

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

TODAY

The News of California State University, Los Angeles

Winter 2003

A Wonderful World of Harmony

Professor James Newton '80
Musician Extraordinaire

CAL STATE L.A. TODAY

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On the cover—Professor James Newton '80, describes jazz as an American art form that became "a huge gift to the world, with the great innovators—Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong, Sarah Vaughn, John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Charles Mingus, Herbie Hancock and others." Now, he happily notes, the world is adding to the blend of this American form. "They interpret jazz by mixing it with their own folk traditions. Each culture brings something that reflects wonderful and unique qualities." Newton loves to share such cultural richness in performances with the Luckman Jazz Orchestra. Read more on page 6.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

California State University, Los Angeles, affirms its commitment to equality of opportunity for all individuals. This commitment requires that no discrimination shall occur in any program or activity of the University on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, ancestry, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), mental disability, medical condition, pregnancy, age (over 40), marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, disabled veteran's status, Vietnam Era veteran's status, or any other classification that precludes a person from consideration as an individual. Further, the University's commitment requires that no retaliation shall occur because an individual filed a complaint of discrimination or in some other way opposed discriminatory practices, or participated in an investigation related to such a complaint. This policy is in accord with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, as amended, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Act of 1974, and related administrative regulations and executive orders. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX, Sections 503 and 504, and other nondiscrimination laws may be referred to the Office for Equity and Diversity (Telephone: [323] 343-3040), the campus office assigned the administrative responsibility of reviewing such matters. Title IX inquiries may also be directed to the Regional Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Region IX, Old Federal Building, 50 United Nations Plaza, Room 239, San Francisco, CA 94102.



How will your experience at CSULA help you take your place in the world?

Being on such a diverse campus has broadened my horizons, and I've learned to see not only our differences, but also the things we have in common. My experience here is a major stepping stone toward who I am and my journey into the world.



Jamilla Calhoun
Biology major



Jeron Moore
Broadcasting major

Cal State L.A. is a wonderful place to make friends and learn about all types of people. My goal as a filmmaker is to reach as broad an audience as possible, and the better my understanding of different people and cultures, the more effective I can be.

Being here is like a training program for the real world. In this diverse environment we're able to share different opinions and points of view with our classmates, which allows you to think on a deeper level about life and the world.



Al Gomez
Biology major



Monica Chew
Art major

The wonderful teachers at Cal State L.A. have expanded my horizons, and their passion about what they teach has given me a different perspective on the subjects and on life. Our diverse student body allows us to have friends of all nationalities, and we share our cultures and gain a greater understanding of the world.

I think I've become a well-rounded person and I'm more open-minded about things. At Cal State L.A. there are people from all walks of life and we share ideas and cultures, which allows us to really understand one another and shatter stereotypes. When I graduate and go out into the world I'll have much more than just my diploma.



Milet Hall
Broadcasting major



Shirley Lomeli
Biochemistry, MS candidate

Coming from a mixed ethnic background, I realize how important it is to be exposed to people from different cultures. We need to interact with various types of people – it's good real-world experience and will keep us from getting culture shock when we leave school.

I grew up in a diverse neighborhood, so I'm used to being around people from different cultures and I wouldn't want it any other way. I like learning from people from different backgrounds.



Ronald Johnson
Sociology major



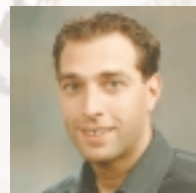
Maria Salazar
Business admin. major

Here at Cal State L.A. there are a lot of intercultural relationships so we get great exposure to different aspects of people's cultures, such as food, traditions, and celebrations. It's good to have things in common, but also to learn about our differences.

I've learned a lot about different cultures and their struggles, which has taught me to appreciate and relate to them. This will help me when I go out into the world as a counselor because I'll be working with people from all different cultures and I'll be able to help them better.



Gloria Deharo
Counseling, MA candidate



Peter van Kemseke
Former Belgian exchange student, political science major

When I began studying at Cal State L.A., I realized I had been very European-focused. My studies at Cal State L.A. opened my eyes to Latin American politics and exposed me to a much more global view. I will start working as a Belgian diplomat in a couple of months - this international orientation started at CSULA!

Prize-winning novelist shares writing tips with students

Cal State L.A. instructors Margaret Hart and Suzanne McEvoy were so impressed with *Cold Mountain*, Charles Frazier's prize-winning novel set during the Civil War, that they decided not only to use it as part of their curriculum, but also to contact Frazier in hopes that he would speak to their classes.

Frazier, a former American literature professor, although interested in connecting with the Cal State L.A. students, had a busy writing schedule that

did not allow for him to fly out to California from his home in North Carolina. So he set up an e-mail address where students could ask questions about the novel, the writing process, and anything else they wanted to know about being a writer.

"The students didn't initially realize how unusual and unique the opportunity to correspond with Charles Frazier was," said McEvoy. "But over the course of the quarter, it began to sink in, and they were really touched by it."

The students belong to a "learning community" sponsored by Cal State L.A.'s Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) in which they spend a quarter taking classes together. As part of a learning community, students have the opportunity to get to know one another well and offer each other academic and social support, which in turn contributes to a more successful learning experience.

The learning community took two linked courses during spring quarter – English 101 and EDCI 093 – taught by Hart and McEvoy respectively. The theme of the courses was "Through the lens of *Cold Mountain* – Examining the U.S. Civil War's consequences in fiction and non-fiction."

"We tried to show students how important the Civil War was to our history and how it impacted individuals," McEvoy explained. "We thought that an effective way of doing this was by having them read *Cold Mountain*, which not only illustrates the human side of war, but is also a wonderful piece of literature."

