

FIFTH ANNUAL FACULTY/STAFF AWARD RECEPTION

January 14, 2010

DOME

11:00 – 12:30

President Karen S. Haynes

Good morning, and welcome to this, our fifth Annual Faculty/Staff Award Reception. It has become a wonderful tradition to begin the spring semester and the New Year by coming together to celebrate outstanding performance by our faculty and staff. Today, we recognize eight such individuals in our campus community.

We have been honoring Employees of the Month since 2000. When I arrived in 2004, as part of our campus climate priority, we implemented a program to recognize two Employees of the Month for their service with an Employee of the Year Award.

The award recognizes two staff members who have been selected as Employee of the Month in the past year. From that roster, the Executive Council recommends this award.

As former Employees of the Month they have been recognized for their outstanding representation of the University to the campus community, for their contribution to improving the flow of University business operations, and for accomplishments in their individual units that contribute to the overall success of Cal State San Marcos.

This year, I am pleased to announce my choice of two Employees of the Year. First is Carl Hanson, who is an Administrative Analyst in the Facility Services Department. Carl, will you come to the podium?

[Lead applause as Carl comes to podium.]

Since 1992, Carl has played a role in shaping CSUSM, serving first as a Custodian, Lead Custodian, and now in his current role as Administrative Analyst and Recycling Coordinator.

Carl's efforts in leading his team have made recycling a campus tradition, setting a fine example for all of us to follow. This past year, CSUSM took first place - for the fifth time in a row - with an astounding 78 percent recycling rate. Carl has helped change the culture on campus. Thanks to his efforts it is now easier than ever for students, faculty, and staff to "think green" and reduce, reuse, rethink, and recycle.

Along with recognition of his accomplishments, Carl receives a cash award of \$2,000 and a plaque. His name has been engraved on the perpetual plaque in the lobby of Craven Hall. Congratulations!

Julie Mattingly, Associate Director in Student Life & Leadership, is our second Employee of the Year. Julie, will you come to the podium?

Julie began working at CSUSM in 2001 in what was then called Student and Residential Life. Since last July, she has opened the Tukwut Leadership Center, re-designed the entire student organization model and served as a lead for Orientation programs – a role that was especially challenging this year. Julie serves as the chair of the Programming Council and co-chair for the ASI/SLL LEAD group which promotes leadership development for student leaders. She is also a member of UBC.

Along with recognition of his accomplishments, Julie receives a cash award of \$2,000 and a plaque. Her name has been engraved on the perpetual plaque in the lobby of Craven Hall. Congratulations!

This is the fifth year we are awarding the Ernest and Leslie Zomalt Outstanding Service Award.

We are delighted that Ernie and Leslie were able to be with us today. Please join me in thanking them for making this award possible!

This award is given annually to a staff member or administrator selected for contributions toward the achievement of the University's mission and demonstrated

service to the campus community. The Zomalts requested that the award alternate each year between staff and administrators—this year being awarded to an administrator. Individuals are nominated or may self-nominate, and the Executive Council makes recommendations for my consideration.

I am pleased to announce my choice of the Zomalt Outstanding Service Award—Dr. Pat Worden, Vice President for Student Affairs. Pat, would you come forward?

Pat came to the University as a founding faculty member. In fact, just last month she was one of five employees receiving a 20 Year Pin for the very first time!

Pat went on to serve as an associate dean of arts & sciences and dean of graduate studies. She also served as AVP for research before taking on the interim role of vice president for student affairs and then, graciously, accepted the role for a two year term....and then another two years. Pat has led the division through its separation from Academic Affairs, into continued maturity and, over the past two years, through what has certainly been a difficult budget environment.

Vice President Worden is an effective and trustworthy leader, a valued mentor to many and a strong advocate for our students. Under her leadership, Student Affairs has grown into a dynamic organization focused on serving and developing our students.

Pat has always demonstrated commitment to teamwork and collaboration. She has led or served on numerous committees and has championed several initiatives to increase diversity, improve retention and graduation, and build student life and services.

In all of her roles, Pat models a balanced sense of excitement and optimism for the future of CSUSM. Pat Worden exemplifies our "University First" philosophy.

Along with recognition of her accomplishment, Pat receives a cash award of \$2,000, a plaque, and her name has been engraved on the perpetual plaque which will be on display in the lobby of Craven Hall. Congratulations!

Since 1993, Cal State San Marcos has recognized one faculty member from among its many talented individuals for outstanding contributions to their students, their academic discipline, and their campus community.

