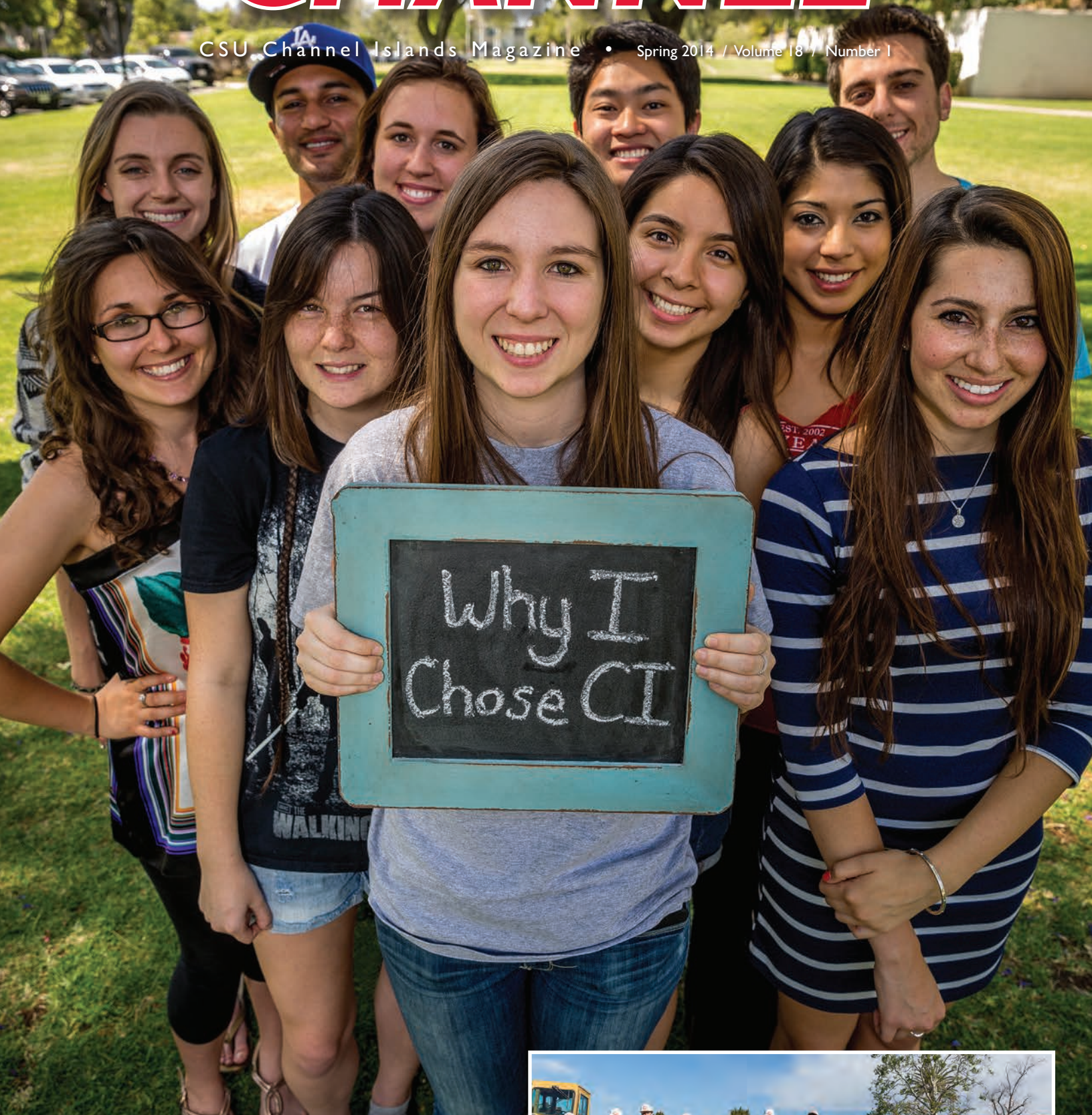


CHANNEL

CSU Channel Islands Magazine • Spring 2014 / Volume 18 / Number 1



**CI breaks ground for
Sierra Hall** ▶ Page 17



Looking to the Future

Another academic year successfully has ended and I am extremely proud of this year's 1,600 graduates prepared with their credentials, bachelor's and master's degrees to take on the world. The energy and enthusiasm displayed by our newest alums at our recent Commencement ceremonies was electric! Our graduates invested long hours alongside faculty and mentors as they studied, performed research and shared their knowledge with one another, in order to fulfill their dreams of receiving an excellent education and beginning the next chapter of their lives.



Similarly, the University also looks to the future as we plan for the next generation of students who will attend CI. With less state funding and increasing demand for qualified workers in California, we need to look at innovative ways to provide for students and to accomplish the magic of learning. We need to innovate to serve prospective students—including underserved populations—and enable our outstanding faculty to continue doing what they do best in teaching, research and hands-on academic experiences.

We have entered an agreement with advisory firm Jones Lang LaSalle to apply their extensive expertise assessing CI's current state. Their knowledge and experience will inform the development of a creative plan to leverage existing assets, enabling the University to add programs and facilities in concert with the growth of the campus. They will study campus demand for facilities, evaluate alternative financial structures, identify opportunities for partnerships, and recommend new funding opportunities to finance development components. The plan is targeted for completion this fall.

From the very beginning of CI we have built partnerships and our community has been generous and forthcoming. In turn, we are preparing a workforce that will enhance economic development and enrich quality of life throughout our region. We invite you to join us in this endeavor as we continue to provide an excellent education for the residents of Ventura County and beyond.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard R. Rush".

Richard R. Rush
President



Channel is an official publication of California State University Channel Islands. It is published twice a year for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community at large by the Communication & Marketing office within the Division of Technology & Communication.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send correspondence to: ci.news@csuci.edu or CSU Channel Islands, Communication & Marketing, One University Drive, Camarillo CA 93012-8599, 805-437-8415.

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Cover: WhyCI contest winner Megan McDonald (front) along with other contestants, video participants and friends

See cover story page 21

CSU Channel Islands Mission Statement

Placing students at the center of the educational experience, California State University Channel Islands provides undergraduate and graduate education that facilitates learning within and across disciplines through integrative approaches, emphasizes experiential and service learning, and graduates students with multicultural and international perspectives.

If you would like to be added to our email or mailing list for University events or special announcements, please submit your contact information to: ci.news@csuci.edu



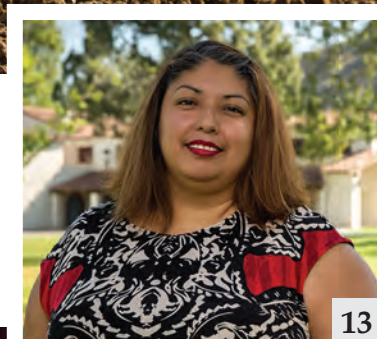
This news magazine is printed on recycled paper.

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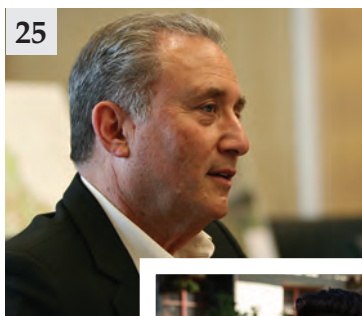
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Sunghee Nam wins 2014 President's Award

Sunghee Nam, a full-time CI Lecturer in Sociology, received the 2014 President's Award for Innovations in Teaching and Learning. The award is presented each year to an individual who has made unique and significant contributions to the teaching mission of the University.

Nam, a CI faculty member since 2006, is well-known for developing service-learning courses that mutually benefit CI students and community members.

In recent courses, she has led students in community-based research to create an oral history of Ventura County residents affected by the "Great Recession"; engaged CI and Oxnard College students in collaborative projects to ease transitions from community college to a four-year university; and exposed students to the impacts of globalization through an immersive service-learning travel course in South Korea.

Nam was selected for the award by a blind panel of reviewers from another CSU campus who evaluated candidates' impact on and involvement with students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contributions to undergraduate education in the institution, community and profession; and support from colleagues and students.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/namaward

A "Green College"

The Princeton Review has named CI one of the nation's most environmentally responsible "green" universities in this year's "Guide to Green Colleges." CI is one of 332

institutions recognized in the guide for its noteworthy achievements to integrate sustainability into its campus, classrooms and community. The Princeton Review partnered with the U.S. Green Building Council to survey roughly 2,000 of the nation's 4,300 colleges. Of the 832 campuses that responded, 332 demonstrated practices that distinguished them as "green."

