

# University



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# Soaring as devoted Golden Eagle fans



Whose got the Golden Eagle spirit? Libby Kent and Corlis Ushijima do! Both staff members (who are also alums) exemplify extraordinary school spirit—attending almost all CSULA basketball and volleyball home games. On some occasions, they can be seen cheering for the Golden Eagle teams during the away games.

Identifying themselves as "indoor sports fans," you will find them in the Eagles Nest Gym with their gold and black gear, and seated on personal-

ized chairs that were purchased along with their annual season passes. The two were presented with official volleyball and basketball t-shirts for their constant support by the team coaches.

Corlis, a staff member since 1977, is the office manager for the assistant vice president of Student Affairs. Described as a "hard worker" and one who's "full of laughter," she is involved with the CSULA Summer Bridge Program and volunteers to help out at the University's Commencement, Alumni Gala, and GradFair. Corlis also enjoys knitting, quilting, traveling, and camping and hanging out with her former EOP colleagues.

And, EOP is where Corlis and Libby became good friends. Libby, an EOP student at the time, met Corlis, who was an EOP staff.

Libby, at CSULA for more than 26 years, is the University travel coordinator. She was honored with an Outstanding Staff Award in 2001. With interests in arts and crafts, she also enjoys attending Luckman performances and has her own basket company. Known for being "courteous and helpful," she volunteers at her church, at a dialysis ward, and at an Irwindale community center.

Both chimed in that, as staff or faculty, we should be here supporting our students to succeed in whatever endeavors. For Libby and Corlis, it means going to cheer for the Golden Eagle basketball and volleyball teams.

## Fulbright Scholar heads to Korea

Timothy C. Lim (Political Science) was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholar grant to teach at Korea University in Seoul, Korea, during the 2005-2006 academic year.



According to the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, Lim will lecture on U.S. foreign policy and international relations, and conduct research on the topic of "Korea and Global Migration: A Comparative Perspective."

Lim is one of approximately 850 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad to some 150 countries for the 2005-2006 academic year through the Fulbright Scholar Program. Recipients of Fulbright

Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their fields.

Limis a specialist in East Asian political economy (specifically South Korea and Japan) and international migration/immigration in Asia. He teaches comparative politics, international relations, global politics, and U.S. foreign policy. He is also the associate director of the Center for Korean-American and Korean Studies at Cal State L.A. His book, *Doing Comparative Politics: An Introduction to Approaches and Issues*, was recently published by Lynne Rienner Publishers.

#### Reaccreditation achieved

The Charter College of Education has proven its commitment to producing quality teachers for the nation's children by recently achieving full accreditation under the performance-oriented standards of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the organization responsible for professional accreditation of teacher education.

NCATE currently accredits 614 institutions which produce two-thirds of the nation's new teacher graduates each year. Ninety institutions are candidates or precandidates for accreditation.

"It is gratifying for NCATE to recognize the fine work our faculty and staff members



are doing in terms of preparing educators to work in diverse urban schools," says **Judith Washburn**, acting associate dean, Charter College of Education.

"Our continuing accreditation attests to the quality of our program in educating future teachers," says Provost of Academic Affairs **Herman D. Lujan**. "The Charter College of Education has been a pioneer in leading the way in many innovative approaches to teacher education."

## Crime report lauded

The Handbook for Campus Crime Reporting, recently produced by the U.S. Department of Education to cover Clery reporting requirements, has acknowledged and used part of CSULA's Partners in Public Safety document as an example to follow. CSULA is listed in the acknowledgments section with three other CSU campuses (Fresno, San Diego and Long Beach) and about 15 others. The CSULA report was also featured at a PowerPoint training session held in Kansas City.

For the University Reports expanded online edition, go to: www.calstatela.edu/
UniversityReports

#### **Business study awarded**

Cal State L.A. won the 2005 Outstanding Newcomer Award at the North America Case Research Association Conference in North Falmouth, MA.

