



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS MAGAZINE

STANISLAUS

Fall / Winter 2006



Raising the Bar

Meet the University's Top Scholars page 1



Hamid Shirvani

Bells of progress ring throughout campus and community

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is already upon us. On campus, in shopping centers, and all throughout the community, festive decorations and music remind us to celebrate the season and spread holiday cheer.

At California State University, Stanislaus, we are having our own celebration of sorts. Over the past six months, we have made great strides as we continue in rapid transition to meet the demands of today's workforce and raise the profile of the University. Improvements include this year's restructuring of the College of Arts, Letters and Sciences into four distinct Colleges including the College of the Arts, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the College of Natural Sciences, and the College of Human and Health Sciences. This restructuring did not impact the Colleges of Education and Business. The new alignment will allow for the highest levels of accountability in serving students and our community and is comparable to other universities of similar size and mission.

Recently, our nursing and human resources programs set national records in testing and competitions. We have partnered with schools, community organizations, and government to provide better and expanded services to our students and community. Such partnerships include the CSU Stanislaus/Aspire Early College Charter High School, the Parent Institute for Quality Education's parent involvement series, and the Endangered Species Recovery Program, among others.

We were honored with being chosen, for the first time in the school's history, a *Best College in the Western Region* by The Princeton Review. These and other honors and accolades affirm that our hopes and goals for the future of the University are in keeping with our mission while preparing us for the future of higher education.

On campus, you will find a sense of renewed pride and a changed landscape, particularly with the near completion of the ultra modern Science II building. Our enrollment numbers have

increased over the past two years with the highest freshman and transfer classes in history. Student housing is overflowing, and new faculty abound in many departments. Exciting future campus enhancements include a new bookstore and the Student Recreation and Sports Complex, which will house a state-of-the-art fitness center, 2,500-seat stadium, and intramural competition and practice fields.

The effort to build a University Community continues as well through strong and growing relationships with the City of Turlock, the Turlock Chamber of Commerce, law enforcement, and others. A symbiotic relationship between CSU Stanislaus and the City of Turlock will benefit students, faculty, and Turlock residents. At the University, we are committed to building strong ties in the community and setting a tone for lifelong learning.

I invite and encourage you to get involved on campus, whether you are a graduate or friend of California State University, Stanislaus. Consider supplementing your professional expertise with continuing education courses from our Extended Education program; rally for your favorite Warrior team at a sports event; attend a concert, play, or view our gallery's offerings; or simply visit and be taken by the natural beauty of the campus.

We are indeed a University in evolution but we remain true to our core vision: to become a major center of learning, intellectual pursuit, artistic excellence, and cultural engagement for California's greater Central Valley and beyond. Please join us in making this vision a reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hamid Shirvani'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'H' and 'S'.

Hamid Shirvani
President

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ABOUT THE COVER

Ten of the University's brightest new students were the first to receive the Presidential Scholarship this year. Pictured with President Hamid Shirvani (center) are (back row, from left) Ricardo Friaz, Stacy De Jong, Grant Langlois, Justine Keel, Michele Meenk, (front, from left) Breeann Wright, Amanda Heinrichs, Janine Fassler, and Nikki Boudreau. See page 12 for the full story.

Student Recreation Complex

Project Takes Shape for 2008 Debut

Plans are moving forward for work to start in 2007 on the new Student Recreation Complex that will include a fitness center and stadium complex on the northeast corner of the California State University, Stanislaus campus.

As part of a fund-raising campaign to help cover the cost of the project and to benefit the University's athletic program, naming opportunities are available for stadium seats at \$1,000 each. Half of the money raised will go toward helping students pay for the facility and the other half will go to the University athletic program.

The California State University Board of Trustees recently gave its approval to project plans. Lead architect is highly touted Thomas Gordon Smith who is also putting together plans for the University's new bookstore.

CSU Stanislaus students overwhelmingly approved a fee referendum in May to fund construction of the project that is scheduled to open in September 2008.

Chelsea Minor, Associated Students, Inc. President, said, "The complex is going to be a fabulous addition to our campus. Students are excited about this as something coming in the near future. It is very apparent to me that students have a want and a need for this facility, and have indicated they are supportive of this project."

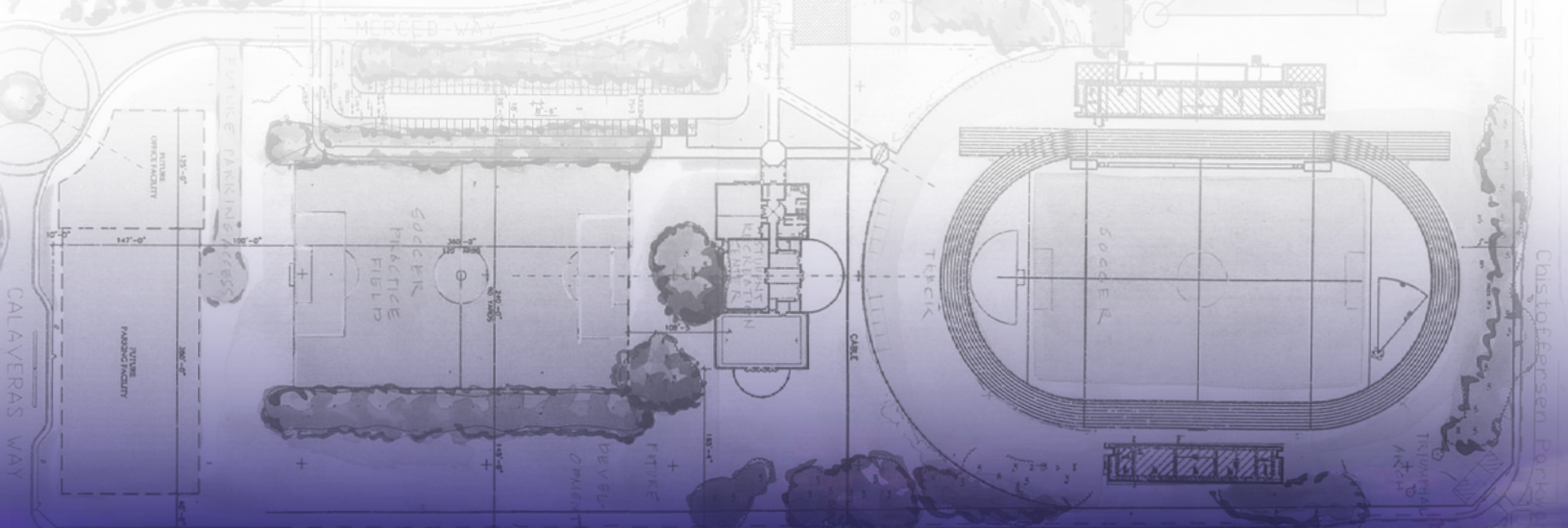
The \$18 million complex will feature a 20,000-square-foot fitness center, a 2,500-seat lighted soccer/football stadium with a state-of-the-art all-weather track, press box, locker rooms, and restrooms, a lighted intramural competition field, and a soccer practice field. A field events

site for the track and field program is also included in the project.

The Fitness Center will include a multi-purpose room for basketball, volleyball, and other indoor activities, an aerobics studio, state-of-the-art workout equipment, and locker rooms with showers.

CSU Stanislaus Athletic Director Milt Richards said the lighted stadium, with its soccer/football field and all-weather track, will be an asset to the community as an available site for football and soccer games as well as track and field competition. Room is available for additional portable seating capacity in the stadium.

For more information on how to participate in the stadium seat-naming donor program, contact the Office of University Advancement, (209) 667-3131.





Otsuka (right) greets a CSU Stanislaus student.

Convocation welcomes new students

CSU Stanislaus welcomed this year's new students September 2 at Opening Convocation on the Library Quad. Following a bagpipe procession, campus faculty and administrators dressed in full academic regalia joined over 700 students and parents to enjoy the ceremony.

Julie Otsuka, author of the summer reading book *When the Emperor was Divine*, provided the keynote address, speaking about how her writing career evolved with the research and writing of the book which explores the internment camp struggles of a

Japanese-American family in Berkeley during World War II.

At the conclusion of the event, students and parents recessed through an honor guard of faculty on their way to enjoy a reception with the author.

The University's summer reading program and Convocation are designed to introduce students and their parents to the traditions of the academy by reinforcing school pride and an elevated sense of scholarship. Earlier in the day, many of the student participants and their family members were involved in the traditional move-in day at The Village, the University's residential complex, in preparation for the startup of fall semester classes.



University icon Dave Gomes concludes career in Financial Aid

When young freshman Dave Gomes arrived at the new California State University, Stanislaus campus 41 years ago, he met his destiny. Over the years, Gomes and the University have become a perfect match during a distinguished span of service that reached a crossroads on September 29 when he concluded a 33-year career in the Office of Financial Aid. As a loyal CSU Stanislaus Warrior, however, Gomes said he intends to continue the volunteer part of his career as

the official scorekeeper at University baseball and basketball games for as long as he can.

"I still want to stay involved in score keeping for basketball and baseball, if I'm in town and feeling up to it," Gomes said. "I knew I couldn't stay much longer with the all-day duties in the office and get the job done the way it needs to be done. So, I'm moving on to some other things that I've never seemed to have the time to do."

Gomes has dedicated much of his free time for more than 40 years to score keeping at Warrior basketball games and keeping the books and announcing at baseball games. An icon of Warriors basketball and baseball, he was named to the Warrior Athletics Hall of Fame in 2000 as one of its first 12 inductees. His name is posted on the outfield wall at Warrior Field along with the retired numbers of former University baseball greats.

What makes the Gomes story all the more amazing is that he has been battling a crippling form of spinal muscular atrophy for most of his life. The symptoms started to affect him as a 10-year-old and his illness was initially misdiagnosed as muscular dystrophy after he enrolled at CSU Stanislaus. It was identified as spinal muscular atrophy in 1997. A year later after he broke his ankle in a fall, Gomes turned to a wheelchair for mobility, but it did not slow him down.

"People and numbers have always been my thing, and I've always tried to make them work together, in that order," Gomes said. "I've formed a lot of great friendships and worked with some really great people. I will miss that the most."

- story by Don Hansen

Charter staff member Irene Hatfield passes away

Irene Dorothy Hatfield, one of three people who were on staff when California State University, Stanislaus opened its doors for the first time at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds in Turlock, died on August 30. She was 87.

When CSU Stanislaus opened for business at the Fairgrounds on July 5, 1960, Hatfield worked in one of two small offices before faculty or classrooms had been added. She retired in 1984.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Faith Home Teen Challenge Ranch, P.O. Box 611, Turlock, CA 95381.



University televises mayor forum

California State University, Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani (right) serves as host during an October 11 "Decision 2006" Turlock Mayor forum featuring candidates (from left) DJ Fransen, John Lazar, and Kurt Vander Weide. The hour-long forum hosted by CSU Stanislaus in the University television studio was broadcast live on Charter Cable's channel 2 and carried again on Saturday, October 14. Lazar, a CSU Stanislaus alumnus, won the November 7 election.



Congressman Cardoza visits campus

Congressman Dennis Cardoza (D-Merced) of the 18th District gives students in Dr. Lawrence Giventer's American Government class an update from Washington, D.C. during an October 19 presentation. Cardoza focused on the top issues facing Congress and answered questions from students during his visit to California State University, Stanislaus.



Dianne Gagos

Gagos elected Foundation President

A lifetime Modesto resident, community leader Dianne Gagos has served on the California State University, Stanislaus Foundation Board for five years. This past June, she was elected Board President for the 2006-07 term.

Gagos was married to the late George Gagos, a Modesto farmer, developer, and philanthropist, for 46 years. Throughout her life, she has been involved in a host of community service activities, including the Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Parent Teacher Association, and others. Today, she serves on the Board of Trustees for the Center for Human Services and is an active member of the Modesto Symphony Board.

Gagos is past president of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary. Additionally, she served on the committee for the Gallo Modesto Performing Arts Center until 2002 and also served as Vice President of the Stanislaus County Agriculture Pavilion and Learning Center.

In addition to her community service and philanthropic pursuits, Gagos enjoys reading, traveling, playing bridge, and studying the cultures of China and Japan.

As Foundation Board President, Gagos states that her priority is to further the goals of the President of the University and to act as a liaison between the University and general community.

"In contrast to the fact that CSU Stanislaus is receiving high and prestigious academic ratings, we are still perceived by many to be in a backward area with a backward school," said Gagos. "One of my goals is to change that perception and promote the fact that the University is setting some of the highest ratings in the Western United States."

Gagos is also committed to furthering educational opportunities in the Central Valley through her position on the Foundation Board. "I'm passionate about education," she said. "My husband had two sisters, both of whom were teachers. I believe, particularly in California, it's absolutely imperative to provide education for first-generation students to bring them into the mainstream and give them more opportunities to become viable participants in our community. And CSUS is absolutely doing that."



University mourns loss of longtime supporter Marian Palmer

California State University, Stanislaus commends the great legacy of one of its most loyal and enthusiastic supporters, Marian Palmer, who passed away on August 5, 2006.

Palmer, who served on the CSU Stanislaus Foundation Board of Trustees from 1997 until her passing, was part of the University family for more than 25 years as an active volunteer, supporter, and friend.

