

## ARCHIVE FOR APRIL, 2012



### **CSUN Research Fellows Explore Topics that Advance Scholarship in Various Fields**

April 30th, 2012

What difference does difference make in multicultural neighborhoods? How are the concepts of "blackness" and "femaleness" interpreted in the classical Hollywood narrative? Can refundable state tax credits help combat childhood obesity rates among low-income children?



### **Teaching with Technology: IT Offers New Methods to Engage Students**

April 30th, 2012

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April 30th, 2012

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### **Distinguished Alumni Honored at Annual Event**

April 30th, 2012

### **StoryCube Returns to Capture Memories During Commencement Week**

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### **Orange Grove Botanical Pond**

April 30th, 2012

California State University, Northridge's Orange Grove consists of a lot more than just orange trees. There's the Orange Grove Bistro, a fine place to sit and enjoy lunch. The Orange Grove Botanical Pond is a great place to take an afternoon stroll.



### **American Indian Studies Professor Values Opportunity to Mentor**

April 30th, 2012

Brian Burkhart, who joined the faculty of the American Indian Studies program in 2010, is delighted that his appointment has him interacting within a variety of disciplines that make full use of his academic training. Burkhart received his bachelor's degree in philosophy and Native American literature at the University of Northern Colorado, after which he earned his doctorate in philosophy, with a minor in religious studies at Indiana University, Bloomington.



### **CSUN to Confer Honorary Degree on Business Executive and Former Director of the U.S. Census Bureau Vincent Barabba**

April 30th, 2012

California State University, Northridge will confer an honorary doctor of laws degree on business executive and former U.S. Census Bureau Director Vincent Barabba '62 (Marketing) during the university's commencement ceremonies next month.



### **CSUN Features Student Art at Annual Exhibition**

April 30th, 2012

California State University, Northridge Art Gallery presents the Annual Juried Art Student Exhibition April 20–May 12. The year-end celebration features selected works from more than 200 students using a range of mediums: painting, sculpture, animation, video, web design, photography, drawing, printmaking, graphic design, textiles, ceramics and mixed media. The exhibition winners will be recognized by [...]

### **Distinguished Alumni Awards 2012 Tribute Videos**

April 30th, 2012

These three videos celebrate the achievements of the



California State University, Northridge 2012  
Distinguished Alumni Award honorees: international filmmaker and award-winning actress Joan Chen '92 (Radio/TV/Film); business executive and leadership mentor John J. Harris '72 (Political Science); and Grammy-winning conductor Richard Kaufman '77 (Music). (Videos directed by Krishna Narayanamurti.)

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## CSUN Research Fellows Explore Topics that Advance Scholarship in Various Fields

April 30th, 2012 | [News](#)

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What difference does difference make in multicultural neighborhoods? How are the concepts of “blackness” and “femaleness” interpreted in the classical Hollywood narrative? Can refundable state tax credits help combat childhood obesity rates among low-income children?

These questions and more will be investigated by the eight faculty members selected for California State University, Northridge’s [Research Fellows Program](#) for the 2012–2013 academic year.

The fellows program, founded in 2007 and funded collaboratively by the Office of the Provost, colleges and the Delmar T. Oviatt Library, gives faculty the opportunity to engage in compelling research or creative activity during the year.

Fellows are competitively selected based in part on the extent to which the proposed activity explores creative or original concepts, the likelihood of achievement, how the research or activity will benefit society and the contribution to the field of study or across other fields. Research fellows are required to report results to the deans and the provost. In addition, the Oviatt Library hosts a colloquium in the fall where fellows share their work with the campus.

“We are delighted to have such an eclectic group of researchers named as the Research Fellows for the 2012–2013 academic year,” said Marianne Afifi, associate dean of the Oviatt Library. “The fellowship will allow faculty from seven colleges and the Oviatt Library to spend concentrated time on projects that advance research in their respective fields. I congratulate the fellows on their nomination and wish them a productive year. We look forward to hearing about their work and the outcomes at the Research Fellows Symposium in fall 2013.”

**Following are the eight selected research fellows and their respective projects:**



Rafi Efrat

**Rafi Efrat** (Accounting and Information Systems) – Efrat’s research topic is “The Use of Refundable Tax Credits to Increase Low-Income Children’s After-School Physical Activity Level.” He has proposed a new, untested approach for combating childhood obesity rates among low-income children by examining the potential impact tax incentives might have on their participation in organized after-school physical activity.

**Sean Flanagan** (Kinesiology) – Flanagan’s “Multi Joint Synergies” project will explore how joints work together during human movement. Because of the way joints function as small “teams,” performance may be impeded or an injury can occur even though each joint technically has the capacity to accomplish its task. It may not be the capacities of the individual joints but the synergy, or lack of synergy, that is the root of a particular problem. His research will explore these synergies and their consequences for

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Sean Flanagan

performance and injury risk.



Frances Gateward

**Frances Gateward** (Cinema and Television Arts) – Gateward will examine the work of African-American women film directors within the contexts of the changing social, political and cultural climates in which they were produced, linking the films to broader ideological developments in American culture that the films articulate and disrupt.



Marcia Henry

**Marcia Henry** (Reference and Instructional Services) – Henry's research topic is "Mapping the Gerontological Nursing Literature." She, along with two colleagues, is doing a citation analysis of cited references in leading geriatric nursing journals. Bibliometric studies help libraries make evidence-based purchasing decisions. Her study is part of an ongoing, collaborative research project with the Nursing and Allied Health Resource Section (NAHRS) of the Medical Library Association.



Clement Lai

**Clement Lai** (Asian American Studies) – Lai's research project, entitled "The Difference that Difference Makes: Uncovering California's Multiracial Past, Living California's Multiracial Future," will examine the effects of urban renewal policy on neighboring African Americans and Japanese Americans in San Francisco's Fillmore District between 1940–1980. He is also working on an oral history project with residents of historical multiracial neighborhoods in Southern California.

**Debra Malmberg** (Psychology) – Malmberg's research focuses on educational programs for parents of children with autism spectrum disorders. Parents will learn behavioral strategies to facilitate their children's language development in natural settings, and behavior analysts will guide parents in taking advantage of learning opportunities throughout the day.



Debra Malmberg



Connie White

**Connie White** (Elementary Education) – White’s research topic is “Exploring New Possibilities: Struggling Readers and Their Parents Bridging the Gap Between Digital and Traditional Literacies.” This research seeks to address the disparity in current school discourses and practices found to marginalize English language learners and children from low socioeconomic backgrounds.



George Youssef

**George Youssef** (Mechanical Engineering) – Youssef will study the causal transfer function of biomechanics and muscle forces of human walking. The goal of his research is to formulate an overall causal transfer function that relates the ground reaction force during walking to the mechanical forces and accelerations on the tibia and femur, and to the forces in the muscles.

—Stephanie Colman

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## Teaching with Technology: IT Offers New Methods to Engage Students

April 30th, 2012 | [News](#)

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Marty Soupcoff, an instructional technologist with the Faculty Technology Center, demonstrates how to use Moodle. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

In today's fast-paced technological world, California State University, Northridge faculty often find themselves fighting against myriad social networking sites and online attention-grabbers in order to capture and maintain students' focus. The challenge can be especially daunting in large lecture classes in which students can easily disengage in favor of covert text messaging.

The Department of Information Technology offers faculty a wide range of resources to help increase their students' in-class participation, enhance interactivity with enrolled students and improve options for online student assessment.

"It can be difficult for some professors to change their methods; there is a bit of a generational technology gap," said Marty Soupcoff, an instructional technologist with the Faculty Technology Center. "But students are the end result, so it's important to teach in ways that match how they want to learn."

Soupcoff said in an age where most students are always connected to their smart phones, iPods or tablets, integrating technology into teaching methods is a way to effectively speak students' language, create actively engaged learners and keep tabs on educational progress.

"In a large lecture class of 200 students, traditionally a professor may only hear from the same five over and over, while the rest of them sit and post on Facebook," Soupcoff said. "Using technology, it's much easier to know how students are doing."

One option is clicker technology, which allows students to use a pocket calculator-size touchpad (available for sale in the Matador Bookstore) or a mobile phone app to simultaneously submit answers to multiple choice questions during class. Results are immediately tabulated and displayed on-screen to the class in real-time, providing instant feedback on how well everyone understands the material.

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Information can also be imported to Moodle for instructor analysis.

Clickers can also be used to administer multiple-choice exams, potentially cutting test time in half, which preserves time for additional instruction.

The Faculty Technology Center estimates that 15–20 course sections, reaching 1,500–2,000 students, currently utilize clicker technology.

Another advantage to a clicker, said Soupcoff, is that many students are more comfortable anonymously responding to a question via a clicker than verbally answering in front of classmates.

History professor Jeffrey Auerbach introduced clicker technology in his large lecture classes nearly two years ago. He said the clicker also serves as a “reset button” for students’ attention spans.

“When you watch students, you see their attention start to drift,” he said. “Using a clicker question every 10 to 15 minutes helps bring them back. After a clicker question, everybody is refocused on the lecture.

“Student feedback is overwhelmingly positive,” he added, noting that nearly 80 percent of his students surveyed reported that the clicker made them more likely to come to class and helped keep them engaged during class time. To help make clicker technology more enticing to faculty and students, the Faculty Technology Center just successfully negotiated a new vendor contract that will lower the cost to students from \$57 to approximately \$35 in time for the fall semester. Students register their clickers in Moodle, allowing one device to be linked to multiple courses.