The winning entry is a case study of AuctionWagon, a Los Angeles start-up company that began as an eBay drop-off center and transitioned into a software firm. The L.A. entrepreneurs had to overcome numerous business, financial, legal and human challenges to ensure the survival of the business. *The Case Research Journal* has already requested to publish the CSULA AuctionWagon case study.



"AuctionWagon" is authored by **Steve McGuire** (Management), director of the Entrepreneurship Institute, along with graduate students **Matthew Block**,

Maribel Hernandez, and Robert King. The case study was selected from over 100 papers presented by first-time attendees at the conference by researchers from the United States, Canada, Mexico, and several other countries.

"This award demonstrates that our students produce high quality work of the caliber of any top business school in the United States," says McGuire.

McGuire is an expert in organizational change, corporate entrepreneurship and culture. He is the editor and coauthor of *Managing Organizational Change* (Pearson), as well as several research articles. He has served as a consultant to major multinational corporations in organizational change and human resource management in over 20 countries.

## Lawler nets coach of the year honor

Cal State L.A. head volleyball coach **Bill Lawler** was named the Division II Pacific Region Coach of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Asso-



ciation in November. This marks the first regional coaching honor for Lawler in his 10 seasons at CSULA.

Lawler led his troops to CSULA's third CCAA Conference title in the last seven years as well as the program's first NCAA Elite Eight berth since 1992. Over Lawler's 10 seasons as head coach, the Golden Eagles have compiled a 218-85 overall record and earned seven NCAA Tournament bids.

Lawler came to Cal State L.A. in 1996 after three seasons (1994-96) as the top assistant coach for the men's volleyball program at Pepperdine.

Lawler began his coaching career at Santa Monica College in 1988, resurrecting the Corsairs' men's volleyball program after a five-year hiatus.

Internationally, Lawler was an assistant coach at the 1994 and 1995 U.S. Olympic Festivals, earning one gold (1994) and one bronze (1995) medal. During the summer of 1999, he served as an assistant for the U.S. Junior National Team that competed at the World Championships in Canada, finishing eighth in the world.

## Art professor noted

Carol Jeffers (Art), a visual arts faculty member, was recently featured in the "noteworthy" column of the CSU Impact & Learning e-newsletter for publishing



a new service-learning book, Spheres of Possibility: Linking Service-Learning and the Visual Arts.

Her book stemmed from serving as a Getty Scholar on the LINKING Service-Learning and the Visual Arts project, a partnership between the J. Paul Getty Trust and the CSU to advance student learning while providing meaningful service to community arts agencies and local schools.

At CSULA, Jeffers empowers teachers and students to make meaningful connections to art, and actively employs service learning in her art education classes.

#### **Pre-doc scholars selected**

The following Cal State L.A. graduate and undergraduate students were selected as Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholars for the 2005-06 academic year: Courtney Bates (communication studies), Dorisa (Star) Costello (creative writing), Delia Gutierrez (developmental psychology), Kent Johnson (anthropology), Jessica Magallanes (English), Kalani Makanui (clinical psychology), Lindsay Nemetz (English literature), Monica Rodriguez (medical anthropology), Cathy Sotelo (environmental health science), Jose Trujillo (cognitive psychology), Omar Vasquez (aviation administration), and Rodolfo Victoria (counseling psychology). For more details, go to www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/ newsrel/sallyscholars05-06.htm.

## Innovative approach to transcript transfer initiated

Streamlining transfers and degree completion, Cal State L.A.—in collaboration with Los Angeles City College, East Los Angeles College, and Pasadena City College—recently implemented an Electronic Data Interface (EDI) that electronically transmits student transcripts from the respective community colleges directly to Cal State L.A.

When transcript information is received by Cal State L.A., it is automatically uploaded and evaluated. Within only 48 hours, students will receive a confirmation of receipt as well as information on how the course work completed at the com-

munity college applies to Cal State L.A.'s General Education requirements and their chosen major.

"Verifying that students are taking the appropriate courses, this innovative system provides transfer students with much more timely feedback about work in-progress as well as courses completed at their community college," explains Dean **Alfredo Gonzalez** (Undergraduate Studies).

