



CAL STATE L.A.

T O D A Y

THE NEWS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

FALL 1999

In Focus: Student Research

The opportunities for student research are varied and extensive at this primarily undergraduate university. This issue explores some of the University's current programs and projects that have enhanced student learning and received major recognition.
(See cover article, page 3.)



Above: Student researchers in Cal State L.A.'s new CEA-CREST program survey the coastline. For a closer look at the University's new National Science Foundation-funded environmental center, see page 7.

Myra LeBendig 1999-2000 Cal State L.A./CSU Teacher of the Year

To celebrate CSU alumni who have chosen education as a profession, the 23-campus CSU system has declared 1999-2000 the Year of the Teacher. CSU Celebrating Teachers aims to increase teacher recruitment statewide, elevate appreciation for the work teachers do, and raise awareness for the role the CSU plays in K-12 reform.

Cal State L.A. is proud to have selected English teacher **Myra LeBendig** to represent Cal State L.A. and its thousands of outstanding alumni-teachers as the University's 1999-2000 CSU Outstanding Teacher.

LeBendig, who has taught at South Central Los Angeles' James A. Foshay Learning Center for the past 11 years, received her master's degree in educational administration from Cal State L.A. in 1997.

She has the distinction of being the first teacher from L.A. Unified School District to receive certification from the



National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. This is the highest honor a teacher can earn.

LeBendig has chaired Foshay's Language Arts Department at the middle and high school levels. She has taught the high school Teen Living class, is volunteer coordinator of the school's AP Program, and

is in charge of the school's accreditation process. Foshay's principal, Howard Lappin, credits her with playing a pivotal role in the transformation of the Foshay Learning Center into a California Distinguished School.

As Foshay's lead teacher in USC's Pre-College Enrichment Academy for the past eight years, she was twice named the Academy's outstanding teacher of the year. She has been a curriculum consultant for the Planning for Your Future/*Los Angeles Times* program and serves on the Professional Council for the Fulfillment Fund—the largest private scholarship-granting organization in Los Angeles.

In September, LeBendig and representatives from Cal State L.A. attended a systemwide recognition event presented by the CSU for the outstanding alumni-teachers who have been chosen to represent each of the 23 CSU campuses.

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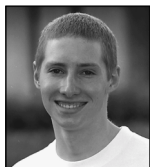
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Introducing Our First President's Scholars

Continued from back page

Nathan Craig Charlton

The son of CSU grads (his parents graduated from CSU Long Beach) and a distinguished graduate of Earl Warren High School in Downey, Nathan Charlton plans to pursue a degree in business administration (marketing) at Cal State L.A.



The 18-year-old played varsity volleyball and graduated with a Gold Seal for his participation in the California Scholarship Federation (CSF).

Charlton plays electric guitar in a band at his church's teen service and plays, sings and writes for his own punk/alternative band. He and other church members have gone to Tijuana to build houses for disadvantaged families—spending their spring break pouring cement and carrying lumber to erect walls that will be foundations for homes originally built out of cardboard.

"When things get overwhelming, I tell myself that 'there's a lot more to eternity than life,'" says Charlton.

Monica Chew

Bright, creative and multitalented, Monica Chew is happy to attend Cal State L.A., where she's thinking of majoring in art. An added plus—it's close to home and her family, "whom I love dearly," she says. She has "family ties" to the University, as well: her mother received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Cal State L.A., and her father attended for two years.



The Franklin High graduate received a Character Citizen Award for donating more than 100 hours of community service. Chew was also honored for having a high GPA and participated in the [U.S.] President's Education Awards Program.

A budding artist, Chew is considering a career in graphic arts. She is also gifted in other arts: she studied karate until the age of 12, and she enjoys cooking.

Paraphrasing Beatle Paul McCartney, Chew says, "In whatever you do, always keep a little fun in it for yourself."

Hunly Chy

Hunly Chy is an aspiring electrical engineer from Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra. He is both a Golden State Scholar and an Advanced Placement Scholar and passed five AP examinations ranging from calculus to U.S. history. For three years, Chy and his schoolmates competed with teams from around the world in the American Regional Mathematics League.



Chy's first steps were toward civil engineering. He won third prize in the regional Science Olympiad and placed seventh during the state finals for his construction of a balsa wood tower. In another science competition, he won first prize for his model of a bridge.

Chy enjoys surfing the Internet, but is not always glued to the computer. He competed for Mark Keppel's JV tennis and wrestling teams and won a silver medal for wrestling. For the past two years, he has been a library volunteer, repairing books and tutoring English.

Laurel E. Diskin

Although she was offered a major award from another university, Laurel Diskin chose to major in music and minor in Spanish at Cal State L.A., where she was attracted by the range of opportunities and impressed by the interested faculty and administrators she met.



The talented 18-year-old, who graduated from Eagle Rock High School with honors, has accumulated a long list of outstanding scholastic, athletics and musical accomplishments. With six AP exams under her belt, she was named an AP Scholar with Distinction. In high school, she participated in student government, was a Model U.N. Distinguished Representative, and played softball.

Diskin began studying the violin in 1990 and later added voice and piano. She was one of three violinists selected statewide to participate in a special Cal Arts program.

Numan Benjamin Parada

Numan Parada plans to major in civil engineering and might even minor in music. Last spring, he was selected among the best local high school band members to participate in the Cal State L.A. First Chair Honor Band, a program sponsored by the University's music department for more than 20 years.



Specializing in the bass clarinet, Parada was active in the Verdugo Hills High School marching band. An award for Best Musicianship from Verdugo Hills and one from Bank of America didn't leave Parada's other talents unnoticed—Verdugo Hills also recognized him with the Outstanding Achievement in Science Award.

Parada points out that his musicianship extends to the bassoon, bass guitar and cello! He plays chess, assembles jigsaw puzzles, and has been drawing maps since he was seven.

"There's a lot of math that I can use in drawing maps," says Parada, "and drawing is a way of expressing myself."

Ciro Alfonso Ramirez, Jr.

When he was young, Ciro Ramirez would take his toys apart. "Sometimes I could put them back together," he says.



His fascination for how things work led him to explore video games and computers and, ultimately, to pursue math as a major. During the regional Academic Decathlon, a 10-subject quiz show-like competition, Ramirez won Best of Team for Franklin High School.

Graduating with honors, Ramirez was a National Hispanic Scholar finalist, Bank of America science awardee and national Macy's Scholar. With a high GPA, SAT scores that top 1300 and other scholarly achievements, he was also accepted to three top UC schools. The oldest sibling of four, Ramirez will be the first in his family to attend college.

Scarleth Ramirez

"Determination" and "leadership" describe Scarleth Ramirez. Coming to L.A. from Nicaragua at the age of 14, Ramirez was an ESL (English as a Second Language) student during her first two years at Inglewood High School. By her senior year, she was in Advanced Placement English classes, and earned college credit with excellent AP exam scores. Her senior year also saw Ramirez achieve the highest score on her school's Academic Decathlon team. In three-years of high school ROTC, Ramirez attained the position of battalion command sergeant major—the second highest position at her school. Once afraid of heights, she has mastered the art of *rappelling*—lowering oneself down a rock face by means of a rope. Her other hobbies are reading, music (she plays the flute and piano) and swimming (she was on her school's swim team). A civil engineering major, Ramirez' interests also include architecture



Ivan Albert Reyes

"Keep it on a positive," says the confident Ivan Reyes, quoting from a song by hip hop band Black Eyed Peas. Quick with remarks, Reyes admits that he tends to joke a lot.



"I like to make people laugh," he says. When not cracking jokes, the 19-year-old honor student from Eagle Rock High likes to bowl, shoot hoops, skateboard and break-dance. When he slows down, he enjoys playing chess and volunteering at church.

Reyes, whose parents are alums of the University of the Philippines, is the second of three siblings to go to college.

Reyes wants to pursue a career in physics and fondly recalls the time when he and his friends built mini-race cars out of found objects. "I guess that prepared me for college," he says half-jokingly.



Student Research: Going Where No One Has Gone Before

It is Summer Quarter 1999. Inside a new building that houses an array of computers and an impressive, student-built scale model of a segmented space telescope, Cal State L.A. mechanical engineering graduate student Mauricio Morales supervises two high school students from Houston, Texas—Alissa Genthon and Celestina Vo—who are Summer NASA SHARP Plus Program Fellows. Twelve other local high school students in a new SPACE Lab Summer Program arrive and leave according to their schedules.

Nearby, electrical engineering senior Daniel Rollins is teaching the high school students about the lab's computer system, which he helps run. Morales is checking the work of Genthon who has been asked to design a folding telescope with foldable mirrors, something that doesn't yet exist in space. Such a development could lead to larger, more powerful telescopes, he says.

Rollins and Morales are only two of a group of ten Cal State L.A. students who are conducting their research and mentoring in a summer program that is part of a special NASA-funded project focusing on new technologies for space observation. Based on a proposal by Helen Ryaciotaki-Boussalis, chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, the project has recently had its five-year, \$3.8 million NASA grant extended for an additional three years.

In this stimulating environment, students like Morales and Rollins develop and test advanced technologies that are of immediate interest to NASA, the aerospace industry and the commercial sector.

