Music Professor Is 2008-09 Jerome Richfield Scholar
Rachmanov to Discuss First-Ever Beethoven Recordings

It was a dream come true when, more than 10 years ago, Cal State Northridge associate music professor Dmitry Rachmanov got an opportunity to play on the rare instruments used by legendary pianists and composers like Beethoven, Chopin and Rachmaninoff.

Thanks to CSUN’s selection of Rachmanov as the 2008-09 Jerome Richfield Scholar, the music professor and pianist said his dreams have been surpassed. The grant has enabled him to be the first ever to record the four-hand music of Ludwig van Beethoven and three of his teachers on the original pianos, used during the early 19th century.

“This has been a fascinating experience,” said Rachmanov, who noted that pianos built before the 20th century are rare and usually only available “under glass” in museums. “It’s like you’re going back in time.”

Rachmanov will speak on “Recording the Music of Beethoven on the Pianos of His Era” at 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 5 at the 17th annual Provost’s Colloquium in the Oviatt Library Presentation Room.

His presentation will include a discussion of the “historical performance practice.” He will also show a video of the Frederick Historic Piano Collection, which provided the instruments used for the recordings and clips from the live performance. The Ashburnham, Mass.-based Frederick Historic Piano Collection is privately owned. The collection includes more than 20 original pianos in playing condition, specifically, the sorts of pianos known to important composers from about 1790 to 1907.

Rachmanov made the historic recordings as part of the collection’s biannual concert series. “I would like to get the audience excited by the beauty of these instruments and the historical relevance of it and the music we perform,” Rachmanov said. “This is very unique.”

A Richfield scholar is selected annually by the university in memory of dean emeritus and philosophy professor Jerome Richfield. It salutes an outstanding faculty member conducting research in the arts, sciences or humanities. It is awarded to the top ranked proposal submitted to the Research and Grants Committee. The scholar receives a fellowship equivalent to three units of release time from teaching, up to $5,000 in funding and presents a lecture as part of the colloquium series.

Rachmanov, who is in his second year of teaching at CSUN, has a doctorate from the Manhattan School of Music and his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Julliard.

—Eve Green
Event Kicks Off 'The Year of Science’

A group of faculty and staff from a variety of academic departments at Cal State Northridge have planned “Darwin Week” for Feb. 9-13, to celebrate scientist Charles Darwin and to kick off “The Year of Science.”

Charles Darwin’s insights into the mechanisms of evolution laid the foundation for 21st century biology as well as other fields of study such as psychology, sociology, and philosophy. His ideas and discoveries also influenced the development of statistical methods of data analysis that are now used in science, economics and politics.

“We want to give people an idea about the breadth of Darwin’s ideas and continue to have today, 200 years after his life and 150 years since his first book,” said Paula Schiffman, CSUN biology professor. “We want people to know the effect he had in various fields of study, especially biology, where we still talk about him with complete relevance.”

Darwin was born Feb. 12, 1809, making this year the bicentennial of his birth. This year also marks the 150th anniversary of the publication of his innovative book, “The Origin of Species.” Also, 2009 has been designated “The Year of Science” by important science organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences and the National Science Foundation.

The week-long celebration will include symposia presentations and panel discussions about the intersections of Darwin, science and religion. Presentations will be delivered by speakers like Ruth Wake from UC Berkeley, who will discuss “Natural Selection and Consciously Reasoned Human Behavior.” Also speaking will be David Lightfoot from George-town University, who will talk about “Evolution of Languages.”

Darwin Week will also feature a theatrical performance of the climactic scene in the play “Inherit the Wind,” which was inspired by the 1925 Scopes “Monkey” Trial. There will also be an evolution-inspired dance performance. For the date and location of events, please visit www.csun.edu/darwin.

In addition, the Oviatt Library lobby is currently hosting an exhibit about Darwin and evolution through which students can learn about the works of Darwin and how pertinent his work and ideas are today.

