



At the Lake Tahoe ceremony, Cal State L.A. President James M. Rosser (left) shares the ABET President's Award for Diversity with Keith Moo-Young, dean of the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology.

## ABET honors engineering diversity

Recognizing Cal State L.A.'s "extraordinary success in achieving...diversity and inclusiveness in the technological segments of our society," ABET, Inc.—the national accreditation organization for engineering education—presented a President's Award for Diversity to the University's College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology at its recent Commission Summit in Lake Tahoe, Nev.

Over the past 25 years, Cal State L.A.'s Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) Engineering Program has supported roughly 2,500 undergraduate students with year-long freshmen orientations, clustered advising groups and other efforts. Also, through enrichment programs, career exploration, financial aid advising and other support, a related program has encouraged more than 12,000 elementary, middle and high school students at 18 schools in Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley—including 500 currently—to consider pursuing engineering.

Cal State L.A. has the highest percentage of underrepresented students enrolled in engineering, of the more than 20 programs in California. According to *U.S. News and World Report*, its College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology has ranked among the top 25 percent nationally of master's-granting institutions for the past eight years. The campus also has 13 related student organizations.

In an address to the American Council on Education earlier this year, President **James M. Rosser** said, "Diversity with excellence shapes everything we do. We have a pervading institutional commitment to the involvement, with support, of students in the research, scholarly and creative activities of faculty; thereby ensuring that many graduate with achievements such as publication in peer-reviewed journals. These achievements position our students for further, post-graduate success.

"This value is rooted deeply in our institutional culture," Rosser said. "And, across the campus, people who work here know that the coupling of diversity with excellence is our legacy, our vision and our mission."

## Is getting fit your New Year's goal?

Would you like to join **Josh Dominguez** (*University Development*) in his trek up and down "cardiac hill" or **Susan Tsuji** (*Administration and Finance*) in practicing drills on the soccer field?

Staying fit and healthy, Dominguez and Tsuji are veterans of "Boot Camp"—a KIN 154 Special Topics class open to faculty, staff and students.

According to instructor **Steve Gonzalez** (*Kinesiology and Nutritional Science*), "The workouts combine calisthenics, plyometrics and other bodyweight exercises in a paramilitary framework.

"This exercise course," he says, "will challenge you to take your body to its limit. If you desire to make a change in your body physically, improve your overall health, empower your mental attitude, or just need to be pushed to your potential, then this is your class."

The class will be offered twice during Winter quarter, in back-to-back five-week course sections (11232 and 11931). Each section will meet Monday through Thursday, 8-8:50 a.m. Due to its popularity, the class usually fills quickly with matriculated students. For details, call ext. 3-4656.

If muscle strengthening or building cardiovascular endurance is your goal, visit the fitness center in P.E. 124. Staffed by advanced kinesiology majors, it has a variety of equipment, including plate-loaded machines, multi-gym stations, free weights, treadmills, stationary bicycles, squat racks, a "Smith Machine" and more. For details, see [www.calstatela.edu/dept/pe/fitness\\_center.html](http://www.calstatela.edu/dept/pe/fitness_center.html). You may also swim during open hours.

Faculty and staff must present a current ID to use the fitness center or pool. Lockers and showers are available, but your own towel is required. For a schedule of open hours, call ext. 3-4650.







President's Distinguished Professor Domnita Dumitrescu (seated, c) and this year's Outstanding Professors—(seated, l-r) Sherwood Best, Darrell Guillaume, Robert E. Land, and Pamela C. Regan—were honored by (standing, l-r) Academic Senate chair Kevin Baaske, OPA Selection Committee Chair Ray Garcia, President James M. Rosser, and Provost Desdemona Cardoza at Fall Faculty Day.

## Academics cited for excellence

As part of Cal State L.A.'s annual faculty tradition, five faculty members were honored this fall. Selected as the recipient of this year's Cal State L.A. President's Distinguished Professor Award was **Domnita Dumitrescu** (*Modern Languages and Literatures*). The Outstanding Professor Awards went to **Sherwood Best** (*Special Education and Counseling*); **Darrell Guillaume** (*Mechanical Engineering*); **Robert E. Land** (*Curriculum and Instruction*); and **Pamela C. Regan** (*Psychology*).

An esteemed teacher, scholar and mentor in Spanish and romance linguistics, Dumitrescu has received many accolades and honors in her field, including a senior-scholar award to lecture in Argentina. She has traveled to more than 24 countries to impart and further her knowledge and research in Spanish language and linguistics. With a reputation as "one of the best translators and interpreters from Spanish into Romanian in her native country," Dumitrescu has translated into Romanian several major works of modern peninsular literature. At Cal State L.A., she has designed a number of linguistics courses for Spanish majors and/or graduate students.

Best's nomination recognized her as "the sole faculty in charge of education specialist credential in physical and health impairments in Southern California," one who has assumed responsibility for training half the state's teachers in this credential area. In 2004, Best traveled to Bangalore, India, to help establish an early-intervention program for infants and young children with special needs at the Vydehi Institute of Medical Rehabilitation. She returned to Bangalore the following summer to assist with the opening of an early-intervention center and also to teach graduate courses to occupational, physical, and speech therapists.

Working collaboratively with students, Guillaume is the principal investigator or co-PI on external grants exceeding

\$8 million in funding support for his work at Cal State L.A. Over the past nine years, Guillaume's research has focused on fluid mechanics, thermodynamics, and heat transfer. His current research focuses on aerodynamics of unmanned aerial vehicles and combustion in gas turbine engines. With Guillaume on the team, Cal State L.A. became the first university west of the Mississippi and second overall to achieve successful flight powered by fuel cells last year.

Representing the fourth generation of teachers in his family, Land directs Cal State L.A.'s Writing Project, which he co-founded in 1999. The Writing Project provides in-service programs, workshops and other events designed to improve writing and the teaching of writing at all grade levels and in all disciplines to local teachers, schools and districts. He has been a senior researcher for the National Center on Research, Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST), helping develop language arts standards, curriculum, and assessment for the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Called upon frequently by media as an expert on love and relationships, Regan's research focuses on sexual attraction, passionate love, and mate preference. Her latest book, *The Psychology of Interpersonal Relationships*, was described by a leading scholar as "a simply superb text." Regan's two other published books are *The Mating Game: A Primer on Love, Sex, and Marriage* and *Lust: What We Know about Human Desire*. Many of Regan's students have been her coauthors on journal articles—in, for example, *The Journal of Sex Research*—and presenters at conferences; and 78 percent of her research students have gone onto doctoral programs and careers in the health sciences.

## Keenan knows what's cookin' as Golden Eagle's top chef

**Daniel Keenan**—who helped start Golden Eagle Hospitality's (GEH) culinary operation, served as its sous chef, and after a time away from Cal State L.A. returned as chef de cuisine—is the new executive chef for the GEH operation.



To be considered for the position of executive chef, Keenan and other candidate finalists were required to prepare—using a "surprise," predetermined set of ingredients—a five-course meal for eight people in 90 minutes.

One of Keenan's goals is to establish an internship program with the School of Kinesiology and Nutritional Science that will help introduce GEH to the student body as well as increase students' knowledge about the food industry.

A graduate of the French Culinary Institute in New York and Cal State Northridge, Keenan brings more than 20 years of experience in a variety of food-service operations.

Below is Keenan's recipe for "Grilled Halibut with Hot Bacon Dressing," which he calls "a great dish for fall and winter." (It serves four.)

### Grilled Halibut with Hot Bacon Dressing

4 - 6 oz portion of fresh halibut  
1 pound sliced bacon  
½ small onion chopped finely  
½ cup red wine vinegar  
½ cup brown sugar

Dice the bacon into small pieces. In a small saucepan on medium heat, cook bacon and onions together.

Once bacon is crispy, drain off most of the fat. Return to heat and add vinegar, then brown sugar. Cook slowly for 10-15 minutes.