"The students really liked the beautiful description of the characters, and found that they could identify with them,"



Margaret Hart and Suzanne McEvoy's students receive writing tips from Charles Frazier, author of the award-winning novel, *Cold Mountain*.

Hart added.

Hart and McEvoy believed that because Frazier had been a professor, he would be interested in how his novel was being used in their classes, so they sent him an outline of the curriculum. "When he saw our course material he said it looked wonderful and he wanted to get involved," Hart said. "His involvement really put a human perspective on the writing process, and it was a tremendous opportunity for students to get to know a famous author and gain insight into his life and mo-

tivation. It also gave them an extra incentive to read the novel."

The students put a lot of time and thought into the questions they asked Frazier, and Frazier's responses were thoughtful, detailed and personal. He advised young writers to read as much and as widely as possible, to write the best they can and not worry about getting published, because that is something over which they have no control. He also shared tips for getting through writer's block, and explained his motivation for writing *Cold Mountain* and creating the characters:

Growing up in the South when I did, the Civil War was still very much a part of everyone's shared cultural heritage. We've been guilty in the South of romanticizing that war and of making figures like Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson into tragic heroes. I wanted [the main character] Inman to be sick of the war, to understand that there was nothing romantic about it, and to walk away from it. To become a deserter with the understanding that he and thousands of others had been fooled into fighting a war to perpetuate the great crime of slavery. At the same time, the love story and the journey home provides at least a chance of hope, a contrast to all the brutality and despair unleashed by the war.

Frazier also revealed that he sometimes feels that what he has written "isn't good enough," so he revises his writing until he can't think of any way to make it better. "I think it was very valuable for the students to realize that even a professional writer can be dissatisfied with his writing," Hart said.

(See Frazier, next page)

When a student asked Frazier why he chose writing over teaching, Frazier explained:

It took me seven years to write Cold Mountain, but part of that time I was teaching too. The writing was really more like a hobby than a job—sort of like a guy restoring a 1962 Corvette—I only worked on it when I had some spare time. But after a point—when I was about halfway done—I wanted to give it my full attention, so I quit my job and just wrote for two or three years to finish the book. I think one day I'll probably do a little teaching again. I do miss being in a classroom with a group of students talking about a book we've all read—or at least we're all supposed to have read.

Cold Mountain, Frazier's first novel, was published in 1997 when Frazier was 46. It won the prestigious National Book Award, and reached the top of the *New York Times* best-seller list.

Frazier grew up near Cold Mountain in the Blue Ridge of

North Carolina. The son of a high school principal, he received a Ph.D. in English literature and was teaching literature part-time when he became interested in the history of W. P. Inman, his great-great-uncle, whose Civil War journey back to his mountain home became the inspiration for *Cold Mountain*.

MGM and United Artists bought the rights to the film, which will star Nicole Kidman and Jude Law, and is due to be released in 2003. Frazier is working on a second novel, for which he received a sizable advance. "It was very generous of Frazier to take time to do this, even when he's under pressure from publishers to get his next book out," Hart said.

Hart and McEvoy have presented information about this project at national education conferences, and have received positive feedback and recognition for their creative approach.

LA

Calling the world home

Today we live in a world where information flows easily across oceans and continents, all economies are involved in a global marketplace, and people travel easily from one country to the next. In order to help prepare students for living in a global society and to make them more aware of how different cultures are interconnected, Cal State L.A. offers many opportunities for students and faculty to experience this first-hand.

International Programs and Services helps to make this possible by creating opportunities for students to study abroad through the CSU and other international programs, and for foreign students to attend Cal State L.A. "Our students need to be as familiar and as comfortable with as much of the world as possible," says Michael Fels, director of International Programs and Services. "If they don't have this opportunity, they'll be less than fully able to participate in the world community."

International Programs and Services also helps university faculty become involved in exchange programs, arranging for them to work and conduct research in foreign countries, which helps them internationalize their curriculum.

"Our students need faculty who understand how the world is interconnected," Fels says. "And they need professors who encourage them to study abroad,

because without the support of faculty, students might not overcome social and economic obstacles that could prevent them from getting there."

Another way in which students can explore various cultures is through Cal State L.A.'s Cross Cultural Centers. These include the Asian Pacific American Student Resource Center, Chicana/o Latina/o Student Resource Center, Pan African Student Resource Center, and the Women's Resource Center. These centers are dedicated to increasing cross-cultural awareness, and offer programs that explore both shared and unique experiences, histories and heritages. The centers sponsor such programs as discussions with prominent international politicians about world issues, screenings of international films, and other events that promote understanding and foster an inclusive campus environment.

"We try to educate people about who they are as cultural beings," says Frederick Smith, Cross Cultural Center's assistant director. "Some people have negative stereotypes about certain groups that they may not even be aware of. We try to break down these stereotypes by showing the connections between cultures—everyone's struggle is equally important."

LA



Exploring the world

From the majestic Egyptian pyramids to the dusty deserts of Timbuktu, Cal State L.A. faculty, staff and students traverse the globe in pursuit of knowledge, understanding and adventure. Whether they're digging for Mayan ruins or studying the effects of communism on Croatian media, they venture out in the world to share ideas, explore different cultures and blaze paths.

American-Egyptian teacher exchange

"We have all been changed forever," José Galván, associate dean of Graduate Studies, says of the innovative international program he directs. In 2000, a team of top-notch teachers traveled from Los Angeles to Egypt to train teachers in an effort to improve primary-grade education. As part of the exchange, Egyptian teachers visited American classrooms to see how they are structured and learn how curricula are developed and presented.

