October 8, 2012

News

Faculty, staff invited to Oct. 13 Homecoming football game
President Alexander and Gloria Gonzalez invite University faculty, staff and their families to the Homecoming Festival and football game Saturday, Oct. 13, when the Hornets take on Weber State at 6:05 p.m. at Hornet Stadium. Faculty and staff can reserve up to four complimentary game tickets before the game through University Advancement by completing the form at www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/CSN/membershipform/showGivingForm.jsp?form_id=134657. Tickets and a Sac State gift can be picked up during the Homecoming Festival in the Alumni Center parking lot beginning at 3 p.m. Oct. 13.

For more information, click here or email University Advancement at vpoua-01@saclink.csus.edu. Deadline to reserve tickets is Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Submitted by the Office of the President

Campus abuzz with more Homecoming activities
Alumni, friends and the campus community are invited to be part of Homecoming 2012 festivities Friday and Saturday, Oct. 12-13.

The Golden Grads Reunion – celebrating graduates from 1962 and earlier – will take place at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 12, at the Alumni Center. Tickets are available at www.csus.edu/alum/.

This year’s Swarm Days Festival kicks off at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, in the Alumni Center parking lot. The family-friendly event will feature booths, live music and entertainment, Kids Zone activities, prizes for the best student and best alumni/community tailgate, and a procession featuring the Sac State marching band and dance team, led by Herky. Tailgate space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information: www.csus.edu/alum/.
Submitted by University Advancement

Homecoming Week Sale at the Hornet Bookstore
Show your Alumni Association card from Oct. 8-12 and receive 20 percent off select logo apparel, gifts and hats. The first 200 customers who spend $50 or more on logo apparel, gifts and hats will receive a collectible Herky the Hornet bobblehead, while supplies last. See store for details.
Submitted by the Hornet Bookstore

President Gonzalez’ town hall meetings now online
President Alexander Gonzalez held town hall meetings Sept. 25 and 27 to share information and answer questions from the campus community. The town halls were co-sponsored by the University Staff Assembly. A link to the President’s sessions is available on Public Affairs’ Budget Central page: www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/budgetcentral/.
Submitted by the Office of the President
Social Security presentation: What you need to know
If you’re thinking about retirement, VALIC and the Office of University Development are partnering to bring you “Facts Everyone Should Know About Social Security and How to Maximize Your Benefits,” presented by Orlando Batturaro, a Certified Financial Planner with VALIC.

The free seminar will be held from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31, in the Alumni Center. You will learn about Social Security, including eligibility for retirement benefits, the windfall elimination provision and the government pension offset. Several case studies also will be reviewed.

To RSVP (required due to limited space) by Tuesday, Oct. 23, please contact Shari Gonzales at 278-4740 or giving@csus.edu. Lunch will be provided; there is a vegetarian option.

Submitted by University Advancement

One World Initiative events
The One World Initiative is conducting events in early October. They are:

- Tuesday, Oct. 9: A roundtable reading in the University Union, California Suite, by Honors 1st students of “The Way of Water” by Caridad Svich. The play pits the BP oil spill against the lives of those affected by it. The reading is open to the campus and the community (RSVP to arnaud@csus.edu). Part I is from 10:30-11:45 a.m.; Part II is from noon-1:15 p.m.

- Tuesday, Oct. 9: Environmental Studies presents a lecture, “Impact of Dams and Upstream Diversions on Hydrology, Water Quality, and Biodiversity in the Southern Mesopotamian Marshes,” by Dr. Nadir Salman Abo-Tubikh, University of Basrah Marine Science Center, Iraq, from 3-6 p.m. in the University Union, Redwood Room.

Details about other One World Initiative events can be found at www.csus.edu/oneworld/OneWorld-events.html.

Submitted by the Geology Department

Coffee with a Cop program
Have you ever wanted to ask a police officer a question but didn’t know how to go about doing it? Sacramento State police officers will be available to answer questions from members of the campus community on Thursday, Oct. 11, from 8-11 a.m. at The WELL. The Coffee with a Cop program (and maybe even a doughnut!) is a unique way to strengthen the partnership between the Sacramento State Police Department and the campus community it serves.