Puree ingredients (optional) in processor when finished. Grill halibut for 3 minutes on each side. Serve fish with hot bacon dressing placed on top.

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[www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports)

## QI can boost your services, surveys, processes, projects

"From a very ambiguous vision, we are moving to an exactness of concept," explained **Mohammad Ayati** (*Information Systems*) at a recent workshop presented by Cal State L.A.'s Quality Improvement (QI) Program and the College of Business and Economics.

The same might be said for the QI Program itself.

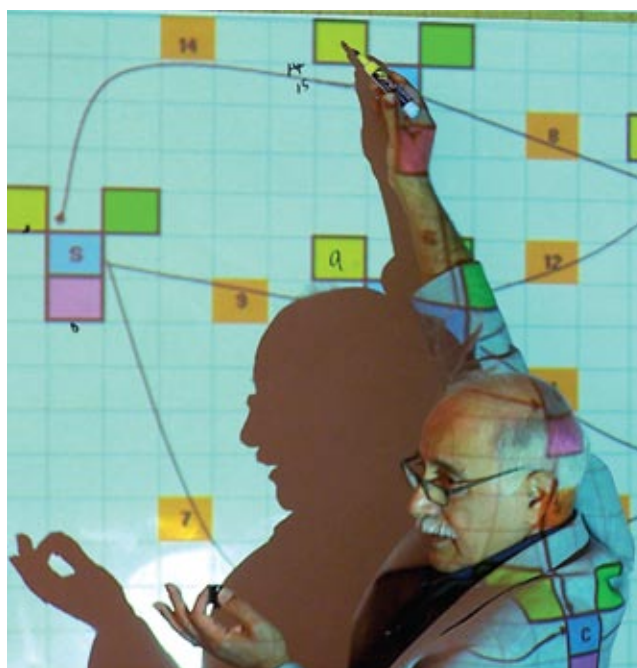
Ayati's three-hour session—"Introduction to Project Management"—was one of several free fall-quarter QI presentations, including ones on process mapping and conflict resolution. More workshops are expected to be scheduled for faculty, staff and, space-permitting, students.

According to QI Coordinator **Roxana Naraghi** (*Administration and Finance*), the campus-based QI Program aligns with a CSU Chancellor's Office effort to promote continued improvement in quality, productivity and student-oriented service through "systematic identification and transfer of best practices, assessing customer needs, and process measurement tools."

Cal State L.A.'s QI Program also links campus efforts to Chancellor's Office resources that can help with process improvements, facilitation of project-management resources, performance measurement, training, and administration of customer satisfaction surveys, Naraghi said.

The CSU will hold its annual quality improvement symposium Feb. 27, 2008, in San Diego, for those looking to better their institutions' services. For details, see [www.calstate.edu/qi](http://www.calstate.edu/qi). The CSU is also seeking nominations for its 2008 QI awards, including honors for facilitator, function chair, champion, and team of the year, to be announced at the QI Symposium. The deadline is Jan. 25.

For details about the nominating process, workshops, or other QI issues, contact Naraghi, at ext. 3508 or [rnaraghi@cslanet.calstatela.edu](mailto:rnaraghi@cslanet.calstatela.edu).



Mohammad Ayati helps participants map and track a project's critical pathways.

### Project management pointers

Whether it is construction of a crime lab or the hosting of a dignitary's reception, by definition a project is "a temporary effort to accomplish a unique product or service," said Mohammad Ayati. A teacher of database design, systems analysis, and other courses at Cal State L.A. since 1982, Ayati also worked on NASA's "Future Aviation Fuels" project.

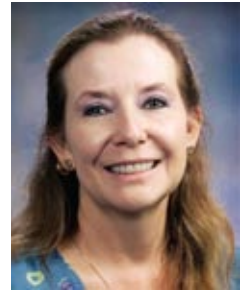
Here, from his Nov. 13 workshop, are some pointers on project management (PM):

- Begin with a project charter, including a title, start/finish dates, objectives, approaches, and key people and their roles.
- Anchor the project to a recognized leader.
- Every project faces three inter-related constraints: time, scope and cost.
- PM develops mechanisms for integrating efforts.
- Watch out for "scope creep," wherein additional services or features are continually appended, leading to increases in time and/or cost.
- Determine the dependency relationships of activities, sequence the activities, and then identify the project's critical pathway(s).
- Keep changing your notes and refocusing on critical points.

