Channel Islands Campus Doesn't Mean the End for CSUN in Ventura

October 14, 1996
NEWS AND FEATURES

- Wilson Will Travel to China to Revitalize Educational Ties
- CSUN President and Officials Summoned to Assembly Hearing
- Campus Lurches Into Second Year of Faculty Merit Pay Plan
- Fund-raising Drive Launched for Special Aquatics Facility
- NCOD Wins Five-Year, $5 Million Federal Outreach Grant
- Consultants, Campus Hold First Meeting on Landscaping Plan
- Cal State Officials Say Technology Initiative Beginning to Show Results
- Central Plant Construction Schedule
- Peer Coaching Program Helps Professors Fill Educational Gap
News and Briefs

Black Men's Conference Scheduled

The First Annual Black Men's Conference, "Building and Defining the Black Man," will take place on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the University Student Union. The conference will feature Cal State Long Beach professor Amen Rahh as the keynote speaker.

Inspired by the Million Man March, a group of Cal State Northridge students, faculty and staff organized the conference to provide a forum for 15-30 year-old black males who seek answers to questions about family, health, career and economic advancement, prejudice and discrimination.

The conference is open to all who wish to attend. For more information, call (818) 677-2491.

California's Virtual University Planned

Governor Pete Wilson decided that California will not join other Western states to create a "virtual university" but will instead create and market its own college courses and degrees through the Internet and other emerging technologies.

Rather than uniting with a consortium of Western Governors Association states in the creation of a "Western Governor's University," Wilson said that California will develop its own multimedia, distance and technology-enhanced college instruction for the state, national and international markets.

"California is uniquely positioned to become a world leader in the development and distribution of college-level software, courses and programs, with its outstanding institutions of higher education, its thriving technology and entertainment industries, and its aggressive international state marketing programs," said Wilson. "I am convinced there exists a strong desire to develop an institution that builds upon these strengths."

Wilson has authorized the formation of a design team to analyze all issues relating to the project and to recommend potential implementation approaches. California State University Chancellor Barry Munitz, along with other state university heads and private sector leaders, will be consultants on the project.

"We should take advantage of this state's unique status and its exceptional university systems to develop a virtual university that will deliver high quality instruction across state, national and global boundaries," said Munitz.

Changes Announced in Cal State Leadership

In the wake of the Cal State system losing its top academic officer, CSU Chancellor Barry Munitz has announced he is eliminating two other vice chancellor jobs, one for human resources and operations and the other for external relations and national affairs.

At a recent CSU Board of Trustees meeting in Long Beach, Munitz disclosed that Vice Chancellor for Human Resources and Operations June Cooper will be retiring at year-end. Munitz said Cooper will do consulting work for him and assist with campus presidents' job evaluations.
The other position was already vacant, but had been held recently by Handel Evans, now the acting president of the planned Cal State Channel Islands campus. Munitz said he planned to talk with Cal State board members about reorganization to accommodate those personnel changes.

However, the chancellor said a search will proceed to replace Peter Hoff, the system's senior vice chancellor for academic affairs who resigned Sept. 1. In one of several other academic changes, Patrick McDonough, the system's associate vice chancellor of academic affairs, also resigned his post.

New System For Financial Aid Phones Installed

A new phone routing system was installed in the Cal State Northridge financial aid office over the summer to help manage the increase in calls resulting from growing numbers of financial aid recipients. Callers to the financial aid touch-tone system line are now given an option to talk to an operator, and financial aid staff has been reassigned to handle a larger volume of calls.

"There has been a significant increase in financial aid activity, and our archaic phone system no longer worked," said Diane Ryan, director of financial aid. "Faculty and staff have been inundating our office with questions about how the students can talk to a live body. This new system routes the calls to a live operator."

According to Ryan, financial aid recipients are increasing exponentially. "In 1993-94, there were 9,686 students on aid. Now, without counting next spring, there are over 14,000 on aid," Ryan said.

The previous phone system made it possible to have only two operators, leading to busy signals and long hold times. "When students finally got through, the level of hostility was high. There may still be a wait now, but there are more operators to answer the lines, and the caller will rarely get a busy signal," Ryan said.

Urban Studies Program to Mark 25th Birthday

The Cal State Northridge urban studies program will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a party and alumni reunion on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the University Student Union's Grand Salon.

The evening will feature presentations by Los Angeles City Council members Hal Bernson and Richard Alarcon and Los Angeles City Planning Director Con Howe, who will give his vision of Los Angeles in 2025.

Two awards will be given in memory of alumni and community activist Bobbi Paine. One will honor an alumnus for outstanding community service; the other, an urban studies student who shows promise.

The urban studies program examines problems that face American cities, such as crime, land use, environmental concerns and traffic. For more information, call (818) 677-2904.

Nominations Sought for Honorary Degrees

Cal State Northridge is soliciting nominations of distinguished men and women for honorary degrees to be conferred at commencement. Anyone within the university community may nominate candidates.

The honorary degree committee, chaired by Dean of Education Carolyn Ellner, will review nominations and make a recommendation to President Blenda J. Wilson for submission to the Cal State Board of Trustees. A maximum of two honorary degrees may be presented by the campus annually.

Candidates for honorary degrees are expected to be distinguished in their fields and of widely recognized eminence. The degrees honor either achievement in significant areas of human endeavor or outstanding service to the university, the state, the nation or humanity at large.

Nominations should include the name of the person nominated, relationship to the university, if any, a brief biography and a justification for awarding an honorary degree. Include sufficient information to establish the credentials of the individual, drawn from reputable sources such as Who's Who or other major published sources. Nominations are due Friday, Nov. 8, and should be sent to the Office of the Dean of Education, mail drop 8265.
Formerly the U.I.B.

This section publishes general announcements of the kind that formerly appeared in the University Information Bulletin. The deadline for submitting items is noon on Monday one week before the issue appears. The deadline for the issue of Oct. 28 is Monday, Oct. 21. The deadline for the issue of Nov. 11 is Monday, Nov. 4.

Please submit items by sending them to mail drop 8242, faxing them to x4937, or emailing them to pubinfo@exec.csun.edu.

Public Meetings

USU Board of Directors
The University Student Union board of directors will meet Monday, Oct. 14, at 5 p.m. in the USU board room. All students are welcome. fmi - x2491

Personnel Planning and Review Committee
The Personnel Planning and Review Committee will meet Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 2 p.m. in conference room A in the President's office.

Educational Policies Committee
The Educational Policies Committee will meet Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. in the Business Building, 2224.

Faculty Executive Committee
The Faculty Executive Meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 24, at 1 p.m. in conference room A in the President's office.

Notices

President Announces Charity Campaign
CSUN President Blenda J. Wilson announced the United California State Employees campaign will soon be under way throughout California and that Cal State Northridge will be participating again this year. The official kick-off for the campaign statewide is Wednesday, Oct. 16. Provost Louanne Kennedy has agreed to lead this year's drive on campus.

Wilson said: "This campaign gives all of us, as state employees, an opportunity to express caring for our communities and neighbors, and to assist many of the volunteer agencies which have helped Cal State Northridge and Southern California during past disasters, particularly the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

"Many recent events, like the Oklahoma City bombing and the recent destructive storms in the Southeast, underscore the important mission of these organizations and remind us that these volunteer agencies bring us closer together as a people and represent the very best of our national character.

"The campaign provides a quick and convenient opportunity to contribute to the charity of your choice. It is also a way for us to demonstrate pride, unity and caring as Californians, state employees and members of the Cal State Northridge community. While I have been very proud of the generous contributions that many of you have made to the program in the past, I hope we will give even more this year."
Peer Education on Eating Disorders
Peer education on eating disorders is available for 30- to 60-minute presentations to campus classes, clubs or organizations and to the community. The trained peer educators belong to JADE (Joint Advocates for Disordered Eating), a prevention and education program.

