

C A L S T A T E L . A .

# TODAY

The News of California State University, Los Angeles

Spring/Summer 2002



## Riding Blind

Alums push the limits  
with sightless biking

# CAL STATE L.A. TODAY

The News of California State University,  
Los Angeles is published for alumni,  
students, and friends of the University.

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**On the cover**—Mountain biker Dan Kish '96, is one of the few blind persons certified to teach orientation and mobility skills for the blind. He doesn't mind questions and curiosity about blindness. "I like that people are seeking information; too many make assumptions that have nothing to do with your abilities. We go to school or work, and do the things we need to do, naturally, without even thinking about being blind. It's just another part of who we are." See story on page 6.



# Creativity...

*what does it mean to you?*

*Creativity is the culmination of inspiration that results from one's personal experiences, whether they're emotional or intellectual. Because Cal State L.A. has people from so many different backgrounds, we can experience creativity on all levels — much more than if we were all the same.*



**Nghi Lam**  
English



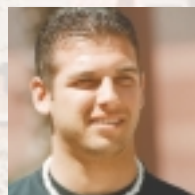
**Lisa Daniels**  
Spanish

*Creativity is freedom and imagination. Anyone willing to learn has to be creative. I can't imagine being on a campus without a creative vibe. You feel it in the classrooms and the assignments, as well as the teachers and other students.*

*Creativity is problem solving through posing questions. Creativity is seeing beyond the boundaries of a discipline. We learn at a university how to become the next generation of questioners. Cal State L.A. is creative because it has one of the most diverse campuses in the country.*



**Tanya Kane-Parry**  
Assistant professor  
Theatre Arts



**John Larson**  
Fire Protection  
Administration

*Creativity is a way to express one's state of mind and true feelings. People show their creativity by using their imagination.*

*Creativity comes from inside you and it's instinctive only to you. Creativity creates a more conducive and pleasant learning environment because you're allowed to express yourself. My department fosters and facilitates creativity — it's almost a prerequisite...you're dealing with kids with such special needs that you have to be creative.*



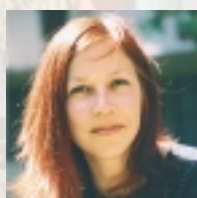
**Rene Valdes**  
Special Education



**Matthias Selke**  
Assistant professor  
Organic Chemistry

*Creativity means seeing problems and contradictions where everyone else sees only established fact — regardless of the field. A university is a place where creativity can be exercised freely.*

*If a university is creative, it inspires creativity in its students. Liberal Studies is creative because people become so well rounded studying different disciplines.*



**Jennifer Keefe**  
Liberal Studies



**Diana Azurdia**  
Biochemistry

*Creativity is the process of coming up with something that's unique, whether it's a new chemical procedure or a painting. Having an environment that nurtures creativity makes a university more desirable. It leads to more programs and events that aren't the norm. In biochemistry, we have many creative people and programs. I wouldn't have been able to go on to grad school without it.*

*Creativity is a central feature in the arts, but it's also important in surviving as a business. At Cal State L.A. we're very creative in using our resources — fiscal and human. Through the COLTA program, we bring kids onto campus to see performances and participate in the arts. This is a creative way to familiarize them with the University and they may end up choosing to attend Cal State L.A.*



**Clifford Harper**  
Executive Director  
Luckman Fine Arts Complex



**Scott Pleune**  
Education

*Creativity is expansive and expressive. Creativity can be risky because when you share your creativity with others, you're leaving yourself open. A good school has to prepare you to be creative. Individual instructors are often creative in presenting material — their unique perspectives allow their students to be more creative.*

## Creativity: the spark that kindles academic life

*The world of the university is one of ideas, discovery, inquiry, debate and growth. In such an environment, creativity lurks in all kinds of unexpected places. It's easy to see it in the obvious places, but it's important to remember that creativity is something that Cal State L.A. values in all areas.*

*For example, the medical community has a severe nursing shortage. Cal State L.A. has one of the nation's top nursing programs. Working in partnership with Cal State L.A., several hospitals are nurturing the program that teaches nurses their life-saving skills. And the Luckman Fine Arts Complex is a treasure trove of creativity, with superb programs in the performing arts, and an art gallery with a loyal following for its breakthrough exhibits, including the current "Jack Goldstein in the 21st Century." Instead of resting on its laurels, the Luckman staff reaches out to nurture a love for the arts and creativity through its COLTA program that brings K-12 youngsters to Cal State L.A. for eye-opening enrichment programs.*

*If you think that the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology is an area that stays "within the box," think again. The College has many remarkable stories of bridging gaps between problems and answers, many that serve very real needs with inventive, cost-effective approaches.*

*Future teachers are learning history first-hand by compiling veterans' war memories through an innovative learning experience in the Charter College of Education. Saving soldiers' stories for future generations, students and faculty have built a Web resource for teachers.*

*Instilling and reinforcing imagination and inquiry within the very young is the gifted team of the Anna Bing Arnold Children's Center, which is expanding to serve infants. Then there are our ground-breaking, fearless alums who don't hesitate to push barriers to bring about new possibilities for the visually impaired.*

*These are just a few examples of creativity springing from Cal State L.A. It wouldn't take much to discover countless other examples...such as row upon row of fiction and non-fiction books in the campus bookstore, all by faculty authors. Obviously, much credit for campus creativity belongs to the faculty, who ignite the spark of inquiry and creativity that make a learning experience great.*

— Ed.

## Creative solutions for real world challenges



From left: Raul Vallejo, Artin Davidian, and Josue Cruz.