The program focuses primarily on Egyptian females, who often do not receive the same educational opportunities as males. Now in its third and final year, the program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), has helped train more than 1,000 Egyptian teachers. They will serve as future teacher trainers, so the benefits of the project will continue well into the future.

"All of the teachers have grown so much and have become more self-assured," Galvan says. "We came back with a sense that we understand each other better and we look at world events differently - we can relate."



The American-Egyptian teacher exchange.

Communism and Croatian media

Communications graduate student Mirjana M. Muzar has taken on an ambitious and unique project for her thesis –investigating the effects of the fall of communism on the media in her native Croatia. Muzar is studying television broadcasts of Croatia's most popular news program, *Dnevnik*, in 1979, before the fall of communism, and in 2000, under the new democratic regime. She's analyzing stories related to world news, politics, entertainment, education, sports and economics, among others.

"As of yet, no significant work has been done to analyze news in the contemporary, democratically driven Croatia,"

Muzar says. "Communications isn't a field in Croatia like it is here. But I hope that my research will help change that and influence others to see that television is more than just a form of entertainment – it is also a major force that influences people's lives."

Students experience Cuba first-hand

Latin American Studies 450, Cuba and the World, is not your average course. Students not only study the history and culture of Cuba, but they also have the opportunity to visit the country and learn about its foreign policy, economy and culture first-hand. This year, 33 students traveled to Cuba, where they attended seminars at the University of Havana about the Cuban Revolution, economics and the effects of the U.S. trade embargo. They also got a taste of the arts at the Instituto de Superiores Artes, the most highly regarded film and media school in Cuba, and in the open-air plazas where artists gather to perform music, dance and exhibit their work.

"Students were very impressed with how happy people are despite their economic condition and limited material possessions," says

Marjorie Bray, program coordinator and chair of Latin American Studies.

"They also remarked on the availability of health care, education, and the way artistic talent is nurtured in Cuba."

The trip was a very positive experience for all the participants, says graduate student Celia Simonds-Hidalgo.

"The American media portrays an image of Cuba as a repressive dictatorship, but it's not like that at all," she says.

"It's through these trips that we develop relationships with foreign scholars and artists who have so much to offer."



Cuban street performers.

Discovering Mayan ruins in Guatemala

When undergraduates Sergio Garza and Cesar Espinosa went with assistant professor of anthropology James Brady to explore caves in Guatemala, little did they know that it would lead to discoveries of sacred Mayan ruins and fame on Danish television. But this is what can happen when students push their limits under the guidance of talented faculty.

The students are taking part in a two-year program through Cal State L.A.'s Anthropology Department funded by the Danish National Broadcasting Company. They are gaining hands-on experience exploring and excavating Mayan caves to recover artifacts and record the findings.

"It's been a huge learning experience," says Brady. "They've learned about archaeology and international culture, and have had international press exposure. I see them flowering as a result of this experience – it's extending their horizons beyond anything they've ever done before."

As a result of the trip, both are making significant contributions to the field. Garza co-authored an article submitted to the major journal *Latin American Antiquity*, and both Garza and Espinosa will present papers at the national archaeology meetings in Milwaukee next spring. Brady says that this is only the beginning, and anticipates more professional development and archaeological discoveries to come as a result of this program.

Journey to Timbuktu

International student counselor Harold Martin estimates he's traveled to 80 countries, which comes in handy in his job



(L-r) Cesar Espinosa, James Brady and Sergio Garza display Mayan ruins they discovered in Guatemala.

working with people from all over the world. "It's very beneficial for students to work with people who have some understanding of their countries and cultures," Martin says. "It makes them feel more comfortable."

But even this seasoned traveler wasn't prepared for what lay in store on the road

to Timbuktu, a small West African desert town in Mali known as one of the most remote and inaccessible places on the planet. While traveling through Africa with his two sons this summer, they decided to venture to Timbuktu, figuring that it wouldn't be as

difficult as legend had it. They hired an experienced driver who knew the way despite the fact that there are no roads leading to Timbuktu, and set out in a Land Rover from the nearest town—a staggering 300 miles away. They got several

flat tires along the way, and watered-down gasoline made the Land Rover sputter and stall. Their food and water soon ran out, and they found themselves stranded in the desert in scorching temperatures exceeding 120 degrees.

"A man came by on a donkey," Martin recalls. "He went to get us water and came back with bottles filled with worms." Before severe dehydration set in, some people came by in a UNICEF vehicle and gave them their last spare tire. "We were finally able to make it to Timbuktu, and we were the only people to make it there that day," Martin says. The trip back was no easier. "We broke down again, and I was so tired I lay down on the ground and was stung by scorpions but I was too exhausted to care."

Martin says he learned a great deal from the experience, but he's in no hurry to do it again. The main purpose of the excursion was the journey. "It was like climbing to the top of a mountain," he says. "It's all about getting there."



Harold Martin and his sons in Timbuktu.

JAMES NEWTON

...AND HIS LANGUAGE OF HARMONY



James Newton's first memory of music came at age four, from the hymns of his Arkansas church choir. "Those soaring sopranos," he recalls, "gave me chills up and down my spine. Sometimes I think that sound made me choose the flute."

As a teen, Newton—whose musical loves range from Jimi Hendrix to Bach to Duke Ellington—started out as bassist in a Hendrix-style trio before he could read music, then, turning an ear toward jazz, alternated between alto and tenor sax, picking up the flute when he was 16.

His army father, though, wasn't too sure about his son's career leanings. "He wanted me to have a more secure profession." Luckily, Newton's piano-playing grandmother helped ease the way—somewhat. The military dad determined that if his son wanted to be a musician, he'd better have *discipline*. "He heard that I had to sight-read and practice my scales, and he would knock on my door when I was playing: 'Are you working on your sight-reading? Are you working on your scales?' 'Yeah, Pop, I'm working on 'em.'"