—Paola Cervantes

Devonshire Downs Housing Project Temporarily Suspended

Faculty, Staff Residential Community Delayed by the State’s Economic Woes

Given the current state of the housing and credit markets and in light of the overall California economy, the North Campus Development Corp. Board of Directors voted Jan. 20 to suspend work on the Devonshire Downs faculty and staff housing project until market conditions improve.

“The board remains steadfast in its goal of developing a high quality, family friendly community of homes for CSU Northridge faculty and staff and regrets this necessary delay,” said Rick Evans, acting executive director of the University Corporation, on behalf of the North Campus board. “The board appreciates the patience and understanding of the faculty and staff during this difficult period that calls for fiscal restraint. Rest assured that the situation will be monitored closely so that work on Devonshire Downs can resume as soon as financially possible.”

In 2007, the University Corporation, the nonprofit auxiliary corporation providing commercial and administrative services to Cal State Northridge and the North Campus Development Corp., announced plans to develop nearly 160 two-story for-sale town homes on the Devonshire Downs site. The first phase of the project, located on about 15 acres between Lindley and Zelzah avenues and north of Lassen Street, was scheduled to break ground in spring 2009. The remaining 15 acres were slated to be developed in phases over a 10 to 15 year period and ultimately to yield more than 400 units, some of which may have been rental dwellings.

Linda Turner, real estate manager for the University Corporation and North Campus, said the initial goal was to price the homes 20 to 25 percent below prices in the surrounding area, but the cost of building now “exceeds the current market price and the gap is even larger if you try to sell them less than market.”

“The Southern California housing market has seen dramatic changes recently and it remains highly volatile,” Turner added. She said no construction has begun.

The statewide fiscal crisis is having impacts on CSUN in other ways. Last month, CSUN was forced to suspend all state bond-funded design and construction projects including the Valley Performing Arts Center at California State University, Northridge. The CSU has also implemented a system-wide salary freeze for all vice presidents/vice chancellor level positions, a hiring freeze on all but essential positions and cancellation of all noncritical equipment, supplies and travel.

Flashbacks—CSUN’s Golden Fifty

The Past and Present of Cal State Northridge

The Santa Susana Press, the Finest of the Fine Presses

To publish “beautiful, beautiful” books was the initial goal that California State University, Northridge’s own Santa Susana Press, which was founded in 1973 by then Director of University Libraries Norman Tanis. Handmade limited editions, these books known as “fine press” were often numbered a-z or 1-200 and the fewer produced, the more expensive the cost for the special collectors and libraries who purchased them.

At its prime, the Santa Susana Press was considered one of the finest of the fine press publishers and won numerous awards for its handmade publications.

Tanis had a fascination with printing, recalled Cindy Ventuleth, his former assistant and now a major gifts officer who joined CSUN’s staff in 1984.

“A great loss because just holding a book of this caliber in your hands, with hand-colored illustrations and sewn binding, is a treat for the senses.”

Among the books produced during the press’ heyday were Catherine Mulholland’s “The Owensmouth Baby: The Making of a San Fernando Valley Town,” an account chronicling the rise of an area known today as Canoga Park, and John Broesamle’s “Suddenly a Giant. A History of California State University, Northridge.”

“I hope donors will be inspired to step forward and revive the tradition of publishing at this university,” Ventuleth said. “An institution like Cal State Northridge should have a press to assure that others will have the pleasure and solace that books bring.”

—Julia Venkateswaran
For Your Information publishes announcements of events, public meetings, notices, classes and deadlines. Submission deadline is noon on Monday, one week before the next issue.

The deadline for the February 16 issue is Monday, February 9. We strive to include all items and deadlines. Submission deadline is noon on Monday, one week before the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to pubinfo@csun.edu, sending them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (818) 677-5700. E-mail is preferred method of submitting.

Note: fmi—means for more information.