Presentations focus on accepting one's body image, recognizing causes and symptoms of eating disorders, and providing information to friends who are overly concerned with their weight and appearance.

Nutrition Analysis Program
The Marilyn Magaram Center is sponsoring a state-of-the-art computer nutrition analysis program to assist people in identifying their strengths and weaknesses in dieting. Cost is $5 and is open to all students, faculty and staff. Sessions will be held Mondays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m., and Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m., in Fine Arts room 109.

Study Abroad and Exchange Programs
The Office of Student Development and International Programs is offering information sessions on study abroad and domestic exchange opportunities. The one-hour sessions, which take place twice a month, are aimed at providing students with information about the National Exchange Program as well as the CSU International Program. Students may sign up for these sessions at the office, near the USU's west entrance.

Request for Nominations
LesBiGayTrs (Institute for Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Studies) is seeking nominations and self-nominations for its campus advisory board. Meetings are generally held once a month to plan programs that include campus speakers, roundtable discussions, student research competitions and presentations of creative work.

Faculty Election
There will be a faculty election for one senator-at-large position and for the following by-law changes:

- Setting and distributing agendas for standing committees.
- Incorporating the Academic Computing and Instructional Media Advisory committees into the Academic Technology Committee.

Faculty seeking the senator-at-large position are John Clendenning, English; David Rodriguez, Chicano Studies, and Johnie Scott, Pan African Studies. Information will be distributed the week of Oct. 21. The election will take place by paper ballot from Oct. 28 to Nov. 1.

New Exercise Program
Team Ex Phys of the Kinesiology Department will sponsor a new exercise program open to the entire campus community. The course will be laid out for walking or running and will focus on helping students, staff or faculty start and maintain an exercise program. The walk/run will be held from 12:10-12:35 p.m., and will be followed by a brown bag lunch from 12:45-1:10 p.m. every Wednesday. All participants should meet under the palm trees at the north end of the Kinesiology Building. Knowledgeable advice, testing and record-keeping will be provided to aid in motivating participants.

International Recruitment
In an effort to recruit international students, international student advisors and transfer center directors from local community colleges have been invited by the Office of Student Development and International Programs to a luncheon at the University Club on Friday, Oct. 18. Organizers hope the event will provide a forum for networking and socializing among professional colleagues.

Expansion for Arts Educational Equity
The School of the Arts Educational Equity Program (AEEP) has been expanded into a new center called the Student Resource Center/EOP. Similar in many ways to the AEEP, the Student Resource Center/EOP will continue to provide advisement and counseling as well as many other services. This new center will also include targeting first time freshmen and transfers and a
variety of students who are identified as "high risk." When referring students for service, direct them to Music 150. Office hours are Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Human Resource Training on the Net
Human Resource Services Training and Development Programs can now be accessed through Netscape. The web address is http://www-hrs.csun.edu/empdev/train96, or it can be accessed in the Human Resource Services homepage.

Career Center Workshops
The Career Center is offering a variety of workshops on career assessment, resume writing, interview techniques and more. For dates and times of workshops, call the center or visit its homepage at http://www.csun.edu/~hfcar009.

Our Deepest Sympathy
The campus community extends its sympathy to Liucija Baskauskas, professor of anthropology, on the death of her father and to James Fleming, information technology support group, on the death of his wife, Margaret.

Events

Opening a Private Practice
The Marilyn Magaram Center is sponsoring a lecture on the "Pros and Cons of Opening a Private Practice" by registered dietitian Marla Dishman on Monday, Oct. 14, from noon to 1 p.m. in Fine Arts 107. Refreshments will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Liberal Studies at Ventura Campus
The CSUN Ventura Campus will offer an information session for individuals interested in obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal studies on Monday, Oct. 14, at 5 p.m. on the campus, 2151 Alessandro Drive, Ventura. An advisor from the CSUN Liberal Studies Program will make a presentation about admission and course work requirements. Call to reserve a space.

Television Network Workshop
The College of Extended Learning's Continuing Education Television Network will broadcast "Teaching With Style," a live, interactive workshop, Friday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to noon, in the Oviatt Library, lower level, rooms 1 and 5.

Urban Studies 25th Anniversary
The Urban Studies 25th Anniversary Celebration will be held in the University Student Union's Grand Salon on Saturday, Oct., 19, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Keynote speaker will be Con Howe, Los Angeles city planning director. Dinner is $25. RSVP by Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Credential Student Orientation
Multiple subject credential candidates who plan to begin student teaching in spring, 1997, are expected to attend an orientation meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Santa Clarita Room of the University Student Union. Information will be provided regarding curriculum method requirements and school assignments. Concurrent Special Education Program students are also expected to attend.

Chemistry Seminar Series
- Mark Midland, a professor from UC Riverside, will speak on "Molecular Modeling in Organic Chemistry," on Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 4 p.m. in Science 2247.
- Richard Kaner, a professor from UCLA, will discuss talk "Conducting Polymer Membranes for Separations," on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 4 p.m. in Science 2247.
Job Festival
The Career Center will host a job festival on Wednesday, Oct. 23, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Student Union. Open to all students. Dress to impress and bring you resume.

fmi - x2878

Cultural Outing With DIG LA
DIG LA (Discover, Inquire and Grow in Los Angeles) will sponsor a visit to Buddhist and Hindu temples on Saturday, Oct. 26. Teachings about both cultures and their philosophies will be featured. All are invited to participate. Cost is $10 for students, $12 for non-students. Space is limited. Contact the Student Development office to register.

fmi - Fatemah Mahyari or Shannon Crouse, x2393

American Heart Walk
The Healthy Choice American Heart Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27, on campus. Volunteers and walkers are encouraged to sign up with Volunteer Services in the Career Center. The event is sponsored by the American Heart Assn.

fmi - Volunteer Services, x2871 or x3260

Deadlines

Fee Waiver Applications Due
Faculty and staff interested in the employee and faculty dependent/spouse fee waiver programs for spring, 1997, should contact Carol Hallenbeck (x2173 or email, feewaiver@csun.edu) for an application packet. Deadline to apply is Friday, Oct. 25. Continuing participants in both programs will automatically receive packets and should return them by Nov. 20. Changes in admission status for continuing participants are due Oct. 25. Fee deadline is Nov. 20. Faculty dependent/spouse program participants should follow the deadlines and procedures in the schedule of classes and their fee waiver packets. The fee waiver program is in the Office of Human New and Resource Services, Administration Park, Dome 702. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday.

fmi - Carol Hallenbeck, x2173.

Resident Director Applications
The CSU International Programs is accepting applications for:

- Five one-year, full-time resident director positions in France, Italy, Mexico, Spain and Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe position runs from January through December, 1998);
- One full-time, one-year regional director position in Japan/East Asia.

The position provides qualified faculty members with an opportunity to be a vital part of the special experience of students involved in inter-cultural learning, to develop their administrative skills and to utilize their international communicative skills in a rewarding, professional environment.

Faculty from all disciplines, minorities, women and those who have never had the opportunity previously to serve in one of these positions are especially encouraged to apply.

The deadline for the return of applications to the Office of International Programs, Long Beach, is Dec. 1.

Application materials and further information may be obtained from Tom Spencer-Walters, international programs, Office of the Associate Vice President of Graduate Studies, Research, and International Programs; x2138 or x5832; fax: x4691; email: tom.spencer-walters@csun.edu.
Northridge in the News

Cal State Northridge was in the news because of the affirmative action debate between David Duke and Joe Hicks on the following dates:

- **September 4:** KNBC Channel 4, KABC Channel 7, KCAL Channel 9, KMEX Channel 34
- **September 5:** KNBC Channel 4
- **September 6:** KNBC Channel 4, KCBS Channel 2, KTLA Channel 5, KTTV Channel 11, KCAL Channel 9, KABC Channel 7.

