer, seven students from the ethnics studies department started a litany of complaints, but this summer, seven students from the ethnics studies department started a project that may actually result in new solutions,” says Helene Burgess, one of three CSUS psychology professors involved with the project. The others are Joanne Marrow and Oriel Strickland. Visit the website will be invited to:
• Answer three surveys about driving in congestion, stress when driving, and how to develop a community response to driving on freeways.
• Tell their stories about driving on the freeways as well as their ideas for improving the driving situation in Sacramento.
• Take a “driving quotient” quiz to test themselves on driving knowledge.
• Check out a “driving tip of the week.” It will be updated using tips from the CHP, website users and traffic safety experts. Sign up for a face-to-face discussion with psychologists driving Sacramento’s freeways. ‘Instead of just venting to your friends, you may be able to make a real difference in the driving experience,’ Strickland says. The surveys and ideas will be used to make recommendations on driving in the Sacramento area to the California Office of Traffic Safety.
Open house showcases new digital media lab

Students, faculty and the community will get a peak behind the digital multimedia curtain when the department of communication studies hosts an open house for its new digital media facilities in Mendocino Hall, second and third floors, from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 28.

Designed to give prospective digital media students a taste of the cutting-edge technology available to them at the University, the open house will feature demonstrations in video, audio and multimedia production. It will also include the unveiling of the University’s new digital audio studio.

The University’s digital media major gives students nuts and bolts experience in creating multimedia products. They use professional hardware and software—such as Pro Tools for audio editing—to blend text, video, audio and graphic elements into high-quality presentations.

“Our students get to work on state-of-the-art equipment,” said Val Smith, chair of the communication studies department. That equipment includes Apple Macintoshes with speedy G4 processors as well as fast Windows-based machines.

Smith says students are encouraged to become proficient across both platforms because that expands their opportunities once they enter the job market.

New this year—and still smelling of fresh paint—is the digital audio studio: four sound-proof booths on the second floor of Mendocino Hall where students can produce and mix narration, music and sound effects for their undergraduate and graduate projects. The booths replace the old, outdated educational bays students were using in Shasta Hall.

“We’ll get a lot of use out of these booths,” Smith said.

In addition to a top-notch technical education, he said the program also offers students the educational breadth needed for a position as a project director or manager.

“Students who go through our program will be familiar with the entire production process. They’ll know how to put it all together to communicate a message,” Smith said.

He said the open house is also designed to attract new students to the program, particularly community college students in the region who are unaware they don’t have to leave home to find a comprehensive multimedia program.

“We offer a solid four-year degree with some fantastic possibilities,” he said.

The open house is free and open to the public. For more information, call (916) 278-6888.

–Tim Wright

news digest

THEME PARK DISCOUNTS

The University’s ticket office is now providing discount coupons and selling discounted tickets for Great America, Universal Studios, Magic Mountain and Marine World. Customers can save as much as $18.50 off regular prices.

The office is located in the University Union near the east entrance. It is the central source for tickets to all public events at the University, including the arts, sports and special events. As a Tickets.com outlet, it also has available tickets to events throughout Northern California and Nevada.

Details: 278-4323.

LIBRARY FOCUS GROUPS

The University Library is looking for CSUS students and employees willing to take part in a focus group about space use in the library.

The feedback will be used by an architectural firm that is conducting a feasibility/programming services study.

That study will make recommendations for improving space use, the layout of library services, signage and more.

The focus group for faculty, staff and administrators will be 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 24 in Library 5006. The group for students will be 3:30 to 4:45 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 24 in Library 5006.

Refreshments will be served at both focus group sessions. RSVP to Lillie Jones at 278-3635.

NOONTIME WELLNESS

The noontime wellness program is once again offering activities for faculty and staff.

Guided activities include a new session on walking and weight management, as well as aerobics, aqua aerobics and open swim, breathing and relaxation, stretch and tone, Tai Chi, and weight training. There are also courts open for basketball and racquetball.

Noontime wellness sessions run from 12:05 to 12:50 p.m. Days vary.

USA REPS

The University Staff Assembly (USA) has made the following appointments:

Elizabeth Redmond is the new USA staff liaison, Lillie Jones has been elected vice president and Leigh Barber has been elected treasurer.

The new USA representatives are: Shari Gonzales, health center; Jeffrey Roy, admissions and records; Steven O’Donnell, College of Education; Dennis Frazer, facilities management, Carlyn Pollock, College of Engineering and Computer Science; and Lisa Rosenfeld, College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies.

BOOK SALES

The Friends of the CSUS Library will hold a book sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 19 in the lower level of the library.

The sales will continue on the first and third Thursday of each month at the same location.

Details: 278-5154.

SLED DOG SHOW

Four-time Iditarod sled dog race winner Martin Buser and Iditarod veterans Al Townsend will present a slide show and talk on their racing experiences in Alaska from 1-5 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 22, in the Yambloom Alumni Center.

Details: 278-6295.

That must be great,” people exclaim. He agrees. “It’s a good place to work. I have a very good job.”

Payne has seen plenty of changes since he started working on campus. But he says the main transformation has been in the campus landscape. There are so many new buildings. He remembers when workers completed the business school’s building, now called Tahoe Hall, the year he started his job on campus. Payne says the construction hasn’t stopped and attributes this growth to the rapid increase in the number of students.

