



DIGEST

a newsletter for the faculty and staff of California State University, Stanislaus

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CSU Stanislaus Student Team Wins National Human Resources Games Title

California State University, Stanislaus is now the home of the 2006 National Human Resources Games champions.

Battling from behind to turn back a challenge from Utah State University on June 26, the CSU Stanislaus student team claimed its first national championship during the exciting two-day Society for Human Resource Management competition held in Washington, D.C. Utah State held the lead until the last round when CSU Stanislaus came up with some key answers to pull ahead and hang on with correct responses to some difficult questions.

Leading the way for CSU Stanislaus was Crystal Jack of the tiny Amador County community of Volcano who was named Society for Human Resources Management Leonard Brice HR Student of the Year in May. The award goes to the nation's top HR student, recognizing academic excellence with overall organizational leadership within the field. Ms. Jack also received the J. Burton Vasche Award at the June 3 CSU Stanislaus Commencement. The Vasche Award, named in honor of the University's first president, is presented to the graduating senior who displays the highest standards of leadership, cooperation, participation, service and scholarship.

Teaming with Ms. Jack for the championship performance were Alfonso Valencia of Winton and Rosie Borjon of Escalon. Dr. Ed Hernandez of the CSU Stanislaus Management, Operations and Marketing Department faculty, who coached the team to a runner-up finish to Cornell University in 2004, served as advisor.

"California State University, Stanislaus takes great pride in this tremendous accomplishment by a very talented team in bringing home this honor,"

University President Dr. Hamid Shirvani said. "This is a well-deserved title and demonstrates that students here can match up with the best in the nation. They have spent long hours working very hard to prepare for this and are wonderful examples of the caliber of students and faculty we have at CSU Stanislaus."

The CSU Stanislaus team had to rebound from a narrow opening loss to rival Cornell in Sunday's upset-filled opening round, but came back to score consecutive victories over Utah State, North Carolina State and Southwestern Minnesota State. In the semi-final round, CSU Stanislaus avenged its earlier defeat with a win over Cornell and then outscored Utah State 5900 to 5400 to cap the championship performance.

Dr. Amin Elmallah, Dean of the CSU Stanislaus College of Business Administration, proclaimed the championship performances that have also included two Pacific Regional titles and two California crowns as a shining example of the high performance levels by University students.

"Our student human resources management teams, under the guidance of Dr. Ed Hernandez, have consistently performed very well at the state, regional

and national levels," Elmallah said. "The first place finish as the 2006 national champion is an attestation to the quality of the College of Business Administration academic programs and to the excellence of CSU Stanislaus education programs. We are very proud of their achievement and congratulate them on this great honor and distinction."

The CSU Stanislaus team advanced to the national tournament after beating defending national champion Fresno State for the Pacific Western Regional Championship in Honolulu in April.



Team members (from left) Rosie Borjon, Crystal Jack and Alfonso Valencia show off their national championship medals.

On The Inside

President's Inauguration Address
Page 2

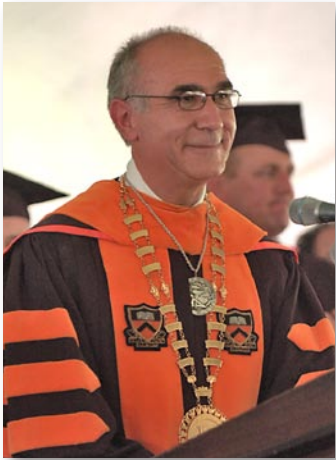
Commencement
Page 3

Alumni Award Winners Named
Page 4

Professor Sumser's New Book Published
Page 5

Professor De Vries' Star Research Recognized
Page 6

Shakespeare Festival Begins
Page 7



President Shirvani responds to applause with a smile.

President Shirvani Calls for Education Reform in Inauguration Address

California State University, Stanislaus President, Dr. Hamid Shirvani, advocated for a new era in education reform in the United States during his inauguration address on June 2. Speaking to an audience of more than 400 during the festive program filled with tradition, music and promise, Shirvani received encouraging words of support during the ceremony on the CSU Stanislaus campus.

In his inaugural speech, President Shirvani emphasized that today's students must be called upon to work harder and must receive a higher level of content in college courses that they are expected to master. He noted that California, despite being one of the wealthiest states in the nation, spends below average per pupil on its education system and student achievement on national assessment tests ranked in the bottom six states in 2005.

"We need to inaugurate a new era in education – one that is committed to fostering a new and greater vision of public education that isn't afraid to tackle tough pragmatic problems in order to make this vision a reality," President Shirvani said. "We need to begin to set higher, not lower, expectations. And we need to begin today, not only for our own sakes, but for the sake of generations yet to come."

Education System Remedies Needed

Only 25% of California's high school graduates are prepared to attend a university, well below the still dismal 31% at the national level, the President noted. Shirvani pointed to what he describes as "watered down" educational offerings, poor preparation of many students and the public expectation that a college education should be available to all as contributing problems.

The state is doomed to fall further behind unless its citizens are willing to radically rethink its educational system from top to bottom, Shirvani said.

At the college level, Shirvani said undergraduate education must be reinvented to provide a solid educational foundation while recognizing that students of all backgrounds, with the proper preparation, are capable of doing college-level work as it was traditionally conceived. A native of Iran, Shirvani cited himself as "living proof" that first generation college students and English-learners can be taught a liberal arts or "great books" curriculum.

"People like me – particularly those from a non-Western culture – need to know the 'texts' that are the basis of the majority of international laws today," Shirvani said.

University Measures of Progress Cited

At CSU Stanislaus, Shirvani pointed out, a number of programs are in place to tackle some of the critical problems. He cited as an example that the University consistently places in the top half of all CSU campuses in freshmen graduation and overall retention rates. In addition, he pointed to other examples of progress:

- The University is ranked among the nation's top 100 colleges for bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students.
- Faculty has shown commitment by helping pre-college students and teachers to improve their math skills.
- A \$3.3 million federal grant is helping teachers in Modesto to learn effective ways to help students overcome language, cultural and economic barriers to academic success.

- In Stockton, the University is partnering with Aspire Public Schools to open a charter school this fall to help prepare students from low-income families for college.

That Shirvani is on the right path in his first year as President at CSU Stanislaus was reaffirmed by others who spoke during the inauguration ceremony.

CSU Chancellor Charles Reed, who conducted the investiture of President Shirvani, endorsed his passion for serving the diversity of students enrolled at CSU Stanislaus and throughout the California State University.

"Under his leadership, I am sure that this University will meet its future challenges and surpass our expectations," Reed said.

Shirvani's Leadership Praised

CSU Board of Trustees Chair Roberta Achtenberg was joined on the platform by Trustees Carol Chandler, George Gowgani and Andrew LaFlamme, a CSU Stanislaus student serving on the Board.

"Dr. Shirvani knows that leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality," Achtenberg said. "Today – as Chair of the Board of Trustees – I am honored to see someone I admire as a leader and academician be inaugurated as President of California State University, Stanislaus."

Dr. Al Petrosky, Speaker of the CSU Stanislaus Academic Senate, noted that "President Shirvani has already earned the support of the faculty. He is an engaged leader who has the best interests of the faculty at heart."

"We have found President Shirvani to be a caring and involved leader who enjoys a positive and productive relationship with staff," said Filomena Wojciechowski, Chair of Staff Council.

Chelsea Minor, Associated Students, Inc. President, said Shirvani's involvement in the student recreation complex that was overwhelmingly approved by students in May was an exciting opportunity in the University's growth.

"On behalf of the student body, I extend thanks to President Shirvani for his leadership and look forward to a fruitful future," Minor said.

University Is On The Way Up

Todd Barton, President of the CSU Stanislaus Alumni Association, said that with more than 36,000 graduates over its 46 years, the University has alumni who are leaders in their professions and communities.

"We appreciate President Shirvani's approach to reach out to the community, and his pragmatic style of moving the University to the next level," Barton said.

State Senator Jeff Denham expressed the same confidence about the future of the University with Shirvani leading the way.

"I am confident that with Dr. Shirvani at the helm of CSU Stanislaus, we will see our local university reach new heights," Denham said.

Jerre Stead, Executive Chairman of IHS, Inc. and former Chairman and CEO of Ingram Micro who delivered the keynote address, said his friend Hamid Shirvani is a true academic leader who can skillfully guide CSU Stanislaus through the types of changes that will make a difference and transform higher education for the good of all.