Concentrating on the flute, he began studying classical music at Cal State L.A., earning his BA in 1980. Seeking opportunity, and with the experience of having lived on a military base in Germany as a child, he returned to Europe in his 20s, where his jazz flute wowed Paris.

A Guggenheim Fellow and accomplished classical musician, Newton has topped *DownBeat* magazine's international critics' polls as best jazz flutist for more than 20 years. He has performed with everyone from the New York Philharmonic to the Moscow Virtuosi. "With his gutsy tone and

astonishing agility," said the *Los Angeles Times*, "James Newton has a technique unexcelled among jazz flutists."

Wanting to be close to his two children after years of exhausting concert travel, he began teaching at Cal Arts and UC Irvine, then returned to Cal State L.A. in 2000. "I received an excellent education here, and the environment, particularly in the Music Department, was conducive to modern thought. The classical music education—in the orchestra, in the ensemble—was great. It was just solid." As an undergraduate, Newton helped cover college costs by pumping gas, giving private lessons and working in the Educational Opportunities

Program. So he truly appreciates "what it takes for our students to be in college. They realize that education is precious."

But more than that, he says, is the wonderful harmony he feels here among students from all backgrounds. "I was raised by my parents to be concerned about the

rights of people of all races, not just my own. For me, the diversity that exists at Cal State L.A. is something that I enjoy and really feel proud of when I walk around campus. It meant a lot to me—and it's uplifting—to come back home and give my heart to the students here."

The diversity of Cal State L.A. benefits both its students and music itself, allowing both to grow and thrive, he says. "I've been to many places in the world and I've seen that music can definitely knock down barriers." Newton's own cosmopolitan musical blendings began with his early exposure to a different culture. He views each place as having "its own rhythm, time, pace, its own set of colors, its own smells. All of those things, when taken together and you step back, give you a richer

“I’ve been to many places in the world and I’ve seen that music can definitely knock down barriers.”



understanding of the culture.” Music, he believes, is a language that adds to world harmony, just as campus diversity enriches the value of the educational experience.

The best part about teaching, he says, is “the challenge of trying to build in the students a real thirst for the material.” He strongly supports the rise of computer-aided music, because he says it furthers the international blending of musical ideas while also offering students more career opportunities.

Other top musicians view Newton as a world-class musician, flutist and composer. But even the most dedicated regard him as a workaholic. Acknowledging that his taskmaster is music, when preparing for a tour as flutist, he practices up to eight hours daily, and often works 60 to 80 hours a week. “I can be dog-tired but this idea just won’t get out of my head and I’ll get up in the middle of the night, and just get it.

“When you’re composing, teaching, conducting, playing the flute, it’s a huge challenge—you can drive yourself crazy, because each discipline demands so much energy and time that you can’t keep everything at a maximum all the time.”

As a composer who combines all types of instruments, Newton finds wellsprings of inspiration in John Coltrane, Charles Mingus and Duke Ellington—the latter whose music he transformed completely on the widely praised *The African Flower* album. He describes the process of composing with deference, as if somewhat mystified by his ability to craft melody, intertwine harmonies, and discover rhythm’s heartbeat. Music, he says, passes through him.

Always cordial and gentle in manner, Newton enjoys defying expectations—starting with the image of a 6’3” flutist who dedicates his art and his life to his deeply held religious faith.

“ We needed to shake things up and challenge what we’re holding onto—that’s very important for growth. ”

He praises Music Department Chair Paul DeCastro for boldly updating the curriculum: “We needed to shake things up and challenge what we’re holding onto—that’s very important for growth,” he says, comparing it to putting together an orchestra: “I don’t want a cookie cutter saxophone section, I want everyone sounding different; I want

dissonance—it’s a polychromatic rather than a monochromatic approach.” The artistic process, he says, is about putting the art on the edge. “You’ve got to keep pushing and never get comfortable.” This means that his work is sometimes called avant-garde. “It’s because I take a lot of chances—risk-taking

is important to me,” he says.

Newton’s ability and fine judgment in pulling off such risks has come together with the formation of the Luckman Jazz Orchestra, a cutting-edge 17-piece big band that debuted to enthusiastic critical acclaim in February 2001. The orchestra has attracted some of the top jazz talent in the city.

Now he’s focusing on fund raising to support the orchestra’s viability. “I’m excited about this opportunity to write large works and get them played. But with the economic climate, I think all aspects of university life are going to be greater challenged. It will take creativity to offer these things and keep moving forward.”

The key to the entire effort, Newton has discovered, is balance. “Now, I have realized that you need time to sit, to think, to go on walks, and to reflect.” He proudly displays “the first garden I’ve ever had in my life—what a joy to be able to see things grow and develop them.”

Just as the possibilities for music and the arts at Cal State L.A. likewise grow and blossom.

1947 - 1959

Richard D. Kellis ('49 BA Business Management/ Accounting) now retired, was vice president and general manager for Somet Supply Company and Tool & Abrinoe Company, working at each company for approximately 25 years. He has seven children, 22 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Janice Evelyn Jamison ('55 BA Education) retired from Rio Hondo Elementary School after teaching there for 47 years. The school library was renamed Jamison Library in her honor because of her love of children and reading.

Robert J. Barbera ('59 BA Business Administration) was honored with the Grand Sicilian Award in June by the Sicilia Culturale Society. His successful career spans nearly half a century, and he continues to contribute to the well-being of the Italian American community, actively participating in numerous organizations, activities, and fund raising efforts.

1960s

Michael Finkenbinder ('69 MA Philosophy) was named dean of the social sciences division at Pasadena City College, where he also served as interim dean of the languages division and social sciences.