The "Guide to Green Colleges" lauds CI for utilizing its natural campus setting to engage students and faculty in studying the interaction of environmental issues with social, economic and societal issues. More than 65 percent of CI students take sustainability related courses. In addition, the guide commends CI for its efforts to purchase local food, significantly reduce water and energy consumption, boost recycling rates, and promote biking, carpooling and sustainable living among students and employees.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/greencollege

Model UN Team claims multiple awards

The Model United Nations team at CI continued its impressive six-year winning streak with victories in three annual national conferences. At the most recent conference, Model UN of the Far West, held April 10-14 in Burlingame, Calif., the 17-member CI team won the Slanczka Achievement

Certificate in the Art and Practice of Diplomacy, awarded to delegations whose members are excellent across all committees. All three CI delegations, representing Portugal, Liberia and Sweden, received this top team award.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/modelunteam



Collegiate Advertising Award

CI earned top national honors from the Collegiate Advertising Awards for its "Together We Innovate—Join Us" advertising campaign. The Collegiate Advertising Awards (CAA) is an elite national program recognizing colleges and universities for excellence in communications, marketing, advertising, and promotions of their schools.

CI garnered a Gold Award, placing it in the top 5 percent out of 800 entries submitted by higher education institutions in the U.S. and Canada. CAA's expert panel of design and education marketing professionals judged entries based on creativity, layout and design, functionality, message effectiveness, production quality, and overall appeal. Participants' entries competed against similar sized organizations in their specific groups and categories. Only the top 16 percent of entries earned awards, ranging from the highest—Judge's Choice—to the lowest—Bronze.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/advertisingaward

Staff member receives statewide award

Pilar Pacheco, Managing Director of CI's Center for Community Engagement has earned a prestigious statewide award for her impact on service-learning and campus-community partnerships throughout Ventura County and the CSU system. Pacheco received California Campus Compact's 2014 Richard E. Cone Award for Excellence & Leadership in Cultivating Community Partnerships in Higher Education in January.

California Campus Compact is a coalition of leading colleges and universities working to advance civic and community engagement in higher education.



The award, named after renowned USC civic engagement and service-learning expert Dick Cone, is presented annually to one individual who has helped create partnerships between institutions of higher education and communities where student learning and the quality of life in communities are simultaneously improved.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/pachecoaward

CI launches goCI free mobile app

Thanks to a new, free mobile app, anyone with a smartphone or tablet can have the latest information about CI instantly at hand.



Launched just a few months ago, goCI is the University's official mobile app for iOS and Android.

It helps current and prospective students, alumni, and anyone else with an interest in staying connected to the University from their mobile devices, allowing them to quickly and conveniently access frequently-used resources without having to go through the CI website.

The apps' location-based services allow users to take a self-guided tour of campus, find out when dining facilities are open and how to walk there, or view in real-time how soon the next campus bus will arrive. Students can easily add favorite campus contacts or calendar events to their own device, and locate nearby ATMs and parking areas from their smartphones.

To download the free app and learn more, visit go.csuci.edu/mobile. It can also be downloaded from Apple's App Store or Google Play.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/mobileapp

For information on other University news stories visit www.csuci.edu/news/newsreleases.htm



Staff member elected vice president of national organization

Amanda Quintero, Director of Hispanic Serving Institution Initiatives at CSU Channel Islands (CI), has been elected Vice President of the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators (AHSIE). The Alliance supports the work of the nation's more than 300 Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) as they seek to provide educational opportunities to the growing numbers of Hispanic and underserved students.

Through Quintero's efforts, CI has secured more than \$12.7 million in funding for Hispanic-Serving Institution Initiatives benefiting more than 3,000 students in Ventura County including CI students of all ethnicities, high schools students, and community college students.

Read the full story by visiting: go.csuci.edu/quinterovp



From ‘Me’ to ‘We’

The Power of Connection on a Study Abroad Trip to Japan

By Christy Teranishi Martinez, Associate Professor of Psychology

In Fall 2013, I co-taught UNIV392 Cross-Cultural Psychology and Diversity in Japan with Kevin Volkan, Professor of Psychology,

juxtaposing traditional Japanese history, religions, and culture with the modern youth culture of Goth-Lolita, manga, and anime.

We incorporated experiential learning, traveling through the beautiful cities of Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, and Nara.

We witnessed students undergo challenges, transformations, and “aha” moments as they developed cultural immersion projects, dispelling preconceptions and

stereotypes, and fostering awareness and appreciation of Japan’s cultural diversity. In Harajuku, those who chose the Goth-Lolita subculture observed young girls dressed in Victorian costumes, bright pastels, and lace. They had fun taking photo booth pictures transforming into kawaii (cute) Japanese models with large defined eyes. Those who immersed themselves in anime and manga visited the Ghibli and Tezuka museums where the most influential anime films originated.

Traveling at speeds up to 190 mph, the bullet train took us from Tokyo to Osaka quickly, although time stood still alongside the incredible views of the snowcapped Mount Fuji. After strolling through



Kyoto’s Gion district, students who chose to observe tea ceremony and geisha cultures dressed up as maiko, geisha in training.

While some focused on Japanese food culture, our meals together left a lasting impression. In Osaka, we experienced “Japanese soul food,” okonomiyaki, a savory pancake filled with meat, fish, and vegetables. Students’ eyes got big and jaws dropped as we entered

“Twenty-seven students who started off as strangers, returned home invigorated by values of empathy, respect, and unity, and developed a deep connection with one another.”

a maid café where waitresses dressed as sexy maids treated us as masters, amusing us with theatrical entertainment.

One student had never flown on a plane or ventured far from home. As he prepared for his first international journey, he learned he had relatives in Tokyo he had never met. I was lucky to witness such a heartfelt moment as the entire family came to welcome him to Japan—bringing omiyage (gifts) and sharing family stories as if they had known each other for years. He certainly developed a new understanding of the meaning of “extended family.”

Despite challenges of sickness, perpetual tardiness, and lost passports and rail passes, in a small close-knit, densely populated country, students forged a new sense of identity and group cohesion. Twenty-seven students



who started off as strangers, returned home invigorated by values of empathy, respect, and unity, and developed a deep connection with one another. Japan touched their lives in ways they never imagined—evolving from a caterpillar into a butterfly, they experienced an incredible cultural transformation. ◀ C



Big Sycamore Canyon

One Year after the Springs Fire

By Linda O'Hirok, Lecturer, Environmental Science & Resource Management

Early on May 2, 2013, the northeast Santa Ana winds were blowing fiercely through the canyons, relative humidity had plummeted to 8%, and chaparral fuel moisture dropped to an unprecedented level. According to the National Weather Service, meteorological conditions were creating the "perfect storm" for a wildfire. A spark ignited chaparral along the Conejo Grade and the Santa Ana winds pushed a rapidly growing fire westward towards CSU Channel Islands, forcing an evacuation of the campus. Three days later the Springs Fire had burned over 24,000 acres all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

Once the smoke had cleared, we recognized the fire presented a unique research and teaching opportunity in our CI "backyard" at Big Sycamore Canyon, in the Santa Monica Mountains. This was a perfect field laboratory for evaluating the effects of chaparral wildfires on the subsequent wet weather sediment transport processes.

In semiarid environments, dense chaparral vegetation stabilizes sediment on steep slopes where it is stored. After wildfire burns the

"This was a perfect field laboratory for evaluating the effects of chaparral wildfires on the subsequent wet weather sediment transport processes."

chaparral, the stored sediment is liberated and can slide downhill resting at the margin between the hill-slope and stream channel. There the sediment is poised for removal by rains and winter flows. Post-fire processes are not well understood making prediction difficult.

Joan Florsheim (UCSB), Anne Chin (UC Denver), and I were awarded a National Science

Foundation Rapid Response Research Grant to conduct research in Big Sycamore Canyon with four talented CI Environmental Science & Resource Management students: Greg Cutler, Dylan Ellis, Alex Gaskill, and Fletcher Sams.

We observed many dynamic events. For example, ongoing research and monitoring in the canyon documented significant changes in the stream reaches, particularly after three inches of rainfall in February 2014. Cutler developed a model to predict the volume of sediment eroded from the hill-slopes and delivered to the stream channels. Ellis measured the volume for pre- and post-rain events to test the model which yielded results close to the model's volume predictions. Ellis found that "45 percent of the sediment along the channel banks was transported and deposited in the stream channel." Gaskill built and installed crest-stage gauges to estimate stream flow and the force required to transport the sediment and debris flows in the channel. Gaskill noted that "the additional sediment throws the stream out of balance and the sediment fills in the steps and pools established for energy dissipation which creates a smoother faster stream bed."

Sams investigated changes in stream bars and terraces and discovered that "after the rain event, all of the sand bars were buried due to an increase in sediment from the hill-slopes... but the river terraces increased in mass due to debris flows."

These findings are a continuing validation of the hard work that has been dedicated to this project and will benefit our understanding of these greater frequency fire events. ◀ C



Riveting Reads

New Faculty Books published from 2013 through spring 2014

MADHOUSE FOG

by Sean Carswell (Manic D Press, 2013)

Assistant Professor of English Sean Carswell set his fifth book in the strangely familiar setting of a Southern California psychiatric hospital that was once a college. The central character takes a seemingly benign grant-writing job at the hospital—only to become ensnared in a dark, humorous plot involving offbeat characters, unorthodox research, rekindled romance, and potential murder.