When it comes to finding creative solutions for challenging problems, mechanical engineering students break the mold. Seniors from the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology have proven this by using innovative techniques to design a mechanized therapy bed that addressed a problem for the Department of Kinesiology and Nutritional Science.

Artin Davidian, Raul Vallejo and Josue Cruz took on this challenge as part of their senior design project in Lih-Min Hsia's mechanical engineering design class. The team visited the physical therapy exercise facility and interviewed Ray DeLeon, professor of kinesiology and director of the Mobility Center, along with his student therapists and patients. These meetings gave the team an overview of the daily activities at the facility and a better understanding of their needs.

The inventive design approach will be more comfortable for physically challenged patients, who can be transferred from wheelchairs to the lowered bed, then easily raised for working sessions with their therapist. While the previous therapy bed, at 18 inches high, led to back strain for therapists, the new adjustable height meets the needs of both patient and therapist. Other new features include casters to make the bed easy to move, an emergency shut-off button—all at a much more affordable cost than commercial therapy beds.

"It feels great to work on this kind of project because I'm giving something back as I graduate," Davidian said. "It will be rewarding to come back in the future and see the therapists using our team's design for helping people with physical challenges."

DeLeon is delighted with the students' progress. "The synergy between engineering and kinesiology ultimately helps to serve our physically challenged clients in the Mobility Center. This is not going to sit in a closet. We're going to use it immediately, and we've been looking forward to using it ever since the project began."

"I think this is an excellent example of a service learning project," Hsia adds. "It teaches students how to turn theories into practice."





## Child care center extends nurturing to infants

Juggling studies, a job and a family is no easy task, but numerous Cal State L.A. students do just that. And for many, it would be impossible without reliable child care. Cal State L.A. recognized this great need as early as 1968, when it opened the first child care program on a CSU campus.

Thanks to major support from the W.M. Keck Foundation, SHARE, Inc., the Ahmanson Foundation, Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, the Weingart Foundation, the Los Angeles Community Development Department, Associated Students, Inc., and contributions from other generous donors, the Anna Bing Arnold Children's Center is greatly expanding. The new Center, expected to open early in 2003, will accommodate more than double the number of children—up to 200 each year—and also expand services to infants and children with special needs. It will include four additional classrooms, a kindergarten, a teacher resource room and a multipurpose room.

"I'm very excited about the expansion and I'm looking forward to being able to help the parents of infants, toddlers



and kindergartners," said Pamela Kisor, director of the Children's Center. The Center emphasizes a development-based curriculum geared toward the interests and abilities of the children. It is a hive of activity, with children building tents and block towers, reading, playing and doing arts and crafts.

Flexible scheduling, reduced rates for students and tuition assistance for low-income families provide support for student-parents as they complete their education. Studies have shown that young parents are more likely to remain in school, graduate in fewer years and have higher grade point averages when their children are cared for and educated in campus-based care programs.

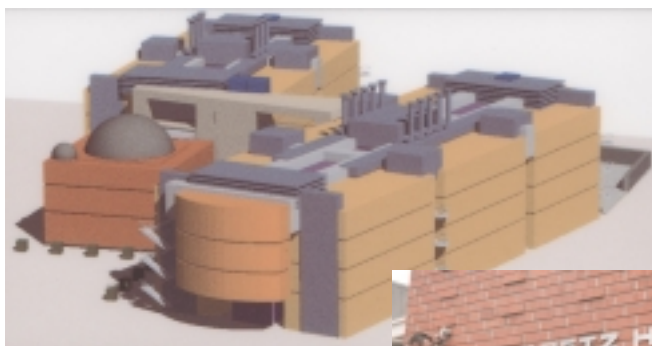
Children and parents are not the only beneficiaries of the Children's Center. With accredited teachers as monitors, Cal State L.A. students from several disciplines—from education to psychology—are able to further their studies by observing and studying the children.



## Expanding the boundaries of science

For many years, Cal State L.A. has had an exceptional reputation for the caliber of its degrees in the sciences. Yet its existing science facilities are not current for today's teaching and learning needs. That is why replacement facilities for the sciences are planned. New buildings to house the sciences are part of the governor's economic stimulus package to spur economic growth and jobs in the area.

Along with that, a generous gift to the environmental sciences from the La Kretz Family Foundation has been recognized in the naming of the large lecture hall in the Biological Sciences Building. This building, too, will be eventually re-



modelled to contain "dry" labs for the sciences. The new complex is designed to enhance cooperative, interdisciplinary science learning through shared lab space, an innovative approach leading to greater research opportunities and leading-edge curricula. The new buildings will include "wet" labs and house chemistry, biology, physics, nursing, kinesiology, geology, instructional space and computer labs, providing top notch facilities to match Cal State L.A.'s highly regarded science programs, and complement a superb faculty.



## Youngsters get a sampling of the world of the arts

A group of wide-eyed youngsters watch a graceful ballerina pirouette across the stage, transfixed by her every move. Many have never been to the ballet before, let alone had the opportunity to talk to dancers about their craft. The Luckman Fine Arts Complex's Creating Opportunities for Learning Through the Arts (COLTA) program has enabled thousands of Southern California students from elementary through high school age to experience the arts with performances and workshops designed especially for them.

More than 10,000 students a year visit the Luckman at Cal State L.A. to see dance, theatre and musical performances and art exhibits. Students have the opportunity to attend workshops afterward, where they can ask performers and artists questions about their work, and take part in demonstrations, where they learn about the different elements of the creative process, such as concentration, body control and physical and mental stamina.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in a weekly dance residency program at their schools to take classes with professional artists. The students put in hours of practice, culminating in a performance on the Luckman stage at the end of the season. Family and friends are invited to attend, and for some it is their first experience seeing a live theater dance performance.