Student opportunities for research that pushes back the frontiers of knowledge is integral to the Cal State L.A. experience. That may surprise some people, but not our students and faculty, who work together in research fields ranging from space telescope design to advanced printing technology, in settings as distinct as mountain forests, urban neighborhoods, coastal habitats, and the University's video labs.

In fact, Cal State L.A. *undergraduates* conduct more faculty-directed research than their University of California counterparts, says **Carlos Gutierrez**, chemistry professor and director of both the University's Biomedical Research Support program and Minority Access to Research Careers honors program, which support the research activities of 80 students each year. Cal State L.A. undergrads regularly present research at conferences and publish their findings in peer reviewed and scholarly journals, affirms **Joseph Bragin**, associate dean of Natural and Social Sciences.

At Cal State L.A., research is not limited to the sciences, notes **Carl Selkin**, dean of Arts and Letters. "The campus community of dedicated faculty and small classes encourages and supports students in the arts and humanities to compose and explore," he says.

Selkin points out that part of the definition of research is to create something new and significant, as in the theater lighting innovations of **Rick Vander Hyde**, first place winner for Creative Arts and Design in a past CSU statewide student research competition, or the compositions of graduate student **Christian Moder**, whose close work with assistant professor and composer **John Kennedy** resulted in an opportunity for his music to be performed at next year's Ojai Festival.

The research done by Cal State L.A. students across the disciplines has the potential to affect all aspects of our lives. Applied research sponsored by the Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute—a non-partisan public policy center on campus—explores significant social issues facing urban communities of the "new" California and Southern California in particular. Students and faculty in the School of Health and Human Services are currently doing important investigation in fields that range from child and family studies to gerontology. For the past year, criminal justice majors have been working under a Guggenheim Foundation grant with associate professor **Ira Sommers** and professor and department chair **Deborah Baskin** to study the connection between amphetamines and violence, while assistant professor **Katherine Roberts'** students conduct research on mitochondrial DNA. A student's research experiences in nutritional science at Cal State L.A. led to her development of new approaches to the dietary regimen of NASA astronauts in the field.

In the School of Business and Economics—in the last few years alone—stu-

dents working with professors **Shirley Stretch-Stephenson** and **William Cohen** have brought repeated national recognition to the University for their development of innovative marketing strategies.

Since 1990, student research and project development in the School of Engineering and Technology has also captured national, as well as international, attention, with repeated first place regional awards for student-designed Mini-Baja off-road vehicles and the national Sunrayce-winning solar car, Solar Eagle III.

Cal State L.A.'s Charter School of Education, primarily a graduate school, has the only program leading to a doctoral degree at the University (a Ph.D. in Special Education, offered in conjunction with UCLA). "Our students participate in research programs involving a wide range of ages, disabilities and educational settings," says Special Education chair **Diane Klein**. Current research in the Charter School of Education in general focuses on the development of innovative approaches to teacher education and evaluation of teaching methods.

In the School of Natural and Social Sciences, faculty members are highly competitive and successful in securing major funding for grants that benefit students. In the Anthropology Department, students of professor **Patricia Martz** have been learning archaeological research techniques on San Nicolas Island off California's coast under a \$300,000 Department of Defense Legacy Grant. In the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, "our department has one of the best records for funding undergraduate research in the CSU system—and possibly in the state," says Carlos Gutierrez, recognized by the White House for excellences in science mentoring.

A recent five-year, \$4.9 million grant from the NSF Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) program funds the University's CEA-CREST project. The grant, administered by biology professor **Carlos Robles**, establishes Cal State L.A. as an outstanding research center for environmental studies and offers students exciting opportunities for focused and interdisciplinary research in the environmental sciences (see article, p. 7).

In addition to the NASA, NSF and Department of Defense support mentioned above, the diverse research/training projects available at Cal State L.A. receive major funding from such prominent organizations as the National Institutes of Health, the National Endowment for the Humanities, Southern California Air Quality Management District, Rockwell International, Hughes Medical Foundation, state and federal Departments of Energy, Transportation, and Education, HUD, the Kellogg Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Public Health Services and others.

New discoveries that benefit our society are often the end product of good research. The existence of research opportunities on a primarily undergraduate campus has other benefits as well. Research can serve to keep students and professors at the cutting edge in their fields. The act of conducting research invigorates teaching, and students who work closely with faculty on research projects benefit from a learning and mentoring environment that successfully prepares them for graduate school or for their chosen careers.

“Our faculty members are committed to including students in their work, wherever possible, and the possibilities keep increasing every year.” — Susan Steiner

Extramurally-funded awards also offer other benefits, including an enormous range and number of stipends and salaries for students, says **Susan Steiner**, director of the University's busy Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. "Our faculty members are committed to including students in their work, wherever possible, and the possibilities keep increasing every year," she says.

For the 1998-1999 academic year, Steiner points out, the University received more than \$16 million in research awards—a 21% increase over the previous academic year. Proposals that totaled more than \$90 million were submitted last year, almost twice as many as the year before. "That increase means an almost guaranteed increase in awards," Steiner says. "The impact on expansion of research labs, on research opportunities for students and on development of new curriculum will be tremendous."

News Briefs

Cal State L.A. Proposed Site for Crime Lab

With a \$220 million bill to upgrade and expand California's crime labs still waiting to be signed by Governor Davis at time of publication, a California regional forensic science facility at Cal State L.A. edges a few steps closer toward realization. The brainchild of Cal State L.A. criminal justice professor **Anthony Longhetti**, criminal justice chair **Deborah Baskin**, and **Barry Fisher**, director of the L.A. County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau, the forensics lab will be a state-of-the-art center for criminal investigation and training of crime lab staff.

"The new facility will provide for an exchange of ideas among personnel from the Los Angeles Police Department, County Sheriff's Department and California Department of Justice," says Longhetti, who heads the University's graduate program in criminalistics. He notes that permanent crime lab facilities on campus will also provide greater internship opportunities for students.

A joint project of Cal State L.A. and the above-mentioned agencies, the proposed multi-story facility would be located in Lot A at the southwest corner of campus. A multi-story parking structure would be built to make up for loss of student parking, says Fisher. According to the project's planners, LAPD and County Sheriff's Department crime labs would be relocated to the new facility. Additional rooms would be assigned to the University's criminalistics program and training programs administered by the Department of Justice. If Governor Davis approves the bill, it will appear as a bond issue on the March 2000 State ballot.

"We're really looking forward to this because [the Sheriff's Dept. has] had a very good relationship with Cal State L.A.," says Fisher. "There will be wonderful opportunities for everybody—students will have access to fully operational crime labs to do their research, law enforcement officials can improve their quality of service to the community... It's a classic win-win situation."

University to Host Woodrow Wilson Fellow

Cal State L.A. has been selected as one of 15 institutions nationwide to host a humanities fellow through the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation's new postdoctoral fellowship program. Other selected universities include UC Berkeley, Harvard, NYU, Yale, and Cornell.

Through this program, successful national applicants who received Ph.D. degrees in the humanities between December 1998 and June 2000 will gain valuable teaching experience and will be mentored by current faculty. The program aims to improve the participants' ability to obtain tenure-track teaching positions at universities and colleges.

Over the two years of support this program provides, Fellows will have the opportunity to develop their research into publishable books and articles, a crucial prerequisite for prospective university faculty. At Cal State L.A., participants will benefit from partnerships with such area research institutions as the Huntington Library and the Getty Research Institute.

"Our University has a tradition of strength in the humanities," said **Carl Selkin**, dean of Arts and Letters. "The Woodrow Wilson program selection process will give us access to some of the best young humanities scholars in the country and, at the same time, introduce them to the range and depth of our University offerings in the humanities disciplines."

Candidates in the areas of interdisciplinary humanities, including art history, aesthetics, dramatic literature, and cultural studies currently are being sought.

CSU Research Resource Now Online at Cal State L.A.

CSU researchers in the social sciences now have access to more than 900 data sets in the Social Science Data Base Archive (SSDBA) located at Cal State L.A. and housed in the office of Analytical Studies. This clearinghouse for social science data has served students, staff and faculty since 1991 by acquiring information from the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Science at the University of Michigan, the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at the University of Connecticut, the Field-Institute-California Field Poll in San Francisco, and the United States Census Bureau. The staff offers workshops and support for campus liaisons. The Web site, <http://ssdba.calstatela.edu>, will provide better access to data for CSU researchers throughout California.

Emerita Helps Fund Program to Examine What it Means to be an American

A dedicated "Americanist," emerita professor **Vilma Raskin Potter** was delighted when the opportunity arose to help fund a new program that will explore the cultures and heritages that help define the ever-evolving American identity.

Cal State L.A.'s **American Community Program**, a \$1.35 million project of the School of Arts and Letters, will pair student researchers with faculty to examine how diverse cultures have contributed to an American identity and how newly-integrated immigrant populations continue to redefine that identity.

"The American Community Program has tremendous possibilities in unifying different studies in the humanities and bringing out ideas of how one gets to be an American," says Potter, who taught at Cal State L.A. for 31 years. Although she retired in 1992, Potter keeps busy with a variety of interests that include lecturing in the community and writing and translating poetry. She credits much of her vigor to her continued involvement with the University in meaningful projects such as the American Community Program.

