Potter power gets kids moving

Not content to conquer the book world and the movies, Harry Potter is headed to the playground, with a little help from CSUS professor Lindy Valdez.

Inspired by his daughter’s love of the books, the kinesiology and health science professor has developed games that use the popularity of Potter to encourage physical activity. Valdez hopes the adventures of the young wizard can turn kids on to movement, much as the books inspired them to put down the video game controls.

“It felt I had a great opportunity to reach kids through movement. It’s a way to harness the enthusiasm generated through the literature,” says Valdez, a former elementary and middle school physical education teacher who now works with aspiring teachers enrolled at CSUS.

It’s also a way to increase learning opportunities. “A lot of kids learn better through movement. Their learning style is by doing,” he says.

Valdez presented his project at the 25th annual Cal Poly Elementary Physical Education Conference for elementary school teachers. He’s also had a successful tryout with a tougher audience – his daughter’s sixth-grade class.

The game features a series of challenges, each of which promotes literacy and movement.

It begins with The Sorting Hat where each child draws the name of one of the series’ colorful characters and assumes that character’s identity. It can be followed by one or more activities, with names like Cauldron Crossword, Magical Names, Sorcerer’s Spell, Potion Locomotion Punctuation, Word Wizardry, Scab’s Scrabble, Marauders Map and Hogwart’s Tag. All use familiar elements found in common children’s games but with a language element that corresponds with the Harry Potter theme.

For example, a couple of games are forms of tag, where children can be “unfrozen” if they spell a word correctly or answer questions about the stories. Others are variations of word games in which the kids use various types of movement – walking, hopping, skipping – to collect letters that spell out words and sentences. Or they physically “punctuate” sentences with actions such as stopping at periods and moving in the opposite direction for question marks.

In addition to his success in getting kids to read books again, Valdez says he also sees value in embracing Harry Potter because he’s an imperfect hero.

“He is an ordinary person who rises to the task when faced with great difficulty,” Valdez says. “He is an orphan with unmanageable hair, who wears a very noticeable scar across his forehead. Kids can relate to a character who is a reluctant hero with many imperfections.” — Laurie Hall

CSUS makes Yahoo’s ‘wired colleges’ list

CSUS is among the nation’s top 200 most “wired colleges,” according to the annual rankings released this month by Yahoo Internet Life magazine.

CSUS was the 120th among more than 1,300 universities surveyed, the magazine said. That put CSUS fourth among CSU campuses (behind U.C. Davis, U.C. Irvine and Cal Poly Pomona) and 12th in the state.

The online and print magazine considered six “Web portal” and “infrastructure” categories, and included the “wired colleges” rankings online at http://yil.com/wiredcolleges/. A description and listing of online and other distance education classes at CSUS is at www.csus.edu/ distance. An online demo of CasperWeb is available at https://csusapp1.csus.edu/casperweb/. The CSUS homepage is at www.csus.edu.

— Frank Whitlatch

Holiday charity drives ring in the season

’Tis the season for holiday food, clothing and toy drives. The following is a list of some of the ways the campus community can join in the spirit of giving.

Support services, which includes transportation and parking services, receiving, mail services, reprographics, procurement, the OneCard center and photocopy services, are having a food drive from Nov. 19 through Dec.

21. Non-perishable food items will be accepted and there will be marked drop boxes at various locations around campus including the parking office in Foley Hall.

Monetary donations can also be made by sending a check payable to State Employees Food Drive to Nancy Fox at campus zip 6076. Receipts will be mailed. For more

See CHARITy, Page 4

Academy takes on divide

The College of Business Administration’s Business Academy for elementary students teaches children more than how to count back change or use a computer.

It teaches them about opportunity – something which may be as alien to them a foreign country or the dark side of the moon.

“A lot of people have given up on these kids,” says Sylvinie Merchant, professor of management information science and coordinator of the program.

The kids at Father Keith B. Kenny Elementary School come from one of the most economically disadvantaged neighborhoods in Sacramento. As a result, Merchant says, they often don’t understand that they have life options that include college. The Business Academy is part of a solution to that, providing the children with an alternative view of what they can accomplish if they stay in school and complete their studies successfully.

“It’s an outreach program – we’re trying to tap them early,” says Felicenne Ramey, dean of the College. “I want to see these children come to the University in seven or eight years.”

The Business Academy started out as a program designed to give the third-graders at the school an introduction to running a business. Working with the College and other businesses in the community, the students built, stocked and ran a store. In the process they learned about the practical application of things such as math and got some basic business skills.