"Her involvement as a strong believer in the important role of CSU Stanislaus and its ongoing efforts to build and maintain a reputation as one of the best academic institutions in the West will long be remembered," CSU Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani said. "Marian Palmer touched, taught, inspired, mentored, and encouraged many people's lives as an active participant and supporter of many Turlock area community programs and causes during her distinguished life. She served as a shining example with her commitment to helping others and giving of herself. Her entire life was about serving and giving to people."

Palmer's decades of extensive community service culminated in 2003 with the honor of being named Woman of the Year for the 26th District of the California State Assembly by Assemblyman Greg Aghazarian. That distinguished state award capped a long list of honors recognizing her community and philanthropic endeavors, including the Turlock Chamber of Commerce Humanitarian of the Year Award and the Outstanding Philanthropist Award from the Yosemite Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Foundation Board welcomes new members

The California State University, Stanislaus Foundation welcomed seven new Board members this fall. Each brings an abundance of knowledge, business expertise, and influence to the distinguished Board of Directors.



Matt Bruno is the President and Founder of Turlock Dairy and Refrigeration, Inc., the largest dairy equipment distributor/builder in North America. The company has been recognized in numerous trade magazines and local papers as a leader in the dairy construction industry. Bruno also owns Bruno Investments and Development, which purchases properties throughout California for a variety of purposes. In his spare time, Bruno enjoys wine collecting, exercising, cars, philanthropy, politics, and spending time with his grandchild.



Ron Foster is the President and CEO of Foster Farms. A 1981 graduate of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business and serves on several agricultural boards including the National Chicken Council and the Deans Advisory Council for the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.



Stephen Gemperle grew up in Turlock and is the President of Gemperle Enterprises, an egg processing company. Graduating from UC Davis in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Managerial Economics, Gemperle serves as a Director on a number of agricultural boards and commissions. He is also an active member and past Chairman of the Turlock Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. In addition to his service on the University's Foundation Board, Gemperle serves as Director and Chair of the CSU Stanislaus Ag Studies Committee.



Fred Hilpert is a Professor of Communication Studies at California State University, Stanislaus and, as such, is the faculty representative on the Foundation Board. Hilpert has served on the University's faculty for 29 years, being honored with the Outstanding Professor Award in 1986 and 2005. He has also been an active contributor to the community.



Paul Kortschak became President and Chief Executive Officer of MedicAlert Foundation International in 2004 and has more than 25 years of health care management experience. He earned his MBA from Pepperdine University, a Master of Life Sciences degree from North Carolina State University, and a BS in Biochemistry from UC Davis. Having extensive experience in both national and international markets, Kortschak has provided senior management guidance to a variety of healthcare and venture capital firms.



Paula Zagaris-Leffler is the President of Liberty Property Management and a Vice President at PMZ Real Estate in Modesto. She is an MBA graduate of CSU Stanislaus and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics at UC Berkeley. Zagaris-Leffler has over 25 years experience in real estate and financial administrative management and has an array of personal interests including traveling, skiing, cooking, reading, and playing with her demanding Jack Russell Terrier, Milo.



Nick J. Trani is President and CEO of NJT Companies, the parent company of his businesses that own and operate over 30 Carl's Jr. Restaurants in the greater Modesto area and the state of Washington as well as Hott Wings, Inc. (Hooters Northern California). He is a graduate of the California National Guard Officer Candidate program and received a federal commission as 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army. Trani is involved in a number of community and public service endeavors and, most recently, served as the Finance Chair of Stanislaus County for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's reelection campaign.

Voter-approved bond measure to fund CSU Stanislaus projects

On November 7, California's voters approved Proposition 1D, the \$10.4 billion Education Facilities Bond initiative, by a 53% - 47% vote. Proceeds from the bond include \$7.6 million for important capital projects at California State University, Stanislaus.

Topping the list for CSU Stanislaus' funding is \$5 million to purchase necessary equipment for the new science building, which will be named the Naraghi Hall of Science in tribute to a \$2 million gift from the Hashem Naraghi Trust (see back page). The bond funding will be used to purchase equipment such as modern microscopes, chemistry accessories, and furniture made from recycled materials for the state-of-the-art science facility when it opens in fall 2007. Funding for the science building construction, which will be completed in May 2007, came from a previous state bond approved by state voters.

In addition to the \$5 million in equipment for the Naraghi Hall of Science, CSU Stanislaus will receive just over \$1 million in Prop 1D proceeds for preliminary plans and working drawings for the upcoming renovation of the current science building as well as \$1.6 million for an electrical distribution system upgrade on campus.

"This investment in education by state voters will be returned many times over at California State University, Stanislaus, because students who are the future of this state will benefit from these improvements," University President Hamid Shirvani said.

University fills key administrative posts



Dr. William A. Covino became the new California State University, Stanislaus Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs in August.

Covino comes to CSU Stanislaus from Florida Atlantic University where he was Dean of the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters. He had served at Florida Atlantic since 1998, when he joined the faculty there as Chair of the Department of English. Previously, Covino served on the faculties of the University of Illinois at Chicago and San Diego State University, where he held administrative positions including Department Chair, Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Director of Composition. He received his Ph.D. in English and Master of Arts in English from the University of Southern California, another master's degree in English from CSU Northridge, and his undergraduate degree from UCLA.

Covino has published five books on his major fields of interest in history and theory of rhetoric, with a focus on persuasion and imagination.



Tom Gelder

Tom Gelder took over as Vice President for University Advancement in June. He most recently 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.

University's grants and contracts awards total nearly \$20 million

A strong commitment by faculty to conduct research and provide key instructional programs for California State University, Stanislaus and the region brought in contracts and grants totaling almost \$20 million during the 2005-06 academic year.

The University's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) surpassed its previous all-time high by more than \$4 million in garnering 50 new grants totaling \$9.5 million in 2005-06.

Dr. Suzanne Burns, ORSP Director, expressed confidence that the grant and contract accomplishments in the coming year will take the University to the next level, as envisioned by CSU Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani.

One of the most active grant-funded programs at CSU Stanislaus, the Endangered Species Recovery Program directed by Biology Department faculty member Dr. Patrick Kelly and his team, was awarded nine new grants and contracts totaling nearly \$2.2 million. The program has generated more than \$25 million in grants and contracts since its startup 15 years ago to help preserve and restore California's endangered animals and plants.

The Child Welfare Training Program coordinated by the Department of Social Work received a \$1.5 million grant from the University of California, Office of the President.

Another nearly \$1.5 million grant went to the College of Education for the Center for Research on Education, Diversity and Excellence (CREDE) Teacher Recruitment administered through the University of California. That grant provides funding for programs to recruit, develop, and retain teachers at "high needs" schools.

Jessi Reyes-Murray, Project Director of Student Support Services, was awarded a four-year \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to continue a program that provides qualified low-income, first generation students with a variety of services that include academic advising, curriculum planning, a variety of academic workshops, access to a computer laboratory, peer mentors, and financial aid awards.

Homeless in the Turlock area will benefit from a grant of just under \$600,000 secured by Service Learning Director Julie Fox and Accounting Professor Dr. Steve Filling from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The grant is for a project titled "CSU Stanislaus CARES: Community Action and Empowerment and Sustainability." Funds from the grant will help with development of a resource center aimed at providing education, services, and life skills training to help reduce the homeless population in the community.

Grant money provides hope for rare riparian brush rabbit populations.



photo by B. Moose Peterson

Fall/Winter 2006



President Shirvani calls for education

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 held on the CSU Stanislaus campus.

In his inaugural speech, President Shirvani emphasized that today's students must be expected to work harder and master a higher level of content in college courses. 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."

Only 25 percent of California's high school graduates are prepared to attend a university, well below the still dismal 31 percent 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.

At CSU Stanislaus, Shirvani pointed out, a number of programs are in place to tackle some of the critical problems. Among many examples, he noted that the University consistently places in the top half of all CSU campuses in freshmen graduation and overall retention rates.

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

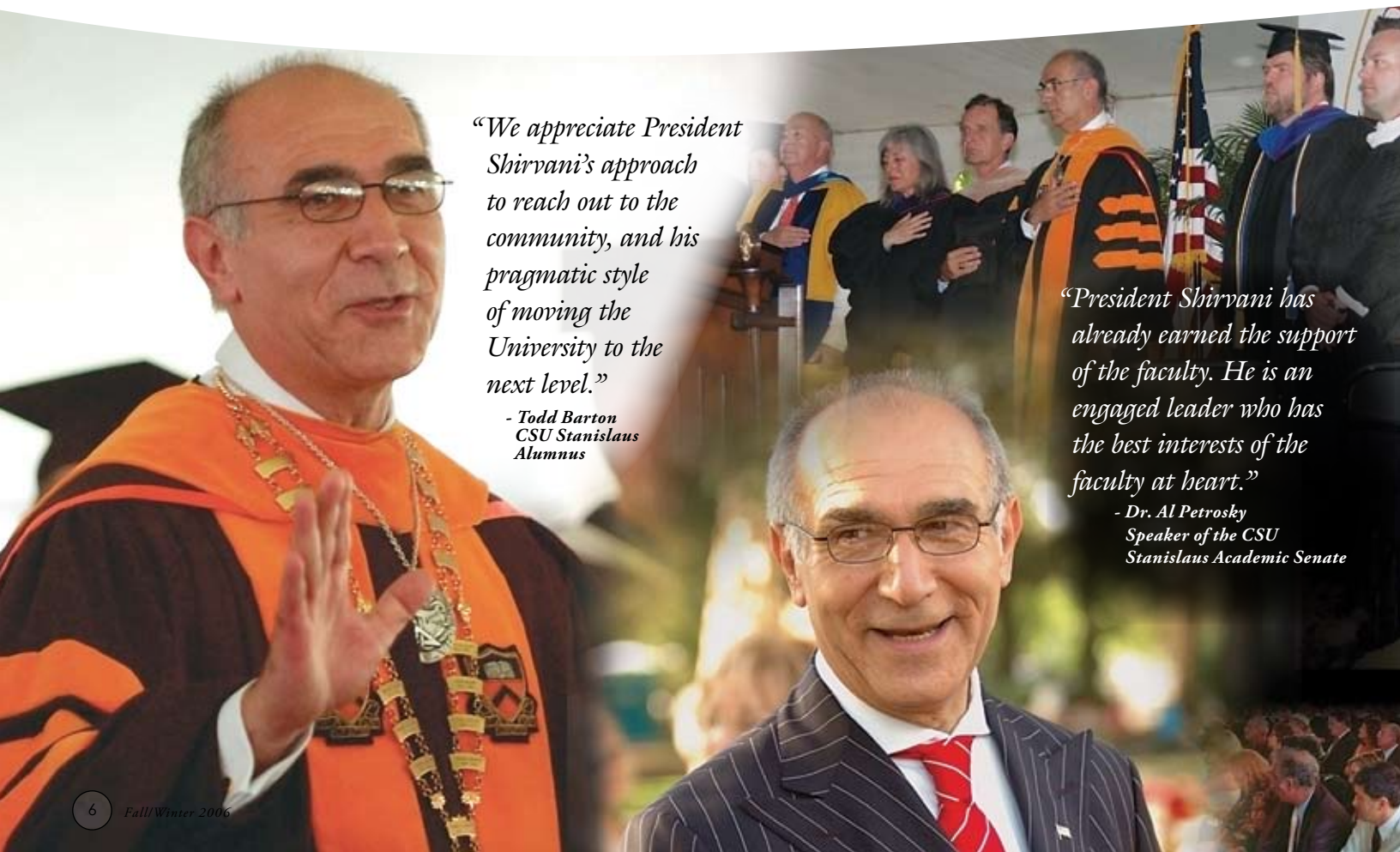
- Charles Reed
CSU Chancellor

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

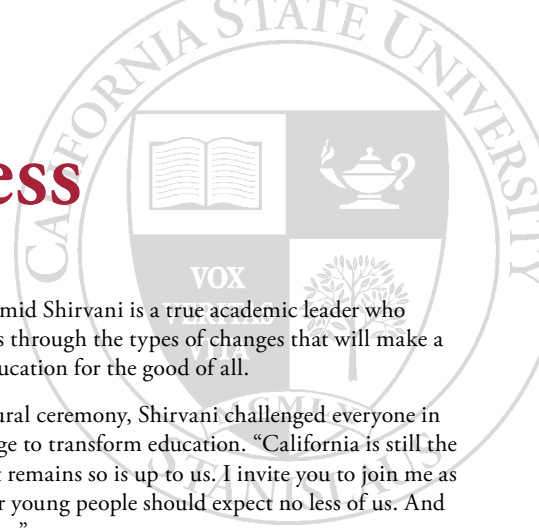
- Todd Barton
CSU Stanislaus
Alumnus

"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."

- Dr. Al Petrosky
Speaker of the CSU
Stanislaus Academic Senate



reform in Inaugural Address



Shirvani's Leadership Praised

That Shirvani is on the right path as President at CSU Stanislaus was affirmed 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. "Under his leadership, I am sure that this University will meet its future challenges and surpass our expectations," Reed said.

Other speakers lauding Shirvani for his leadership and welcoming him to the University included CSU Board of Trustees Chair Roberta Achtenberg; CSU Trustees Carol Chandler, George Gowgani, and Andrew LaFlamme, a CSU Stanislaus student serving on the CSU Board; Dr. Al Petrosky, Speaker of the CSU Stanislaus Academic Senate; Filomena Wojciechowski, a CSUS staff representative; Chelsea Minor, Associated Students, Inc. President; Todd Barton, CSU Stanislaus Alumni Association President; and State Senator Jeff Denham.