CSUN also was featured in the following publications on the same subject: L.A. Times, September 6, 10, 11, 13, 15, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29; The Daily News, September 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 15, 18, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29; Sacramento Bee, September 26; The Washington Post, September 26; The San Francisco Chronicle, September 26; San Jose Mercury News, September 26; Chronicle of Higher Education, September 20, 27; San Francisco Examiner, September 24; La Opinion, September 21, 23.

In other news:

Shirley Svorny (Economics) wrote a perspective piece on the fallacy of federal funding that appeared in the L.A. Times, September 29. "Every time we cycle a dollar through the state and federal governments, public agencies take a large cut before the money ever returns to our community."

Svorny also was quoted in the L.A. Times, September 30, in an article discussing the debate over the move from welfare to work. About the issue of the move from welfare to minimum wage paying jobs, Svorny said, "The evidence is that most people do not stay on minimum wage for long," and most people rise out of low-paying jobs quickly.

Women at CSUN and Valley College linked up to a teleconference, including First Lady Hillary Clinton, to discuss health, economic and domestic issues addressed at last year's U.N. women's conference. More than 200 professionals, homemakers, students and senior citizens participated in the event. The Daily News highlighted the conference in a September 29 article, as did the L.A. Times, October 1.

CSUN AIDS Walkers found themselves in the Daily News and the L.A. Times, September 30. CSUN recruited a record 994 people. "What's different today from the past is that it's increasingly difficult to find someone who doesn't know someone who has AIDS--it's in the household," said Amy Reichbach, health educator and team leader.

Cal State Northridge was highlighted in a story that ran in the L.A. Weekly, September 20. The campus hosted an Environmental-History Conference with a keynote address by geographer Scott Stine and archaeologist Mark Raab. Teachers, scientists and experts gathered from around the region to consider the nature of Southern California's climate and ecology.

KABC Channel 7 previewed the Matador football team on September 3. The sports clip highlighted the team preparing for the Big Sky Conference season opener. Head coach Dave Baldwin and several players, including Scott Morehouse (free safety), Dave Romines (wide receiver) and Aaron Flowers (quarterback) were interviewed. Baldwin told Eyewitness News: "Our expectations are to win. We want to win quick and realistically be as competitive as possible."

Joyce Kennedy (director of CSUN's Ventura program), announced her retirement after 22 years as one of Ventura's top advocates for higher education. The center began with 75 students in 1974 and reached an all-time high this year with enrollment of nearly 1,500. Kennedy told the L.A. Times, September 28, of her efforts to open a four-year university in Ventura: "What started out as a relatively simple challenge, to fill the classrooms, became an Olympian struggle."
Ed Hall's biology class was featured in a segment of "Mr. Brain" on the "Tonight Show" with Jay Leno on September 11. Mr. Brain is a character played by Leno, who is asked questions and gives answers, often with a funny twist. Students asked such questions as "Newton's law is for every action, there is a reaction. Is that true?" and "Why do you think American students score lower on tests than students from other countries?" The answers: "Newton was a fig!" and "American students get more of the questions wrong!"

James Elias (Sociology) and Patricia O'Donnell Brummett (Sociology) were asked to respond to the "On the Issue" question in the L.A. Times, September 24. The question was "Should paroled child molesters be chemically castrated?" Elias answered: "If we were treating a chemical imbalance in the individual and this would correct that imbalance, then it would work. The injection does not deal with the motivations or reasons for the sex crimes.... Simply using the drug treatment alone will make good news copy but incomplete therapy."
CALENDAR

Art

Two Contemporary Art Forms from Zimbabwe

Shona sculpture and Weya paintings  
Curator: Delores Yonker, art professor emerita  
**Dates:** Oct. 13-Nov. 16  
opening reception, Sun., Oct. 13, 4-7 p.m.  
**Times:** Mon. and Sat., noon-4 p.m.  
Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Place:** Art Dome (Music Lawn 236)

Intersecting Parallels: Lavaille Campbell and Lava Thomas

Two mixed media exhibitions explore themes of the body and of African-American women in American culture.  
**Dates:** Oct. 13-Nov. 16  
opening reception, Sun., Oct. 13, 4-7 p.m.  
lectures by the artists, Mon., Oct. 21, 10 a.m.  
**Times:** Mon. and Sat., noon-4 p.m.  
Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Place:** Art Dome (Music Lawn 236)

Student Exhibits

North Gallery: Halstead Houses 1102  
Weekly changing exhibits  
For information and hours, call (818) 677-2156

Athletics

(home games)

Men's Football:

Oct. 19, Montana State*, 6:05 p.m.  
Homecoming
Women's Volleyball

Oct. 14, Bucknell, 7 p.m.
Oct. 22, Notre Dame, 7 p.m.
Oct. 31, Eastern Washington*, 7 p.m.

*D Big Sky Conference game

Dance

The Best of Broadway, Song and Dance

Selections from some of Broadway's most popular and beloved musicals

**Dates:** Oct. 17 at 8 p.m., Oct. 19 and 20 at 2 and 8 p.m.

**Place:** Performing Arts Center

**Tickets:** $15 general, $12 faculty/staff, $10 seniors/non-CSUN students, $8 CSUN students

Music

The Miwa Trio

Performing Mozart, Milhaud, Khachaturian, Bartok, Bruch

**Date:** Sat., Oct. 19

**Time:** 8 p.m.

**Place:** Recital Hall

**Tickets:** $6.50 general, $5 faculty/staff. $3.50 students/seniors

Guest Artists from Milan

Featuring Marlaena Kessick, flute, and Eleanora Perolina, harp. Performing the works of five contemporary Italian composers

**Date:** Thu., Oct. 24

**Time:** 8 p.m.

**Place:** Recital Hall

**Tickets:** $6.50 general, $5 faculty/staff. $3.50 students/seniors

Ras Daveed: Mystical Trance Rock

A sound combining hard-edged rock and role with North African gnawa

**Date:** Thu., Oct. 24

**Time:** 8 p.m.

**Place:** Performing Arts Center

**Tickets:** $10 general, $8 students

Jazz at Northridge Series

Jane Ira Bloom

The winner of Downbeat's International Critics Poll for soprano saxophone

**Date:** Sat., Oct. 26

**Time:** 8 p.m.
Place: Performing Arts Center
Tickets: $19 general, $15 faculty/staff/seniors, $10 students

Theater/Performance Art

Will & Company's Faces of America

Performed by Fran deLeon
A one-person show based on the true, poignant stories of eight Americans of diverse ethnicities
Date: Fri., Oct. 18, at 8 p.m.
Place: Performing Arts Center
Tickets: $12 general/$48 AGS series (five concerts)

The Most Happy Fella

Ny Frank Loesser. Directed by David Scott
Theatre Department production in collaboration with the Opera Program. The tuneful operatic musical ("Standing on the Corner," "My Heart Is So Full of You") about a middle-aged Napa Valley vineyard owner who falls in love with a San Francisco waitress and convinces her to visit him by sending her a photograph not of himself but of his handsome foreman.
Dates: Oct. 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27
Times: 8 p.m. (except Sun. at 5 p.m.)
Place: Campus Theater, Speech & Drama Building
Tickets: $12 general, $10 faculty/staff, $9 seniors, $7 students with ID

Kids Kollage Family Series

"Blue Palm Startles Little red Hiding Hood, Easts Hansel & Gretel, and Dances with Sleeping Beauty"
Take-offs on familiar fairy tales
Date: Fri., Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
Tickets: $8 adults, $6 children

Club O'Noodles

A performing arts group of young Vietnamese Americans who take the audience on an humorous imagination-defying journey from Vietnam to America.
Date: Sat., Nov. 2
Times: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Performing Arts Center
Tickets: $15 general, $6 students

In the Park

A sampler of one-act plays.
Date: Nov. 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
Times: 8 p.m., Weds., 7 p.m., Sun., 5 p.m.
Place: Studio Theatre
Tickets: $9 general, $7 faculty/staff, $7 seniors, $5 students

Mother Hicks

A theater youth production that tells a touching tale of "witchy" Mother Hicks and and orphan girl looking for her identity.
Directed by Tekla Ackelson

**Date:** Nov. 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24  
**Times:** Fri., 7 p.m., Sat./Sun., 2 p.m.  
**Place:** Little Theatre  
**Tickets:** $5
Channel Islands Campus Doesn't Mean the End for CSUN in Ventura

 Officials Predict Northridge Satellite Will Grow to Prepare for New University

The California State University system, after more than 30 years of trying, is closer than ever before to opening a new CSU campus in Ventura County. But that doesn't mean Cal State Northridge's own long-running Ventura program will be disappearing any time soon.