President Shirvani looks on from the podium with keynote speaker Jerre Stead.

Record Number of Degrees Presented at the 2006 Commencement

California State University, Stanislaus presented a record number of degrees, awarded an honorary degree to longtime former California State University Trustee Anthony M. Vitti and recognized its outstanding students with awards at the 46th Annual Commencement on June 3.

Dr. Hamid Shirvani presided over his first CSU Stanislaus Commencement, held in the University Amphitheatre. More than 10,000 people flocked to the Amphitheatre area for the program, some watching by simulcast in the nearby Snider Recital Hall and Demergasso-Bava Hall.

Nearly 2,100 students applied to receive degrees, with about 1,500 of those choosing to take part in the ceremony in cap and gown. More than 1,800 graduates are on the list for bachelor's degrees and another 260 are applying to receive master's degrees.

Top Students Honored

Crystal Jack, a 4.0 honors student from Volcano in Calaveras County who is graduating with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources Management, was announced as the winner of the J. Burton Vasche Award. The Vasche Award, named in honor of the University's first president, is presented to the graduating senior who displays the highest standards of leadership, cooperation, participation, service and scholarship.

Ms. Jack is a member of the University's highly touted Human Resources Management team that has won state and regional titles and is preparing to stake its claim on a national crown in June. She is an active student who started her own charitable organization, collecting backpacks for needy children.

The Metzger-Geiger Award, one of the University's top academic honors for a perfect grade point average, went to graduating senior Ross Avilla of Stevinson, a Psychology major who plans to pursue his doctorate in social psychology.

Student speaker Gerardo Guzmán Rico, 34, of Lathrop, who graduated with a Liberal Studies degree, is one of many students in the graduating

class who are the first in their family to go to college and receive a degree. Guzmán Rico came to the United States from Mexico with his family at the age of 19 as a Spanish-speaker, but persevered through English as a second language classes and went on to succeed at the higher education level.

Trustee Vitti Receives Doctorate

Vitti, who last year concluded 16 years of service on the CSU Board of Trustees and is now a Trustee Emeritus, was presented an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. President Shirvani and CSU Trustee Carol Chandler bestowed the degree on Vitti. He has drawn on his extensive legal and business experience to provide invaluable advice and guidance to the Board of Trustees and worked tirelessly to promote the vision and values of the California State University.

"This honorary degree is an honor and a tribute to Anthony Vitti's many years of superior service and dedication to the objectives and ideals of the California State University system and CSU Stanislaus," President Shirvani said.

Special Awards Presented

President Shirvani presented Presidential Medals of Distinction to charter faculty member and English Professor Lola Johnson and longtime CSU Stanislaus supporter Bette Belle Smith of Modesto.

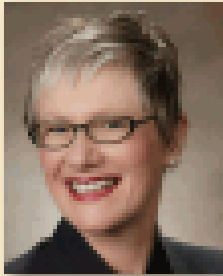
Johnson has taught at CSU Stanislaus for 46 years, having joined the CSU Stanislaus faculty in 1960 when the University opened at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds. She is the only founding faculty member who continues to teach classes at CSU Stanislaus.

Smith, who served on the CSU Stanislaus Foundation Board for seven years, is Vice President of Business Development and Community Relations for U.S. Bank in Modesto and is extensively involved in community service and organizations. She urged CSU Stanislaus graduates to volunteer their time to their communities.



Lola Johnson receives her Presidential Medal from Dr. Shirvani (photo at left) while Presidential Medal recipient Bette Belle Smith (photo at right) is applauded by the President and the audience.

Martha Connor, Constance Tate Named Alumni Award Winners



Martha Connor

A pair of California State University, Stanislaus graduates who have distinguished themselves in the education community received the 2006 Alumni Association awards during the University's Commencement on Saturday, June 3.

Martha Connor of Modesto, a former higher education administrator who has devoted the last 15 years of her career directing marketing and fundraising programs for both private and public universities and colleges, was named Alumna of the Year. The Alumni Service Award went to Constance Tate of Turlock, a teacher who serves as Director of the Regional Technical Assistance Center for Reading First in Stockton which serves 16 regional high school districts.

The Alumni Association awards the Alumnus/Alumna of the Year Award and the Alumni Service Award each year to recognize past graduates. Awards are made based upon distinct criteria for each, some of which include: leadership, citizenship, service to the community and University, and an appreciation for learning.

A graduate of Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, Connor earned a master's degree in non-profit administration from CSU Stanislaus in 1990. An active philanthropist and volunteer in the community, she is a lifetime member of the CSU Stanislaus Alumni Association and participant in a variety of civic and national organizations.

Connor and her husband, Gary, founded DirectLine Technologies, Inc. in 1990. The company specializes in telephone solicitation

services through fundraising and membership marketing as well as alumni surveys, market research and customer satisfaction surveys. DirectLine has been honored by the Modesto Chamber of Commerce as Small Business of the Year in 1992 and, as the firm grew, Large Business of the Year in 2001. The Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors also presented DirectLine with the inaugural Integrating Technology Award in 2001.



Constance Tate

Tate, who has earned a bachelor's degree, teaching credential and preliminary administrative credential from CSU Stanislaus, has advanced from her role as an elementary school teacher and reading specialist to a statewide leader in California's educational reform efforts. After serving as a preschool, elementary and literacy resource teacher in Turlock for 18 years, Tate served as a regional co-director for the California Reading & Literature Project and lecturer at CSU Stanislaus. She joined the San Joaquin Office of Education as Director of the Reading Implementation Center until assuming her current post.

Earlier this year, Tate was appointed to the California Curriculum Development and Supplemental Materials Commission by the state Board of Education. The Commission approves textbooks based on state standards and recommends them to the Board of Education. In 2005, she received the A+ Spirit of Literacy Honoree Award for San Joaquin County in recognition of her state leadership and expertise on the subject of reading and literacy education.

CSU Stanislaus Hosts Partnership for San Joaquin Valley Forum

California State University, Stanislaus hosted a meeting on June 7 and 8 of a regional panel charged by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger with addressing issues pertaining to the future of the San Joaquin Valley.

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, a 26-member group of representatives appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to address economic challenges of the eight-county Valley region, held a public forum on June 8.

CSU Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani said the University was honored to host the two days of meetings by representatives from the eight-county region who are charged with making recommendations to Governor Schwarzenegger by November regarding priorities to address the economic concerns of the San Joaquin Valley.

"It's important to know that the strength of California is tied to the economic success of the San Joaquin Valley," President Shirvani said. "Since increased education opportunities are one of the keys to meeting the economic challenges of the growing San Joaquin Valley, California State University, Stanislaus is excited about being a participant in this process. The University offers its total support to the California Partnership for the

San Joaquin Valley. CSU Stanislaus hopes to be a major player in whatever plan of action the representatives on this task force decide to take in their proposal to Governor Schwarzenegger."

Panel To Address Key Valley Issues

The Partnership panel is composed of eight state government representatives, eight local government members nominated by their County Council of Governments and eight private sector members, along with two deputy chairs. They have been asked to come up with proposals to address key topics that include higher education and workforce development; K-12 education; economic development in the San Joaquin Valley where more than one in five residents lives in poverty; transportation; land use, agriculture and housing; air quality and environmental protection; water quality, supply and reliability; energy; health and human services; and telecommunications.

For more information go to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley website at: <http://www.bth.ca.gov/capartnership/sanjoaquinvalley.asp>.

Hispanic Outlook Rates CSU Stanislaus High

For the tenth straight year, California State University, Stanislaus has been named to the annual “Top 100” list of U.S. colleges and universities graduating Hispanic students.

The University’s accomplishment in graduating Hispanic students at the bachelor’s level was recognized by The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education in its May 8 issue. CSU Stanislaus moved up four places over 2005, ranked 64th in the country for bachelor’s degrees awarded to Hispanics.

Hispanic enrollment accounts for more than 25 percent of the University’s 8,100 students and numbers of Latino students are increasing steadily each year to reflect the University’s diverse regional population. Hispanic bachelor’s degree recipients accounted for 23 percent of the diplomas distributed in 2005.

“We are proud to be recognized for our commitment to student diversity and for providing quality programs and services that enable students to succeed,” CSU Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani said.

Topics Addressed in Survey

The “Top 100” is based on responses to Hispanic Outlook’s comprehensive survey and an examination of literature and catalogs from 2,500 institutions across the country, according to the national Center for Education Statistics. Topics scrutinized include financial aid and scholarship programs, remedial and tutoring programs, English-as-a-second language offerings, Hispanic studies classes, Hispanic campus organizations, Hispanic faculty and administrators, and other services designed to help Hispanic students succeed.

Increased opportunities for Hispanic students are provided through a number of programs, including active fraternities, sororities and clubs. Community organizations in collaboration with the University provide more than \$45,000 in scholarships annually to CSU Stanislaus students. The University offers bilingual presentations and workshops for parents and holds annual youth and leadership conferences that encourage prospective students at the elementary, high school and community college levels to pursue higher education.

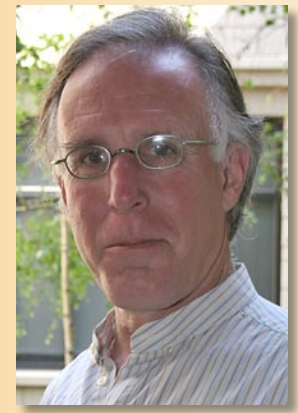
D.C. Director Picked For Information Technology Post

Carl Whitman, Executive Director of the Office of Information Technology at American University in Washington, D.C., was named Associate Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer at California State University, Stanislaus in May. His appointment is effective July 31.

While at American University, Whitman was instrumental in leading the campus to a wireless environment and revitalizing the information technology program to deliver better service to students, faculty and staff. Prior to that he served as the Director of Computing and Networking for the Washington Research Library Consortium, where he played a key role in the establishment of a multi-institutional consortium of university libraries that served as a national model. Past appointments include positions with IBM and Peat, Marwick, Mitchell. Whitman also has teaching experience at the Foreign Service Institute of the U.S. Department of State and at American University.

Whitman’s master’s degree work is in International Service, with additional graduate study in Technology of Management from The American University, where he also received his undergraduate degree.

Professor Sumser Writes About His Experience in Afghanistan



John Sumser

California State University, Stanislaus Professor John Sumser has published a memoir book titled “A Land Without Time” about his experience as a Peace Corp volunteer in Afghanistan.

Since 9/11 and the War on Terrorism campaign began, Sumser notes that Americans are more curious than ever to learn about Afghanistan. His book, released in March, tells his personal story as an American Peace Corp volunteer who taught Afghans English, learned about their culture and assimilated to his foreign surroundings.

Sumser’s 18-month quest as a Peace Corp volunteer began when he was a graduate student studying philosophy at San Jose State University. He saw a poster about the Peace Corp, inquired about it and soon joined.

After training in the United States, Sumser and several other volunteers were sent to Afghanistan to teach. He taught English and health to university graduates in an internationally-funded business program, in UN technical school and in rural junior and senior high schools. His experiences as a volunteer in Afghanistan provided him invaluable insights on the country’s culture before it was invaded by the Soviet Union and eventually became a target in the war against terrorism.

“We see things from only our perspective,” Sumser said. “This book is a look at Afghanistan before the Russians came in, the Taliban was formed, and the War on Terrorism began.”

Sumser said his book is the first of its kind, since it offers a humane, sometimes humorous and significant insight into a culture that was on the verge of launching a new age of terrorism. The book also attempts to document the country’s transition from its centuries-old status-quo to a factory for global insurgency as seen and experienced by Sumser.

Sumser joined the CSU Stanislaus Communication Studies faculty in 1990. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Philosophy from San Jose State University and a master’s and Ph.D. from State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Sumser, who has published several articles and books, is currently working on two other publications – a novel and a communication theory book.

For more information about Sumser and his books, go to his website at: www.sumserbooks.com.



Christopher De Vries

Professor's Star Research Leads to Prestigious Recognition

Research on triggered star formation by California State University, Stanislaus faculty member Dr. Christopher De Vries has scored him a prestigious opportunity to study the heavens on powerful telescopes and present his research at an international astronomers meeting.

A grant from the American Astronomical Society will take De Vries to Prague, Czech Republic, in August where he will present his research on star formation in bright-rimmed clouds at a meeting of the International Astronomical Union. The international society of professional astronomers is the organization that assigns designations to celestial objects and the surface features on them.

In addition, De Vries is part of a small group that includes scientists from the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and the University of Toledo who have successfully applied for access time on the NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope. De Vries is the first CSU Stanislaus faculty member to be granted access to the orbiting NASA observatory headquartered in Pasadena.

De Vries compares his star observations to modeled clouds through a technique that he has scientifically created. He plans to observe and analyze 13 star formation clouds in the coming year and feels the research is important in determining the framework of our origins here on Earth. "The only way we have to investigate this topic is by studying how stars form now," De Vries said. "By researching their formation we can get a sense of where we came from and how our solar system formed 5 to 6 billion years ago."

De Vries did his post-doctoral study at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics before joining the CSU Stanislaus faculty last fall as an astronomy and physics lecturer. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 2002 where he started his research on triggered star formation.



Tom Gelder

Tom Gelder Named Vice President for University Advancement

Tom Gelder, who has served in a number of fundraising roles during his career, has been named Vice President for University Advancement at California State University, Stanislaus. Gelder's appointment is effective June 30.

Most recently, Gelder served as Vice President for Resource Development and Communications at Mercy Housing, Inc. in Denver, Colo. His career path also includes service as: Senior Fundraising Consultant with Marts and Lundy, Inc.; Associate Vice Chancellor for Development at UC Davis; President and Executive Director of the Montana State University Foundation; Director and Development Counsel for the California Institute of Technology; Director of Planned Giving at Columbia University in New York City; and Associate Director of Gift and Estate Planning with the University of Chicago.

Gelder received his Juris Doctorate with cum laude honors from the Indianapolis Law School at Indiana University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



Jean Conde

New Housing Director Joins CSU Stanislaus Community

Jean Conde, who has more than 25 years of experience in housing, is the new CSU Stanislaus housing director.

Conde's career in housing began when she became a resident advisor as an undergraduate student at UC Santa Barbara. Before joining CSU Stanislaus in February, she served as one of several housing directors at UC Irvine.

As she enjoys what she calls a "wonderful small campus environment," Conde is also busy laying out a vision for housing that will support the mission of the University.

"I want to create an environment that will enable students to adapt and become successful," Conde said. "I believe housing plays an instrumental role in their success as students."

Conde, a UC Santa Barbara and Colorado State University graduate who is a native of Malta and has traveled the world extensively, has spent the past few months living in the University's Residential Life Village to better familiarize herself with the atmosphere and CSU Stanislaus students.

"This is a legitimate way for me to be a perpetual college student," Conde said. "I've noticed that generally students don't change over time; it's the same developmental process. It's about finding new ways to support them. It's really fun."

Shakespeare and Children's Production Scheduled For July

California State University, Stanislaus will feature a new package of entertainment in July with an outdoor production of William Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" and an indoor children's production of "Pooh Stories."

Drew Sutherland, Festival Director and a CSU Stanislaus Theatre Department faculty member, said he envisions that the featured production will lead to an annual Shakespeare Festival at the University. The 12 Shakespeare performances are scheduled for 8 o'clock Thursday through Sunday evenings from July 13 to July 30 in the University's Outdoor Amphitheatre and "Pooh Stories" are scheduled for a pair of weekends, July 22, 23, 29 and 30.

Award-winning Director Jere O'Donnell of the University's Theatre faculty has assembled a talented cast of 16 actors for "Taming of the Shrew." He was recognized with the Excellence in Theatre Education Award at the American College Theater Festival held at Southern Utah University in February. Katherine and Petruchio, the lead roles, are being played by two graduating student actors who will hone their talents in graduate school starting this fall. Leila Ghaznavi, who will play Katherine, will attend California Institute of the Arts and Carl Lindberg, in the role of Petruchio, will go to Western Illinois University.



The University Amphitheatre will be transformed into a modern day theatre venue. Technical Director Clay Everett will put together the lighting, sound and set to resemble a working sidewalk café in Italy. An art walk to showcase the work of local artists will be set up at the Amphitheatre entrance.

"Taming of the Shrew," centers on one man's attempts to control the willful, bad-tempered Kate (the shrew). Complete with plot twists, disguises and rollicking language, Petruchio's clever attempts to "tame" the shrew have delighted audiences for centuries.

"Taming of the Shrew" will play the last three weekends in July (13-16, 20-23, 27-30). The Amphitheatre will open at 6:30 each evening to accommodate people who want to spread blankets out and enjoy picnic dinners.

