CSULA professors named Fellows in Life Sciences

Fisher, Narguizian selected to participate in The National Academies regional summer institute

Cal State L.A.’s Biology Professors Kirsten Fisher (Pasadena resident) and Paul Narguizian (Sherman Oaks resident) both were bestowed the title of National Academies Summer Institute, Fisher and Narguizian were selected based on their ideas for enhancing undergraduate biology education, and due to CSULA’s commitment to support teaching innovations. They were also chosen based on their willingness to collaborate on the development of instructional materials to teach scientific thinking and biology concepts.

Additionally, both CSULA faculty members pledged to implement a seminar designed to enhance the ability of undergraduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and others to mentor undergraduates in the research laboratory.

In a letter to CSULA President James M. Rosser, National Academy of Sciences Vice President Barbara A. Schaal wrote: “By sending this team to the National Academies Summer Institute, our institution is at the forefront of improvement of undergraduate education that is so essential for preparing both future scientists and scientifically-literate citizens.”

An expert on bryophyte ecology and evolution, Fisher is interested in research on plant molecular systematics, phylogeography, and the use of phylogenetic trees for exploring evolutionary relationships. Narguizian’s expertise is in K-16 science instruction, curriculum development, and assessment and education. His research and publication interests include evolution, the role of museums and natural history collections in understanding evolution, animal behavior, and nature, philosophy, and history of science.

The summer institute is the direct result of a key recommendation from the 2003 National Research Council report, entitled Bio2010: Transforming Undergraduate Education for Future Research Biologists, which called for programs of professional development to engage faculty at research-intensive institutions in taking greater responsibility for high-quality undergraduate biology education.

By: Earl Heath

It was a tale of two schools in the L.A. City football championships this year as one school continued its winning tradition and another began its own.

Narbonne High of Harbor City claimed the Division 1 Title by defeating Carson 49-32. The Gouchos (11-3) with the help of senior running back Tray Boone got off to a 35-7 lead at intermission and never looked back. The fleet-footed Boone had 301 yards rushing on 36 carries to go along with his six touchdowns. He had help from 6 foot 6 junior offensive tackle Atlanta Toussant the Gouchos claimed their fourth title in ten years including 2008, 2002 and 2001.

South East High of Southgate defeated a determined Marshall team 51-34 for the division two crown. All-City running back Robert Lewis who came into the game with 2004 yards rushing didn’t have his usual high performance game on offense. However he did make some major play’s including a 55 yard kickoff return and a 36 yard interception for a touchdown. “He’s’ a once-in-a-lifetime player,” said Jaguar coach Derwin Henderson. “He can make things change in a game quickly.”

Anthony Benitez of Marshall (11-3) passed for 193 yards and two touchdowns; he also rushed for 135 yards. The Barristers had a lot of support on the sidelines as they were cheered on by alumni that included NFL Hall of Famer Mike Haynes. L.A. city councilmember Tom LaBonge and USC Trojan football announcer Pete Arbogast.

All-City running back Robert Lewis (seated right) shares championship trophy with friends at East L.A. College

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