A long-time Pasadena resident, Vilma Potter started teaching freshman English at Cal State L.A. and later specialized in African American writers, the Harlem Renaissance—and English Victorian poets. As an English major at Brooklyn College in New York during the '40s, Potter was one of the first students in the country to enroll in the newly-created American Studies program. She did graduate work at Duke University with Jay Hubbell, a famous scholar of American literature.

"America is a very complex place," says Potter, referring to a more integrated American family as more people marry outside their ethnic and cultural groups. "It used to be if you came from a Polish family group, you had to marry Polish... Perhaps the American Community Program can engage a student to study this new shape in the American family." Potter and her husband Bertram have grandchildren of Japanese and South American descent and adopted granddaughters from India.

In 1996, the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded Cal State L.A. a \$337,500 multi-year grant to establish an endowment for the American Community Program. The University's status as one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse campuses in the country and its location in a city that could very well be the model for future American communities make Cal State L.A. an ideal setting for such a project.

"The Cal State L.A. campus is unique in providing ground for investigating the ways our distinctively American culture emerges from the various heritages that contribute to it," says **Carl Selkin**, dean of the School of Arts and Letters, in which the program is housed. "We have always been a gateway institution for new populations seeking to become part of mainstream American society—many of our students are first or second generation Americans."

Contributions to the American Community Program have to match \$3 for every \$1 provided by the NEH. This project has found important matching support from major foundations like the **Ralph M.**



Parsons Foundation, which awarded a \$100,000 grant, and the **Ahmanson Foundation**, which has contributed \$100,000 to date. **Edison International** became a corporate donor to the program with a gift of \$15,000. Individual donors like Potter are equally important to this endowment drive, says Selkin.

This is Vilma and Bertram Potter's second major contribution to Cal State L.A. They used an inheritance from their parents to establish the English department's Potter-Raskin Graduate Fellowship in their parents' honor.

"Cal State L.A. is a marvelous educational environment for growth," says Potter. "It has been wonderful for me to see so many students grow and bloom, and to be able to teach and learn from them for so many years—and now to help them, both through the fellowship and the NEH matching endowment."

"The American Community Program accomplishes two tasks. First, it offers scholars the opportunity to think seriously about the American experience, and second, it offers students the opportunity to get paid while they're studying," says Potter.

A search for an endowed chair to direct the American Community Program has begun this fall, and by the year 2000, student researchers will be sought. The program will then enable participants from the full range of humanities disciplines at Cal State L.A. to teach and share their research insights. This research has the potential to affect many areas of today's society, says Selkin. Investigation of the diverse experiences of American communities may shed new light on subjects from social instability and media influence to issues about educating a diverse population.

"Our society, comprising so many diaspora populations, is potentially enriched by diversity but also challenged by it," Selkin says. "Coming to terms with difference is fundamental not only to healing the tensions it can cause but also to understanding the culture we call American."



Vilma Potter (third from left) meets with Alfred Bendixen, chair of the English department (third from right), Carl Selkin, dean of Arts and Letters (far right) and graduate English students (l.-r.) Mary Ann Nichols, Ruth Blanda (Potter-Raskin Fellow), and Jennifer Aldridge.

Alumnus Steve Kim Contributes to Research by Engineering Students

Students working with associate professor **Nancy Warter-Perez** conduct cutting-edge research that can yield faster, more efficient computers. Taking advantage of today's most powerful microprocessors, their research has the potential to greatly increase the rate of human-computer information exchange.

Warter-Perez, who also heads the graduate program in electrical engineering, works with a team of one undergraduate and three graduate students. "The researchers have developed the framework for a compiler that will be able to reorganize programming instructions so that applications run faster," says Warter-Perez. A compiler is a program that translates instructions written by a human into a language that the computer can understand.

The research team has implemented a scheduling framework that will be tested in the University of Illinois IMPACT compiler. "The students are trying to minimize program execution time on new EPIC (Explicitly Parallel Instruction-set Computers) processors," Warter-Perez says.

Her team's efforts are backed by a grant from the National Science Foundation's Young Investigator Award, funding from Hughes Electronics, equipment donated by the **Hewlett-Packard Corporation** and contributions from a Cal State L.A. engineering alumnus: support from the **Steve Kim Fund**, through the **California Community Foundation**, helps to make this project a success.



Nancy Warter-Perez with students

To **Steve Kim**, who received his master's degree in electrical engineering in 1979, research experience gives students a chance to work on real-life problems.

"Research more than curricula simulates what we face in the workplace," says Kim.

Kim is the founder and CEO of Xylan Corporation, a multi-million dollar company that is an industry leader in developing networking devices. His contribution, which qualifies for the NSF matching grant, has allowed Warter-Perez time to conduct her research and develop her research team.

When he went to school in the late '70s, Steve Kim didn't have access to the type of high tech research that now benefits Cal State L.A. students. With a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Sogang University in Korea, Kim immigrated to the U.S. and worked full time during the day while attending school at night to obtain his master's degree.

Kim attributes his success to hands-on job experience—and 70-hour work weeks! He was already a savvy businessman before he started Xylan, having successfully sold his first company, Fibermux, which he started out of his garage.

"I grew up in a harsh environment and had to learn to take care of myself, so I had to succeed. I was determined to succeed," said Kim. His advice to students is to work hard and take advantage of internships. He recommends that students keep up with the latest technology by reading the various trade magazines.

Generous contributions from individual donors like Steve Kim, along with support from established organizations, create significant research opportunities for Cal State L.A. students—experiences that will equip them with first-hand knowledge and a substantial industry edge when they graduate.



Steve Kim '79

Faculty Focus: Former Student Researcher Returns Home to Teach Others

An outstanding chemistry student as an undergraduate at Cal State L.A., **Frank Gomez** journeyed west to UCLA and east to Harvard and then returned to teach at the University of his former professors, in the city where he was born and raised.

"I wanted to work for an institution that focuses on both teaching and research, and allows me to work with a diverse student body," says Gomez, an associate professor of chemistry who received the Outstanding Young Educator award in 1998 from the California Junior Chamber of Commerce.

In the mid '80s, Gomez participated in the University's **Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC)**—an undergraduate research-training honors program in the biomedical sciences funded by the National Institutes of Health. He worked closely with chemistry professor **Thomas Onak**, who later received the prestigious CSU Trustees' Outstanding Professor Award and was the 1995 California Professor of the Year. Their project dealt with the synthesis of carbon-boron molecules that have the potential to be used in a treatment for cancer.



"Frank's research projects centered on a topic quite unfamiliar to most undergraduates," says Onak of his former research student who is now his colleague. "His dedication carried over to the rest of our research team, and he was responsible for helping several other research workers' projects along."

After graduating from Don Bosco Tech in Rosemead, Gomez sought a bachelor of science degree in chemistry at Cal State L.A. and graduated with honors in 1986. He received his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1991 from UCLA, where he was an NIH and a National Chicano Council on Higher Education (NCCHE) predoctoral fellow. In 1994, he completed a Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Cancer Research Fund Postdoctoral Fellowship at Harvard University.

"Obviously, the NCCHE committee felt, as I did, that Frank showed great promise. This turned out to be the case," says Onak, pointing to Gomez' many accomplishments since he joined the faculty in 1994.

Coming full circle, Gomez now works closely with his own students, conducting research under his National Science Foundation CAREER grant and other grants.

"If I see talented students in my class, I'll recruit them to work with me," says Gomez, whose research uses capillary electrophoresis to study the interactions of proteins with drugs. "Students are always co-authors on our research articles."

Scrambled Words, Anyone?

David R. Perrott, professor of psychology at Cal State L.A., and **Kourosh Saberi** ('85 B.A., '89 M.A., Sociology), a former research assistant to Perrott and now a Caltech senior research fellow, have shown that people are able to understand some speech even when it is seriously scrambled.

In a research project that explores the brain's ability to process speech, Perrott and Saberi divided a sentence into segments of equal duration, recorded each segment (some smaller than a syllable) backward, strung the backward segments together, then played the resulting sequence to human subjects. The researchers were amazed to discover that the sentences remained comprehensible at varying degrees of distortion. Their findings were published in the April 29 issue of *Nature* magazine.

The two researchers have collaborated on a number of articles since Saberi worked in Perrott's psychoacoustics lab. The research has great potential to advance studies in the field of artificial intelligence. Saberi points out that the human brain's capacity for comprehending and processing distorted or reversed speech is currently unmatched by any machine.

Biotech Center Planned

In an attempt to attract biotechnology businesses—and high-paying jobs—to Los Angeles, **Joseph Bragin**, associate dean of Natural and Social Sciences, is heading a CSU effort to convert the abandoned 1928 Glenarm power plant in Pasadena into a first-rate biomedical research and job training hub. Bragin is chair of the governing board of CSUPERB, the CSU Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology, a multi-campus association intended to promote interdisciplinary projects among faculty and students in science, engineering and business administration.

The spacious power plant could be used as a multi-purpose education/training and a shared-use production facility for emerging biotech companies, according to a CSUPERB summary to the legislature that Bragin helped to author.