Instead, Cal State and CSUN officials report, the Northridge campus' satellite presence in Ventura may actually grow in the near future as the system works to develop the new campus at either Camarillo State Hospital or in a lemon orchard between Camarillo and Oxnard.

CSUN officials also are predicting the Northridge campus will be able to make up eventual enrollment losses from the Ventura and Santa Barbara areas. "We see ourselves being able to compensate for these. We don't expect there to be a negative impact," said CSUN President Blenda J. Wilson.

Even as CSU officials continue trying to nail down the actual site of the Cal State Channel Islands campus, as it formally will be called, plans are being discussed to actually expand CSUN's own 22-year-old satellite operation in Ventura to prepare for the new CSU campus nearby.

Preliminary plans call for increasing enrollments at CSUN's satellite, possibly through the addition of morning and weekend courses. Currently, CSUN offers classes at its rented facility in Ventura only during afternoons and evenings, Monday through Thursday, officials said.

"What we want to do is increase the size of the off-campus center to a point where we have a critical mass that could grow into a traditional university," said J. Handel Evans, who was appointed last January as interim president of the planned Channel Islands campus, the 23rd Cal State school.

"What that will do is allow us to offer more courses and to start to build the university in a major way," Evans added. But at least for the immediate future, he conceded, Ventura County will remain largely CSUN's domain, with the satellite serving as an incubator for Channel Islands' future students.

Last month, the Cal State University system's Board of Trustees and Chancellor Barry Munitz threw a new wrinkle into the picture, launching a bid to take over the state's soon-to-be-closed Camarillo mental hospital even though the CSU system just last year finished acquiring the 260-acre orchard site.

"We sent Handel up there to look at how 260 acres of lemons might be converted, and now he's come back with this monster," Munitz jokingly told the trustees as they considered the Camarillo proposal. "We're a long way from understanding how Camarillo would work," the chancellor added.

Theoretically, because the 600-acre hospital property is an already existing complex of 85 buildings totaling about 1.5 million square feet, the CSU could develop the new Channel Islands campus there more quickly and at less cost than starting from scratch at the orchard property.

A Cal State report estimated the system might have to spend between $80 million and $100 million over the coming decade to establish a campus on the Camarillo site. By comparison, the report said developing the orchard site over the same period could
cost between $120 million and $160 million.

Thus far, at least, there has been progress with Camarillo. A land use consultant hired to advise Gov. Pete Wilson's task force studying the future of the hospital site has already endorsed the university's bid. That makes it more likely the task force, due to issue its findings by Nov. 1, will support it as well.

Opened in 1935, the Camarillo hospital is located on a secluded, winding road about three miles west of the Ventura Freeway off Lewis Road. The governor has ordered the facility closed next June 30, saying its declining patient population no longer makes it cost-effective to operate.

The lemon orchard property, which Cal State officials now see as a fall-back option if the Camarillo hospital deal falls apart, is about five miles away on the east side of the freeway off Central Avenue. It was the latest in a series of campus sites identified in the region by CSU officials dating to the 1960s.

Driving the CSU's effort is the fact that Ventura County is the largest county in the state without a four-year public university. And the combined populations of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties exceeded 1 million in the 1990 Census and are projected to continue growing.

CSUN launched its presence in Ventura County in 1974 as a partner in the Ventura Learning Center, a joint project between the Cal State and University of California systems. In 1988, the venture's other partner, University of California Santa Barbara, pulled out and the facility officially became a CSUN satellite.

Under the most optimistic schedule, Evans said the earliest the Camarillo hospital site could be available for classes would be fall 1998. But during a multi-year transition period, Evans said the Northridge campus would continue performing most administrative functions for the new Ventura County site.

The Northridge campus also would continue to provide support services such as human resources and finance until Channel Islands grows enough to justify having such offices of its own, Evans said. "The more we can work with CSUN to continue that, the better," he added.

And, CSUN's Ventura satellite will continue to play a role once Channel Islands opens for another reason. Because students attending unaccredited schools are not eligible for federal financial aid, Evans said the satellite probably would remain nominally in control of Channel Islands' academic programs for the three to four years until the new campus can gain accreditation.

Meanwhile, Wilson in an interview said she could not foresee the specific future point when CSUN might entirely end its involvement in Ventura County. Some programs available there through CSUN might not be added soon to the new campus' roster. "Our center will stay there," Wilson said.

For his part, Evans said Channel Islands ultimately is bound to have some overlap with CSUN in its academic offerings, particularly in the liberal arts and sciences. Therefore, there will be "some competition" between the two schools in drawing students, he said.

This fall, CSUN's Ventura satellite achieved a record headcount enrollment of about 1,400 students, which translates into about 790 full-time equivalent students (FTES) there, officials said. In contrast, the new Channel Islands campus is projected to have a 3,250 FTES by the year 2005.

However, as both Cal State and CSUN officials conceded, there remain significant questions about exactly how and where the new Ventura County campus will develop, what kind of educational focus it will have and how precisely it will impact CSUN's satellite operation in the region.

For starters, the 60-year-old hospital grounds are much larger than the Cal State campus will need, even if Channel Islands reaches its expected full-time enrollment of 16,000 sometime in the next century. At most, the university might use about one-fourth of the site's total building space by the year 2005.

For that reason, CSU has proposed leasing portions of the property to compatible tenants, such as the Ventura County Unified School District and the Ventura County Community College District, to defray its expenses. Yet there is uncertainty, because Cal State has never before played landlord, Evans said.

If the Cal State proposal to take over the hospital property is recommended by the governor's task force, the system will spend the next six months looking for and evaluating possible tenants, Evans said. CSU officials also will be seeking funding for the
campus in the governor's 1998 budget due next spring.

But if adequate funding is not made available, Richard West, the Cal State system's senior vice chancellor for business and finance, said CSU might be forced to return to plans for developing the new campus at the orchard site over a much longer period of time.

That would mean the start of the new Channel Islands campus could be delayed several more years, probably until the turn of the century. The first plans for a CSU campus in Ventura County date to the early 1960s, with the system picking and then dropping several different sites during the ensuing years.

Meanwhile, community opposition also is playing a factor over the Camarillo hospital site's future. The CSU's proposal has led some local residents to fret about whether the area's roads can accommodate the traffic generated by a new university's students and staff.

State Sen. Cathie Wright (R-Simi Valley) and county Supervisor John K. Flynn have been leading a drive to convince the governor to keep the hospital open, arguing its closure would cost the region 1,200 jobs and pose a significant hardship for the families its 800 remaining patients.

Last week, though, Flynn offered a compromise of sorts. Even if Cal State takes over the property, he suggested a small portion remain as a mental health facility for patients with families in Ventura and two adjoining counties. Cal State officials said they would consider his suggestion.

Then there are the questions about the educational focus of the planned new campus. Last month, Cal State trustees considered two different approaches for each of the two sites— one where the campus would have a traditional, regional focus; the other a statewide, high-tech focus using distance learning.

Evans said he is more interested in creating a four-year school that does both, serving the unique needs of Ventura County and operating as a statewide "hub" for providing college courses via the Internet and other forms of technology.

Because the new campus will serve Ventura County, Santa Barbara County and the far western portion of Los Angeles County, Evans said Channel Islands also probably will specialize in majors that support the local economy, such as agriculture, biotechnology, manufacturing and tourism.

Describing his vision for the new campus, Evan added, "What I contemplate is almost two universities in one: a small university that deals with conventional students and feeds into a much larger institution that deals with high-technology delivery systems."

As for CSUN, officials at the Northridge campus expressed little concern about potential problems that their new Ventura County neighbor might create. Apart from keeping some role in Ventura County, CSUN officials said the campus' own expected enrollment growth should offset any losses.

A study of fall 1995 enrollments found 539 Ventura County residents enrolled only at the Ventura center, another 1,582 county residents attending Northridge, and 313 taking courses at both locations, for a total of about 2,400 students or about 10 percent of CSUN's 25,015 total enrollment.

But using the different measure of full-time equivalent students, which is the basis for funding, the Ventura center this fall accounted for only about 4 percent of CSUN's total tally, about 790 of the campus' total 19,562 FTES, meaning potential losses to CSUN probably would be small.

"We sit in the middle of three million people and we are the only four-year public university serving them," said Hans Ladanyi, CSUN's director of institutional research. "Other states of that size have eight to 12 universities serving that same population base.... So losing a little over 1,000 students over two to three years, we can make up."

Crucial in gaining Wilson's support for the new campus, Evans said, was a pledge from the chancellor that Channel Islands would not be subsidized out of the existing Cal State budget and would not proceed unless the state provides new funding for it.

"I would not have taken on Northridge," Evans said. "She and I discussed how we could do this and how the transition to a (new) university would be in Northridge's best interest and in our best interest also."

Joyce Kennedy, the longtime director of CSUN's Ventura program, also agreed that Northridge probably does not have anything to fear from the planned Channel Islands campus.
Although Kennedy said she is proud of her role in nurturing CSUN's Ventura satellite--which gained enrollment during the early 1990s when other campuses were losing students--she added that Ventura County today deserves a full-fledged university of its own.

In recent conversations with students at the Ventura satellite, Kennedy said she sensed both "a great deal of loyalty to Northridge and also excitement about the prospect of a new university." Kennedy, though, won't be making the transition, having recently announced she plans to retire in March.

She said of the planned new campus and CSUN: "It's not a competitive thing. It's more like a parent and child with a child coming of age. I think it's a wonderful thing for Northridge to foster a new university. It's a wonderful legacy."

-Lisa Leff
Wilson Will Travel to China to Revitalize Educational Ties

Campus Officials Say 'Golden Era' of Relations Waned After Tian An Men Square Massacre

Seeking to revitalize the university's major foreign alliance, Cal State Northridge President Blenda J. Wilson will depart this week with a small campus delegation on an 11-day trip to China to discuss academic joint ventures and student exchanges with authorities there.

Wilson and other campus officials said the trip, largely funded by Chinese agencies, is aimed at bolstering a once-thriving relationship between CSUN and Chinese universities that waned after the June 1989 massacre by Chinese troops of pro-democracy protesters in Tian An Men Square.

Now, seven years later, even U.S. foreign policy favors American engagement with China, despite its continuing human rights abuses and other problems. And university officials said educational alliances should benefit CSUN and also perhaps help keep China moving toward a move open society.

"Historically, Americans have not spent extensive amounts of time in other cultures or mastered other languages. I believe that the global economy of the 21st Century will demand a greater facility and comfort with other nations than we now have," Wilson said.

"China, because of its extraordinary potential for influence in the world and its economy, is one--among many--of the important nations for Americans to know and collaborate with. I'd like to create greater opportunities for our students and faculty to pursue such knowledge," she said.

During the trip, Wilson is slated to give a speech on higher education reform at a forum in Beijing and meet there with the leaders of China's State Education Commission. She also will talk with the leaders of more than a half dozen Chinese colleges and universities in four major cities.

Also traveling will be Dr. Louis Fair Jr., Wilson's husband; Elliot Mininberg, chair of the department of educational leadership and policy studies; and Justine Su, a professor of education and director of CSUN's China Institute. University expenses are not expected to exceed $6,000.

The CSUN delegation is due to leave Los Angeles this Thursday, Oct. 17, arrive in Beijing the next day, and then proceed to a series of meetings in Xi'an, Nanjing and Guangzhou before traveling by train to Hong Kong and then returning home on Tuesday, Oct. 29.

The trip will be Wilson's first to China as CSUN's president and only her second official trip abroad following a May 1995 visit to Japan, officials said. Wilson said she had visited China once before in 1981 as an administrator with Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.

Items on the agenda for this trip include signing a new cooperation agreement with Guangzhou Normal University, discussing establishing a possible training academy for educators in the same city, and talking with authorities in Nanjing about a business and government-oriented training academy there.

"I think China is on the way to becoming more like us, and we can help with that. To me, this is all part of the world becoming a smaller place," said Mininberg, whose Center for Partnerships in Educational Reform on campus would play a central role in
developing any such academies.

From the late 1970s until 1989, CSUN had what former university President James W. Cleary once called a "golden" era with China, the world's most populous nation. Cleary himself led three CSUN delegations to China between 1981 and 1988 as exchanges between the two flourished.

Faculty members traveled back and forth between CSUN and Chinese institutions; Cleary recruited famed Chinese actress Joan Chen and hosted a 1988 Chinese film festival; CSUN in 1987 began a semester-in-China program for its students, and hosted various other artistic and scientific exchanges.

To this day, CSUN still has educational exchange agreements with 17 institutions in China, more than with any other nation and half of the university's total 33 such agreements. But CSUN officials said those relationships have waned somewhat since Tian An Men Square.

At the time, some CSUN students and faculty members were stranded in China by the turmoil, causing anxious weeks on campus even though all ultimately emerged safely. But the Cal State system later imposed a virtual ban on student and faculty travel to China during the ensuing year.

Faculty exchanges waned for a shorter time and since have once again become fairly routine. But the long-term casualty was CSUN's own semester-in-China program, which last was offered the summer of Tian An Men Square and has not been repeated since, mainly for lack of student interest.

"Before Tian An Men, China was considered very exotic, very adventurous," said John Charles, CSUN's acting assistant director of international programs. "That now has ended. The students are pretty astute as to the political environment." And, he added, "It's no longer inexpensive."

Also, CSUN did not offer a single regular Chinese language class this fall, officials said. And the campus is hosting only 24 exchange students from China this semester, compared to much larger contingents approaching 100 students each from Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, Charles said.

Meanwhile, university officials, stressing the trip is educational and not political, said they did not expect criticism even though the U.S. State Department earlier this year once again cited China for "widespread and well-documented human rights abuses."

Kenyon Chan, chair of CSUN's Asian American studies department, said the university "should be exploring all kinds of avenues to get our students and faculty experience in China." Most mainstream Asian American groups, he said, still remain supportive of such exchanges.

- John Chandler
CSUN President and Officials Summoned to Assembly Hearing

Republican-Dominated Panel Wants to Know About Affirmative Action on CSU Campuses

A trio of Cal State Northridge administrators are among high-level Cal State officials who have been summoned to testify before a Republican Assembly panel beginning Wednesday that is seeking to root out affirmative action "preference" policies in state higher education.

Called just weeks before state voters will decide the so-called California Civil Rights Initiative, the hearings will put CSUN President Blenda J. Wilson, who publicly favors affirmative action, and the others before state Assemblyman Bernie Richter of Chico, one of affirmative action's harshest critics.

Richter's Republican-dominated Assembly budget subcommittee on education finance recently demanded the appearance of 10 top Cal State officials, including Cal State Chancellor Barry Munitz and the three from CSUN, backed with a not-so-subtle threat of legislative subpoenas.

Subcommittee chief consultant Charles Geshekter, a veteran Cal State Chico history professor on partial leave who's been at odds with his own campus' administration, said the three days of hearings are intended to resolve "nagging questions" about the use of preference practices in the CSU.