"The children and their parents leave the theater beaming



with pride," said Wendy Baker, associate executive director of the Luckman Fine Arts Complex. "What's most exciting and rewarding is to watch the children who may be having their very first point of entry into the arts. They are so surprised and amazed at the various art forms and the entire experience of visiting the Luckman Fine Arts Complex. They walk into a magical world that they want to share with their family and friends."

The COLTA program engages in extensive outreach to schools around Southern California to get the word out about this arts opportunity. On show days, students from elementary and high schools all over the Southland pile out of buses in front of the Luckman, chattering excitedly. After the performance, they walk out inspired and ready to share their impressions over sack lunches.

"The COLTA program provides students with a hands-on experience to get involved in creating art," said Clifford Harper, executive director of the Luckman Fine Arts Complex. "It's an opportunity for kids to think about art as a possible lifestyle — as a participant and a creator, or as an appreciator and supporter. They often see people who are similar to them performing on stage, so the possibility of pursuing the arts as a career becomes more real."

More information on the program may be found at [www.luckmanfineartscomplex.org](http://www.luckmanfineartscomplex.org) or by calling COLTA at (323) 343-6611.



## Honda gift benefits learning-challenged students

Thanks to a generous gift from the American Honda Foundation, Cal State L.A.'s C. Lamar Mayer Saturday Learning Center will continue to expand its valuable work aiding children with learning disabilities.

The funds from the American Honda Foundation will allow the Center to improve assistance to children who need special instruction due to language challenges, or learning or behavioral disabilities. The program reflects the goal of the American Honda Foundation "to build bridges to the future, the community and the youth of the country."

The Saturday Learning Center, the only program of its kind in the East Los Angeles area, has made a tremendous impact on the community. Students from diverse cultural, linguistic and social backgrounds who were at risk of failing have become competent in reading, math and social sciences,

thanks to specialized tutoring. Many also receive invaluable encouragement from their parents, due in part to English/Spanish parenting workshops.

The Center enrolls approximately 180 students in three successive 10-week quarters. According to their grade levels, students participate in individualized tutoring sessions, activities, and use a state-of-the-art computer lab.

The Saturday Learning Center is part of Cal State L.A.'s Charter College of Education—the only one of its kind in the nation—which focuses on education reform efforts. It provides high-quality education programs to address the critical shortage of professionally prepared teachers in California, and was ranked second in the nation by *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* for the number of teaching credentials and degrees it awards to Hispanic students each year.



## Creative community ties help alleviate nursing shortage



From left: Nursing students Jeff Beck, Vivian Ta, and at right, Deidra Bonner with nurse mentors from San Gabriel Valley Medical Center.

One of health care's major problems is the serious shortage of qualified nurses to provide care. In an innovative effort to help alleviate the national nursing shortage, Cal State L.A. has joined forces with several health care providers, allowing it to expand its nursing baccalaureate program. Funding from Kaiser Permanente, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and San Gabriel Valley Medical Center will provide for the education of additional nursing students in the University's Bachelor of Science Nursing program.

Expansion of nursing programs is critical for several reasons. A recent survey conducted by the California Strategic Planning Committee for Nursing revealed that California has the lowest proportion of working registered nurses (566) per 100,000 people of all 50 states and needs an additional 67,000 nurses by 2006. As the population grows and ages, the demand for specialized, complex health care increases, requiring more baccalaureate-prepared and specialty nurses. Yet the majority of nurses in California receive their basic nursing education in associate degree programs. A minimum of a baccalaureate degree is considered essential in providing a broader framework for practice. Unfortunately, many RN pre-licensure nursing education programs have waiting lists of up to four years.

"The recent expansion of our nursing program is due to the efforts of a committed and involved faculty whose vision for nursing is to increase the numbers of baccalaureate nurses graduating over the next three years," said Judith Papenhausen, director of the School of Nursing. "We're grateful that these health care providers recognize our University's

proven capability to prepare and graduate well-educated nurses in this time of nursing shortage," she said.

Since 2000, when it began surveying nursing graduate programs, *U.S. News and World Report* has listed Cal State L.A.'s graduate nursing program among the top five programs in California and the highest-ranked such program in the CSU system. The School of Nursing has approximately 200 pre-nursing majors, more than 200 undergraduate nursing students, more than 100 graduate students and 24 full-time faculty.



The Luckman Fine Arts Complex recently received a gift from the American Express Company to support programming, ranging from concerts featuring world-renowned jazz artists, to a variety of dance and theater performances. Above, from left, Sharon Aoki, director of development Luckman Fine Arts Complex; Paul Van Deventer, vice president general manager American Express Corporate Services; Clifford Harper, executive director Luckman Fine Arts Complex; Cheryl Kadan, account manager American Express; Wendy Baker, associate executive director Luckman Fine Arts Complex. "We are deeply appreciative that the American Express Company recognizes and supports the Luckman's longstanding commitment to community outreach and involvement, a goal both organizations share," said Clifford Harper, Luckman executive director.



# Blind faith...on the



Dan Kish, center, with friends from TeamBat.

Andy Griffin leads the way, with Dan and other TeamBat members close behind.



Dan Kish ('96) is a pretty gutsy type of guy. Mountain bikers who love the feel of the wind on their face as they traverse rocky trails tend to be that sort. But Dan is a bit more audacious than most mountain bikers, for he and many of his friends make 25-mile, multi-hour rides without eyesight.

Dan was one of the first blind persons in the country to earn an M.A. and a teaching credential as a certified Orientation and Mobility (O&M) specialist. Cal State L.A. is one of only two universities in California and 16 in the nation offering this special education program. Although Cal State L.A.'s O&M training program prepares specialists to teach independent travel skills and techniques to individuals with visual impairment and blindness, mountain biking skills are not part of the curriculum. Dan met fellow O & M specialist Andy Griffin, B.A., M.A., through the program.