Centrally located to most universities in the L.A. basin, the Glenarm plant is anchored at the southern end of Pasadena's biotech corridor—an area along south Fair Oaks and Raymond Avenues designated by the city as a center for biomedical and high-tech start-up companies.

Assemblyman Jack D. Scott (D-Altadena), a supporter of the proposed center, has helped to secure \$250,000 from the state budget to pay a contractor to examine the costs of renovation and asbestos abatement.

Beckman Undergraduate Research

In July 1998, Cal State L.A. was among 20 universities chosen from 800 national applicants to participate in the two-year Beckman Scholars Program. Established by the Beckman Foundation, an organization known for generous contributions to scientific and educational institutions, the Beckman Scholars Program helps stimulate, encourage and support research activities of talented undergraduate students.

"It is an important honor that we were recognized and invited to participate in such a prestigious program," says chemistry professor **Carlos Gutierrez**, coordinator of the program. "Being named a Beckman Scholar is a distinction that will benefit our students throughout their research careers."

Universities involved in the program include Caltech, MIT, Northwestern, Carnegie Mellon, Stanford and UC Berkeley. A total of 73 Beckman Scholars were selected from the participating schools. The four outstanding students selected by Cal State L.A. are **Ernest Cruz**, **Cristal Gama**, **Sang Woo Kang** and **Leana Wen**. They are partnered with faculty in the Chemistry and Biochemistry department in active research groups, working full time in the summer and part time during the rest of the academic year.



(Front row, l.-r.) Undergraduate researchers Kang, Gama, Cruz and Wen are paired with the chemistry and biochemistry faculty members behind them (l.-r.): Linda Tunstad, Robert Vellanoweth, Carlos Gutierrez and Donald Paulson, in the Beckman Scholars Program.

Student research: discover

Research (ri-sûrch', re'-sûrch) n. 1. Scholarlarly or scientific investigation or inquiry having for its aim the discovery of new facts or the revision of accepted theories in the light of newly discovered facts.

Teaching and learning is energized when students are engaged in original research. At Cal State L.A., research and training opportunities encourage students to continue their development in major graduate programs and professional schools throughout the nation. Through this research, students seek solutions to “real world” problems that will ultimately benefit our communities and our society. And this creative activity prepares our students well for the evolving workplace of the 21st century.

Described on these pages are some of the many faculty/student research programs that excite learning at Cal State L.A.



Environmental center opens new vistas for students

Marcos Luna arrived at Cal State L.A. in 1995 from the University of Redlands, a philosophy/writing undergraduate who had never done college research. Before long, Luna would discover geography at Cal State L.A., conduct research and co-author an article on remote sensing with two of his professors—all as an undergraduate.

Later, as a master's degree candidate at Cal State L.A., Luna's association with geography professor **Ali Modarres** led him to Eureka, California, where he trained Yurok Indians in the use of high-tech computer software. As a participant in Cal State L.A.'s CEA-CREST program, he hunkered down along Fremont Avenue in Alhambra to study air pollution levels. He used expensive, hard-to-get equipment provided through a loan from the South Coast Air Quality Management District arranged by geography professor **Steven LaDochy**.

Along the way, Luna discovered that the training and research experience he received at Cal State L.A. had made him the kind of person who could contribute to society in a meaningful way.

"I didn't come to Cal State L.A. expecting to do research, let alone this much. It's not what I expected from undergraduate study," said Luna, 25, who will soon complete his thesis and his master's degree in geography. Luna wants to work in the field of environmental justice, shaping policy to help poor and disadvantaged communities that often take the brunt of unpopular development.

"This is the kind of knowledge that can be used to make a positive impact on people's quality of life," said Luna.

The new Center for Environmental Analysis (CEA), supported by a \$4.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation and the first of its kind funded by the NSF on the West Coast, offers intensive and interdisciplinary research opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students in the environmental sciences. (CREST stands for the NSF's Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology, of which the University's Center is a part.) Under Cal State L.A.'s CEA-CREST program, students participate in research teams, an interdisciplinary curriculum and internships with off-campus agencies.



New SPACE lab

Under the NASA "space telescope" program, the School of Engineering and Technology recently established the University's SPACE (Structures Pointing And Controls Engineering) lab at Cal State L.A. Here, work is done to design and fabricate a testbed, or model, that resembles the complex dynamic behavior of a specialized piece of equipment for space observation called a space segmented reflector telescope. "The next generation of space segmented telescopes has not been built yet," comments project director **Helen Ryaciotaki-Boussalis**, professor of electrical engineering, "and we're honored and excited to participate in the development of this important space exploration component." According to Boussalis, this testbed will be used to develop and validate advanced technologies for decentralization (the ability to move the various parts of the telescope separately), precision pointing, vibration attenuation, fault identification, controller reconfiguration, adaptive/robust control, neuro-fuzzy control, system identification and reflector shape control. The Cal State L.A.-based program comprises an impressive coalition consisting of students and faculty from two major Ph.D.-granting universities (University of Southern California and University of California, Berkeley), a "sister" undergraduate campus (California State University, Long Beach), the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Boeing Company, TRW, Rockwell International, Lockheed-Martin, Douglas Aircraft, and Schober's Machine & Engineering.



Constructing the model telescope inside SPACE lab.

three-year \$163,880 grant from the National Science Foundation received by professor **David Gregorich**, associate professor **Milan Mijic**, and adjunct associate professor **Stephen Gillam**, all faculty members in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. This past July, the grant established the state's first astronomy REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) site at Cal State L.A. The astronomy REU is one of only 14 such sites in the nation (nine are located at national observatories and centers), and one of a very few at a predominantly undergraduate institution, says Mijic, who points out that the University has been a chemistry REU site for more than a decade. The University also functions as the lead institution in the Los Angeles Consortium for Undergraduate Research Experience consortium (a collaborative largely funded by NASA), which includes L.A. City College, East Los Angeles College, Los Angeles Southwest College, Pasadena City College, Pomona College and JPL. The new REU provides a rare research environment for small groups of students, because the NSF grant specifies a one-to-one student-faculty ratio for research participants, Mijic explains.



Physics staff and students work with Milan Mijic (seated).

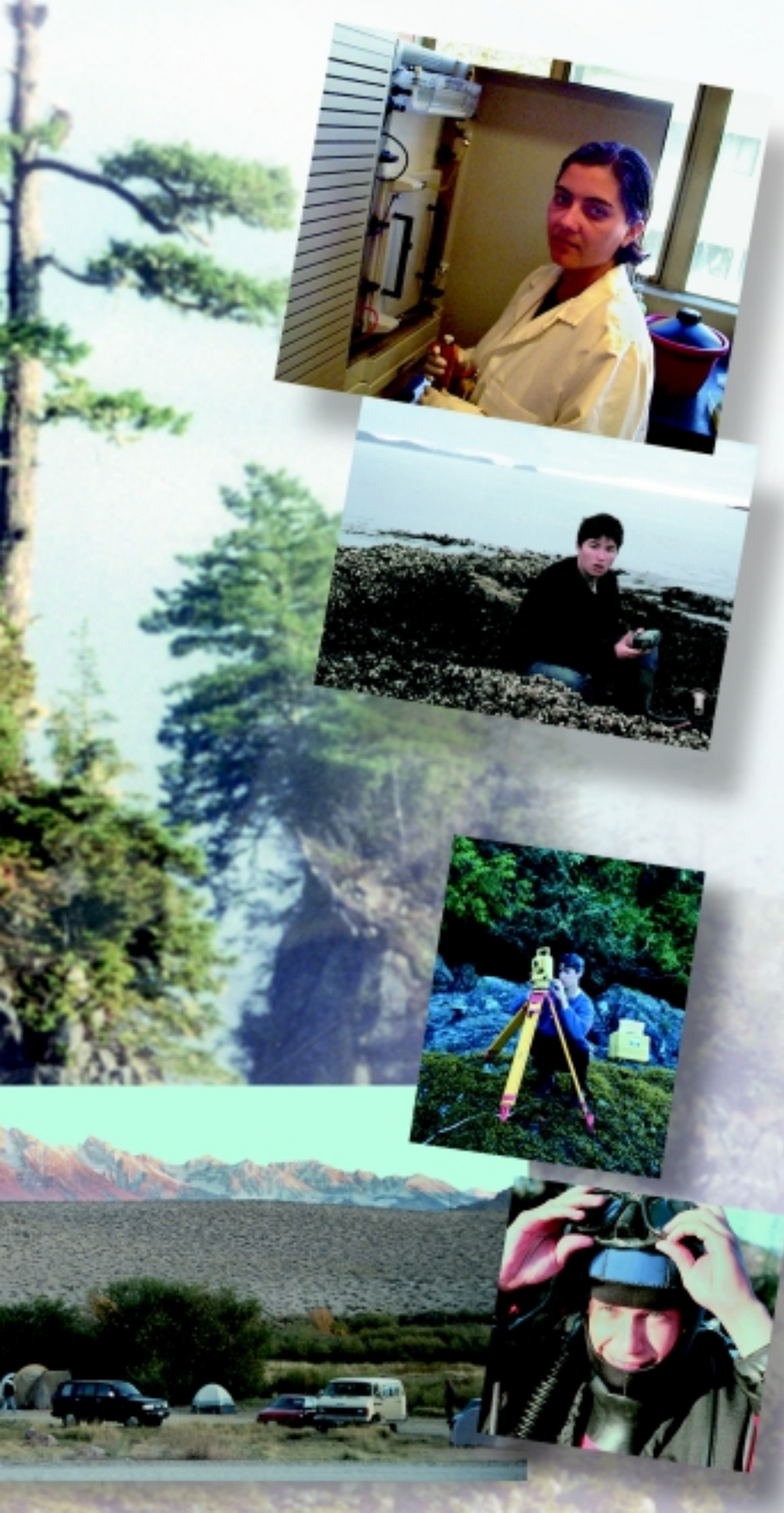
Exploring the world of video

The "real-world" experience of film and video professor **Alan Bloom**, a noted filmmaker who has won three CINE Golden Eagles and four Telly documentary awards, has clearly benefited his students, who have consistently distinguished themselves in their field, creating award-winning music videos and documentaries as students and securing influential entertainment industry positions after graduation. This year, Bloom's students again won top awards at the 1999 systemwide



Alan Bloom (l.) and students in video lab.

ering, creating, learning



So far, CEA-CREST has attracted students from as far away as Florida and from local universities like UC Irvine.