Deadlines

Service Committees and Boards
Faculty who would like to be considered for election or appointment to positions in faculty governance, to standing or advisory committees of the Faculty Senate, or to various all-university committees and boards are invited to complete the online University Service Form on the Faculty Senate Web site, www.csun.edu/senate/volunteer.doc. To be considered for the spring faculty elections, forms must be submitted by Wednesday, Feb. 11. fmi—Heidi Wobullaer, x3263.

2009 Faculty Awards
Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 faculty awards honoring outstanding faculty achievement. Nominations must be received in the Faculty Senate Office by Monday, Feb. 23. Supporting materials must be received by Monday, March 23. Faculty Awards include the Outstanding Faculty Award, the Distinguished Teaching, Counseling or Librarianship Award, the Scholarly Publication(s) Award, the Creative Accomplishment(s) Award, Extraordinary Service Award and the Visionary Service-Learning Award. Criteria and nomination forms are on the Faculty Senate Web site, http://www.csun.edu/senate.awards.html. fmi—Heidi Wobullaer, x3263.

Faculty Development Grants
CSUN’s China Institute is accepting applications for a $100,000 faculty development grant to start projects in their discipline that advances the field of China Studies or promotes long-term exchange and collaboration for faculty and students. There are two grants available, which can be used to support travel expenses for the faculty to visit China to conduct their project. Applications, containing a proposal and resume, must be submitted by Monday, Feb. 23 to China Institute Review Committee Chair Harold Giedt, at harold.giedt@csun.edu. fmi—Justine Su, x23813@csun.edu or Harold Giedt, harold.giedt@csun.edu.

Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Awards
The Research and Grants Committee is accepting applications for the 2009–10 CSUN competition for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Awards. Full-time and part-time faculty are invited to apply for up to three units of released time or up to $5,000 of funding for project expenses, enabling them to pursue their scholarly and creative interests. The guidelines and application may be downloaded at http://www.csun.edu/grp/research/funding/oncampus.htm. The deadline for submission of applications is 5 p.m., Monday, March 2. fmi—Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, x2801.

Public Meetings

Library Committee
Meets 2 p.m.—1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4
Oviatt Library, Administration Conference Room 372

Notices

Deepest Condolences
The Department of Geological Sciences and the campus community extend deepest sympathies to the family of Vicki Pedone (Geology) whose mother passed away Jan. 15. Pedone was formerly the associate dean in the College of Sciences and Mathematics and is currently department chair in Geological Sciences.

Deepest Condolences
Physical Plant Management and the campus community extend deepest sympathies to the family of Ernie Granillo (PMP) whose sister passed away Jan. 19. Granillo is a facility worker in the PPM Department.

2009–10 CSUN’s Freshman Common Reading
CSUN’s Freshman Common Reading selection for 2009–10 is “The Soloist” by Steve Lopez. The book tells the story of Lopez, a Los Angeles Times writer, and his ‘unlikely friendship’ with Nathaniel Anthony Ayers, a former Julliard student, who is now homeless and mentally ill. For more information on teaching the book across disciplines, visit http://www.csun.edu/adviser/fmi-CherylSpector, director of Academic First Year Experiences, x6553 or cheryl.spector@csun.edu.

Emergency Desk Reference for Staff
The Department of Public Safety has developed the Emergency Operations Desk Reference for Staff Members, available at http://www.adm.csun.edu/publicsafety/emergency/. It may be accessed by clicking a link located on the information bar near the top of the page. The desk reference provides a quick guide for what to do during some of the most common emergency situations that might occur on a university campus. Also, general information on emergency preparedness, staff responsibilities and emergency phone numbers is provided.

Professional Development
The Professional Development Program provides free training workshops for CSUN staff in the Oviatt Library. Presentation Room, fmi—Lauren Nile, lauren.nile@csun.edu.