As faculty begin to prepare for fall 2012 courses, Soupcoff said there are a variety of additional technologies to consider:

**Lecture Capture:** One of the newest technologies, [Lecture Capture](#) lets faculty record lectures for students to play back on-demand. Using the Personal Capture version of the software, faculty can record audio, video and presentations from any computer to then make available to students. In addition, the Faculty Technology Center is working on installing lecture capture appliances into a couple of the larger lecture halls on campus to record live lectures. Known as “flipping the classroom,” Lecture Capture allows faculty to record lectures in advance, requesting that students watch or listen ahead of time, so that they come to class prepared with questions or are able to actively participate in class discussions.

**Turnitin:** Plagued by the threat of plagiarism? Consider [Turnitin](#) as an assignment type in Moodle. Turnitin is an online plagiarism detection and prevention program that compares student work to a digital database of publications, papers and websites. Faculty can also easily drag-and-drop comments, similar to the “track changes” feature in Microsoft Word.

**Illuminate:** This video conferencing software creates an online classroom in real time with voiceover, application and document sharing, closed captioning, and more. Sessions can be archived to create tutorials students can access on demand. [Illuminate](#) works well for online and hybrid classes and is integrated into Moodle to simplify use.

In-depth training workshops are available for all of the e-learning tools available on campus. Training is open to all university employees. A complete [calendar of classes](#), with enrollment instructions, is available online. The Department of Information Technology also offers ongoing user support via the [Faculty Technology Center](#), [Classroom Technology Support](#) and the [IT Help Center](#).

—Stephanie Colman

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## Northridge Alumna Rebecca Mieliwocki Has Been Selected as the 2012 National Teacher of the Year

April 30th, 2012 | [News](#)

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President Barack Obama and Education Secretary Arne Duncan congratulate 2012 National Teacher of the Year, Rebecca Mieliwocki, in the East Room of the White House, April 24, 2012. The President hosted the event honoring the 2012 National and State Teachers of the Year. Official White House Photo by Pete Souza.

California State University, Northridge alumna Rebecca Mieliwocki has been selected as the 2012 National Teacher of the Year, the nation's oldest and most prestigious teaching honor.

Mieliwocki, a seventh-grade English teacher at Luther Burbank Middle School in Burbank, was *recognized by President Barack Obama* last week in a ceremony at the White House. She was named one of California's five 2012 Teachers of the Year earlier this year.

"We are proud to have a graduate of California State University, Northridge's teachers program honored by the prestigious National Teacher of the Year award for 2012," said Cal State Northridge Interim President Harry Hellenbrand. "The passion and commitment Ms. Mieliwocki brings to her work as an educator are values we strive to instill in all of the students in the program. Ms. Mieliwocki's exceptional work and the award she has received are reminders of the crucial role teachers play in preparing youth for future success and well-being."

Michael Spagna, dean of CSUN's Michael D. Eisner College of Education, agreed.

"Rebecca Mieliwocki fully embodies the values of the Michael D. Eisner College of Education," he said. "She is a teacher's teacher, a caring professional who values collaborative partnerships and academic excellence. She clearly values diversity, creativity and reflective thinking and practice. In short, she embodies everything that makes an effective teacher, and we are very proud to call her an alumna of our college."

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As part of her duties as teacher of the year, Mieliwocki will embark on a yearlong speaking tour, sharing with educators and others her passion for the classroom. She accepted an invitation earlier this year to give the commencement address at the Michael D. Eisner College of Education's graduation ceremony on May 24.

"Students learn best when they have the most enthusiastic, engaged teachers possible," she said in a statement. "I firmly believe that teachers must be held accountable for their students' success, from helping them meet personal or school-wide goals to achieving on district- and state-level assessments. Our students are our future, so we, their teachers, must do our best to inspire them and guide them to greatness."

Mieliwocki, the daughter of two teachers, didn't start out intending to be a teacher. She first studied to become a lawyer and then went into publishing. She finally conceded her passion for the classroom 13 years ago.

Mieliwocki, who earned a single-subject credential in English in secondary education from Cal State Northridge in 1996, is known for her "unconventional" teaching techniques. She inscribes playing cards with students' names, with the luck of the draw determining who gets called on to read in class. A ding from a hotel service bell on her desk signals a correct answer.

The *National Teacher of the Year program* is a project of the Counsel of Chief State School Officers in partnership with the University of Phoenix and People to People Ambassador Programs and is sponsored by the ING Foundation and Target.

Mieliwocki is the seventh national teacher selected from California since the program began in 1952.

—Carmen Ramos Chandler

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## Distinguished Alumni Honored at Annual Event

April 30th, 2012 | [Photo Essay](#)

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CNBC anchor and author Bill Griffith '80 (Journalism) served as commentator and master of ceremonies at the California State University, Northridge Alumni Association's 14th Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards gala on April 21, at the Four Seasons Hotel in Westlake Village. The Distinguished Alumni Awards, the highest honor given by the Alumni Association, were awarded to Joan Chen '92 (RTVF), internationally acclaimed actress, director, screenwriter, producer and recipient of five Golden Horse Awards (the equivalent of the Oscars in China); John J. Harris '72 (Political Science), chairman and chief executive officer of Nestlé Waters since 2007 and executive vice president of Nestlé S.A., headquartered in Vevey, Switzerland; and Richard Kaufman '77 (Music), Grammy award-winning conductor, principal pops conductor of Orange County's Pacific Symphony and composer of CSUN's fight song. Griffith was honored as a distinguished alumnus in 2000. Photo by Lee Choo.



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More than 420 guests, a record number, attended the Distinguished Alumni Awards celebration. Attendees included campus leaders, alumni, and family and friends of the honorees. Cal State Northridge Alumni Association President Dennis DeYoung '84 (Business) welcomed guests; Incoming President Dianne F. Harrison offered congratulations in a taped greeting; and Interim President Harry Hellenbrand greeted attendees. Photo by Lee Choo.

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The Cal State Northridge Distinguished Alumni Awards event began with a cocktail reception during which Matadors mixed and mingled in celebration of friends, family and fellow alumni. Photo by Lee Choo.

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Distinguished Alumni Award recipient John J. Harris walks to the stage to accept his award. Harris has been listed as one of the world's "Twenty Rising Stars" of black leadership in Ebony magazine and included in Black Enterprise magazine's list of "100 Most Powerful in Corporate America." Additionally, in 2010, Black Health Magazine named Harris one of the "Top 25 Most Influential African Americans" in the nutritional food industries. Photo by Lee Choo.

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Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Richard Kaufman shares a laugh with Bill Griffith as he accepts his award. Kaufman's list of noted musical accomplishments includes having conducted numerous musicals both on tour and in Los Angeles, such as "Company," "Guys and Dolls" and "The Sound of Music." He regularly appears as a guest conductor with symphony orchestras around the world. In 2008, Kaufman and the Alumni Association collaborated with the Department of Music to score, produce and digitally record both the spirit and alma mater versions of "Hail to the Matadors." Photo by Lee Choo.

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Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Joan Chen thanks the Alumni Association for the honor. Chen arrived at CSUN as a young adult with movie star status in her home country of China but had to adapt to the role of "unknown" actress in Tinsel Town. Having to audition for roles was a foreign and uncomfortable process that found her leaving one audition without even trying out. In a twist of fate, she met famed movie producer Dino DeLaurentis while walking to her car. He later cast her as the lead in his film "Tai Pan," which helped launch her career in the United States. Throughout her career, she has gained recognition as an actor, director, screenwriter and producer. Photo by Lee Choo.

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The 2012 Cal State Northridge Distinguished Alumni Award recipients pose with their medals (from left to right): John J. Harris, Joan Chen and Richard Kaufman. Photo by Lee Choo.

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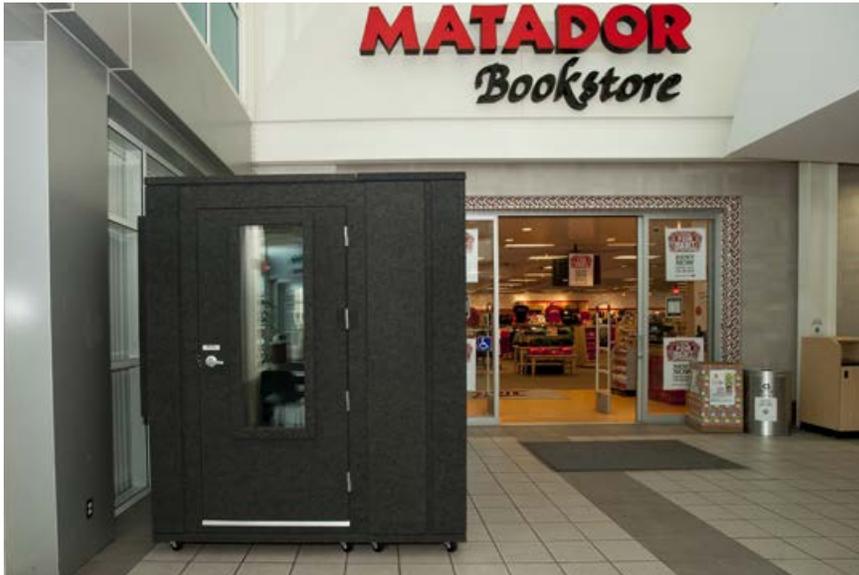
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## StoryCube Returns to Capture Memories During Commencement Week

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The StoryCube will be located in the Matador Bookstore Complex from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. starting April 30 through May 11 and again during commencement week: May 22, 23 and 24. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

Do you have a story to share about your experience at California State University, Northridge?

Faculty, staff, students and alumni will have an opportunity to tell their stories in front of the camera in the StoryCube, a soundproof mobile recording studio.

The mobile recording studio will be located in the Matador Bookstore Complex from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. starting April 30 through May 11 and again during commencement week: May 22, 23 and 24.