Submitted by Public Safety

Sacramento State creates a Sustainability Team
Linda Hafar, senior director of Sustainability and Plant Operations, would like to introduce the new Sustainability Team to the Sac State community. New Sustainability and Operations Analyst/Coordinator Kristina Cullen joins Energy Conservation Coordinator Nat Martin and Recycling Coordinator Joey Martinez in the department’s effort to reduce Sac State’s carbon footprint. Under Hafar’s leadership, the group intends to be a readily available resource for all Sac State’s sustainability needs. This one-stop approach is aimed to usher in a new era of sustainability at Sac State.
University Staff Assembly Halloween contest
The University Staff Assembly will hold its annual Halloween contest Wednesday, Oct. 31. Winners will be announced for best individual costume, best group office costume and best office decorations. For more information and to enter the contest, go to www.csus.edu/usa/halloween. The entry deadline is Friday, Oct. 26.
Submitted by University Staff Assembly

Free screening of Oscar-winning Crash
The Multi-Cultural Center and the One Book Program will present a free screening of Crash.

Offered as part of the One Book Program’s free film series, Crash takes you on a unique voyage through the lives of several characters connected by one car crash. It explores ideas and themes of contemporary racism, sexism and pervasive stereotypes embedded in U.S. culture. A discussion will follow the screening, which will be from noon-2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, at the Multi-Cultural Center, Library 1010 (next to Java City).
Submitted by One Book Program/Multi-Cultural Center

Environmental film series
The Department of Environmental Studies presents a weekly film series at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in Amador Hall, Room 153. All students and the public are welcome to attend one or all of these free film events.

- Oct. 9: Cool It
- Oct. 16: Green Fire
- Oct. 23: Gasland
- Oct. 30: Carbon Nation
- Nov. 6: The China Syndrome

Submitted by Environmental Studies

Violence in the workplace prevention training
This training is a one-hour presentation of information regarding University policy on violence in the workplace, applicable campus statistics, crime prevention, reporting practices and available resources. The course will give attendees information on how to prepare for, recognize, document and report incidents in their respective areas. Materials will be provided.

Class participation is required by Cal-OSHA and the University; all faculty, staff and student employees need to attend the training every three years. Upcoming trainings (all 9-10 a.m. in the University Union, Hinde Auditorium):

- Thursday, Oct. 11
- Tuesday, Nov. 6
- Tuesday, Dec. 4

To RSVP for the training, please email barnettkj@csus.edu.
Submitted by the Department of Public Safety

Transportation Advisory Committee staff vacancy
There will be a staff vacancy on the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) effective Wednesday, Oct. 31. This committee addresses parking, traffic management and campus shuttle service issues as well as other alternative transportation matters. The committee meets approximately nine times a year. Anyone interested in serving on this committee must secure their supervisor’s permission and forward their contact information (name, email, phone) to Kem Gravenberg, on behalf of Vice President Mike Lee, at kem@csus.edu by Friday, Oct. 19.

For more information, email kem@csus.edu or call 278-5809.
Submitted by Administration and Business Affairs

Professional activities
The latest professional activities are available at http://www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/2012/09/ProfessionalActivities09-10-12.html.
Submitted by the Office of Public Affairs and Advocacy

Faculty Senate schedules
Faculty Senate schedules for October and November are available at www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/2012/09/FacultySenateOct-Nov2012Sked.html.
Submitted by the Faculty Senate

Second Academic Forum on Technology
The second Academic Forum on Technology, hosted by IRT, is scheduled for 3-5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, in the University Union, Orchard Suite. The topic for this semester’s forum will be the use of technology for student learning. We assume that our students value the use of technology for learning, but do they see eye to eye with faculty on these issues? What do faculty members think about student preparedness and the use of technology in their studies? What do students think about faculty use of technology for teaching?

Our panel of students, faculty and academic managers will delve into the many subjects regarding student/faculty use of technology for teaching and learning, including current topics such as the use of mobile devices, the use of learning management systems, web portals and e-textbooks. The panel will first respond to questions posed by our moderator about how technology is and should be used by students and faculty, followed by the opportunity for questions from the audience.

Light refreshments will be provided.
Submitted by the Information Resources and Technology Steering Committee

Security quick tip: Connecting to the campus wireless network
When connecting your laptops, smart phones, tablets or other devices to the campus network, you may see multiple networks available. Always select SacLinkSecure to maximize your network speed, mobile coverage and security. While most devices support the fast and secure protocols of SacLinkSecure, some may not. If your device does not, try connecting to SacLink. SacLink is still supported at this time to address legacy technology that is not supported by SacLinkSecure technology. SacLink will provide you with mobile coverage, but by default, your network connection is not secure unless the site you are visiting secures your connection. If you are on a secure connection, you should see https at the beginning of the URL and a lock icon on your browser.