Viviana Velasquez, a native of Connecticut, came to Cal State L.A. from Eckerd College in Tallahassee, Florida, after she learned about CEA-CREST from the director of the Cal State L.A. program, biology professor **Carlos Robles**. The student and professor met at the 1999 American Society of Limnology and Oceanography meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"What sold me on the program? Location, Carlos Robles' area of study, and the concept behind CEA-CREST. It takes an interdisciplinary approach to do research—that appeals to me," said Velasquez. She also found appealing the fact that—if she maintained a high level of academic work—the program would ensure financial support through her master's and Ph.D. degrees.

At the start of the summer, Velasquez traveled north to do research at the Hopkins Marine Station in Monterey, California, as part of a Stanford University fellowship, which CEA-CREST partially funded and for which Robles recommended her. Later in the summer, she worked even farther north as part of Robles' research team on Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada.

Robles affirms that CEA-CREST students get to work with their faculty mentors on "hands on, high caliber" research in exciting locales. Another advantage of the CEA-CREST program is that recommended participants can move seamlessly on to doctoral work.

Through a related program called the CEA-CREST "Bridges to the Ph.D.," qualified master's students receive guidance from both their Cal State L.A. advisers and faculty from the University of California. After successfully completing the master's thesis, these students continue in a Ph.D. program at a regional UC campus with full financial support.

Currently, undergraduates in the program receive \$8,000 per year research assistantships; graduate students receive stipends of \$15,000, in addition to funds for travel to national scientific meetings. Students also gain valuable internship opportunities—CEA-CREST has recently funded summer fellowships for Cal State L.A. students at such universities as Stanford and Cornell.

The strength and uniqueness of the new CEA-CREST program, says Robles, comes from its integrated research teams that tackle key environmental research questions, conducting, as Marcos Luna puts it, "hardcore research" on topics that can have a significant impact on the environment and on people's lives.

Says Robles, "When scientists from different disciplines adopt a common viewpoint, they are free to communicate and rapidly develop innovative approaches. This is interdisciplinary science at its best—at its most exciting and productive. To my mind, this is the most effective way to learn."

Photos (clockwise, from top): CEA-CREST faculty member Elizabeth Torres, assistant professor of biology, at the DNA sequencer; Viviana Velasquez, CEA-CREST fellow, does research on the dynamics of intertidal marine communities; CEA-CREST fellow Bryant Chesney conducts research at the Bamfield Marine Station in Victoria, British Columbia, during the summer; professor Carlos Robles prepares to dive; CEA-CREST desert field trip; students gather data for woodland research; CEA-CREST faculty John Gamon, associate professor of biology, conducts research in the Santa Monica Mountains; CEA-CREST undergraduates examine plants for smog damage on campus; CEA-CREST fellow Marcos Luna checks the air quality in Southern California mountains as part of his research.

CSU Film and Video Festival. The Festival showcases the very best in student film and video from the 23 campuses in the CSU system. Junior **Matt Gatlin** won both First Place in Music Video and Best In Show, an award that recognizes the top film or video of the festival, for his music video "Rhapsody." Senior **Edgar Yanez** took home two Honorable Mention awards for his narrative piece, "The Wastebasket," and his music video, "El Desierto." (Last year, Yanez also received Honorable Mention for his news/public affairs video, "Under Fire.") This past year, a video by Bloom's student, **Jeff Curtis**, was selected as part of KCET's *Fine Cut* student film festival.

National kudos for technology research

Under the direction of **Benjamin Lee**, associate professor in the School of Engineering and Technology, technology major **Gerardo Pinela** presented his research on digital printing to an audience of industry leaders last spring, when he was a senior. In addition to receiving the Council of the Graphic Arts Industry's \$1,000 scholarship award, Pinela was the only student in the nation to be selected to make this research presentation at the Council's 1999 Critical Trends in Printing and Publishing conference in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.



Gerardo Pinela and Benjamin Lee.

Biomed research program largest in country

Established at Cal State L.A. in 1973, the National Institutes of Health-funded Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) program is the University's longest-running program connecting undergraduate students to research and one of the largest and most successful of its kind in the country. "Since its inception, MBRS has received more than \$15 million in funding support from the National Institute of General



Carlos Gutierrez and students.

Medical Sciences of the NIH and has been the major source of research support on this campus" says chemistry professor **Carlos Gutierrez**, who has directed the program since 1992.

The Cal State L.A. program has grown to include 18 faculty and 57 students working on a variety of research projects in the departments of Biology and Microbiology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Psychology. MBRS faculty and their research students have published nearly 500 refereed articles in professional journals, and students have made more than 700 presentations at local, national, and international scientific meetings. Over the years, 59% of the 605 program graduates have pursued post-baccalaureate education and have earned, or are earning, Ph.D., M.D.-Ph.D., M.D., D.D.S. and O.D. degrees from universities spanning the country from UC Berkeley, to Purdue to Cornell. Other graduates are optometrists, veterinarians, pharmacists and medical technologists, and some hold positions in science-based industries and teaching.

Making Southern California outdoor life more accessible

This past academic year, a team of undergraduate engineering students and faculty members, under the auspices of the MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) program on campus, joined forces with staff from the Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center Rehabilitation Engineering Program to produce some startling innovations in rehab engineering. One innovation, a "dune buggy" wheelchair—the product of two quarters of research and testing—was unveiled to the campus in June. "When you meet people with disabilities, you realize that, as an engineer, you can do so many things to change their lives," said student team leader **Ana Rosa Arreola**, who has worked part time at JPL for two years. The collaborative program, called "HERE" (Hands-on Experiences in Rehabilitation), is funded by the Department of Education and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.



Mechanical engineering student Jorge Lopez (l.) demonstrates the dune buggy wheelchair.

1950

Serene Porges Stokes ('51 BA Education) a former teacher and elementary school principal, is the president of Newport-Mesa Unified School District Board of Education. Stokes and her husband Sid, also a retired educator, are actively involved in recruiting potential teachers.



1960

James R. Hoskinson ('62 BS Physical Education) owns Father & Daughter Landscape Care in Orlando, FL. As a Cal State L.A. student, he was a member of the varsity football team and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, Theta Theta Chapter.



Tokiyo Ochi ('68 BA Physical Education) is athletics director at Bassett High School in La Puente, CA. She was recently named California Athletic Director of the Year by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education.

Shari Hodges (Sharon Tronsgard) ('69 BA Music) worked for attorneys for 20 years. She has written a book about the legal profession, consumer protection, alternative politics and activist issues. She owns a political radio talk show station, KLA-AM (1230), in Las Vegas, NV.

Rick Scarnati ('69 MA Health and Safety) passed the 1999 examination for subspecialty certification in forensic psychiatry to become a board certified forensic psychiatrist.

1970

John T. Kelleher ('71 BA Political Science), with 20 years of fundraising experience, established Kelleher & Associates, specializing in fundraising, marketing, and governmental affairs. He served as director of development at Providence Holy Cross Medical Center Foundation.



Carolyn L. Nelson ('71 BS Nursing) is a faculty member at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood, WA, teaching practical nursing.

Michael Delap ('73 BS Business Administration-Marketing) is president of Schlosser Forge Company in Rancho Cucamonga, CA.

John R. Chavez ('72 BA Spanish, '75 MA) received his PhD from the University of Michigan and is on the history faculty at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. His research focuses on Mexican American history. He has written *The Lost Land: The Chicano Image of the Southwest*, and *Eastside Landmark: A History of the East Los Angeles Community Union*. His recent article in *Southern California Quarterly*, entitled "Rancho Rosa Castilla: Hispanic Continuity in Greater East Los Angeles"—a history of the site on which Cal State L.A. was built—was reprinted by the Historical Society of Southern California.

William M. Brock ('74 MA Psychology) is coordinator of credential programs for the School of Counseling and School of Psychology at National University in La Jolla, CA.