“StoryCube serves as a way for people to tell their stories about their CSUN experience, to preserve important first-person experiences that reflect highlights of their time on campus and preserve these memories,” said Patrick Polk, a lecturer for the College of Humanities and Tseng College as well as the head of the StoryCube project.

The [StoryCube project](#) was spearheaded last year by the Office of the Provost as a way to preserve the university’s history through oral interviews.

After the success of the StoryCube’s first run during last spring for commencement week and then again in fall for Founders Day, the provost’s office decided to bring it back.

“This is a rare and wonderful opportunity,” said Michael Hoggan, assistant professor in the Department of Cinema and Television Arts, who will be supplying students to assist and edit the recordings. “It’s nice to get feedback on what we do. It’s valuable to the university.”

Associated Students President Amanda Flavin, a graduating senior, said she looked forward to telling her story in the StoryCube.

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"The StoryCube is an excellent idea to connect students, faculty and staff to the institution," Flavin said.  
"I think the concept is very sweet."

Individuals will need to [schedule an interview](#) before arriving at the StoryCube. The storyteller, who may also bring a friend into the interview, will be given 30 minutes of uninterrupted time to tell his or her story.

The recordings will be archived and made available to the public in [CSUN ScholarWorks](#), the university's institutional repository administered by the Delmar T. Oviatt Library. Short edited segments also will appear on the StoryCube website in the future.

—Lauren Glazer

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## Orange Grove Botanical Pond

April 30th, 2012 | [Lunch Break Stories](#)

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Photo by Lee Choo.

California State University, Northridge's Orange Grove consists of a lot more than just orange trees. There's the Orange Grove Bistro, a fine place to sit and enjoy lunch. The Orange Grove Botanical Pond is a great place to take an afternoon stroll.

The Orange Grove Botanical Pond is located in the southeast corner of the university among more than 400 orange trees. The site is modeled after a California seasonal wetland.

The welcoming retreat features a beautiful walkway, a 270-foot meandering stream, a natural spring well, dozens of red-eared slider turtles, koi and goldfish. There are a variety of colorful flowers including water lilies and water hyacinths.

The turtles are not a native species. The population was established when people began to leave pet turtles at the pond when they were no longer wanted.

During your lunch break, you can make the turtles feel wanted again by taking a scenic stroll around the Orange Grove Pond and stopping to feed them—in addition to feeding the ducks and fish.

"It's nice to get out of the office and see a little slice of nature," said Cal State Northridge Government and Community Relations assistant Susan Widelitz '84 (Linguistics). "It's always nice to get out and walk and be in nature."

You can purchase koi fish feed, which is enjoyed by all the reptiles, vertebrae and birds, from a feeder for 25 cents. The feeder and pond are maintained by Physical Plant Management.

Within the next month, Physical Plant Management will be uprooting and replacing nearly half a dozen orange trees that have reached the end of their lifespan, according to PPM Grounds Manager Jim Logsdon.

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**33** Sun-tracking array of high-concentration photovoltaic solar panels in CSUN's newest sustainable energy system, a 100-kilowatt power plant developed with The Boeing Company.

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For your safety and convenience, the pathways around the pond are wheelchair accessible and made out of "environmentally sensitive" decomposed granite.

The orange trees, pond and stream, and cute critters make the Orange Grove Botanical Pond a pleasant and relaxing way to spend a lunch.

*Lunch Break is an occasional series about activities on campus faculty and staff can do during a one-hour timeframe to improve health and wellness.*

—Lauren Glazer

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## American Indian Studies Professor Values Opportunity to Mentor

April 30th, 2012 | [Profiles](#)

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Brian Burkhart. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

Brian Burkhart, who joined the faculty of the American Indian Studies program in 2010, is delighted that his appointment has him interacting within a variety of disciplines that make full use of his academic training. Burkhart received his bachelor's degree in philosophy and Native American literature at the University of Northern Colorado, after which he earned his doctorate in philosophy, with a minor in religious studies, at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Burkhart credits his degree completion to "sheer will." An enrolled member of Oklahoma's Cherokee Nation who spent much of his life growing up on the Navajo Nation in Arizona, Burkhart notes a 50 percent dropout rate among Native Americans within their first year of college. Unprepared for academic challenges and not knowing where to turn for help, he dropped out in his first semester.

After completing service with the National Guard, Burkhart traveled around the country, making his living as a musician on the powwow circuit. While he has never stopped performing at powwows and related events—he is currently a member of the local Southern drum group Bearwolf—Burkhart eventually found himself drawn back to school.

"I started back at the lowest of the remedial classes," he said. "But that only made me more motivated and focused on succeeding."

It was the "godfather of Native American studies," Vine Deloria Jr., who encouraged Burkhart to pursue an academic career in the developing field. Deloria is widely credited with reviving Native American pride and activism, not least through his establishment of the nation's first master's degree program in American Indian Studies, at the University of Arizona. So when he told Burkhart that the movement needed people like him, who could teach American Indian Studies from a different perspective, Burkhart took the advice to heart.

"He said we needed to create a new conversation about (Native American lives) and tell a better, more complicated philosophical story," Burkhart recalled.

In addition to teaching core courses in American Indian Studies, Burkhart and program coordinator Scott Andrews are working with the College of Humanities and the Institute for Sustainability to bring Native American perspectives on environmental justice to the coursework and minor. Burkhart would like to co-create a future course with the Department of Philosophy that would explore the intricacies and influences of Native American social, political and existential thought.

Burkhart, who previously taught for five years at Pitzer College in Claremont, Calif., particularly values his opportunities to mentor American Indian students, who often struggle with concepts of heritage, meaning and connection—concerns that strike at the very core of the philosophy discipline.

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# #1

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"Students come to (me) with issues of identity, trying to discover who they are and how they relate to that," Burkhart said. He can't imagine a higher purpose than helping American Indian students grappling with those essential questions, realizing Vine Deloria's vision along the way.

—Teresa K. Morrison, College of Humanities

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## CSUN to Confer Honorary Degree on Business Executive and Former Director of the U.S. Census Bureau Vincent Barabba

April 30th, 2012 | [News](#)

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Vincent Barabba

California State University, Northridge will confer an honorary doctor of laws degree on business executive and former U.S. Census Bureau Director Vincent Barabba '62 (Marketing) during the university's commencement ceremonies next month.

Barabba, chairman and founder of Market Insight Corp., will receive the degree Thursday, May 24, at the commencement ceremony for the College of Business and Economics.

"Cal State Northridge is proud to honor Vincent Barabba with an honorary degree," said Interim President Harry Hellenbrand. "His professional achievements and career have successfully bridged both the public and private sectors. He demonstrates for students that success in private business is compatible with the honorable call of public service. In both worlds, he has led with integrity and by example."

Barabba, who graduated from what was then known as San Fernando Valley State College, said he was grateful to receive the degree from his alma matter.

"The learning experiences and the actions in which I participated while at CSUN contributed to my ability to play a part in a wide range of rewarding activities over the last 50 years," Barabba said. "The recognition associated with this honorary degree for what was accomplished following those experiences and actions is greater than the totality of all the previous acknowledgements. It is deeply appreciated."

Barabba, who has an MBA from UCLA, began a career that focused on the needs of the public sector. He founded a firm that provided electoral information to political campaigns from city hall to the presidency. Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford appointed him director of the U.S. Census Bureau in 1973 and 1974. President Jimmy Carter reappointed him as director in 1979, making Barabba the only person to receive this honor from presidents of different political parties. In 1983, he was appointed the United States Representative on the Population Commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council by President Ronald Reagan in 1983 and President George H.W. Bush in 1989.

Barabba's recent public service includes being a member of the California Citizens' Redistricting Commission and serving as chairman of The State of the USA, a prominent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the American people assess the nation's progress based on unbiased information.

As a business leader, Barabba has held executive positions at Xerox, Eastman Kodak and General Motors. He has led or helped lead numerous nationally distinguished professional and academic organizations and has authored five books, published by Oxford University Press, Harvard Business

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School Press and Triarchy Press.

Barabba is a member of the Board of Directors of the [California State University, Northridge Foundation](#) and CSUN's Ad Hoc Committee on Athletics Engagement, and was co-chair of the university's 2010 Founders Day celebration. He was a recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award in 2003.

—Carmen Ramos Chandler

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## CSUN Features Student Art at Annual Exhibition

April 30th, 2012 | [Photo Essay](#)

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California State University, Northridge Art Gallery presents the Annual Juried Art Student Exhibition April 20–May 12. The year-end celebration features selected works from more than 200 students using a range of mediums: painting, sculpture, animation, video, web design, photography, drawing, printmaking, graphic design, textiles, ceramics and mixed media. The exhibition winners will be recognized by CSUN's Arts Council and rewarded with cash prizes. This year's judges include Michael Fletcher, a neon artist; Alexander Koenke, a graphic designer; and Gloria Williams, curator at Norton Simon Museum. For more information about the exhibition, contact the [Art Gallery](#).



Danny Escalante, an art department graduate student, views several pieces of the Annual Juried Student Exhibition. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

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**1,000**

Number of Deaf and hard of hearing CSUN graduates since 1964.