Despite how much he enjoys his job and the University, he is nevertheless planning for his post-CSUS future. He plans to retire in six or eight years. But Payne will miss his co-workers and the Capital University.

“My experience at Sac State has been good.”

Herky

Continued from page 1

more cartoon-like. He explains that a mascot’s gestures, even the way he walks, need to be exaggerated.

Herky hasn’t been seen at any CSUS sporting events yet this semester. He’s still offering tickets to season ticket holders and appeared at ASI meetings and at Arden Fair Mall. On Saturday, Sept. 21, he makes his Hornet Stadium debut. Herky says he isn’t nervous, but he expects to get very warm in his costume.

“It’s too hard to breathe and it’s really hot. I lose about 10 pounds,” he jokes. He loves football, but is also looking forward to the basketball games. “I want to learn to flip and slam dunk off the trampoline,” he says.

Herky, who graduated from a Nevada County high school, says he hasn’t decided what he wants to do after receiving a communication studies degree. He would like to work in a public relations or marketing field, but says he isn’t opposed to becoming a professional mascot.

Herky says instructors at the mascot camp told him professionals can earn a good living as performers. And according to Glenn Street of Street Characters Inc., a company that trains and develops mascots, wearing a costume and representing a business or sports team can be lucrative. “Salaries are dictated by how well the teams utilize the mascot, and thus, how they perceive the value,” he says.

“These mascots may earn up to $150,000 per year.”

But for right now, Herky isn’t thinking too much about money. “He’s concentrating on his new mascot duties and having fun. “I like the opportunity to go with it, to be involved in a Division I school,” he says.

–Terry Filipowicz
**Monday, Sept. 16**

*An RCAF Exhibition*", featuring works by Jose Montoya, Esteban Villa, Ricardo Favela, Juan Cervantez, Oliva Cervantes, Martha Castaneda, Juan Lott, Rudy Cuelar, Armando Cid, Larry Ortiz and many students, National Hispanic Heritage Month, noon - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, Else Gallery. (916) 278-6166. Continues to Oct. 13. Artist reception, 6 - 9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20.

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

“Gold Mines in The Fields (Las Minas de oro en los campas),” photo exhibit, National Hispanic Heritage Month, various times, Monday - Sunday, University Library, first and second floors. (916) 278-6444. Continues to Oct. 30. Artist reception, 3 - 5 p.m., Sept. 19, CAMP Office, River Front Center.

**Tuesday, Sept. 17**

Campus Job Fair, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-6444.

**Wednesday, Sept. 18**

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

**Thursday, Sept. 19**

From the CSUS Library book sale, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., lower level of the library. (916) 278-5154.

**High-Flying Art**

Artwork by Sacramento’s poet laureate Jose Montoya and the internationally known Royal Chicano Air Force, or RCAF, will be exhibited at the CSUS Robert Else Gallery from noon - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, Sept. 16 - Oct. 15. A public reception for the artists with live music, poetry and more will be held from 6 - 9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20 in the gallery.

The RCAF is an artist collective co-founded by CSUS professors emeritus Montoya and Esteban Villa, both of whom are educators, painters, poets and activists. The group is internationally recognized for their murals and posters.

The RCAF artists featured in the exhibit include works by Montoya, Esteban Villa, Juan Cervantez, Oliva Cervantes, Martha Castaneda, Juan Lott, Rudy Cuelar, Armando Cid, Larry Ortiz and many students. The exhibit is part of the University’s National Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. For more information about the exhibit call (916) 278-6166.

**Friday, Sept. 20**

*Our Milky Way Star Clusters Shine Light on Our Galaxy,* Renaissance Society Forum, CSUS professor Randy Phelps, 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**

An RCAF Raza Concert, Jose Montoya Trio Casin-Dio, Rondalla de Guadalupe, Revolichos, Rudos and Phil Goldvarg, National Hispanic Heritage Month, 8 p.m., Guadalupe Church, 8th and T streets. (916) 278-6401.

Alumni Association pre-game party, food, refreshment and games, 4 - 6 p.m., Zamohon Alumni Center. RSVP (916) 278-6269 or se-mail alumni@csus.edu.

**Tuesday, Sept. 25**

An RCAF Raza Concert, Jose Montoya Trio Casinode, Rondalla de Guadalupe, Revolichos, Rudos and Phil Goldvarg, National Hispanic Heritage Month, 8 p.m., Guadalupe Church, 8th and T streets. (916) 278-6401.

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**Saturday, Sept. 24**

*What ‘Nation of Islam’ is about,* lecture, University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-6997.

Vehicle vs. Idaho State, 7 p.m., Hornet Gym. Tickets $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. Season tickets available at (916) 278-4590.

**Sunday, Sept. 29**

*War or Peace: World Religions Shaping the Future: Western Traditions,* panel discussions about Judaism, Christianity and Islam with CSUS professors Brad Nystrom, Maria Jacoqui, Robert Platzner and Rosalie Ames, 2 - 5 p.m., University Union. (916) 278-6444.

Chamber Music Society, concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. Tickets $20 general/$15 seniors/$10 students. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277.