CSUN is Academic ‘Port in a Storm’ for Hurricane-Tossed
Escaping Storm’s Trauma, Sixteen Students Settle into New Classes, New Schedules, New Environment

Sixteen students at Cal State Northridge expected to be sitting in Louisiana university lecture halls this fall. Hurricane Katrina, however, changed their plans. It has been an unnerving month for Adrian Perry, Jacob Porter, Desiree Dominguez and her brother Anthony, four of the 16 students thus far who have chosen Northridge as their academic “port in a storm.” All, however, described their CSUN welcome as warm, positive and “extremely helpful.”

For Perry, a New Orleans native majoring in communication studies, CSUN will be his permanent “port.” The campus’ calm and order stands in contrast to his frantic flight from New Orleans, where he was a freshman at the University of New Orleans.

On his own since the age of 16, Perry used his meager $700 savings from one of the levee breaks. Just before the flooding, he hitched a ride out with his ex-girlfriend’s brother.

From Louisiana to Mississippi and then to Tennessee, they pushed on to a hotel in Arkansas. “I drove 14 hours straight,” Perry said. A call to his mother produced a plane ticket to California, where his uncle has provided him with a home in North Hollywood and transportation.

Plagued with sleeplessness, the 19-year-old has been unable to locate his father and brother, who are someplace in Baton Rouge. “The last time I saw them was four days before the hurricane,” he said.

Fortunately, CSUN academic advisor Marina Gonzalez got him into all the classes he needed, and he has hopes of landing a job soon as an audio stage hand for concerts.

Jacob Porter, 19, was at Southern University in Baton Rouge. After a four-hour drive to Memphis he was settling into his sophomore year when the hurricane struck.

Porter kept busy as a volunteer distributing food and blankets, but his family was concerned. The university, its gymnasium and auditorium bursting with evacuees, had closed temporarily, leaving students with plans suspended.

“It took them nearly ten hours, but my grandparents drove from Arkansas and got me turned around and drove me right back to Little Rock,” said Porter. Painful stitches in his arm from a fall through a window—while helping friends in a frenzy to move out—meant he could not help with the long drive.

A four-hour drive to Memphis took 14 hours, three of them spent on a bridge later destroyed by Katrina. “People were running out of gas, and getting in and out of their cars to get food,” said Desiree.

Back home in the San Fernando Valley, the two contacted CSUN and were enrolled within two days. “Robin Ferguson of Student Affairs and others were really helpful,” said Desiree, who with her brother will return to Tulane in spring 2005. “They didn’t want us to miss any more class.”

New Campus-wide Program Sets Wellness as Goal
‘Wellness @CSUN:You’ Invites Faculty and Staff to Step Out on a Schedule-Friendly Road to Better Health

An ambitious new wellness program at Cal State Northridge soon will offer members a vigorous but easy and schedule-friendly daily workout for all faculty and staff members, offering a chance at a better health to the many whose intentions—admirable at 7 a.m.—are by 7 p.m. abandoned with all the others that pave a certain downhill road.

Kinesiology professor Steven Loy and a cadre of graduate students this week begin surveying campus employees as a precursor to the October 11 debut of “Wellness @CSUN:You,” a university-wide version of the award-winning Physical Plant Management (PPM) program instituted in 2004-2005 by PPM administrators and the Kinesiology Department team.

A festive event to launch the wellness program is set for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11 at the University Student Union Fitness Center, where faculty and staff for the first time will be able to sign up for memberships at the center’s student discount rate, a limited-time-only offer tied to the wellness program.

“At CSUN,” said Loy, “dedicated employees understandably put their work priorities first. However, it is important to get support on campus for people to do something for themselves. One does not cancel out the other; in fact, it has been shown that...
University Breaks Ground on Modern Public Safety Facility

A Centrally Located, Accessible Building Will Help Campus Police Serve Students, Community

The September 19 groundbreaking for a new and “user-friendly” 28,000-square-foot university police station drew thousands of officials and guests, students, faculty and staff to celebrate the start of the $10.2 million project, slated for completion in December 2006.

Located on the corner of Prairie Street and Darby Avenue, just west of the new B3 Parking Structure, the Department of Public Safety building will replace the present public safety facility housed in Building 14 of the University Park Apartments, on the north side of campus off Zelzah Avenue.

President Jolene Koester welcomed celebrants, among them Capt. Joseph Curreri of the Los Angeles Police Department, Devonshire Division, and Officer Leland Tang of the California Highway Patrol, West Valley Division.

The establishment of a campus police substation, a renovation of the current police garage facility in Parking Lot G-7, will coincide with the department’s move to the new facility, Chief Glavin said. The substation will supplement public safety operations on the North Campus.

