From the Director:

Now that we have passed the mid-point of the fall semester, many faculty are conducting simple classroom assessments to measure student learning and the effectiveness of course design. One of the most popular and effective classroom assessment techniques is a short, anonymous mid-semester evaluation consisting of a few simple questions about the students’ perception of the course and their own learning experience in the course. This technique is useful for experienced faculty as well as for newer faculty. The data can be collected quickly and then analyzed promptly, allowing faculty to make informed decisions about appropriate adjustments to address areas of concern in a timely fashion. Many faculty find that it is useful to analyze this kind of assessment data after the semester is complete, as part of the faculty evaluation process. For example, juxtaposing mid-semester evaluations with the official Student Evaluations of Teaching can inform the analysis we present in the WPAF reflective statement on instruction. Please come to the Faculty Center Library to consult some of our published materials on classroom assessment techniques and see our sample WPAFs for examples of how faculty present analysis of classroom assessment as part of continuous improvement in the area of instruction. -Carmen Nava, Director

Pre-Doctoral Scholar Success: Mario Martinez

Our campus Pre-Doctoral Scholar for 08-09, Mario Martinez, and his faculty mentor, Darci Strother (World Languages), sat down with our campus coordinator to reflect on Mario’s winning of the grant and discoveries along the way of obtaining the California Pre-Doctoral Scholarship. Mario is described by his mentor as a great candidate who always goes above and beyond in the classroom. Mario is a graduate student in the field of Hispanic Linguistics here at CSUSM. He describes this program as an opportunity that has given him a head start in his doctoral quest and in it various opportunities including a fully funded summer internship of his choice. Mario remarked, “This [program] is a great springboard and makes it accessible [for me] to obtain a PhD. The jump from CSU to UC is no longer a gap. Instead, the program has made it a simple transition.”

Continue on page 2
Martinez approached Professor Strother to be his mentor for several reasons but most of all because he found that they had similar teaching methodologies. Professor Strother finds mentoring Mario to be a pleasure, and finds that this program is a way to give students the opportunities and resources instead of just talking about them. She notes that this is a prestigious program that is quite selective, and to have a student selected is very well respected. She encourages faculty to encourage students to apply to this program, even if they have not been successful in the past. In light of the budget woes, this program is a valuable resource.

The California Pre-Doctoral Program is designed to increase the pool of potential faculty by supporting the doctoral aspirations of California State University (CSU) students who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages. The program is funded through the California Lottery funds, and is open to juniors, seniors, and graduate students. Please contact the campus coordinator, Lisa Bandong (lbandong@csusm.edu or x4019), for more information and the spring application deadline. 

http://www2.csusm.edu/fc/loans.htm

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

CAMPUS CLOSED: Veterans Day
Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Faculty Center Advisory Council Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2008 from 10:00-11:30 am in KEL 2413

New Faculty Institute: Fall Retreat
Friday, November 21, 2008 from 9:00-2:00 in KEL 2413

Technology Brown Bag: Instructional Materials Accessibility
Wednesday, November 18, 2008 from 12:00-1:00pm in TBD

Faculty Research Colloquium
On Wednesday, October 22, Dr. Grace McField (Education) presented a talk entitled, “Indefensible Compromises: Restrictions in Access to Learning, Language Development and Parent Rights Under Proposition 227 (1998-2008).” McField addressed how this proposition has been implemented, documenting several problematic examples from local school districts. A lively question and answer session raised a number of interesting issues, including questions about recent California politics and historical tensions reaching back to the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. McField will continue to share her work with the large community at a November Conference, “Proposition 227 and Beyond: Connecting Research, Policy, and Practice.” The Institute for Language and Education Policy is partnering with the CSUSM College of Education, and the San Diego County Office of Education to bring together a wide variety of stakeholders to discuss
best practices and formulate action plans to address the needs of English Learners in California public schools. Further conference information is available at:  http://lynx.csusm.edu/ilep/index.shtml

The Faculty Center Research Colloquium for Spring 2009 will feature a presentation by Dr. Ranjeeta Basu (Economics) tentatively entitled “Exploration of Women’s Daily Lives in the Informal Labor Market in Mumbai.” The date will be announced before the end of fall semester so that the faculty can save the date on their calendars. The Faculty Center Research Colloquium continues to serve a valuable role in building a culture of intellectual interchange and supporting faculty professional development. Please plan to attend.

**Technology Brown Bag: Instructional Materials Accessibility Plan Implementation**

**Wednesday, November 19 from noon to 1 p.m. (TBD)**

The University is now implementing phase two of the Instructional Materials Accessibility Plan. New courses need to have accessible content and by fall semester 2012 all instructional materials and instructional websites for all courses need to be accessible. This is a big undertaking and Academic Technology Services is preparing support materials and researching the best way to convert materials.

