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Associated Students Offers Free Summer Movie Screenings at CSUN

by Shanté Morgan | on June 6, 2013 | in [Arts and Culture](#), [Community](#), [Faculty and Staff News](#)

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Looking for entertainment this summer? California State University, Northridge's Associated Students is offering outdoor movie screenings to the CSUN community and neighbors June 6 through Aug. 29.

Starting today, every Thursday evening (except July 4) on CSUN's Sierra Quad Lawn from about 7:30 p.m. (sundown) to 8:15 p.m. the community can enjoy a range of movies from family-friendly favorites like "Toy Story" and "Finding Nemo" to more adult comedies like "Talladega Nights" and "Bridesmaids."

"The goal of the program is to provide outdoor activity for the CSUN students, faculty, staff and community," said Kevin A. Mojaradi, coordinator of marketing and public relations for Associated Students. "It's also our goal to increase school spirit and a sense of community among the CSUN community."

Those attending are encouraged to bring a blanket or chair to sit on the lawn. Parking is \$6 without a valid CSUN permit. Kettle corn and lemonade and other snacks will be available for purchase during the movie.

For more information and a complete listing of the movies, visit the [Associated Students Movie Fest website](#).

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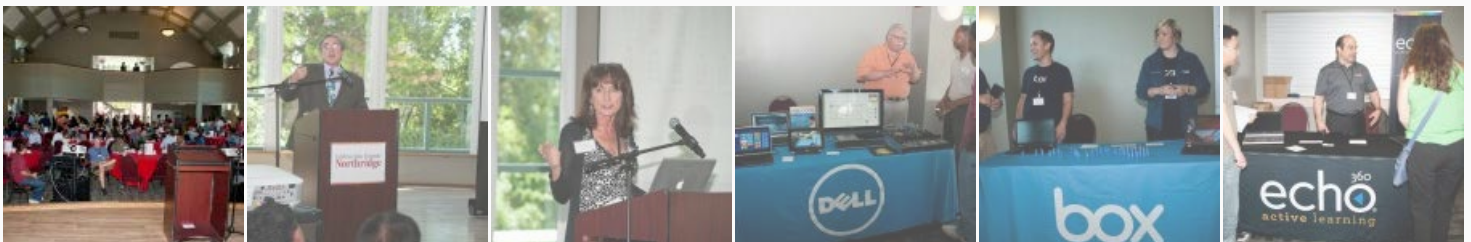
CSUN's Annual Tech Fair Introduces Latest Trends to Faculty and Staff

by Chelsea Turner | on June 7, 2013 | in [Faculty and Staff News](#), [Science and Technology](#)



The third annual CSUN Technology Fair welcomed about 150 faculty and staff members on May 29. Attendees talked with technology vendors and engaged with speakers.

The event included two technology usage. Cliffo science professor, lectur and Your Students ”





For many, multitasking—checking emails, text messaging and Facebooking simultaneously—is a highly-valued practice. However, research conducted by Stanford University professor Clifford Nass, Ph.D., and his colleagues finds that consistently juggling multiple, unrelated tasks greatly reduces the ability to focus on critical tasks such as reading and writing.

“High media multitasking is bad,” said Nass, during his lecture at California State University, Northridge’s third annual Technology Fair.

Nass discussed “Media Multitasking: How it’s Changing You and Your Students” at the May 29 event hosted by the **Division of Information Technology** in the University Student Union’s Grand Salon. His lecture elaborated on laboratory and field experimental studies conducted by Stanford researchers that started in 2009 and continues today. The research found that people who regularly engaged with multiple forms of unrelated electronic information have difficulty maintaining focus, memorizing relevant content or switching from one job to another as well as those who complete one or related tasks at a time. He suggested that students and staff can enhance their performance if they limit high levels of multitasking.

Nass was one of two speakers who addressed about 150 faculty and staff at this year’s fair. The fair offered faculty and staff an opportunity to learn about the latest tech trends used in higher education. In addition to the speakers, several companies participated in a technology vendor showcase.

Laurie Burruss from lynda.com discussed “Learning Outside the Classroom” in an afternoon session. Lynda.com, is a provider of online video tutorials in various subjects, currently available to CSUN faculty and staff.

As a full-time faculty member at Pasadena City College, Burruss said lynda.com allows all members of the campus community to pick tools relevant to their jobs. Her lecture focused on how employees can continue to learn from online tools.

“The annual technology fair is a reflection of what technology really means to all of us,” said Hilary Baker, vice president for information technology and chief information officer. She noted that every college and office was represented at the event, showing how widely technology is used across campus.

Taehyun Kim, an assistant professor in the Department of Journalism, said the tech fair was great.

“It makes us think about ongoing issues with technology and ways we can overcome them and use it to our advantage,” Kim said.