Helen Marshall ('69 MA Education) is the director of services for the Glendora Welfare Association. She has volunteered at the Glendora Public Library, Recording for the Blind, the San Dimas Sheriff's Station, and was the furniture coordinator for LOVE INC.

David Alan Neuman ('63 BA Sociology) is a retired hospital personnel director and is starting his "second career" as manager of Sweeney Youth Homes, a boys' group home in Santa Barbara, CA.

James Wall ('69 BS International Marketing) is the newly appointed group chief financial officer at Memec and was elected to the board.



1970s

Stephen Bonswor ('73 BS Criminal Justice) has been appointed acting chief of the Long Beach Police Department. In November 2001, he was named deputy chief of the investigations bureau. Bonswor is active with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach and serves on the advisory board of the Salvation Army of Long Beach. An Irvine resident, Bonswor is married with two adult children.

Steve Ehret ('71 BS Civil Engineering) serves in London, U.K. as the personal science advisor to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and the Commander in Chief Allied Forces (NATO) Southern Europe. His primary duties include advising on advance technology for use in the war on terrorism and the U.S. peacekeeping mission in Bosnia and Kosovo. In 2000, he was honored as the Distinguished Engineering Alumnus of the Year by Cal State L.A. and received letters of com-

(CONT. NEXT PAGE)

CSULA Alumni Scholarship Program now includes Graduate Awards!

Over the past seven years the CSULA Alumni Association Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$45,000 in undergraduate scholarships. The primary goal of the Alumni Scholarship Program is to assist student leaders and their communities with financial assistance in recognition of their leadership, service, and participation in campus and community activities.

The Alumni Scholarship Committee, composed of alumni members and donors, manages the Program and directs and determines the scholarship process. In addition to the 15 undergraduate scholarships to be awarded this spring, the Committee has created two graduate scholarships. In extending these awards to graduate students, CSULA Alumni Association joins an elite few in the CSU system that offer Alumni Graduate Scholarships, and reaffirms a commitment to strengthening the affinity between the Alumni Association, its members, and Cal State L.A. students.

To learn more, or get involved with the Alumni Scholarship Committee, contact the CSULA Alumni Association, (323) 343-ALUM (2586), e-mail alum@cslanet.calstatela.edu, or visit its Web site at alumni.calstatela.edu.



Congratulations 2001-2002 Alumni Scholars!



(Front row) Tara Schaefer '02; Jesusita Chavez Zavala '02; Lisa Perzyna '03; Anin Chowdhury '02; Sharifa Austin '03; (Back row) Jeffrey M. Strauss '02; Claudia Zepeda '03; Vivian Onwukeme '05; Lizbeth Reyes '02; Joel Monroy '03; Christine Petit '02; Yadira Acosta '03; Tylene De Vine '02; Not photographed: Charys Scotton '02 and Yazmin Navarro '03

Surf to our sidewalk survey!

Don't miss out on exciting news, up-and-coming events, membership information, useful links and more! Pay us a visit at www.alumni.calstatela.edu. We are happy to announce that our team is working hard to make your Web site even better by developing an interactive alumni online community! So, the next time you visit, fill out our sidewalk survey and give us your suggestions so that we can customize the site to meet your online needs. By filling out the survey (before March 1, 2003) you will automatically be entered into a prize drawing. We can't wait to hear from you!

Rockefeller grant enables students and faculty to learn about the world through the humanities

Recognizing the unique strengths in the humanities of Cal State L.A. faculty and students, the Rockefeller foundation awarded a prestigious \$325,000 grant to the University's College of Arts and Letters, in partnership with the College of Natural and Social Sciences.

Cal State L.A. is one of only eight institutions in North and South America selected as a Rockefeller residency site among 45 applicants. In recent years, the recipients have included Columbia University, Stanford University, and UC Berkeley.

Supporting two Cal State L.A. faculty and two visiting scholars, a special fellowship program will stimulate faculty-student research that explores the idea of "Becoming and Belonging in American Society." The theme is particularly resonant for the Cal State L.A. community, which comprises significant immigrant and diasporic populations.

The project, beginning in 2003, will be co-directed by Richard T. Rodriguez, assistant professor of Chicano Studies, and Alejandra Marchevsky, assistant professor of Liberal Studies.

Over the course of three years, participants will analyze how American identities are forged through the confluence of cultural traditions, globalization, labor conditions, family structures, and gender roles. The program is designed to involve the entire campus and the public through an ongoing seminar, an annual colloquium, and an academic conference in 2006.

"The ultimate beneficiaries of this grant will be the students who are partners with our faculty in learning about the world, their communities, and themselves through the humanities," said Herman D. Lujan, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs. "This encourages the optimism and intellectual energy of our young faculty, who will be participating in research group dialogue and a successful and innovative, faculty-inspired program."

See < <http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/rockfinal.htm> >



(Faculty key to Rockefeller funding, front, l.-r.): Richard T. Rodriguez, Project Co-Director, Chicano Studies; Alejandra Marchevsky, Project Co-Director, Liberal Studies; Cheryl Koos, History; Patrick Sharp, Liberal Studies. (back, l.-r.): ChorSwan Ngin, Anthropology; Talia Bettcher, Philosophy; Hema Chari, English; Ann Garry, Philosophy; Kylie Hsu, Modern Languages.

CLASS NOTES

mentation from Governor Gray Davis and the California State Assembly for his professional achievements and community service.

Anthony R. Fellow, Ph.D. ('70 BA Journalism) was, for the 12th year, elected to the board of Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. He has served as chair of the Communications, Legislation and Outreach Committee of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. He is vice mayor of the City of El Monte, and was a candidate for the state assembly.

