CSUN’s Mentoring Program Honors ‘Unsung Heroes’
Annual Program Recognizes Faculty and Staff Contributions

For Shiva Parsa ’97 B.A. (Sociology), ’02 M.A. (Educational Leadership), her work as director of EOP Transitional Programs, helping low-income, first-generation freshmen and transfer students, does not feel like the “stereotypical” job. She said she is excited about coming to work and the students she assists.

“I know there are some people who on Monday morning dread going back to work. That’s not how I feel,” said Parsa, who has worked at CSUN 19 years. “I do a lot of work, but I love what I do.”

Her love and passion for her work are among the reasons Parsa was one of two campus leaders recently honored as “unsung heroes” and recipients of the 2008 Don Dorsey Excellence in Mentoring Awards. The other honoree was Scott Andrews, associate chair of the English Department. The two were honored at a reception on Nov. 12 at the Oviatt Library.

“Mentoring is very important. We are acknowledging their hard work,” said Glenn Omatsu, coordinator of the Faculty Mentor Program.

The Dorsey mentoring awards were established in 1998 by the Faculty Mentor Program and the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). The awards are named after professor Don Dorsey of the Educational Psychology and Counseling Department, who helped develop CSUN’s first mentor training program and devoted himself as a mentor to innumerable students.

The annual award recognizes faculty and staff who have made exceptional contributions to mentoring of past and present students, who take a holistic approach to mentoring, including academic and personal support, and who support the university’s commitment to the success of students of diverse backgrounds and communities.

Andrews, who has been at CSUN for eight years, has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Oklahoma, and a master’s and doctorate from the University of California, Riverside. He serves as associate chair for the English Department and has the principal responsibility of advising the majority of its 650 undergraduate majors. He is also a well-known scholar in American Indian Studies.

“It’s rewarding when you can make a difference in someone’s life,” said Andrews about the honor. “I listen to them (students) and challenge them to do better and recognize their own abilities.”

The Faculty Mentor Program (www.csun.edu/eop/fmp_index.htm) provides mentoring services, training and resources for CSUN faculty, staff, and students.

For more information, contact Glenn Omatsu, coordinator of the Faculty Mentor Program, at glenn.omatsu@csun.edu or x4151.

President Assumes Helm of AASCU Board of Directors
CSUN’s Profile Enhanced by Appointment

President Jolene Koester assumed the chairmanship of the board of directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) at the close of the organization’s annual meeting in November.

Koester, the second CSUN president to hold this position, will serve for one year and will be responsible for the selection of a new president of AASCU. Former CSUN President James Cleary served as chair of the Washington, D.C.-based organization in 1985.

“IT’s a major responsibility for me as chair of the Board of Directors to assure that a very strong, vital higher education organization speaks for state colleges and universities, and continues to have good leadership,” Koester said. “It’s an extraordinary honor and privilege to be asked by one’s colleagues to assume this role and take on the chairmanship of this board.”

AASCU, one of higher education’s most prestigious advocacy organizations, represents more than 450 public colleges and universities in the United States and its territories.

The organization’s members have a common commitment to providing “access, affordability and educational opportunity.”

In addition to serving on the AASCU Board of Directors from 2005–2008, Koester served on the organization’s Distinguished Alumnus Award Search and Selection Committee and the Commission on Public University Renewal. She also served as chair of the Committee on Teacher Education and currently chairs the Learning Outcomes Technical Work Group for the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) project.

Koester said AASCU has helped to place CSUN on the “national scene.”

“It allows me to always present the strengths of Cal State Northridge to the rest of the world,” added Koester, who said CSUN’s profile has been further enhanced by its involvement in AASCU’s American Democracy Project (ADP), which is a project aimed at producing college graduates committed to being active, involved citizens in their communities. The VSA project is a Web portal that gathers information about the undergraduate student experience and helps measure educational practices and identify what needs to be improved.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McCarron Named VP for Administration and Finance, CFO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He Assumes Position after Serving as Interim since January</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tom McCarron '77 (Accounting) has been appointed vice president for administration and finance and chief financial officer for California State University, Northridge. The appointment is effective immediately.

“Mr. McCarron is known for his leadership and fiscal management experience at the CSU level, a reputation that will continue to benefit Cal State Northridge in the future,” said President Jolene Koester, in a letter to the campus community on Nov. 17. She said McCarron’s appointment will “ensure continuity, stability and strong management in a critical area of the university.”

McCarron assumes the position after serving in an interim capacity since January. He joined Cal State Northridge in 1999 to serve as executive director and president of The University Corp. and the North Campus-University Park Development Corp. In his nine years in the position, Koester said the auxiliary corporations strengthened their connections to the university and bolstered their work to advance the broader mission of the institution.

