From the Faculty Center Director:
Faculty members often observe that they find the service section of the WPAF reflective statement to be the most challenging to write. In my five year term as Faculty Center Director (now coming to a close), I have taken up this challenge and sought ways to help faculty members find ways not only to write effectively about their service activity but also to find service opportunities that are genuinely meaningful to them. The mantra I have come to repeat is that faculty members should approach service as an opportunity to contribute to the shared governance of the university through activities that connect to their research and creative interests and expertise. Interest and expertise. Those are very different from the words that are typically used to describe to service, like duty or busy-work or even drudgery. If you devise a creative, energetic strategy to take up service opportunities that allow you to utilize your interests and skills, then you will pursue service activities on campus and also in the larger community about which you are curious and that you believe are important. You will pursue service activities where you can apply your skills, knowledge, and perhaps even aspects of your disciplinary methodology. This is why I originally applied for the position of Faculty Center Director—because this position enabled me to pursue my interests in helping faculty members do what I have been trying to do, that is, build a meaningful career and contribute meaningfully to the development of this university. For my part, while teaching and research have always required serious concentration and labor, I have found that investing creative energy in service has informed the other areas of my faculty work just as much as teaching and research inform each other. And reflecting back over the past five years, I have genuinely enjoyed this service because of the opportunities it has brought to collaborate with wonderful colleagues among the staff, administration, and faculty. – Carmen Nava

New Faculty Highlight: Thomas Spady
Thomas Spady, an Assistant Professor in the Biology Department, joined the CSUSM faculty this past fall. In his first two semesters he taught the Biology of Human Reproduction (BIO 327), and in Spring 2009 he also taught a seminar in physiology titled “Reproductive Physiology of Sexual Selection in Animals.” He plans to teach in Fall 2009 an upper division course that will become a lower division course, Evolution (BIO 212), and is developing a new 400 level course, Reproductive Physiology in Animals. In addition, Thomas
has become active in his department’s MA program. He is currently working on a pilot study that focuses on the reproductive biology of large carnivores, specifically the American Black Bear in South Dakota. This current research has a multidisciplinary approach and incorporates two other research interests. The first is the development of a passive integrated technology tag for animals for the research of mating patterns. The second interest is mentoring Native American students to increase their participation in field research.

Thomas earned his bachelor’s of science from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and his doctoral in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. He enjoys his work so much that he considers it his hobby and participates in various activities like the CSUSM Science Fair.

A complete calendar listing is available on our website: http://www.csusm.edu/fc/calendar.htm

Finals
Saturday, May 9 through Friday, May 15, 2009

Provost Lunch
Tuesday, May 12, 2009 from 12-1 PM in KEL 2400

Commencement
Saturday, May 16, 2009

Grades Due
Thursday, May 21, 2009

Faculty Center Research Colloquium Highlights
Each semester, the Faculty Center hosts the Faculty Research Colloquium Dinner, which provides CSUSM faculty an opportunity to present their scholarly research to university colleagues in a professional but enjoyable setting. This semester’s colloquium speaker, Ranjeeta Basu (Economics), presented “From Tijuana to Mumbai: How Have Workers Been Affected by Changes in Trade Policies?” A large group of peers assembled on the evening of April 15th at the Clarke Field House Grand Salon to hear the presentation. Dr. Basu’s discussion about worker experiences in three diverse global regions prompted an appreciative and lively question and answer period. Colloquium attendee Kimberly Knowles-Yanez observed afterwards, “On this busy campus, with service and teaching pulling us in so many directions, the colloquium gives me a chance to hear about my colleagues’ research. I always leave a colloquium ‘wowed’ by the presentation and look forward to the next speaker!” The colloquium series is widely praised because it fosters collegiality and intellectual engagement across the disciplines.
Colloquium Nominations for AY 09-10
The Faculty Center Advisory Council is now accepting colloquium
nominations for AY 09-10. For a history of colloquium speakers, please visit

Successful Workshop Offered by Your Peers
The CSU Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL) recently hosted a special
workshop called “Train the Trainers.” This system-wide workshop was
designed to help build the skills of faculty who are interested in training their
faculty peers through their campus’s Faculty Center. CSU San Marcos was
represented by incoming Faculty Center Director Radhika Ramamurthi
(Math), Marie Thomas
(Psychology), and
(Delores Lindsey
(Graduate of Education).) Thomas delivered a
trained to deliver and that
genuine interest to
workshop, “Meaningful
Rubrics” was standing
positive evaluations of the
clarified many concepts
examples. Next semester, both Radhika and Delores will offer a workshop, so
stay tuned for the details.