"It also allows for more effective planning by students, and advising of students by faculty, both of which will facilitate students' transfer and more timely and efficient degree completion."



#### **University Reports**

University Reports is published by the Office of Public Affairs. All material must be sent by e-mail, <margiey@cslanet.calstatela.edu>. For submission guidelines, see <http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/ur/urform.htm>. (Call ext. 3047 if you have no access to the Web.) Copy for the Winter 2006 issue (vol. 36, no. 4) must be received in the Public Affairs Office by Fri., Feb. 10, 2006.

Executive editor—Nancy Miron; Editor—Margie Oi Yu; Contributing writer—Chris Hughes; Photographer—Stan Carstensen; Layout production—Yuri Watanabe; Printing—Printing Center

## Poetry comes to Cal State L.A. this winter

Poet and playwright Rommi Smith will be this year's British Council USA UK

writer-in-residence at Cal State L.A., from February 20 to March 17.

Selected as the site of the first British Council USA UK Writer-in-Residence program

in the West, Cal State L.A. kicked off this three-year pilot program last year. The CSULA residency also is supported by the University's Virginia E. Smith Endowment for Poetry and Poetics.

Rommi Smith has achieved a reputation for sharp, socially conscious poetic imagery, fused with astute harmonies, and jazz, funk and soul rhythms. Smith's collection of poetry and CD, both entitled *Moveable Type* (Route), were published to much acclaim. As a playwright, Smith has been commissioned by Paines Plough Theatre Company and BBC Radio Drama.

The 21st Annual Jean Burden Poetry Reading will feature Pulitzer Prize winner **Rita Dove** on March 2, 6:30 p.m., at the Golden Eagle Ballroom.

In 1993, Rita Dove was appointed Poet Laureate of the United States and

Consultant in Poetry at the Library of Congress, making her the youngest person—and the first African-American—to receive this highest official honor in American letters.

In 1999, she was reappointed Special Consultant in Poetry for 1999-2000, the Library of Congress' bicentennial year, and in 2004 Virginia Governor Mark Warner appointed her as Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The annual poetry readings were established at Cal State L.A. in 1986 to honor Altadenan Jean Burden for her long-standing support of poetry on campus.

## Directors appointed

Christopher Lenz was appointed director of Career Development Center, effective Sept. 19, 2005. He oversees the Career Center, which assists students with



employment upon graduation and while currently enrolled, and provides individual career counseling.

A national certified counselor, Lenz comes to Cal State L.A. with more than ten years of career center experience, serving in capacities ranging from a counselor to a manager. Lenz, who earned his M.S. in counseling with distinction from CSU Northridge, is a member of the American Counseling Association and the California Registry for Professional Counselors.

**Diane Cuneo** was appointed director of the Institutional Research office, effective Mar. 29, 2005.



In this role, Cuneo's responsibilities include

conducting research that supports the University's management and decision-making processes, as well as coordinating the collection, analysis and reporting of data to the University, the Chancellor's office, and external agencies.

A CSULA alumna, she was previously director of institutional research at Smith College in Northampton, MA. She was also formerly a faculty member in psychology at UC Santa Barbara and a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow in psychology at the University of Pennsylvania.

#### Grad student's cave thesis is national finalist

Athesis on "Precolumbian Pilgrimage at Cozumel Island" by alumna **Shankari Patel** was selected as one of only five finalists for the 2005-06 Western Association of Graduate Schools Distinguished Master's Thesis Award.



Patel's interdisciplinary thesis in anthropology, geography, and religious studies explores pilgrimage and landscape features through an analysis of the

caves on Cozumel Island.

During her fieldwork on Cozumel, Patel documented the widespread cultural modification of caves on Cozumel, highlighting

the importance of these natural landmarks in the religious life of the ancient Maya. She suggests that the original Precolumbian pilgrimage circuit on the island may have been laid out around landscape features, such as caves and wells, which were known to have been associated with the Maya goddess Ix Chel.