“We’d give them a dollar and they had to give us change – they couldn’t do that before,” Ramey said.

From that simple beginning the College has become more involved, working to get a grant from Pacific Bell to place computers with videoconferencing capabilities into the students’ classroom earlier this year.

See ACADEMY, Page 3
President Gerth has taken the following actions regarding the recommendations of the Faculty Senate:

From the Faculty Senate meeting of March 15, 2001:

- The recommendation concerning the Joint Doctoral program in Higher Education Policy is approved. President Gerth will be responsible for a time for implementation. (FS 01-13)
- The recommendation concerning the curriculum review for the Department of Psychology is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-13)
- The recommendation concerning course proposals is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for the implementation. (FS 01-14)
- The recommendation concerning certificate programs are approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for the implementation. (FS 01-15 and FS 01-16)

From the Faculty Senate Meeting of April 26, 2001:

- The recommendation concerning an appointment to the Instructionally Related Activites Committee is approved. This was done verbally quite some time ago. The Vice President for Administration is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-13)
- The recommendation concerning the curriculum review for the Department of Sociology is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-28)
- The recommendation concerning the academic calendar for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 is approved. Approval for 2002-2003 is final; approval for 2003-2004 is contingent upon the ongoing implementation of Year Round Operations, and that calendar is subject to further adjustment. The recommendation concerning the Outstanding Service Vice Award is approved. It is not the intention of the policy that the presentation of this award be included in commencement ceremonies. These awards will be funded at the same level as the Outstanding Teaching Award for each of the colleges. The Dean of Faculty and Staff Affairs is responsible for the administration of the vice award. (FS 01-24)
- The recommendation concerning the Faculty Merit Scholarship Award Program Policy is approved. Please note that the Faculty Merit Scholarship is no longer an endowment but a restricted fund. The Vice President for Administration is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-25)
- The distance education policy is approved with the following provisos:
  1. Approval is for the 2001-2002 academic year.
  2. During this year a program of research about the proposed university policy on and other relevant policy issues regarding distance education is to be initiated and completed, at least in its first phases. This research is to be based upon gathering and analysis of already existing research about distance education as well as appropriate new research in the context of California State University, Sacramento and hopefully will address the proposed policy and alternative. President Gerth and Senate Chair Buckley will initiate this research activity immediately.
- The Division of Nursing is exempted from provision 1.5 in view of ongoing programs. Other academic units may be exempted upon request, approved by the appropriate dean and the Provost. (FS 01-23)

From the Faculty Senate Meeting of April 3, 2001:

- The recommendation concerning the curriculum review for the Division of Criminal Justice is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-20)
- The recommendation concerning program change proposals is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-21)
- The recommendation concerning self-study guidelines for academic program reviews is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-27)

From the Faculty Senate Meeting of May 10, 2001:

- The recommendation concerning the Director and Dean of the Library Selection Advisory Committee is approved. (FS 01-32)
- The recommendation concerning legislation review is approved. The Dean of Faculty and Staff Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-33)
- The recommendation concerning the Faculty Profesional Development Policy is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-35)
- The recommendations concerning the guidelines of the Pedagogy Enhancement Awards Program and for the Research and Creative Activity Award Program are approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-36A and 01-36B)

From the Faculty Senate Meeting of May 17, 2001:

- The resolution concerning increased support for Faculty Development is noted. Faculty Development is something that occurs not only at the University level but in the colleges and the departments. This is a workload issue and one which needs consideration in the context of the broader issue having to do with the nine-unit workload.

- The recommendation concerning program change proposals is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-43)

- The recommendation concerning the curriculum review of the Women's Studies Program is approved. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-42)

- The recommendation concerning an appointment to one of the Council on Information Technology subgroups is approved. The Academic Senate needs to indicate which subgroup. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for this. (FS 01-43)

From the Faculty Senate Meeting of May 24, 2001:

- The recommendation concerning the guidance process is approved conceptually. Approval is subject to the creation of a one-page statement which can be given to students defining the grade appeal process in a way that is final and determinative with the involvement of the Student Council. It is important that all university policies be clear and credible to all students. The Student Council, and the Academic Senate, and with the appropriate faculty prior to any further action. A review of the special major and a full report on the special major in the photography program are to be developed. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-43)

From the Faculty Senate Meeting of September 27, 2001:

- The recommendation concerning the appointment of Joe Zhou to the Council for University Planning is accepted, and the appointment has been made. (FS 01-46)

- The recommendation concerning curriculum review for the Department of History is approved. The Academic Affairs office is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-50)

- The recommendation concerning continuing education units, hours, and RCE policy is approved. The Academic Affairs office is responsible for implementation. (FS 01-51)

- Additionally, President Gerth has issued the following Presidential Memoranda:
  - PM 01-01 – Revised. Presidential Memorandum 01-01 details a list of accounts which may be established in University auxiliary organizations. This revision extends the PM to allow for the University Trust Foundation to have authority for dealing with property.
  - PM 01-03: University Related Hospitality Entertainment Guidelines for University Payment and Reimbursement. This PM establishes CSUS policy for the use of University funds for qualified University related hospitality expenses in accordance with Executive Order No. 761. PM 01-04: Alcohol Advisory Council. This Memorandum creates an Alcohol Advisory Council, and sets forth its guiding principles, charge, and structure. The Council will report to the Vice President for Student Affairs. PM 01-05: Injury and Illness Prevention Program. This PM creates a single, University-wide policy for dealing with property. Under this policy, program centers will no longer need to reference their own Injury and Illness Prevention policies, but will follow the procedures and requirements set forth in the University policy instead. Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Director of Environmental Health and Safety.
Musical groups keep campus humming

You don’t have to look far to find fine music on campus. The CSUS wind ensemble and symphony orchestra are just two great examples. Both student groups have been performing for several years.

Music professor Bob Halseth says the CSUS wind ensemble has been here longer than the nine years he has been on campus. The ensemble has 45 performers and the number of players at each concert depends on the piece being performed. The members are chosen by audition prior to each semester and CSUS students are invited to try out. There are three performances per semester. The first concert of this fall was focused around a piece called “Winds of Negan,” which is about the writings of Carlos Castaneda. It opened with the theme song from the movie 2001 Space Odyssey and other pieces that work together. “I try to pick out a piece to be the main portion and build from there,” Halseth says.

Halseth says putting together a concert is like preparing a fine dinner. He starts with some thing light and moves on through the supporting parts. Everything needs to go together, but there has to be variety. Leo Eyril is the conductor for the CSUS symphony orchestra. He has been here for 12 years and says the group has been performing here since long before then.

The orchestra is comprised of 50 to 60 people depending on the pieces they plan to play. Almost all the performers are students and almost all are music majors. In most orchestras the music would be geared toward pleasing the audience, but in an academic setting like CSUS the situation is a little different. “Since we’re trying to educate both the performers and the audience I try to pick a variety of pieces that are going to help people learn,” Eyril says. "The orchestra plays many American compositions and pieces from some composers are difficult to play because they wrote for orchestras much larger than the one here,” Eyril says. ~Gabe Griffith

Academy
Continued from page 1

Merhit says the computer as a way to give the students a window on the world outside of their school and neighborhood. "That's important, she says, "Because they don't know anything about the world, that.there's something else out there for them." As part of that, the College worked with the student’s teacher, Kay Sain, to develop a curriculum that required the students to research and correspond with students in other countries. Ramey says that it’s also important to give the students access to technology. “The only thing that is going to give these kids a good start is to get rid of the digital divide as a road block. That divide – between those who have access to the information available over the Internet – has come to be seen as the line that defines a new kind of literacy that will impact a student’s future employability and earning potential: Those who are technically literate, who know how to use computers and the information available online, will have better opportunities than those who aren’t. The academy has also involved all aspects of the Col lege and it’s partners, including information consultants. Both consultants, Jose Chois and Jeff Bingel, worked to install and network the new computer, making sure that all the hardware worked correctly. “I was very happy to assist,” Bingel says. “Hopefully this lab will make a difference in their lives.” Merchant says it’s also been popular with college students, such as Bill Bellizzi and Zenia Hilario, who go into the classroom and show the students how to work the computers and develop their skills. “They really bond with the students,” she says. The college students are also very popular with the third graders.

“They like the attention,” Merchant says, “You walk in Friday morning and they’re so thrilled.” As an added benefit, the college students provide strong role models for the children.