Nicholas S. D'Amico ('74 BA Political Science) is a consultant to 13 bilingual teacher training programs for the California Department of Education in Sacramento and a member of CDE's District Collaborative Partnership Team, working with the Los Angeles Unified School District.

John (Juan) A. Perez ('74 BS Recreation) recently retired from his position as a service director for the city of Commerce, CA.

Daniel A. Richardson ('74 BS Business Administration-Marketing) is currently living in Las Vegas, NV, making slot machines and "playing the day away under the guise of testing." He is also the general manager for Mikohn Games of Las Vegas.

S. Edward Wicker ('75 BA Radio & Television Broadcasting) graduated from Whittier College Law School in 1979. He volunteered as a VISTA lawyer from 1980-81, and in 1986, established Wicker Law Office in Seattle, WA, which emphasizes litigation, criminal defense, family law and personal injury.

Daniel H. Montez ('77 BS Business Administration-Real Estate) earned his master's degree in technology management from Pepperdine University. He was manager in the electronics division and western regional manager for strategic sourcing and Information technology contracting at Northrop Grumman. He recently joined The Aerospace Corporation as principal director of the Contracts Directorate, Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

Alumni On the Move . . .

As an undergraduate at Cal State L.A., **Sharon Hutson Morris** ('76, BA Home Economics with a minor in Pan African Studies) took advantage of as many internships and scholarships as she could find. A nontraditional student with a husband and two young daughters, Morris juggled school and work, and found time to intern with a consumer affairs agency and later with the public administrator's office.

"Finding out what you don't like is just as important as finding out what you like," says Morris.

She fulfilled her interests in community development by pursuing a bachelor's degree in Home Economics at Cal State L.A. and a master's degree in Urban Planning at UCLA. With a strong background in public policy and administration earned through her distinguished service in various community and governmental positions, Morris was recently appointed executive director of the Department on Disability for the City of Los Angeles, a department inaugurated by Mayor Richard Riordan in 1998.

She is also a new member of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors and a Cal State L.A. representative to the CSU Alumni Council.

"I'm excited about being able to promote programs for the Alumni Association and being involved in new ways to support the University," says Morris, who has frequently returned to Cal State L.A. as a guest speaker for on-campus events. She won the 1997 Outstanding Alumna award for her generous efforts in supporting students as well as for her far-reaching commitment to various University programs.

Morris stressed the importance of her continued involvement with Cal State L.A.

"I really feel it's important to be involved and to give back some of the benefits we have derived from Cal State L.A. and from the CSU system, which provides working class students, minority students and older students the opportunity to take classes and pursue a degree."

"A traditional university would not have worked for me in terms of finding affordable childcare for my kids and a wide variety of other benefits including low tuition and flexible night classes," she adds.

While Morris and her husband John attended Cal State L.A., their children enjoyed the resources of the Anna Bing Arnold Children's Center.

"There were times when all four of us were here on campus," she says.

Morris firmly believes in encouraging students to pursue their dreams and has actively participated in mentoring programs at Cal State L.A.

"It's important for young people to see other people with their same backgrounds who are now successful. Also, by being accessible, we alumni can help introduce students to opportunities they never knew existed or thought were possible. We need to establish these kinds of connections," says Morris.

This past year, Morris set up an internship program at the Department on Disability for four Cal State L.A. undergraduate students.



Sharon Hutson Morris '76

Carl A. Totton II ('78 BS Rehabilitation Counseling, '80 MS Counseling) completed his PhD in clinical psychology at Pepperdine University. He works as a school psychologist in Alhambra School District and is completing a one-year post-doctoral fellowship at Pasadena City College.



Thomas Mahoney ('79 BS, '84 MS Criminal Justice) received his doctorate in public administration from the University of La Verne in 1996. He retired as South Pasadena chief of police in 1997, and is chair of the Administration of Justice Department at Santa Barbara City College.



1980

Linda M. Thor ('80 MS-Public Administration) was elected vice chair of the board of trustees for the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), a national nonprofit association of colleges, universities, organizations and educators dedicated to the expansion of lifelong learning opportunities for adults. She is president of Rio Salado College in Tempe, AZ.

Evelyn H. Latham ('84 BA American Studies) left college during the Great Depression of the '30s, but returned to earn her degree with honors in the

'80s. Now 85 years old, she is continuing her studies at Cal State San Bernardino.

Linda K. Jackson ('86 MS Health Care Management) is executive vice-president, chief operating officer and chief nursing officer at Beverly Hospital, overseeing all nursing and patient-care areas.

Julie Valenzuela ('86 BS Nursing, '93 MS) is coordinating a National Institutes of Health-funded clinical trial to investigate whether it is possible to prevent or delay type 1 diabetes in relatives of people who have the disease.

Jack Cooper ('87 BA, '89 MA Music) is director of the University of Memphis "Southern Comfort" Jazz Orchestra and assistant professor of jazz studies, saxophone, woodwinds, composition and arranging. From 1989 to 1995, he was tenor saxophonist, woodwind specialist and staff arranger touring with the U.S. Army "Jazz Knights," West Point, NY. He has performed with Manhattan Transfer, The Spinners and The Temptations, and his music has been recorded by numerous professional groups.



Stanley Trim ('89 MBA Business Administration) was environmental health and safety manager for both ACX Technologies and Northrop Grumman Corporation and has been a computer consultant for over a



decade. He serves on the faculty of three Denver-area colleges and is chairman of the Colorado Community College Environmental Curriculum Industry Advisory Committee. He was recently named vice president for information solutions of CH2M HILL, Colorado's largest privately-owned company.

1990

Margaret (Selga-Andrada) Kageyama ('91 BA Journalism) worked as U.S. EEOC investigator and labor law paralegal. She is married to Edward Kageyama, director of the new Coral Creek Golf Course in Oahu, HI.

Linda M. Wallace ('91 BA Physical Education) received an MS in Physical Education - Health and Leisure Studies at Central Washington University in 1997. She teaches physical education at Marymount High School and is head track and field coach, head strength and conditioning coach, and the athletics department Webmaster.

Misty H. Vukotich ('96 BA Social Science) recently received the 1999-2000 Los Angeles Collaborative for Teacher Excellence (LACTE) Scholarship. As a Cal State L.A. student, she was a member of Phi Alpha Theta honor society. She is now an active member of the California Teachers Association.



Bill J. Gropp, Jr. ('96 MS Counseling) was the first deaf representative to the Academic Senate at Cal State L.A. He is a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the deaf and a member of the Nebraska Relay Service Advisory Committee and the Mental Health Advisory Committee for the Deaf. Through a grant from the Rehabilitative Services Administration he will be an RSA Scholar at the University of Minnesota for the year.

Simmone N. Martin ('97 BA Radio and Television Broadcasting) is the coordinator of School Partnerships for Kaplan Learning Services in Los Angeles.



Lucyenne Shahinian ('97 MBA Business Administration) was appointed channel marketing manager, Wholesale Division, Jacuzzi Whirlpool Bath. She develops and manages marketing programs and provides dealer/distributor support, pricing and merchandising for the company's plumbing wholesale distribution channels.



Charles L. Sawyer-Jackson ('98 BA Social Work) is currently enrolled in the advanced standing program in the school of social work at Barry University, Miami Shores, FL.



Lori Weise ('98 BA Child Development) was recently named CEO General Manager of Modernica, a multi-million dollar Fortune 500 international company.

Christy R. Rose ('91 BA Journalism) is the school director of American Career College in Los Angeles.



In Memoriam

Louis N. Dresser ('49 BA Journalism), 75, South Pasadena, CA. He began his journalism career at the age of 12, writing for his Hancock Park neighborhood newspaper. He was editor of the campus newspapers at Los Angeles City College and Cal State L.A. He worked at the *Los Angeles Times* for 32 years, specializing in real estate coverage. While he was working there, the real estate section was named best in the nation five times. After retiring in 1989, he volunteered with the Red Cross Disaster Assistance Team, the Pasadena Police Department Victims Assistance Program and the Los Angeles Zoo.

Juliana Townsend Gensley ('57 MA Education), 89, January 2, 1999, Calabasas, CA.

Robert D. Aggas ('65 BA Geology), 72, June 14, 1999, Washington, DC.

Patricia Paine Flowers ('72 BA Social Science), 52, March 23, 1999, Riverside, CA. She was a research librarian at the Tomás Rivera Library, UC Riverside, for 14 years. She had been a librarian at the Ontario City Library, Inland Library System, and the Torrance Public Library.





A Letter from the Alumni Executive Director:

“Membership Makes the Difference”

The CSULA Alumni Association is making membership our highest priority. We’ve grown significantly this past year, and we want to increase our membership base and keep renewing annual memberships. Alumni involvement is the key to the University, and Alumni Association membership is the gateway for alumni involvement. Through your membership, the Association mobilizes volunteer support for CSULA, encourages communication among alumni, sponsors services and obtains benefits for members, and provides programs that benefit the students and the University.

If you are already a member, then I am sure you already know all of this. There are, however, a few new things you may not know. We are expanding the ways in which we serve our members. This fall, we are rolling out several new benefits of membership including a “Members Only” newsletter which will feature news, programs, events and benefits of being a member, and special family events such as a “Day at the Zoo.”