Ayati may be reached at [mayati@calstatela.edu](mailto:mayati@calstatela.edu).



## Provost Cardoza takes to L.A. air, chats online



It didn't take long.

On Monday, July 2, her first day as Cal State L.A.'s provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, **Desdemona Cardoza** could be seen all over Los Angeles discussing the challenges facing higher education—as a panelist on “L.A. Roundtable,” a public affairs program of *CityView*, cable channel 35.

In September, she championed—in a *Chronicle of Higher Education* article—the University's decades-long effort to diversify the professoriate. And on Oct. 25, she was the *Chronicle's* guest expert for an online “brown-bag” discussion on “How to Improve Your Recruiting of Minority Faculty Members” (<http://chronicle.com/live/2007/10/cardoza/>).

As provost, Cardoza serves as the University's chief academic officer, guiding policy formation for instructional programs and overseeing its six colleges (with 59 undergraduate and 51 graduate programs), the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library and the Division of Extended Education.

Cardoza, who joined Cal State L.A.'s psychology faculty in 1988, had been dean of the University's College of Natural and Social Sciences since 2001. Prior to that, she served for eight years as the University's vice president for what was then Information Resources Management. She also directed Analytical Studies (now Institutional Research).

Cardoza succeeds **Herman D. Lujan**, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs since 2001. **Gary Novak** is the interim dean for the College of Natural and Social Sciences.

Cardoza earned a doctorate and a master's degree, both in social/personal psychology, from UC Riverside. She earned her bachelor's degree, with Phi Beta Kappa honors, from UC Berkeley.



## Blood stains in brand new lab? That's OK

When your brand new lab has blood stains on the carpet, what do you do? Discuss it with your students—that's if you're **Donald Johnson** (right) of the criminalistics faculty. The crime-scene reconstruction lab, complete with five ceiling-mounted cameras, is at the Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center. Cal State L.A.'s School of Criminal Justice and Criminalistics and the California Forensic Science Institute are on the second floor of the new five-story center at the south entrance to campus. The facility serves as home to science/crime labs of the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

## Franklin goes 'beyond the call,' earns Outstanding Staff Award



“I enjoy interacting with the students, faculty, staff and administrators,” says **Gwen Franklin**, this year's Outstanding Staff Award recipient. “The most interesting part of my job is to see how students build confidence and to hear about their field experiences.”

Franklin was awarded season tickets to the Luckman Theatre and Fine Arts Complex along with a \$250 check and travel voucher from the CSULA Federal Credit Union.

Franklin has worked in the School of Kinesiology and Nutritional Science as the athletic equipment attendant for more than 26 years.

Besides issuing lockers, setting up facilities and managing equipment for classes, Franklin is the “friendly face” behind the ticket booth at Cal State L.A. Athletics events. She also participates in the Graduation Fair, Honors Convocation, the Billie Jean King and Friends Honoring Joe Shapiro, and the Senior Olympics Volleyball.

In the community, she has volunteered at the Pasadena Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

According to a colleague, “Gwen goes beyond the call of duty in assisting students and instructors in any way needed. She ensures that instructors always have the appropriate equipment for their classes and maintains a well-organized equipment room, and has made a great impact upon the University.”

Franklin, who earned her B.A. in physical education and teaching credential from Cal State L.A., was a member of the Golden Eagle volleyball and basketball teams. She was also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society and Kappa Delta Pi honor society in education.

In addition to recognizing the outstanding staff at its annual awards reception, the Cal State L.A. community honored employees with 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service. The 40-year honorees were **Stan Carstensen** (*Public Affairs*) and **Eileen Roberts** (*Academic Senate*). For the listing, go to [www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports](http://www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports).



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