Free Professional Development Workshop:
Teaching Strategies for Today's First-Year Students
Friday, August 28, 2009 from 8:30 AM-3:30 PM in the Field House Grand Salon
Mark your calendars! First-Year Programs is be hosting a free professional
development opportunity for all faculty, including adjunct faculty and graduate
teaching assistants. In collaboration with Cengage Learning, Dr. Constance
Staley will facilitate a day long workshop on how to more effectively work
with and teach our first-year students modeled after her nationally renowned
“50 Ways to Leave Your Lectern.” Thanks to Cengage, this workshop is free
of charge, including breakfast, lunch, and workshop materials. This is a chance
to network with colleagues and an opportunity to learn from a nationally
recognized expert on the first-year of college. Please RSVP to either Dr.
Joanne Pedersen (pedersen@csusm.edu or 760-750-4186) or Lauren Arrant
(Lauren.arrant@cengage.com or 619-865-2673)
12th CSU Regional Symposium on University Teaching

On Saturday May 2, our colleagues at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo hosted the 12th annual CSU Regional Symposium on University Teaching. Four faculty members from CSUSM participated: Stephen Tsui (Physics) made one presentation; Shelli Douglas (First-year Programs) presented a poster; Natalie Wilson (Women’s Studies) made two presentations; and, Faculty Center Director Carmen Nava attended the symposium after participating in the retreat the previous day for the Faculty Development Council, consisting of all of the CSU faculty developers. Congratulations to the CSUSM faculty who presented and represented their campus so successfully. Sponsored by the Institute of Teaching and Learning (Chancellor’s Office), this annual symposium provides CSU faculty a unique opportunity to interact with other CSU colleagues and share our “Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.” The Faculty Development Council made provisional plans for the 2010 symposium, which is tentatively scheduled for the Palm Springs branch of CSU San Bernadino. Please watch for the call for proposals, because the 2010 symposium will take place somewhere in Southern California, making it quite convenient for CSUSM faculty on limited travel budgets.

Faculty Center Professional Development Grant Recipients 08-09

Congratulations to those faculty who were awarded a Faculty Center Professional Development Grant for the 08-09 academic year!

Todd Astorino (Kinesiology)
Judy Bauerlein (Visual and Performing Arts)
Rong-Ji Chen (College of Education)
Vassilis Dalakas (College of Business Administration)
Kristine Diekman (Visual and Performing Arts)
Russell Jackson (Psychology)
Deborah Kristan (Biology)
Joonseong Lee (Communication)
David Lulka (Liberal Studies)
Jonathan Markovitz (Communication)
Marcos Martinez (Visual and Performing Arts)
Salah Moukhli (Literature and Writing)
Jeff Nessler (Kinesiology)
Karno Ng (Chemistry)
K. Brooks Reid (Mathematics)
Karen Schaffman (Visual and Performing Arts)
Miriam Schustack (Psychology)
Paul Stuhrl (Kinesiology)
Natalie Wilson (Women’s Studies)

The Faculty Center Advisory Council holds an annual grant call (usually in early spring) for awards that span the entire fiscal year (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010). Faculty members of the CSUSM community are encouraged to apply. The next deadline for year-long grants is May 15, 2009.
2009) for CSUSM faculty professional developments. All faculty are eligible to apply. Please see visit the Faculty Center website for more information. [www.csusm.edu/fc](http://www.csusm.edu/fc)

**Accepting Campus Connect Applications**  
**Monday, June 1, 2009**
There is still time to apply for Campus Connect 09-10 Class. The application is available on the Campus Connect website at [http://www.csusm.edu/campusconnect](http://www.csusm.edu/campusconnect). The purpose of Campus Connect is to offer participants a broad perspective of California State University San Marcos and how the divisions and departments are interconnected. Twenty-five participants representing a broad cross-section of the campus are selected each year. Over nine class sessions they learn what other employees, including faculty, administrators and staff do to support the mission of the university, and meet its strategic priorities.

