



University

The Campus Community Newsletter



REPORTS

<http://www.calstatela.edu>

Winter 2004, vol. 34, no. 4

Published by the Office of Public Affairs

Graduate is a member of campus police team

Fortified with focus and determination, **Valerie R. Caldera** is one of the newest officers on the University Police team.

Caldera—officially sworn in as a police officer on May 29, 2003—performs general law enforcement duties including maintaining regular patrols and responding to calls on campus.

The first in her family to graduate from college, Caldera received her bachelor's degree in criminal justice in June 2002, after transferring here in Fall 1999. She says, "I was interested in Cal State L.A. because it offers the best criminal justice program."

Caldera notes, "Cal State L.A. provided me the foundation for becoming a police officer. The classes on ethics and criminal law were especially beneficial for my academy training."

She adds, "Having worked as a student assistant and then as a full-time parking director's assistant also helped prepare me for my career in law enforcement." Caldera credits the academic guidance of Professor Barry Dineen (*Criminal Justice and Criminalistics*), the mentorship of assistant director Desiree Bumgarner (*Public Safety*), and the support of Lieuten-



ant John Hernandez and the entire Department of Public Safety for encouraging her to concentrate on her goal.

For the position, Caldera had to pass written and physical exams, and several levels of evaluation and interviews. Once selected by Police Chief Greg King as a finalist, she underwent academy training as a recruit followed by field training.

Police academy training included 21 weeks of classroom instruction in constitutional law, state laws, civil rights, and accident investigation. Training in traffic control, patrol, self-defense, firearms usage, first aid, and emergency response were also part of the instruction. Her field training included 3½ months of on-the-job experience, riding alongside a senior officer.

Caldera exercised daily to maintain her stamina. Her workout routine includes push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups and running, nothing new to an accomplished athlete who played softball, basketball and volleyball in high school.

Caldera says she is pleased to serve as a police officer at her alma mater and plans to pursue her aspiration of completing a master's degree in public administration.



President Rosser honored with humanitarian award



Pictured (l-r): Award presenter Rafer Johnson, former gold medal Olympian; President James M. Rosser; and master of ceremonies Marc Brown, ABC7 "Eyewitness News" anchor/reporter.

An award letter described Dr. Rosser as "an icon whose fervor demonstrates great leadership throughout the community and among African-Americans."

Dr. Rosser has served as president of Cal State L.A. for a milestone 25 years, where he also holds an academic appointment in the College of Business and Economics. At the time of his 1979 appointment, he was the second African American and the youngest individual to head a CSU campus. He is now the longest-serving African American president at a public university. He was the first African American to serve as president of the Los Angeles Area Boy Scouts of America.

Dr. Rosser earned academic degrees in health education and microbiology from Southern Illinois University (SIU) at Carbondale. In 2003, he was presented the degree of Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from SIU at the university's com-

mencement. He also received SIU's highest alumni honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award, in 1999, and SIU's Alumni Achievement Award from the College of Education in 1986.

Dr. Rosser was an Aspen Scholar for the 1995 Aspen Institute's Executive Seminar, and in the same year, received the Education Award of the Watts Foundation Community Trust.

Dr. Rosser was particularly moved by the award presentation, which was made by former gold medal Olympian Rafer Johnson. The award was a pastel photographic portrait of Dr. Rosser, sketched by featured artist Buena Johnson.



CSULA President James M. Rosser was presented the Black History Month Celebration 2004 Humanitarian Award by the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce on February 27 at the Torrance Marriott.

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

Research examines pollution layers

"We're lucky to have this novel piece of equipment—there are only a few such samplers in Southern California," says **Crist**



Khachikian (*Civil Engineering*), leader of the microlayer sampler research project.

Using a microlayer sampler—rare equipment designed to collect the very thin organic layer that covers lakes and oceans—students are now able to study samples from lakes near urban areas throughout California. Students and professors are examining these samples in labs to learn more about the impact of contaminants from factories, automobiles, and pollutants on the lakes' chemistry and ecology.

"Chemicals are attracted to, and have a tendency to accumulate in, this organic layer known as the 'microlayer' at the top of lakes," explains Khachikian. "The microlayer sampler allows us to pick up and collect this organic microlayer, so we can study how factors such as rain, sunlight and urbanization affect the lakes' chemical levels."

Senior civil engineering major **Scarleth Ramirez** recently returned from a trip to Pyramid Lake in Santa Clarita Valley, where she and fellow students gathered samples using the microlayer sampler.

"The field experience was awesome," she says. "It helped me establish a relationship between what goes on in the lake and the research we do in the lab. But more importantly, we're working to obtain solutions that someday may improve people's living standards."

Civil engineering junior **Antonino Monterrosa**, environmental engineering graduate **Gina Lowe** and hydrogeology graduate **Curtis Plotkin** are also members of the research team.

"By working in the field and having access to this sort of research equipment, undergraduate students are getting fantastic training that would be difficult to get anywhere else," notes Khachikian. LA

Road rerouted

Starting March 22, Campus Road will become a one-way street for vehicle and bus traffic. For more details, go to: <www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/campusinfo.htm> or call ext. 3-5277.

Services help lower crime rate and increase safety

The Department of Public Safety, comprising University Police (a nationally accredited law enforcement agency), Parking Services, and Commuter Services, is upgrading and enhancing services for campus public safety and awareness:

- Police patrol and investigative operations, using trend analysis and special enforcements, have reduced on-campus crime by 23% for 2003.

- Eagle Patrol provides escorts, building/office unlocks, and conducts area and building foot patrols and fire watches. Call ext. 3-3700.

- Crime prevention coordinator Lizette Juarez (ext. 3-6290) promotes crime prevention and safety through on-campus outreach programs and materials.

- Since July '03, more than 3,332 people attended presentations on campus safety, personal safety, campus regulations, medical emergencies, police response to sexual assault, domestic violence, reporting crimes, victim empowerment, homeland security, and emergency preparedness.

- Public Safety has developed a substantial Emergency Preparedness program and set up a fully-functional Emergency Operations Center (EOC), complete with emergency supply storage.

- With the Los Angeles Fire Department, Public Safety has helped 180 campus personnel and students complete Community Emergency Responders Training (CERT) and 91 have been certified in First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Courses. CERT information: ext. 3-3738.



- Campus participation has increased in the three emergency evacuation drills held each school year. Emergency Preparedness meetings assist departments with personal safety, preservation of campus property, and business continuity plans for their respective operations. Emergency Preparedness: ext. 3-3738.

- Parking Services provides a visible presence in the parking lots and surface streets, contributing daily to pedestrian and traffic safety. In conjunction with Planning and Construction, a recent lighting survey assessed parking lots and walkways, and Lot D lighting and parking upgrades were completed. Improvements to lighting and walkways near Housing and Mariondale will begin in the spring. An American Disabilities Act (ADA) study found the parking lots to be in compliance; upgrades are being explored. Parking lot lighting and emergency telephone surveys are also conducted monthly to ensure timely equipment repairs.

- Commuter Services provides shuttle service and facilitates meetings on the improvements to the south campus MTA bus way. Coordinating with Facilities Services, the sidewalk and lighting additions on the north curb line of Circle Drive now provides safer pedestrian access.

The campus community is encouraged to visit the Public Safety Web site at <www.calstatela.edu/univ/police> or call ext. 3-3700. LA

Film garners Emmy



Katy Boggio's (*Communication Studies*) spoof, "Cal State L.A. Promo," won third place in the Academy of Arts & Sciences College Awards (comedy category). The student Emmy will be presented on March 28 at the College TV Awards Festival. LA



University Reports

University Reports is published by the Office of Public Affairs. All material must be sent by e-mail, <csekin@cslanet.calstatela.edu>. For copy 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 Spring 2004 issue (vol. 34, no. 5) must be received in the Public Affairs Office by Fri., Mar. 26, 2004.

Executive editor—Carol Selkin; Editor—Margie OI Yu; Copy editor—Nancy Miron; Contributing writer—Laura Ferreira; Photography—Stan Carstensen; Layout production—Yuri Watanabe; Masthead design—David McNutt; Printing—Reprographics

Predicting West Coast weather for 2005 and beyond



Before 1992, when NASA space satellites began monitoring oceanic climate signals in near-real time, measuring the oceans in real-time was impossible. Now, remarkable data and images from these satellites can monitor shifts in short-term climate events, like El Niño and La Niña, and long-term events such as the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO), an important climate controller.