The adventure began after long-time biker Andy, who is sighted, blindfolded himself, rode with a sighted partner for

two hours and thought 'why not' when it came to his blind friends and students enjoying the same venture.

For obvious safety reasons, sighted bikers like Andy are usually at the front and tail ends of the group rides, which follow a formation. The bikers' wheels feature plastic tabs that click as the wheels turn, revealing each bike's location. "We use our entire sensory/motor system training to maximize our awareness of the environment," says Dan. Augmenting the noise of the wheels, Dan uses echolocation—the ability to recognize his surroundings by the reflection of sounds. With his tongue, he makes snapping and clicking sounds, then listens for the way the sound waves bounce off the surroundings, as bats use sonar. In fact, the biking group dubbed itself TeamBat. Through echolocation, Dan can detect things such as a sign post or person, a curb, fire hydrant, driveway, sidewalk crack or parked car, and distinguish trees from bushes, among other things. "We have no intention of being foolhardy, we just follow a sound track rather than a



# trail of independence



Dan, right, teaches a sighted student about blindness.

BATS on the trail.

visual track. There's no way to pick up stuff like rain ruts and cliff edges though," Dan says. Inevitably, there are falls, which are considered par for the course.

"We'd step back and evaluate where our planning failed if something serious were to happen. We're responsible for ourselves," says Andy. TeamBat members handle bike repairs and flats on their own without a problem.

Blind since infancy, Dan doesn't think his abilities are particularly stunning. "I like being active—hiking, camping, ice skating, basketball and soccer. I want to try new things—not really to prove anything—it's more that I just want to do it." Both Dan and Andy agree that for blind youngsters, an activity such as this can make a world of difference.

As a teacher at the Blind Children's Center in Orange County, Andy's interest in opening up mountain biking to blind riders was to further students' self-respect and positive thinking—traits, he says, "that must be in place before skills can be fully learned." The important thing, Andy notes, is the

discovery of independence, to realize many things are possible. "It takes character to jump in and trust the techniques you've learned," he says. "It's a very powerful experience."

Dan agrees, saying that attitude makes all the difference in realizing a positive, fulfilling life. "Sighted teenagers have the world open up to them when they get car keys," he says, adding that blind teens grow up "a world apart from this." Andy and Dan credit Cal State L.A. special education faculty Diane Fazzi ('93, CSULA/UCLA) and Brenda Naimy ('85) for providing the kind of encouragement that makes TeamBat possible. "I think we all hope that others might learn from what we are doing," Andy says.

"Something has to happen for blind kids," Dan adds, "an epiphany in which you see your place in the world unfolding, because you now know that you can achieve—it's up to you."

### 1950s

**Robert Levie** ('54 BA Government) has retired after being president of Bob Levie Association for 36 years.

### 1960s

**Bernard J. Lusk** ('61 MA Business Education) is a professor of media psychology whose new book is entitled "Casting the Net Over Global Learning." The book explains the emerging corporate university and how psychology is driving technology in workforce training. Bernard Lusk was a Distinguished Alumnus in 1998.



**Ronald A. Okum** ('63 BA Physical Education, '70 MA Health Science/Safety) served as 2002 Tournament of Roses Parade president. The owner and president of Ron Okum Insurance Agency in Pasadena, he is a former member of the CSLA Foundation Board and the Alumni Board of Directors. He received a Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1983.

A poster that **David McNutt** ('67 Physical Education, '76 Art) designed for the Cal State L.A. play *Master Harold...and the Boys*, was included in the recent textbook, *Launching the Imagination: A Comprehensive Guide to Basic Design*, by Mary Stewart, McGraw Hill College Division, 2002. Displayed on the book cover alongside art by Auguste Rodin, the work was featured as a successful example of figure/ground reversal design. McNutt also received a Renaissance Award for one of two paintings shown at the Eagle Rock Plein Air Exhibition, May 5-26, 2002.

**Richard Neidorf** ('67 BS Criminal Justice) is a Los Angeles Superior Court Judge.



**Norbert Genis** ('68 BA Spanish) has been promoted to superintendent of the El Rancho Unified School District.

### 1970s

**Greg Aitkens** ('72 BS Recreation) is a financial advisor for Jones Associates in Laguna Hills.



**Thomas C. Frascchetti** ('72 MS Electrical Engineering) is the project manager of the Space Interferometry Mission for JPL.

**Brian McCormick** ('72 BA Political Science) heads the administrative department for the San Bernardino County coroner's office.

**Peggy M. Selma** ('73 MA Educational Administration) has been appointed interim principal at Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. She also serves as the Southern California regional representative for Ventures

(CONT. NEXT PAGE)



From left, a caring group: Ana Valencia and Armando Zambrano with son Aaron, Marco Zambrano, scholarship awardee Yazmin Navarro, and family patriarchs Elena and Salvador Zambrano. Not pictured: Juan Zambrano.

## Honoring family and alma mater

Less than 10 short years ago, Marco S. Zambrano, '95 B.A. Sociology, was an undergraduate at Cal State L.A. with dreams of just completing his undergraduate degree.

Today, he's a business law attorney at Los Angeles' Sanchez & Amador, LLP, who says his Cal State L.A. years made a real difference in his life. "Being first-generation college students, my brothers and I didn't have much guidance in terms of higher education. I remember how my professors—especially Dr. Terry Kandal and Dr. William Wasson (both professors of sociology), told me they had confidence in my ability to further my education." He points out that the University has played a big role in the Zambrano family, also educating brothers Armando Zambrano, '94 B.S. Finance, and current undergraduate Juan P. Zambrano, Business Administration (not pictured). Armando, who will earn his law degree this May, is married to Ana Valencia-Zambrano, '98 BS Business Administration.

