



## Salute to Marine Band



"The President's Own" United States Marine Band performed to a packed house at the Luckman Theatre Friday, Oct. 23. Pictured is the Marine Band performing John Philip Sousa's "Semper Fidelis." Cal State L.A. was the Marine Band's first stop in Southern California as part of its 2009 national concert tour.

## Top CSU Hearst award goes to Juarez

**Araciél Juarez**, a nursing major, was recently honored by the CSU Board of Trustees as one of two 2009 Trustee Ali C. Razi Scholars. The award, which includes a \$10,000 scholarship, was formally presented at the CSU Board of Trustees meeting in September.



The Razi award is the top honor given by the CSU Trustees to an already select group of CSU William Randolph Hearst Scholars, which includes one honoree from each of the 23 CSU campuses cited for academic excellence and commitment to education.

For details, go to [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/Hearst09-AJuarez.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/Hearst09-AJuarez.htm).

For related CSU video, go to [www.calstate.edu/foundation/hearst/awardees/2009/video/index.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/foundation/hearst/awardees/2009/video/index.shtml).



## Anti-clunker Super Eagle places third

Achieving 1,092 miles per gallon, Cal State L.A.'s student-built supermileage vehicle, Super Eagle, placed third at the recent Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Supermileage® competition in Marshall, Michigan. The Super Eagle—one of only two California vehicles to make the finals—outperformed 42 college entries in the overall competition. For more details, go to [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/supereagle-2009.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/supereagle-2009.htm). *The Super Eagle team includes (above, l-r) Tina Yu, Marilyn Phen, Sam Samayoa, Jeff Michaels, Frank Almeida, Sergio Mendoza, Brian Choi, Chaumont Pham-Le and Neil Lau.*

## Introducing Facebook pages; updating experts guide

Featuring campus news and events, student highlights, faculty/staff accomplishments, news coverage and more, "CSULA News" is now available on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/CSULA-News/123775222323](http://www.facebook.com/pages/CSULA-News/123775222323).

To get up-to-date news from Cal State L.A. delivered to your Facebook page, become a "CSULA News" fan by logging in or signing up.

The *Cal State L.A. TODAY* magazine is also available on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Los-Angeles-CA/Cal-State-LA-TODAY-Magazine/89529186071](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Los-Angeles-CA/Cal-State-LA-TODAY-Magazine/89529186071).

Faculty members are also invited to partici-

pate in the online Guide to the Experts at Cal State L.A.: [www.calstatela.edu/experts](http://www.calstatela.edu/experts). The guide lists faculty members interested in serving as news sources in their areas of expertise (with assistance from and in collaboration with Public Affairs).

Please let the CSULA Public Affairs office know of potentially newsworthy information and events as early as possible. With advance notice, the Public Affairs staff can help showcase the expertise and excellence at Cal State L.A.

For more info, call ext. 3-3050.

## Community (continued from p. 1)

students to serve the community, you are also serving the community. Be a model for your students. Show them how your disciplinary expertise connects to your commitments and your contributions to the community.

5. Arrange for students in any given class to work with a small, select group of agencies. Think of the service-learning placement as a course text. Most instructors would find it challenging to teach a class in which each student purchased and read a different textbook; it is similarly difficult to orchestrate a valuable learning experience when students are sent to a wide range of agencies with which faculty are not familiar. Successful integration of the course content and the service

experience is most likely to occur when there is a common project and shared context.

6. Reflect, reflect, and reflect some more. Provide frequent and meaningful opportunities for students to make connections between their service experience, the course content, and community issues. Help students make sense of their experience by offering constructive feedback.

7. Remember that community partners do not work on an academic calendar. When creating short-term projects or service-learning assignments, keep in mind long-term goals.

For some characteristics of effective partnerships, go to [www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports).



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For expanded stories, faculty achievement listings and more, go to [www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports).

## A \$2.7 million 'stimulus'

*Focus ranges from algebra to outer space*

Vaccines haven't been the only shots in the arm on campus this fall. Cal State L.A. researchers recently received more than \$2.7 million in federal "stimulus" funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

According to Cal State L.A.'s Office of Research and Development (ORAD) Director **Philip LaPolt**, the funding-provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (or "stimulus bill")—includes \$2.1 million from NSF for six new grants, and \$578,356 from NIH to supplement four existing NIH grants.