"Is there a pattern? There are nagging questions about these matters which will not go away," Geshekter said. He also said conservative attorney Robert Corry, who has represented Gov. Pete Wilson in his anti-affirmative action efforts, is "leading the investigation" of the subcommittee.

Cal State Northridge officials declined comment in advance of the hearings. And Cal State system officials said they had been given sparse details about what specific issues the subcommittee plans to address during the sessions, especially after the panel covered similar issues in hearings earlier this spring.

But privately, some Cal State officials said the hearings might have been timed to seek some pre-election fireworks involving the CCRI measure backed by Richter on the Nov. 5 state ballot. It would outlaw preference policies in state and local public employment, education and contracting.

As for the demand that CSUN officials appear, some Cal State officials also said Northridge might have been tabbed because its students recently hosted former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke for an affirmative action debate. Angry Republicans saw that as an attempt to link the CCRI with Duke.

In an interview, Geshekter said Duke's appearance at CSUN "had nothing to do with" the summons to campus officials and likewise said the upcoming CCRI election was not a consideration. "They could have been held any time," he said of the hearings.

However, Geshekter said the subcommittee first requested the hearings in August, about the time CSUN's students were talking with Duke. A Cal State official said he first heard about the sessions in early September. Richter's written request to Munitz was dated Sept. 25, the day of the Duke debate.

Under an agreed upon schedule, Wilson and the others from CSUN--Jeanette Mann, special assistant to the president for diversity and equity, and contract administrator Mary Sosa, are slated as the only CSU participants on the first hearing day this
Wednesday in Sacramento.

On Thursday in Sacramento, Cal State Chico President Manuel Esteban and two other Chico administrators are scheduled. Then on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at Burbank City Hall, Munitz, Sacramento State President Donald Gerth and two of Munitz' top aides are scheduled for the final session.

Richter and Munitz have been feuding over affirmative action periodically since 1994 when the two exchanged a series of letters. After Munitz spoke publicly of the need for faculty diversity, Richter sent a letter to Munitz and the CSU Board of Trustees suggesting Munitz was not fit to serve as chancellor.

In a series of subsequent exchanges, Richter pressed his case, arguing preference policies might be illegal and Munitz responded that he wanted CSU campuses to hire the most qualified people and to seek diversity. But Richter at one point called Munitz' responses "disingenuous and disconcerting."

Generally, Cal State system officials have publicly argued the CCRI, also known as Prop. 209, would not have much impact on the Cal State system. But some campus officials and the state Legislative Analyst have warned it might impact a variety of assistance programs aimed at students, faculty and staff.

Jeffrey Vaca, a CSU governmental affairs specialist in Sacramento, called the hearings "somewhat of a surprise" to Cal State officials. He also called the threat of subpoenas "fairly unusual" since CSU officials had not been resisting. And he said such panels usually do not hold hearings this time of the year.

Richter, named chair of the Assembly subcommittee this year by Republicans, has spent much of the time since his Nov. 1992 election crusading against a wide range of affirmative action and preference practices in government that deal with ethnic or gender considerations.

The other lawmakers on the subcommittee are Assemblyman Scott Baugh (R-Huntington Beach), another staunch affirmative action opponent, and Assemblywoman Denise Moreno Ducheny (D-National City), a Latina who once served as a San Diego Community College District trustee.

- John Chandler

Campus Lurches Into Second Year of Faculty Merit Pay Plan

Deadline for Submissions is Friday; Neither Side Totally Satisfies with Outcome

Cal State Northridge is lurching into the second year of a faculty merit pay plan with a deadline this Friday for the filing of nominations and a lot of money at stake. But neither President Blenda J. Wilson nor faculty leaders have emerged entirely satisfied with the outcome.

The president will have $482,700 to dole out this year for the Performance Salary Step Increases awards, enough to grant 3.5 times as many extra salary steps as were available last year. Annual PSSI increases this year can range from $888 to $8,928 per individual depending on a variety of factors.

After rebuffing an earlier proposal, Wilson last month signed and accepted a policy adopted by the Faculty Senate on Sept. 12 dictating how college committees will evaluate and recommend recipients to the president. Ultimately, however, Wilson has the final say in the awards.

In a memo to the campus, Wilson acknowledged the tension the merit pay system has created, calling it "a major, major change....The long-standing practice of egalitarianism in the pay schedule has been replaced by a competitive merit pay system in what seems like an instant," sje said.

While citing several aspects of the current merit system that she dislikees, Wilson said "the appropriate arena" for a debate on changes to the broader Cal State policy is through collective bargaining and said the awards should be distributed "as objectively, fairly and collaboratively as possible."

But Faculty Senate President Jim Goss said many faculty members continue to have deep fairness concerns about the CSU-wide merit system begun last year. He said faculty members believe Wilson, who said she wanted to reward top performers, should have given smaller increases to more applicants.

"I'm never going to be comfortable about PSSIs," Goss said. "I think they're a demoralizing, terrible influence on the faculty. But under the circumstances, we're doing as good as we can do. I think a lot of faculty are upset about this whole program."

This year, about 1,500 full- and part-time faculty members are eligible to apply. Wilson can award about 300 total salary step increases, each equal to a 2.4 percent pay hike, in multiples ranging from one to five steps per recipient. Thus the maximum five-step pay hike possible is about 12 percent.

Under the schedule, the application deadline is Oct. 18, Wilson must notify applicants of her decision by Jan. 1, and then, after an appeals process available in some circumstances, the recipients will be publicly announced by March 10. The salary increases are retroactive to July 1, 1996.

In her memo, Wilson said she was concerned about a feature of the merit system that creates a distinctive for faculty members to apply until they are at the top of the regular salary scale, about the exclusion of deans from advising on the awards in most cases, and limits her own ability to seek advice.

Goss said many faculty would prefer a different standard allowing awards to those judged outstanding or meritorious in their teaching, but not necessarily in both of the other two criteria: service and professional accomplishments. Currently, a recipient must be at least meritorious in all three.
Fund-raising Drive Launched for Special Aquatics Facility

Faculty Member Spearheads Effort to Expand Services for the Disabled

For 14 years, the proposed expansion of a facility that has drawn hundreds of disabled students to Cal State Northridge has been known around campus as "Sam's dream."

Semester after semester, that dream existed only in an architect's rendering on display in the university's Center of Achievement for the Physically Disabled. But now, finally, it has never been closer to reality.

With strong backing from CSUN administrators, staff, community leaders and volunteers, Sam Britten, the center's founder and director, launched a fund-raising drive last month to raise $1.5 million to add a state-of-the-art adaptive aquatics facility.

"We're only half a facility now," Britten told about 50 supporters at the drive's kick-off. "This will complete our dream. We hope to break ground a year from today."

"This proposal is really tailor-made for this university," added CSUN Provost Louanne Kennedy. "Our vision is that it be inclusive," she said.

The proposed aquatics facility and its planned three therapeutic pools would add 7,200 square feet to the center's existing 5,000 square-foot gym. The expansion would double to more than 800 the number of clients the center can serve annually, Britten said.

The facility would consist of three pools: a 20 by 80 foot heated exercise and swimming pool, half with a moveable floor that will adapt to wheelchairs; a 25 by 25 foot "cool pool" for people with multiple sclerosis or other neurological disabilities who cannot tolerate heat, and a whirlpool for those with other orthopedic problems.

Aquatic therapy offers people with disabilities freedom of movement without pain because the buoyancy of water enables their bodies to function more freely. "For many, exercise in a therapeutic pool is the only opportunity they have to function apart from their wheelchairs," Britten said.

Each year, the center now assists about 420 physically disabled students and community members, with from moderate to severe impairments, to become more independent through individualized adaptive and therapeutic exercise programs. Two hundred more people remain on a waiting list.

Also, the center has academic component, providing classes for about 240 CSUN students training in adaptive physical education and related programs.