She said McCarron’s knowledge and experience led to temporary appointments as interim vice president for University Advancement from March to June 2007 and administrator in charge of Administration and Finance in December 2007 before being named interim vice president for the division.

Prior to his appointment at Northridge, McCarron was chief financial officer of the CSU Institute, an entrepreneurial auxiliary tasked with developing system-wide business opportunities and public/private partnerships for the CSU. In addition to his 15 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, McCarron has extensive management, finance and accounting experience in the for-profit sector. He earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting at CSUN and an MBA from Pepperdine University. He is very appreciative of this new opportunity to serve my alma mater,” said McCarron about his appointment. “We have incredibly talented and dedicated employees and I’m confident we’ll continue our progress, despite the current economic situation. We will remain focused on the reputational and financial goals of the university.”

His goals include continuing work on CSUN’s major capital projects, including the Valley Performing Arts Center, Chaparral Hall (previously called Science 5), the G3 Parking Structure and new student housing. He said the university has increased its employee development programs including numerous sessions focused on enhancing job skills and helping people deal with real life challenges such as taking care of an elderly parent. University leadership has also launched a myriad of campus sustainability initiatives and reduced CSUN’s carbon footprint to 15 percent below the university’s 1990 baseline.

“While none of us really know how long it will be until our economy recovers, I can assure you we haven’t lost focus on the university’s priorities and goals,” McCarron said.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CSUN Economic Research Center Chief Daniel Blake Retiring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Fernando Valley Business and Economic Expert Will Be Missed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For nearly eight years, Daniel Blake has helped to put the San Fernando Valley on the map as a leader in business and economics. His work as director of Cal State Northridge’s San Fernando Valley Economic Research Center has included compiling and reporting demographic and economic data for business, community and political leaders.

Next month, the 65-year-old Blake will retire after more than 30 years of service to CSUN. Bill Roberts, a professor of economics at CSUN will replace him as director. Blake said he will remain on campus until the end of the school year to help with the transition. University officials and community leaders say he will be missed.

“He has been a great colleague, a great spokesperson for the university and the college and a great economist,” said William Jennings, dean of the College of Business and Economics. “He has really been one of the important voices in the San Fernando Valley.”

Bruce Ackerman, president and CEO of the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, said Blake has been the “go-to” person about economics in the San Fernando Valley.

“He will be missed,” said Ackerman, who also serves on the center’s advisory board.

Blake came to CSUN in 1971 after earning his doctorate in economics at the University of Oregon. He has taught courses ranging from labor market economics to economic strategy analysis for MBA students. He took the position as director of the center in 2001. He retired in 2003 from teaching but stayed on as director as part of the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP).

“I have really appreciated the university’s support in allowing me to serve in many different capacities,” Blake said. who has also served as director of the university’s Center for Economic Research and Education and Minority Business Program. Blake said some of his greatest accomplishments include working closely with community and business groups to get the city of Los Angeles and others to recognize the San Fernando Valley as a business and economic hub. He also helped convince the U.S. Census Bureau to give the Valley special recognition in their reports.

“We did the job of getting important data about the residents and businesses in the San Fernando Valley recognized,” Blake added. As for what’s next, Blake said he plans to continue to serve on many of the economic development boards and he will continue to develop research grants on employment training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BudgetWatch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>California State University Declares System-wide Impacation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

In response to the state’s worsening fiscal crisis, California State University officials have declared a system-wide impacation for the first time in the system’s history. It will result in fewer students admitted for next fall.

The CSU is already serving 10,000 students for whom the state provides no funding, and all indications are that 2009–10 will be the second consecutive year that the CSU receives no funding for enrollment growth. Potentially, CSU may curtail enrollment by up to 10,000 students throughout the system.

“Because the state is unable to provide the resources needed to fully fund demand, we are forced to make this difficult decision,” said CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed. “We cannot admit students if we are unable to provide adequate classes or instruction, support services or classroom facilities. We are taking this step to ensure the academic quality of the institution.”

Under impacation, campuses will be allowed to use supplemental admissions criteria such as grade point average or to wait-list students in order to control enrollment. Priority will be given to continuing undergraduate students already enrolled, followed by California community college transfer students meeting transfer requirements, and California residents entering at freshman or sophomore levels. Non-resident students will have the lowest priority for admissions.

California’s 2008–09 budget provided $2.97 billion of state General Funds to the CSU. That is essentially the same amount the system received the previous year, and $215 million less than what is needed to meet enrollment growth and fund other operational expenses. In addition, the CSU faces a mid-year cut of $66.3 million, and a recent one-time $31.3 million reduction.