The NSF grants support the following projects (with principal investigators listed): research into chromium isotopes and measurements of environmental contamination (**Andre Ellis**); opportunities for four students to travel to Ireland for molecular-separation and microfluidics research (**Frank Gomez**); a partnership with Montebello Unified School District to improve algebra learning and teaching in high school (**Borislava Gutarts**); a collaboration with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to provide undergraduates opportunities to work on pioneering astronomical research (**Milan Mijic**); an exploration of how the unusual reduction of phosphorous in a termite's gut might potentially lead to new ways of producing bioactive compounds (**Tina Salmassi**); and MOEBIUS, curriculum development and network support for the University's new Blended Mathematics Teacher Preparation Program (which combines pursuit of the undergraduate degree in mathematics with that of a California Single-Subject teaching credential to accelerate students' progress).

The NIH projects receiving a "stimulus" boost include **Howard Xu's** work on detection of microbial pathogens, **Ray De Leon's** research into robotic training of rats and spinal-injury recovery, and two **Carlos Gutiérrez** projects to foster research experience for students.

LaPolt said the awards meet a key "stimulus" function by creating jobs for research technicians and students employed in research and training. "They also strengthen the scientific enterprise," he said.



Philip LaPolt



Children who are wheelchair bound will soon be able to enjoy a "merry-go-round" ride as a result of a community-engagement project, led by Samuel Landsberger (Mechanical Engineering/Kinesiology and Nutritional Science). For more on this Accessible Mobility Platform project, see the latest issue of Cal State L.A. TODAY at [www.calstatela.edu/today](http://www.calstatela.edu/today).

## A partner's primer for community engagement

Cal State L.A. supports community engagement through a well-established student volunteer program and a wide range of service-learning courses. These efforts affirm Cal State L.A.'s mission to serve as "a gateway" for "the greater Los Angeles community"—one that prepares "students to appreciate, engage, enhance and transform the social, cultural, civic, and workplace structures of American and global societies."

**Here are some tips for community engagement from Michelle Hawley, faculty director for students learning in communities:**

1. Recognize that institutional and disciplinary boundaries do not exist in the community. Consider the public significance of your scholarly work. How might it matter to the communities we serve? How might you put your knowledge into action?
2. Take an asset-based approach to community service. Celebrate the communities we serve and their rich cultural traditions.
3. Remember that partnerships are the key to successful community engagement, service-learning, and community-based research. Take the time to cultivate meaningful relationships with community partners whose missions and organizations you respect.
4. Remember that when you ask your

*Community (continued on p. 4)*

## Nursing's Ling honored for 'superior work'

Described as a "highly committed, hard-working self-starter," **Monica Ling** was named this year's **Outstanding Staff Award** honoree.



Ling, administrative support assistant for the School of Nursing, was selected from among 11 nominations by colleagues, faculty and students.

According to a colleague, "It is the work ethic, dedication, and tireless effort in fulfilling her duties that sets Ling apart. She has demonstrated an ability to adapt to any

given situation, continuing to produce the same level of superior work."

A University staff member for more than a decade, Ling also serves as a test proctor for the University Testing Center. She has also volunteered at the University's annual Grad Fair to provide seniors with information and resources for graduation.

A Cal State L.A. alumna, she achieved her bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in communication studies.

Cal State L.A. also honored employees with 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service at its annual event. For the listing, go to [www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports).



## Outstanding Professors honored



Front, l-r: Manuel Aguilar, Laura Calderon, Roberto Cantú, Lili Tabrizi, and Wayne Tikkanen. Back, l-r: President James M. Rosser, Provost Desdemona Cardoza, OPA Selection Committee chair Domnita Dumitrescu, and Academic Senate chair Robert Land.

As part of the annual Fall Faculty Day tradition, four CSULA professors were presented the annual Outstanding Professor Awards and one professor was presented the President's Distinguished Professor Award.

These five professors, consistently rated highly by CSULA students, have each been described as "exemplary," "so inspiring," "remember[ed] for a lifetime," "very knowledgeable" and "a gentleman scholar."

### President's Distinguished Professor

A highly regarded literary critic and author, **Roberto Cantú** (*Chicano Studies/English*) is this year's President's Distinguished Professor. A scholar of Chicano, Latin American, Mesoamerican and Mexican literature, he received CSULA's 1990-91 Outstanding Professor Award.

This spring, Cantú translated for the British Council the work of leading contemporary Mexican poets Coral Bracho, Araceli Mancilla, Rocío González, and Natalia Toledo. For a sample of Cantú's translated work

initiated by CSULA's British Council UK Writer-in-Residence Program, go to [www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports).

