

Drozd's watchful eye leads to suspect

It just didn't look right: someone wandering around at 4 a.m. one morning last fall trying different ways to gain access to several campus buildings. So **Paul Drozd** kept watching.



When Drozd (*Facilities Services-Grounds*) saw the fellow eventually find his way into the Music Building, Drozd reported the suspicious activity to the University Police and stayed on scene to provide details to the responding officers. UPD officers, after catching up to the individual in Music Room 126, learned he had outstanding misdemeanor warrants totaling \$15,000 and took him into custody.

Lt. John Hernandez (*University Police*) says, "We appreciate his vigilance and quick response, and his taking the appropriate step in reporting the incident." In a memo suggesting that Drozd be considered for a Governor's Safety Award, **Kevin Brady** (*Risk Management and Environmental, Health & Safety*) wrote, "The action by Mr. Drozd serves to demonstrate the significance of 'personal responsibility' and 'commitment' that the overall Facilities Services organization exemplifies."

Drozd, a Cal State L.A. staff member since 1979, is a light-equipment operator with background in electronics. He is also a two-degree alumnus, having received his bachelor's in recreation education and master's degree in vocational education.

Brady also suggested Governor's Awards for two campus carpenters—**Lionell Hardy** and **Joe Marsetti** (*Facilities Services*)—for helping a distressed female student whom they encountered one afternoon sitting on the ground with chest pain and numbness. After providing her prompt initial comfort, they, too, called Public Safety. Paramedics soon transported the student to off-campus care.



The 2005-2006 Outstanding Professors—(seated l-r) Gregory Andranovich, José Cruz González, Andrea Zetlin and Philip LaPolt—are joined by (standing l-r) Academic Senate Chair Kevin Baaske, President James M. Rosser, President's Distinguished Professor Marguerite Ann Snow, Provost Herman Lujan and Professor of Spanish Linguistics Domnita Dumitrescu.

Honors for Snow, four others

Marguerite Ann Snow (*Applied and Advanced Studies in Education*) has been recognized as this year's Cal State L.A. President's Distinguished Professor. Four other faculty members were honored as Outstanding Professors: **Gregory D. Andranovich** (*Political Science*), **José Cruz González** (*Theatre Arts and Dance*), **Philip S. LaPolt** (*Biological Sciences*), and **Andrea G. Zetlin** (*Special Education and Counseling*).

An authority in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Snow works closely with local public school teachers, and her extensive teacher-training experiences have also taken her to more than 20 countries around the world. For several years, she co-coordinated an M.A. program in Argentina to train teachers of English as a foreign language. She received Cal State L.A.'s 1998-99 Outstanding Professor Award.

Andranovich, teacher-scholar in urban politics and public administration, has authored or co-authored three books and dozen of articles and chapters—including the Urban Affairs Association's best paper in 2000. Reporters often call upon his expertise in tourism, economic development and Los Angeles politics.

González, a prolific and acclaimed playwright and director, coordinates The John Lion New Plays Festival which he created in 1997 to stage the best student works in his playwriting classes. His new play, *Tomás and the Library Lady*, which premiered in 2006, reached over 72,000 young people throughout Arizona.

LaPolt has mentored more than 30 high school, undergraduate and master's and predoctoral students in the areas of human anatomy, endocrinology and reproduction, with many heading to professional schools and Ph.D. programs. His work has garnered more than \$2 million in funding support.

Zetlin works closely with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on education and foster-care issues. She also directs the C. Lamar Mayer Learning Center, which she and a colleague established in 1994 to serve the needs of neighborhood children and their families. She has secured more than \$2.5 million in external funding.

For more about these honored professors, see www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports.



Aerospace education gets \$500K boost

With the number of employees in the nation's aerospace industry declining rapidly, Cal State L.A. has received a \$500,000 boost from the National Science Foundation to develop a small special force to help the industry pull out of its workforce tailspin.

In a four-year program, Cal State L.A.'s College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology will work with the AERO Institute, NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center and industrial partners to lead 25 students through master's-degree programs. The program aims to place them in positions as highly trained aerospace engineers in Los Angeles and the Antelope Valley and to develop a "perpetual pipeline" of aerospace professionals.

Though the industry supports roughly 11 million jobs in the United States, in 2004 aerospace employment hit its lowest point in 50 years; and within two years, 27 percent of the aerospace manufacturing workforce will be eligible for retirement.