"I feel very fortunate because I've been blessed with wonderful opportunities, many of which started here. I feel an obligation to give back to Cal State L.A.," says Marco. His first step was to volunteer on the Alumni Association Scholarship Committee three years ago. A year later, he was asked to join the Alumni Association Board. Last year, Marco established The Salvador and Elena Zambrano Family Scholarship through the Alumni Association, honoring his parents. "Once I was in a position to help, I definitely wanted to establish a scholarship, because I know it can make a real difference for a student. I wanted to be able to show a deserving student 'I have confidence in you'—just as my professors, and my parents had done for me," says Marco.

And for Yazmin Navarro, an Industrial Technology major who has her eyes on law school, the Zambrano Family Scholarship has proved a tremendous help. Yazmin, also the first in her family to go to college, is helping build the Supermileage vehicle, a project of the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology. "I was so happy to meet Marco and members of his family. They are very caring people," she said. Then, looking at members of the family as they gathered on campus for a group photo, she added, "This scholarship is really a great help to me." Three generations of Zambranos smiled back with pride and delight. "I strongly encourage my fellow alumni to make a difference in the lives of other students through the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. It's a great feeling to help others," added Marco.







## Enduring friendship—Hugo Leckey and Sharon Lybeck Hartmann

**H**ave you ever known someone who seemed to know something about everything? Hugo M. Leckey was one of those people. Writer, educator, navigator, musician, gardener—his interests were as boundless as his energy and enthusiasm.

Leckey, who earned his B.A. in English from Cal State L.A. in 1965, was director of the Rhode Island Council for the Arts and founded the Governor's School, a center of innovative arts teaching. He also represented the state with the National Endowment for the Arts and was a leader in establishing the Rhode Island Theater Festival.

In 1999, Leckey died of complications of AIDS, and a scholarship for undergraduate students in the College of Arts and Letters was created by his friend Sharon Lybeck Hartmann, executor of his estate. Hartmann is the founder of a Los Angeles-based law firm that specializes in civil rights consent decrees. "Hugo was my best and dearest friend for 40 years," Hartmann said. "He always said that his best education was from Cal State L.A.'s English department. Cal State L.A. sent Hugo on the path to a very distinguished career, and I hope that this scholarship will send other students on the same trail."

Leckey's life was as varied, creative and colorful as he was. Born in Northern Ireland in 1940, he moved with his mother's family to California after his father was killed during World War II. Following his graduation from Cal State L.A., he received a fellowship to Brown University in Providence, R.I., and earned an M.A. in creative writing. After that, he sailed extensively on New England waters, living on a sailboat while writing and publishing essays and short stories. By 1977, he returned to California and wrote his best-known work, *Floating*, a novel not only about how to live on board a sailboat, but also how to live one's life.

Following Leckey's 1986 AIDS diagnosis, he founded the AIDS Consortium in Ventura County, which disburses federal funds countywide. During the 13 years between his diagnosis and his death, he also rekindled an earlier interest in playing classical piano, preparing exotic meals, and growing vegetables.

The Hugo M. Leckey scholarship was established for Arts and Letters students such as Michelle Gonzalez, a senior majoring in English with a minor in pre-law, who received the scholarship for 2002.



### CLASS NOTES

Education Systems Corporation, a post she took after retiring from her position as Manual Arts Cluster administrator for the Los Angeles Unified School District.

**George Frahm** ('75 BA Psychology) has been named senior vice president of administration. He oversees the operations of the company's personnel, training labor relations, insurance, workers' compensation and support services department.

**John W. Gillis** ('70 BA Political Science), director of the Office for Victims of Crime, was keynote speaker at the recent Chinatown Public Safety Association banquet. Following his daughter's murder in 1979, Gillis helped found the Coalition of Victims Equal Rights. During his distinguished career in victim advocacy, he has received several awards including the National Crime Victim Service Award from President George H.W. Bush.

**Valerie Lynne Shaw** ('78 BA Sociology) serves as commissioner and vice president of the City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works. Shaw oversees the department's Bureau of Street Lighting and Contract Administration and is a liaison for Council Districts 1, 4 and 10. She also directs the department's Targeted Neighborhood Initiative.

#### 1980s

**Linda M. Thor** ('80 MA Public Administration) has been named one of Arizona's "Top 100 Women in Business" for the second time in three years by *Today's Arizona Woman Magazine*. Dr. Thor was also named to the magazine's prestigious Million Dollar Club for female CEOs of organizations with annual revenues of \$1 million or more.

**William Bamattre** ('86 MA Public Administration), 2001 Alumnus of the Year and Los Angeles' fire chief, led the largest municipal team in the country in the March of Dimes "Walk America" fundraising event.

#### 1990s

**Michael Napolitano** ('91 MA Public Administration), director of architecture and planning for Los Angeles-based Dynamic Builders, Inc., is one of the first three architects in California to obtain the AIACC Certified Development Strategist (CDC) designation.



**Raul Gonzalez Jr.** ('91 BA Physical Education) is head coach for boys track and field at Alta Loma High School and is also a coach for the freshman football team. This is his 10th year teaching and 4th year in special education.



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## CLASS NOTES

**Thinh Duc Pham** ('91 BA French) was ordained as one of Los Angeles' newest Catholic priests. He will be the associate pastor in Norwalk.

**Monica Fernandez** ('92 BA Art) has earned top honors in the South Whittier School District, which named her its 2001-2002 Teacher of the Year.