Other vendors at the event included Box, OnBase, Echo360, Apple, HP and Dell. These companies are already providing services

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CSUN Professor Named One of the Top 20 Female Professors in California

By Hailey Graves | on June 10, 2013 | in [Faculty and Staff News](#), [University News](#)



California State University, Northridge [kinesiology](#) professor Paula Thomson has been named one of the top female professors in California by StateStas.org.

Thomson has been at the university for seven years. Prior to joining CSUN she taught and/or choreographed at the Julliard School of Music, Stratford Shakespearean Festival and Canadian Opera Company.

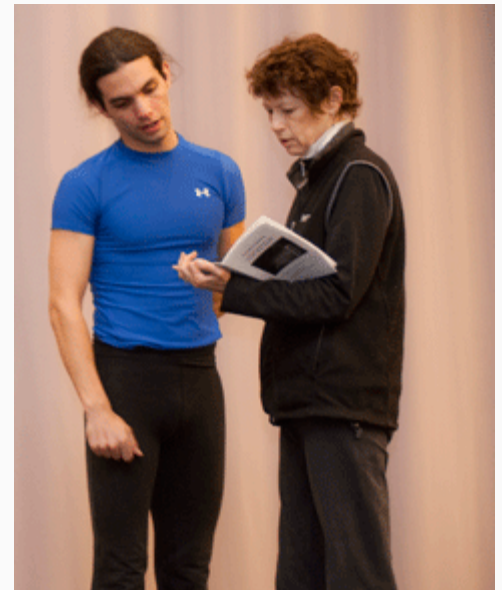
Her research, started when she worked at York University in Toronto, Canada, focuses on dissociation, trauma, and metabolic disorders and their effects on creativity.

“When I came to CSUN, I immediately began collaborating with Dr. Victoria Jaque,” said Thomson. “She is truly the most significant faculty member in my research process. I basically consider my research as our research. It has been a privilege to further the field of creativity and the relationship to dissociation, trauma, attachment and psychophysiology in performing artists, athletes and patients.”

StateStas.org representatives said the list is designed to highlight post-secondary educators who have been recognized recently for excellence in the classroom, on campus, and/or in the community.

StateStas.org is a nonprofit organization that builds free, open source tools with the goal of increasing accessibility to education and information through the use of new technologies.

California State University, Northridge has more than 36,000 full- and part-time students and offers 69 bachelor's and 57 master's degrees, 28 teaching credential programs and two applied doctoral degree programs. Founded in 1958, CSUN is among



Paula Thomson working with a student.
Photo by Lee Choo.

the largest single-campus universities in the nation and the only four-year public university in the San Fernando Valley. The university is home to dozens of nationally recognized programs where students gain valuable hands-on experience working alongside faculty and industry professionals, whether in the sciences, health care and engineering or education, political science, the arts and the social sciences. While regionally focused, the university's faculty and administrators recognize the important role its students and alumni play in shaping the future of the state and the nation.



 [Awards, College of Health and Human Development, Faculty and Staff News](#)

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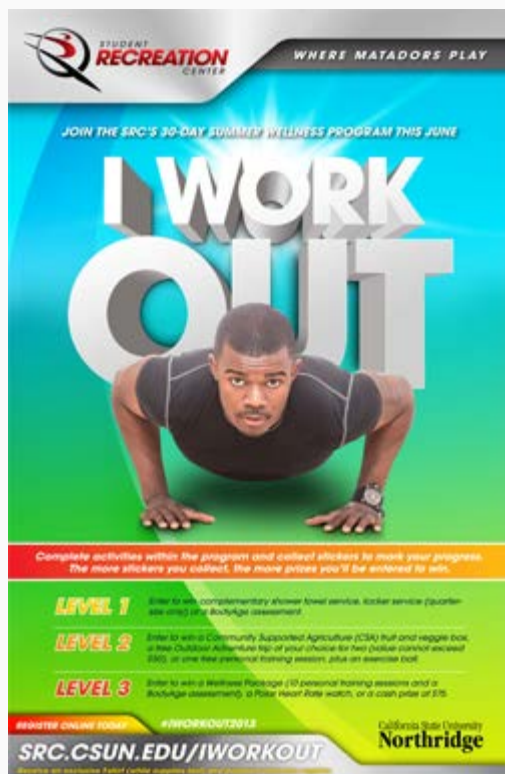
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CSUN Programs Encourage Summer Fitness

by Chelsea Turner | on June 12, 2013 | in [Faculty and Staff News](#), [Health and Fitness](#)



Take a break from your academic year routine and commit to being fit this summer. That's the message two health and wellness programs offered at California State University, Northridge are sending to the CSUN community.