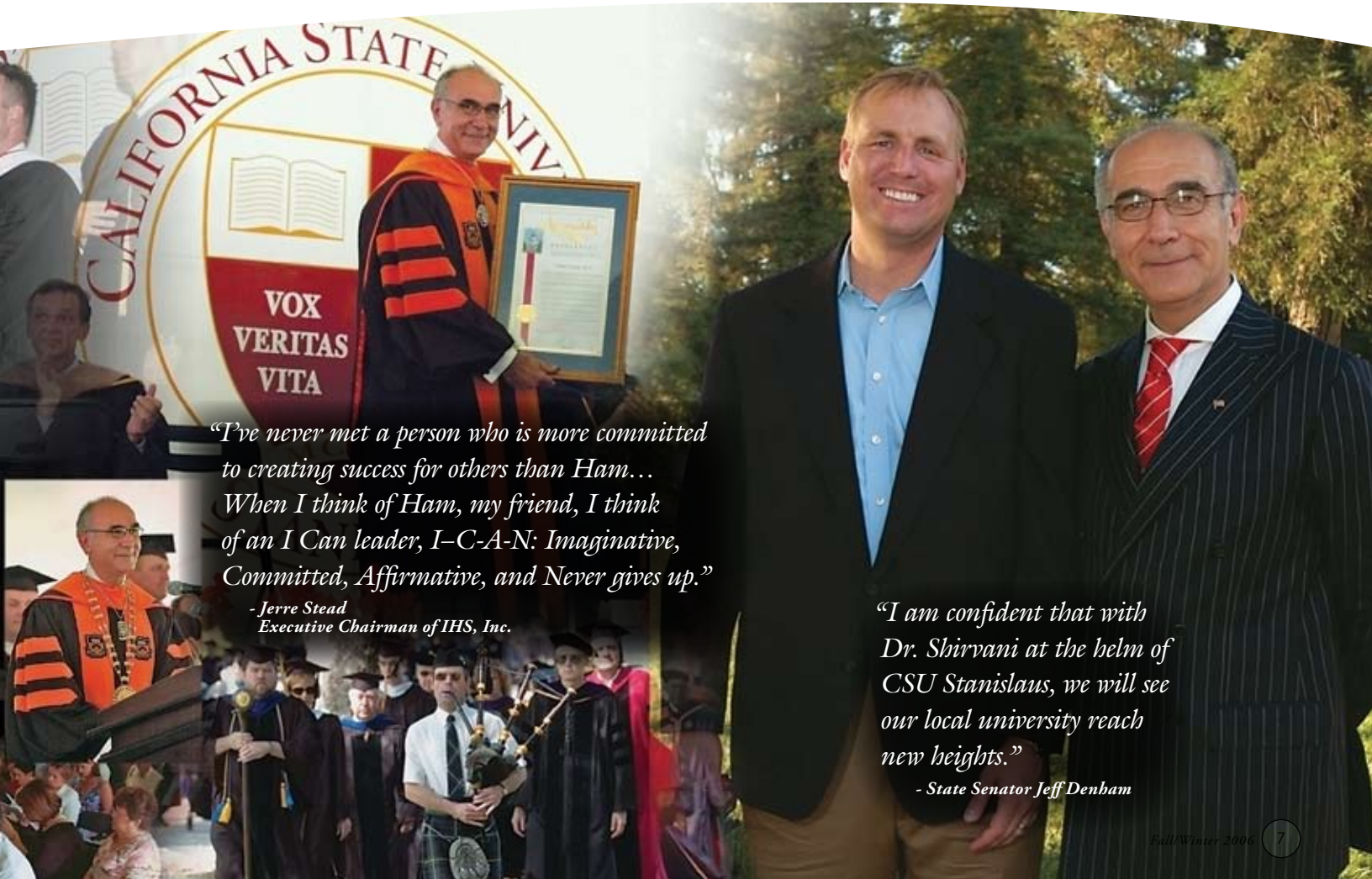
Jerre Stead, Executive Chairman of IHS, Inc. and former Chairman and CEO of Ingram Micro who delivered the

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.

Before the conclusion of the inaugural ceremony, Shirvani challenged everyone in attendance to join him on his voyage to transform education. "California is still the golden state," he said. "How long it remains so is up to us. I invite you to join me as we undertake this critical task. Our young people should expect no less of us. And we should expect no less of ourselves."

"Dr. Shirvani knows that leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality. 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."

*- Roberta Achtenberg
CSU Board of Trustees Chair*



"I've never met a person who is more committed to creating success for others than Ham... When I think of Ham, my friend, I think of an I Can leader, I-C-A-N: Imaginative, Committed, Affirmative, and Never gives up."

*- Jerre Stead
Executive Chairman of IHS, Inc.*

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

- State Senator Jeff Denham

California State University, Stanislaus science program has oceanfront connection

California State University, Stanislaus has its own little share of oceanfront in Monterey County.

Even though the University is deep in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley and a two-hour drive from Pacific Ocean waters, many students are drawn to the campus for its highly touted Marine Science academic program.

How does a University far from the coastline manage that? By being a longtime partner in the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories facility in Monterey County.

The Master of Science in Marine Science offered at CSU Stanislaus involves extensive study at the laboratory perched on the bluffs above the Pacific Ocean near the tiny community of Moss Landing north of Monterey. CSU Stanislaus is one of seven CSU campus partners at the state-of-the-art laboratory where students get hands-on experience in ocean research.

Helping to keep this CSU Stanislaus connection with the ocean alive and thriving is Dr. Pamela Roe, a Professor of Biological Sciences and Coordinator of the University's Marine Sciences program who affectionately refers to her students as "my kids."

She leads undergraduate class field trips to Moss Landing and tidal pools in nearby Carmel. A number of her student participants have been inspired to choose careers in related fields as graduate students at Moss Landing.

Roe's enthusiasm and passion for observing and researching sea life makes it easy to see how some of her students have been hooked.

"I grew up next to the Gulf in Corpus Christi, Texas, and I've always loved the ocean," said Roe, now in her 34th year as a CSU Stanislaus faculty member.

Pulling on her hip boots, the 4-foot-11 Roe has a reputation for nimbly scrambling over the coral-covered rocks through the misty fog in tidal pools, encouraging her



Pamela Roe (left) directs an assignment during a class project.

students to follow and discover tiny sea creatures and plants during low tide. The veteran professor knows her field, having been recognized for her research and published articles on marine invertebrates and ecology. One new species of deep sea ribbon worms on which she has done extensive research was officially named after her: "Carbarincola Pamelae."

During research visits to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., Roe has described and classified nine new species of the ribbon worms which she has collected during deep sea research cruises off the California coast.

"And there are many new species that I haven't gotten to yet," she added.

Roe has also helped coordinate the startup this fall of the new Master of Science degree program in Ecology and Sustainability. That graduate program will focus on solutions to the ever-growing challenge of balancing environmental and sustainability needs with population and developmental growth in California.

However, it's exposing students to the wonders of marine life and the ocean environment that keeps Roe motivated. She delights in introducing undergraduate students from her marine ecology class to ocean life during excursions that feature



2006 CSU Stanislaus grad to participate in Executive Fellowship Program



Sulma Guzmán

Sulma Guzmán, a 21-year-old California State University, Stanislaus alumna, has been selected to participate in the Executive Fellowship Program offered by the Center for California Studies and Office of the Governor in Sacramento.

Guzmán, who received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science earlier this year, is an aspiring political science professor who plans to attend law school after completing the year-long fellowship program.

The Executive Fellowship Program is a competitive program that provides participants with an experiential learning opportunity in California state government. It integrates work experience with academic and professional development.

Guzmán was one of 18 fellows selected from a pool of 300 applicants. She participated in an orientation to California state government in October 2006 featuring briefings by the governor's staff, constitutional officers, legislative staff, academics, and others. Following the orientation, Guzmán was to be placed in one of California's executive branch offices for a year-long fellowship experience.

"I've always had an interest in California politics," Guzmán said. "It's the best state. I'm excited to gain knowledge about how everything works."

Guzmán, who said she "made the right choice attending CSU Stanislaus" because of its helpful faculty members and staff, received several scholarships for her academic merit while a student. She was a Mary Stuart Rogers Scholar, a member of the University's Honors Program, and the President of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society.

overnight accommodations on the auditorium floor at Moss Landing and directions to profile in detail an assigned square foot of tide pool during an early morning climb over the rocks. For most of the students, it's their first experience with a tide pool and makes quite an impression.

"I love teaching and sharing my knowledge and enthusiasm with students to raise their awareness," Roe said.

For some, that experience leads them down a career path and residency in Monterey County as well as a lifelong friendship with their professor.

Stephanie Flora, who earned her bachelor's degree at CSU Stanislaus and completed a master's in Marine Science in 2001, has been an oceanographer at Moss Landing since 1996. She admits to catching Roe's fever for marine science during field trips to the Moss Landing area.

"Dr. Roe is an enthusiastic expert who really enjoys what she teaches," Flora said. "She is the reason people come to CSU Stanislaus to study marine science."

Flora's job at Moss Landing involves collecting and monitoring data on the color of sea water transmitted to a NASA satellite from a remote buoy near the Hawaiian Islands. She uses her scientific skills to process the data that provides important information about changes in water content and temperatures that can affect sea life conditions.

CSU Stanislaus graduate students like Gabriela Vega of Modesto and Chris Scianni of Long Beach said they are gaining valuable experience as participants in the master's program at the Moss Landing laboratories.

"We are working with deep sea specimens that most people never see," Vega said.

"You get a lot of one on one with professors and scientists at the lab and participate in a lot of field work," said Scianni, who will complete his master's degree this fall.

- story by Don Hansen



CSU Stanislaus graduate Stephanie Flora, one of Pam Roe's former students, is an oceanographer at Moss Landing.

"I don't think anybody's education is complete unless they have experienced these kinds of ocean habitats in person. You can't get that from video or TV, unless you've felt it, tasted it, and slipped and fallen on the rocks first."

-Pamela Roe





Student team wins National Human Resources Games title

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

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 pulled ahead by coming up with some key answers to difficult questions.

The CSU Stanislaus team had to rebound from a narrow opening loss to rival Cornell in the 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 out-scored Utah State 5900 to 5400 to cap the championship performance.

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. 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 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.

"We take great pride in this tremendous accomplishment by a very talented team of CSU Stanislaus students," 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."

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.

Determined student Texas Keo named CSU's top scholarship recipient

California State University, Stanislaus student Texas Keo has overcome poverty as well as personal and cultural barriers to pursue her higher education goals while dedicating herself to raising four younger sisters. Her accomplishments were recognized this year when she was named one of 19 recipients for prestigious California State University scholarships.

Keo, who is 24 and in the University's teaching credential program after having earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies in 2005, was selected as a recipient of the \$6,000 Ali C. Razi Scholarship in the William Randolph Hearst/CSU Trustees Award program for Outstanding Achievement in the 2006-07 academic year. Keo joined other scholarship recipients in receiving their awards at the September 19 CSU Board of Trustees meeting in Long Beach.

"This is another dream come true for me and will really open the next door to help me attain my goal of becoming a teacher," Keo said. "I am so thankful to the wonderful support network of friends and community who have helped me get this far."

The award provides scholarships to students who have demonstrated financial need, experienced personal hardships, and have attributes of merit including superior academic performance, exemplary community service, and significant personal achievements.

Despite a childhood marked by violence and the imprisonment of her father, rejection by relatives who objected to her becoming the first woman in her family to go to college, and the loss of her mother to cancer that left her with four sisters to look after, Keo has persisted with her goal of becoming a teacher. One of her other sisters recently graduated from Sacramento State and she's encouraging her younger sisters to eventually go to college.

Keo had to work around differences with family members regarding

Cambodian cultural traditions that discourage women who seek careers outside of the home and expect them to tend to cooking, cleaning, and children. Her family had come to Texas from Cambodia in 1981 and named their first U.S.-born child (she's one of eight sisters) after the state they had moved to. But Texas and two of her sisters soon came to Modesto to live with their grandmother and they were not reunited with their mother for more than seven years. Through it all, the nurturing of teachers from an early age helped Keo to keep a focus on her goal.

"I remember telling my kindergarten teacher that I was going to become a teacher, just like her," Keo said.

Living in a modest apartment in Ripon with her four sisters, Keo works in the CSU Stanislaus Child Development Center and plans to seek a master's degree in counseling to eventually become a school counselor. There was a time in her life when higher education did not seem at all possible.

Keo grew up in a West Modesto neighborhood where there were lots of broken families, gangs, drug problems, and violence. Those memories have motivated her toward a goal of helping children from broken families find success.

Keo started saving money for college as a 12-year-old – cleaning homes, doing yard work, and baby sitting. She was able to work in the Youth Program as a high school student during the summers, but says she was disowned by her family when she enrolled at CSU Stanislaus. Her life became more complicated after that.

When her parents were separated and her father encountered trouble with the law, Keo returned home from CSU Stanislaus often to help her mother and sisters. Her father is serving a 21-year prison sentence after being convicted in a shooting case in 1996.