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Ashley Hagen's oil-on-a-panel piece entitled "Painting of a Box Spring Stuffed with Toys" was the exhibition's first-place winner. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



Farnaz Sabet's "Nine," a clay piece, won Best in Show at the Annual Juried Student Exhibition. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



Jimmy Vasquez and Omar Cruz view the Annual Juried Student Exhibition at CSUN's Art Gallery. Photo by Jenny



Shilla Shakoori's wooden chair—entitled "Fear or ...?"—won second place at the Annual Juried Student Exhibition. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



Cindy Alvarez and Katherine Alvarez's video, "Puttin' on the Ritz," was the Annual Juried Student Exhibition third-place winner. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

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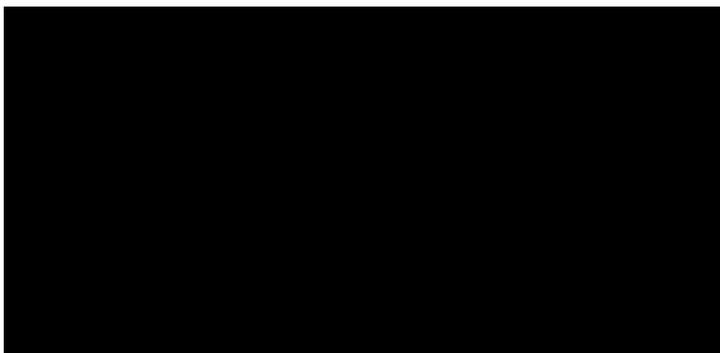
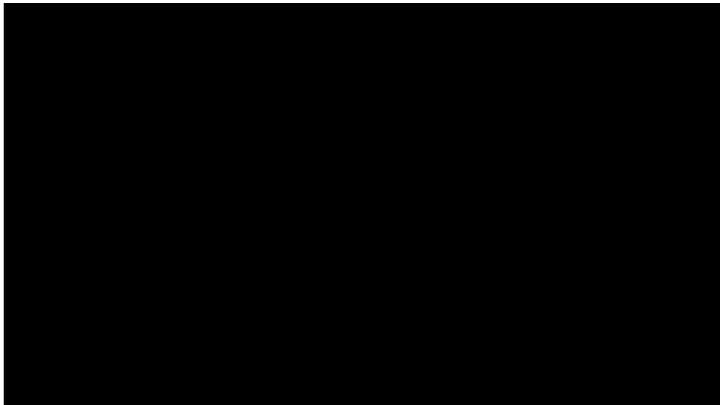


## Distinguished Alumni Awards 2012 Tribute Videos

April 30th, 2012 | [Featured Video](#)

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These three videos celebrate the achievements of the California State University, Northridge 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award honorees: international filmmaker and award-winning actress Joan Chen '92 (Radio/TV/Film); business executive and leadership mentor John J. Harris '72 (Political Science); and Grammy-winning conductor Richard Kaufman '77 (Music). (Videos directed by Krishna Narayanamurti.)



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## CSUN Hosts E-Waste Collection Event to Celebrate Earth Day

April 20th, 2012 | [News](#)

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Last year's recycling event collected 14,000 pounds of electronics. Photo by Lee Choo.

The Associated Students Campus Recycling Services is sponsoring the [2nd annual e-waste collection and recycling event](#) on April 27 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate Earth Day.

California State University, Northridge faculty, staff, students and the community are encouraged to bring all their old electronics (whether they work or not) and old inkjet and laser toner cartridges to be properly recycled. The material will be collected in Parking Lot G10 on Lassen Street and Zelzah Avenue.

"Anything with a cord can be recycled," said Kevin Mojaradi, coordinator of marketing and public relations with the Associated Students. "Associated Students' goal is to provide recycling and resource recovery opportunities for the campus community."

"This is one way we can offer a special event for our community to properly recycle and help out the planet."

Last year, the recycling event collected 14,000 pounds of electronics. This year the goal is to collect and recycle 50,000 pounds.

The process is simple and convenient: donators can drive in and drop off their recyclable items. Planet Green of Chatsworth, the event's co-sponsor, will make sure the items are properly recycled.

Cal State Northridge joins thousands around the world celebrating the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day. Communities host recycling events and educational forums throughout April. The Earth Day 2012 campaign is designed to provide people with the opportunity to unite their voices in a call for a sustainable future and direct them toward quantifiable outcomes, using vehicles such as petitions, the Billion Acts of Green campaign and events.

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In addition to the recycling event, CSUN's Institute for Sustainability is teaming up with Food Forward on Sunday, April 22 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. to coordinate a volunteer orange-picking event. Fruit will be donated to a local food bank. For more information, visit the [Institute for Sustainability](#) website.

Visit the [Planet Green](#) website or call (800) 377-1093 for more information.

—D. Aja Franks and Lauren Glazer

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## CSUN Conference Brings Higher Education Leaders Together

April 16th, 2012 | [News](#)

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Cal State Long Beach President F. King Alexander was one of three keynote speakers during the two-day symposium "Funding the Future of the CSU" held at CSUN April 2-3. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

Limiting state money to for-profit institutions; shifting from centralized to localized decision-making; differential fees at campuses; and supporting a tax initiative that will raise sales tax and levies on upper income were just some of the solutions to the state's crisis in public higher education offered by faculty and experts in education from throughout California during at two-day symposium hosted at California State University, Northridge.

The *event*, "Funding the Future of the CSU," took place April 2-3 in the University Student Union's Northridge Center. It brought together dozens of faculty, legislators, community leaders and others interested in supporting California's struggling public higher education system.

In addition to the keynote addresses, the event included three workshops in which faculty and other participants broke off into small groups to discuss three questions: "How do we align mission and funding?" "Where does the money come from?" and "What is the policy for spending money?"

"We have to rethink how we do public education," said F. King Alexander, president of California State University, Long Beach. He said there has to be more accountability in terms of the quality of education in that there are "good and bad players" in regard to tuition and fees. He expressed particular concern about the amount of federal Pell Grant and state Cal Grant money used to fund for-profit educational institutions that go "unchecked" for the quality of their programs, including the retention of students.

In California, a student at a for-profit institution can receive up to \$9,708 annually via the state's financial aid program—the same amount as if he or she were enrolled at a private nonprofit college or university. This amount is significantly greater than the \$4,884 that a California State University student and the \$1,551 a community college student can receive.

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**100%** increase in use of mobile devices to access CSUN portal during the first week of Fall '10 classes versus same period in 2009.

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Alexander was one of three keynote speakers during the two-day event. John Aubrey Douglass, a senior research fellow on public policy and higher education with UC Berkeley's Center for Studies in Higher Education, and Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield (D-Van Nuys) also addressed the attendees.

Douglass said educational leaders need to "re-imagine" the model for public education and consider revising the CSU and UC admissions pool, allowing community colleges to grant baccalaureate degrees and establishing a California open university that offers online courses.

Blumenfield encouraged the gathering to support Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed tax initiative. The proposal will ask voters in November to support an increase in sales tax and taxes on incomes over \$250,000. The CSU Chancellor's office has said if the governor's initiative does not pass, the CSU system will face a potential \$200 million in "trigger" cuts that will mean slashing enrollment, laying off employees, reducing classes and eliminating some academic programs.

The symposium is part of an initiative launched last year by the Committee on the Future of Higher Education.

"We've got to continue this dialogue," said cinema and television arts faculty and event committee chair Michael Hoggan. "The academic community is becoming aware that the world has changed so dramatically that it must accommodate. We have to pay attention or we will lose."

Hoggan said the group plans to produce a transcript of the event for the website and hopefully a white paper highlighting recommendations to the legislature. He said next year's conference will focus on pedagogy and how students learn best.

For more information, visit the [Committee on the Future of Higher Education and the CSU: The Next 50 Years initiative](#).

—Shanté Morgan

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## Cal State Northridge Develops “Pathways” Through General Education

April 16th, 2012 | [News](#)

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A new general education Pathways program for students helps add relevancy to the general education curriculum requirements. Three "pathways"—social justice, global studies and sustainability—are underway, and organizers are hoping to expand the offerings to include health, social media, the arts and technology. Photo by Paul Talley.

The road to a college degree lies through general education—those core classes that students are required to take, usually as underclassmen and regardless of major.

Those same GE classes also can seem like obstacles as students, eager to get on with their majors, get frustrated with courses they deem “irrelevant” to their studies.

Hoping to add some relevancy to the general education curriculum, the university will launch three themed “Pathways” this fall designed to provide a “more meaningful experience” for underclassmen and transfer students.

“The first three themes—social justice, global studies and sustainability—will expose interested students to an interdisciplinary perspective that will hopefully help them understand that GE classes actually help provide a solid foundation for their later studies in their major, regardless of what their major is,” said history professor Patricia Juarez-Dappe, who has taken the lead in developing [the general education Pathways program](#).

The university earlier this year received a \$40,000 grant from the Association of American Colleges and Universities and the Lumina Foundation to develop a program in collaboration with Pierce College that would support retention efforts and help smooth the transition from the community college to the four-year institution.

Juarez-Dappe said Northridge and Pierce officials have been meeting for months to ensure that students taking general education Pathways courses at Pierce will have a “seamless” transition when

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# \$1.6 million

Size of grant from The California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) preparing CSUN students to work with scientists conducting groundbreaking stem cell research.

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they transfer to Cal State Northridge.

“There has been a lot of communication back and forth between the two campuses to ensure that classes in the three themes are working together so that when students move from one class to another they can see the relationship between the classes and the theme.” she said.

Students at California State University, Northridge are required to take a total of 48 general education units, nine of which are at the upper-division level.

Each Pathways theme in the general education curriculum will total 18 units, “providing students with flexibility in their class selection while still allowing them to pursue a theme,” said Elizabeth T. Adams, senior director of undergraduate studies. “Students also will have the option of opting in or out of the program based on their interests and degree plans.”

Adams said each theme will have a civic engagement piece that involves service learning within the community.

“We are hoping that this will help make these courses more meaningful as students realize that what they learn in a general education class can have an impact in the real world,” Adams said.

While the first three themes are centered around social justice, global studies and sustainability, Pathways organizers are hoping to expand the offerings to include health, social media, the arts and technology.