Patel, who received a master's degree in anthropology, is now pursuing her doctorate in anthropology at UC Riverside. As part of her interdisciplinary M.S. program, she worked closely with **James Brady** (Anthropology), a Maya cave archaeologist, to investigate the role of Precolumbian pilgrimage on Cozumel Island.

## Film students take home top honors

Television and film majors **Gerardo** "Rod" Munoz and **Gerardo** "Jerry" Sanchez took home top awards at the 2005 CSU Summer Arts Media Arts Festival.

Sanchez won the Rosebud award in the Documentary category for *Lucha Libre 4 Life* and the second place award in the Television category for *On the Streets*. His first-place entry was produced during the fall of 2004 under the direction of film professor **Alan Bloom** (Communication Studies), and his second-place entry was produced as part of an advanced portfolio class project taught by Bloom in the spring of 2005.

Munoz won the Rosebud award in the

Music Video category for *Trouble*. His winning-entry was produced during the summer of 2005 under the direction of Bloom and **Matt Gatlin** (*Communication Studies*).

Cal State L.A. was the only campus in the CSU to take the Rosebud (first place) award in more than one category, and Sanchez was the only student in the state to take home awards for two different projects. More than 40 CSULA students attended the festival that included more than 15 professional workshops and seminars as well as more than five hours of screening of the very best student film and video from across the state.

## Mark your calendars...

Spirit Rally & U-SU Groundbreaking Celebration. Tue., Feb. 7, noon-1 p.m., Main Walkway. Celebrate the groundbreaking of the new University-Student Union. Call ext. 3-4780.

Golden Eagle Statue Dedication Ceremony. Wed., Feb. 8, 3 p.m., Main Walkway. Call ext. 3-3075.

Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally. Thu., Feb. 9, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Main Walkway. Come see decorated campus floats and show your Golden Eagle spirit. Call ext. 3-4780.

**Cal State L.A. Preview Day**. Sat., Feb. 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., campuswide. For prospective students to tour the campus, learn about admission requirements, clubs, academic majors and more! Call ext. 3-3839.

For campus events, go to: www. calstatela.edu/calendar

## Publisher's picks

Cal State L.A. was one of 19 CSU campuses recently listed on the annual *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*'s Publisher's Picks, a national list of colleges and universities that the publication rated as having solid records in "recruiting, enabling, and graduating Hispanic students." The standings are based upon formal and informal inquires as well as data from the National Center for Education Statistics.

Cal State L.A. is a federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institution, with 44.7 percent of the University's students identifying themselves as Hispanic.

Last spring, Cal State L.A. was ranked #6 on the *Hispanic Outlook*'s annual "Top 100" among institutions in California that conferred the most bachelor's degrees to Hispanics. The "Top 100" overview also highlighted Cal State L.A. as a leader in awarding the most bachelor's degrees in public administration and education to Hispanic students.

#### Seventh class of President's Scholars



This fall, Cal State L.A. welcomed nine of Southern California's best and brightest high school graduates to the campus as President's Scholars. All were recommended by their high school principals and have a grade point average of at least 3.75 and a SAT I score of at least 1200.

Each President's Scholar receives free college tuition—\$5,000 per year for four years of full-time enrollment at Cal State L.A.—as a result of his or her outstanding

academic achievements, extracurricular activities and leadership in high school. The award covers tuition, including books and other academic and living expenses.

This scholarship program is funded by donor contributions to CSULA's Annual Fund. The Annual Fund Drive, conducted by student-callers, helps to support the President's Scholars program and other University projects. Two of the nine scholars are funded by the California Community Foundation/Morris Trust Scholarships.

Honored as the seventh class of President's Scholars are: Jennifer Conover (nursing), Nicole Gonzalez (biochemistry), Emily Gooding (nutrition), Sarah Green (criminal justice), Jonathan Pahed (science), Judith Rosario (biology), Amber Stevens (liberal studies), Manuel Segura (computer science), and Vincent Wong (engineering).