Workshops:
□ “Working Together for Results—Collaboration and Cooperation” For MPP administrators. Linda Reid-Chlassakos, presenter, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
□ Blue Shield Members
For all interested CSUN faculty and staff.
Susan Vogt, presenter. Tuesday, Feb. 10, 9 a.m.—9:30 a.m.;
11 a.m.—11:30 a.m.; 1 p.m.—1:30 p.m.; or 3 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Faculty Development
Faculty Development presents free training workshops for CSUN faculty in Sierra Hall 451, Whitsett Room, unless noted otherwise. fmi—Donna, x6556.

Workshops:
□ “Creating Effective Team Projects and Small Group Assignments: Minimizing Challenges and Maximizing Learning Opportunities.” Wendy Phelps, presenter. Wednesday, Feb. 4, 1:15 p.m.—2:45 p.m.
□ “Creating Information Competent’ Courses: A Guide to Information Competency (IC) Course Designation.” Lynn Lampert, presenter. Tuesday, Feb. 10, 11 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
□ CIELO Conference: Tuesday, contact Kelly Kroeker; x6553 or kelly.kroeker@csun.edu.

Events

Monday, Feb. 2
Black History Month
The Black Student Union and several other campus organizations and departments will present the Black History Month 2009 Opening Ceremony. The ceremony will include guest speaker Manilla Kayise, African drumming and a step show. The ceremony takes place 12 p.m.—2 p.m. on the front lawn of the Matador Bookstore. Other events will be presented throughout the month, including the NAACP Centennial Ceremony, Thursday, Feb. 12. fmi—Pan African Studies Department, x3511 or e-mail hsu.csun@gmail.com.

Tuesday, Feb. 3
Chinese Debate Team Visits CSUN
The Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication, the Department of Communication Studies and the Matador Forensics Society will host a debate with students from Xian International Studies University and Beijing Foreign Studies University. The debate will take place 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. in the Manzanita Hall 100, Armer Theatre. The event is free and open to the public. fmi—John Keplin III, x3045 or john.ii@csun.edu.

Thursday, Feb. 5
Campus Sustainability
The CSUN Greening Project and the Institute for Sustainability will take part in the National Teach-In on Global Warming from 10:45 a.m.—4 p.m. at the USU Grand Salon. The daylong event will include keynote speaker Andy Lapsil of TreePeople. fmi—Institute for Sustainability, sustainability@csun.edu.

Tuesday, Feb. 17–Feb. 24
JADE Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2009
The Joint Advocates on Disordered Eating (JADE) Program invite the campus to participate in Eating Disorder Awareness Week 2009. The program will kick off the week with a showing of the “America the Beautiful” documentary from 2 p.m.—8 p.m. in the USU. Information about the JADE program is located at http://www.csun.edu/counseling/jade/btn.fmi—Ellen Mayer or Emily Hagan, jade@csun.edu or x7500.

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In Brief

Two Former Coaches Among 2009 Matador Hall of Famers

Four outstanding former Cal State Northridge student-athletes, two former Matador head coaches and one NCAA championship team have been voted into the Cal State Northridge Athletic Hall of Fame. This outstanding Matador group will be formally inducted during Hall of Fame ceremonies on March 1 at the Warner Center Marriott Hotel in Woodland Hills.

The four former student-athletes are Marcus Brady (football, 1998–01), Brian Heine (basketball, 1997–01), Jeff Kubak (swimming, 1985–87) and Beth Oenninger-Wolf (softball, 1985–88).

The two former head coaches are Marwan Ass'd (men's soccer, 1983–88) and Barbara Swerkes (track & field, 1973–80).

The 1970 Matador baseball team, which captured the NCAA Division II national title, will also be inducted into the CSUN Hall of Fame, the first time in school history that a team will be honored in such a manner.

The 2009 inductions join 98 other distinguished members of the Cal State Northridge Athletic Hall of Fame.