The center's role begins where most conventional physical therapy programs leave off. "We go beyond the medical. Medical puts you in a wheelchair. But where do you go from there? These people are really put out on the street before they're ready," Britten said.

"People are moving back into society in ways they never thought possible. With our technology and programs, literally, miracles are happening," he added.

Britten, 61, a kinesiology professor, founded the facility a few years after he arrived at CSUN in 1959. "I came here as the athletic trainer and to start an adaptive physical education program," he said. "I was fresh out of UCLA, working on my
In those days, Britten said, adaptive physical education was offered at CSUN only for injured athletes and students who were obese or who had other problems preventing them from taking other physical education courses.

But a disabled student, Lillian Bixby, changed that in the early 1960s. "She was the first (student in a) wheelchair on this campus," Britten said. "She enrolled in adaptive physical education and I had not a clue as to how to help her. She couldn't speak. She was held in a wheelchair with two straps. She had severe cerebral palsy."

Britten recalled, "She told me, 'I want to be able to get to a point in my life to have my dignity restored.' " Thus, he ended up designing an individual program for Bixby that involved intensive muscle strengthening exercises.

"In two years, we had her where she was out of her chair and balancing on a bench," Britten said. "Seven years later, she walked down the aisle with the help of a walker built just for her and was married."

Because of the experience with Bixby, Britten said he and his staff "learned the impossible could be done. And so this program began and it sprang up from there. We sent the injured athletes and obese students to another program."

Initially, the CSUN facility was probably the only one of its kind on a U.S. university campus. Since then, other campuses have followed suit. In the California State University system, Britten said, there is one other similar program at San Diego State University.

"Our program has been a model for the country and the world," Britten said, adding that representatives of 23 different countries have come to the campus over the years to learn about CSUN's program.

As it grew, the center began to attract large numbers of disabled students to CSUN. The university now provides academic support services for about 850 disabled students.

Of the 420 people served by the center each year, about 200 are community members. One of them is Art Donnelly, a Santa Clarita community leader who was paralyzed in a September 1994 accident and later heard about CSUN's center at a hospital and from a friend.

When he enrolled at the center in April, Donnelly said, he had little mobility from his neck down. "My neck was fused. I can now move it." Through twice weekly workouts, Donnelly has regained some use of his arms and hands and is driving once again.

"It was the beginning of a new life for me," said Donnelly, who recently signed up as a volunteer in the fund-raising effort. "I became independent to a certain extent and I will become more independent."

At CSUN's center, community members pay $75 for an initial evaluation and $150 to $200 a semester for two one-hour sessions each week. Students pay nothing beyond the university's regular state tuition. By comparison, Britten said, "It costs between $75 and $150 a treatment (in private programs) and insurance won't pay for it."

If the campus is able to build the center, "This will complete our dream of having probably the only facility that attempts to address every kind of disability," Britten said.

"This facility needs to be duplicated throughout the world," he added. "If and when I retire, that would be one of the purposes in my life--to try to energize this all across the country." -Mayerene Barker
NCOD Wins Five-Year, $5 Million Federal Outreach Grant

CSUN's Largest Grant Will Train Educators Elsewhere How to Help Deaf Students

In a major boost for the campus, Cal State Northridge's renowned National Center on Deafness has won a five-year, $5 million federal grant to continue training educators across the western United States how to help deaf students.

The award, which officials called CSUN's largest current grant, will allow the NCOD to continue and expand a federally funded outreach role that it had played over the past seven years under a prior grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

"It's really great news. We are thrilled about it," said Herb Larson, director of the CSUN center. Created in 1972, the center currently also provides sign language interpreting and other services to CSUN's more than 230 deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

In its companion outreach role, NCOD will continue as one of four federally designated regional education programs providing assistance to other universities and educators in an expanded service area that now will include 13 western states and several territories.

"The whole concept behind the project is to train the trainers," said Gary Sanderson, the coordinator of the NCOD's outreach program who will lead its work under the grant. At NCOD, about six staff members work full-time on the grant's duties and others devote portions of their time.

CSUN has one of the largest deaf student programs in the country and was among the first mainstream universities to accept deaf students in the mid-1960s. In recent years, the center has run on about a $2 million annual operating budget, about half of which came from federal funding.

CSUN's center had received the approximately $1 million-a-year amounts from the U.S. Department of Education over the past seven years to run a smaller outreach program and also to help fund direct services to CSUN's own deaf and hard of hearing students.

But that grant expired this year and federal officials said they would no longer fund direct services, forcing the university to allocate an extra $600,000 for campus services this year. CSUN had to compete with other institutions in the western U.S. for the new five-year outreach award.

If federal officials had picked another institution, Larson said NCOD probably would have had to lay off its current staff assigned to the program. "They wouldn't be here. They would all have had to be looking elsewhere for employment. But we are thrilled at being able to keep them," he said.

Under the grant, CSUN will establish a Western Region Outreach Center and Consortia (WROCC) that will focus on training educators at other institutions to help deaf and hard of hearing students make the transition from high school to college and then into the work force.

But several things will change under the new grant, Larson and Sanderson said. NCOD's service area has been expanded by federal officials from just the Southwest to the entire western U.S., meaning it will cover 13 states including California instead of the prior eight.

Because of that, the method of providing services also will ultimately change. In the past, NCOD staff members often dealt with
individual institutions. Now, they will focus on developing local expertise, so-called hubs and affiliates, at five other institutions in the West that will then aid their local schools.

Other goals under the program include working with the three other federal centers to better track the size of the deaf student population at U.S. universities and locally at CSUN to establish a toll-free information center and to make most of the NCOD's resources available over the Internet.

In addition to CSUN, the other recipients under the new federal grant are the University of Tennessee for the South, St. Paul Technical and Vocational College in Minnesota for the Midwest (both prior grantees), and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in New York for the Northeast, Larson said.

Seattle Community College in Washington, a prior grant recipient, was thrust into competition with CSUN and lost in the new grant cycle. To create the new western U.S. service area, federal officials combined CSUN's old Southwest territory with the Northwest region formerly served by Seattle.

Because of the expanded terrain, Larson said NCOD had sought a larger annual allocation from the federal government, but ended up having to agree to the same $1 million-a-year package as the other three recipients. CSUN received formal notice it had won the new grant only last week.

Mark Lipschutz, CSUN's director of research, said the new $1 million-a-year NCOD award is the largest grant, public or private, now held by the university on a single or multi-year basis. It alone also amounts to 12 percent of the total $8.5 million in government grants CSUN receives each year.

-John Chandler
Consultants, Campus Hold First Meeting on Landscaping Plan

Participants Say Campus Needs Stronger Core and Sense of Identity

Landscaping consultants and a campus task force advising them on a landscaping restoration plan for Cal State Northridge have met for the first time, focusing on ways to make CSUN's central quad area more appealing and to create a stronger identity for the entire campus.

A trio of consulting firms, led by Pamela Burton & Co. of Santa Monica, will be studying the campus in the coming months and holding regular meetings with a 14-member advisory task force before submitting a final proposal by next summer, officials said.

During the initial two-hour session on Wednesday, Oct. 2, Burton offered a blunt assessment of the 40-year-old campus, saying it was developed "without the kind of consideration of really what the spaces between the buildings are" and is now "devoid of landscaping, devoid of identity."

"We need to make this campus really beautiful," Burton added. "By making the campus beautiful, what we can do is really begin to develop a sense of identity" befitting the only public four-year institution of higher education in the San Fernando Valley.

Art Elbert, CSUN's vice president for administration and finance, and a member of the advisory task force, said the campus especially needs to develop improvements in the wake of the 1994 Northridge earthquake that will attract and keep students on campus during the day.

Under the current phase, the consultants will present CSUN with a plan to guide future improvements for landscaping, courtyards, framing building entrances and clearly establishing main entrances to the campus. The university hopes to be able to fund some of the work as part of its earthquake recovery.