The new program will offer scholarships (up to \$10,000) to help students complete master's degrees in electrical, computer, and/or mechanical engineering.

The students' research will focus on five critical technologies required for U.S. to maintain its world leadership in aerospace: hypersonic (faster-than-sound) technology, nanotechnology, unmanned aerial vehicles, embedded computer systems, and machine-vision.

For complete article, go to www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports.

Center expands poetic legacy

With support from a \$750,000 bequest from Virginia E. Smith, Cal State L.A. recently established the Center for Contemporary Poetry and Poetics to bring together scholars, students, poets and the community for classes, readings, dialogue, research, celebrations and presentations.

"The Center," said its director, **Lauri Ramey** (*English*), "puts all poetry programming at Cal State L.A. under one umbrella; and it allows us to expand."

It also advances the campus's poetic legacy, which includes annually hosting the Jean Burden Reading Series since 1986 and, more recently, the British Council Poet-in-Residence.

This spring Andrew Motion, England's current poet laureate, was the honored reader at the 2007 Jean Burden Poetry Reading; and Nii Ayikwei Parkes spent a month at Cal State L.A. teaching and presenting as a British Council Poet-in-Residence.

"Poetry can be accessible and exciting for everyone," said Ramey. "With the Center, we want to create a very productive environment for making poetry, one that moves across disciplines. There's nothing else quite like it in California."

A published poet, Ramey directed creative writing programs at Hampton University in Virginia and Cardiff University in Wales. She joined Cal State L.A.'s English faculty in 2004.

The Center joins Cal State L.A.'s Integrated Humanities Center, which includes the Reel Rasquache Film Festival of Latino Cinema, the American Communities Program and the Center for the Study of Genders and Sexualities.



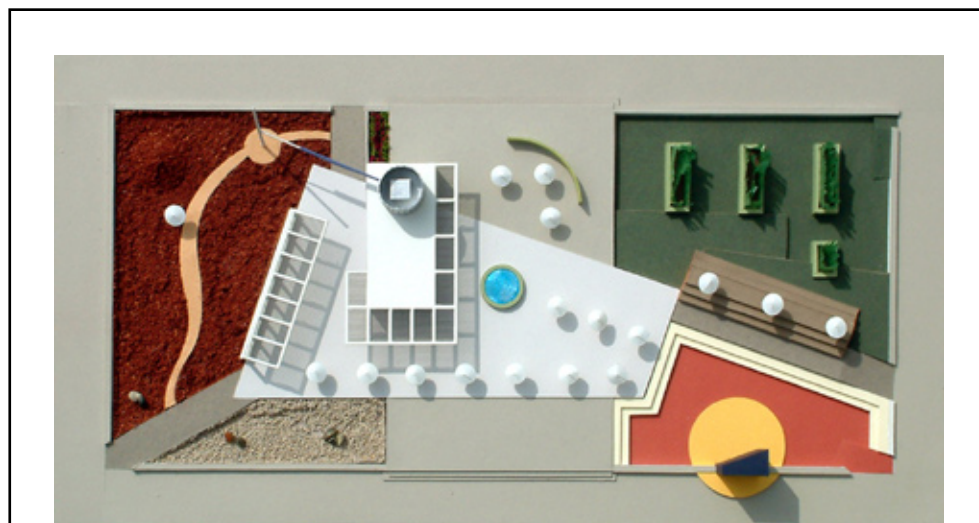
(L-r): Anh Hong, community service learning coordinator, and Denise Marron, student service learning coordinator, offer help at the EPIC information booth during Eagle Fest.

Eagle Fest attracts 2,300+; applications hit all-time mark

This year's Eagle Fest drew more than 2,300 prospective students—from approximately 105 high schools and 40 community colleges—along with their family and friends to Cal State L.A. Saturday, Feb. 17. Two weeks later, on March 2, the University reported it had received its largest number of applicants ever, with a total of 16,114 students being admitted—and with the majority of them applying as first-time freshmen.

Eagle Fest coordinator **Vince Lopez** (*Outreach and Recruitment*) says, "We had prospective students from L.A., Orange, Ventura counties and some from as far away as San Francisco, San Diego, Stockton, Hayward, Fresno, Bakersfield, Oxnard and Oceanside."