A STRANGER IN OLONDRIA

by Sofia Samatar (Small Beer Press, 2013)

Assistant Professor of English Sofia Samatar's first novel is a coming-of-age fantasy exploring themes of travel, exile and the conflict between oral and written ways of knowing. Her protagonist, Jevick, travels to a distant utopia only to find himself haunted by a ghost and enmeshed in a war between two powerful cults. *A Stranger in Olondria* is the winner of the William L. Crawford Award for best fantasy debut, awarded by the International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts.

POLITICS TO THE EXTREME: AMERICAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

by Sean Kelly and Scott Frisch (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013)

Political Science Professors Scott Frisch and Sean Kelly conceived and edited this collection of essays from nationally-recognized political scientists, probing the causes and consequences of ideological polarization and effects of hyper-partisanship in the American political system. Several of the essays propose solutions for bridging the divide and restoring effective government.

SOCIAL BUSINESS: THEORY, PRACTICE AND CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES

by Andrea Grove and Gary Berg (Springer, 2014)

In the first college text to address the fast-growing and understudied field of social business, Professor Andrea Grove and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Gary Berg present a collection of articles and case studies that examine the ways business is used to create positive social change. The book features a foreward by social business innovator and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus and articles by CI faculty members Antonio Jimenez-Jimenez, Maria Ballesteros-Sola, and California Institute for Social Business Director Martin Loeffler.

CALIFORNIA'S CHANNEL ISLANDS: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS

by Jennifer Perry (University of Utah Press, 2013)

Jennifer Perry, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, is co-editor and co-author of a uniquely holistic investigation of all eight Channel Islands, integrating archaeology, history and ethnography. The book traces the islands' history from the first human occupation to the tragic story of historic depopulation in the 19th century.

THE DIVERSITY PARADOX: SEEKING COMMUNITY IN AN INTERCULTURAL CHURCH

by J. Jacob Jenkins (Lexington Books, 2013)

In this book, currently nominated for the 2013 National Communication Association's International and Intercultural "Best Book Award," Assistant Professor of Communication Jacob Jenkins conducts a compelling case study

of how an urban and racially/ethnically diverse church in Tampa Bay promotes "community" as an organizational metaphor.

NAVIGATING THE SPANISH LAKE: THE PACIFIC IN THE IBERIAN WORLD, 1521-1898

by Rainer F. Buschmann, Edward R. Slack Jr., and James B. Tueller (University of Hawaii Press, 2014)

CI History Professor Rainer Buschmann joins colleagues from Eastern Washington University and Brigham Young University Hawaii in a pioneering examination of the implications and legacies of the Spanish exploration and colonization of the Pacific Ocean.

IBERIAN VISIONS OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN 1507-1899

by Rainer Buschmann (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014)

In this forthcoming book, Rainer Buschmann, Professor of History, explores the alternative Spanish visions of the Pacific Ocean to offset the prevalent Franco-British notions of the largest geographic region on Earth.

USING IBM® SPSS® STATISTICS FOR RESEARCH METHODS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE STATISTICS FIFTH EDITION

by William E. Wagner, III (SAGE Publications, 2014)

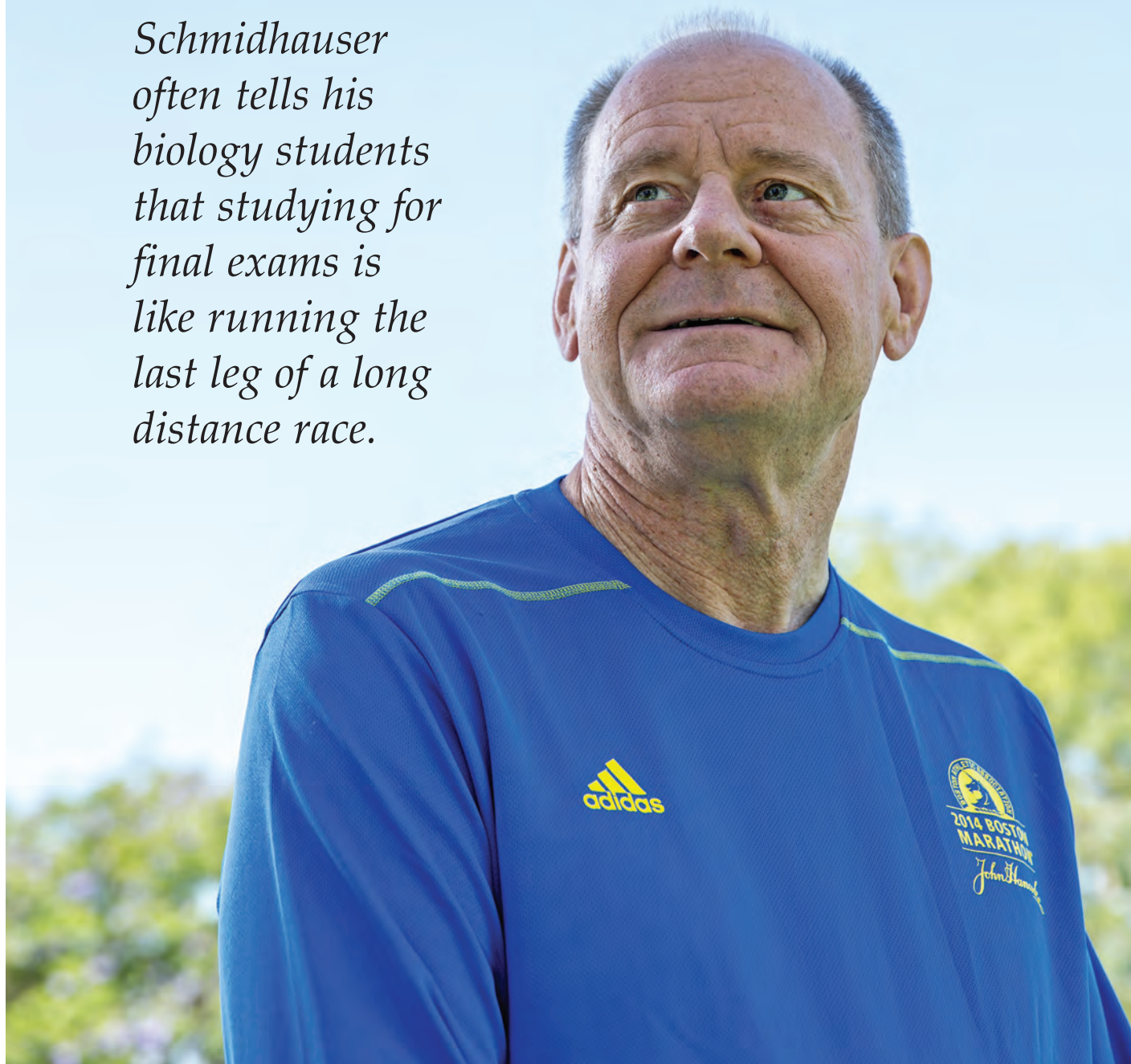
Now in its fifth edition, written by Sociology Professor Billy Wagner, this textbook is a renowned and reliable resource for students learning to use IBM's SPSS Statistics software and an ideal companion for social science statistics and research methods classes. ◀ C



Marathon Man

By Marya Jones Barlow

Tom Schmidhauser often tells his biology students that studying for final exams is like running the last leg of a long distance race.



"I tell them to stay focused and ignore the pain," Schmidhauser said.

The man knows what he's talking about. At 57, Schmidhauser has completed 10 marathons, including the Boston Marathon in April and Ventura Marathon in September. A distance runner since junior high, he still logs 40 miles a week, while also volunteering as an assistant coach for Adolfo Camarillo High School's distance running programs and joining the Vendurance Running Tribe on weekly runs. He won first place in his age group in last year's Santa Barbara Chardonnay 10-Miler and in the 2009 Malibu Marathon. Representing CI in the Ventura Corporate Games in April, he took fourth place in the 5K for men 50-59. In 2013, he took third place in the same race.

"Running is my passion," he said. "In my youth, it was more about competition, but now the enjoyment comes from running for health reasons, socializing with friends, and enjoying an exercise the human body is uniquely designed for."

In his other passion—teaching biology—Schmidhauser engages students by introducing current events and applying real-world context to classroom and lab exercises. In his recent BIOL 318 Medical Mycology class, for example, students discussed endemic fungus problems plaguing California prisons and brought in environmental samples to look for common fungi in the environment.