**James Green** ('92 MA Latin American Studies), associate professor of history at Cal State Long Beach, has been awarded a major research fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a project that will look at the history of Brazil's capital city, Rio de Janeiro, during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

**Metre Anthony** ('98 MS Public Administration) is a redevelopment and economic development administrator who is working on an ordinance to regulate the phenomena known as PC arcades.

### 2000

**Hing K. Chow** ('00 MS Educational Administration) is the principal of John Marshall Elementary School in San Gabriel. The school is part of the Garvey School District.



## IN MEMORIAM

**Marge Callahan**, head coach of the 1979 national champion archery team and 1982's national archery coach of the year, passed away in January. The South Pasadena native headed both the archery and badminton programs as well as serving as associate athletic director during her tenure. Callahan's teams turned out 33 All-Americans and 43 All-Region honorees. Her archery teams never finished lower than third in the nation. Callahan was inducted into the Cal State L.A. Athletic Hall of Fame in 1988.

**Reid J. Gunnell**, emeritus professor of physical education from 1958-1992, died in January. He served as both a teacher and a coach for over 30 years until his retirement. Following his coaching years, he became associate director of athletics and coordinated the department's expanding graduate program.

**Jon Hardy** ('63 BA Recreation) was a legend in the diving industry. He owned Argo Diving. Hardy founded and directed Scubalab, he also wrote educational materials for many scuba diving organizations and worked as an expert witness and consultant for numerous scuba diving accident investigations. In 1961 he joined the U.S. Navy and served his country as an officer for four years during the Vietnam War in the South China Sea as a damage control officer. He died August 29, 2001 in Carpinteria, California.

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## 29th Annual Alumni Awards Gala Wednesday, October 23, 2002

The Alumni Awards Gala honors the achievements of alumni, faculty and students in areas including professional achievement, University service, community service and/or academic achievement. The Gala will take place on the evening of Wednesday, October 23, 2002 at the beautiful Luckman Fine Arts Complex on the CSULA campus.

This year, we are proud to honor: *Alumnus of the Year*, Ronald A. Okum '63 '70, President, Ron Okum Insurance Agency; *University Service*, James R. Galbraith '60, Trustee, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation; *Distinguished Faculty Alumnus*, Ethan B. Lipton '83, Associate Dean, College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology; *Outstanding Senior Student*, Michael W. Tan, Business Administration and Computer Information Systems; and the *Outstanding Graduate Student*, Courtney Spikes, History. We are pleased to present the Distinguished Alumni Awards to: *Charter College of Education*, Michelle Pearlman Windmueller '86, Associate Investigator/Lead Teacher, Project Plus, Harrison School; *College of Natural and Social Sciences*, Terrence Roberts '67, CEO, Terrence J. Roberts & Associates; *College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology*, Dwight C. Streit '80, Vice President and CEO, Velocium, A TRW Company; *College of Arts and Letters*, Félix Gutiérrez '65, Writer/Consultant, Newseum; *College of Health and Human Services*, Peter E. Schwab '70, Chairman and CEO, Foothill Capital Corporation; and *College of Business and Economics*, Robert F. Howard '69, Senior Managing Partner, Houlihan, Lokey, Howard and Zukin.

This gala event includes a unique strolling dinner, followed by an Academy Awards-style ceremony complete with multimedia video presentation. For ticket information, please contact the Alumni Association at (323) 343-ALUM. To find out more about the award recipients, please visit <http://alumni.calstatela.edu>, click on "Programs" and select the Alumni Awards option.

*We look forward to seeing you in October!*



## Calling all CSULA alumni...

*The new student welcome calling program needs you!*

Summer—the time for sunscreen and swimwear—is fast approaching! But before you do anything else, dive right in and sign up with the CSULA Alumni Association to help with the **2002 New Student Welcome Calling Program**.

Now, entering its fourth year, the New Student Welcome Calling Program needs many enthusiastic volunteers to help us reach all incoming first-time freshmen and first-time transfer students with a warm, friendly and personal telephone call during the month of August.

To volunteer for the New Student Welcome Calling Program, or to help with our other committees (Alumni Awards, Alumni Scholarship, Membership/Marketing, Legislative Affairs, and Finance):

- Call us! (323) 343-ALUM
- E-mail us! [alum@cslanet.calstatela.edu](mailto:alum@cslanet.calstatela.edu)
- Visit us on the Web! [alumni.calstatela.edu](http://alumni.calstatela.edu)

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!**



# Letters...

Every year I get a call soliciting funds for Cal State L.A. The voice always sounds young and vibrant with a hint of "please" in every word. I wish I could give more to your worthy cause – but being retired and on a fixed income, I have to carefully decide where to donate a few dollars.

Education is so important, I sincerely hope you raise millions! You are the hope of our nation, our future. Without educated people, our country would decline in all areas!

Keep up the good work and thank you for asking with a smile in your voice.

Dolores Kaneshina

**You can join the over 4,500 alumni and friends who support the Cal State L.A. Annual Fund by making a gift today. For your convenience, a response envelope can be found in the center spread of this magazine.**

## Share your life's milestones!

Have you changed jobs recently? Realized a personal or professional accomplishment? Or maybe you've just moved. 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

Please print

Name (Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.) \_\_\_\_\_

Name at graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Class year(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Business address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Business phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Business e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Class Notes Information:

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

☐ Mark here if you haven't joined the CSULA Alumni Association yet. We'll send you a membership application and include your classnotes in our next issue.