### Outstanding Professors

Presented with Outstanding Professor Awards were **Manuel Aguilar** (*Art*), an art historian who involves students in his research around the country and abroad; **Laura Calderon** (*Kinesiology and Nutritional Science*), a registered dietitian who is an advocate of community health and nutrition; **Lili Tabrizi** (*Electrical and Computer Engineering*), a specialist in control systems recognized for coordinating one of the best professional engineering licensing programs in Los Angeles; and **Wayne Tikkanen** (*Chemistry and Biochemistry*), a student advocate and scientist whose research has garnered major grants.

For detailed profiles of these professors, go to [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/opa08-09.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/opa08-09.htm).

### President celebrates 30th year

Cal State L.A. congratulates **James M. Rosser** for his three decades as Cal State L.A.'s sixth president. President Rosser, whose service began on Sept. 12, 1979, was honored at this year's Billie Jean King and Friends, Honoring Joe Shapiro awards ceremony. He was featured in the June 11 issue of *Diverse* magazine, and he wrote the foreword to this year's *Who's Who in Black Los Angeles* (second edition).

For information on Rosser's three decades of achievements and milestones, go to [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/spotlight/archive/2008/james\\_rosser.php](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/spotlight/archive/2008/james_rosser.php).

### Ney takes administrative post

A strong advocate for building a diverse workforce of science professionals,

**Cheryl Lynn Ney** was appointed as associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of graduate studies at Cal State L.A., effective July 6, 2009.

For more about Ney: [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/c-ney-appt.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/c-ney-appt.htm).



### The Fulbright five go abroad

Four CSULA professors have been awarded the 2009-10 Fulbright Scholar grants: **Wai Kit Choi** (*Sociology*), hosted by the University of Hong Kong; **Mohammad Auwal** (*Communication Studies*), hosted by Qatar University for the second straight year as a Fulbright scholar; and **Crist Khachikian** (*Civil Engineering*) and **Tina Salmassi** (*Biological Sciences*), hosted by American University of Armenia. Last summer, **Terry Allison** (*Arts and Letters*), dean, was in South Korea as a Fulbright scholar with the U.S.-Korea International Education Administrators Program.

## Congratulations!

### USDOE funds teacher program

To strengthen teacher preparation and improve student academic achievement, the Charter College of Education will launch the Los Angeles Urban Teacher Residency Program in June 2010 with support from a five-year \$8.8 million Teacher Quality Partnership grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Led by **Diane Haager** (*Special Education and Counseling*) and **A. Dee Williams** (*Curriculum and Instruction*), the collaborative project also involves the College of Natural and Social Sciences and local community partners. For more info: [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/usdoe-grant09.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/usdoe-grant09.htm).

### CSULA nabs DNA grant, award

Teaming up with the L.A. County Sheriff's Department and the L.A. Police Department, Cal State L.A. is working to get DNA evidence out of storage and into labs for analysis. Funded by a \$1 million federal appropriation championed by Congressman Adam Schiff (CA-29), the project seeks a strategic, long-term solution to a DNA backlog plaguing Los Angeles law enforcement. For details: [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/CFSI-fedprogram.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/CFSI-fedprogram.htm).

Recognizing the University's major contributions in criminal justice and criminalistics, Cal State L.A. was also honored at this year's Annual DNA Awareness Educational Forum & Awards Luncheon, organized by the L.A. County District Attorney's office.

### HP spells 'innovation'

Cal State L.A. recently received a Hewlett-Packard (HP) Innovations in Education award package of HP technology, cash, and professional services valued at more than \$260,000 to establish a HP Collaborative Learning Center. Selected as one of 10 two- and four-year colleges and universities in the United States, Cal State L.A. will address the need for more students to pursue and complete high-quality, high-tech undergraduate degree programs in engineering, computer science, information systems, and information technology. For more info, contact project team leader **Jane Dong** (*Electrical and Computer Engineering*) at ext. 3-4581 or go to [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/HP-Grant2009.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/HP-Grant2009.htm).