Steve LaDochy (*Geography and Urban Analysis*); Bill Patzert, research oceanographer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory; and **Jeff Brown** (geography graduate student) show that these data, combined with longer-term studies of land-based data, provide a powerful set of forecasting tools.

Their research suggests Pacific oceanic and atmospheric measurements can be used to forecast seasonal West Coast temperatures and precipitation up to a year in advance—from Seattle to San Diego.

PDO is a basin-wide oceanic pattern similar to El Niño and La Niña, but much larger. This long-term ocean pattern has caused the cooler and drier conditions recently experienced in Southern California. To see the full story, go to www.gsfc.nasa.gov/topstory/2004/0116westcoast.html. LA

Butler's art to be featured at Barnsdall

As part of a City of Los Angeles (COLA) Cultural Affairs Program award, artwork by



Jack Butler (*Art*) will be exhibited along with selected works by other artists on Sunday, May 9, at the Barnsdall Municipal Gallery.

Butler was recently awarded a COLA Individual Artist Fellowship Grant, totaling \$10,000, for the year 2004-2005.

Butler comments, "This...is a very prestigious and much sought after award in the fine arts community of Los Angeles. I am proud of this accomplishment and recog-

nition that it brings to both myself and Cal State L.A."

"This is foremost an acknowledgement of [Jack Butler's] personal contributions to the professional art world in Los Angeles," wrote **Ed Forde**, chair of the Art Department, in a congratulatory letter. Forde noted that the recognition is long overdue in light of Butler's "years of dedication and production as a significant visual artist in our community."

Butler, who received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Cal State L.A., specializes in photographic image making. A faculty member since 1988, he has had his work exhibited nationally and internationally for the past 25 years. LA

Ettaro named top faculty advisor

The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) International recently selected **James E. Ettaro** (*Technology*), pictured far right, as the recipient of its 2003 Faculty Advisor Award for "outstanding contributions" distinguishing him as "one of the top faculty advisors in SAE."

As an award recipient, Ettaro was invited as a guest to a four-day *SAE 2004 World Congress & Exposition* in Detroit, Michigan, in March.

An award-winning member of his College, Ettaro is the coordinator of the Power, Energy, and Transportation Program, and the faculty advisor for CSULA's SAE student club. He also has been a faculty



advisor for the award-winning *Super Eagle* team (The *Super Eagle* is a student-built, fuel-efficient vehicle), as well as for CSULA's student chapter of the National Association of Industrial Technology. LA

In memoriam

The campus community is deeply saddened by the tragic death of Professor **Glenda L. Vittimberga** (*Administration and Counseling*), 36, who died on February 16.



A native of Rhode Island, Vittimberga graduated from the University of Rhode Island summa cum laude in

1988, with a B.A. in clinical psychology. She was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Psi Chi honor societies. She received both a master's degree in 1991 and a Ph.D. in 1994 in clinical psychology from West Virginia University.

She completed a pre-doctoral clinical internship at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Kennedy Krieger Institute, working there until 1996 as faculty supervisor in the Child and Family Therapy Clinic, and co-director of the Communication and Behavior Development Clinic until 1998.

In 1998, she became an associate professor at the Charter College of Education in the School Psychology Program of the Division of Administration and Counseling.

Highly regarded by the students and the academic community, she was promoted to full professor in 2003. She was a licensed clinical psychologist in Maryland and California. She was published in multiple peer-reviewed professional journals, lectured widely in her field, and actively participated in university and community service.

Donations may be sent to the Glenda Vittimberga Memorial Scholarship Fund/The CSLA Foundation, Administration building, room 809. LA

Graduation news!

This year's graduation ceremonies will include an Undergraduate Commencement on Sat., June 12, 8 a.m., and a Master's Conferral on Fri., June 11, 4:30 p.m. Both will be held at the University Athletic Stadium. For more details, call the Academic Affairs office, ext. 3-3800.

For Web calendar, go to:
www.calstatela.edu/calendar

First U.S. Latino film fest focuses on building ties

The Luckman Fine Arts Complex will present its first U.S. Latino film and video festival on April 17 and 18, supported in part by a \$10,000 gift from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, the festival's inaugural sponsor.