Patrol operations, a reception area, parking and transportation services will occupy the first floor of the new facility, which also will provide easy public access to services such as Livescan. A unit that provides electronic fingerprinting services, the Livescan operation at CSUN is the largest in the San Fernando Valley.

Administrative offices, training facilities and Public Safety’s Rape Aggression Defense Program will be housed on the second floor.

Students, Executives Meet in Speaker Series’ Second Year

Four High Achieving Alumni Share Firsthand Views of Business, Education, Entertainment and Law

California State Northridge ushered in its fall 2005 Executive Speaker Series on September 22 with presentations from Northridge alumni who are among California’s leading minds in business, education, entertainment and law.

California State University system trustee Debra Farar, a longtime education consultant, addressed political science consultant Karen Sear in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. High-profile litigator Larry Feldman and executive Jack Susar, vice president of Bed Alr Investment Advisors, LLC, met with classes in the College of Business and Economics.

CBS Studio Center President Michael Klausman and investment executive Jack Susar, vice president of Bed Alr Investment Advisors, LLC, met with classes in the College of Business and Economics.

“The presenters get a chance to share their experience and their wealth of knowledge and they are outstanding people who are eager to hear what they have to say,” said Vice President of University Advancement Judy C. Knudson of the series, which made its debut in the 2004-2005 academic year. “Our students get a chance at firsthand information about the challenges they will face and the opportunities that are out there once they graduate.”

The Executive Speaker Series has brought to campus an array of speakers, including marketing alum Vincent Barabk, chairman of Internet Home Alliance and former head of General Motors’ Corporate Strategy and Development Division; journalism alum Barbara Fairchild, editor of Bon Appetit magazine, business alum Michael Grillo, head of future production at Dreamwork’s SKG; business alum Stephen Bollenbach, president of Hilton Hotels; Tim Irwin, president and CEO of the Pleasant Holidays travel agency; journalism alum and Hawaiian Gov. Linda Lingle; and business alum and former AT&K Vice Chairman Charles Noksi.

Wellness…

continued from page 1

A second survey will help determine which departments already have programs related to wellness. “CSUN has pockets of people who are running such programs,” he said.

“The Wellness@CSUN Your Web site will provide for them a place to advertise their activities.”

Employees this week can begin filling out both surveys online. A “needs and interests” survey is at www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?r=181571j65267. Department heads should complete the second survey, at www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?r=182071j65269. The deadline for completing surveys is Friday, Oct. 7.

An October launch also is planned for the second year of “CSUN and You @ Half Dome.” Part and parcel of the overall “Wellness@CSUN You” program, “Half Dome” is a lifelong exercise program developed by Loy to help campus subscribers achieve reasonable goals for their health and wellness.

Maps of a newly created campus parcour showing the five exercise stations at grassy areas on the route will be handed out at the Half Dome Mile Walk Kick-Off on Thursday, Nov. 3. Created by students Brown and Nelson, the mile-long course starts directly opposite University Hall, near Magnolia Walk off Etiwanda Avenue/West University Drive. An October 27 orientation is planned for the Half Dome Mile Walk.

For more information, call Loy at x3220, or e-mail steven.loy@csun.edu.
Events

Tuesday, Sept. 27
Red Cross Blood Drive
Associated Students will host the American Red Cross Drive from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Thousand Oaks Room, University Student Union, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bloodmobile at the Matador Bookstore Complex. To make an appointment, go to www.givelife.org and enter sponsor code “csun.” fmi–Jennifer Herrera, x2477.

Wednesday, Sept. 28
Benefits Fair
The Office of Human Resources will sponsor an “Open Enrollment 2005 Benefits Fair” from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Student Union Grand Salon. Information will be provided about medical, dental, and vision benefits; CalPERS’s home loan program, insurance; banking institutions, benefits administration, fee waiver, and payroll administration. Representatives will be available from benefit providers. There also will be body fat testing and blood pressure readings. fmi–www.admn.csun.edu/hrs, Kim McNeil, x8910, or Cathy Salazar, x2119.

Wednesday, Sept. 28
Philosophy Lecture
The Philosophy Department hosts a lecture titled “Notions of Cause in Classical Mechanics and Their Relations to the Laws of Classical Mechanics” at 5:45 p.m., Sierra Hall, Room 280. Speaker: Sheldon Smith, assistant professor of philosophy at UCLA. fmi–x2757 or www.csun.edu/~phi1033.

Thursday, Sept. 29
Jews and Islamization
Fred Astren, Jewish studies professor at San Francisco State University, will discuss the Jewish presence in the Islamic Middle Ages and how it worked on both practical and symbolic levels, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Grand Salon, University Student Union. fmi–x3007.