“We are open to all ideas from faculty who are interested in participating,” Juarez-Dappe said. “The umbrella theme is designed to connect the idea of making students more engaged at the general-education level across all disciplines while at the same time exploring the idea of civic engagement.

“We’re taking a very multidisciplinary approach so that students can see that what they are learning in that GE math class actually has relevancy in their GE humanities class or health class,” she said. “By the time they become upperclassmen and are concentrating on their majors, they can appreciate how those lower-division general education classes have contributed to what they are learning and what they hope to do when they graduate.”

Visit the CSUN [general education Pathways program website](#) or email [gepathways@csun.edu](mailto:gepathways@csun.edu) for more information.

—Carmen R. Chandler

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## Gearing Up for the 2012 Staff Service Awards

April 16th, 2012 | [News](#)

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California State University, Northridge staff and faculty celebrate their colleagues at last year's Staff Service Awards and Recognition of Excellence Event. Photo by Lee Choo.

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual California State University, Northridge Staff Service Awards and Recognition of Excellence Event will be held Wednesday, June 6 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in the Northridge Center Complex, University Student Union. This event recognizes employees who have achieved milestones in five-year year increments of dedicated service to the university. If you believe your years of service should be recognized and your name does not appear on the list below or is not correctly listed, please contact Sue Talavera at [sue.talavera@csun.edu](mailto:sue.talavera@csun.edu) by Friday, April 20.

### 5-Year Awards:

Michael Abernathy, *Department of Biology*  
William Aleman, *The University Corporation*  
Michelle Almazan, *Academic Services for Student Athletes*  
Yair Alvarado, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Reina Aviles, *Department of Police Services*  
Juliet Aylmer, *Student Development and International Programs*  
Kamiran Badrkhan, *The Tseng College*  
Ishaminah Banks, *Admissions and Records*  
Maria Barajas, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Sylvia Barnes, *Information Technology, Information Security*  
Pankaj Bedekar, *Information Technology, Application Development*  
Maria A. Bedoya, *Associated Students*  
Adriana Beltran, *The University Corporation*  
Johnson Bernetta, *University Student Union*  
Victoria Berrey, *The University Corporation*  
Gloria Borysewicz, *Michael D. Eisner College of Education*  
Yukiko Bryant, *The Tseng College*  
Robert Bucker, *Dean, Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication*  
Michael Burks, *The University Corporation*

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**10,000+**

Number of CSUN students

eligible for degrees in 2010

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Patricia Burleson, *The Tseng College*  
Venancio Cabrera, *The University Corporation*  
Erica Castaneda, *The University Corporation*  
Gabriel Castaneda, *University Library – Access Services*  
Henny Chandra, *Office of Human Resources*  
Naomi Chavez, *Department of Social Work*  
Eliza Cholakian, *Purchasing and Contract Administration*  
Dante Dadomo, *College of Humanities*  
Konstantin Daskalov, *Department of Physics and Astronomy*  
Yeprem Davoodian, *Student Development and International Programs*  
Jennifer De Iuliis, *Office of the Vice President and CIO, Information Technology*  
Gina De La Barcena, *Associated Students*  
Na Deng, *The University Corporation*  
Joshua Einhorn, *Michael D. Eisner College of Education*  
Denise Estrada, *The University Corporation*  
Rochelle Fischer, *Department of Art*  
Jesus Flores, *Student Outreach and Recruitment*  
Vilma Flores, *The University Corporation*  
Fayrene Flowers, *The University Corporation*  
Thomas Ford, *Athletics*  
Cecilia Garcia, *Physical Plant Management*  
Evelyn Garcia, *Department of Business Law*  
Mary Garcia, *The University Corporation*  
Olivia Gonzales, *Department of Cinema and Television Arts*  
Rockfellow Grant, *University Student Union*  
Diedra Greenaway, *Admissions and Records*  
Liliana Guajardo, *The University Corporation*  
Veronica Hartmann, *The University Corporation*  
Kimberley Heraux, *Information Technology, Project Management*  
Geoffrey Herberg, *Athletics*  
Alexandra Hernandez, *The University Corporation*  
Keith Holland, *Information Technology, Classroom and Media Services*  
Diana Hunt, *Admissions and Records*  
Mtazen James, *University Student Union*  
Sean James, *Educational Opportunity Program*  
Lauren Jarvis, *The Tseng College*  
Oren Jeffries, *Advising Resource Center, EOP*  
Jennifer Kalfsbeek, *The Tseng College*  
Katherine Kershaw, *Humanities Interdisciplinary Studies*  
Helen Khusit, *The Tseng College*  
Melissa Kneeland, *Alumni Relations*  
Michelle Kwan, *Information Technology, Systems*  
Matthew Lang, *College of Science and Mathematics*  
Karla Larosa, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Michael Lennon, *The University Corporation*  
David Levin, *Information Technology, Academic Technology*  
Elsa S Lewis, *Associated Students*  
Samuel Lingrosso, *Office of the Vice President, Student Affairs*  
Rene Lino, *Department of Police Services*  
Holly Liston, *The University Corporation*  
Omari Lockhart, *College of Science and Mathematics, SSC/EOP*  
Gabriel Lopez, *National Center on Deafness*  
Alma Macias, *The University Corporation*  
Celia Madrigal, *The University Corporation*  
Patricia Marquez, *Student Development and International Programs*  
Evelyn Marroquin, *The University Corporation*  
Iris Martinez, *The University Corporation*  
Jonathan Martinez, *Advising Resource Center, EOP*  
Rosemary Martinez, *Educational Opportunity Program*  
Morales Marvin, *University Student Union*  
David Mascarina, *Valley Performing Arts Center*  
Diana Medina, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Jankowski Michael, *University Student Union*  
Shen Milunovic, *Student Accounting*  
Alfredo Mira, *Physical Plant Management*  
Kaori Mita, *Admissions and Records*  
Victoria Monroe, *The University Corporation*

Alana Mora, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Vincent Moriarty, *The University Corporation*  
Katie Mortimer, *The University Corporation*  
Martha Munoz, *The University Corporation*  
Patty Murray, *Office of Equity and Diversity*  
Anuradha Nagarajan, *Information Technology, Business Consulting*  
Irene Nakano, *Associated Students*  
Lauren Nile, *Office of Equity and Diversity*  
Robert Nunez, *Disability Resources and Educational Services*  
Evelyn Osorio, *Department of Political Science*  
Maria Palafox, *The University Corporation*  
Christina Perez, *Department of Secondary Education*  
Vance Peterson, *Vice President, University Advancement*  
Donna Pioli, *The University Corporation*  
Greta Polite, *College of Engineering and Computer Science*  
Julie Pullen, *The University Corporation*  
Adria Rhyne, *The University Corporation*  
Gregory Rivera, *The University Corporation*  
Wendy Rivera, *College of Business and Economics*  
Shirley Ruiz, *Disability Resources and Educational Services*  
Jo Marie Runnion, *School Research Collaborative*  
Sushmita Saha, *Information Technology, Web Development*  
Estuardo Salazar, *The University Corporation*  
Antonio Salguero, *Financial Services*  
Maria Sandoval, *The University Corporation*  
Alma Santiago, *The Tseng College*  
Jonathon Santillano, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
JoAnne Sawyer, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Krajewski Shannon, *University Student Union*  
Veronica Silva, *University Library – Access Services*  
Nuntanit Songpry, *Associated Students*  
Judith Spiegel, *College of Humanities*  
Tina Stamper, *Center for Teaching and Learning, MDECOE*  
Sheila Stevens, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Jennifer Strigle, *The University Corporation*  
Frine Sullivan, *Admissions and Records*  
Stephen Thomas, *Physical Plant Management*  
David Trujillo, *Information Technology, Network Engineering*  
Rebecca Tucker, *College of Health and Human Development*  
Linda Turner, *The University Corporation*  
Anika Usher, *Admissions and Records*  
Joan Van Sickle, *University Library – Technical Services*  
Rosa Vargas, *The University Corporation*  
Robert Vazquez, *Athletics*  
Antonio Velis, *Department of Art*  
Monique Villegas, *Office of Human Resources*  
Beverly Watson, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Santasha Williams, *The University Corporation*  
Chris Xanthos, *Office of the Vice President, Administration and Finance*

**10-Year Awards:**

Jesus Alvarez, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Lisa Anderson, *Developmental Math*  
Christopher Aston, *Student Development and International Programs*  
Santos Ayala, *The University Corporation*  
Randy Banales, *Department of Police Services*  
Conchita Battle, *Advising Resource Center, EOP*  
Mark Benavidez, *Department of Police Services*  
Carol Bennett, *Center of Achievement, CHHD*  
LeeAnna Berkeland, *Athletics*  
Matthew Berkeland, *Admissions and Records*  
Kavoos Blourtchi, *College of Science and Mathematics*  
Marion Brown, *Developmental Math*  
Reyna Campos-Kennedy, *Humanities Interdisciplinary Studies*  
Yvonne Carrillo, *The Tseng College*  
Juan Cuevas, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Susan Cullen, *University Library – Universal Design Center*