He says, "The University community really responded to our call to participate in Eagle Fest once again. We had the support of more than 43 academic departments, 27 student service departments and 40 student clubs and organizations. It's everyone's support of Outreach's efforts that has helped our freshman class to grow by roughly 500 students over the past two years."



Picture a new Greenlee Plaza

Greenlee Plaza, a wide-open space traversed by many who enter campus from the southwest, will be revitalized with plans to include a rock garden, trellis path and seating, bamboo court with terraces and planter-boxes, umbrella tables and seating, and a stage and amphitheatre area (as shown above in aerial view of model). The plaza's plans also feature a central fountain and 1,200-square-foot coffee shop. Construction is estimated to begin in about a year. Named in honor of the University's fifth president, John A. Greenlee, in 1973, the plaza formerly was the location of an alumni grove and fountain.

Fem-philosophy, entire College benefit from faculty philanthropy

Two expressions of generosity—one from a pair of recently retired faculty members and one from its new dean—will allow Cal State L.A.'s College of Arts and Letters to strengthen its academic programs.

Ann Garry and **Sharon Bishop**, two recently retired professors who each spent more than 35 years in the Philosophy Department, created a feminist philosophy lecture fund through an endowment of more than \$13,000.

In announcing the gift, **Terry Allison**, dean of the College, said, "These two long-time colleagues have been pioneers in the field of feminist philosophy. They explored ideas together and engaged in independent work to understand how feminism in practice could be theorized, and then how that theory could be applied to a range of everyday activities. Now they seek to foster continuing work in this field."

Then Allison pledged to contribute \$25,000 to create a more broadly focused development fund for the College as "a personal contribution to academic excellence."

The lecture series will be named for Bishop and Garry, who between them chaired the Philosophy Department for 24 of the past 30 years. Garry was also the first director of the Center for Gender and Sexuality Studies at Cal State L.A.

For complete article, go to www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports.

Help ITS firewalls keep hackers out—just think 'CIA'

In 31 days—from Jan. 22 to Feb. 22, 2007—the campus information network received almost 3 million email messages containing spam or viruses, representing about 75 percent of all the emails sent to Cal State L.A. accounts; and keeping the threat at bay are firewalls, antivirus and antispam programs, and other devices, said **Peter Quan** (*Information Technology Services*) in a recent presentation.

Protecting information resources requires a tandem approach, both technological and behavioral, he said. For example, said Quan, while the campus's existing firewall is being upgraded to a new CSU baseline standard, "we must recognize that we are all responsible for information security, and we must handle personal and confidential information accordingly."

"Think C.I.A.," Quan said. "Confidentiality. Integrity. Availability." Confidentiality protects information from unauthorized access; integrity assures its authenticity and protects it from unauthorized changes or destruction; and availability keeps it accessible to authorized users when needed.

For details on how to protect personal information and maintain a secure computing environment, see www.calstatela.edu/its/itssecurity. To sign up to receive ITS news alerts, see www.calstatela.edu/its/alerts.

Briefly

Hertzberg and Davis honored

The Los Angeles regional crime laboratory was formally named the Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center recently, acknowledging the key efforts of former Governor Gray Davis and California Assembly Speaker Robert M. Hertzberg.

The new facility, to be officially dedicated on campus May 11, will jointly house the L.A. Police Department's Scientific Investigation Division, the L.A. County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau, Cal State L.A.'s School of Criminal Justice and Criminalistics, and the California Forensic Science Institute at Cal State L.A.

Ideas for 60th graduating class

At this year's Commencement, Cal State L.A. will confer degrees to its 60th graduating class. The Public Affairs office is asking for help identifying outstanding graduates whose achievements are newsworthy so they may be considered for mention in publications and news releases. Also sought are interesting stories of alumni from past graduating classes as preparations loom for celebrating Cal State L.A.'s 60th Anniversary later this year. Submissions should be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, #8580-01, Admin. 819 or emailed to paffairs@cslanet.calstatela.edu.

UR's new look – and aim

Along with a new look, *University Reports* has a fresh perspective, emphasizing larger photos, "news you can use," and more link-ages between the printed version and its online companion, www.calstatela.edu/UniversityReports. It will also seek to foster communication about ways to better serve students.