The Institute for Community Health and Wellbeing and the Student Recreation Center are encouraging faculty and staff to participate in fun and healthy activities this summer.

The [Student Recreation Center's](#) "I Work Out" program is open to all members of the center including faculty and staff. The program, which is open now through June 30, encourages participants to live healthier lifestyles through educational workshops and fitness classes. The SRC is offering a special summer membership from now to Aug. 18 for \$98 for faculty and staff.

Participants can also win prizes.

"The goal is to incentivize members to use the SRC and to encourage healthy eating and exercising habits," said Amanda Frick, the SRC's coordinator of fitness.

Prizes include a free shower towel or locker service for a semester, a free [Outdoor Adventures](#) trip for two, a cash prize of \$75 or a wellness package.

Start the program now by visiting the ["I Work Out" Web page](#).

For a full summer of exercise, try out the Institute for Community Health and Wellbeing's ["Commit to be Fit"](#) program. Instruction will take place, now through Aug. 8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Students from the

Department of Kinesiology will work with faculty and staff to improve strength, flexibility and cardiovascular health.

“This program is designed to provide the CSUN community with the fitness expertise of the kinesiology department,” said Erin Calderone, a kinesiology department faculty member. “The student leaders are well equipped to share the latest, researched methods in exercise with CSUN faculty and staff participants.”

For questions and more information, contact [Erin Calderone](#).



 [Commit to be Fit, Faculty and Staff News, I Work Out](#)

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Staff Recognized at Annual Awards Event

story by Shanté Morgan/photo essay by Chelsea Turner | on June 18, 2013 | in [Faculty and Staff News](#)



President Dianne F. Harrison welcomes attendees at the 2013 Staff Service and Excellence Recognition Awards event that took place on May 30. Photo by Nestor Garcia.

Marcia Rea (right), an a Teaching and Learning, presented to a staff mer demonstrates outstandi





California State University, Northridge recognized dozens of staff members for their exemplary service at the 47th Annual Staff Service Awards and Recognition of Excellence event on May 30.

Echoing the theme of the presidential investiture held earlier this month, this year's theme was "Unlocking Potential, Cultivating Achievement," highlighting the accomplishments of staff and administrators for supporting the university's mission, vision and values. The program is organized annually by the [Office of Human Resources](#).

"I want CSUN to be known as a destination workplace where every employee recognizes that he or she belongs to a community of educators and is acknowledged as a key participant in advancing student success and providing exemplary service for all our stakeholders," said President Dianne F. Harrison. "This applies to every employee of the university—in every job at the university—because all our jobs are vital in the process of educating students."

Employees who have served the university from five to 40 years were recognized. This year, three individuals were honored for 40 years of service to CSUN: Judith Friedman, instructional support technician with the Department of Psychology; William Krohmer, administrative operations analyst with the Department of Biology; and Cynthia Rawitch, vice provost in the Division of Academic Affairs.

Five employees were honored with Merit Awards for excellence in work performance, contribution to the development of new processes and service to the university community. The recipients are Victor Diamante, information technology consultant in the Klotz Student Health Center; Cindy Barrett, administrative support coordinator in the College of Engineering and Computer Science; Lily Legardo, administrative assistant to the director of University Counseling Services; Edward O'Brien, communications assistant in the Office of the President; and Albert Alcazar, academic personnel analyst in faculty affairs.

The university presented the inaugural Alumni Relations Award to William Taylor '97 M.A. (Theatre), public affairs and communications specialist and faculty in the Department of Theatre. This award is reserved for employees who have developed initiatives and programs or contributed to the improvement of existing processes, which encourage greater alumni connectedness to CSUN; who have developed successful collaborative relationships with alumni that resulted in progress toward achievement of university goals and objectives; and who are committed to living the values of the university, volunteerism and service.

The Jolene Koester Team Award was presented for a collaborative project or initiative that brings about positive, radical change that improves performance or productivity and/or reduces costs or enhances the image of the university. This year's recipients

are the Matador Information Network Display Team (MIND) and the Student Registration Wait List Team. There were several nominations received for this award.