Ramey says the College is committed to finding ways to reach out to students and put them on the path toward success at CSUS. “Each year we do something a little different,” she says, “but it always has something to do with business.” ~Tim Wright

In Memoriam

A memorial service for Susan McGowan will be held from 3 – 4 p.m., Monday, Nov. 19 in the University Union Student Board Chambers. McGowan was associate dean of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies. She came to the University in 1974 as a professor of economics.
278-5801. Information call Roger Guzowski at 278-6166 to be available in residence for CSUS annual clothing drive. Details at 278-7275. Information and collection box otherwise noted. For a Teddy Bear Campaign Drive, for family members of those killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Bears can be dropped off in Sacramento 226, Bookstore 312, RCE dean's office, Facilities Management, University Union and the mayor’s office at Sacramento City Hall. Deadline is Dec. 7. (916) 278-6578.

24th annual Festival of New American Music, various, times and locations, see individual calendar listings. (916) 278-6315.


Intro Design Exhibit, CSUS advanced commercial design students, various, times, Monday - Friday, Design Gallery, Mariposa 400DE. (916) 278-3962. Continues to Nov. 16. Artist reception, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15.

Holiday pop-up book presenta¬tion, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, University Archives. (916) 278-6144.

CSUS Percussion Group, Tahjon Percussion Quarter, Festival of New American Music, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. (916) 278-6315.

tuesday, nov. 13

Wednesday, nov. 14
CSUS jazz professor Steve Roach, concert, noon, University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-6979. ARD workshop, noon, Center for Teaching and Learning. (916) 278-5945. CSUS Students Artists Performance/Competition, Festival of New American Music, 3 p.m., Capistrano 151. (916) 278-6515. CSUS Festival Ensemble, University Symphony Orchestra, premiers works by CSUS professors Gilda Taffert, Stephen Blamberg, Leo Elyar, Festival of New American Music, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. (916) 278-6515.

Thursday, nov. 15

Betreayal, a play written by Harold Pinter, 8 p.m., Playwrights’ Theatre in Shasta Hall. Tickets $12 general/$7 students, alumni and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277. Continues to Dec. 2.

CSUS Student Composers Performance/Competition, Festival of New American Music, 3 p.m., Capistrano 151. (916) 278-6515. New York New Music Ensemble, Festival of New American Music, 8 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. (916) 278-6515.

“Divine Divas,” Dale Scholl Dance/Art, 8 p.m., DanceSpace, Solano 1010. Tickets $15 general/$12 CSUS students and seniors/$8 children under 12. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277. Continues to Nov. 17.

Saturday, nov. 17
Betreayal, a play written by Harold Pinter, 8 p.m., Playwrights’ Theatre in Shasta Hall. Tickets $12 general/$7 students, alumni and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277. Young Festival Performer’s Recital, Seth Josel, guitarist, Festival of New American Music, 8 p.m., Capistrano 151. (916) 278-6515.

Sunday, nov. 18
Betreayal, a play written by Harold Pinter, 2 p.m., Playwrights’ Theatre in Shasta Hall. Tickets $12 general/$7 students, alumni and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277. Continues to Dec. 2.

CSUS Orches, 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 39th and J streets. Tickets $10 general/$5 students. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277.

A ritual the indigenous people of North America have been practicing for more than 3,000 years is the focus of a Dia de Los Muertos art exhibit at CSUS. The exhibit called “Masmuetos” includes works by CSUS professor Ricardo Favela and student Xico Gonzalez. “Masmuetos” is open from 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday - Friday, in the second floor of the CSUS library and continues to Dec. 12. The exhibit coincides with Dia de Los Muertos, a Mesamerican holiday to honor the dead. Today, in the United States and in Mexico's larger cities families build altars – consisting of everything from specially made breads to modern art collages – and dedicate them to the dead. Favela is a CSUS art professor and a co-founder of the Royal Chicano Air Force, RCAF, an artist collective founded in Sacramento in 1969. His silkscreen, pictured on the right, is the RCAF’s first Dia de Los Muertos poster created in 1975. The exhibit consists of silkscreen prints, mixed media on Amalt (Aztec) paper and an altar. For more information about the exhibit call 387-1021.

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The University Staff Seabury is continuing its teddy bear drive for the families of the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Bears can be dropped off in several locations around campus including dean’s offices, Sacramento Hall 226 and the CSUS Foundation in Bookstore 312. For more information about the campaign, see the USA website at www.csus.edu/usa/teddy.htm or contact Thomas Matlock at 278-6578. And the Sting Team, a fresh¬men leadership group through ASI, is putting on a week of giving Nov. 26 through Nov. 30. For details, call Angela Atasi, 278-6784. Atasi is also working with USA on its teddy bear drive.

— Gabe Griffith