Later, her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and Keo prepared to take on more responsibility. She officially adopted four of her younger sisters in April 2005 before her mother died. Shortly after, Keo became the first one in her family to earn a degree, graduating with honors. Tears still come to Keo's face when she talks about the passing of her mother whom she calls continuing inspiration for success. She stays in touch with her father as well.

"They both taught us survival skills and determination," Keo said. "I've learned that life contains many unexpected challenges, but it does not mean that I cannot change it in a positive way and become a stronger person."

Texas Keo, foreground, is pictured with her sisters, from left, Sandy, Soreya, Julie, and Sony. They are seated around Sony's California mission project for school – completed as a family project after their mother died.



Photo by Burt Ab Tou / Courtesy of The Modesto Bee

Stockton, Ceres students earn college credit through CSU Stanislaus

California State University, Stanislaus classes have branched out to high school campuses in Stockton and Ceres in an effort to give students a head start on college preparation. Plans call for expansion of the program to other area school districts interested in partnering with the University.

Students at Benjamin Holt College Preparatory Academy, an Aspire Public School for sixth through 12th graders in the Lodi School District, are earning college credit through a cooperative program with CSU Stanislaus. At Ceres High School, students are doing the same without even leaving their campus.

The seniors at Benjamin Holt, which has a mission of "college for certain," are taking Introduction to Cultural Anthropology from CSU Stanislaus faculty member D'Elena Woodruff. It is the first of a series of classes offered through a special grant program that will be taught by CSU Stanislaus faculty at the school of more than 400.

"This is an excellent introductory program for the students because it places the responsibility with them of starting to think like college students," Woodruff said. "They are stepping up to the plate and demonstrating that they want to succeed in college."

CSU Stanislaus has received \$670,000 in seed grants from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation to work with Aspire Public Schools in developing the program at Benjamin Holt as well as the Stockton Early College charter school for 6th through 12th graders in University Park where the University's Stockton Center is located.

Launched in 2003, Woodrow Wilson's Early College High School initiative seeks to better prepare low-income and minority students for high school graduation and college success. The network of schools all over the United States is being facilitated by Woodrow Wilson and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Dr. Pamela Russ, Chair of the CSU Stanislaus Teacher Education Department and University Director of the charter school grant program in Stockton for CSU Stanislaus, said University faculty are conducting training sessions with Benjamin Holt teachers. Also, 20 students from the charter school enjoyed an overnight stay at the CSU Stanislaus residential housing complex during a summer visit to the University.

At Ceres High, students are taking an early-morning public speaking class from CSU Stanislaus faculty member Joe Carranza. The units for the course will count toward their eventual college graduation.

"We want students to feel comfortable about taking college classes and get them excited about California State University, Stanislaus," President Shirvani said. "Our goal is to get more high school students involved in these classes to put them on the path to a four-year college."

President Shirvani said that the University's goal is to bring classes to other high schools in the Northern San Joaquin Valley region also, as part of a drive to increase the percentage of high school students from the region who attend four-year universities.



University faculty member D'Elena Woodruff works with Benjamin Holt Academy students (from left) Brian Wentworth, Jessica Fried, and Cherie Frederick.

RAISING THE BAR

New programs and successes have the University's reputation climbing

California State University, Stanislaus is on the move to loftier places in the higher education world these days. The bar has been raised and all of the progress charts are headed in the right direction.

CSU Stanislaus President Dr. Hamid Shirvani is at the forefront of a drive to boost University standards to a higher level on a number of fronts – academics, extracurricular programs, facilities, and in the community. Building on the University's reputation with increased opportunities for students is the top priority as the action plan list grows.

President Shirvani with 16 of the 22 President's and Provost's Scholars of 2006-07.



PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARS



Nikki Boudreau, who considers herself an artist, drawing and painting since the age of five, has spent several years promoting art at her high school and in her community. She was the founder of the Art Club at Washington High School in Fremont, Youth Advisor at the Fremont Cultural Arts Council, and the Art Director and Illustrator for Fremont's "Youth Today" newspaper. With a long list of accomplishments and activities that she has been involved in, Boudreau hopes to continue participating in programs benefiting young artists. She is an Art major aiming to earn her Bachelor of Arts degree.



Stacy De Jong, who graduated third in her class from Turlock Christian High School, is an aspiring forensic pathologist. Seeking a quality education at an institution close to home, De Jong was thrilled to find that CSU Stanislaus has a strong Forensic Science program. She plans to earn her Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Forensic Science.



Janine Fassler, a graduate of Ripon High School, is currently majoring in Biology. In high school, she was a cross country runner and a concert band member for four years. She also was the secretary and president of the speech and debate team. Fassler is considering veterinary medicine as a possible career path. After completing her Bachelor of Arts in Biology, Fassler would like to transfer to UC Davis to continue her studies in graduate school.



Ricardo Friaiz, who graduated from Manteca's East Union High School, is an English major. The aspiring teacher is a first-generation college student who hopes to continue his studies in graduate school.



Amanda Heinrichs, who said she has loved learning from a very young age, is working toward her Bachelor of Arts in English. A graduate of Fred C. Beyer High School in Modesto, Heinrichs is making plans to enter the field of editing and publishing.

At the top of the President's list of the most exciting things happening at CSU Stanislaus are 22 of the best and brightest freshmen from all over Northern California who demonstrate that the University is attracting the cream of the crop. They have brought the academic talent level to a new high as the first group of President's and Provost's Scholars, qualifying with high grade point averages at their respective high schools. The scholarships are the largest individual monetary awards ever bestowed at CSU Stanislaus, thanks to generous community donations.

Presidential Scholarships amount to \$12,500 per year for four years to cover tuition and fees, housing in the University's Residential Life Village, and assistance toward books and other expenses. This year's recipients included Nikki Boudreau of Fremont; Stacy De Jong of Turlock; Janine Fassler of Ripon; Ricardo Friaiz of Manteca; Amanda Heinrichs of Riverbank; Justine Keel of Oakdale; Grant Langlois of Concord; and Michele Meenk, Monica Vitorino, and Breeann Wright, all of Modesto.

Ashley Amirfar of Turlock; Devin Beggs of Modesto; Eric Berlinski of Turlock; Hannah Carlson of Madera; Jonathan Cockerill of Carson City, Nevada; Natalie Hammond of Stockton; Thomas Lawrence of Oakdale; Kelly McGhee of Tyler, Texas; John Powell of Modesto; Kara Price of Oakdale; and Jesse Puett and Marissa Puthuff, both of Turlock; each received a Provost's Scholarship totaling up to \$3,500 a year for four years.

Each President's Scholar has a grade point average of 3.8 or higher and scored 1350 or above on the SAT or 30 on the ACT. All recipients have also been accepted into the University's Honors Program. The Provost's Scholars have a 3.5 GPA or higher and scored 1250 or above on the SAT or 28 on the ACT.

"The scholarships are designed to recognize and reward students who have demonstrated the highest levels of academic achievement in school and to provide them the opportunity to continue their education at CSU Stanislaus," President Shirvani said. "We hope to expand the number of scholarships awarded in coming years, as more donors come forward in support of the University's efforts to recognize these very bright and hard-working students."

Many of those scholars are finding ways to enhance their academic experiences at CSU Stanislaus as participants in the Honors Program, which admitted 41 freshmen this fall. That brought the Honors Program's numbers to 125 students who receive some

form of scholarship support as the University's top group of scholars who focus on research and other academic challenges as part of their studies.

"It's exciting that this number of students allowed the program to offer two sections of Honors classes," said Dr. Marjorie Jaasma, Acting Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Those at the top of the academic performance charts have lots of company this year as more students choose CSU Stanislaus.

Enrollment Grows

The University's variety of academic programs in six colleges and a full array of classes attracted another record number of new students this fall, topped by the largest-ever freshman class of 947 and nearly 1,000 transfer students. Over the past five years, the freshman ranks at CSU Stanislaus have increased by 75 percent and overall enrollment has climbed to 8,374. Graduate school numbers were up by 21 percent this fall.

"Our assessment program assures that we continuously improve student learning and raise the bar in our expectations of the business education experience at CSU Stanislaus. Our graduates are acquiring the tools which enable them to deal with difficult ethical dilemmas in business and in their daily lives."

-Dr. Amin Elmallah, Interim Dean



Justine Keel, an Oakdale High School graduate who is now majoring in Social Sciences with a concentration in International Relations, wants to fulfill her dream of becoming an international journalist. As one who loves writing,

Keel would like to write for publications like the New York Times or TIME magazine. Whether reporting news or writing editorials, Keel said she is set on providing what she calls "solid information" for readers through her career in journalism. Keel is also considering becoming an ambassador or interpreter for the United Nations. Her volunteer activities within her community along with participation in her high school's Model United Nations have inspired her to keep her options open.



Grant Langlois, who graduated from Northgate High School in Walnut Creek, is an aspiring criminologist. His fascination with analyzing and interpreting data to solve crime and his

volunteer experience with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department as an Explorer, have inspired Langlois to major in Criminal Justice with a Forensic Science concentration. He plans to graduate in 2010 with his Bachelor of Science degree.



Michele Meenk, a Big Valley Christian High School of Modesto graduate, has always had a desire to help people. She plans to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. Her philosophy is that helping animals, which are the companions

of those who own them, is helping people. Meenk is also eager to participate in the music program at CSU Stanislaus as she pursues her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She is a member of the Opus Handbell Ensemble and leader of a band called "Fusion." She has also played baritone saxophone with the Modesto Band of Stanislaus County.



Monica Vitorino, an English major at CSU Stanislaus, graduated from Fred C. Beyer High School in Modesto.

She wants to pursue a single subject credential so that she can teach junior high or high school English. Describing teaching as an appealing profession, Vitorino hopes to share her passion for and knowledge of the English language with others. She is an active member of both her community and former high school and a nominee for "Who's Who Among American High School Students" in 2003-04.



Breeann Wright, a Psychology major from Modesto with a minor in Music at CSU Stanislaus, is described as a young woman with many talents and passions. She enjoys creative writing, studying theology, singing, and playing

the piano. Her career goal is to become a pastor and an accomplished author. Wright has plans to attend a seminary after completing her Bachelor of Arts in 2009.

PROVOST'S SCHOLARS



Ashley Amirfar, who graduated from Pitman High School in Turlock, is an aspiring school counselor and is considering a major in Child Development. She is a first-generation college student whose parents are from an Assyrian and Portuguese ethnic background. Amirfar played tennis, basketball, softball, and soccer at Pitman. She also participated in after-school community service activities. Amirfar coached basketball at a church for four years and taught religious education courses to junior high students. She would like to continue reaching out to people in her community while continuing her studies.



Devin Beggs, who is seeking a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, graduated from Fred C. Beyer High School in Modesto. He has plans to earn a Ph.D. in English so that he can teach the subject at the college level. Beggs enjoys learning about different subjects and is a talented musician. He plays the piano, bass guitar and drums in two musical groups. His band "The Evening News" recently won the Best P3 (Rock-Pop, Punk-Pop, Power-Pop) award at the annual Modesto Area Music Association awards. Beggs is currently in the University's Honors Program, continuing his intellectual endeavors.



Eric Berlinski, a Pitman High School graduate from Turlock, is currently majoring in both Biology and Psychology. He hopes to attend medical school and is considering Stanford University and UC San Francisco. Berlinski would like to become a psychiatrist and live in the Silicon Valley.



Hanna Carlson, an aspiring businesswoman, is currently majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management. A 4.0 student since she started school, Carlson plans to stay busy both academically and socially. She will join on-campus organizations to make the best of her educational experience. A Madera High School graduate, Carlson said she would like to open an inn and a used bookstore after she completes her degree.



Jonathan Cockerill, a member of the CSU Stanislaus golf team, graduated from Carson City-Nevada High School. He is majoring in Business. An active golfer since he was seven, Cockerill would like to get involved in a career that has something to do with his favorite sport.



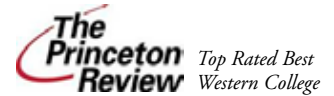
Natalie Hammond, a graduate of Middle College High School in Stockton and an active dancer, is considering a major in Criminal Justice or Psychology. She is an aspiring investigative profiler and is willing to work hard to make it in the competitive field.

"Our growing enrollment is an indication that California State University, Stanislaus is meeting the higher education needs of many students from all over the state," President Shirvani said. "Our goal is to do whatever it takes to improve the low college-going rates of students in the Central Valley."

Increasing numbers of Latino students from Stanislaus, Merced, and San Joaquin counties, areas that contribute 75 percent of the University's enrollment, are also a clear indicator that CSU Stanislaus is reaching out to serve the region's diverse population. Nearly 40 percent of the freshmen students are of Latino ethnicity at the University which qualifies for a federal designation as an Hispanic-Serving Institution with 28 percent Chicano enrollment.

University named Best in the West

That students find CSU Stanislaus an appealing choice became more evident this year when they voted the University as one of the best schools for academic excellence in the West in The Princeton Review. The first-ever ranking in the well respected college report was based on student opinion data gathered from 656 colleges and universities.



President Shirvani credits the high ranking to an outstanding faculty and staff who are committed to providing high quality education for students who have responded by attaining their graduation goals in increasing numbers. In fact, the University was one of 12 campuses spotlighted in a national study by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities for creating a campus culture that has helped improve student success and resulted in higher than predicted graduation rates.