Ticket prices are \$10 general admission, \$7 for college students and CSU Stanislaus staff and \$4 for those 16 and under. Tickets are on sale at the University Theatre Box Office, (209) 667-3166.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

"Taming of the Shrew"

July 13-16, 20-23, 27-30 in University Amphitheatre

Show times: 8 p.m. Gates open 6:30 p.m.

Admission: \$10 general, \$7 students with ID,
\$4 children under 16

"Pooh Stories Part Duex"

July 22, 23, 29, 30 in University Theatre

Show times: 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m.

Admission: \$4 adults, \$3 students, \$2 children under 12

Information: University Theatre Box Office, (209) 667-3166
or on the web at:
www.csustan.edu/Theatre/Data/Announcement/index.html

Shakespeare Festival



2006

California State University, Stanislaus

Skies Lit Up Over CSU Stanislaus For Fantastic Fourth

California State University, Stanislaus once again drew its largest audience of the year to campus for the 22nd Annual Fantastic Fourth fireworks show on Tuesday, July 4.

Under the direction of conductor Stuart Sims of the University Department of Music faculty, the Stanislaus Pops Band started the University's Summer Festival program at 8 p.m. on the Amphitheatre stage and continued through the concluding fireworks display which started at dusk.

Boom Boom Productions of Hayfork returned to conduct the fireworks spectacular. Admission to the concert and fireworks show was free and donations were accepted to continue the program in upcoming years. County Bank was the lead sponsor for this year's program and a number of Turlock merchants rallied with supporting funds, including major sponsors Bistro 234, Coldwell Banker Endsley & Associates, Foster Farms, City of Turlock, The Modesto Bee, Turlock Journal, Turlock Convention and Visitors Bureau and Wal-Mart.

The week after the Shakespeare event opens, the actors will put on a children's theatre performance in the University Drama Building Mainstage Theatre. Showtimes for the weekend programs are 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for children, \$3 for students and seniors and \$4 general admission.

For more information on tickets or sponsorship opportunities, please contact the School of Fine and Performing Arts office at (209) 667-3959. Or check out the website at: <http://www.csustan.edu/Theatre/Data/Announcement/index.html>.



University Police Officer Cheri Silveira Honored

Cheri Silveira, in her first year with University Police, has been named Police Officer of the Year at California State University, Stanislaus.

Recipient of a Departmental Commendation for “Dedication and Service,” Silveira has been an active participant in department and University programs, leads the department in traffic safety enforcement and has received numerous letters of appreciation from the community.



Cheri Silveira

University Broadcasts Election Results

The California State University, Stanislaus Television Studio made its live program broadcast debut on the evening of June 6 as political experts Randy Siefkin (left), a former Modesto Junior College political science professor and political consultant, and Larry Giventer (center) of the University’s Politics and Public Administration faculty served as hosts. David Colnic of the University’s Politics and Public Administration faculty (right) helped organize the program. Plans are being made to televise a similar program to relay results of the November 7 election.



Food, Fun, Prizes Savored at Staff Picnic

Participants in the June 8 Staff Picnic pass through the food line to enjoy a tasty barbecue picnic lunch. In addition to the good food, the group enjoyed music, games, lots of conversation and the selection of prize winners. Kathy Cummings (Financial Services) took home the big cash prize of \$1,000 and Wayne Barkhousen (Public Safety) and Sylvia Kisling (Financial Aid) claimed the \$500 prizes.





June Boffman

June Boffman Wraps Up 29-Year Career at CSU Stanislaus

With more than 30 years of her career in higher education, June Boffman, Interim Dean of the College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences at California State University, Stanislaus, said it is time for her to start enjoying retirement.

Boffman, who began her career in education at CSU Fresno in 1971, joined the CSU Stanislaus faculty in 1977 as one of the founding faculty members of the Nursing program. Boffman has been both an active faculty member and administrator, having taught classes and served as chair of the Nursing Department for nine years before assuming the role of Associate Dean for the College of ALS, which she held for seven years. Boffman has served as the Interim Dean of the College of ALS for the past year and will conclude her career in August.

Boffman's accomplishments at the University include structuring of the many nursing courses offered today, establishment of the Nursing Pre-Licensure program, creation of the First-Year Experience program and modification of remediation programs.