Gerald L. Garden's ('70 MA Art) editorial and human-interest cartoons appear in the Autry Museum of Western Heritage volunteer newsletter, the *United Teachers of Pasadena Voice*, and the Parkinson's Resource Organization *Newsworthy Notes*. He is also a volunteer docent at the Autry.

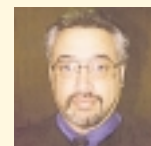
Robert Gossman ('73 BS Business Administration) has joined El Pollo Loco Inc. as corporate controller at the Irvine-based headquarters. Gossman will oversee all accounting functions and lead the development and implementation of new financial systems.

John Guzman ('75 BA History, '88 MA Computer Education) teaches probationary youths with special needs, and was named 2002 Teacher of the Year for the Los Angeles County Office of Education. Guzman, who lives in Whittier, has taught at private schools and adult schools and has worked at LACOE since 1998.

Walt Mancini ('71 BA Industrial Arts) has been a staff photographer at the *Pasadena Star-News* since 1974. He has received several awards, including Photographer of the Year from the Press Photographers of Greater Los Angeles in 1981, and the Visual Arts Award from the Pasadena Arts Council in 2000.

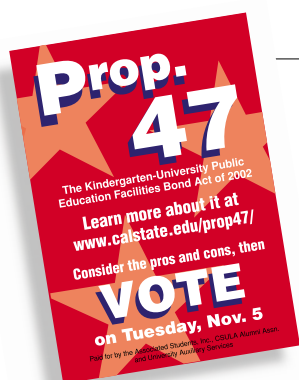
Manuel Mollinedo ('70 BS Recreation, '73 BA Anthropology, '77 MS Recreation) was appointed general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. He previously served as Los Angeles Zoo Director and is credited with restoring the city zoo.

Steven Sanora ('71 BS Business Administration) was appointed Los Angeles Superior Court Judge by Governor Gray Davis. He was a Los Angeles Municipal and Superior Courts Commissioner for 10 years prior to his new appointment.



Mirza M. Shah ('73 MS Mechanical Engineering) a resident of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and mechanical engineer at the King Faisal Hospital and Research Center. Riyadh has been named a Fellow of ASME International (The American Society of Mechanical Engineers). Shah earned his doctorate in heat transfer from the University of Sunderland, Sunderland, U.K. He is also a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers.

(CONT. NEXT PAGE)



California voters showed support for education with passage of Prop. 47 . . .

and Cal State L.A. will receive \$795,000 for equipment for its newly remodeled Music Building as a result. In 2004, another ballot measure will be important for supporting needed construction at Cal State L.A. We will keep you posted.

Hiroyasu Sugimoto ('79 BS Business Administration) was appointed managing director for Japan operations by Documentum. Sugimoto brings more than 20 years of diverse technical experience and executive management to the position. He most recently served as country manager for Brio Software Japan.

Bob Wieland ('79 BS Recreation), a Vietnam veteran, was recently honored by the Arcadia City Council. Wieland lost both his legs in 1969 while serving in the war. He is a well-known motivational speaker and has been honored by *People Magazine*, former President Ronald Reagan, the NFL Players' Association and Cal State L.A. (1986 Alumnus of the Year). From 1982 to 1986, Wieland walked across the country on his hands to raise awareness of the plight of military veterans.

Stuart Wilcox ('78 MA Psychology) has been appointed dean of Institutional Planning and Research at Pasadena City College. He was the associate dean of admissions and records at PCC from 1988 to 2001.

1980s

Sylvia Bar's ('85 MA Education) poem "Silence!" will be featured in *America at the Millennium, The Best Poems and Poets of the 20th Century*. More than 1.2 million poems were considered, of which only 1000 were chosen for publication.

Kent L. Bechler ('84 MA Educational Administration) was appointed superintendent of Walnut Valley Unified School District. He earned a doctorate from Claremont Graduate University.

Russell Kimura ('81 BS Biology) is a recruitment ranger for California State Parks. He recently staffed its recruitment table with a few furry friends at the Cal State L.A. job fair in October.



Photo: Katy Boggio, courtesy of *University Times*

Deborah Meadows ('86 MA English) volume of poetry has been accepted by Green Integer Books (Douglas Messerli, publisher Sun & Moon Press). Meadows' poems appear in dozens of literary publications.

Jeff Mejia ('86 MS Political Science) is a field sales manager for Distribution-Plus Inc. Dairy Fresh. He raised \$13,375 for March of Dimes in his first year as a volunteer.

Sonia Sorrell ('84 MA Art) has been appointed Fine Arts Division Chair at Pepperdine University. She was also voted the Luckman Distinguished Teaching fellow at her university.

1990s

Reginald Fleming-Peters ('95 BS Political Science) joined Cohen & Rudd law firm in Pasadena, CA as an associate attorney. He graduated from Whittier Law School in 1999.

(CONT. NEXT PAGE)

Annual Fund supports excellence

What could be more vital to the success of a university than student scholarships and campus improvements? Without them, many talented students would not have the opportunity to attend a first-rate university.

Scholarships, improvements and more are made possible through gifts to the Annual Fund. Last year alumni and friends gave \$211,000 to Cal State L.A., more than ever before. "Generally, people want to support a good cause, and we have plenty of those to tell them about here," said Andre Khachtourians, Annual Fund student staff. The Annual Fund establishes a much-needed broad base of funding and supports programs such as the prestigious President's Scholars. Because the state covers only 70 to 75 percent of what it actually costs to educate each student, private donations are vital to ensure that Cal State L.A. students receive the quality education they deserve.