A simple first step is to create an accessible syllabus. This one-hour workshop teaches you how to create an accessible Word document and then check its accessibility with Adobe Acrobat Pro. We would also be happy to come to meetings to share this process. Please complete our online registration form https://lynx.csusm.edu/courses/workshops/index.asp

**NCHEA New Faculty Dinner Recap**

The North County Higher Education Alliance held its annual New Faculty Dinner on October 16 to celebrate the new faculty hired at the three campuses. CSUSM was represented by the Academic Senate Chair, Janet McDaniel (College of Education), and eight of the new tenure-track faculty.

McDaniel remarked, “Comparing opinions across campuses was stimulating. Dinner tables were arranged by discipline areas, so that, for example scientists, librarians, and historians from the three campuses were seated next to each other to encourage cross-campus conversations. Presentations after dinner about the benefits of NCHEA grants helped to motivate tablemates to explore collaborations that might be supported by NCHEA. The report by a MiraCosta professor about the geologists’ conference grant was instructive. The MiraCosta Latin Jazz Band entertained with a full set of amazing, toe-tapping music. Yet another example of collaboration with our North County higher education partners!”

New faculty Katherine Hijar (History) stated, “It was wonderful to end my day with such nice and interesting colleagues. The food was good, the speakers had helpful and inspiring things to say, and the Latin jazz band was a real treat.”
North County Higher Education Alliance (NCHEA) is dedicated to improving educational opportunities for North County citizens and to promoting working relationships among California State University, San Marcos, MiraCosta College, and Palomar College.

**Grant Information, Opportunities & Successes**

http://www.csusm.edu/fc/FacultyGrantPage.htm

**2009–10 ACE Fellows Program Application**

**Application Deadline: November 1, 2008**

The ACE Fellows Program enables participants to immerse themselves in the culture, policies, and decision-making processes of another institution. This unique program condenses years of on-the-job experience and skills development into a single year. As a result, the ACE Fellows Program is the most effective, comprehensive leadership development program in American higher education today. Of more than 1,500 Fellows to date, more than 300 have served as chief executive officers at more than 350 institutions.

For additional information about the ACE Fellows Program
http://www.acenet.edu/Content/NavigationMenu/ProgramsServices/FellowsProgram/index.htm

**The Institute for Teaching and Learning’s Discipline Research Project—Round #2**

**Addressing Critical Classroom Issues Related to the Quality of Student Learning**

**Online applications due Monday, November 3, 2008**

The Discipline Research Project is a 2-year multi-campus discipline-based community, whereby faculty teams focus on critical teaching and learning issues as an applied-research project. Teams receive funds in order to support their collaboration and experimentation on individual and team research questions. All project faculty are **required to attend** a 2-day workshop to be held **March 27-28, 2009**, at LAX, in order to (a) revise a course and (b) design a research project to assess the impact of this course revision. Teams will communicate throughout the duration of this 2-year project, refine their classroom teaching-learning strategies, and disseminate results through manuscript-writing and presentations, followed by grant-writing as appropriate.

Online applications are available at http://transform.csuprojects.org/itlconnect

For questions, please contact Cynthia Desrochers: cdesrochers@calstate.edu

Director, Institute for Teaching and Learning CSU Office of the Chancellor

**NCHEA Fall 08 Grant Announcement**

**Deadline Extended: Saturday, November 15, 2008**

The North County Higher Education Alliance (NCHEA) is accepting applications for funding projects involving the collaboration of colleagues from Cal State San Marcos, Palomar College and MiraCosta College. Grant ($500-$3000) and mini-grant (less than $500) applications are available from our website at www.csusm.edu/nchea.
Campus Grant Proposal Seed Money Available
The Office of Graduate Studies & Research sponsors the Grant Proposal Seed Money (GPSM) program. GPSM funds are available to assist you in making you more competitive for external grants. If you are contemplating an external grant proposal, this is an excellent opportunity to request funds. The typical range for funding is $1,000-$3,000 based on merit and justification. Requests for funds may include supplies, equipment, travel, student assistants, grant writing assistance, stipends (to hire assistance), or other needs associated with external grant and fellowship proposal development. There is no hard deadline but apply as soon as you are certain that you will pursue an extramural proposal. You can find the GPSM policy at: http://lynx.csusm.edu/policies/procedure_online.asp?ID=128

Grant Writing Seed Money from the CSU!
This is an exciting new research support opportunity recently announced by the Chancellor’s Office: COAST – which stands for “Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology.” COAST hopes to focus system-wide resources to provide vision, leadership and support throughout the CSU for education, research and policy related to California’s marine, estuarine and coastal regions. COAST seeks to promote the dissemination of knowledge gained to the greater public, thereby promoting stewardship and ensuring future sustainable use of California’s coast.