Schmidhauser gained an early appreciation for the academic life, thanks to a father who taught Political Science at the University of Iowa and University of Southern California. His first high school biology course illuminated his interest in the subject, leading him to pursue a B.S. in Biology at University of Southern California, a Ph.D. at University of California, San Diego, and postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford. After

working as teaching and research faculty at the Southern Illinois University at Carbondale School of Medicine and University of Louisiana at Lafayette, he returned to Southern California in 2002 to help develop courses for CI's Biology Program and raise his two sons near family. His son James is at CSU Fullerton and son Scott starts at San Diego State University this fall.

In April, Schmidhauser fulfilled a lifelong dream of running in the Boston Marathon, although he admits the results fell short of his expectations. Beset by severe leg cramps that forced him to walk in the final miles, he completed the

26-mile course in a respectable 3 hours, 45 minutes and 52 seconds, placing him 14,159 out of 36,000 entrants and 704th in his division of men ages 55-59.

"I would have liked to run smarter, but I went out too fast and burned myself out," he said.

Still, Schmidhauser shows no signs of slowing down. He plans to continue competing in half-marathons and represent CI in future Ventura Corporate Games.

"My real challenge is to try to limit the effects of age as strength and flexibility go," he said. "I'm actually looking forward to running in the 60-69 age group at the Corporate Games in three years!" ◀ C





From Channel Islands to the Emerald Isle

Nursing Students Experience Ireland

By Marya Jones Barlow

Ten nursing students headed to Ireland over winter break to take part in an inspiring and enlightening comparison of U.S. and Irish healthcare and culture. The new collaboration between CI and Dublin’s prestigious Trinity College exposed the students to an intensive, two-week, for-credit program exclusively designed for CI nursing students. Led and co-developed by Irish

native and CI Assistant Professor of Nursing Pauline Hunter with partners at Trinity College, the trip gave students the chance to learn from faculty in the internationally renowned nursing school, interact with Irish healthcare authorities, meet international nursing students, hear from leading researchers, visit hospitals and clinics, and draw first-hand perspectives on socialized

medicine as well as the different health structures, challenges and solutions in Ireland. The first participants for the UNIV 392 course, Globalization and Healthcare (Study Abroad in Ireland), were selected through a competitive process that weighed their applications, essays and academic performance. “We are delighted to be collaborating with Trinity College



and welcome the opportunity to work toward building further international collaborations in the areas of research and education,” Hunter said. “As our patients become more multicultural, it’s imperative for nursing students to have a global perspective on healthcare delivery models, trends and best practices. This trip also gave them a chance to see socialized medicine in action—something that will be helpful as the U.S. continues to implement the Affordable Care Act.” Among the highlights, the group met the Health Minister of Northern Ireland and learned about the influential role nurses play in the country’s health policy. They also witnessed the collaborative peer relationship between Irish physicians and nurses. In addition to an intensive daily class schedule, the students had opportunities to experience Irish landmarks and culture,

with trips to the Science Gallery, the Book of Kells, the scenic North Coast, the Giant’s Causeway, and Blarney Castle, home of the famed Blarney Stone. Students kept daily journals and completed a final paper. The trip culminated in a vigorous debate on the merits of American vs. Irish healthcare systems—with students equally divided on which system was better. Nursing student Carl Eisenthal found the trip invaluable and eye-opening, both personally and professionally. “It definitely changed my perspective on U.S. healthcare—especially the financial side,” Eisenthal said. “In Ireland, everyone gets public healthcare, and there’s a cap so that they don’t spend more than a



certain amount per year on it. Meanwhile, many people in the U.S. go bankrupt because they cannot afford to pay their medical bills. However, the meager pay that Irish nurses earn really shocked me.” “Personally, I recommend the trip to every nursing student,” he added. “I really connected with the Irish people, and learned much more than I ever could have from a textbook or a presentation.” ◀ C

From Agricultural Labor to Academia

By Marya Jones Barlow

Each time Katia Garcia Nava passes workers in the agricultural fields on the way to CI's campus, she reflects with amazement on how far she has come and where she is headed.

A migrant farmworker throughout her teenage years and early adulthood, Nava is now on a far different path. At the age of 37, she's a first-generation college graduate poised to enter a competitive Ph.D. program in Chemistry at the University of Northern Texas this fall.

"It has taken me 19 hard years to get here, but giving up was never an option," she said. "If I had not attended CI, I probably would have dropped out of school by now. I think I would have been completely lost at another campus, but the professors here saw my potential and believed in me enough to care and support me. I have gained wonderful mentors for life."

Nava was born in Yuba City, the oldest daughter in a family of five children. Her parents, migrant farmworkers from Mexico, moved frequently following seasonal crops. Nava and her siblings bounced from school to school and spent summers helping in the fields.

"The lack of stability resulted in holes in my education," she said. "Also, as the oldest daughter, I was given more family responsibilities, resulting in less time for school. On the other hand, my childhood taught me how to be responsible and be a hard worker. It also made me realize that this was not something I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I wanted more. I

wanted an education—even more education than my parents hoped for me."

After graduating from high school, Nava enrolled in college several times over the years, but ended up dropping out or failing classes because she was working to support her family.

"At times, I would go years without enrolling," she said. "It wasn't that my parents made me do it, but rather that I would see them struggle financially and realize that my siblings would suffer, so I worked to make sure they would be taken care of."

Finally, at the height of the economic recession in 2008, she resolved to get her degree no matter what. Despite dealing with the aftereffects of a debilitating car accident, financial hardships, and the illnesses and deaths of family members, Nava continued to work various jobs and plug away at her education.

At CI, Nava's professors recognized a promising student and offered her guidance and encouragement—not just to complete her bachelor's degree, but also to go on to graduate school. As a participant in CI's Project ACCESO and Louise Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) programs, which promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) opportunities for students from challenged backgrounds, she found Chemistry

more intriguing than intimidating.

"Katia's perseverance and tenacity are nothing short of awe-inspiring. She doesn't realize how special she is," said CI Math Professor Cindy Wyels, who knows Nava well through her roles as Director of LSAMP and Co-Director of Student Success for Project ACCESO. "Fewer than 20 percent of underrepresented minorities transfer from community to college to a four-year university. Yet here's Katia, a native Spanish speaker with no educated people around her, who would not take 'no' for an answer. She would not let barriers hold her back and struggled mightily to be where she is today."

Nava has volunteered for programs encouraging students of all ages to pursue science careers—mentoring children in CI's Migrant Summer Leadership Institute, doing K-12 STEM outreach through Project ACCESO, and tutoring college students in science and math.

After earning her Ph.D. from the University of Northern Texas, Nava hopes to educate the next generation of college Chemistry students.

"I would love to be given the opportunity to teach so that I can inspire confidence in those who think a Chemistry major is impossible," she said. "My motivation is my nieces and nephews. The new generation needs more role models and more women in science." ◀ C



Health Crusader

By Marya Jones Barlow

On paper, Afua Adjekum's accomplishments as a CI college student are impressive enough. She's President of the Mortar Board National Honor Society, founder of the Pre-Health Association, winner of a 2013 African American Achievement Award, a biology tutor, student researcher, and scholarship awardee, now headed to England's prestigious University College London to pursue a Master of Science in Global Health and Development.

But when you consider what she's experienced in the 23 years leading up to these accomplishments, her success is all the more staggering.

Adjekum was born in Ghana, one of 10 children in a large, complicated family. After her mother left for the U.S. when Adjekum was six, she spent the next 12 years ferried from household to household to live with various relatives. Nonetheless, she maintained a laser-sharp focus on her education. She mastered three Ghanaian dialects, was admitted to one of Ghana's top high schools, and excelled in her studies and philanthropic efforts. While a student at the Wesley Girls' High School, Adjekum joined the Red Cross Club and found her passion, administering first aid to disadvantaged children in the nearby village.

"I saw firsthand how people's choices do not necessarily dictate their state of health and how access to basic health knowledge can help prevent the spread of disease," she said. "I also witnessed the positive impact a single person can have."

After surviving a malaria/typhoid co-infection at the age of 17, she immigrated to the U.S. to

rejoin her mother in Los Angeles and apply to college. Their reunion was marred by the death of her stepfather, her mother's job loss, and Adjekum's emergency need for an appendicitis surgery that the family couldn't afford.

"The ability to receive medical attention even though I had no money or health insurance deeply impacted me," she said. "This was in striking contrast to the countless children I had encountered in Ghana who had no access to healthcare. It increased my resolve to help."

At CI, Adjekum majored in Biology, minored in Chemistry, joined the Louise Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), and immersed herself in various research projects with faculty, including whale and ecological research. In 2012, she founded the Pre-Health Association, aligning students interested in health science careers in efforts to serve the community. Under her leadership, the club grew to over 20 members and sponsored 20 kids at the Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation's Christmas party.

"I wish I could somehow leave a part of me here at CI," she said. "I feel like I owe all of my success to the numerous professors and staff members that supported me along the way. This school has taught me that you can achieve anything if you try."