The *Luckman U.S. Latino Film/Video Festival-Reel Rasquache*—honoring the pioneering work of film artist Evelina Fernandez, the remarkable career of actor Lupe Ontiveros, and the innovative work of director Miguel Arteta—will showcase recent independent U.S. Latino-produced films and videos from across the nation. Together with guest filmmaker participation and panels, the festival will provide a unique West Coast celebration of films by and about U.S. Latino communities and experiences.



"The Luckman U.S. Latino Film/Video Festival at Cal State L.A. is organized to build bridges between East and West Los Angeles, between community and the University, and between U.S. Latino independents and the Hollywood industry," explains festival co-director **Richard T. Rodriguez** (*Chicano Studies*).



According to Festival co-director **John Ramirez** (*Communication Studies-Media Studies*), the festival will bring together in an unprecedented local setting, a broad base of grass roots, professional, and educational community members with U.S. Latino film and video independents and entertainment industry representatives. This is the only festival of its kind in Southern California dedicated to U.S. Latino films and videos.

Clifford Harper, executive director of the Luckman Fine Arts Complex, adds, "The Luckman is uniquely equipped and located to celebrate independent films of the U.S. Latino community. We are very proud to be part of this landmark festival."

For more information on the festival, call John Ramirez, ext. 3-4207, or Richard T. Rodriguez, ext. 3-2198.

The term *rasquachismo*, used by Chicana/o scholars to define characteristics of Chicano/a cultural practices and identity, and a bicultural sensibility, defines the concept for *Reel Rasquache*. LA

Gallery exhibits acclaimed

The Luckman Gallery was one of seven local, non-profit art venues listed as having more "satisfying" exhibitions in 2003 than most of the top-tier museums in Los Angeles by the *Los Angeles Times* ("Smaller, more creative," Dec. 21, 2003). Additionally, the gallery was ranked by the *L.A. Weekly* among the top eight "museums" in terms of artistic criteria (Dec. 26, 2003-Jan. 1, 2004).

Now in its tenth season, the Luckman Gallery has been receiving unprecedented press coverage throughout the past year. Since its opening in November 1994, the gallery has mounted more than 50 critically-acclaimed exhibitions and received major donations of contemporary works from the collections of Eileen and Peter Norton and many others. Major paintings by artists Daniel Douke (*FERP, Art*), Albert Contreras, and Carl Ostendarp were most recently added to the permanent collection.

Five exhibitions curated for the Luckman by gallery director **Julie Joyce** have been selected to travel to venues across the United States. Three Luckman exhibitions, two curated by Joyce, were nominated for "Best Show Awards" by the International Association of Art Critics USA section in the past two years. LA

Around campus . . .



Photo: FSCInternational.com



Photo: Scott Quintard

Spotlighting the musical genius and the deeply spiritual side of jazz legend Duke Ellington, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, conducted by Grant Gershon, presented highlights from Duke Ellington's Sacred Concerts on Mar. 7 and 9 at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. Guest artists included the Luckman Jazz Orchestra (pictured above), conducted by **James Newton** (*Music*); the Faithful Central Bible Church Heritage Chorale; mezzo soprano Bobette Jamison-Harrison; tenor Darius de Haas; baritone Nmon Ford; and tap dancers **Ardie Bryant** (*Theatre Arts and Dance*) and Channing Cook Holmes.

Faculty, staff and students rallied together on Feb. 12 at the 2004 Homecoming Parade, themed "Back in the Day." The first place float winners were the **Division of Administration and Finance** (l) and the **University-Student Union** (r). Other winners in the department category include: Anna Bing Arnold Child Care Center (2nd); Housing Services and Public Safety (3rd); and EOP, College of Natural and Social Sciences, and Student Health Center (honorable mentions). Winners in the student organization category include: Asian Unified (1st); M.E.Ch.A. (2nd); Delta Phi Sigma and CSULA Gospel Choir (3rd); and Delta Zeta, SHESS, and Chemistry/Biochemistry Club (honorable mentions).

Intercollegiate Athletics hosted its annual "Take a Kid to the Game" night on Jan. 31, as the Golden Eagle men's and women's basketball teams hosted UC Davis in a doubleheader. Kids 18 and under received free admission for this doubleheader when accompanied by a paid adult. Additionally, J.J. Jumper, the official mascot of NCAA Basketball, performed and entertained fans throughout both games. (Pictured here is the **Golden Eagle mascot** with the NCAA mascot.)