The Annual Fund student staff is the backbone of the campaign. The job of an Annual Fund phon-a-thon representative can be challenging, but it's also one of the most rewarding jobs on campus, as staff learned last year. Students have the opportunity to learn important interpersonal skills that make them desirable employees when they graduate, regardless of their fields.

In 2001-2002, six outstanding students excelled in their positions and earned a place on the Annual Fund Wall of Fame. Ana Bonilla, Robert Gray, Andre Khachtourians, Dawn Miller, Tana Tea and Patrice Watson each raised more than \$10,000 during the year, and were honored for their hard work and dedication.

The 2002-2003 Annual Fund campaign is already under way. Gray, Khachtourians, Tea, and Watson are hard at work, along with new members of the Annual Fund team. They look forward to talking with you about how you can help make this another successful year. To make a contribution before the end of this tax year, please use the envelope located in the center spread of this magazine.

LA



The Annual Fund supports President's Scholars (above), which draws highachieving students to Cal State L.A.

Annual Fund student staff (from left): Robert Gray, Andre Khachtourians, Patrice Watson, Dawn Miller, Tana Tea and Ana Bonilla.



Network with CSULA Alumni!

Get together with Alumni from the fields of Education, Business and Economics, and Nursing by joining one of our Alumni Chapters.



- Career connections
- Student Outreach
- Professional Development and more!

To get involved with one of our chapters, please contact Natalie Smith, coordinator, Alumni Events and Online Services, at (323) 343-6059 or e-mail nsmith@cslanet.calstatela.edu.

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

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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:

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 class notes in our next issue.

CLASS NOTES

Katherine Harris ('94 BA English) presented a paper at a conference at the University of Edinburgh's Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities in March. The paper, on digital archiving, was published in the conference proceedings. She is a Ph.D. candidate in English at the CUNY Graduate Center, and is an active member of the CUNY Women's Studies Advisory Board, English Department committees, student governance and historical groups.

Laura Loftsgaarden ('99 BA Radio & TV Broadcasting) recently earned two Telly Awards in the commercial division for her public service announcement, "The Get Tech Kids PSA." Loftsgaarden wrote and directed the PSA and it was shot on the CSULA campus and featured the *Solar Eagle III*.

David Moon ('97 MFA Art) has been appointed chair of the Art Department at CSU Northridge.

Hector M. Ramos ('92 BS Biology) received his MD in 1998 from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is board certified in family practice after completing his residency at UCSF-Fresno University Medical Center. He lives with his wife Katie and two daughters, Gabby and Letty, in Fresno, CA.



Shoghig Shahinian RN, BSN, CDE ('94 BS Nursing) is a registered nurse and diabetes educator at St. Vincent Medical Center.

2000

Humberto Gallegos ('00 BS Civil Engineering) is a hydraulic engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He earned his MS from Colorado State University in 2001.

John Stephen Harris ('00 BS Microbiology) is a medical librarian for the Western University of Health Sciences.

Eileen Ortega ('01 BA Child Development) is working as an early intervention infant specialist for Birth & Family Services.

Matthew C. Warren ('00 BA English) has been appointed fiscal resource manager for the Division of Student Affairs at Cal State L.A. Warren has worked for the Office of the President as a presidential aide since 1993.

In Memoriam

John Riddle ('65 BA Fine Arts) was an artist/teacher who turned trash into treasure. He was a prolific painter and sculptor who often used items to depict the African American experience. Friends and relatives remember him as a strong man who taught others about the African American struggle through his work. The California African-American Museum has devoted a Web page to his artwork, in memoriam, at www.caam.ca.gov/jr.

Alumnus enlightens the world

When Barry Moreno ('85 BA History) saw a posting at the Cal State L.A. Center for Career Planning and Placement for a job as a park ranger, little did he know that it would lead to a position meeting foreign diplomats, royal families and celebrities such as Lauren Bacall, among others. Nor did he realize that he would become an expert on Ellis Island—the gateway through which more than 12 million immigrants passed between 1892 and 1954 in search of freedom of speech and religion, and economic opportunity—and the Statue of Liberty—the world's leading icon of democracy. But Moreno wasn't your average park ranger.

Moreno has a passion and a gift for learning languages, which proved very useful in his job as a ranger at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island National Park. When non-English speaking visitors got lost, Moreno—who can translate 10 languages—would often be called upon to help out. Moreno's talents quickly became renowned, and when his seasonal contract came to an end, he was asked to stay on as a library technician and historian at the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island.

Although many dream of making it big in the Big Apple, Moreno had reservations about being far away from his family in Los Angeles, and he wasn't too fond of the frosty east coast climes. But his excitement about the job outweighed his reservations, and he took the post in 1988.

Moreno went on to become the Ellis Island librarian—a job that has proven to be even more interesting and rewarding than he had imagined. During his tenure, he has helped create the Ellis Island Museum, and finalized the establishment of the library. One of the things he says he enjoys most is meeting people from all walks of life. "Cuban Americans, Italian Americans, Swedish Americans—they all have a claim to Ellis Island through their ancestors. They often want to share their family stories with staff—and they do!"

Americans in search of their family histories comprise only part of the island's visitors—over 40 percent of the five million annual guests come from abroad. "Some want to get ideas for building similar museums about immigration in their countries," Moreno said. "And the Statue of Liberty, which is officially called—'Liberty Enlightening the World,' is so famous abroad—people have very strong emotional ties to it, and see it as the ultimate symbol of freedom and democracy."



After answering questions about Lady Liberty for several years, Moreno decided to write *The Statue of Liberty Encyclopedia*. The book, published in 2000, explains the history of the internationally recognized symbol of freedom.