Wednesday, Oct. 5
Knowledge Management Seminar
The Tseng College of Extended Learning sponsors a free seminar on knowledge management, a system for organizing and sharing information and expertise within an organization, from 7:30-9 a.m., for managers and directors. The seminar will meet at the University Club and includes a complimentary breakfast. RSVP at x2270, or e-mail ieri.crum@csun.edu by Wed., Sept. 28.

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

Student Public Speaking Classes
The Communication Studies Department on Saturday, Oct. 8 will start a six-week program in public speaking to help students in grades 5–12 develop confidence in oral communication skills. The classes will be held on Saturdays from 9–11:30 a.m. Applications are being accepted now and students will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis until the class is filled. fmi–Ruth Kalin, x6545 or ruth.kalin@csun.edu.

Lower Back Exercises
The Kinesiology and Physical Therapy departments will offer a series of free lower back exercise classes for reduction of tension and pain, posture improvement, flexibility and function. The four-week series, set for 7–7:45 a.m. and 5:15–6 p.m., starts on Tuesday, Oct. 4 and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday through October 27, Athletic Training Lab, Redwood Hall 172. Orientation meeting: Tue., Sept. 27. fmi–Aerin Alexander, (818) 248-0630 or aerin@biomedical.com.

Public Meetings

Faculty Senate
Meets 2–4:30 p.m.
Thu., Sept. 29
Oviatt Library Presentation Room 81

Educational Policies Committee
Meets 2–4 p.m.
Wed., Oct. 5
University Hall 211

Personnel Planning and Review Committee
Meets 2–5 p.m.
Wed., Oct. 12
University Hall 277

Senate Executive Committee
Meets 1–4:30 p.m.
Thu., Oct. 6
University Hall 211

Academic Technology Committee
Meets 2–4:30 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 7
University Hall 211

Educational Equity Committee
Meets 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Mon., Oct. 9
University Hall 211

Catastrophic Leave Donations
Diane Apostol-Madjid (Center on Disabilities) has asked that a letter credit be requested and is requesting catastrophic leave donations on her behalf. To make voluntary donations of vacation leave, forward completed catastrophic leave donation forms to Renee Venezia, Payroll Administration manager, at mail drop S228. Donation forms are available at www.admn.csun.edu/hrs/forms/benefitsforms.html.

Physical Therapy Study
The Physical Therapy Department is seeking adults ages 18-70, with shoulder impingement syndrome, to participate in a study on the effects of physical therapy in treating this dysfunction. Qualified subjects will receive an examination, instruction in a home exercise program, and may be chosen to receive once weekly physical therapy for six weeks. Participants who complete the eight sessions will receive a $100 stipend fmi–Amie Kachingwe, x6602 or e-mail amie.kachingwe@csun.edu.

International Resident Director Positions
The Academic Council on International Programs (ACIP) with the CSU’s Office of International Programs offers the Wang Faculty Fellowship Program and resident director positions that provide outlets for faculty development, collaborative research and teaching with international colleagues. Resident directors positions are available for programs in China, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, or Spain. fmi–www.calstate.edu/fp, or e-mail kp@oto.csustan.edu.

Faculty Research Opportunities
Research opportunities for faculty are available in connection with the Tseng Family Collection of Chinese antiquities. The range of research can be broad, with the intent to increase knowledge of the materials, culture, history, artistry, language and the times of the collection. A total of $50,000 will be awarded for 2005-06. Proposal deadline: October 26. For guidelines and application, go to www.csun.edu/research/05_FacultyResearch/09_On-CampusCompetition.html. fmi–x2901.

Faculty Development Program
The Faculty Development Center (formerly called CELT) will offer the following programs to faculty members:

“Good News: Using Newspapers to Teach Across the Disciplines”
Linda Bowen and Bobbie Eisenstock (Journalism), Facilitators.
12:30–2 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 11
Sierra Hall 439
RSVP or fmi–Kelly Kroeker, x6536 or kelly.kroeker@csun.edu.

“Keeping a Pulse on Student Learning”
Amy Driscoll, national expert on student learning and assessment, facilitator.
Participants must be able to attend all day. Pre-register and come with a student-learning project in mind.
8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 21
Whittier Room, Sierra Hall 451
RSVP or fmi–Kelly Kroeker, x6536 or kelly.kroeker@csun.edu.

Student Fee Waiver Applications
The Communications Studies Department on Saturday, Oct. 8 will start a six-week program in public speaking to help students in grades 5–12 develop confidence in oral communication skills. The classes will be held on Saturdays from 9–11:30 a.m. Applications are being accepted now and students will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis until the class is filled. fmi–Ruth Kalin, x6545 or ruth.kalin@csun.edu.