"I have always liked education," Boffman said. "It has been exciting getting to know the wide variety of faculty, administrators and students."

Boffman plans to move to Paso Robles to be closer to family. She hopes to work as a nurse practitioner part-time and keep busy doing what she enjoys.

"I have enjoyed helping students and faculty resolve problems to make sure students succeed," Boffman said. "I will miss the faculty, administrators and staff I have gotten to know so well."

Personnel Notes

Custodian Team To Receive Governor's Safety Award

Members of the Nightshift Custodian Ergonomic Assessment Team at California State University, Stanislaus will receive the Governor's Employee Safety Award during a program at CSU Sacramento on August 18.

State recognition comes on the heels of their accomplishment in receiving the First Annual CSU Stanislaus Safety Award as a salute to their success at improving safety and reducing injury incidents on the job.

The CSU Stanislaus safety award honors groups and individuals who have made significant efforts to promote the safety and well-being of their fellow employees. They were cited for their recognition of safety concerns and swift action to promote the improved safety and well-being of employees through collaboration and solution-seeking with their supervisors and the Human Resources Office. By implementing improvements, they completed the first quarter of the year with no injury reports.

Members of the team include Francisco Barron, Jose Bautista, Silviano Curiel, Kathy Cummings, Carolina Garcia, Graciela Hernandez, David Higuera, Ana Magana, Patricia Negrete, Sam Oberholtzer, Ana Oliveira, Jose Oliveira, Julia Reynoso, Chai Saechao, Torn Saechao, Nai Saefong, Yao Saefong, Lai Saephan, Choy Saeteun, supervisor Kirstin Wolfe, and Kelly Mode of Human Resources.



The team celebrated with a group photo at a recent awards presentation.

Personnel Notes

Recruitment Welcomes:

Name	Classification	Department
Katie Olivant	Director.....	Student Leadership & Development
Sergio Rodriguez	Facilities Maintenance Mechanics	Facilities Services
Cathy Lanzon	Administrative Support Assistant	History
Travis Key	Project Architect	Facilities Services
Darin Skalinder.....	Duplication Machine Operator	Reprographics
Soath Paramy	Information Technology Consultant	Student Health Center
Ty Holmes.....	Facilities Maintenance Mechanics	Facilities Services
Kathy Cummings	Administrative Support Assistant	Financial Services
Raichelle Owens	Administrative Support Assistant	Graduate School
Juanita Cruthird.....	Student Support Specialist	Career Services
Heather Gillis.....	Administrative Support Assistant	Student Leadership & Development
Jeanne Jordan	Accountant	Financial Services
Rebecca Spencer	Administrative Support Assistant	OIT
Huy Phan	Information Technology Consultant	OIT
Patricia Negrete.....	Custodian	Facilities Services
Nai Saefong.....	Custodian	Facilities Services
Melissa Borrelli.....	Special Assistant to President.....	President's Office
Esther Villa	Administrative Support Coordinator.....	Teacher Education
Tom Gelder	Vice President	University Advancement
Bill Covino	Provost and Vice President	Academic Affairs
Carl Whitman.....	Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer.....	OIT

May Orientation Participants

Participants in the May new employees orientation session included (from left) Erin Prevette (Academic Affairs), Cathy Lanzon (History), Jodie Deutch (Disability Services), Janene Wolfe (Payroll), Travis Key (Facilities Services) and Sergio Rodriguez (Facilities Services).



June Newcomers Welcomed

Taking part in the June new employees orientation were (from left) Angelo Clay (Service Learning), Soath Paramy (Health Center), Raichelle Owens (Graduate School), Darin Skalinder (Reprographics), Juanita Cruthird (Career Services), Jeanne Jordan (Financial Services), Rebecca Spencer (Information Technology) and Heather Gillis (Student Leadership & Development).



Calendar

July

13-16, 20-23, 27-30

Theatre: Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew," University Amphitheatre, 8 p.m. Information, 667-3959

Shakespeare Festival



2006
California State University, Stanislaus



22, 23, 29, 30

Children's Theatre: "Pooh Stories Part Deux," Mainstage Theatre, 2 and 4 p.m. Information, 667-3959



Have a Great Summer!



WARRIOR UPDATES

For the latest on CSU Stanislaus athletics,
go to the website at: <http://warriorathletics.com/>



The University Digest

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