

## Looking for Ways to Grow

Can five young women from California State University at San Marcos help give Oceanside READS the shove it needs to get back onto the high seas of the literacy movement?

The READS program has been floating in somewhat shallow water in recent years, mostly because of citywide financial cutbacks, but also because of enrollment numbers that could use a boost. Simply stated, the program is seeking more learners—and more tutors to go with them.

This is where a group of Cal State students and their College of Business Administration adviser enter the scene—to inject some added energy into the program with the goal of helping it to grow and thrive.

Under the overall supervision of Dr. James Hamerly, director of Business Community Relations in the College of Business Administration, faculty adviser Alan Omens is overseeing a team of five students in researching literacy programs across the country to determine approaches



Cal State San Marcos students currently at work on the READS research project are, from left, Natasha Albright, Kristina Maniquis, Lauren Bocock, Stephanie Schmid, and Christina Cole. With them is their faculty adviser, Alan Omens. Their findings will be presented in May.

that might work best for helping Oceanside READS grow. The team members are Natasha Albright, Lauren Bocock, Christina Cole, Kristina Maniquis, and Stephanie Schmid.

The students have been gathering information for several weeks and are scheduled to have a report on their findings and recommendations for READS by the end of April.

A final formal presentation will be made on campus at 4 PM on May 10. Their work also will be exhibited at the Senior Experience Trade Show at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido, on May 19.

The team lists these objectives: 1. Benchmark several low literacy programs. 2. Identify how and where the target population discovers community

Oceanside READS is the adult literacy program of the Oceanside Public Library.

## PROJECT (From Page1)

assistance programs. 3. Design an outreach plan promoting Literacy and the Oceanside READS program, including posters, sample brochures, and other outreach material.

The city of Oceanside has put up \$1,500 to have the study conducted. That is the standard fee for these projects, according to Dr. Hamerly, who says the students and their adviser usually rack up about 1,000 hours on each of them.

The READS project is just one of 46 currently being conducted by teams of CSUSM students, Dr. Hamerly said.

—Walt Taylor



### Next Tutor Lunch Meeting

Tuesday, May 10

NOON



## Oceanside READS Locations

### Literacy Center

321 N. Nevada St., Oceanside, CA 92054

(760) 435-5680

*Hours:* Mon., Tues., 10-7; Wed., 2-7; Fri., 10-2

### Civic Center Library

330 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside, CA 92054

(760) 435-5600

*Hours:* Mon., Tues., 9-8

Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., 9-5:30

### Mission Branch Library

3861-B Mission Ave., Oceanside, CA 92057

(760) 435-5600

*Hours:* Mon, Tues., Noon-8

Wed., Thurs., Fri., 9-5:30; Sun., 1-5

READS Adult Literacy Coordinator: Corrie Miles (760) 435-5680

california Library Literacy Services — Southern California Library Literacy Network — San Diego Council on Literacy

## Become a Volunteer Tutor . . . Make a Difference in Someone's Life

The idea of tutoring is an attractive, but intimidating, idea for some people. "After all," they wonder, what can I tutor? And how can I learn how to do it?" Oceanside READS offers training for adults who wish to help other adults with low literacy skills—to enable them to function better in society.

### Requirements for Tutoring Adults

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Complete a free eight-hour training
- Commit to tutoring for at least six months (It's okay to go on vacation)
- Tutor for a minimum of two days per week, 90 minutes per session

### Next Tutor Training Schedule

#### Orientation

Wednesday, March 23, 6-7 PM

#### Training

Saturday, March 26, 9 AM - 4:30 PM

#### Location

READS Literacy Center

Please call (760) 435-5680 for more information, or if you would like to volunteer.