Students excel

CSU Stanislaus students have distinguished themselves in a number of areas, indicating that they can match skills with the best in the country. Some standout examples include:

- A student team from the College of Business Administration edged Cornell University in a lively academic battle to claim a national title during the Human Resource Management competition held in Washington, D.C. in June 2006. Team member Crystal Jack earlier received the award as the nation's top HR student.
- Owen McIntosh, a vocal performance major in the Music program, was one of 55 singers in the world chosen earlier this year to perform with a world-class ensemble in venues across Europe during the summer.
- Andrew LaFlamme, a graduate student in the Masters of Business Administration program, was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger earlier this year as the new student trustee on the California State University Board of Trustees.

Reaching out to the community

Faculty like Dr. John Garcia, a Professor of Social Work and Co-Director of the University's Public Policy Center, typify the "Best in the West" mold of the hundreds at CSU Stanislaus who teach as well as reach out into the community. In addition to his teaching and research work with the Policy Center, Garcia is involved in the planning for a homeless resource center that is part of a CSU Stanislaus grant program. He still finds time to indulge his love for soccer in the community, coaching three winning teams.

That kind of dedication to community service by the University's faculty and staff has not gone unrecognized at the national level. CSU Stanislaus was recently named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for General Community Service by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

President Shirvani has focused on forging a closer relationship with the Turlock community, emphasizing that the time has come for CSU Stanislaus and the City to consecrate the college town marriage.

Shirvani points out that students have clocked more than 70,000 volunteer hours through courses and programs like the homeless center Community Action and Resources for Empowerment and Sustainability Program (CARES) project aimed at helping rehabilitate many of those living on the streets. CSU Stanislaus staff members like Julie Fox, Director of Service Learning, have dedicated themselves to linking student scholarship with community service.

President Shirvani envisions the University doing much more to solidify the community partnership by leveraging the CSU Stanislaus economic engine that has an impact of nearly \$400 million annually on the region.

Plans are on the table for a research program and park as part of a collaboration with the City as well as creation of a film and television school, possibly locating it in downtown Turlock where hundreds of students would attend classes and boost the local economy. Other new academic programs on the way include food science and technology, nutrition, speech pathology, environmental ecology, and genetic counseling.

Structural changes

Fully accredited academic programs with a reputation for excellence will continue to be a University trademark as the transition is made this year in four new colleges established from the former College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences. The long established College of Education and College of Business Administration have both focused on partnerships in the community that build support for student programs.

“The College of Business Administration has been acknowledged as a leader in the assessment of student learning in receiving a national assessment award for two years in a row,” said Dr. Amin Elmallah, Interim Dean, who orchestrated the successful accreditation of the College in 2003. In the College of Education, preparation continues for implementation of an educational doctorate (Ed.D.) program by fall 2008. State legislation cleared the way for CSU Stanislaus to be one of six CSU campuses to offer a doctorate program for the first time.

“Our University is demonstrating that it has developed a growing reputation as being one of the best in the West. CSU Stanislaus is a leader in providing access to higher education for a diverse population of students who are determined to experience the American dream of a college degree and the opportunities that come with it.”

-Hamid Shirvani, President

than ground-level parking spaces. Also on the “to do” list is the addition of another student housing unit that would double the size of the current 650-bed residential life complex.

President Shirvani is encouraging citizens of the region to join CSU Stanislaus in its efforts to provide the Central Valley with excellence, opportunity, and promise. In exchange, he vows that the bar will continue to be raised to new levels at the University.

- story by Don Hansen and Nahrin Mirzazadeh



Thomas Lawrence, an Oakdale High School graduate, is an aspiring sports writer. He is currently majoring in Communications with a minor in Journalism. He is also considering a minor in Political Science because of a strong interest in political writing. Having successfully overcome what he calls many “social and academic challenges” in his life, Lawrence is working to fulfill his dream of someday becoming a sports writer for the Boston Globe.



Kelly McGhee, who recently moved to California from Texas, graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler, Texas. After taking a year off from school, McGhee is back and more determined than ever to reach her goal of completing medical school. She is majoring in Biology and would like to minor in Psychology and Chemistry. McGhee is currently focusing on becoming an emergency room doctor.



John Powell, a Fred C. Beyer High School graduate from Modesto, is currently considering a career in mathematics, teaching, and architecture. After completing his bachelor’s degree in one of those fields, Powell plans to pursue his master’s degree.



Kara Price, like many of her peers, is in the process of deciding what career she would like to pursue. She is currently considering teaching at the primary level and administrative level work. A former publicist for her senior class, Price is a lifetime member of the California Scholarship Federation. She graduated from Oakdale High School.



Jesse Puett, whose parents are both CSU Stanislaus alumni, graduated from Pitman High School in Turlock. He is majoring in Mathematics and plans to continue his studies toward an eventual goal of earning a Ph.D. Puett enjoys computer animation and would like to someday work for a company like Pixar.



Marissa Puthuff, a Turlock High School graduate and aspiring politician, is studying Political Science and considering a minor in architecture. She hopes to enter a career that involves legislation and government and will pursue graduate school upon completion of her Bachelor of Arts degree. Puthuff was active at THS, playing softball, soccer, basketball, and volleyball. Her ultimate goal and desire is to run for Congress.

Geology professor thrives on digging through the dirt for fossils



Geology Professor Julia Sankey



When California State University, Stanislaus Geology Department Professor Dr. Julia Sankey and her students crawl through the dirt and find egg shells, they celebrate.

Such finds stir excitement because these egg shells are not recent breakfast trash, but fragments of dinosaur eggs left behind some 65 million years ago. Sankey's research focuses on large numbers of fossils such as tiny bones and teeth from small dinosaurs, lizards, mammals, salamanders, fish, and other prehistoric creatures. She and her students also unearth material on fossil digs in the Western United States and Canada that provide clues on climate changes and other environmental occurrences such as meteor hits that led to the extinction of dinosaurs during a prehistoric geological period.

"I love exploring wild areas and looking for fossil dinosaurs, mammals, and other animals that have never been found before," Sankey said. "I'm always thinking that I'll make the find of a lifetime when I go out in the field, that just beyond the next hill will be a dinosaur nest with embryos or a skull of a dinosaur eroding from the ground."

Much of what Sankey and her students have discovered so far is documented in a newly-published book she co-edited in a team project with other geologists titled "The Unique Role of Vertebrate Microfossil Assemblages in Paleocology and Paleobiology." The book attempts to reconstruct what ecosystems on earth were like some 75 million years ago when dinosaurs of all sizes roamed certain areas of the planet.

Being involved in the book project, which also addresses possible causes of the mass extinction of dinosaurs about 65 million years ago, is a big achievement for Sankey who revealed that she dropped out of high school in Santa Barbara when she was 16. Even then, it was evident that a science career was in her future as she joined an Earth Watch scientific expedition to study birds in Hawaii.

"I've always wanted to be a scientist," Sankey said. "When I was 13, I loved going through four big boxes of National Geographic at my grandmother's house."

Sankey resumed her academic pursuits at Santa Barbara City College, attended UC Santa Barbara, and then earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Albertson College in Idaho where an interest in collecting fossils was nurtured under the direction of geology professor Mary Higdum. Acknowledging that the thrill of fossil discoveries during field trips became "really addictive," Sankey went on to earn a master's degree from Northern Arizona University and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University.

Along the way and since arriving at CSU Stanislaus in 2003, Sankey has pressed on during 22 years of research that she has brought to her classes.



While she has personally done field trip research in Alberta, Canada, and North Dakota, Sankey now takes her CSU Stanislaus student field trip classes to Big Bend National Park in Texas where they have found a treasure trove of fossils and other prehistoric relics in recent years. A find by an undergraduate student during a 2003 field trip by Chadron State University students that Sankey was escorting convinced her that location had much more in its wide open spaces.

Ensuing trips with CSU Stanislaus students during Winter Term ventures to Big Bend have produced egg shells and teeth fragments from small dinosaurs – the duck-billed hadrosaurs, armored ankylosaurs – as well as meat-eaters such as an older relative of the infamous Tyrannosaurus rex and a few raptors that resemble those seen in the movie “Jurassic Park.” While those finds demonstrate that a variety of dinosaurs called the Texas location home, Sankey is hopeful that an upcoming field trip will locate a dinosaur nest in the still largely unexplored park.

In between trips, students have an abundance of fossils and other prehistoric items to study and file away for future academic research.

Discoveries of burned wood at the site have also raised indications that wildfires and climactic conditions may have heavily impacted the marshes that were dinosaur habitat, a possibility that Sankey noted will require more study and more trips to Texas.

“This kind of research is important because it gives us perspective about what is happening in the world today regarding climate changes related to global warming and cooling and why some species survive and others go extinct,” Sankey said.

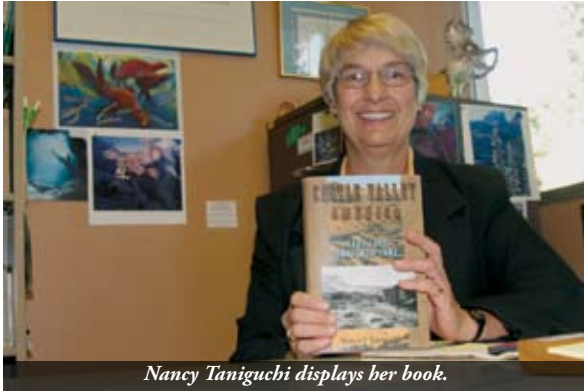
- story by Don Hansen



Sankey and students in Big Bend National Park.



History Professor Nancy Taniguchi named national award winner



Nancy Taniguchi displays her book.

Leadership in History Awards for her book that covers the historical events of Castle Valley, Utah, and their place in American history. Taniguchi won the “Best Book of the Year Award” from the Utah State Historical Society in 2005.

She received her national honor September 16 at the AASLH Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

Castle Valley, located in the eastern Utah counties of Carbon and Emery, is a rural, industrial enclave in a mostly desert environment. The region is known for its multi-ethnic communities and historic characters

such as Butch Cassidy, who stole its largest payroll, and Mother Jones, who helped organize workers against mining companies.

In her book, Taniguchi tells the story of the people of Castle Valley who experienced poverty, labor disputes, major mining disasters, and other challenges to build communities. It reveals how such hardships reflect the historical course of the nation’s growth as a whole.

During her 25 years of doing research for the book and the seven years of writing it, Taniguchi says she focused on integrating the history of the Utah region with global history because of her belief that many historical events occur at the same time and are interrelated. She feels the book demonstrates how local history can tell a larger story as it relates to United States history.

Taniguchi has been teaching and researching for 18 years at CSU Stanislaus and volunteers as an archivist for Peruvian Studies at the University while also pursuing an interest in local and CSU Stanislaus history. Taniguchi published her first book “Necessary Fraud: Progressive Reform and Utah Coal (Legal History of North America)” in 1996 and is currently working on two books about the history of California.

CSU Stanislaus History Professor, Dr. Nancy Taniguchi, received a national honor from the American Association for State and Local History for her book titled “Castle Valley America.”

The national organization announced that Taniguchi received an Award of Merit from the AASLH

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 Corps 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 Corps volunteer who taught Afghans English, learned about their culture, and assimilated to his foreign surroundings.

Sumser’s 18-month quest as a Peace Corps 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.”

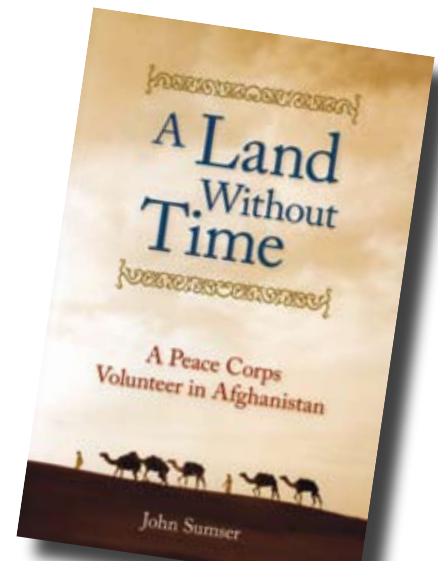
Sumser said his book is the first of its kind, since it offers a humane, sometimes humorous and significant insight into a culture that was on the verge of launching a new age of terrorism. The book also attempts to document the country’s transition

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 Web site at: www.sumserbooks.com.



Jim Bowen receives Hall of Excellence honor at alma mater



Dr. Jim Bowen, a member of the California State University, Stanislaus faculty since 1970 who coached the Warrior baseball team through its glory days, added to his long list of honors when he was inducted into the Hall of Excellence at his alma mater, the University of Northern Iowa.

The University held the induction ceremony at its Cedar Falls campus on October 21 to recognize Bowen and 11 other Northern Iowa greats with bronze busts to be displayed in the Hall of Excellence for the School of Health, Physical Education and Leisure Services in the Wellness/Recreation Center. Bowen was recognized for his academic and athletic administrative accomplishments as well as his Physical Education teaching and coaching achievements.

Bowen played baseball for four years at Northern Iowa and basketball his freshman year, earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in Physical Education and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

"UNI prepared me well, and I still have a high regard for my professors and coaches there," Bowen said.