Mary Sager, a Burton consultant, said her team will have five goals, starting with strengthening CSUN's central quad area, improving circulation routes, establishing campus entrance gateways, shaping building locations and developing building courtyards and gardens.

During the session, participants complained the campus lacks adequate shade, making people reluctant to gather outdoors; that it lacks water features with the reflecting pond near the Administration building long dry, and that many major building entrances on campus are simply hard to locate.

Deborah Wylie, the campus' architect and another task force member, said the group is interested in hearing comments and suggestions from the campus community on the emerging plan. The first meeting also was videotaped in case members of the campus community want to review it.

Wylie can be reached at (818) 677-2561, although she would prefer comments and suggestions in writing. Her fax number is (818) 677-6552, and her email address is dwylie@csun.edu. The next meeting between the task force and consultant team is scheduled for mid-November.

- John Chandler

Cal State Officials Say Technology Initiative Beginning to Show Results

Goals Are 24-Hour Technology Access for Students, Enhanced Learning and Efficiency

The first tangible results of a planned $600 million to $700 million initiative to bring cutting-edge technology to Cal State campuses could surface as early as next fall with so-called "One Cards" for students, CSU leaders told a recent gathering at Cal State Northridge.

After two years of planning, the university system's Integrated Technology Strategy and its dozen key initiatives to expand and improve the use of technology at the CSU's 23 campuses is ready to begin, probably with the phased launch of the combined student ID, banking and phone cards in fall 1997.

"We are out of planning and we are into the implementation mode. We're on the train and the train has left the station," said David Ernst, executive director of the CSU technology initiative, after the Oct. 3 briefing for more than 200 CSUN faculty, staff and students.

"The main reason is to enhance, increase and further develop the academic experience at the University," added Ruben Arminana, the president of Sonoma State University, who introduced the presentation. He called the CSU's initiative "a work in progress" that will evolve over time.

During the session, CSUN President Blenda J. Wilson said Northridge will "continue to play a very strong role" and "will be as supportive as we can" in the overall CSU initiative. But campus officials added that CSUN is not yet among the 16 or so Cal State campuses looking at using the cards.

Under that plan, similar to ones already in use by other U.S. universities, students would be issued the identification cards that they could also use for banking and phone calls. Cal State officials expect to select banking and phone providers that would fund the venture at little cost to gain the extra business.

But the cards are just the first taste of a broader, nearly 10-year initiative in which, says Cal State Chancellor Barry Munitz, "the CSU will be wired for the best the 21st Century has to offer" in classrooms, libraries, offices and elsewhere. That will include giving students 24-hour access to technology by 2000.

The most uncertain part, for now, is how the CSU plans to pay for all the improvements. Ernst said student technology fees, outside revenues, state support and redirecting existing CSU funds are all possibilities, though he said the use of long-term CSU debt financing likely will be a key approach.

The four broad objectives of the technology initiative are to enhance personal productivity among CSU employees, promote excellence in learning and teaching, provide a quality educational experience for students and increase administrative productivity and quality.

Apart from keeping pace with onrushing technology, CSU officials said the technology initiative also responds to an environment in which California's population of higher education students is expected to grow 26 percent during the coming decade while state funding for the CSU remains flat or worse.

Thus, CSU officials are looking at increasingly offering courses via two-way live video and the Internet, streamlining administrative and support functions to save money, making campus library and multimedia resources available to students.
system-wide, and even allowing students to apply via the Internet.

But before much of that can happen, Ernst said Cal State campuses need between $150 million and $200 million in upgrades to bring them up to a technological baseline. That means having the proper equipment and software, adequate training and support, and connections among campuses.

As the largest senior higher education system in the country, Ernst said Cal State overall is among the top 10 university systems technologically in the United States. But at campuses deficiencies remain, such as inadequate support, old equipment, overtaxed systems and inadequate network connections.

After the "One Cards" are launched, Ernst said the next likely major project will be the library initiative aimed at creating a single, integrated computer interface for Cal State libraries allowing users either direct access or delivery of text, visual and Internet resources system-wide.

Ernst said the CSUN presentation was the second of about a dozen similar sessions planned at CSU campuses this semester. Cal State also will host a convocation on the initiative's academic components for about 100 top officials at the Marriott Hotel near Los Angeles International Airport on Nov. 1.

-John Chandler
Central Plant Construction Schedule

Thursday, Oct. 10 to Friday, Oct. 18, 1996

1. Contractor will be working on underground piping from Central Plant loop to seven campus buildings. These locations include: north of Business; between Education and Administration; west of Fine Arts; south of Faculty Office Building; east of the Bookstore; west of the Student Health Center, and southwest of P.E.

2. Across Plummer Street (east of the guard shack) and at the intersection of Lindley Avenue and Plummer: contractor will be installing underground main utilities lines. This work will disrupt traffic on Plummer and Lindley, so taking alternate routes is suggested.

3. Northwest of Engineering and west of P.E. continuing across Lindley and north and east of the P.E. addition: trenching to install new fire water service piping.

4. Along Lindley continuing across the wide concrete walk north of Music: contractor will be hydro-testing recently installed hot and cold water piping. This work should not impact the campus.

5. In the roadway north of Science 4 and northeast of the Student Health Center: trenching to install underground network communications.

6. Northeast corner of Plummer and Etiwanda Avenue: contractor will continue pouring concrete walls for Physical Plant storage buildings and will begin installing roof on Central Plant thermal energy storage tank.

7. Cooling tower site: contractor will continue pouring concrete for foundations and basements.

For recorded information about construction work on this project, call (818) 677-5978. To leave a message or ask questions about the construction, call (818) 677-5979 and leave a voice, fax or e-mail address for return information.
Peer Coaching Program Helps Professors Fill Educational Gap

Colleagues Pair Up to Observe Each Other in the Classroom, Exchange Teaching Tips

Many university faculty members have one crucial gap in their education: they didn't learn how to teach. At Cal State Northridge, the Peer Coaching Program fills that gap by pairing professors who observe each other's classroom work and then offer tips on teaching more effectively.

The program, now in its second semester, won praise from the 20 faculty members who took part last spring. Said Joyce Maxwell of biology, "My coaching partner brought a fresh perspective to my teaching because she viewed my presentation as a 'performance' and was sensitive to my contact with the 'audience,' visual aids and voice modulation."

Karen Kearns of radio-TV-film added, "It's helpful to have a colleague observe the students and give you feedback regarding their actions. Peer coaching differs from tenure visit evaluations; it's less stressful and more creative, collegial and supportive."

Tom Spencer-Walters of Pan-African studies observed, "As (my partner and I) discussed our observations of each other's classes, frequently over lunch, we both began to realize that teaching does not have to be such an isolated activity after all."

Peer coaching, based on programs that have achieved success at other CSU campuses, is co-directed by Cynthia Desrochers of elementary education and Elizabeth Berry of speech communication with funding from the graduate studies, research and international programs office.

"Peer coaching provides a mirror, in the form of a coaching partner's observations, that a teacher can reflect off of. Through reflection and rational analysis, faculty members can improve the quality of their teaching," Desrochers said.

The program is informal and voluntary; it is not part of the personnel review process. Participants can observe each other teach once or attend a series of classes, depending on time available. Because pairs of coaches come from different fields, their observations focus on teaching methods rather than content.

The discussion that follows the observation is intended to be helpful, not critical, and collegial, not competitive, she noted, with the teacher whose work is observed setting the agenda for it. The agenda might include specific instructional goals, a new method of instruction or evaluation of student response.

Desrochers can supply ideas about structured teaching methods if participants want them. Faculty Senate President Jim Goss of religious studies said he found that students' grades and mastery of the material improved, and that his own teaching satisfaction increased when using a group learning method recommended by Desrochers.

Over time, the program aims to identify professors who can serve as models of effective teaching and also build a network of teachers who can coach their colleagues. For more information, contact Desrochers at (818) 677-7892 or Berry at (818) 677-2857.

-John Kroll