## IN MEMORIAM

**John Owen Jones**, emeritus professor of education, died in January. He taught elementary education from 1964 to 1991, after an earlier career as an elementary school teacher and principal. In 1982, Jones served as a language arts specialist as part of a team that went to Micronesia to conduct a Cal State L.A.-sponsored institute for teachers and educational administrators.

**Marilynn B. Lemon**, emeritus professor of nursing, died in September. She taught one of the first courses in nursing and designed and taught the first course in mental health consultation for graduate students. She also served on various committees and was chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee for several years. She was a pioneer in the field of post-traumatic stress, and after retiring from Cal State L.A. worked as a psychotherapist.

**Demetera Palamari**, associate professor of French, died in February. Her specialty was French literature of the 16th and 19th centuries, and she also made use of her musical talent by introducing a course in French popular song in which she sang and played the guitar. She often participated in projects designed to enhance student language learning, and was dedicated to several causes, including civil rights, protection of the environment, feminism and the humane treatment of animals.

**Morris Polan** was the University librarian for 23 years. During that time, this avid reader oversaw the construction of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library and tripled the size of its collection. He later supervised its restoration after it sustained severe damage in the 1987 Whittier earthquake. After stepping down as librarian in 1988, he joined the Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute of Public Affairs as public affairs coordinator, a position he held until he died in March.

**John Thomas Riddle Jr.** ('65 Education) was a sculptor, painter and printmaker known for artwork that addressed the struggles of African-Americans. Concentrating on themes that explored the harsh realities of life in South-Central Los Angeles, he created pieces from welded steel and debris left by the 1965 Watts riots. Riddle also worked at Los Angeles and Beverly Hills High Schools. Moving to Atlanta, he taught at Spelman College, directed the city's Neighborhood Art Center and worked for the Bureau of Cultural Affairs. Riddle died of complications from a heart attack.

## Don't miss Billie Jean King and Friends, Honoring Joe Shapiro in September

Registration is underway for the September 28, 2002, Billie Jean King and Friends, Honoring Joe Shapiro event, once again benefiting intercollegiate athletics scholarships. Alumna Billie Jean King is not only one of the greatest tennis players in history, but more importantly, blazed a trail of equity enjoyed by women athletes everywhere today. Thanks to Billie Jean's efforts, more than \$300,000 in net proceeds has been raised for Golden Eagle athletics scholarships over the first four years of this event. In addition, two endowed scholarships have been created in Billie Jean's name, one going to a Golden Eagle tennis player and the other to another intercollegiate sports athlete.

The event begins with a morning clinic, pro-am tournament and exhibition match on the Cal State L.A. campus, featuring



nearly a dozen former tennis professionals. Among them are Hall of Famers Billie Jean King, Rosie Casals and Pam Shriver. In the evening, everyone gathers at the Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel in Pasadena for the dinner and auction, with approximately 100 auction items available for bidding.

World-class swimmer and nationally-recognized journalist Diana Nyad will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the event. Nyad, the world's top distance swimmer for more than a decade, has been a correspondent for Fox Sports, National Public Radio and CNBC television.

An array of sponsorship packages are available for individuals and companies. For more information,

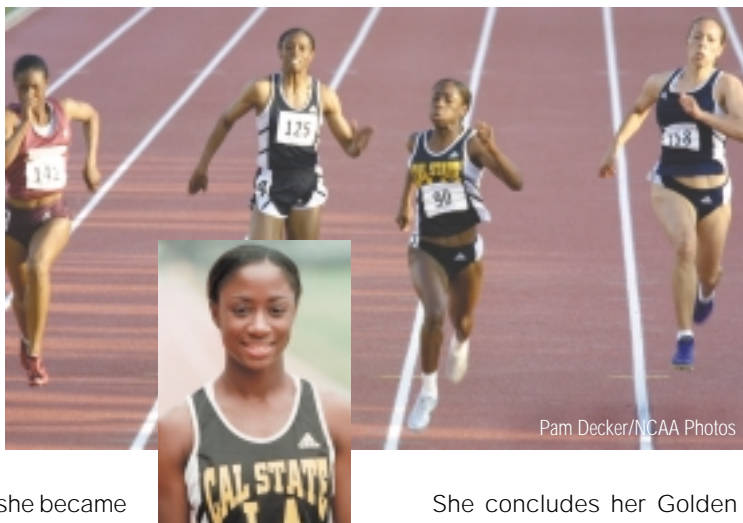
contact Cal State L.A. Athletics at (323) 343-3080 or download the registration brochure at [www.calstatela.edu/univ/athletic](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/athletic).



## Track's Nicole Duncan named National Athlete of the Year

Senior track star Nicole Duncan concluded a remarkable season by earning the prestigious Honda Award, presented by the nation's athletic directors and senior woman administrators to the top female athlete in NCAA Division II. The award was presented in June in Dallas.

Duncan made NCAA history on May 25, 2002, as she became only the fourth athlete in NCAA history, regardless of gender or division, to win the 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash and long jump in the same year. Her three outdoor titles also tied the top single-season women's record in Divisions I, II and III. The only collegiate athlete to win more than three outdoor titles in the same year was the great Jesse Owens (four championships in 1935 and 1936), for



Pam Decker/NCAA Photos

whom the Cal State L.A. track is named.

For the 2001-02 school year, Duncan won an amazing total of five NCAA individual titles, doing so in every event in which she was entered at the national indoor and outdoor meets. She earned two NCAA indoor titles back on March 8-9, winning the 60 meter dash and the long jump.

She concludes her Golden Eagles career as the most decorated track and field athlete in school history, doing so in a men's and women's track program which boasts 15 individual Olympic medals, 52 Olympic appearances and 69 national collegiate championships. Duncan earned eight NCAA individual titles, 14 All-America awards and five CCAA conference titles in her three-year career at Cal State L.A.