Claire Davis, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Theresa Donnelly, *Valley Performing Arts Center*  
Gregory Duhon, *Information Technology, Infrastructure Services*  
Clovis Emblen Scarpaci, *The University Corporation*  
Jae Farkas, *The University Corporation*  
Brian Finck, *The Career Center*  
Christine Flores, *University Library – Finance and Personnel*  
Tom Foley, *Physical Plant Management*  
Mayra Franco, *Michael D. Eisner College of Education*  
Thomas Fredette, *Physical Plant Management*  
Noelle Gabay, *Budget Planning and Management*  
Lynn Gabrielsen, *Michael D. Eisner College of Education*  
Robert Garcia, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Melissa Giles, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Anne Glavin, *Chief, Department of Police Services*  
Kim Goldberg Roth, *The University Corporation*  
Krista Groce, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Nita Guzman, *Admissions and Records*  
Jeremy Hamlett, *University Student Union*  
Yvette Harvey, *Associated Students*  
Karen Hess, *Information Technology, Administrative Services*  
Joel Hickman, *Academic Resources and Planning*  
Leah Cheri Hogan, *Associated Students*  
Rosario Jaimes, *The University Corporation*  
Hamlett Jeremy, *University Student Union*  
Sandra Jones, *Associated Students*  
Bob Kocher, *The University Corporation*  
Shirley Lang, *Graduate Studies, Research and International Programs*  
Lillian Lewis, *Office of the Vice President, Student Affairs*  
Pavel Lieb, *Department of Biology*  
Santos Lopez, *The University Corporation*  
Li-Chao Lu, *College of Science and Mathematics*  
Ernesto Marmol, *The University Corporation*  
Cynthia Martinez, *Student Outreach and Recruitment*  
Estevan Martinez, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Thomas McCarron, *Vice President, Administration and Finance*  
Donna Miller, *Student Outreach and Recruitment*  
Gregory Miraglia, *The University Corporation*  
John Panasuk, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Wendy Paniagua, *Student Accounting*  
Cyndi Paull, *Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management*  
Anthony Pepe, *Environmental Health and Safety*  
Bill Pinell, *Physical Plant Management*  
Daniel Price, *Department of Police Services*  
Angela Ramirez, *Budget Planning and Management*  
Jeff Rawlings, *Physical Plant Management*  
Nuria Recinos, *The University Corporation*  
Sanae Reed, *National Center on Deafness*  
Ali Sadri, *University Advancement*  
Wendy Say, *The Center for Innovative and Engaged Learning Opportunities*  
Arturo Serrano, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Tony Spraggins, *Physical Plant Management*  
Claudia Stepan, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Frank William Stranzl, *Office of Human Resources*  
Anh Tieu, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Brendan Tinoco, *The University Corporation*  
Carla Turner, *Office of Human Resources*  
Elizabeth Vigliotto, *Physical Plant Management*  
Jason Wang, *University Student Union*  
William Whiting, *Faculty Affairs*  
Annette Young, *The University Corporation*  
Elizabeth Zambrano, *The University Corporation*

#### **15-Year Awards**

Teri Alvarado, *Manufacturing Systems and Engineering Management*  
Susan Arvanitis, *Physical Plant Management*  
Keith Blaine, *Student Housing and Conference Services*

Rosario Chavarria, *Physical Plant Management*  
Maria Cobian, *Physical Plant Management*  
Barbara Collins, *Department of Sociology*  
Robin Ferguson, *Office of the Vice President, Student Affairs*  
Manuel Fernandez, *Department of Biology*  
Sylvia Freiberg, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Bonnie Giles, *Office of the President*  
Michelle Henley, *Office of the Vice President, Administration and Finance*  
Thomas Katenay, *Physical Plant Management*  
Laura Lau, *Disability Resources and Educational Services*  
Dominic Little, *Department of Sociology*  
Kathryn Maki, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Willy Martinez, *Physical Plant Management*  
Mandie McConkey, *Academic Services for Student Athletes*  
Irene McGee, *Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry*  
Romeo Molina, *Physical Plant Management*  
Andrew Newchurch, *Physical Plant Management*  
Stephanie Nguyen, *Academic Affairs*  
Marian Nobleza, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Janice Potzmann, *The Career Center*  
Dorothy Ramirez, *Information Technology, Classroom and Media Services*  
Patrice Rensleau, *Facilities Planning*  
Ransom Rideout, *College of Science and Mathematics*  
Sabrina Rife, *Academic Resources and Planning*  
Joseph Rojas, *Physical Plant Management*  
Mary Romero, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Robyn Sable, *The University Corporation*  
Stephen Smith, *Physical Plant Management*  
LaJuan Steels, *The Tseng College*  
Karen Storey, *The University Corporation*  
Susanne Swift, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Armando Tellez, *College of Engineering and Computer Science*  
Yan-Chuen Tung, *Department of Biology*  
Marjorie Wilson, *Physical Plant Management*

**20-Year Awards:**

Erika Barnathan, *Michael D. Eisner College of Education*  
David Gonzalez, *Physical Plant Management*  
Anthony Ivankovic, *The University Corporation*  
Ederlina Landeta, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Georgia Love, *Department of Police Services*  
Franklin Rudas, *Information Technology, Operations*  
Joann Spruill, *The University Corporation*  
Frank Vargas, *Department of Elementary Education*

**25-Year Awards:**

Dana Archer, *Department of Police Services*  
Mollie Baron, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Laura Clary, *University Library – Finance and Personnel*  
Alicia Cudiamat, *Admissions and Records*  
Stan Edick, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Linda Gharakhanian, *Department of Biology*  
Allan Gilbert, *University Library – Technical Services*  
Keith Goldstein, *KCSN Radio Station*  
Marilyn Johnson, *College of Business and Economics*  
Thomas Maki, *Financial Aid and Scholarship Department*  
Michelle Pusey, *Student Housing and Conference Services*  
Marcia Shimer, *Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry*  
Mark Siegmund, *College of Engineering and Computer Science*  
Stella Theodoulou, *Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences*  
Beatrice Watts, *Admissions and Records*

**30-Year Awards**

Suzan Brownlee, *Admissions and Records*  
Donald Foster, *Information Technology, Operations*  
Howard Garcia, *Athletics*  
Yolanda Greenhalgh, *University Library – Special Collections and Archives*

Ramon Muniz, *Educational Opportunity Program*  
Janet Rienbolt, *Admissions and Records*  
Valdis Volkovskis, *Department of Psychology*  
Elizabeth Whirlledge, *College of Humanities*  
Tony White, *Physical Plant Management*

#### 35-Year Awards:

Magdalena Buslon, *Klotz Student Health Center*  
Bobby Douglas, *Physical Plant Management*  
Sharon Eichten, *Budget Planning and Management*  
Rosa Espinoza-Jauregui, *Student Outreach and Recruitment*  
Sharon MacKenzie, *Admissions and Records*  
Chester Przelomiec, *Department of Art*

#### 40-Year Awards:

Fred Joseph, *Physical Plant Management*

#### Recognition of Excellence Awards

The university has created programs to recognize the outstanding contributions of staff and administrators. Awards include the Presidential Award, the Award of Merit and the Jolene Koester Team Award. A team of staff and administrators will evaluate all nominations and select the winners. The winners of these awards will be recognized at the annual Staff Service and Excellence Recognition event on June 6.

You are encouraged to [nominate a person or team in your area](#) for the Excellence Awards with a distinguished record of exemplary performance in support of the university mission and our students.

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## “Funding the Future of the CSU” Two-Day Symposium

April 16th, 2012 | [Photo Essay](#)

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A two-day symposium entitled “*Funding the Future of the CSU*” took place April 2–3 in the University Student Union’s Northridge Center, bringing together dozens of faculty, legislators, community leaders and others interested in supporting California’s struggling public higher education system. F. King Alexander, president of California State University, Long Beach, was one of three keynote speakers. John Aubrey Douglass, a senior research fellow on public policy and higher education with UC Berkeley’s Center for Studies in Higher Education, and Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield (D-Van Nuys) also addressed attendees. The symposium is part of an initiative launched last year by the Committee on the Future of Higher Education.



John Aubrey Douglass, a senior research fellow on public policy and higher education with UC Berkeley’s Center for Studies in Higher Education, gave one of three keynote speeches at the two-day symposium. His speech was called “Funding Model Changes and How We Got Here.” The symposium is part of an initiative launched last year by the Committee on the Future of Higher Education. Photo by Lee Choo.

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**1,000** Number of Deaf and hard of hearing CSUN graduates since 1964.

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Dozens of faculty, legislators, community leaders and others interested in supporting California's higher education system attended the "Funding the Future of the CSU" symposium hosted at California State University, Northridge. Limiting money to for-profit institutions; shifting from centralized to localized decision-making; differential fees at campuses; and supporting a tax initiative that will raise sales tax and levies on upper income were some of the solutions to California's public education crisis discussed at the symposium. Photo by Lee Choo.



After a dinner break on the first day of the symposium, California Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield (D-Van Nuys) encouraged attendees to support Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed tax initiative. The proposal will ask voters in November to support an increase in sales tax and taxes on incomes over \$250,000. The CSU Chancellor's Office has said that if the governor's initiative does not pass, the CSU system will face a potential \$200 million deficit in "trigger" cuts that will mean slashing CSU enrollment, laying off employees, reducing classes and eliminating some academic programs. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



Jerald Schutte, Cal State Northridge sociology professor, and William Watkins, vice president for Student Affairs, dean of students and acting administrator of Academic Affairs, were among the dozens of faculty members from California universities to attend the two-day symposium. Photo by Genny donaire.



California State University, Long Beach President F. King Alexander made a keynote speech on April 3, the second day of the two-day symposium. The speech was entitled "The Myths and Realities of California Higher Education and the Need for a New Federal/State Partnership to Preserve Common Public Funding." Alexander expressed great concern about the amount of federal Pell Grant and state Cal Grant money used to fund for-profit educational institutions that go "unchecked" for the quality of their programs, including the retention of students. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

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## Diversity Celebrated During the University Student Union's 15th Annual Carnaval

April 16th, 2012 | [Photo Essay](#)

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California State University, Northridge celebrated diversity April 11–12 with the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Carnaval, held at Plaza del Sol. The event showcased various forms of entertainment, traditional ethnic foods, Persian calligraphy and henna tattoo artists. The University Student Union's goal with Carnaval was to expose students to different cultures through activities, informational booths, dance lessons and performances.