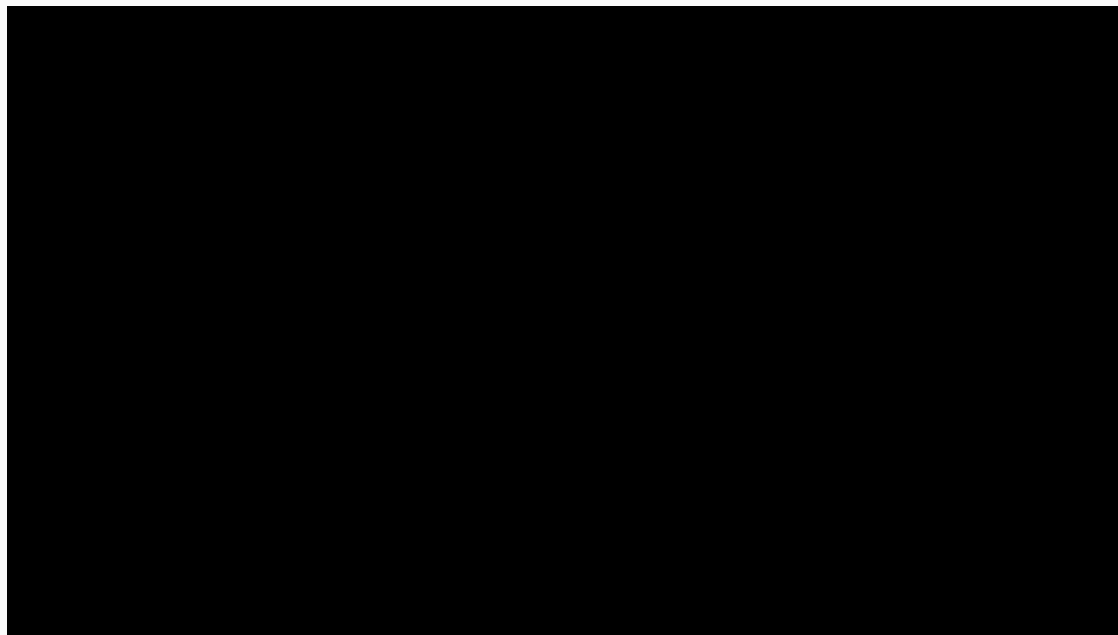
The MIND Team was recognized for using the screens on campus to provide an innovative platform for exchanging information, encouraging engagement and fostering a sense of Matador pride. The Student Registration Wait List Team worked together to develop a method in which students could add their names to a waitlist for specific courses through an online enrollment system.

The Michael D. Eisner College of Education's Marcia Rea received the Presidential Award from President Harrison. The Presidential Award honors one individual who sustains consistent, outstanding performance and demonstrates the values of the university. This award is reserved for individuals whose performance raises the bar in their department, whose example shines among their peers, and whose attitude of service and excellence shines brightly.

Rea, an administrative coordinator for the Center for Teaching and Learning, has worked at CSUN for 32 years. In his letter of recommendation, Michael Spagna, dean of the college of education, said Rea "cares first and foremost about the students, and works tirelessly to promote their success; and she has served as a mentor to numerous colleagues, imparting an unparalleled amount of institutional wisdom." She volunteers to support various campus activities and initiatives including the Teenage Drama Workshop and Friends of the Library and most recently helped to organize the "What Really Works" educational conference.

In addition to being recognized at the event, the merit award winners, alumni awardee, the team award winners (as a group) and the presidential award winner receive a cash prize for their service.

View videos showcasing the merit award winners below:



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Mix It Up Program Encourages Healthy Eating

by Chelsea Turner | on June 27, 2013 | in [Faculty and Staff News](#), [Health and Fitness](#)



Team Forever23, a six-member team comprised of employees from the Office of Information Technology, won the first “Mix It Up” campus healthy eating competition.

The **Mix It Up** challenge was sponsored by California State University, Northridge’s Office of Human Resources and HealthWorks by Kaiser Permanente. The runners-up were CSUN-LMRY, a four-member team from the departments of Geological Sciences and Mathematics, in second place and Garden Dwellers, a six-member team from the Division of University Advancement, in third place.

Mix It Up is a nutrition program that simply requires registered users to input their daily intake of fruits and vegetables into the online system. The goal is to eat five servings of produce each day and to even reach beyond that to eat three vegetables of each color (red, orange, yellow/white, green and blue/violet) daily. Points are assigned to each type of produce dependent on the quantity eaten. The team winners earned the most points on this system over an eight-week period.

The competition led to 160 faculty and staff members, split into 25 teams, registering with the program and tracking their daily intake of fruits and vegetables. It emphasized the overall goal of Mix It Up to reinforce healthy eating practices in a fun fashion.

Members of the winning three teams received Visa reward cards. First place recipients won \$100 each; second place winners won \$75 each; third place winners won \$50 each.

Although the competition ended in May, current users may continue to log their activity and use the program’s features through March 10, 2014. Registration is available for those who did not sign-up in the eight weeks of competition. **Register** today with Mix It Up to open the door to a healthier lifestyle filled with flavor.

“We look forward to continuing our partnership with Kaiser Permanente HealthWorks to improve our overall employee health and health awareness through similar innovative wellness activities for all CSUN employees,” said Laurie Gold-Brubaker, associate director of benefits administration and workers’ compensation.



 [Kaiser Permanente, Mix It Up, Office of Human Resources](#)

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