For more information on campus wireless coverage or on how to configure your wireless devices, visit www.csus.edu/irt/wireless.
Submitted by the Information Security Office
Human Resources

Part-time instructors needed
Part-time instructors are needed for the Spring 2013 semester. More information is available at www.csus.edu/hr/faculty/vacancies.htm.

Fall 2012 semester holiday reminders
This is a reminder that the campus will be closed Monday, Nov. 12, in observance of Veterans Day.

In addition, Friday, Nov. 23, the day after Thanksgiving, is an academic holiday for academic year (AY) faculty but is a workday for all other staff, managers and 12-month faculty. The campus will be open for limited intra-campus business but not to the public. It is anticipated that the University Union and University Enterprises Inc. will be closed that day. Therefore, no food services will be available on campus.

Unless work is scheduled for you, our hope is that you will request the use of vacation time, accrued compensating time off (CTO) or your personal holiday to give yourself a well-deserved, uninterrupted Thanksgiving break. As always, requests for time off must be made in advance and approved by your manager.

It is also never too early to plan ahead for the December holidays. Monday, Dec. 24, is a workday for all except academic year employees, and the campus will be open that day primarily for intra-campus business. Our hope is that the Governor will continue the tradition of an annual gift of four hours of administrative leave to state workers, which should be used Dec. 24. If granted, this gift will allow us to close campus at noon. Once again, subject to the operating needs of each of your individual units, you are encouraged to use vacation or CTO that day.

Therefore, the holiday campus closure is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 12/24</td>
<td>Anticipated annual gift from the Governor of four hours of administrative leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 12/25</td>
<td>Campus closed in observance of Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 12/26</td>
<td>Campus closed in observance of Admission Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 12/27</td>
<td>Campus closed in observance of Columbus and Indigenous People’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 12/28</td>
<td>Campus closed in observance of Lincoln’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 12/31</td>
<td>Campus closed in observance of Washington’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1/1</td>
<td>Campus closed in observance of New Year’s Day</td>
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The campus will reopen Wednesday, Jan. 2.

Excess vacation hours
Sacramento State employees are limited in the amount of vacation they can keep as an unused balance. Those hours are reconciled annually, and hours in excess of carry-over maximums must be used by Monday, Dec. 31, or be automatically forfeited. It is each employee’s responsibility to monitor his or her accumulated vacation time.

To view your vacation balance, go to www.csus.edu, log onto My Sac State using your username and password, and click on Current Leave Balance under Payroll & Compensation.
The page will display current vacation balance and alert you if it is approaching the maximum. The Leave Accrual Information link provides information on accrual rates and maximum carryover hours. Those who do not have access to a computer may request a printout from the timekeeper for their department.

Exceptions to the carryover policy must be approved by Christine Lovely, vice president for Human Resources, before the end of this calendar year. The limited grounds for such requests may be found in the “Vacation” article of your Collective Bargaining Agreement or in Title V, Section 42909. The request must include the reasons for the exception and be submitted in writing to the employee’s Program Center Manager for a recommendation. For staff, if approved, the recommendation must include a plan for using accrued vacation before Dec. 31, 2013. For managers, any carried-forward vacation must be used by the end of March 2013. In addition to use of accrued vacation, plans must address the usual accumulation of vacation leave time during the year to avoid this situation in the future. The recommendation must be forwarded by the program center manager to Vice President Lovely by Friday, Dec. 7, for approval. For more information, contact Human Resources at 278-6078.

Catastrophic leave donation
Sacramento State employees may voluntarily donate to other employees up to a maximum of 40 hours of sick or vacation leave credits in one-hour increments each fiscal year. Bargaining Units 1, 10 and 11 may donate only up to 16 hours per fiscal year. If employees are interested in donating time, a form can be obtained at www.csus.edu/hr/forms.htm#Disability, by visiting the Human Resources Disability Leaves office in Del Norte Hall, Suite 3002, or by calling 278-3522.

The following employees have been approved for the Catastrophic Leave Donation Program:

- Althea Spencer, Accounts Payable Department
- Mike West, Engineering Services
- Florence Jackson, UTAPS
- Joseph Small, Reprographics Services