That’s just the beginning. Our new Website will be up and running this fall and we are looking at a variety of ways to create stronger online relationships between you and CSULA. We welcome your requests and suggestions as we research new technologically savvy services.

We are growing and we invite you to grow with us. When you talk with other CSULA alumni, ask them if they are members of the Alumni Association. Invite your friends and neighbors to belong, provide them with an important link to CSULA and increase the value of your Alumni Association.

Randi Moore
Executive Director
Rmoore@cslanet.calstatela.edu

P.S. For a membership application for you or a friend, call us at (323) 343-ALUM or write us at alum@cslanet.calstatela.edu

Alumni Calls to New Students Make History

In late August, more than 100 alumni, staff and administrators volunteered to telephone every new student who enter Cal State L.A. this fall. That’s 1,800 calls made over a three-day period with the simple but important purpose of saying “welcome” to all entering freshmen and transfer students. This marks the first time in the Alumni Association’s history that such a complete telephone outreach has been organized. Pictured (l.-r.) Karl Beeler, assistant vice president for Student Affairs-Enrollment Management; Neil Nilchian ’84, Alumni Association board member; Mina Navarete ’80 and Juan Pineda ’00, volunteers. If you would like to join the NSW Committee, please call (323) 343-ALUM.



Business and Nursing Alumni Chapters Have Active Summer



The School of Business and Economics Alumni Chapter elected and installed new officers on June 16. Taking on leadership positions are (l.-r.) William A. Cohen, faculty representative; Maria Ubago ’98, Alumni Association outreach coordinator; Juan Salguero ’94, chapter president; Wanda Kong ’91, vice president-finance; Clark Mason ’94, immediate past president; and Grace White ’84, ’94, vice president-membership.

Alumni Association chapters help promote interaction among University graduates from the similar professions. If you are interested in joining or starting a chapter, contact Maria Ubago at (323) 343-ALUM or via e-mail at mubago@cslanet.calstatela.edu.



On July 31, the Nursing Alumni Association honored new graduates during a wine and cheese reception. Pictured from the Department of Nursing are (l.-r.) Lorie Judson, faculty member; Judith Papenhausen ’71, ’72, department chair; Jeanette Nasry, student; Kim Miller ’74, faculty member; Tracy Paz ’99, incoming Nursing Alumni Association president and Marilyn Friedman, faculty member.

“I’m Going to Disneyland!”

The Cal State L.A. Alumni Association is quickly approaching an important milestone in our almost 50-year history.

Sometime within the next several months, the Association will exceed 1,000 Life Members. That’s no small number! Life Members pay \$250 for a lifelong connection to the University and a lifetime of Association benefits and services.

With the cost going up to \$400 next year, there will never be a better time to take the plunge. In fact, we’ve made the decision even easier for you!

Anyone joining as a Life Member before the dues officially increase will be entered into a Disneyland Getaway drawing. We’ll also send you a beautiful desk portfolio as our gift.

And, most important of all, if you are the lucky person to send in the 1,000th Life membership, we’ll tear up your payment! That’s right! The 1,000th Life Member will get his or her membership FREE!

Learn more about our 1,000th Life Member prizes by calling us at (323) 343-ALUM or via our Website at www.calstatela.edu/alumni.

Remember, the 1,000th could be you! Get your Life Member application today!

Disneyland Getaway Drawing includes a two-night stay for two at Towneplace Suites by Marriot in Anaheim and two one-day passes to Disneyland. Hotel valid 9-6-99 to 9-6-00. One month advance reservations is required and is subject to availability. Holidays and holiday weekends subject to hotel management approval.



California State University, Los Angeles
Alumni Association

MEMBERSHIP CARD

*Not a member? No problem!
There are a lot of ways to contact us to get your card:*

**Call us at (323) 343-ALUM • Fax us at (323) 343-6433
E-mail us at alum@cslanet.calstatela.edu
Visit our Website at www.calstatela.edu/alumni**

“I want to do something for Cal State L.A., but I don’t know where to start.”

If you have ever said anything like this, then the Cal State L.A. Alumni Association wants you!
We keep our alumni connected to the University through a variety of social, educational, and volunteer opportunities.

UPCOMING EVENTS 1999

New Student Welcome Barbecue - October 7

Career Skills Workshop - October 26

L.A. Zoo Event - November (TBA)

Hard Hat Tour-Engineering and Technology Building - November (TBA)

The success and growth of our programs depend upon the active involvement of alumni like you.

For more information on volunteering with your Alumni Association, contact Maria Ubago, outreach coordinator, at (323) 343-4945 or e-mail her at mubago@cslanet.calstatela.edu.

NOW IS THE TIME TO GET INVOLVED!

Edison International Sponsored “Billie Jean King Day” at Cal State L.A.

Event funded student-athlete scholarships

Edison International agreed to be the title sponsor for a fundraising event on October 3 that provides scholarships for student-athletes and honors Cal State L.A. alumna and legendary tennis star Billie Jean King.

“I’m very excited that Edison International committed to be the title sponsor of this event at Cal State L.A.,” said Billie Jean King. “Edison International’s involvement provides a significant step toward reaching the fundraising goals established to benefit the tennis and athletics scholarship programs at Cal State L.A.”

“Edison International’s commitment to higher education through its title sponsorship is an excellent example of the kind of corporate community support that benefits all of us, not only our worthy scholar-athletes,” said Cal State L.A. President James M. Rosser.



Billie Jean King

A Legend and Her Friends, Billie Jean King Day featured a tennis pro-am tournament, a clinic, and celebrity tennis matches at Cal State L.A. A private luncheon at the University was followed by a gala dinner and auction at the Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel in Pasadena. Joining King for the occasion were many friends, including legendary tennis greats Rosie Casals, Tracy Austin and Pam Shriver.

KCBS-TV Channel 2 sports anchor Jim Hill emceed the evening’s festivities.

Winner of 20 Wimbledon titles, King holds an honorary doctorate from Cal State L.A. She is donating her time for three years to help raise scholarship funds for the University’s scholar-athletes. Last year’s inaugural event raised more than \$54,000.

KRLA Talk Radio was chosen as the official radio station for the event.

Gala dinner sponsorships were available at \$1,500 for a table of 10 or \$150 per person.



Swanson Named Associate Director of Athletics

Cal State L.A. Director of Athletics **Carol M. Dunn** is pleased to announce the addition of **Brian Swanson** to the Golden Eagles staff as the new associate athletics director.

“We are so pleased to have Brian join our team,” says Dunn. “He possesses the strengths and experiences needed to be an effective manager, as well as the ability to create, develop and implement new revenue strategies for athletic scholarships.”

“I’m extremely excited about the opportunities at Cal State L.A.,” says Swanson. “The Golden Eagles are members of the newly-expanded CCAA conference...the student-athletes continue to achieve academic and athletic success...and there exists stability of leadership within the University and the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics. We have the opportunity to cultivate even more positive relationships within the community.”

For the last five years, Swanson had been the Assistant Athletics Director at CSU Northridge. His position became effective on July 28, 1999.

Swanson earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration/finance at Northeast Missouri State and his master’s in sports administration and management at Western Illinois University.



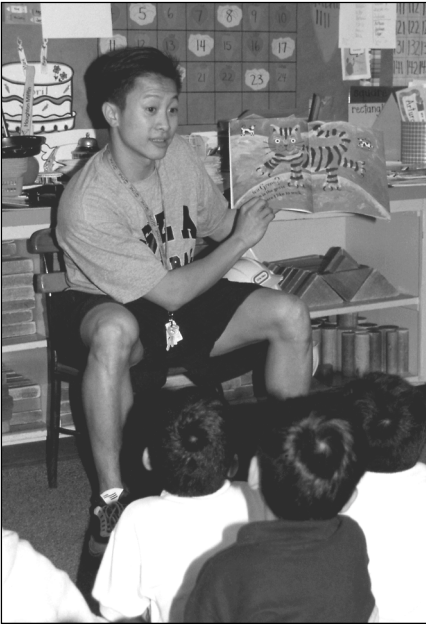
Brian Swanson

Successful “Let’s Read” Program Expanded

Two years ago, the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics developed a community service project called “Let’s Read with the Golden Eagles,” in which Cal State L.A. student-athletes went to Fremont Elementary School in Alhambra and read to the children. The student-athletes also conducted an athletics clinic. The program has been so successful that it has expanded to include Robert F. Kennedy Elementary School in Los Angeles this academic year.

The intent of the program is to continually enrich the lives of student-athletes by involving them in efforts to help others, and to support local teachers’ and administrators’ efforts to develop learning skills in children.

“The Fremont kindergarten students enjoyed having the student-athletes from Cal State L.A. read and do activities with them,” says Fremont Principal Amy Tambara. “I think it’s wonderful that we are able to utilize the resources at the University, and I look forward to continuing this great relationship.”



Student-athlete Benny Hoang reads to Fremont Elementary School children in Alhambra.

Busy Off-Season for Several Golden Eagles Head Coaches

During the off-season, all head and assistant coaches are working tirelessly to recruit top student-athletes for participation in athletics at Cal State L.A. But, sometimes they commit to extracurricular, professional activities as a way to promote their programs.