In the fall, Adjekum will head to London to pursue her master's degree in Global Health

and Development at University College London, renowned for its cross-disciplinary focus on global health issues. Afterward, she hopes to volunteer with the Global Health Corps, earn a Ph.D. in epidemiology, and form a nonprofit to improve healthcare for underprivileged populations in Ghana.

"I have no doubt that Afua is going to achieve her goals and change the health outcomes of a significant proportion of a population," said Mathematics Professor Cindy Wyels, who knows Adjekum well through her role as Director of LSAMP. "She's a dedicated scholar and leader with impressive energy, initiative, adaptability, a positive attitude, and a heart of gold." ◀ **C**



More than Cleaning

Custodial Staff Fosters Positive Environment

By Janet Herin

CI custodial staff members keep classrooms and restrooms tidy, come to the rescue when there's a spill or leak and support special events on campus. They perform their jobs well and also add value well beyond their ability to sweep, scrub and mop.

"We want to provide the best possible environment for the best quality learning experience," said Raudel Bañuelos, Director of Facility Support, who leads the 28-member team and has supported the site for 34 years—long before its association with the University. "Environment and learning go hand in hand."

For the custodial staff, creating a supportive environment encompasses taking personal responsibility for safety, embracing opportunities to collaborate with other departments and making positive contributions to campus life.

The group's efforts earn high and frequent praise from CI President Rush. "Our custodians support everything we do here," he said. "Many wonderful things happen because of these dedicated individuals."

They routinely help students recover lost items, including money, cell phones, laptops, glasses and jewelry. Hector Bañuelos, who mentors kids in his free time, helped a distressed student who had lost a wedding band. Together, they painstakingly retraced the man's steps and, eventually, found the ring in a trash can.

Gloria Martinez occasionally

encounters a student having a difficult day and does what she can to offer support. "Recently, there was a girl crying in one of the bathroom stalls," she said. "I waited around a little in case she wanted to talk."

Recognition, appreciation and the opportunity to work on the beautiful CI campus are among the many things that inspire the staff to perform at a high level.

"People here are very friendly, and they appreciate your work," said Joseph Mendez. "It's gratifying. I also enjoy the (Ventura) Corporate Games event each year. You get to know people in other departments

and compete against local companies. It builds camaraderie."

Chris Yanez agrees. "Everyone is on the same level," he said. "It doesn't matter what group you interact with. Everything is a team effort. That's one of the great things about working here."

Relationships among the custodial staff are strong, too. "We get along really well," said Gloria Martinez. "I miss them when I'm on vacation." Bañuelos nodded and said, "We have some fantastic cooks in our group, and we have a good time. We 'break bread' together. That's why they're so special. This doesn't happen everywhere." ◀ C



▲ Top back row left to right: Alfredo Dadacay, Michael Bianchi, David Mann, Martin Ruiz, Joseph Mendez, John Yanez, Sergio Tafolla Sr. Middle row left to right: Hector Bañuelos, Manny Hernandez, Ruby Morado, Gloria Martinez Front row left to right: Chris Yanez, Eric Arteaga, Allen Santos, Luz Tapia



Library Lecture Series offers a sample of CI

By Marya Jones Barlow

You don't have to be a student to enjoy CI's most stimulating speakers and engaging experts. Thanks to partnerships with the public libraries in Thousand Oaks, Ventura and Simi Valley, anyone can participate in thought-provoking presentations and discussions with CI faculty in a free Library Lecture Series.

First launched with the Thousand Oaks Library in early 2012, the monthly Lecture Series invites the public to experience the compelling research and work of CI professors in the convenient setting of their local library. During the 2013-2014 academic year, the Lecture Series featured a diverse range of fascinating, timely and regionally-relevant topics, including climate change, the biotechnology and stem cell debate, the archeological history of the Channel Islands, humpback whales, extraterrestrial life, education, group psychology, Hollywood stars, celebrity CEOs, Latin American leaders, and Latino sports icons.

To learn about upcoming dates, speakers and topics scheduled for each library, visit go.csuci.edu/librarylectureseries. For those who can't make it to a library event,

the web page also provides links to videos of many of the faculty lectures on YouTube. As the series continues, check back periodically to watch the latest lectures.

More exciting speakers and topics are being planned for the upcoming academic year. Fall 2014 lectures at Thousand Oaks' Grant R. Brimhall Library are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 10, Wednesday, Oct. 8, and Wednesday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m.

Ventura's E.P. Foster Library will host a CI weekend Saturday, Sept. 27, and Sunday, Sept. 28, with student recruitment and outreach activities Saturday morning and CI English Program faculty reading from their works and discussing writing with guests in the afternoon. On Sunday, the library will host a presentation from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CI.

Upcoming lectures at Simi Valley Public Library are as follows:

"Culture-Bound Syndromes," Thursday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m., Simi Valley Library.

Join Psychology Professor Kevin Volkan to explore behaviors and mental illnesses often found at the extreme edge of the human

repertoire, including ones that might be considered normal in one culture while appearing bizarre or pathological in another.

"Social Barriers to Taking Paid Family Leave in California," Thursday, Oct. 9, at 6 p.m., Simi Valley Library.

Assistant Professor of Sociology Lindsey Trimble O'Connor offers a surprising analysis of California's new paid family leave statute and why the workers who need it most are also the ones least likely to use it. O'Connor covers research, policy implications, and the financial, institutional, and interpersonal barriers to using paid family leave in California.

"Information Literacy and the Public Sphere," Thursday, Nov. 13, at 6 p.m., Simi Valley Library.

How do we find reliable information in an Internet-driven world where information is easily obtained, but not always up-to-date or trustworthy? Librarians Monica Pereira and Janet Pinkley from CI's John Spoor Broome Library share their expertise in Information Literacy, a crucial skill that drives successful research and offers ways to find and evaluate valid information. ◀ C



▲ President Rush and CI students taking a ‘selfie.’



▲ Hank Lacayo, Kathy Long and President Rush

CI Breaks Ground on Sierra Hall

By Janet Herin

CI President Richard Rush, faculty, staff, students and community friends gathered on March 14 to celebrate a significant milestone in CI’s continued expansion, a groundbreaking for Sierra Hall. The event included comments from President Rush, Ventura County Supervisor Kathy Long, Academic Senate Chair Jeannie Greer and Student Body President Vanessa Bahena. Staff member and Chumash Elder and Vice Tribal Chair of the Chumash Barbareno-Ventureño Band of Mission

Indians Raudel Bañuelos offered a traditional ceremonial blessing. A three-story, cutting-edge science lab and instruction building, Sierra Hall will house CI’s growing programs in Anthropology, Computer Science, Geology, Environmental Science & Resource Management (ESRM), Physics, and Psychology. The 68,000-square-foot structure, located at the corner of Los Angeles Avenue and Ventura Street, includes indoor and outdoor learning areas. Designed in accord with sustainability practices, it

will serve as a model for green technology. President Rush began his presentation by thanking representatives from the external community for their support of the \$42.7 million project—funded by lease revenue bonds. “Our community is essential to our growth and success,” he said. “We have been a public/private partnership since the beginning and would not have what we have otherwise. I thank you all for your steadfast support.”

County Supervisor Long, an advocate of the University for more than 10 years, echoed this sentiment by saying, “The public has truly embraced this campus.” Reflecting back on how CI has evolved in terms of size and success, she noted, “Building by building, the vision is working.” Sierra Hall continues CI’s forward momentum in a variety of ways. “It will completely change how we teach,” said Colleen Delaney, Associate Professor of Anthropology. “Our program will be more holistic. We’ll be able to offer hands-on learning, and students can participate in independent lab studies. This improves their ability to get hired directly after or even before graduation.” Associate Provost Dan Wakelee commented about the academic and social benefits of the new building. “Sierra Hall will increase quality of education

by providing learning spaces that are better suited for these disciplines,” he said. “Sierra Hall’s location on the Central Mall also will help unite separate parts of the University and contribute to a more energized, engaged campus.” Don Rodriguez, Professor and Chair of the University’s ESRM program, said Sierra Hall reflects the depth of CI’s commitment to environmental stewardship. “Institutes of higher education have the obligation to

prepare students for the world they are inheriting,” he noted. “Elements of sustainability will be inherent in every decision this generation makes. This new building will allow us to integrate sustainability across the curriculum.” Student Body President Vanessa Bahena praised President Rush and faculty members for their collaborative approach to the project and other campus decisions. “One thing that sets Channel Islands apart is the amount of student involvement,” she said. “We are part of the legacy. This is our University.” President Rush smiled as he glanced across the Mall. “We’ve waited three years for this day,” he said. “It will be a beautiful structure and another indicator that we are realizing our dream.” Sierra Hall is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2015. ◀ C

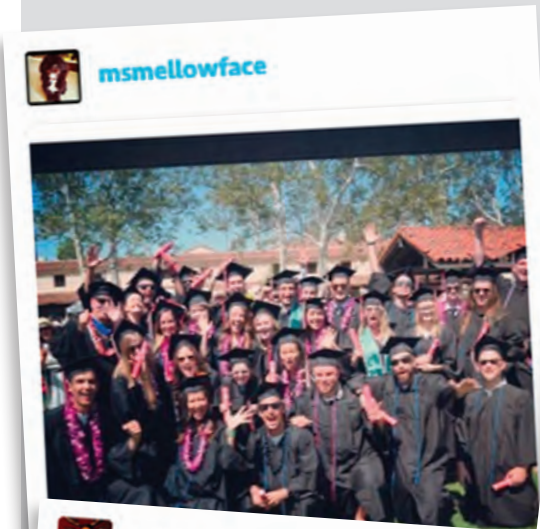
“Building by building, the vision is working.”
—KATHY LONG, VENTURA COUNTY SUPERVISOR



“Ekho” the Sentiment



CI’s mascot “Ekho” shares snapshots posted on Instagram from graduating students, their family and friends.