Deadline
The deadline for the October 10 issue is Monday, October 3. 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) 677-4909. E-mail is the preferred method of submitting. Note: fmi–means for more information.
Huber Comes Aboard as Institutional Research Director

Betina Huber, Cal State Northridge’s new director of institutional research, brings to her position an extensive background in data analysis and more than 20 years of experience in the nonprofit and education sectors.

Huber, who began her CSUN duties on September 1, came to Northridge from California State University, San Marcos (CSUSM), where for seven years she served as director of Institutional/Analytic Studies.

“With the development of an extensive ‘core’ data system — something we didn’t have here before — I’ve been able to support the administration’s strategic planning work,” Huber said. “I’ve also had the opportunity to consult with my colleagues in the CSU system on various topics, such as financial aid, student performance, and institutional research.”

In addition to her work at CSUSM, Huber built a “comprehensive institutional research operation,” including creation of longitudinal data sets for tracking a range of student, faculty and course-section characteristics. In addition, she developed several ongoing survey series and created a database with information on term-by-term enrollment of individual students, allowing accurate tracking of continuation, graduation and retention rates.

In announcing the new director’s appointment, Associate Vice President for Academic Resources Spero Bowman said Huber’s experience with the new Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) guidelines and procedures will prove invaluable as Northridge plans for its next WASC accreditation. At San Marcos, Huber was instrumental in the development of campus- and program-specific initiatives for assessing student learning outcomes, Bowman noted.

Prior to her work at CSUSM, Huber was director of research for the Modern Language Association. Earlier, she was an associate executive officer with the American Sociological Association.

Huber earned her doctoral and master’s degrees in sociology at Yale University. She received her bachelor’s degree in sociology from Oberlin College.

Emergency Call Boxes to Aid Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing

Three TTY capable call boxes have been installed on campus to assist deaf and hard-of-hearing people if they need emergency assistance making Cal State Northridge one of the first universities in the nation to have such a system.

Installation of the call boxes — north of the Oviatt Library, north of the Matador Bookstore and near the Student Health Center on the east side of campus — was made possible by a $17,507 grant from the Grace Petri Endowment Fund.

Traditionally found on freeways, the new technology is not commonly used on college campuses, said Chief of Police Anne Glavin.

CSUN’s Department of Public Safety has been working with the university’s deaf community for almost two years to improve access to emergency services for the campus’ deaf and hard-of-hearing population.

The call boxes replace three of the campus’ blue light emergency phones. Distinguished by their yellow color, the new phones are equipped with small keyboards that enable callers to type messages directly to university police dispatch.

A dispatcher can send a message to the caller either by typing or by using a computer mouse to click on pre-selected emergency responses. Each call box also has a traditional emergency phone for non-disabled users.

In Brief

Institutional Research Director Huber Comes Aboard as

CSUSM’s Department of Public Safety also celebrated the installation of three TTY capable call boxes on campus.

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The A.S. Ticket Office in the University Student Union sells tickets to many events on campus, except for some held by outside groups. The Ticket Office is open from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Mon.–Fri. For prices not given, call (818) 677-2488. To park on campus for performances, athletic events, lectures and other activities, guests must purchase a $4 parking permit.

Musings

“Ironing Day”

E. L. Doctorow’s 1992 novel is the basis for this Tony Award-winning play, running at the NoHo Arts Theatre, 11256 Burbank Blvd. Call (818) 760-2070 or visit www.noholittletheatre.org for more information.

“Hello, Dolly!”

The musical based on playwright Thornton Wilder’s 1930 play opened in 1964 and ran for 6,137 performances. Tickets are available at CSUN’s Performing Arts Center, downtown Burbank and online at www Ticketmaster.com. For more information, call (310) 258-7000.

“Beyond the Fringe”

The original satirical comedy troupe of the 1960s has reunited after 40 years and will perform at Royce Hall, 405 Hilgard Ave. Call (310) 206-2788 or visit www.manoonk.com for more information.

“Zora Neale Hurston: Ella Baker”

A film screening “Zora Neale Hurston: Ella Baker,” hosted by Film Studies Professor Carol M. Booth Olson, will be held at 5 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, with a reception to follow. Admission is free at the door; reservations are recommended. For more information, call (818) 677-2244 or visit www.csun.edu/shc/avf.

Seminars

The Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture Series will continue with Kevin Jenkins, a 24-year-old political science major who served in the U.S. Army, at 7:30 p.m. in the Theater Arts Building, Room 120. For more information, call (818) 677-2437.