## Q&A with John Herbold — our winningest baseball coach



**A** fixture in Southern California baseball, John Herbold became the winningest head coach in Cal State L.A. baseball history on February 10, when the Golden Eagles rallied from a 10-run deficit for a thrilling 13-12, extra-inning victory against UC San Diego. Herbold just completed his 47th year as a head coach at either the college or high school level in Southern California. Under his tutelage, Cal State L.A. has continued its tradition of sending many players to professional baseball, with more than a dozen alumni currently playing pro ball.

**Q:** How does it feel to be the winningest coach in school history?

**A:** Well, it's very humbling and a lot of people have congratulated me on it. Of course (laughing), make sure you also mention I've lost more games than anyone else, too. [Editor's note: Herbold has been head coach for nearly 40 percent of the baseball games in Cal State L.A. history and coached his 1,000th game here on March 15, 2002.]

**Q:** As you look back on 19 years here, what gives you the greatest sense of pride?

**A:** Mostly the fact that I feel like I've been able to make a difference in this world. We had 36 alumni come back and play in our alumni game in February (Homecoming weekend), and they all tell me they continue to take what they learned here and use it everyday of their lives. Also, I'm proud of the fact that our players generally do very well academically, and therefore, are able to have a chance to do whatever they want to do after graduation.

**Q:** What's the best team you've had at Cal State L.A.?

**A:** That's tough. Obviously, the 1997 and 1998 teams won the conference title, so you have to count them among the top ones, but there have been a number of teams that I really liked over the years.

**Q:** Years from now, when people look back on the John Herbold era at Cal State L.A., what do you hope they will see?

**A:** That our kids did well academically and learned a lot of lessons that helped them after college. We've tried to prepare our players for life, whether it's in professional baseball or a different career, and I hope we've done a good job of that.

LA

## Hoopsters Johnson and Orinaite named All-American

**M**en's basketball junior forward Ronald Johnson and senior women's basketball center Jurate Orinaite each earned All-America honors this season from the nation's basketball coaches.



Johnson's honors come from both the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) as well as the Division II Bulletin, earning a spot on the NABC's second team as one of the nation's top-10 players. He led the CCAA conference this season by scoring 21.0 points per game and ranked sixth in the CCAA in both field goal (.480) and free throw (.768) percentage. Johnson will enter his senior season tied for second on the school's all-time scoring chart with 1,432 points. Johnson is the second men's basketball All-American in the last three years (Quincy Stinson was All-American in 2000).

Orinaite was named an Honorable Mention All-American by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA). This year, she broke her own Cal State L.A. single-season blocked shot record with 84, concluding her career with a school-record 164 blocked shots and ranking sixth in school history with 519 rebounds. Orinaite finished the 2001-02 regular season ranked ninth in the NCAA in blocked shots (3.1 per game), and 23rd in rebounding (10.4 per game).



Three other basketball players garnered postseason honors this year. Women's freshman point guard Monica Tokoro earned first-team All-CCAA while senior women's guard Kelli Kobayashi and sophomore men's forward Jonathan Levy were named second-team All-CCAA.

LA

# History lives through online veterans' project

A joint effort between Cal State L.A.'s Charter College of Education, the California Military Museum and UCLA uses creative tools and methods to bring history to life for students and teachers around the world. Using the latest internet technology and interactive learning methods, the California Military History Educational Project is educating students about World War II, primarily through oral histories recounted by WWII veterans, which are posted on the project Web site.

Interviews with the veterans conducted by students and volunteers are being digitally recorded, and a detailed curriculum is being designed to meet the needs of California public school teachers at various grade levels. Experts, led by Paula Arvedson ('82, '84; CSULA/UCLA '99), assistant professor in the Charter College of Education, have teamed up with public school teachers to develop a curriculum that fulfills California standards, and that is exciting, interesting and educational at the same time.

"We're using the strong academic resources of Cal State L.A. and marrying them with the input of teachers in the field to make sure the curriculum meets their needs and will be used by them," said Fernando Hernandez, chair of the Division of Educational Foundations and Interdivisional Studies.

The curriculum is geared toward social studies teachers, but can be used by teachers of any subject. To make sure the curriculum can be effectively implemented, a pilot project was set up at La Puente High School in the San Gabriel Valley. Students in teacher Darryl Vincent's 11th grade class interviewed between 75 and 80 veterans for editing and Web site input. After some critiquing and a few minor



adjustments, the curriculum was established for use at La Puente High, and eventually, will be rolled out to the general public.

The project was initially funded by volunteers such as Ralph Ramirez, southern region deputy commander for the Center for Military History, who helped spearhead the project. It recently received partial funding from the California State Legislature and is administered by the California Arts Council.

Now many young adults born in the '80s—who had seen WWII primarily in the context of Hollywood films—are learning valuable history lessons first-hand from the people who lived through it. "Students are beginning to realize how extraordinary these ordinary people are," Hernandez said. "They're getting to see the perspective of ordinary soldiers on the front lines and gaining a tremendous understanding of their contributions. It's also a great bridge between generations—they're finding out they have a great deal to learn from one another."

"And 16- and 17-year-old students can relate to stories of 18-year-olds, even if they're being told through the voice of an 83-year-old," Ramirez added.

There's an urgency in getting in touch and recording these histories, Ramirez said, because "we're losing an average of 1,600 WWII veterans in the United States each day."

The Web site, [www.cmhep.org](http://www.cmhep.org) is being revised so that it will be more user-friendly and inviting, Hernandez said, and will contain streaming video. The site receives hits from all over the world, and can be an educational resource for anyone who has an interest in learning about WWII. **LA**



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