The Brazilian dance troupe Raiz Brazil performed traditional Carnival-inspired dance moves as the crowd gathered to watch. The performers were dressed in customary Brazilian Carnival attire. Photo by Lee Choo.

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### CSUNumbers

**#1** Rank among the all-time most-cited papers in the Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom, a co-authored paper by CSUN marine biologist Janet Kubler.

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Sophomore Robert Jong, an information systems major, played the Taiko drum at the University Student Union's 15th Annual Carnival. Jong instructed and led fellow drummers in their musical sequences. Photo by Lee Choo.



The University Student Union's Carnival festival featured seven booths representing the continents of the world. Freshman Hector Moreno volunteered at the "Africa" continent booth, which featured traditional African food and memorabilia. Photo by Lee Choo.



Junior Chase Torrence, a recreation and tourism management major, dished out fries covered in gravy and shredded cheese to students at the North America booth. Photo by Lee Choo.



Salsa Libre, CSUN's official salsa dance team, performed at the event. The salsa team also offered complimentary salsa lessons to CSUN students. Photo by Lee Choo.

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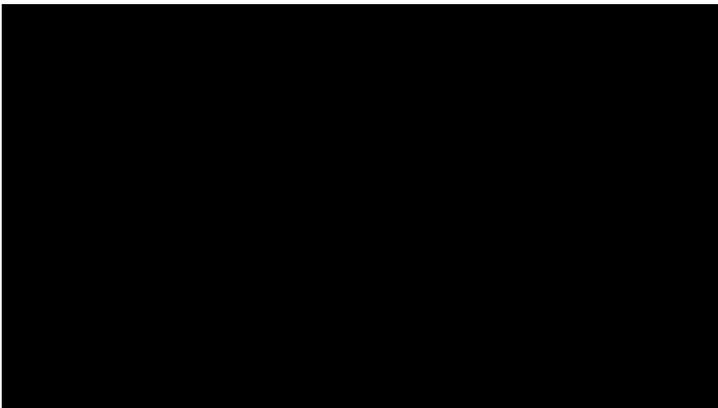
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## Is Fair Trade Chocolate Healthier? A CSUN Professor Explores the Effect Good Deeds Have on Perception

April 16th, 2012 | [Featured Video](#)

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Can two little words—fair trade—make you think that some brands of chocolate are healthier than others? Cal State Northridge psychology professor Jonathon Schuldt, in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Michigan and the University of Grenoble, attempted to answer that question in a study analyzing the effects of food labels and personal bias in decision-making.

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# \$1.6 million

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## Incoming President Dianne F. Harrison Outlines Plans in First Address to Campus

April 2nd, 2012 | [News](#)

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Photos by Lee Choo.

After paying tribute to the past leadership and success of the campus, incoming president Dianne F. Harrison outlined her plans as the fifth president of California State University, Northridge.

"The achievements of the faculty and students have been very impressive and are music to a new president's ears," said Harrison to hundreds of faculty, staff, alumni, students and others gathered at a reception in the courtyard of the Valley Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, March 27. "Likewise, the commitment and involvement of your alumni and volunteers is enviable and a great base upon which to grow deeper and greater connections."

She called emeritus President Jolene Koester, who retired in December, a "mentor" and applauded her for leaving the campus in "great shape."

Harrison, who has served as president of California State University, Monterey Bay for six years, described herself as a "transparent and collaborative" leader who appreciates talent, hard work and strong campus leaders. The new president enjoys a good sense of humor, which she displayed in a story about her husband's courtship in junior high school.

She plans to create an ad hoc transition advisory group to advise and help her adjust to her new position. Her priorities during the first 90 days include continuing student success initiatives; "drilling down" on the budget and enrollment management; engaging alumni, local community members, elected officials and supporters; exploring alternative revenue sources; familiarizing herself with campus emergency operations and preparedness; and assessing sustainability initiatives.

"I want to know from you, what is your advice to me? Where are our challenges?" Harrison said.

The new president made her remarks as part of her first official visit to and tour of the Cal State Northridge campus. The CSU Board of Trustees announced her appointment on March 22.

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**#1** Rank among the all-time most-cited papers in the Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom, a co-authored paper by CSUN marine biologist Janet Kubler.

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Harrison began her day with Interim President Harry Hellenbrand, whom she called “one of the strongest provosts in the CSU system.” She said she was looking forward to continuing to work with him in Academic Affairs. Afterward, she met with Associated Students leadership, college deans, vice presidents and other campus leadership. She then toured the campus, stopping at the new Student Recreation Center, the Matador Statue and the Valley Performing Arts Center. She ended the day with a visit to her new university house.

She begins her tenure at CSUN on June 11.

Harrison came to Monterey Bay following a 30-year career at Florida State University, where she served in various capacities starting as a faculty member and continuing on to become dean of social work, associate vice president for academic affairs, dean of graduate studies and vice president for academic quality and external programs. She holds a Ph.D. in social work from Washington University in St. Louis and a master’s of social work and a bachelor’s in American Studies, both from the University of Alabama. Her academic and research areas of expertise include HIV prevention among women and minority populations and higher education issues related to social work and university leadership. A prolific researcher and writer, Harrison has published dozens of articles and two books.

She has served on the boards and committees of more than 60 national, state, and local organizations and community projects. Harrison currently serves as a board member of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, KQED Public Media for Northern California, NCAA Division II Presidents Council, MoreHealth of Monterey Bay County, California Campus Compact and the United Way of Monterey County. She co-chairs the Monterey Bay Educational Consortium and is a leader in education with the Monterey County Business Council. She was appointed by Governor Brown to the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education. She is the recipient of “A Tree of Life Award” from the Parent Institute of Quality Education for her contributions to the education of all children and was inducted into the Monterey Business Hall of Fame.

She has two children: a daughter who works at the NCAA and a son who is in school at CSU Monterey Bay. She is married to John Wujack.

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## CSUN MBA Students Receive Top Honors From the Small Business Institute

April 2nd, 2012 | [News](#)

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California State University, Northridge MBA students took top honors last month in a national competition that tested how well they could tailor what they learned in the classroom to meet the needs of small businesses.

The competition is hosted each year by the Small Business Institute, a national organization dedicated to field-based student consulting and outreach to small businesses.

The Small Business Institute's mission is to be the premier provider of professional development for those engaged in experiential student team consulting and related entrepreneurship education, research and activities.

"This year was the second year the MBA program participated in this competition, and we have gathered first-place awards each year we've competed," said marketing professor Deborah Cours, director of CSUN's MBA program. "These awards are a testament to the quality of work by our students and faculty, and an honor for our MBA Consulting Program that serves local small businesses and not-for-profit organizations."

Cal State Northridge students Jeremy King, Namdar Akrami, Robert Anton, Rohit Jain and Vanessa Walker, led by their faculty advisor, professor Lois Shelton, won first place in the Graduate Feasibility/Business Plan category for their client WatAir, an award-winning developer, manufacturer and distributor of atmospheric water generation technology.

"Winning such a prestigious award is an honor," King said. "A lot of hard work went into making this project a success, with each team member bringing a unique skill set of strengths to the table. It is very rare to get opportunities to take part in such an endeavor, and it is an experience that I will never forget."

The third-place prize in the Graduate Specialized category was won by Northridge students Chris

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**100%** increase in use of mobile devices to access CSUN portal during the first week of Fall '10 classes versus same period in 2009.

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Hanley, LaFaye Wilson, Sandra Sripapattanavong, Tuan Nguyen and Victor Lazo. Melanie Williams, chair of the Department of Business Law, led the students in their endeavor. Their client was Sorrells Pickard Gourmet Peanut Butter.

Bruce Sandzimier of Sorrells Pickard Gourmet Peanut Butter had nothing but praise for the CSUN students who worked with his company.

“Any success we achieve as a company will be in no small part due to the collaborative efforts of the CSUN MBA students we’ve worked with, and the excellent MBA program CSUN administers,” he said.

—Hailey Graves

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## Cal State Northridge Offers Alternative Summer Program for Elementary Students

April 2nd, 2012 | [News](#)

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<p><b>The Blue Planet</b> Where in the World?</p>  <p><b>Elective: Cooking</b></p>	<p><b>Animals</b> Creatures Great and Small</p>  <p><b>Elective: Performing Arts</b></p>	<p><b>Nature</b> A Walk on the Wild Side</p>  <p><b>Elective: Outdoor Lab</b></p>																
<p><b>Transportation</b> Going, Going, Gone</p>  <p><b>Elective: Model Cars</b></p>	<p><b>The Amazing Machine</b> All About You</p>  <p><b>Elective: Sports/ Games</b></p>	<p><b>Sample Schedule:</b></p> <table><tbody><tr><td>7:30 - 8:00</td><td>Early Drop Off</td></tr><tr><td>8:00 - 9:00</td><td>Language Arts</td></tr><tr><td>9:00 - 9:45</td><td>Art</td></tr><tr><td>9:45 - 10:15</td><td>Recess</td></tr><tr><td>10:15 - 11:00</td><td>Math</td></tr><tr><td>11:00 - 11:45</td><td>Elective</td></tr><tr><td>11:45 - 12:30</td><td>Science</td></tr><tr><td>12:30 - 2:00</td><td>After-School Care</td></tr></tbody></table>	7:30 - 8:00	Early Drop Off	8:00 - 9:00	Language Arts	9:00 - 9:45	Art	9:45 - 10:15	Recess	10:15 - 11:00	Math	11:00 - 11:45	Elective	11:45 - 12:30	Science	12:30 - 2:00	After-School Care
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11:00 - 11:45	Elective																	
11:45 - 12:30	Science																	
12:30 - 2:00	After-School Care																	

Due to reorganization, California State University, Northridge's Summer Academic Program for Elementary School Students (SAPESS) will not be offered this summer. Instead, the Michael D. Eisner College of Education will offer SAEP-Elem Edition.