In addition to his distinguished P.E. Department teaching career at CSU Stanislaus that he will conclude this year, Bowen guided the Warrior baseball teams to consecutive national championships in 1976 and 1977 and compiled a 639-585 record during his 25 years as head coach. He was inducted into the Warrior Athletic Hall of Fame at CSU Stanislaus in 2001.

"Jim Bowen will leave a legacy of professionalism in both the academic and athletic arenas," said Dr. J. Sue Fletcher, Chair of the Physical Education Department who attended the ceremony at Northern Iowa. "I consider Dr. Bowen to be both a mentor and a role model."

Professor's star research leads to prestigious recognition



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

A grant from the American Astronomical Society took De Vries to Prague, Czech Republic, in August where he presented 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. De Vries attended discussions that led to approval of a measure that officially declassified Pluto as a planet in the solar system, a decision De Vries believes was scientifically sound.

"It eliminates Pluto, which was pretty much the oddball of the solar system anyway," De Vries said.

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 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.

in Memoriam

Raymond L. Zarling, Professor of Computer Science since 1983, died October 4, 2006, at his home after a lengthy illness. A graduate of Luther College, he received a master's degree from the University of Michigan and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

Joanna S. Ploeger, who joined the Communication Studies faculty in 2005, died July 19, 2006, in Berkeley from cancer. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Georgia.



GROWING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALUMNI

Dear fellow alums,

I am pleased to share with you that our alma mater continues to make great strides at remarkable speeds – and that our alumni program will enjoy a boost from the University’s impressive transformation.

The California State University Stanislaus Alumni Association, as we’ve known it, has been updated and streamlined to reach and serve a broader population of alums. Like some established institutions of higher education, where all graduates are considered members of the alumni association, CSU Stanislaus Alumni Board of Directors voted to move from a fee-based alumni membership model to an all-inclusive model that has no membership fees and requires no governing board of directors.

Each of us will receive benefits and services that are intended to better connect us with the campus that helped us become degree-holders. Over this academic year, I encourage you to visit with faculty, staff, and students. They

will reach out to Stanislaus graduates and invite us to participate in our alma mater’s makeover. For instance, consider joining the Alumni Donor Society. Participation in the Society sends a strong vote of confidence from alumni about the extraordinary education they received and how supportive they are of current students.

Join me in helping our alumni program keep pace with the University’s positive growth. Get involved and give back!

Proud to be a Warrior,

- Todd Barton



Todd Barton, '98



Michele Lahti

University appoints interim Alumni Relations and Annual Giving Director

Michele Lahti has been appointed Interim Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. A CSU alumna, Michele has more than five years experience in higher education. She holds a master’s degree in Communication and currently is working toward a Doctorate in Education at the University of the Pacific.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS ALUMNI DONOR SOCIETY

ALUMNI GIVING ONLINE

On our secure Web site, alumni of California State University, Stanislaus can make a gift using Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express. Give at www.csustan.edu through the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving.

www.csustan.edu



COME TOGETHER ...

All graduates can become active participants in the Alumni Donor Society and realize the benefits and joys of giving back while increasing the value of their degree and the prestige of their alma mater.



ALUMNI DONOR SOCIETY

Enhancing the Stanislaus Student Experience

The Alumni Donor Society plays an important role in securing funds that help California State University, Stanislaus offer students a full complement of programs and services. Participation in the Society ensures that important needs, such as scholarships, library books and lab equipment, are met. Please join the Alumni Donor Society and make a difference in the Stanislaus student experience.

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THE ALUMNI CLUB - A BENEFIT TO ALL ALUMNI

- Career and Educational Networking Opportunities
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so-ci-e-ty (sə-sī'ə-tē) *n.* **1. b.** A group of human beings broadly distinguished from other groups by mutual interests, participation in characteristic relationships, shared institutions, and a common culture.

For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at (209) 667-3131.



Degree opened door for Turlock Chamber CEO's career advancement

The degree from California State University, Stanislaus is displayed on her office wall along with other certifications and awards, but Sharon Silva feels strongly that the Bachelor of Arts document also served as a key that unlocked the door to her career success.

"It opened another whole world for me," said Silva, who received her degree in Organizational Communications in 1991 and serves as President and CEO of the Turlock Chamber of Commerce and Turlock Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Not getting the job she holds now when she initially applied for it a number of years ago served as a wake-up call for Silva. She has always been heavily involved in her community. Silva was a mother, had experience with a family business and in the banking industry, and served on the Turlock Elementary District School Board.

Informed that she was not qualified for the Chamber job because of her lack of a college degree, Silva decided to tag along with her daughter, Tamra, and try a night class at Modesto Junior College. That experience as a re-entry student at the age of 35 raised a realization of the career "roadblocks" she was facing and ignited a passion for education in Silva that she has continued to pursue. After completing her associate degree in three years at MJC while taking classes part-time, she finished the bachelor's degree program at CSU Stanislaus in two years.

Silva has since gone on to earn the equivalents of a pair of master's degrees – the first, a certification in historical preservation and non-profit management, and a second certificate in non-profit organization management through the University of Arizona, a four-year program that she completed in 18 months in 2004.



Sharon Silva proudly displays her CSU Stanislaus degree on the wall of her office at the Turlock Chamber of Commerce.

Center before answering the call to a community need and taking on the director's post of the Turlock Downtown Association.

Stepping into that job at a time when Turlock's downtown district was facing serious redevelopment and renovation needs turned into an eight-year venture. She directed downtown businesses through a transformation that saw what had been described as a dying commercial area revived with a mix of longtime merchants and new shops. Silva orchestrated formation of the Property Business Improvement District to implement street, building facade, and landscaping additions, serving as its director during a time when the downtown vacancy rate shrank from 22 percent to 1 percent.

Ironically, the Turlock Chamber approached Silva in 2000 with an offer to take over as President and CEO. She accepted on the condition that she could temporarily maintain direction of the Downtown Association, Improvement District, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau at the same time. A separate director has since taken over the Downtown Association. Silva said her CSU Stanislaus education in Organizational Communications and mentoring by Professor Fred Hilpert and other Communication Studies faculty had helped prepare her to do the job juggling with a "can do" attitude.

Silva takes great pride in her eight-year role as leader of the Chamber, which she calls the voice of the Turlock business community. Her dedication to the community has been recognized with a number of awards along the way.

"I was taught by my parents that what you give is what you get back," Silva said of her involvement in a long list of community projects and causes. "Education has helped me stick to my goals and complete them, and to take that knowledge and accomplish something with it."

- story by Don Hansen

Grad Wendy Habeeb named Stanislaus County Teacher of the Year



California State University, Stanislaus graduate Wendy Habeeb, '89 Mathematics, who has demonstrated a skill for helping Central Catholic High School of Modesto students excel at mathematics, was named Stanislaus County

High School Teacher of the Year at a May 2 Modesto Rotary luncheon.

Habeeb, who has taught for 17 years and currently teaches Algebra and Resource Mathematics, said that teaching is her passion.

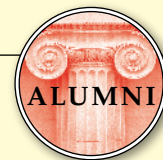
"I love helping young people love life, and of course, mathematics," Habeeb said. "Reaching the whole body and mind of each and every one of my students is what teaching is all about. I give my students not only the academic skills

needed to leave my room to be successful, but the confidence to go out in the world and try math."

Getting to know her students as individuals is an approach Habeeb said has helped many of them discover a formula for success. In addition to making herself available before, during, and after school, she engages students outside the classroom, helping them design and build floats, plan proms, and fundraise for various events.

Central Catholic Principal Melissa Bengston said Habeeb's classroom is a testament to her excellence.

"Her walls are covered with student projects; she uses project-based learning the way it was intended; and she utilizes media, including television, to motivate her students and put them at ease," Bengston said. "She works hard every day to relieve the stress of mathematics from the lives of most of our students (and their parents). Students know she cares and truly has their best interests at heart."



Class Notes

70's

Jerry Richichi, '70 BA Music, retired this year as Band Manager and Assistant Conductor of the Modesto Band of Stanislaus County. The former school band teacher has been involved with the MoBand since 1977 and is credited with helping to make the musicians an outstanding group of performers. The band performed annually during summer concerts at Modesto's Graceada Park. He taught for 33 years at schools in Manteca, Newman, and Modesto.

Martin Petersen, '72 MA, who will retire as Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools at the end of 2006, will have the Office of Education's new downtown event center in Modesto named in his honor. The Stanislaus County Board of Education announced earlier this year that the just-completed facility will be named the Martin G. Petersen Event Center. The building will include a large conference room that seats 500 and two small conference rooms. In education since 1961, Petersen has served as Superintendent for 15 years.

Sandy Sing, '72 BA Liberal Studies, who teaches in the Turlock Unified School District, serves on the 2006-07 Scholastic Teacher Advisory Board, and the Phi Delta Kappa Board, was listed in Who's Who Among America's Teachers in 2005-06, and is a consultant for Crayola.

Kirk Sivertsen, '74 BA Fine Arts, is teaching cartooning art at Cypress and Fullerton Community Colleges in Orange County. A master craftsman in cartooning and cutting-edge storyboarding, Sivertsen previously worked in sales and then the premium promotions industry, which designs toys for fast-food kids meals. He also teaches classes on his specialty in Garden Grove and Fountain Valley.

Linda J. Baugh, '75 BA Speech Communications, is President of American Career Executives in Phoenix, Arizona, a firm which she founded that assists people in finding career success. She serves on Arizona's Employment Agency Advisory Council and the Arizona Career Development Association. Baugh's articles have appeared in the Wall Street Journal

and she co-authored a book in 2004 titled "Coaching for the New Century."

Tony Agbayani, '78 BA Political Science, was named a commissioner for San Joaquin County Superior Court in March 2006. The first person of Filipino descent to serve as a court officer in the county, he puts on the traditional black robe each day to help people sort out their small-claims disputes, decide traffic infractions, and perform civil marriages. The father of nine children finished law school at UC Davis, served nine years in the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office, and went into a private defense practice before being named a commissioner.

Stephanie Moreno, '78 BA Social Science, became Calaveras County Director of Community Development in May 2006. A former resident of Amador County where she served on the Board of Supervisors for six years, Moreno came to Calaveras County from Monterey County where she was a management analyst with the Division of Child Protective Services.

80's

Dave Ennis, '81 BA Political Science, concluded a 39-year career at the Defense Distribution Depot in Lathrop on August 3 when he retired as the San Joaquin Valley facility's deputy commander. He started at the Depot as a manual laborer, dropped out of college twice and eventually completed his bachelor's and master's degrees while attending college part-time in the evenings to advance to the top civilian post at the facility which employs more than 1,500 people. Ennis served on the Escalon City Council from 1978-2002, including four years as mayor.

80's continued on next page

Teacher Credential graduate featured in NPR Death Valley school program



Leslie (Baganha) Rowan, 2001 Teacher Credential graduate, was featured in a National Public Radio series on one-room schoolhouses that aired nationally in May.

New York Times best-selling author and NPR producer and reporter Neenah Ellis spent a month in Death Valley National Park where Rowan taught at Death Valley Elementary School and also lived in a nearby "teachage" residence. Only 11 students attended the tiny school at Furnace Creek in Death Valley when the story was done last spring.

The hottest, driest, and lowest place in America, Death Valley is in an isolated part of California where temperatures soar to near 130 degrees in the summer. That did not stop Rowan from taking the teaching assignment there during the traditional school year. She has thrived on teaching at small schools in the region east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Titled "Students Blossom in the Desert," the NPR program profiled how Rowan successfully worked with a 5-year-old kindergarten girl who had speech and learning disabilities. Rowan said she was able to help her little student advance to the first-grade level through exhausting perseverance, community involvement, and commitment to the child's social welfare and education.

Since completing her teaching credential at CSU Stanislaus, Rowan's professional journey has taken her through one-room school houses and tiny, rural schools east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.



John Lazar, '81
BA Organizational
Communications &
Political Science, defeated

challengers **Kurt Vander Weide**, '90
BS Biological Sciences & '96 MA Public
Administration, and DJ Fransen in the
November 7 election for Turlock Mayor.
Lazar and Vander Weide are both members
of the Turlock City Council. The Turlock
City Council election included candidates
Amy Bublak, '88 BA Sociology, now a
Modesto Police Department officer, and
CSU Stanislaus graduate student Jeffery J.
Hillberg.

Kevin Shand, '81 BA Organizational
Communication, was named Executive
Director of the Colorado Film Commission in
August 2006. Before moving to Colorado in
2005 and joining the agency in December,
Shand served as the Stanislaus County Film
Commissioner. He was a member of the
CSU Stanislaus Alumni Association Board
of Directors from 1994-99, serving as board
president in 1997-98.

Ivan Clay, '82 Psychology, was appointed
warden at Sierra Conservation Center in
Tuolumne County in June 2006. During
his 25-year career, Clay has worked at four
prisons – Deuel Vocational Institute in Tracy,
Mule Creek State Prison in Lone, the former

Northern California Women's Facility in
Stockton, and Sierra Conservation Center.
He has served in a variety of jobs, including
counselor, correctional officer, sergeant,
lieutenant, captain, associate warden, and
chief deputy warden.

Eric Rasmussen, '84 BA Political Science,
is founder and managing partner of
Holloway, Rasmussen & Molodanof, a
Sacramento lobbying firm. The firm focuses
on traditional state lobbying but also
caters to local governments in the greater
Sacramento region. Rasmussen was recently
involved in the successful attainment of
entitlements from the City of Sacramento
to build the largest building ever in
Sacramento, the twin 54-story "Towers on
the Capitol Mall," now under construction.
His firm was listed as one of the 100 fastest
growing companies in the region by the
Sacramento Business Journal in 2004.