For example:

- Golden Eagles head coach **Bill Lawler** spent nearly a month coaching the Women’s Junior Olympics Volleyball Team in Colorado. He was also with the team as they competed at the 1999 World Championships in Canada.

- Men’s basketball coach **Dave Yanai** conducted numerous youth clinics and professional camps in Japan; he also assisted long-time friend Pete Newell in Hawaii with the NBA “Big Man” Camp.

- Tina Karwasky** won the 40s and 45s singles and doubles titles at the National Grass Court Championships in New York this past July, earning *Inside Tennis* Player of the Month honors for September 1999.



Golden Eagles head volleyball coach Bill Lawler

SAVE THE DATE

16th Annual Cal State L.A. Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Friday, February 4, 2000
Women’s Basketball vs. UC Davis, 5:45 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. UC Davis, 8:00 p.m.
Both games will be played at the Eagles’ Nest Golden Eagle Pep Rally, in conjunction with Mardi Gras, at the University-Student Union, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 5, 2000
Homecoming Basketball Games at the Eagles’ Nest
Women vs. Chico State, 5:45 p.m.
Men vs. Chico State, 8:00 p.m.

XXI Annual Michelob/Pepsi Golden Eagle Golf Tournament
Monday, May 8, 2000
Via Verde Country Club

Engineering and Technology: Phasing In...



Students, faculty and staff are moving back in to the Engineering and Technology building C-wing in time for the start of the 1999-2000 academic year. The move represents the completion of Phase I of the University's three-phase \$31 million E&T laboratory renovation project, which will give students access to some of the most technologically-advanced engineering and technology labs in the nation. Construction began in fall of 1998.

According to **Raymond B. Landis**, dean of the School of Engineering and Technology, "almost all laboratories in the C-wing are operational, and the School is in the process of acquiring the \$4.4 million in new lab equipment that has been budgeted for the entire project." Added Landis, "We're very excited to be able to provide our students with laboratories, computer facilities, and instructional classrooms on a par with the best engineering and technology programs in the nation."

To further this effort, the School has embarked on a major fundraising campaign. A lead gift in this campaign was **Hewlett-Packard Company's** generous donation of state-of-the-art testing and instrumentation equipment, valued at nearly \$200,000, that has been used to complete two C-wing laboratories.

The second and third phases of the renovation project are underway, with completion projected for Spring 2000.

Laboratories in the C-wing include the following:

Ground level: Aerodynamics Lab (CE/ME); two research labs (one of which currently houses the Fiber Optics and Non-Linear Optics programs); Soils, Pavement and Asphalt Design Lab (CE); and Advanced Strength of Materials Lab (CE/ME).

First floor: Data Acquisition/Machine Analysis Lab (ME), Controls Lab (EE/ME), Thermal Systems Lab (ME/TECH), Metallurgy Lab (ME), Photoelasticity Lab (ME), Strength of Materials Lab (CE/ME), Concrete Lab (CE), and Environmental Lab (CE).

Second floor: Digital Design Lab (EE); Interface Design Lab (EE); Measurements and Circuits Lab (EE); Electronics Design Lab (EE); and the Computer Center, comprising the E&T Open Access Lab (43 workstations), three computer classrooms (25 workstations), Computer-Aided Design Lab (20 workstations), and Advanced Workstation Lab (12 workstations).

Noted Alums from the '70s Establish Internships

This past March, **Sami Siddiqui '76**, president and CEO, North American Cards, Citicorp Credit Services, Inc., was honored as the University's 1998 Distinguished Alumnus for the School of Business and Economics. Recently, he established an internship for Cal State L.A. students at Citibank in New York City. He is pictured here with Cal State L.A. marketing major **Angelina Lee '99**, the New York program's first intern. As we went to press, we were notified that Lee was appointed assistant manager of production management, a full-time position, at Citicorp's New York headquarters.



Other notable '70s alumni have made it possible for Cal State L.A. students to receive real-world job experience that has helped them succeed in their fields. Business major **Thisadary "Sandy" Xayparaseuth '98** was hired by Mattel, Inc., after participating with two other students in an internship created by 1994 School of Business and Economics Distinguished Alumnus **Fermin Cuza '71**, Mattel's senior vice president for international trade and worldwide government affairs. **Sharon Hutson Morris '76**, the University's 1997 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient, began an internship program for several Cal State L.A. undergraduates at the City of Los Angeles Department on Disability, where she is executive director (see page 8).

☒ Your Updated Information

Have you moved or changed jobs recently? We want to keep in touch...
please fill out the form below and mail to:

CSULA Alumni Association
University-Student Union, Suite 417
5154 State University Drive • Los Angeles, CA 90032-8601
Or call: (323) 343-4980

Please Print

Name _____

Previous name _____

Previous address _____

Class year(s) _____ Major(s) _____

Current address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

SS # _____ Birthdate _____

Home phone () _____

E-mail _____ Fax () _____

Business name _____

Position _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Business phone () _____

E-mail _____ Fax () _____

Class Notes Information:

Please send us a photo of yourself. Sorry, we cannot return photos.

Become an Alumni Ambassador for Higher Education

Everyone who lives and works in California has a stake in maintaining a strong and accessible California State University system. That's because the CSU educates 10% of the state's workforce—including a majority of our teachers, computer scientists, engineers and business graduates. With three million new jobs expected to be created over the next five years, California's thriving economy is dependent on quality graduates from one of the world's largest systems of public higher education—the CSU.

Cal State L.A. alumni and friends can now help promote public support for the CSU by joining **Alumni Ambassadors for Higher Education**. Ambassadors are asked to contact their state legislators periodically, when the University's budget is under consideration, new construction is being proposed, or support for student and faculty interests is needed. Ambassadors may meet with elected officials when they visit a CSU campus. You'll even be kept up to date on current happenings in the State Legislature through a special insider's report.

It's easy to join, and anyone who votes is eligible! The Alumni Association's Legislative Committee—**Neil Nilchian '84** (Chair), **Marilyn Plummer '71**, **Dave Holman '74**, and **Ron Beldner '64**—is looking forward to hearing from you. Just fill out and return the form below or contact us through e-mail at alum@cslanet.calstatela.edu.

Name _____

Graduation year and major _____

Home mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Daytime phone _____ Evening phone _____

E-mail _____ Fax _____

(Check all boxes that apply)

- ☐ I am interested in becoming a member of Alumni Ambassadors
- ☐ I am willing to contact my legislators about CSU priorities when asked
- ☐ I need more information about the Alumni Ambassadors
- ☐ I would like to know more about other Alumni Association volunteer opportunities

Mail or fax to:

Alumni Ambassadors for Higher Education
c/o Cal State L.A. Alumni Association
5154 State University Drive, U-SU 417
Los Angeles, CA 90032-8601
Fax: (323) 343-6433

First President's Scholars



Welcome, Scarleth, Ivan, Laurel, Numan, Nathan, Monica, Ciro and Hunly! This fall quarter, eight exceptional students entered Cal State L.A. as the first beneficiaries of the new President's Scholars program. Motivated high achievers, the students were selected from local high schools to receive the University's most prestigious scholarship.

All of these outstanding students will receive \$5,000 per year during their four years of full-time enrollment. The award covers tuition, books and other academic

and living expenses. The new scholars will get priority registration and will be guests at a recognition ceremony with President James M. Rosser and University administrators.

The scholarships have been funded by alumni contributions to the University's Annual Fund and augmented by an allotment for two scholarships from Associated Students, Inc.

(See page 2 for profiles of our new President's Scholars.)

CAL STATE L.A. T O D A Y

A Moving Experience!

A Noise Within has moved to the Luckman! Starting this fall, the entire seven-play season of California's acclaimed classical repertory company will complement the outstanding season offerings at the Luckman Theatre. As artists-in-residence at the Luckman Fine Arts Complex, A Noise Within becomes the only classical repertory company based in an academic setting in America. According to Clifford Harper, Luckman executive director, the partnership "significantly advances our mission to bring the best in arts presentations to the San Gabriel Valley and its neighboring communities, and will enhance our students' educational and cultural experience as well."

A Noise Within: 1999 Fall Season
Cyrano de Bergerac, Art Manke, director. Sept. 10-Nov. 7
Under Milk Wood, Dan Kern, director. Sept. 24-Nov. 12
The Taming of the Shrew, Sabin Epstein, director. Oct. 15-Nov. 14

Luckman Theatre: 1999 Fall Season
Chicago Blues (Part I). Sat., Nov. 13, 8 p.m.
Latin Jazz Christmas—Bobby Rodriguez Latin Jazz Orchestra. Sun., Dec. 5, 3 p.m.
Christmas and Kwanzaa—Lula Washington Gospel Kwanzaa. Thu., Dec. 30, 8 p.m.

Tickets for A Noise Within and Luckman performances: TicketMaster (213) 365-3500 or Luckman (323) 343-6600.

Luckman Fine Arts Gallery: 1999 Fall Season
Mon.-Thu. & Sat., noon- 5 p.m., and one hour before every Luckman performance. Admission: free.
"The Labyrinth of Multitude: Contemporary Latin American Artists in Los Angeles." To Oct. 30, 1999.
Leon Golub: Selected Works From the Broad Art Foundation. Nov. 15-Dec. 30.