California State University, Northridge • #CSUN • December 8, 2008 www.csun.edu/pressreleases/08/current/
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.

Security number and the employee's signature. Uncollected checks will be available for department pick-up from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 2. fumi-University Cash Services, x8102

The deadline for the January 20 issue is Monday, January 12. We strive to include all items submitted by deadline occurring until the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to pubinfo@csun.edu, sending them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (810) 677-9090. Email is our preferred method of submitting.

Note: fumi-means for more information.

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 January 20 issue is Monday, January 12. We strive to include all items submitted by deadline occurring until the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to pubinfo@csun.edu, sending them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (810) 677-9090. Email is our preferred method of submitting.

Note: fumi-means for more information.

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 January 20 issue is Monday, January 12. We strive to include all items submitted by deadline occurring until the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to pubinfo@csun.edu, sending them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (810) 677-9090. Email is our preferred method of submitting.

Note: fumi-means for more information.

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 January 20 issue is Monday, January 12. We strive to include all items submitted by deadline occurring until the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to pubinfo@csun.edu, sending them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (810) 677-9090. Email is our preferred method of submitting.

Note: fumi-means for more information.
**In Brief**

**Former Employee Under Criminal Investigation**
California State University, Northridge President Jolene Koester, Dec. 2 requested University Chief of Police Anney-kevin to initiate a criminal investigation into the questionable financial dealings of a former employee at CSUN.

The employee, Shirley Bowens, was placed on administrative leave last summer during a preliminary investigation of past financial practices in the Office of International Programs where she worked. She later resigned and then retired from the university.

**Health Administration Alumni Association**
Cal State Northridge’s Health Administration Alumni Association held its first annual awards ceremony Nov. 14. Honorees included CSUN Health Administration Program’s founding faculty member Don Hultines, professor Emeritus Miriam Colter and alumni Damin Cuncii of Kaiser Permanente and Jim Sherman, CEO of Los Robles Medical Center. Health Care Executives of Southern California, an affiliate ofache, was also honored.

**CSUN Professor Honored**
Cal State Northridge professor Emeritus Rodolfo Acuña (Chicana/o Studies) was awarded the prestigious National Hispanic Institute’s Lifetime Achievement Award at a ceremony Nov. 15. Acuña, who was the founding chair of the Chicana/o Studies Department at CSUN, has worked in the Latino community for more than 50 years and has published 19 books.

**Freshman Connection Celebration**
To celebrate a semester of freshman learning, the Academic First Year Experiences Program presented the Freshman Connection Celebration 2008 on Nov. 19. The event featured exhibits of students enrolled in University 100 and other Freshman Connection classes.

The grand prize exhibit was the “Where We Are From” suitcase project by students in Ellen Stohl’s UNIV 100 class. Other winners include “Portraying Poverty: A Gallery of Student Photos” and the “Looking-Glass Self” mask project. Students from Carolyn Darin’s Chamber Concert Series. The Academic First Year Experience Program, which became part of the Center for Innovative and Engaged Learning Opportunities (CIELO) two years ago, aims to pull together various freshman learning programs to enhance the learning and teaching of freshman students at CSUN.

**For more information about the Freshman Connection Celebration, visit [www.csun.edu/uni/100-freshman-celebration.html](http://www.csun.edu/uni/100-freshman-celebration.html).**

### In Brief

**Art and Exhibits**
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.

**Painting Student Exhibition**
Faculty Advisors: Samantha Fields, Joy Von Wolfdorf, Tim Forcum, Victoria Reynolds. Runs through Thurs., Dec. 11. West Gallery, Art and Design Center

**Levon Parian**

**Christo and Jeanne-Claude: The Tom Golden Collection**
In 2001, art collector Tom Golden donated his collection of over 100 works by renowned artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude to the Sonoma County Museum, which is currently circulating collages, prints, photographs and objects. Runs through Sat., Dec. 13. Main Gallery

**Athletics (home games):**

- **Men’s Basketball**
  - 12/9 Denver 7:05 p.m.
  - 12/18 Pepperdine 7:05 p.m.
  - 1/2 Pacific 7:05 p.m.
  - 1/5 UC Davis 7:05 p.m.

- **Women’s Basketball**
  - 12/8 Cal Poly 7:00 p.m.
  - 1/14 U.C. Riverside 7:00 p.m.
  - 1/17 Long Beach State 7:00 p.m.

- **Men’s Swimming**
  - 1/16 Cal Poly 2:00 p.m.

- **Women’s Swimming**
  - 1/16 Cal Poly 2:00 p.m.