Robert Baker, '87 BS Business
Administration, was named a senior vice
president—marketing/sales director, at
County Bank, headquartered in Merced.
Having worked in the banking industry for
more than 20 years, Baker joined County
Bank in 1999 as the branch manager of its
downtown Modesto office.

90's

Cindy Minter, '93 MPA Business
Administration, was named new technology
director of the Tracy Unified School
District in July 2006. Minter previously
served as assistant general manager for
information technology at the Modesto
Irrigation District. She has also managed the
computer network for the Stanislaus County
Office of Education and taught computer
courses at Modesto Junior College.

Karma Lacy Souza, '94 CRED Education,
operates Kairos Child Development Center
in Modesto. She is President of the Board
of Directors at the Christian preschool
founded by her mother in 1997 where she
supervises six teachers. She has also taught
for the Empire School District.

David Santino, '95 BS Biological Sciences,
and **Heidi Santino** (Tompkins-Teunissen),
'96 Biological Sciences, celebrated their
10th anniversary in June 2006. They met
at CSU Stanislaus and were the first couple
married at Village Lake on the campus.
"Ten years later, being married where we
met and fell in love means so much to us,"
Heidi Santino said. David works in enology
research at E&J Gallo winery and Heidi is
Executive Director of the Stanislaus County
Health Services Agency Foundation.

90's continued on page 27

Martha Connor, Constance Tate named alumni award winners

A pair of California State University,
Stanislaus graduates who have distinguished
themselves in the education community
received the 2005 Alumni awards during the
University's June 3 Commencement.

Martha Connor of Modesto, a former higher
education administrator who has devoted
the last 15 years of her career to 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.

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 participant in a variety of
civic and national organizations.



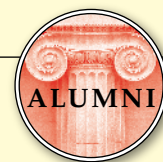
Martha Connor



Connie Tate

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.

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.



Child star and CSU Stanislaus alumna passed up fame to teach

It has been exactly 20 years since Carrie Henn-Kutcher's debut as space orphan "Newt" in the Academy Award-winning film "Aliens."

The California State University, Stanislaus alumna and graduate student was nine years old when she starred in one of the 1980's top science fiction thrillers alongside Hollywood's best actresses and actors, Sigourney Weaver, Michael Biehn, Bill Paxton, and others. All the glamour and bliss of Hollywood, however, was not strong enough to entice Henn-Kutcher, who gave up a career in acting to do what she loves, teaching.

"I love being in the classroom," said Henn-Kutcher, now a fourth grade teacher at a Merced-area school (she requested that the specific school not be named). "I love seeing the kids' eyes light up when learning new things and being the person who is giving them the information to make that happen."

Henn-Kutcher, born in Florida but raised in Lakenheath, England, where her father was stationed in the Air Force, has a childhood story like none other.

It was just another ordinary day for nine year-old Henn-Kutcher who sat in the cafeteria of her school in Lakenheath with friends when she received an offer she could not refuse at the time.

"I was eating lunch when casting directors approached me," Henn-Kutcher said. "My face fit the profile, so they called my parents that evening and for the rest of the third grade I did auditions until they called and told me I got the part."

Famous Hollywood director, producer, and screenwriter James Cameron, known for his movies "The Terminator" and "Titanic," was searching for a blonde, blue-eyed girl to play the role of space orphan "Newt" in his movie "Aliens," a sequel to the famous 1979 movie "Alien." The 1986 movie, shot in England at Pinewood Studios with a budget of \$18 million, was a tremendous success. "Aliens" was nominated for seven Academy Awards, winning two.

Henn-Kutcher, who had no previous acting experience, was praised for her performance and earned the Saturn Award for Best Performance by a Younger Actor. The Saturn Award is presented annually by the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films to honor the top works in science fiction, fantasy, and horror in film, television, and home video.

Even after her acting success, Henn-Kutcher still wanted to follow her dream of teaching.

"I have always wanted to teach," Henn-Kutcher said. "I've always had amazing teachers who inspired me."

She began her quest to become a teacher in 1996, when she enrolled at CSU Stanislaus. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies in 2000 and received her multiple subject credential shortly after from Chapman University.

Henn-Kutcher is currently working on her Master of Arts degree in Education with an emphasis in School Administration at CSU Stanislaus and is now in her fifth year of teaching elementary school.

With vivid memories of what it was like to be an actress, Henn-Kutcher says she enjoys sharing her story with her students and brings scrapbooks to show pictures from her "Aliens" days.

"They [students] ask funny questions like 'did you get recess as an actress?' and laugh at pictures of me," Henn-Kutcher said.

What matters more to Henn-Kutcher than whether her students acknowledge her fame is that her students learn and live up to their full potential. One of Henn-Kutcher's greatest success stories is when one of her sixth grade students moved from a second-grade reading level to an eighth-grade reading level in just one year.

"It was such a big success," Henn-Kutcher said.

Henn-Kutcher, who hopes to excel in her career of teaching and someday become a principle, married Nathan Kutcher in July 2005 and resides in Merced County. She has no intentions of returning to Hollywood and enjoys the life she has today.

"Being in the limelight is just not me," Henn-Kutcher said. "If I had continued as an actress, I would not have the great life I have right now."

- story by Nahrin Mirzazadeh



Carrie Henn-Kutcher as Newt in "Aliens" (left) and today (above)

Alumna publishes fun children's health book

California State University, Stanislaus graduate and author Judy Slack, well aware that Americans are seeking ways to improve their health and the health of their children, has published a book addressing the problem of childhood obesity. She authored "Crunching Carrots, NOT Candy," published earlier this year.



Judy Slack

The picture book on nutrition for children, written and published in a bilingual format to help English and Spanish-speaking children and their parents, advocates a healthy lifestyle in an interactive way. Children are taught how to read a food label and distinguish between a serving of food and a helping of food. They are also introduced to healthy snacks and given sample meal ideas.



"Children like it," Slack said. "It's colorful and simple. They get the facts immediately."

The insightful book was recently accepted by the National Education Association to be featured in its magazine "NEA Today." NEA is the nation's largest professional employee organization committed to advancing the cause of public education.

A Northern California native who now resides in Denair, Slack earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts from CSU Stanislaus in 1985. She also has a graphic design certificate and multiple and single subject teaching credentials.

A self-described teacher at heart, Slack has taught children and adults in both private and public schools. Recently, Slack taught an English as a Second Language course at Turlock Adult School and participated in other school-related programs.

Emphasizing that she is committed to improving the lives of children through education, Slack said she is currently working on two more picture books.



From higher education to showbiz

It was Forrest from the Academy Award-winning film “Forrest Gump” who said, “Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you’re gonna get.” This now famous movie phrase would probably best describe all the unexpected twists and turns in the life of California State University, Stanislaus graduate Claudia Eastman, who has gone on to a thriving career in Hollywood.

A location scout and manager for films like “The Fast and Furious,” “Con Air,” and “Nothing to Lose” as well as many popular TV series such as “JAG,” “Numbers” and “Vanished,” Eastman said she never dreamed of being where she is today after graduating from CSU Stanislaus.

“I never imagined doing this,” Eastman said of her long and successful career in film location management.

When Eastman first enrolled as a Political Science major at what was then known as Stanislaus State College more than 30 years ago, she did not imagine herself living in Los Angeles and working 14- to 16-hour days as the person who translates the vision of some of Hollywood’s best writers, directors, and producers for a film scene into a viable and appropriate location. Eastman’s primary job as a location scout and manager is to find a suitable location for filming, negotiate deals with property owners and authorities, secure the location, and ensure that all goes smoothly during the production of the film or TV series.

Eastman’s latest project involvement for 20th Century Fox Television, “Vanished,” debuted August 21 and has been rated as one of the fall season’s best TV series. She was brought on board to be the location manager for 13 episodes by Director

and Executive Producer Mimi Leder. The Fox drama centers on the search for a senator’s wife who mysteriously vanishes in the State of Georgia. The intriguing series with many twists and turns is being filmed in different locations Eastman helps secure.

“I am proud of the ‘reservoir’ we shot on episode 3 of ‘Vanished,’” Eastman said. “It is actually a lake at the Whittier Narrows County Park (in Southern California), but because of the lushness surrounding the lake (Atlanta is very green), I really thought it worked well for the storyline.”

Although Eastman considers herself as one who is behind the scenes, she is part of the alluring world of show business as she interacts with directors, writers, producers, and sometimes the stars of the show. It is a world very different from the higher education career field Eastman originally pursued after earning her CSU Stanislaus degree.

Completing her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science at CSU Stanislaus in 1974, Eastman worked for political campaigns and began her graduate studies at San Jose State University, where she eventually earned her Master of Public Administration degree. After several years of working on the administrative side at various colleges and universities, Eastman decided to change careers.

Eastman was an advisor with New Student Orientation at San Jose State University, sitting through what she recalls as “just another meeting” when she experienced what she labels “an epiphany” and came to the realization that she

was not happy with what she was doing.

“I woke up the next morning, gave my notice, and within the month was at DeAnza College taking film and television classes,” Eastman said. “It would be easy to say the lure of Hollywood enticed me into this field but in reality nothing drew me. I have always been a behind-the-scenes person. That ‘behind-the-scenes’ experience, coupled with my education and my love of film somehow got me to move from my beloved Bay Area to the megalopolis of LA.”

Eastman declares that she loves what she does for a living today. The Redlands native who grew up in Los Gatos has no regrets about her decision.

Eastman also values her CSU Stanislaus education, noting that it taught her that “politics is part of everything.” Claudia says she enjoyed being involved in student government as the Associated Students Vice President and bonding with fellow students, staff, faculty, and administrators.

“My years at CSU Stanislaus were one of the fondest times of my life,” Eastman said. “My experiences at CSU Stanislaus were life experiences that taught me about working and learning to deal with all sorts of people.”

Living among Hollywood’s “who’s who,” Eastman is still an avid San Francisco Giants and 49ers fan who loves traveling, reading, and hiking. Eastman, whose partner of more than 10 years, William Cooley, is a retiree from show business, considers each day of work an “adventure.”

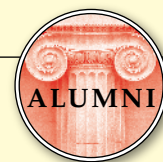
“My department is fun to be with,” Eastman said. “In locations, nothing is to be taken for granted so each day is an adventure. We often get to see things that are not open to the general public (underground tunnels, helipads on top of skyscrapers, aircraft carriers, offices in city hall, back-stages, power plants, etc.). That makes the job fun. Location scouting is about helping to tell the story visually and yet making the day work.”

- story by Nahrin Mirzazadeh



Claudia Eastman checks out an aircraft carrier and enjoys a vacation from show business in London.





00's

Julie Lino Mello, '95 BA Liberal Studies, gave birth to twins, Joshua, and Madelyn, in February 2005.

Mara (Dedini) Mullins, '00 BS Biological Sciences, and husband **Sean F. Mullins**, '99 BS Biological Sciences, celebrated the birth of their daughter and second child, Catherine Elizabeth, in July 2006. She has an older brother, Liam.

Sarah Thompson, '04 BS Business Administration, is a third-year law student at Suffolk University in Boston, where she was chosen to be profiled and recognized for her volunteer commitment. She spent time in New Orleans last spring helping to rebuild the legal community which was devastated by the September 2005 Hurricane Katrina. Having focused on pursuing a career in criminal defense work, Thompson is working in a clinical program representing indigent criminal defendants in the Boston Municipal Court. Thompson graduated summa cum laude from CSU Stanislaus and volunteered with the United Samaritan Foundation, a community hospice thrift store, and as a group leader for a religious education class.

Rhonda Greenlee, '96 Accounting, was elected Turlock City Clerk in 1996 and previously served the City as a management analyst.

Chad Hinrichsen, '97 BA Liberal Arts, teaches mathematics and physical education at Elliott Alternative Education Center in Modesto. He left his corporate career 12 years ago to go to college and get into teaching field.

LeeAnn M. Borman, '98 MPA, has reached the top of the scale in the Defense Department's International Security Program in Washington, D.C. She started in Washington as a presidential management intern and advanced through the ranks. Borman speaks highly of the education and practical preparation she received from CSU Stanislaus political science faculty Lawrence Giventer, Larry Hughes, J.J. Hendricks, and Ken Entin.

Mark Hendrickson, '98 BA Political Science, was named the first director of governmental affairs for Merced County in October 2006. He previously served as President of the Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce from 2004 to 2006 and has also held positions on the board of directors for the Merced College Foundation, the Merced County Economic Development Corp., and the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Sean F. Mullins, '99 BS Biological Sciences, graduated from USC School of Dentistry in May 2005, with a DDS degree. He currently works as a family practice dentist in Modesto.

Sharokina Shams, '99 BA Political Science, was hired as the new Modesto Bureau reporter for KCRA Channel 3 in Sacramento in August. Former editor of The Signal, the CSU Stanislaus student newspaper, Shams previously worked as a writer, editor, and finally field reporter at KSEE Channel 24 in Fresno.

Juliet M. Vance White, '95 BS Business Administration, and her husband, Bryan White, celebrated the birth of their son, Nicholas Coltrane, in February 2006.