This is not for scientists only. Anyone with interest in environmental concerns should consider this opportunity. The funding is *seed* funding to prepare external grant proposals and are quite generous! The key requirement is to collaborate with at least one other faculty member from another CSU campus.

Please see http://www.calstate.edu/coast/ for additional information.

American Democracy Project (ADP) Upcoming Events

Special: Election Night Viewing Party
Tuesday, November 4, beginning at 7pm at the Clarke Field House

Campus Read Fall 08
Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time by Greg Mortenson. For more information, visit the author's website http://www.threecupsoftea.com/. We will have an all campus - Campus Read to discuss the book, Thursday, Nov 13, 12-1 Commons 206.

Citizenship Component Request
Please consider adding a Citizenship Component to your classes regardless of subject matter. Perhaps you could offer credit to students for attending a program, (ADP or other), completing a writing assignment or whatever you deem as a useful analysis of the experience. Consult with Pamela Stricker (Political Science) for more information.
Global Health & Development Conference
April 18-19, 2009 at Yale University
Unite For Sight 6th Annual Global Health & Development Conference: "Achieving Global Goals Through Innovation" Who should attend? Anyone interested in international health, public health, international development, medicine, nonprofits, eye care, philanthropy, microfinance, social entrepreneurship, bioethics, economics, anthropology, health policy, advocacy, environmental health, service-learning, medical education, and public service. Register and/or submit an abstract. Registration rate increases monthly. Please see website for complete list of featured speakers and topics. [http://www.uniteforsight.org/conference](http://www.uniteforsight.org/conference)

Animal Use and Care Requirements for Vertebrate Animals Used in Research
University policy and federal law require a review of projects for humane treatment and safe use of vertebrate animals. At CSUSM, the review is conducted by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Our seven member IACUC consists of faculty, staff, a veterinarian, and a community member who is unaffiliated with the campus. You can find additional information on IACUC at: [http://www.csusm.edu/research](http://www.csusm.edu/research). If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Linda Collins (x 4028; lcollins@csusm.edu) or the IACUC chair, Richard Bray (rbray@csusm.edu).

AAUP International Conference: Globalization, Shared Governance, and Academic Freedom
June 12-13, 2009 in Washington, D.C.
Proposal Deadline: October 31, 2008
Conference topics include a wide range of issues related to globalization, academic freedom, governance, faculty work life, public policy, contingent faculty, and faculty rights and responsibilities. The goal of the conference is to provide a faculty perspective on critical issues in higher education presented in a format accessible to the general public. [http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/about/events/conf/](http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/about/events/conf/)

Textbook Acquisition Deadline
Did you know that “on time” textbook orders result in direct savings for students with buyback and used textbooks? There is another very important reason for faculty to submit requisitions by the deadline, if not before. Disabled Student Services needs as much advance as possible to meet the needs of students in the most cost effective manner. The requisition deadline for spring semester classes is Friday, November 14, 2008. The University Bookstore encourages faculty to submit even a partial textbook requisition by the deadline (you can add to it later). [www.csusmbookstore.com](http://www.csusmbookstore.com)
If you are not using any textbooks (required or optional), email Tammy Wagonis twagonis@csusm.edu with the department and course information and “No Text Required”. Call Tammy at x4734 or Ben Compton at x4736 with any questions.
Humanities Grants Workshop
Friday, January 16, 2009 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Kellogg 2413
Peter Arnade (History) will be hosting a workshop for faculty interested in submitting grants in the Humanities area. The Office of Graduate Studies and the Foundation will also participate. A formal invitation will be coming soon. Please contact Peter Arnade for more information (parnade@csusm.edu).

Read and Comment!
WASC Educational Effectiveness Essays

Faculty Grant Achievements
Dr. Kathryn Hayden (College of Education) and Dr. Youwen Ouyang (Computer Science) received the National Science Grant for their iQuest program. The three-year project award is $1,493,541. This training program will support middle-school science teachers in becoming Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-savvy workforce members…utilizing ICT resources to engage students in investigations that lead to profound understanding of scientific concepts.

Dr. Bianca Mothé (Biology) recently received an A.R.E.A. grant for continuing funding from the National Institutes of Health/NIGMS for her research project titled, MHC analogy and T-cell activation in SIV Infection. The project period is for three years and the award amount is $234,450. The continuing research will provide the first insight into why some animals progress to AIDS more rapidly than others. Information obtained from this model will allow for the development of interventions which may affect the progression to AIDS in humans.

Dr. Jeffrey Nessler, (Kinesiology) was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation that will fund his project titled, Robotic Locomotor Training and Muscle Atrophy in the Rat Model of Spinal Cord Injury. This project is designed to address the need for research that can better inform the development of rehabilitation strategies that promote the preservation of muscle function following spinal cord injuries. The award amount is $295,757 for a period of three years.