The program will only be available to CSUN faculty, staff, students and families with children already enrolled in the Summer Academic Enrichment Program (SAEP) for middle and high school students.

Mike Rivas, director of SAEP for middle and high school students, explained that the SAEP-Elem Edition will be organized differently than SAPESS. Under this summer's program, students will have an opportunity to take classes in five "thematic" areas: The Blue Planet: Where in the World?; Animals: Creatures Great and Small; Nature: A Walk on the Wild Side; Transportation: Going, Going, Gone; and The Amazing Machine: All About You.

The five-week program, which is open to elementary-aged children, will run from June 25 to July 27 and costs \$600.

"We believe the reconstruction of the SAPESS program will be a tremendous benefit to all involved next summer," said Michael Spagna, dean of the College of Education, in an email message to parents about the program change. The SAPESS program is scheduled to return the summer of 2013.

Dean Spagna recommended that families not eligible for the SAEP-Elem Edition consider some of the summer camps offered at CSUN. There are still openings in the University Student Union's Sunny Days Camp, which caters to students in grades K-7. The camp offers nine weekly sessions from June 18 through Aug. 17. Parents have the option of enrolling for half- or full-day care from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Campers can participate in swimming, arts and crafts, sports, rock climbing, field trips to the zoo and

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local kid-friendly entertainment facilities.

The camp also offers students ages 11–13 an opportunity to participate in a Skills of Leadership program, and students ages 15–18 can enroll in the Junior Counselor Program.

CSUN faculty and staff receive a \$10 weekly discount toward the \$200 per week tuition for Sunny Days Camp. The price includes snacks and meals, as well as morning and afternoon care. For more information, visit <http://usu.csun.edu/sunnydays>, call (818) 677-3617 or email [sunnydayscamp@csun.edu](mailto:sunnydayscamp@csun.edu).

CSUN also offers several sports camps during the summer. For information on the athletic camps, visit <http://gomatadors.cstv.com/ot/csno-camps.html>.

For more information regarding SAPESS, visit [www.sapess.com](http://www.sapess.com) and for SAEP, visit [www.saep.net](http://www.saep.net).

—D. Aja Franks

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## Incoming President Dianne F. Harrison Makes First Official Visit to CSUN

April 2nd, 2012 | [Photo Essay](#)

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Dr. Dianne F. Harrison, incoming president, had a whirlwind day at California State University, Northridge on March 27. She began before 9 a.m. with a meeting with Interim President Harry Hellenbrand. Afterward, she met with her new staff, Associated Students leadership, college deans, vice presidents and other campus leaders. She then toured the 365-acre campus, stopping at the new Student Recreation Center, the Matador Statue and the Valley Performing Arts Center. She also participated in an open reception with the campus community. She ended the day with a visit to her new home. She's shown exiting the "Office of the President" golf cart to visit a campus landmark. Photo by Lee Choo.



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Incoming President Harrison – flanked by Tom McCarron (left), vice president for administration and finance, and Colin Donahue, associate vice president for facilities development and operations – headed to the new state-of-the-art Student Recreation Center. Photo by Lee Choo.

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Students stopped to welcome incoming President Harrison to campus during a visit to the Matador Statue. Although Harrison is coming from CSU Monterey Bay, the third smallest campus in the CSU, she is no stranger to large campuses. She spent 30 years working at Florida State University, a large public research institution with more than 40,000 students, 12 academic colleges and 15 deans. Photo by Lee Choo.

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In addition to meeting with the campus community, Harrison spent part of the day introducing herself to local media. In the picture, she is interviewed by Daily News photographer Michael Owen Baker in front of the Valley Performing Arts Center. Photo by Lee Choo.

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Student leaders talk with incoming President Harrison about campus issues after her speech in the courtyard of the Valley Performing Arts Center. Harrison, who will arrive full-time on June 11, said she welcomes feedback from the campus community and plans to appoint an ad hoc transition advisory group to “advise” her on the formal and informal ways and traditions of the campus. Photo by Lee Choo.



Hundreds of faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters attended a reception for Harrison in the courtyard of the Valley Performing Arts Center. During her first public address to the campus, Harrison described herself as a “transparent and collaborative” leader who appreciates talent, hard work, strong campus leaders and a sense of humor. She also outlined her first 90-day priorities. Photo by Lee Choo.

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## Second Annual Cesar Chavez Service Fair

April 2nd, 2012 | [Photo Essay](#)

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California State University, Northridge commemorated the life of Cesar Chavez on Tuesday, March 27 at the 2nd Annual Cesar Chavez Service Fair. The event, which is sponsored by the Department of Chicana/o Studies and Unified We Serve, the volunteer program at CSUN, included more than 30 nonprofit organizations and vendors. Event organizers estimate that more than 500 faculty, staff and students attended the event. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



CSUN student Catherine Jermany and MEND (Meet Each Need with Dignity) representatives Andrea Lopez and Awade Khan-Variba spoke with attendees about the importance of community service. MEND's mission is to break the bonds of poverty by providing basic human needs and a pathway to self-reliance. Photo by Jenny Donaire.

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**33** Sun-tracking array of high-concentration photovoltaic solar panels in CSUN's newest sustainable energy system, a 100-kilowatt power plant developed with The Boeing Company.

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Anh Tran and Carmen Doane-Barkan of CFY, a national education nonprofit that helps students in low-income communities harness the power of digital learning to improve educational outcomes, attended the 2nd Annual Cesar Chavez Service Fair. CFY has operations in New York City, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area. CFY also leads an affiliate network of more than 30 organizations in over 20 states and the District of Columbia. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



CSUN student Paulina Barrios, member of Unified We Serve, provided students with information about local volunteer opportunities. Unified We Serve also provided free food to all participating students. Photo by Jenny Donaire.



"Operation Gratitude" volunteers (from left to right) Bill Van Trump, Dana Chotiner and Becky Rich distributed information about how individuals can show their gratitude to the U.S. military. Operation Gratitude annually sends 100,000 care packages filled with snacks, entertainment items and personal letters of appreciation to U.S. military deployed in hostile regions, their children left behind and the wounded military recuperating in transition units. Photo by Jenny Donaie.

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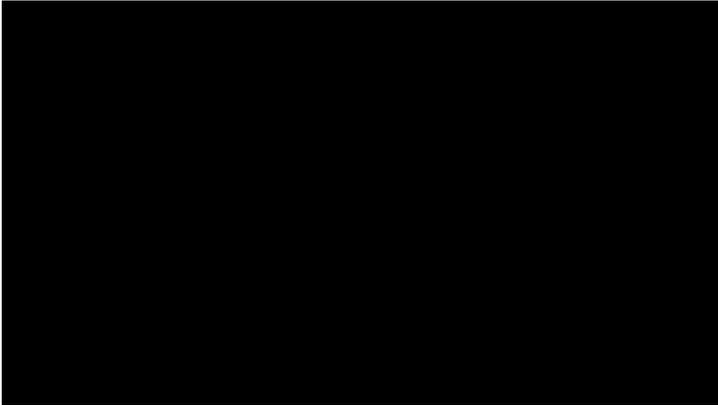
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## Meet Incoming CSUN President Dianne F. Harrison

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In her first official campus visit, incoming president of California State University, Northridge Dianne F. Harrison shares her background, ideals and commitment to the mission of the university. Currently serving as president at California State University, Monterey Bay, Harrison was named CSUN's fifth president by the California State University Board of Trustees on March 22, 2012. (Video produced by Marketing and Communications. Recorded March 27, 2012 at an open house reception outside the Valley Performing Arts Center and in a sit-down interview in Sierra Hall's Whitsett Room.)

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## Campus Cuisine To Go Offers Convenient Options for Office Gatherings

April 2nd, 2012 | [News](#)

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Therese Bott, catering associate of Campus Cuisine To Go. Photo by Lee Choo.

Planning an office meeting but don't have time to rush off campus to pick up snacks? California State University, Northridge's Campus Cuisine To Go may be the perfect solution.

Introduced in the fall semester of 2011, Campus Cuisine To Go, which is operated by The University Corporation, is an affordable, quick catering option with delivery available to CSUN's faculty and staff. The service delivers food from the Arbor Grill, Sierra Marketplace, Freudian Sip, El Pollo Loco, Subway and Panda Express. Meals can be mixed and matched from these different eateries and delivered to any location on the main campus; disposable utensils and paper products are included. The charge for delivery is an additional \$5.

Therese Bott, catering associate of Campus Cuisine To Go, said the purpose of the service is to be "more convenient and save time," as compared to using an off-campus vendor. She said Campus Cuisine To Go complements the service provided by the Orange Grove Bistro.

The Orange Grove Bistro offers full-service catering including china, linen and staffing. Campus Cuisine To Go is a delivery and drop-off service.

Campus Cuisine To Go requires orders to be placed 24 hours in advance. Orders can be made via telephone by calling (818) 677-8646 or emailed to [campus.cuisine.togo@csun.edu](mailto:campus.cuisine.togo@csun.edu).

Visit [www.csun.edu/tuc/campus-cuisine-to-go](http://www.csun.edu/tuc/campus-cuisine-to-go) to access menus and order forms. After an order is placed, all that's left to do is to wait for the red-and-white Campus Cuisine To Go go-cart to show up and add a dash of excitement to the office meeting.

—Lauren Glazer

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