**2009 MERLOT International Conference**  
**August 13-17, 2009 in San Jose, California**
Devoted to faculty development in the design, creation, utilization and evaluation of online teaching and learning materials, this conference provides numerous opportunities to share, learn, and participate in conversations about teaching and learning with technology. For additional information: [http://conference.merlot.org/2009/](http://conference.merlot.org/2009/)

**Spring 2009 ITL Connections Newsletter**
The Spring 2009 edition of the ITL Connections newsletter is now available to view. Highlights include: Long Beach: Departmental Team Takes a Redesign Journey and High Impact Practices and General Education. The mission of the institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL) is to support faculty professional development for the nation's largest university system. They have created a web of connections among faculty through each campus' teaching and learning center, and address connections between teaching and learning, teaching and scholarship, and teaching and research. [http://www.calstate.edu/itl/newsletter/09-spring.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/itl/newsletter/09-spring.shtml)

**H-Adjunct Discussion Forum**
H-Adjunct is an open, inter-disciplinary forum for issues involving adjunct, part-time and temporary faculty at universities, colleges and community colleges. [http://www.h-net.org/~adjunct/](http://www.h-net.org/~adjunct/)

**Congratulations!**
**Dr. Merryl Goldberg**, a professor in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts has been honored as College Educator of the Year by the California Music Educators Association - Southern Border Section (CMEA-SBS) at an awards ceremony last Wednesday, April 28, at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego for her efforts to foster partnerships with the educational community throughout San Diego County. Congratulations Merryl!

**Dr. Deborah Kristan**, Department of Biological Sciences, recently was awarded a grant in the amount of $444,000 from the National Institutes of
Health/NIGMS. The award is for Dr. Kristan’s research project titled, *Changes in antioxidants and susceptibility to parasites*. The goal of the four-year research project is to determine if the increased susceptibility to intestinal parasite infection that occurs during chronic calorie restriction is related to changes in the host-parasite reactive oxygen species/antioxidant pathway. This research will have important implications for human health because (1) millions of people live with adequate nutrition but with low food availability and high parasite prevalence, (2) pharmaceutical mimics of caloric restriction are being researched and developed to slow aging but caution may be needed before dissemination to the public if their use might increase pathogen susceptibility, and (3) if calorie intake of a host can affect parasite survival and reproduction this will alter host-pathogen transmission dynamics that contribute to the world wide infection of people by intestinal parasites.

**FMP Student Seeks Support, Achieves Success**

John S. Fernandez (Sam) joined to the Faculty Mentoring Program in fall 2006 as senior because knew he needed some guidance to achieve his ambitious goal of completing a bachelor’s and graduate degree in the Biological Sciences. Matthew Escobar (Biological Sciences) has worked with Sam as his mentor for the past 3 years. As the first in his family to attend college, Sam had started, stopped and then restarted community college before transferring to CSUSM. “Thinking back, I realize that I would have not dropped out of college if I had had a mentor to guide me during that time.” Sam was selected to receive the Graduate Test Registration Scholarship in 2007, but he notes that most of all he will remember his mentor as a person “who to believe in himself,” to would achieve his goals. Matt encourages faculty mentors to be in charge of the mentor-protégé relationship, and second step to contact the student, and provide the vision and leadership to ensure the protégé’s needs. Reflecting on the benefits of the strong personal relationship that developed with his protégé Sam, Matt notes who much he relished the opportunity to learn about Sam’s experiences, for example, living in the Mexican state of Oaxaca and working with a local natural healer (*curandero*). Matt observes to prospective faculty mentors that the beauty of serving as a FMP mentor is that faculty step out of their role of evaluating student achievement, and instead focus on being a good listener and academic guide. Sam will earn his bachelor degree this spring 2009, but this is just the beginning. Sam will continue here at CSUSM, in the master’s program in Ecology and work in the lab of Dr. George Vourlitis, preceptor of the Office of Biomedical Research and Training. Next, Sam plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Ecology and eventually teach at a university or community college.