CSU Stanislaus alumnus accepted into Air Force JAG Corps



Capt. Matthew Hughes

Captain Matthew Hughes, who earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from California State University, Stanislaus in 1990, was accepted into

the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) of the U.S. Air Force in May. JAG is the judicial branch of the nation's military.

Hughes, who earned his law degree from the University of Santa Clara in 1993, is currently the Assistant Staff Judge Advocate who advises the military on how to operate within applicable laws and regulations. He also prosecutes cases in the military justice system.

As a person who has always wanted to become a lawyer, Hughes is described by his wife, Rohini, as someone who cares deeply about doing the right thing and ensuring that justice, truth, and righteousness are at the heart of the judicial system.

Prior to his position as the Assistant Staff Judge Advocate, Hughes served in Baghdad, Iraq, as a contracting officer for the U.S. Air Force.

"I believe service is a duty of free people," Hughes said. "I served overseas and want to tell you how grateful freedom-loving people are for America's involvement in the war against global terrorism."

Hughes won a Company Grade Office of the Quarter Award for his time in Baghdad, Iraq, in 2005.

The Turlock native lives at Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City, South Dakota, with his wife and children, Simran, 9, and Jay, 3.

in Memoriam

Gary Lee Jacob, '70 BS Accounting, June 26, 2006.

Brenda Kay Klopqtek-Sullivan, '85 BA Business Administration, October 3, 2006.



Warrior soccer team players celebrate one of their many victories.

Warrior men's soccer team notches historic season

History was made by the California State University, Stanislaus men's soccer team this fall as the Warriors rolled to their first ever post-season playoff spot during an incredible season.

Finishing the year on a high note, the Warriors spun off an unbeaten streak of eight games, tying California Collegiate Athletic Association champion Sonoma State and then knocking off Humboldt State in their regular season finale with a double-overtime shootout triumph to capture the team's first trip to the conference playoffs. They battled CSU Los Angeles down to the wire in a semi-final match played at UC San Diego on October 27 before dropping a 2-1 thriller.

CSU Stanislaus finished its fantastic season with a 10-9-2 overall mark and 9-5-2 in conference play. Five members of the team earned All-CCAA honors. Senior defender and team captain Robbie Handy, who anchored a tough defense that allowed only 23 goals, was named to the Second Team. Sophomore forward Frank Coelho who led the team with seven goals, junior goalkeeper Mando Herrera, junior midfielder Kyle Lindquist, and freshman defender Artemio Arteaga earned honorable mention.

"I'm proud of our team and the season they had," Warrior coach Eric Mild said. "We turned things around from an early-season losing streak, and that is an indication of a team that has a lot of heart."



Bolton returns to coach Warrior women's soccer

Gabriel Bolton returned to the California State University, Stanislaus women's soccer team in August as the new head coach.

"We are extremely excited to have Gabriel Bolton back with the Warrior women's soccer team," said Director of Athletics Dr. Milton Richards. "Gabe did an excellent job with the Warriors in 2001, setting the foundation for the success the team has enjoyed the past few seasons. I am confident he will continue the winning tradition and our goal of challenging for a national championship."

Bolton helped direct the Warriors to an 11-8-1 overall finish in 2001. In the three years before his arrival, the program tallied just a 7-48-1 record. The Warriors were ranked the fourth-most improved women's soccer program in the nation by the NCAA at the conclusion of the year. He replaced Nicole Van Dyke who left to take the head coaching spot at her alma mater, CSU Bakersfield.

"I'm extremely excited to be back coaching at Cal State Stanislaus," Bolton said. "The administration has done a great job of supporting the women's soccer program, and I can't wait to be part of the team again. I would like to thank Dr. Richards for this opportunity and I look forward to many great years at the helm of Warrior women's soccer."

Bolton's team finished with a 7-11-2 record this fall.





University news pioneer Will Keener passes away

Will Keener, who pioneered the public and sports information roles at California State University, Stanislaus and served with the University for 31 years, passed away on September 23 after a long illness.

Keener joined the University in 1970 as a public affairs officer and campus photographer and was named the first full-time sports information director at CSU Stanislaus in 1989. He retired in 2001.

Actively involved in the community, Keener was the recipient of many community and professional awards. He was named Turlock's 1984 Citizen of the Year; spearheaded the establishment of the California Junior Miss program in Turlock; and served on the Turlock Parks and Recreation Commission, as Chair of the Sportsmen of Stanislaus Club, and twice as President of the Turlock 12:10 Lions Club.

Always proclaiming his pride at being a CSU Stanislaus Warrior and its biggest fan, Keener was a sideline fixture in coordinating, publicizing, and documenting athletic events. Warrior athletic teams and athletes enjoyed many successes during his tenure, and Keener was always there to applaud them. In 2000, he was named by his national peers as recipient of the College Sports Information Directors of America Bob Kenworthy Community Service "Good Person" award.

President Shirvani elected to athletic association group

California State University, Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani has been elected to serve as a member of the California Collegiate Athletic Association's (CCAA) President's/ Chancellor's Group (PCG) at the Conference's fall meetings in Los Angeles.

"I am pleased to be a member of this group and look forward to representing Cal State Stanislaus in all decisions concerning the CCAA conference," President Shirvani said. "Our University takes pride in the number of student-athlete scholars we have who have distinguished themselves in the classroom as well as in competition."

CSU Stanislaus ranked third in the 12-school conference for number of athletes earning CCAA All-Academic Team honors in 2005-06. The 35 Warrior athletes qualified for the select list with a grade point average of 3.4 or higher and a minimum of 24 semester units.

The PCG is composed of four campus presidents including Shirvani. Other members are: Dr. Michael Ortiz of Cal Poly, Pomona; Dr. James Rosser of CSU Los Angeles; and Dr. Rollin Richmond of Humboldt State. The group sets the agenda for all CCAA business and makes decisions on behalf of the Conference's Executive Council whenever necessary.

Wide open Warrior hoops team generates excitement

For basketball fans who like wide open offense and lots of scoring, the California State University, Stanislaus basketball team should fit the bill again this season.

The Warrior men's basketball team, one of the highest scoring clubs in the nation last year, held its first official practice on October 15 and opened the season in mid-November with a three-game tournament in Hawaii.

Head Coach Keith Larsen was understandably eager to get back on the court and pick up where the Warriors left off last season. The Warriors posted an improved 14-13 record and more importantly, won nine of the team's final 11 games.

The Warriors kept fans and opponents on the edge of their seats last year, playing a fast-tempo, free-shooting offense that rotated players in a fast-breaking platoon attack. The team ranked 24th in the nation in scoring and seventh overall in three-point baskets per game.

That made the Warriors fun and exciting to watch, keeping fans glued to the action and on their feet during most games that went down to the wire.

"A good reason why we finished so strong is because of the incredible support of the student body and local community making Warrior Arena one of the best home court advantages in all of (NCAA) Division II basketball," Larsen said.

This year's team is setting its sights on scoring at a high level while toughening the defensive production which kept the pressure on to roll up lots of points last season.

"Defensively, our goal is not to allow easy baskets like last year," Larsen said. "We understand that because of the pace we play at, there are more opportunities for the opponent to score. We want those opportunities to be difficult shots."

On paper, the team looks poised to do just that with three 6-foot-8 recruits and three solid defensive guards to compliment this year's returning seniors, guards Marcus Martinez, Rondell Howard, and Dominique Pennix, and forward Cameron Quick. Martinez is the reigning NCAA champion in free-throw percentage, and Quick is one of the best defensive players in the conference. The three seniors have been fixtures for the Warriors the last three seasons and are fired up in hopes of leading the Warriors to their first California Collegiate Athletic Association title and a spot in the NCAA post-season playoffs.

Senior guard Marcus Martinez led the NCAA in free-throw percentage last season.





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Naraghi gift boosts hall of science

As announced by Cal State Stanislaus President Hamid Shirvani in November, the Hashem Naraghi Trust has generously donated \$2 million to the University, representing the largest one-time cash gift ever received by CSU Stanislaus. In honor of the late Nora and Hashem Naraghi, who were prominent in agriculture and development throughout California's Central Valley, the new state-of-the-art science facility, scheduled for completion in 2007, will be named the Nora & Hashem Naraghi Hall of Science.

The new science building is a cutting edge, three-story 110,000 square-foot facility including new laboratories, classrooms, offices, and an observatory, serving the Biology, Chemistry, and

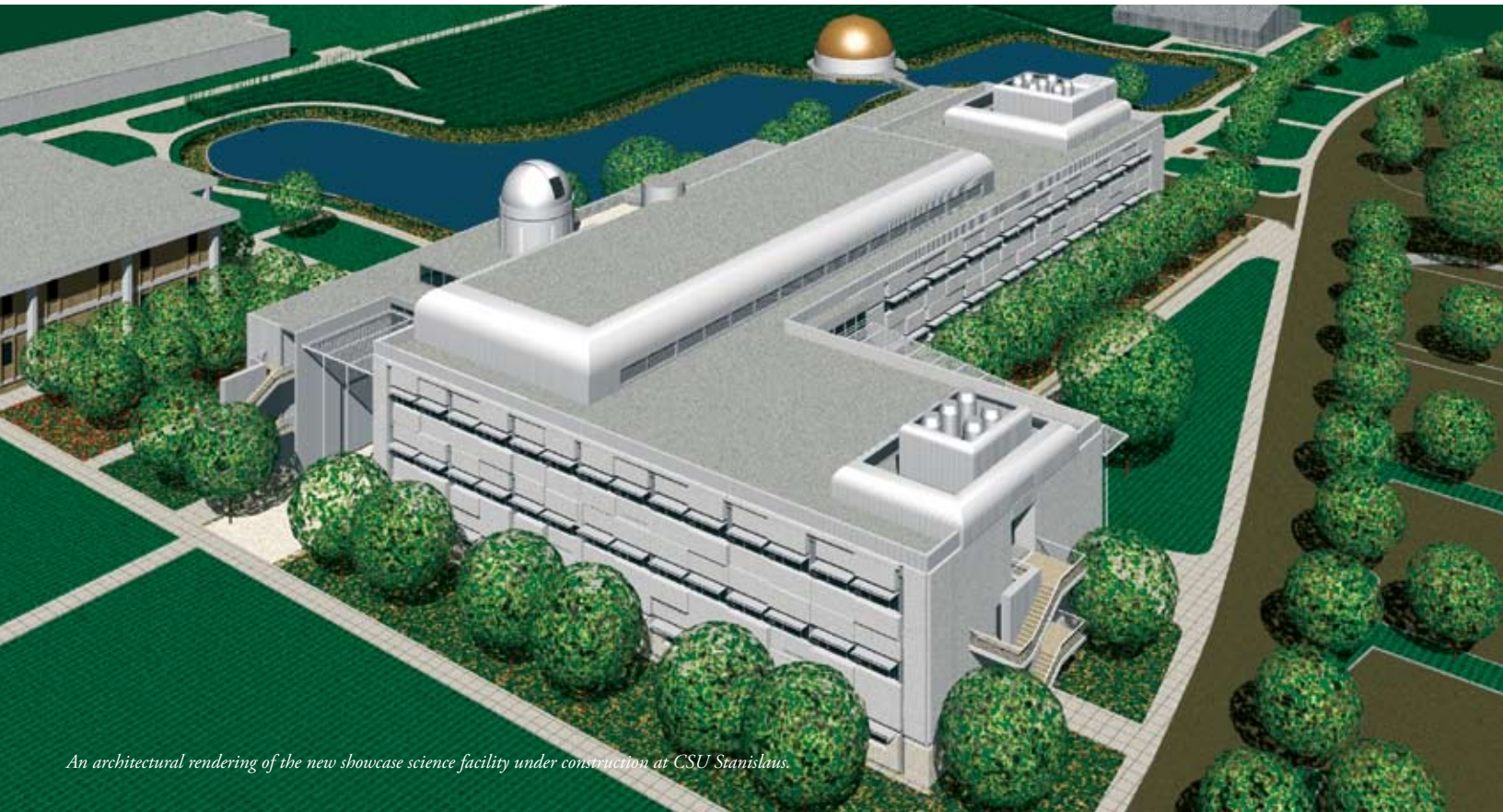
Physics/Geology Departments. It is scheduled for completion by fall 2007.

All three of the Naraghis' children -- Wendell Naraghi, Sharon Naraghi ('79), and Margaret Naraghi-Quattrin -- acknowledged, "Our dad welcomed Dr. Shirvani as the new leader of CSU Stanislaus. He was excited about his vision and rapid advancement of the University. The gift symbolizes his vote of confidence that under Dr. Shirvani's leadership, the science building will become a distinctive and nationally recognized Science Center, on the cutting-edge of important research and educational initiatives."

The gift honors the life's work of Nora and Hashem Naraghi, known for their

significant contributions to agriculture, entrepreneurship, and real estate development. Nora Naraghi passed away in 2003 and her husband, Hashem, passed in early 2006.

"We couldn't be happier to have such distinguished business leaders and outstanding citizens as Hashem and Nora Naraghi forever linked to our institution in such a monumental way," President Shirvani said. "The Nora and Hashem Naraghi Hall of Science will stand as a symbol of the tremendous generosity these two extraordinary individuals have contributed to our community. The University is blessed to be the recipient of their philanthropic support."



An architectural rendering of the new showcase science facility under construction at CSU Stanislaus.