CI celebrates Commencement 2014

CI celebrated its twelfth commencement with two ceremonies on May 17. Over 12,000 parents, families and friends cheered for more than 1,600 students who participated in the morning and afternoon ceremonies by receiving their bachelor’s, master’s or teaching credentials.

Russell Winans, Coordinator of Special Projects in the Dean of Students office, was

the honored staff member selected to ring the Navy ship bell to signal the beginning of Commencement and Jack Reilly, Professor of Art, led the procession by carrying the Light of Learning.

Remarks were provided by CSU Trustee Steven Stepanek, President Richard Rush, and graduating seniors Dallas Lawry (morning) and Chantyl Vasquez (afternoon). Mr. Ron Werft, CEO of Cottage Health System, was an invited special platform guest during the morning ceremony as the partnership between CI and Cottage

Health system was recognized with the first graduating nursing class from the extended campus, located in Goleta. ◀ C





▼ The CI Prize Patrol surprises CI Student Megan McDonald in her graphic design class. From left: Ekho, VP of Technology & Communication Michael Berman, Megan McDonald, President Rush

15-second investment reaps rewards for ‘WhyCI?’ contestants

By Marya Jones Barlow

Patrick McEvoy knew he wanted to attend CI ever since his sister, a 2013 graduate, came home extoling the virtues of its heavenly campus, friendly faculty and close-knit student body.

But when a CI “Prize Patrol” bearing a giant \$1,500 check surprised him last month at a dinner celebrating his graduation from Bakersfield College, McEvoy discovered his most compelling reason yet.

“It confirmed that I’m going in the right direction,” he said. “I’m grateful to CI for helping me arrive at the place I want to be in the future.”

As a winner of the “WhyCI?” social media contest, McEvoy received a scholarship that will help him fulfill his goals of earning a bachelor’s degree in Art and preparing for a career in film and animation.

The transfer student from Bakersfield was one of two students to win \$1,500 scholarships in CI’s first social media contest.

WhyCI? challenged current and prospective students to submit 15-second videos on Instagram explaining why they chose CI in their most creative, concise and captivating way. The 10-week contest garnered more than 60 entries, which were posted on Instagram and shared on other social media outlets, including Facebook and Twitter.

Videos were judged by CI’s Marketing Advisory Committee on message content, visual creativity, originality, and the number of “likes” they received on social media by CI’s Marketing Advisory Committee, a 19-member group representing Academic Programs,



▲ Multimedia Coordinator Tom Emens, awards finalists Edward (Joey) Caiazza (left) and Kalie Ihrig (right).



the Academic Senate, Alumni Affairs, Business & Financial Affairs, Student Affairs, and Technology & Communication. Scholarships were awarded to one enrolled and one newly admitted student. Eight other finalists received \$50 gift cards to use at campus dining establishments.

The winning videos will become part of CI’s marketing and recruitment efforts and may be featured on CI’s website, social media, and in other campus and media channels.

“We knew our students were talented, but their entries exceeded our expectations,” said CI Multimedia Coordinator Tom Emens, who helped spearhead the contest. “They provided perspectives that were unique, engaging, inspiring and showed how special CI is in a personal way that will resonate with prospective students.”

CI senior Megan McDonald from Lake View Terrace, Calif., won her scholarship by utilizing talents she developed as an art major specializing in time-based media. Her video is a musical montage of smiling students in locations throughout campus holding up hand-written signs that read: “Community. Opportunity. Inspiration. This is why I love CI.”

McDonald received the news of her victory when CI’s “Prize Patrol” surprised her during graphic design class with flowers, balloons, and an oversized check.

“I didn’t realize it was for me until I saw the cameras pointed at me and heard President Rush calling me to the front of the room,” she said. “It’s an honor to win the scholarship, but it’s also rewarding to know that my video will help promote CI—because CI is where I discovered my passion for filmmaking.”

The contest elicited a vast array of responses and creative approaches. Finalist Edward (Joey) Caiazza answered the contest’s challenge by performing an original song in front of some of CI’s most iconic campus spots. Kalie Ihrig played the ukelele, set against a video montage showing scenes of campus life. Students Sebastian Torres, Michael Ishibashi, Jonathan Castillo, Sunshine Bagamspad, Tiffany Scobey, and Melissa de Obaldia showcased artistic talents and marketing savvy in videos featuring the innovative use of animation, graphic design, photography and illustration.

Emens was so impressed, he offered McDonald an internship in CI’s Communication & Marketing office and hopes to make similar offers to other finalists. He also plans to keep the WhyCI? concept alive with regular Instagram videos spotlighting students from various academic programs until the contest returns in 2015.

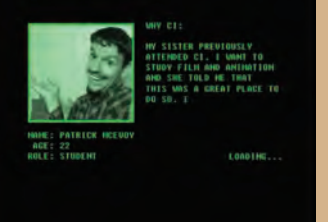
“Hosting the contest on a social media channel really helped to build excitement and participation by our students,” Emens said. “We can’t wait to see what they come up with next year and reward their ingenuity.” ◀ C

The winners!

▼ McDonald’s entry



▼ McEvoy’s entry



► For a look at all the finalists’ work, visit www.csuci.edu/whyci



▼ Associate Director of Admissions & Recruitment Darius Riggins awards incoming CI student winner Patrick McEvoy

Turning Profit Into Philanthropy

By Marya Jones Barlow

It's been a productive and promising year for CI's California Institute for Social Business (CISB). Four years ago, the institute became the first in the nation to launch an undergraduate program in the fast-growing and understudied field of social business. Today, it's breaking new ground, with the help of a new director, dedicated faculty, enthusiastic students, and a \$300,000 grant infusion from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

ABOUT SOCIAL BUSINESS

Social businesses tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges—such as poverty, hunger, sickness, education gaps and environmental problems—through a form of “enlightened capitalism.” The innovative model developed by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus seeks to make social businesses sustainable—instead of relying solely on fundraising and donor support. Social businesses generate profits but reinvest them into the company to further its social impact, instead of distributing dividends.

ABOUT CISB

Formed in collaboration with Yunus in 2010, and part of the Martin

V. Smith School of Business & Economics, CISB is the only institute in the nation to offer a Minor and Certificate in Social Business. More than 70 students are enrolled in CISB courses, learning how to use market-based principles to create social value and solve community problems. The institute also conducts research, helps community businesses and organizations convert to self-sustaining “social business-style” models, and provides consulting and incubation services for new social businesses.

A NEW HOME

In March, CISB opened the doors to the Social Business Development Center in Del Norte Hall. The new space is a think tank and collaborative workspace for the creation and support of social business, providing an open, creative environment for students and community partners to meet, brainstorm, and develop social businesses.

A SURPRISE VISITOR

The Social Business Development Center was inaugurated with the visit of Professor Yunus on March 1. On campus to meet with President Rush,



▲ Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus

CISB campus constituents and community leaders, Yunus surprised students working in the Center by sitting down and brainstorming with them about their social business projects and ways to tackle the issue of food insecurity in Ventura County.

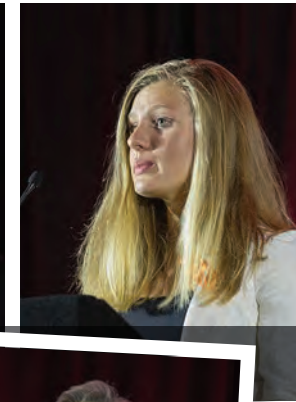
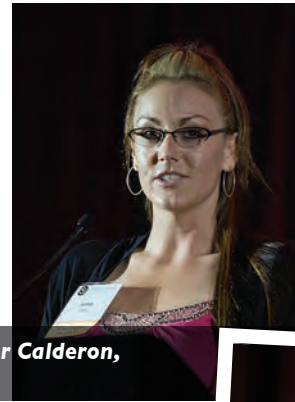
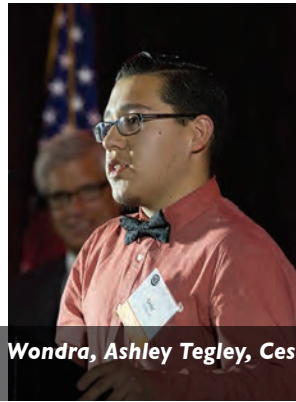
“What we develop here is not a local solution,” Yunus told the group. “It may start as a solution for a local problem but it becomes a global propriety, a global knowledge. It immediately becomes useful for everyone and everybody remembers that this has been done by the CSU Channel Islands campus.”