As a result of the many international connections to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, Moreno has learned a great deal about different cultures—an education that began at Cal State L.A. "It was a great adventure going to Cal State L.A. because it's a university with all different types of people," he said. "I had such good professors and they opened my eyes to many different possibilities. They taught me critical thinking in attempting to understand society. And I became more sensitive and aware of different cultures."

This cultural sensitivity has proven to be invaluable in many situations, including the V.I.P. tours Moreno gives to visiting dignitaries, royal families and politicians from all over the world, who sometimes invite him to visit their homes. It also comes in handy when he is interviewed by international media. Moreno has appeared in several Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty documentaries, including for the Discovery Channel, the Travel Channel and the BBC.

Because Ellis Island is linked to such an array of topics, Moreno has become an authority on diverse subjects, including war brides, disease control, various ethnic groups, Jewish issues and much more. For example: "Ellis Island used to be a disease control center where about 10 percent of the immigrants were detained for medical reasons before they were allowed to enter the country."

It's no wonder that members of Congress and the White House turn to Moreno for information. "The more you know, the more helpful you can be, and people really appreciate it," he said.

Not one to take a breather, Moreno just finished writing a book called *The Italian Americans*, and is working on *The Encyclopedia of Ellis Island*, which he plans to finish by next summer.

Corporate sponsors enhance success

More than 100 national and local businesses successfully promoted products and services through Cal State L.A. Athletics last year. Special thanks to corporate sponsors, including: Pepsi; USC University Hospital Center for Athletic Medicine; Citadel Outlet Stores; Wyndham Hotel Commerce; CSULA Alumni Association; The University Bookstore; Michelob; Jorano International; Monterey Hill Steakhouse; and Avis Mortgage. Sponsor support furthers the Golden Eagle drive toward CCAA and NCAA championships.

The Golden Eagle facilities are used for much more than athletics — the University's graduation, alumni awards, staff recognition and outside groups—including 30+ baseball leagues, Reviving Baseball in Inncities, local high schools and the Senior and Special Olympics—also see sponsor credits.

For more information on partnering with Golden Eagle Athletics, call Brian Swanson, associate athletic director, at (323) 343-3080.



Get the Golden Eagles news online

Want more of Golden Eagle Athletics' story behind the story? Then check out the new quarterly newsletter available exclusively on the Golden Eagle Web site at www.calstatela.edu/univ/athletic. Here's a glimpse:

- Redshirt freshman Annmarie Housen wins CCAA Conference and NCAA Regional women's cross country championships
- Women's volleyball earns fourth-straight NCAA Tournament berth
- News from Carol M. Dunn, athletic director
- Cal State L.A.'s seven new coaches
- Alumni game calendar
- Much, much more



Men's and Women's Basketball Home Schedule

Sat., Dec. 21	Men vs. Cal State Dominguez Hills.....	3 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 28	Men vs. Montana State-Billings	3 p.m.

CCAA Doubleheaders

Fri., Jan. 10	Grand Canyon	* Family Night
Sat., Jan. 11	UC San Diego	* Monterey Hill Steakhouse night
Fri., Jan. 17	Sonoma State	* Faculty/staff Appreciation Night; Family Night; Report Card Night
Sat., Jan. 18	San Francisco State	* Report Card Night
Fri., Feb. 7	Cal Poly Pomona	* Pepsi night; Citadel Outlet Stores/Wyndham Hotel Commerce Weekend; Homecoming
Sat., Feb. 8	Cal State San Bernardino	* JAM THE GYM night; Faculty/Staff Appreciation Night; Citadel Outlet Stores/Wyndham Hotel Commerce Weekend; Homecoming
Fri., Feb. 28	Cal State Bakersfield	* JAM THE GYM night; USC University Hospital Center for Athletic Medicine Night
Sat., Mar. 1	Cal State Stanislaus	* Ace Beverage Company Night
Fri., Mar. 7	UC Davis ...	* Faculty/Staff Appreciation Night; Family Night
Sat., Mar. 8	Chico State	* Take a Kid to the Game

* Women's home CCAA doubleheaders begin at 5:30 p.m. The men's game will begin at 7:30 p.m. or 30 minutes after the conclusion of the women's game.

Season highlights:

- * Faculty/Staff Appreciation Nights: buy 1 ticket, get 1 free
- * Family Nights: 4 tickets, 4 hot dogs/4 Pepsi/4 candy bars for only \$20
- * Report Card Nights: grade schoolers who show a report card with at least a B average get in free
- * Take a Kid to the Game: kids admitted free with a paid adult admission
- * At all Saturday night CCAA games, one lucky fan will win a Saturday night stay at the Wyndham Hotel Commerce



Hey Golden Eagle fans! Check out our new seats in the Eagles Nest! Now you can be guaranteed the best seat in the house for Golden Eagle volleyball and basketball games through the all new "Name My Seat" program. Here's how it works:

- Your name can be placed on the seat of your choice for five years. You will receive an all-sports pass good for two people to attend home games in all 11 sports.
- Sit in your personal seat for all Golden Eagle home volleyball and basketball games this year.
- You can renew your seat in years 2-5 by purchasing an all-sports pass.
- This makes a great gift, plus 80% of your contribution is tax deductible.

Don't wait! Someone might be taking your seat as you read this!

For details and an order form, go online at www.calstatela.edu/univ/athletic or call the Golden Eagle Athletics office at (323) 343-3080 and say "I want to Name My Seat!"

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2003 Homecoming Athletics Alumni Events

Thu., Feb. 6 — Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Fri.-Sat., Feb. 7-8 — Alumni activities and homecoming basketball games

Check the Golden Eagle Web site "alumni" section for details:

<http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/athletic>



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