Department Chair Reappointments

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Harry Hellenbrand has announced the reappointment of Nancy Burstein as chair of the Special Education Department, Cristina Cadavid as chair of the Physics and Astronomy Department, Randy Cohen as chair of the Biology Department, and Ted Ohl as chair of Chemistry and Biochemistry. The appointments are effective Aug. 19, 2009 and expire at the conclusion of the 2011–12 academic year.

Calendar

For ticket info, call (818) 677-2488 or visit www.csun.edu/physics/planetarium. Telescope viewing follows second show.

‘Winter Sky Show’ and ‘Magellan: Report from Venus’

Fri., Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.

Main gallery hours: Mon. through Sat., 12–4 p.m. and Thursdays noon–8 p.m. Admission is free unless specified. For library exhibits, call (818) 677-2285.

Art and Exhibits

Bianchi Planetarium

For ticket info, (818) 677-2488 or visit www.csun.edu/physics/planetarium. Telescope viewing follows second show.

‘Visions of Light: The Art of Cinematography’ and ‘The Cutting Edge: The Magic of Movie Editing’

Documentaries on filmmaking.

Thu., Feb. 5, 7 p.m.

Main gallery hours: Mon. through Sat., 12–4 p.m. and Thursdays noon–8 p.m. Admission is free unless specified. For library exhibits, call (818) 677-2285.

Passion for the Possible: The Work of Sister Corita

An exhibition of work by Corita Kent, celebrated serigraph artist, who won international acclaim from the 1950s to the 1980s for images and provocative texts that influenced a generation of Americans.

Workshops based on Kent’s teachings will be held on selected Saturdays during the exhibition.

Curator: Aaron Rose.

Opening reception: Sat., Feb. 14, 1–4 p.m.

Gallery Talk: Mon, Feb. 16, 9:30 a.m.

Runs through Sat., April 4.

Main Gallery

‘Levity’

Christian Tedeschi, faculty exhibition sculpture.

Opening reception: Sat., Feb. 14, 1–4 p.m.

Runs through Thu., Feb. 19.

West Gallery, Art and Design Center

Fifty and Fabulous

California State University, Northridge/ San Fernando Valley State College at the half-century mark.

An exhibition on the history of CSUN from 1958 to 2008.

Runs through Aug. 2.

C. K. and Teresa Tseng Gallery, Oviatt Library

Cinematheque

Screenings are free and take place in the Alan and Elaine Armor Theater on the first floor of Manzanita Hall at the southwest corner of campus. Seating not guaranteed. For more info, call (818) 677-3102 or see www.cinematheque.csun.edu.

‘Seven Men from Now’

Directed by Budd Boetticher.

Wed., Feb. 4, 7 p.m.

Music

Admission to all music events (unless otherwise specified): $10 general, $5 faculty, staff and seniors, $5 students.

Jazz Faculty Recital

Thu., Feb. 5, 8 p.m.

Music Recital Hall

Ying Duan and Dmitry Rachmanov Piano Recital

Fri., Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Northridge United Methodist Church, 9650 Reseda Blvd., Northridge

Faculty Artist Series

Julia Heinzen, clarinet and Shari Raynor, piano.

Sat., Feb. 7, 8 p.m.

Music Recital Hall

Faculty Artist Series

Paul Roberts, piano soloist.

Wed., Feb. 11, 8 p.m.

Music Recital Hall

Theater Performance

Bill’s New Frock

Directed by Anamarie Dwyer.

Fri., Feb. 6, 8 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 7, 7:30 & 8 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 8, 2 & 8 p.m.

Tue., Feb. 10, 7 & 8 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Thu., Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 13, 8 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 14, 2, 8 & 8 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 15, 2 p.m.

Studio Theatre Lab, Nordhoff Hall 113

$8–$16

The G3 Parking Structure, off Zelzah Avenue between Prairie and Dearborn streets, opened Jan. 29. The new structure and the surrounding lots add 1,840 new parking spaces to campus, including 118 for faculty and staff and 49 for disabled people.