NEW PARTNERS, PROJECTS AND POTENTIAL

CISB has launched several new programs and partnerships, including teaching social business to high-schoolers in the Los Angeles Unified School District and advising nonprofits on how to utilize social business to develop additional self-sustaining income. CISB students are working with Pleasant Valley Neighborhoods for Learning, Segue, the Community Gardens in Oxnard, and coffee farmers in the Dominican Republic on developing social business plans.

Learn more at socialbusiness.csuci.edu. ◀ C





▲ Scholarship awardees from left to right: James Wondra, Ashley Tegley, Cesar Calderon, Jenna Fordis, and Alina Mitina

Business & Technology Leadership Dinner Awardees

CI recognized three outstanding business, technology and community leaders and awarded five student scholarships at its 10th Annual Business & Technology Partnership (B&TP) Leadership Dinner held in April at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach. Housed in the Martin

V. Smith School of Business & Economics, the B&TP is a collaborative effort between CI and community leaders, business and technology executives and professionals. The Partnership works to foster the collaboration of technology and related service-based companies with CI and promote technological excellence

among CI students, faculty and staff for the benefit of the region's economy.

Awardees included Christine Garvey, retired banker and attorney, Business and Community Leader of the Year; Sieg Borck, Technologist of the Year; and CI Professor Karen Jensen, Faculty Leader of the Year.

Student recipients of \$6,000 scholarships were: Cesar Calderon, Mathematics; Jenna Fordis, Nursing; Alina Mitina, Biology; Ashley Tegley, Nursing; and James Wondra, Biology;

The event's title sponsor was Union Bank. Other sponsors included: Airborne Technologies; Aera Energy, LLC; Joan and Dennis Gaiser; Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics; Ventura County Credit Union; Barbara and Wayne Davey; Bill and Elise Kearney; Nancy and Carl Wesely; Ruby Oertle; *Pacific Coast Business Times*; Sheeler Moving and Storage, Inc.; and *Ventura County Star*. ◀ C



▲ Christine Garvey



▲ Sieg Borck



▲ President Rush and Karen Jensen

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Peter Wollons—Advocate Extraordinaire

By Marya Jones Barlow

Peter Wollons knows a good investment when he sees one. The Calabasas businessman started an aircraft surplus company in 1972 and built it into Airborne Technologies, a worldwide supplier of airframe structural components for military and commercial use. In 2008, he helped fund and launch FaceFirst, cutting-edge facial recognition software used by law enforcement, airport, security, casino and retail clients. But he also counts CSU Channel Islands among his most important investments.

"Each year I receive letters from scholarship recipients thanking me and saying they couldn't have graduated without my help," he said. "I am so proud of them and gratified that my contributions mattered."

After visiting the campus at his friend Herb Rosencrantz's request in 2006, Wollons became a firm believer in the CI mission. Now a dedicated supporter and member of CI's Foundation Board and Business & Technology Partnership (B&TP), Wollons is seeing firsthand the benefits of CI – and helping spread the message to others.

"I'm impressed with the students coming out of CI programs, and their future benefit to the business and technology sector as skilled employees," he said. "Providing opportunities is good for these students, good for their futures, good for local businesses, and good for our region and country as a whole."

Wollons funds student scholarships through his company, Airborne Technologies, and is a regular sponsor of CI events. As a Foundation Board member, he works with President Rush and leaders from the campus and community to guide CI's future growth, consider programs to benefit students and the region, and help spread awareness and



support. As a member of the B&TP, he helps unite the University with business and technology companies, fostering partnerships that promote internship and job opportunities for students and guide CI's curriculum to meet regional employers' needs.

Wollons reflects with pride on the notable transformations the campus has undergone in its 12-year history, including beautifully built and renovated buildings, caringly conserved open spaces, expanded academic programs, and a rising population of successful graduates.

He also emphasizes the vital role of donors, businesses and community partners in ensuring CI's continued trajectory of growth. In the coming years, the master plan calls for increased enrollment, new programs like engineering and health sciences, intercollegiate sports, and infrastructural improvements such as new classrooms, student housing, and a multi-purpose event center. Donors also provide critical support for

scholarships, student and faculty research, and labs and equipment.

"While the State is funding the basic operating costs of the campus for the first time in many years, it does not cover the plans for any expansion," Wollons said. "Donor support is essential – and it conveys a global benefit. A larger campus will attract commerce, create jobs, and bring attention to Ventura County as a growth center."

Along with his family, work and classic car obsession, Wollons now describes CI as one of his "passions." The CI advocate uses his entrepreneurial spirit and expertise to inspire new donors, partnerships, and programs with regional economic appeal.

"I think under the leadership of Dr. Rush, all the dreams of making this one of the top universities in the county will come true," he said. "The enthusiasm I see in the students, the faculty and the staff about the campus makes me feel proud to be a part of it." ◀ C

CI Donors Leave Legacies, Fund Futures

Legacy Society founding members honored at luncheon

By Marya Jones Barlow

Gabriel Guillen, a nurse and Community Health Supervisor at St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard, never met Margaret Garlock. But to the 2011 graduate of CI's Nursing Program, Garlock is a hero. "In times of financial hardship, Margaret Garlock was a blessing to me and my family, helping me fulfill my goals of becoming a nurse and serving my community," he said.

Guillen is one of nearly 800 CI students to date who have been able to pursue their education, thanks to the generosity of donor-funded scholarships. In Guillen's case, he received the Margaret Garlock Nursing Scholarship, a Legacy gift which supported him through nursing school.

Legacy gifts are planned donations commonly made in wills, estate plans and charitable remainder trusts and annuities. They can be given all at once or pledged over a designated time period. Donors have flexibility to structure gifts to meet their financial, investment and charitable goals. In addition to the gratification of giving, these investments can provide benefits such as income tax deductions and avoiding estate taxes, probate and capital gains taxes. A CI volunteer group of financial services professionals, known as the Planned Giving Advisory Council (PGAC), offers its expertise free to anyone interested in making a donation to the University.

"Legacy gifts provide the foundation for growth and academic excellence at CI," said Nichole Ipach, Vice President for University Advancement.



At a May 6 luncheon sponsored by Northern Trust—founding sponsor of CI's Legacy Society—Ipach, President Rush, PGAC members, faculty, staff, and students welcomed and thanked CI's founding group of Legacy Society donors. Rush also gave them the inside scoop on the latest University news and unveiled the Legacy Society Founders' Plaque, which will be displayed in University Hall.

"With your generosity, you are paving the way for countless students to seek opportunity and thrive as productive leaders in our community and society," Rush told attendees. "Your legacy enables CI to pursue high priority initiatives, such as new scholarships, programs, research, athletics, and facilities, that will augment our ability as your University to serve students, the region and—hopefully, one day soon—stand as a national model for education, innovation and partnership."

One of the founding Legacy Society members is Don Rodriguez, Professor and Chair

of CI's Environmental Studies & Resource Management Program (ESRM), who is leaving a bequest to the University in his estate plans.

"As a faculty member, I've seen the impact this type of giving has on students that otherwise would not have the financial resources to attend a four-year college and on our University's ability to serve them," he said. "My bequest allows me to target underrepresented students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and ESRM and to know I am supporting future generations striving to better themselves and their world."

Anyone who wishes to make a planned gift to CI through December 2014 will become a founding member of the Legacy Society, and will receive invitations to special events and name recognition on the Founders' Plaque in University Hall. For more information, visit www.csuci.edu/impact or contact Nichole Ipach at 805-437-8893 or nichole.ipach@csuci.edu. ◀ C

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On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff, we gratefully acknowledge the following donors who made gifts in support of California State University Channel Islands during 2013. Every gift makes a difference and every donor is appreciated. Every effort has been made to post a complete and accurate list. Please report errors to the Development office at 805-437-3165.

Honor Roll of Donors

Rachael Jordan
'08 English

A Class Act: CI Student Returns as Faculty

By Marya Jones Barlow

Rachael Jordan loved being a student in CI's English program so much, she came back to teach.

"My students get so excited when they find out I went here for my undergrad because they get to see a CI success story right in their own classroom," said the 2008 graduate and lecturer in English Composition. "I was always active on campus as a student, so it's fulfilling to be in a completely different role now, adding to students' experience of this university."