We invite your ideas for articles. We also continue to welcome notices of professional achievements, which will appear mainly in the online version.

Please email any suggestions or comments to Sean Kearns (skearns@calstatela.edu) or Margie Yu (margie@cslanet.calstatela.edu) in Public Affairs, or call ext. 3-3050.

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

Homecoming accolades roll in



Celebrating Homecoming 2007 in Carnivale Style, the University-Student Union won first place in the campus department category for its Homecoming Parade float. Pictured is Chaz Walker, Cross Cultural Centers' publicity/program assistant, who was among the many U-SU staff members and student assistants who helped build the winning float. Student Housing placed second and the Anna Bing Arnold Children's Center, third. The Office Decorating Contest was won by the Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs-Student Services office. The Homecoming Faculty/Staff Appreciation Award went to Melina Abdullah (Pan African Studies), faculty advisor to the Black Student Association and Students in Education to Stop the War.

Nursing, Cedars-Sinai team up on bedside initiative

Working with Cedars-Sinai Health System, the School of Nursing was recently selected to participate in Transforming Care at the Bedside (TCAB), a national initiative enlisting 14 schools to improve front-line hospital-based patient care. The effort helps identify relevant curricula, develop learning modules and share lessons learned nationwide. Specifically, Cal State L.A. students will work with teams at Cedars-Sinai Health System's medical-surgical unit. The program will help students understand how time spent directly with patients affects the quality of care patients receive.

Lorie Judson (School of Nursing) says, "We have partnered with Cedars-Sinai for more than

20 years. The medical center has provided our students many opportunities to gain experience and knowledge. And Cedars-Sinai shares our vision of excellence in nursing education."

"The TCAB project will touch students at all levels of their careers: our undergraduate nursing students, R.N.s returning for their degrees and master's level students preparing for advanced practice in education, administration and specialty areas," she says.

Sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in conjunction with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), TCAB links schools of nursing with major regional hospitals.

Rosser, Ross address mission of access to ACE in Washington, to editors in San Diego

To national gatherings about 3,000 miles apart, University President **James M. Rosser** and Student Affairs Vice President **Tony Ross** delivered the message of Cal State L.A.'s mission recently.

In Washington, D.C., on Feb. 12, Rosser addressed the American Council on Education's national meeting on "The Access Imperative." Rosser's presentation focused on campus-based strategies for enhancing diversity and inclusion.

Rosser told the group, which consists primarily of university presidents, "At Cal State L.A., we have realized significant achievements, indeed some triumphs, in turning access into success for large numbers of underserved students.

"For some time now, we have focused on an advanced phase of the access imperative: that is, to close the gap prior to high school graduation, and to achieve equity and excellence in outcomes

for historically underrepresented students in all of our programs," he said. "Thus, we are increasingly moving toward partnerships with pre-K-14 and community-based groups."

About three weeks later in San Diego, Ross spoke to editors from major newspapers and CNN who had gathered for a Hechinger Institute seminar on Education and the Media.

On a panel with UC Berkeley dean of Admissions Walter Robinson and *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Golden, Ross shared with the journalists the ways and challenges of recruiting low-income students. His talk served as a counterbalance to Golden, who spoke of findings in his book "The Price of Admission: How America's Ruling Class Buys Its Way into Elite Colleges—and Who Gets Left Outside the Gates."

Trio offers 'Beautiful Struggle'

Three faculty members—**Kimberly King** (Psychology), **Kelly Madison** and **Penni Wilson** (Communication Studies)—reach out to thousands of Angelinos weekly as the hosts and producers of *Beautiful Struggle*, a public affairs radio program on KPFK 90.7 FM. It airs every Tuesday from 7-8 p.m.

According to King, *Beautiful Struggle* focuses on the political, economic and social issues and movements in the African American community. The regular hosts are Madison and Michael Datcher of Loyola Marymount University.

Madison says the name "Beautiful Struggle" comes from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous "Why I Oppose Vietnam" speech from 1967.

The program's guests have included scholars, community activists, artists and elected officials as well as numerous Cal State L.A. faculty, staff and students, including **Mel Donaldson** (English) and **Melina Abdullah** (Pan African Studies).

Other faculty voices often on the air waves include **Jon Beaupre** (Communication Studies) on KPCC's AirTalk and **Anthony Cox** (Communication Studies) on NPR News.



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