**Calendar**

- **Freshman Connection Celebration**
  - To celebrate a semester of freshman learning, the Academic First Year Experiences Program presented the Freshman Connection Celebration 2008 on Nov. 19.
  - The event featured exhibits of students enrolled in University 100 and other Freshman Connection classes.
  - The grand prize exhibit was the “Where We Are From” suitcase project by students in Ellen Stohl’s UNIV 100 class. Other winners include “Portraying Poverty: A Gallery of Student Photos” and the “Looking-Glass Self” mask project. Students from Carolyn Darin’s Chamber Concert Series.
  - To celebrate a semester of freshman learning, the Academic First Year Experience Program presented the Freshman Connection Celebration 2008 on Nov. 19.
  - The event featured exhibits of students enrolled in University 100 and other Freshman Connection classes.
  - The grand prize exhibit was the “Where We Are From” suitcase project by students in Ellen Stohl’s UNIV 100 class. Other winners include “Portraying Poverty: A Gallery of Student Photos” and the “Looking-Glass Self” mask project. Students from Carolyn Darin’s Chamber Concert Series.

**We, the People: A Retrospective Look on Elections**
An exhibit about the electoral process, featuring photographs, lists, facsimiles of voting ballots, and a brochure with a list of presidential candidates. This exhibit was placed on the main campus during the 2008 presidential elections.

**We, the People: A Retrospective Look on Elections**
An exhibit about the electoral process, featuring photographs, lists, facsimiles of voting ballots, and a brochure with a list of presidential candidates. This exhibit was placed on the main campus during the 2008 presidential elections.

**Art and Exhibits**
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.

**Painting Student Exhibition**
Faculty Advisors: Samantha Fields, Joy Von Wolfdorf, Tim Forcum, Victoria Reynolds. Runs through Thurs., Dec. 11. West Gallery, Art and Design Center

**Levon Parian**

**Christo and Jeanne-Claude: The Tom Golden Collection**
In 2001, art collector Tom Golden donated his collection of over 100 works by renowned artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude to the Sonoma County Museum, which is currently circulating collages, prints, photographs and objects. Runs through Sat., Dec. 13. Main Gallery

**Athletics (home games):**

- **Men’s Basketball**
  - 12/9 Denver 7:05 p.m.
  - 12/18 Pepperdine 7:05 p.m.
  - 1/2 Pacific 7:05 p.m.
  - 1/5 UC Davis 7:05 p.m.

- **Women’s Basketball**
  - 12/8 Cal Poly 7:00 p.m.
  - 1/14 U.C. Riverside 7:00 p.m.
  - 1/17 Long Beach State 7:00 p.m.

- **Men’s Swimming**
  - 1/16 Cal Poly 2:00 p.m.

- **Women’s Swimming**
  - 1/16 Cal Poly 2:00 p.m.

**Calendar**

- **Freshman Connection Celebration**
  - To celebrate a semester of freshman learning, the Academic First Year Experiences Program presented the Freshman Connection Celebration 2008 on Nov. 19.
  - The event featured exhibits of students enrolled in University 100 and other Freshman Connection classes.
  - The grand prize exhibit was the “Where We Are From” suitcase project by students in Ellen Stohl’s UNIV 100 class. Other winners include “Portraying Poverty: A Gallery of Student Photos” and the “Looking-Glass Self” mask project. Students from Carolyn Darin’s Chamber Concert Series.

**We, the People: A Retrospective Look on Elections**
An exhibit about the electoral process, featuring photographs, lists, facsimiles of voting ballots, and a brochure with a list of presidential candidates. This exhibit was placed on the main campus during the 2008 presidential elections.

**We, the People: A Retrospective Look on Elections**
An exhibit about the electoral process, featuring photographs, lists, facsimiles of voting ballots, and a brochure with a list of presidential candidates. This exhibit was placed on the main campus during the 2008 presidential elections.

**Art and Exhibits**
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.

**Painting Student Exhibition**
Faculty Advisors: Samantha Fields, Joy Von Wolfdorf, Tim Forcum, Victoria Reynolds. Runs through Thurs., Dec. 11. West Gallery, Art and Design Center

**Levon Parian**

**Christo and Jeanne-Claude: The Tom Golden Collection**
In 2001, art collector Tom Golden donated his collection of over 100 works by renowned artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude to the Sonoma County Museum, which is currently circulating collages, prints, photographs and objects. Runs through Sat., Dec. 13. Main Gallery

**Athletics (home games):**

- **Men’s Basketball**
  - 12/9 Denver 7:05 p.m.
  - 12/18 Pepperdine 7:05 p.m.
  - 1/2 Pacific 7:05 p.m.
  - 1/5 UC Davis 7:05 p.m.