Growing up in Long Beach, Jordan discovered her passion for reading and writing at an early age. An insatiable reader who spent Friday afternoons at the library, Jordan was encouraged by her third grade teacher to write her own stories.

At CI, she was inspired by her English professors—as well as jobs as a Resident Assistant, Orientation Leader and Writing Center tutor—to teach undergraduate writing.

"I fell in love with working with first-year college students and I knew right away I wanted to teach at CI," she said. "I just want to give back the same intimate, amazing experience that I got while being a student here."

After earning her Master's in English from CSUN in 2011 and working as a lecturer in its composition program, she returned

to CI in 2012 as faculty.

"I remember walking into the first faculty meeting and reminding myself that I could call everyone by their first name," she said. "Luckily, our English Program faculty are amazing and have made me feel welcome and like a genuine colleague from the very beginning."

Jordan teaches English 105, English 102 and 103 (Stretch Composition) and English 107 (Advanced Composition)—required writing courses that allow her to work with new students from every major. It's an important and influential role that she relishes.

"I get to interact with students from across the disciplines, assist them with their transition into college, and teach them the foundations for academic writing and the transferrable writing skills they'll need for the rest of their college careers," she said.

She keeps her classes current and captivating by incorporating social media, video and popular

culture that students know and use in everyday life. She shows movie clips to practice summary vs. analysis, utilizes movie trailers to teach audience expectation and genre, discusses tweets vs. text messages to help explain genre and communication, and has students practice rhetorical analysis on their favorite song lyrics before asking them to analyze an academic text. In her research, Jordan explores how social networking sites impact students' literacy and their expressions of gender and sexuality.

"I always try to start with something familiar before we move into the academic," she said. "And I try to make it clear from the beginning that I want students to come to me with questions and additional feedback. I know how important making personal connections with my professors was for me as a student to help keep me engaged and motivated for my courses and I want to give my students that same opportunity." ◀ C





UPDATES

Korri Faria '12 Political Science

After graduating Korri searched for different job opportunities from teaching anatomy lessons to young women to rebuilding houses destroyed by tornadoes. She now works as an employment and education VISTA member at San Joaquin Valley Veterans, a project of WestCare. Her main role is to establish a relationship with the homeless population as well as community organization and express the importance of veteran friendly hiring.



Mindy Carson '10 B.A. Business

Mindy is now the General Manager at El Rey Cantina in Camarillo. She is responsible for operating and overseeing every aspect of the business from managing employees to dealing with vendors to maintenance of the facility. "Never a dull moment when you are running a company," Mindy expresses. She earned her position by constantly perfecting her resume and seizing her opportunity when the manager position opened up. After meeting with the manager several times she was able to demonstrate that she was the right person for the job.



Kelsey Chavez '10 Liberal Studies

Kelsey applied for anything and everything that was interesting to her. Wanting to make a difference supporting and encouraging youth, she wasn't afraid of working her way up through the ranks. She is now the Program Director at the Zimmerman Boys & Girls Club of Fresno County. Her tasks include: staff development, program placement, recruitment of members and donors, creating programs for kids, and working specifically with teens. While working, Kelsey is also completing her Master's degree in Educational Counseling.

David Ashley '13 B.A. Biology

David began applying for different jobs in various areas. He tailored his resume to each specific position he applied for including his current position where he works as a Quality Control Analyst at Baxter Bioscience in Thousand Oaks. Working in the Quality Control Microbiology department, he is responsible for performing environmental monitoring and utility monitoring of the manufacturing areas.



Andrew Antone '09 B.S. Business

Andrew became an art director specializing in brand identity design, digital marketing, print collateral, UX and website development eventually creating his own company, AAexpressive. With more than 10 years of experience, he has worked with a variety of major brands and Fortune 500 companies including: AMC, CNN, Disney, DreamWorks, The E! Network, Green Hills Software, Hudson Institute of Coaching, lynda.com, MorganStanley, Smith Barney, NBC, Summit Entertainment, Twentieth Century Fox, and Zenger Folkman. Andrew's creativity is fueled by his passion for music, film, and theater; an obsessively-active lifestyle; and a penchant for detail.



Sarah Lawrence '12 B.A. Business

Sarah began working as a marketing coordinator for companies such as VIZIO, Epson and Canon. Realizing her true passion was fashion, Sarah began a fashion blog that quickly became popular and successful. After running the blog for a few months she applied for a position at BELLA + CANVAS and is now their Marketing Coordinator. She is in charge of all aspects of marketing planning, promotion, public relations, and product research and development.

Anthony Gioia '08 B.A. Business

After graduating Anthony spent months consistently contacting sales executives in technology organizations, received an offer from Hewlett-Packard, and now works for Oracle. He is responsible for sales and building executive level relationships in Fortune 500 Companies in Phoenix and Las Vegas.

Kristen Zetterberg '11 B.A. Psychology

Kristen worked for an insurance company for a year but wasn't satisfied. Wanting more responsibility and a greater challenge she began working as an account executive selling technology to businesses in the San Fernando Valley. Through her consistent success and excellent reputation, she was asked by Image Mover Inc. to take on the role as their account executive and has been offered the opportunity to replace the VP when he retires.

George Morgan,
'11 English

Rocketing to Renown

By Marya Jones Barlow

George Morgan has earned a lot of rave reviews since he published *Rocket Girl: The Story of Mary Sherman Morgan, America's First Female Rocket Scientist*, the remarkable true story of his mother's unheralded role as a heroine of the Space Race. The BBC produced a documentary on his 2013 book; *Scientific American* called it "a dramatic, suspenseful tale;" *Publishers Weekly* labeled it "a compelling read;" and the *Washington Post*, *Slate*, and *Discover* magazine gave it positive reviews.

But Morgan's most cherished reviews have come from readers.

"One reader said, 'Your book made me lose weight.' When I asked him how that happened, he said, 'I only read when I'm on the treadmill, and I couldn't put it down,'" Morgan recalled. "The most gratifying comments, however, come from young women who tell me the book convinced them to go into math or science. Changing someone's life—it doesn't get any better than that."

Morgan is quick to point out how his own life changed as a result of CI's English Program. He first began writing *Rocket Girl* as a student in Professor Joan Peters' non-fiction class.

"The book would not exist without the training and faculty support I received at CI," Morgan said. "Before CI, I had no formal training as a writer and I knew I did not yet have the skills to accomplish my goal of researching and bringing

forth my mother's lost legacy."

Already the owner of a successful insurance agency, Morgan entered CI at the age of 53 with the goal of telling his mother's story. It was a story Mary Sherman Morgan had kept well-hidden—even from her own family—until her death in 2004. As her son reconstructed his mother's life for her obituary, he learned she had invented hydryne, the rocket fuel that launched the nation's first satellite, Explorer 1, and proved essential in cementing America's role in the Space Race. However, because the information in the obituary was undocumented, the *Los Angeles Times* refused to publish it.

"I made a vow then and there that I would find a way to write my mother into the history books where she belonged," Morgan said.

Morgan accomplished that and more. He's in discussions with filmmakers about adapting the book to a screenplay. As the Playwright in Residence at CalTech, he's created and staged a trilogy of science-themed plays, including one based on his mother's story. He's also the

author of multiple award-winning plays, screenplays and novels. In June, he will receive his MFA from the University of California's Palm Desert writing program. The Santa Paula resident and his wife, Lisa, have six grown children in a "yours-mine-and-ours family" and two adopted foster children.

Morgan also tours the country, promoting *Rocket Girl* and doing readings. In February, he returned to CI's campus to read and discuss the book with an audience of more than 50 fans and some familiar faculty faces, including Brad Monsma, Joan Peters, Julia Balén, Luda Popenhagen and Andrea Marzell.

"Like my mother, CI's English Program has not gotten the attention it deserves," he said. "It's an undiscovered gem and I predict we will see a number of successful writers being developed there. When young people ask where I think they should apply for a great university writing program, I always recommend Channel Islands."

Learn more on Morgan's website, www.georgedmorgan.com. ◀ C





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www.csuci.edu/recreation/wf-main-page

June/July: **ISLAND VIEW ORIENTATION**
Visit www.csuci.edu/nsotp/ivo/freshman

August 23: Fall semester begins - Saturday classes
August 25: Fall semester begins - Weekday classes

August 24: **WELCOME CELEBRATION: "We are Dolphins"**
Visit www.csuci.edu/nsotp/welcome-week

Fall Semester Series: **LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES** - featured inside on page 16
(schedules to post early fall semester)
www.csuci.edu/academics/artsandsciences/library-lecture-series

Martin V. Smith School of Business & Economics SPEAKERS SERIES
business.csuci.edu/events.htm



September 6: Alumni & Friends Association's 11TH annual **DODGER DAY**
www.csuci.edu/alumni/dodgerday2014

October 18: Annual **PRESIDENT'S DINNER** at Hyatt Westlake Plaza



MVS Spring 2014 Speaker
Joe Schroeder

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