The Distinguished Professor award is named for Harry Brakebill. Mr. Brakebill served as the financial advisor to the first California State College administration from 1965 until 1969. After a 37-year career with the CSU, he retired as Executive Vice Chancellor, and moved to Rancho Bernardo.

When the university in San Marcos was started, Harry showed up at the door next to the furniture store to offer his services and insights into the CSU way of doing business. He was a founding member of the Foundation Board of Directors and served as its Vice Chair as well as Chair of the Finance Committee.

When he died, his daughter, Dr. Ann Bersi, looked for a way to remember her father and his commitment to higher education and the campus where he volunteered his assistance. As a result of her efforts and generosity, the Harry E. Brakebill Distinguished Professor Award was established in his honor in 1998, and was endowed a few years ago. The endowment provides an annual \$2,000 stipend to the honored faculty member, and this year's honoree is Dr. Kathy Norman, College of Education. Kathy, will you please come forward?

A great university begins with great faculty, with professors who are dedicated to scholarly excellence and devoted to the success of their students. Dr. Norman is a shining example of that.

Dr. Norman's colleagues in the College of Education refer to her as the "heart" of the Science faculty and state that she is "not only an incredibly talented and passionate teacher, but also an outstanding science educator."

Her students admire her ability to instill in them an enduring appreciation of science education. One of her students commented: "After taking her class, my eyes have been opened to the limitless possibilities of being able to teach elementary science and, at the same time, to create an environment which is filled with opportunities for students to develop a real love for science."

During her thirteen years of service at CSUSM, Dr. Norman's contributions have been impressive. She has chaired many committees and is the College of

Education program coordinator of the Integrated Credential Program. She has served as cohort advisor with in the College of Education, a mentor to adjunct professors, and a mentor in the mentoring program from 2002 to 2008.

In 2006 she was elected President of the international Association for Science Teacher Education. Clearly this level of leadership in the professional community speaks for the tremendous respect she has garnered in her field.

Along with recognition of her accomplishments, Dr. Norman receives a plaque, a cash award of \$2,000, and the Brakebill medallion. And her portrait will hang in the lobby of Craven Hall alongside our past Distinguished Professors.

Congratulations to our newest Harry E. Brakebill Distinguished Professor!

The President's Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching Innovation and Excellence has been awarded annually since the 1998/99 academic year to recognize and reward a faculty member who has introduced new and innovative teaching techniques or otherwise exhibited excellence in teaching that engages students and produces a significant positive impact on the student's learning. Faculty are nominated by their students.

This year, I have selected Dr. Elizabeth Matthews, Professor of Political Science in the College of Arts & Sciences. Elizabeth, would you please come forward?

Students who nominated Dr. Matthews clearly recognize how extraordinary she is. They explained in their letter how Dr. Matthews "uses case studies to transform theoretical scenarios into real life conflicts" that students must grapple with.

One of her students remarked how refreshing it is to see a political science professor present topics in a completely non-partisan style. The student remarked that "promoting such an environment in the classroom has further assisted students to determine the facts from fervent political demagoguery."

Dr. Matthews uses technology to broaden the geographical boundaries of the classroom to show students the people and places that are the subject of her

lectures. This, while perhaps less unique to other disciplines, shows her willingness to incorporate not only the content of related fields, but the pedagogical techniques – such as video and creative slide shows – to round out her presentations.

Along with recognition of her accomplishment, Dr. Matthews receives a cash award of \$2,000 and an engraved Mont Blanc pen, courtesy of the University Store. Congratulations!

Our next award is the President's Outstanding Faculty Award for Scholarship and Creative Activity. This has been awarded annually since 2000 to recognize outstanding scholarship and creative activity among our faculty. Faculty are nominated for this award by their colleagues.

This year, I have selected Dr. Andrea Liss, Professor of Visual and Performing Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Unfortunately, Dr. Liss is at a conference and could not be here today.

Dr. Liss is the author of two books, both published by the University of Minnesota Press, a leading academic publisher in the field of cultural studies. Her 1998 book Trespassing through the Shadows is a well regarded consideration of the highly complex role photography plays in the memory of trauma and genocide.

Over the last decade, Dr. Liss has vigorously pursued research on the intersection of motherhood and feminism in art and among outstanding women artists. She has been noticeably active in presenting papers and giving lectures in prominent venues on this topic and, in 2009, Dr. Liss published Feminist Art and the Maternal, nominated by the University of Minnesota Press for the Best Book Award by the College Art Association for 2009.

Dr. Liss has drawn on her own students' life experiences in her scholarship, bringing their voice into her new book - a compelling indication that she does not see the classroom as separate from scholarship, nor the teacher as distinct from the scholar.

Finally, Dr. Liss has authored the catalogue for a recent exhibit she curated at the California Center for the Arts Museum in Escondido on film, video art and

the maternal. Dr. Liss is clearly a scholar who is as active locally as she is nationally, and who sees teaching and research as mutually reinforcing.

Along with recognition of her accomplishment, Dr. Liss will receive a cash award of \$2,000 and an engraved Mont Blanc pen.

Our third faculty award is the President's Outstanding Faculty Award for Service Leadership. I began this award in 2006 to recognize sustained meritorious service among the faculty—service which contributes to academic excellence. It also highlights the value of faculty who apply their professional expertise and interests in diverse roles outside the classroom. Faculty are nominated for this award by their colleagues.

This year, I have selected Dr. Marie Thomas, Professor of Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences. Marie —will you come forward?

Since coming to CSUSM as an Assistant Professor Psychology in 1995, Dr. Thomas has never stopped seeking out what she describes as “interesting service opportunities” which forge the connections so vital to creating a sense of community. Although she may not literally know everyone on campus as some have suggested, bringing people together has been one of the priorities of Dr. Thomas' service activities.

Over the years, Dr. Thomas has made a significant impact across the University. Of particular note has been her work with, and on behalf of, students and faculty. As a participant in the Faculty Mentoring Program, Dr. Thomas has taken countless students under her wing, personally mentoring more than 20 students since 1995.

Dr. Thomas has connected her interest in students' experiences with her leadership among the faculty. Her longstanding interest and expertise in the area of assessment has allowed her, currently as the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Fellow (LOAF), to help faculty evaluate and assess their success in ensuring student learning. As part of her overall LOAF portfolio, Dr. Thomas is leading the effort to craft a new program review policy that reflects the campus commitment to student learning.

Dr. Thomas has chaired many faculty committees: FAC and NEAC to name but two. She also chaired her own department (Psychology) for four years and directed both the Women's Studies Program and the Faculty Center in interim capacities

Along with recognition of her accomplishment, Dr. Thomas receives a cash award of \$2,000 and an engraved Mont Blanc pen.

Congratulations!

Our fourth faculty award is the President's Outstanding Faculty Award for Outstanding Lecturer. This award was inaugurated in 2008, and given seed funding by Dr. Patty Seleski, to honor outstanding contributions to student learning by our adjunct faculty. Faculty are nominated for this award by their colleagues or their students.

This year, I have selected Ms. Deborah Bennett, Nursing Education Lecturer and Skills Coordinator in the School of Nursing. Deborah, will you come forward?

Ms. Bennett joined us in 2004. Since then, she has played an integral part in the tremendous success of the Nursing Program, taking an active role in simulation development and serving as the Skills Lab Coordinator.

Ms. Bennett has developed, co-taught, and/or served as course coordinator for nine new courses since fall 2006. She developed simulations for three of these courses and for two others taught by other instructors. This is an extraordinary number of preparations for any faculty member. Despite the incredibly high workload, she earns high marks from her students and is described as a passionate, effective teacher. She is also quickly establishing herself as an expert in simulation.

Ms. Bennett has taken considerable steps to share her expertise with other faculty in the School of Nursing and with local community college faculty and staff. She has shown initiative (and earned the title "Dumpster Diva") in helping the School obtain materials that, while expired and cannot be used at health care facilities, are quite satisfactory as teaching materials.

Additionally, she has created many on-line elements for the nursing courses in an effort to support the distance learning activities being undertaken in the School of

Nursing. To this end, Ms. Bennett has been awarded a grant from the California Institute for Nursing and Health Care so that the Temecula and San Marcos campuses can be designated as training facilities for faculty. Moreover, she has undertaken all of these efforts while at the same time pursuing her doctorate in Nursing.

Along with recognition of her accomplishment, Ms. Bennett receives a cash award of \$2,000 and an engraved Mont Blanc pen.

Congratulations!

It is a personal privilege and pleasure to acknowledge these outstanding individuals. And it is with “presidential” pride that I also acknowledge that they represent, in the best sense, the talents of this entire campus.

Don’t you agree that these awardees’ work on behalf of students, research, and service to our university and to our community are worthy of our recognition and our celebration today? Once again, thank you for coming to honor your colleagues today and I hope you will spend a few moments to extend your personal congratulations now that the formal program is concluded.