### CEaS for energy, sustainability

Cal State L.A. was recently awarded a five-year \$5 million Centers for Research Experience in Science and Technology grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a multidisciplinary Center for Energy and Sustainability (CEaS). The second NSF-funded research center on campus, it involves a team of five faculty: **Crist Khachikian** (*Civil Engineering*); **Frank Gomez** and **Feimeng Zhou** (*Chemistry and Biochemistry*); and **Darrell Guillaume** and **Trinh Pham** (*Mechanical Engineering*). For more information, e-mail Khachikian at [ckhachi@calstatela.edu](mailto:ckhachi@calstatela.edu).

### \$100K donation to Nursing

The California Masonic Foundation presented a \$100,000 check to Cal State L.A.'s School of Nursing to establish scholarships for Master of Science nursing students with demonstrated leadership, commitment to improving healthcare, and willingness to pursue a career in teaching or administration. CSULA nursing graduate students **Luis Avitia** and **Virginia Castaneda** are the first recipients of the Claire V. Cunningham Masonic Scholarships Supporting Leadership in Nursing. For more details: [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/masons-nursing.htm](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/newsrel/masons-nursing.htm).

### U.S. News & World Report rankings

For more than a decade, Cal State L.A.'s undergraduate business and engineering programs have been listed among the nation's best in *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" issue.

CSULA's College of Business and Economics, ranked 131st, was one of only ten public institutions in California on the list.

CSULA's College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology, ranked 49th, is the only public undergraduate (master's-awarding) university in the greater Los Angeles area to place so highly.

## Steps you can take to prevent H1N1 flu on campus



More than 1,600 H1N1 vaccines were given at the H1N1 vaccination clinic held at Cal State L.A. Nov. 3.

### What is H1N1?

H1N1 flu is a respiratory infection caused by a new flu virus responsible for large outbreaks in many parts of the world. While the average case of H1N1 is no worse than the seasonal flu, some individuals are at a higher risk for serious complications. Young adults are among the five key populations upon whom the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health officials are focusing their vaccination efforts.

### What are H1N1 flu symptoms?

Many of the symptoms of H1N1 flu are the same as the symptoms of the seasonal flu. These include fever, dry cough, sore throat, stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and tiredness. The H1N1 flu may also cause diarrhea and vomiting.

### When and where are vaccinations available?

If you missed the Nov. 3 H1N1 vaccination clinic held on campus, refer to the L.A. Department of Public Health's web site for a schedule of other clinics: [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/) or dial 2-1-1.

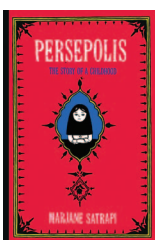
Regular flu vaccines are offered Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Student Health Center, free to CSULA students, and \$10 for faculty and staff members.

### How can you protect yourself and others from H1N1 flu?

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use gel sanitizers often. (Nearly 100 sanitizing dispensers were installed on campus to reduce the transmission of germs during flu season.)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth since germs spread that way.
- Avoid close contact with sick people; and if you're sick, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever ends.

For more, go to [www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/spotlight/archive/2009/csula-flu-clinic.php](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/spotlight/archive/2009/csula-flu-clinic.php).

## Join in reading *Persepolis*, a childhood story



Selected for Cal State L.A.'s annual "One Campus, One Book" initiative is Marjane Satrapi's novel *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*, an *L.A. Times* bestseller and a *N.Y. Times* Notable Book.

The book's account of a young girl's life under the Islamic Revolution is presented in the comic-strip format of graphic novels.

Cal State L.A. recently launched its "One Campus, One Book" series with a discussion, featuring noted graphic novelists Jaime

Hernandez and Joe Suttiff Sanders, and political cartoonist Lalo Alcaraz.

All Cal State L.A. students, faculty, staff and administrators are invited to take part in the annual collective reading of this singular book. Faculty and staff are encouraged to incorporate study of the book into classes and campus events throughout the year.

For more on this community-building experience and *Persepolis*, contact University Librarian **Alice Kawakami** at ext. 3-3954 or visit [www.calstatela.edu/library/ocob](http://www.calstatela.edu/library/ocob).

### Quick references

**Campus Furlough and Closures:**  
<http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/aa/furlough/index.php>

**Quarter to Semester Conversion:**  
<https://nss-nemo.calstatela.edu/semester/>

**WASC Reaccreditation:**  
[www.calstatela.edu/wasc/](http://www.calstatela.edu/wasc/)

**President's Newsletter:**  
[www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/president/newsInfo\\_11-2009.html](http://www.calstatela.edu/univ/ppa/president/newsInfo_11-2009.html)

**University Reports expanded online edition:**  
[www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports)