

CLA CONNECTED



Summer 2011

College of Liberal Arts

July 27, 2011



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2011 CLA Points of Pride:

- ◆ CLA raised \$2.2 million in AY 2010-11.
- ◆ CLA is the home for over 300 faculty members who teach and advise more than 900 students..
- ◆ CLA offers students the choice of 67 majors and minors.

Letter from the Dean



Pictured above:
Dean Gerry Riposa
CLA

Greetings and welcome to the 2011-12 year.

There is something special about the beginning of a new academic year. The opportunity to welcome new students, faculty and staff to our college community and to work with Alumni and friends of the university are particularly enjoyable.

This semester we welcome hundreds of new students and we welcome back those we already know. Our efforts with student retention and recruitment are apparent, both our continuation and graduation rates show marked increases. While official numbers will not be available until after our fall census, we are pleased with the progress that has been made and we have met our enrollment projections. As you are aware, we have had to deal with an uncertain budgetary picture for the upcoming year. Nevertheless, we have planned well and we are ready for the approximate 4,000 freshmen and approximate 3,000 transfer students who will join our educational community; we remain committed to giving our students a first class 21st Century education that results in highly valued degrees. We hope you will join us in this worthy mission.

Friends and alumni continue to support the College of Liberal Arts in innovative ways with gifts large and small. During the last academic year the College received more than \$2.2 million in philanthropic support. These gifts, which arrived in the form of cash, stocks, bequests and other means, allowed us to expand our efforts in ways that will benefit students today and well into the future.

Recent gifts will support collaboration among scholars, generate research, and encourage training in global applications in important and related academic fields. Thank you for your generous contributions that support us in meeting our goal of providing platforms for the promotion of dialogue, communication, and analysis, and the exchange of ideas on timely and relevant issues, while inspiring future generations of students to pursue careers in Liberal Arts disciplines.

I look forward to seeing you and working with you in the upcoming year.

Cheers,

Gerry Riposa



Pictured above:
Alyce LaViolette '69, '80

2011 CLA Distinguished Alumni

CLA is pleased to announce the 2011 Distinguished Alumni are Alyce LaViolette and John McElroy. Both awardees were honored at the 2011 Alumni Awards Banquet on May 12th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Long Beach.

Alyce LaViolette '69, '80 is a nationally recognized expert in the area of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. Among the agencies where she has worked as a consultant, trainer or expert witness are the U.S. Department of State, the L.A. County Superior Court and the YWCA Women's Shelter Program. In 1979, she founded Alternatives to Violence, one of the first programs in the country for spouse abusers. It was through her graduate work, volunteering at Women Shelter, that her career began. In 1981, she chaired the committee that sponsored the first domestic violence walk in Southern California and later co-chaired the Southern California Coalition's Walk-a-thon to end domestic violence in 1982. She has presented at workshops or meetings in Japan, Israel and New Zealand, and has appeared on various television and radio programs speaking about domestic violence. She returns to CSULB frequently to speak to students on the subject. LaViolette sits on the

editorial board for the Journal of child Custody and co-chairs the Association of Batterer's Intervention Programs. Among her numerous awards are the 2009 Soroptimist Women of Distinction Award, 2004 Statewide California Coalition on Battered Women Lifetime achievement Award and 1989 Friends of Women's Studies Alumni Award at CSULB.

John McElroy '78 recently celebrated his 25th anniversary with Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA). At present, he is the senior vice president and general counsel, overseeing all corporate and legal issues for the auto company. Previously, he has held various senior management positions, including vice president of human resources, information systems and administration from 1997-00. A member of the California Bar Association, McElroy joined MMNA in 1985 as an attorney in the company's legal department. Today, he is a longtime supporter of the Beach Fund and the 49er Athletics. His wife, Megan, who left the university to pursue a career as a professional dancer; and late mother-in-law, Elma C. Beck (2007, B.S., OCST vocational arts), attended CSULB. He remains true to his CSULB major and continues to enjoy reading.



Pictured above:
John McElroy '78

2011 CLA Outstanding Graduates

CLA proudly announced the 2011 Outstanding Graduates which are Megan Renee Waechter and Stephanie Bryson. Both were honored at the 2011 Alumni Awards Banquet on May 12 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Megan Renee Waechter is a member of the Golden Key Honor Society and recipient of the 2011 Department of Human Development Outstanding Graduate award. She participated in human development poster presentation showcases, presented research at the 2011 Academic Education Research Association conference, and served as a reviewer for the October 2010 issue of the journal, *Personal Relationships*. She assisted with research projects, including the after-school tutoring-mentoring program, I Have a Dream-Los Angeles. She was also involved with the incoming students mentoring program, Learning Alliance. She presently works as an

intern at Walt Disney World.

Stephanie Bryson actively participated in the International Affairs field and maintained a 4.0 GPA every semester. Bryson studied for a year at the Humboldt University in Berlin as a recipient of the annual Remembrance and Future Fund Berlin Scholarship. She received the 2008 Frank Fata Scholarship for Language Studies Abroad and the 2008-09 German Academic Exchange Service Undergraduate Scholarship. She also participated in a U.S.-German forum for young leaders and served as an American cultural ambassador to the U.S. Embassy. She served as Model United Nations' (MUN) president and academic coordinator, moderating panel discussions, participating in conferences internationally and instructing delegates on the U.N.'s functioning. After graduation, Bryson will enter graduate school and pursue a career in diplomacy or foreign policy advising.



Pictured above:
Megan Renee Waechter



Pictured above:
Stephanie Bryson

Graziadio Center Hosted the 1st Annual Frank De Santis Lecture

The George L. Graziadio Center for Italian Studies hosted the first Annual Frank De Santis Lecture Series on March 23, 2011 at the Karl Anatol Center on the CSULB campus. The Lecture was given by Anthony J. Tamburri, PhD. Tamburri discussed “Re-Thinking Italian American Studies in the Third Millennium, Where Have We Been? Where Can We Go?”

Tamburri, Dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute of Queens College/CUNY and Professor of Italian and Italian-American Studies at the University of New York, presented a compelling lecture about what Italian immigrants and their subsequent families have experienced. Tamburri states that “the immigrant remains suspended between two worlds.” He also discussed how the immigrant, their families and future generations will all face the “two world” characterizations.

The lecture concluded with remarks from Hon. Nicola Faganello, Consul General of Italy who was appreciative of the lecture and its impact on the Southern California community. As an active representative for Italy in Southern California, he participates in almost every local Italian event and congratulated Chairman Frank J. De Santis and Co-chairman Robert J. Barbera on the success of a first of its kind lecture-series in Southern California.

The Frank De Santis Lecture Series was inspired by Commendatore Frank J. De Santis to bring the Italian-American community together in an intellectual manner that will provide students, educators and the public an opportunity to teach, learn, motivate and understand the Italian-American experience. This lecture marks an important beginning for the future of the series at CSULB as it will continue to acknowledge, learn, explore and understand what Italian Americana is to Italian-Americans as well as what it has contributed to American culture.

The George L. Graziadio Center for Italian Studies, established in 1998, provides oversight of numerous academic activities at CSULB, including administration of classes, publication of a scholarly journal and newsletter and coordination of lectures, seminars and conferences in the area of Italian Studies. As a result of the Center’s diverse activities, students acquire a broad understanding of the Italian culture, literature, social and political structures and economy. They also learn of the many ways Italian culture impacts the world.



Pictured above:
Anthony Tamburri,
PhD., First Frank De
Santis Lecture speaker

**Dr. Kim
Phuong-Vu,
Psychology ,
received the
2011
Distinguished
Faculty
Scholarly and
Creative
Achievement
Awards.**

2011 Road Scholar Award Recipient is Dr. Judy Quon

CLA’s Office of the Dean proudly announces Dr. Judy Quon as the first recipient of the annual Road Scholar Award. Dr. Quon will receive \$1,000 in support of her teaching career as a part-time faculty member.

Dr. Quon has been a lecturer in the Department of Psychology since fall of 1990. Her focus has been on teaching lower division courses and the new Industrial-Organizational Psychology classes, which she assisted in adding to the previous curriculum. Dr. Quon also assisted in developing the Department’s Student Writing Assessment Training (SWAT) program, which is currently required of all the graduate assistants and student assistants in Psychology. This program directly impacts faculty time and reduces the need to spend time “coaching” students on improving their writing skills. In addition to her campus work, she has developed community ties that have led to student

participation, training and awards.

The annual Road Scholar Award recipient is selected by a CLA committee comprised of the Dean, Associate Dean, a tenure track faculty member and a lecturer. The recipient must have submitted an application of no more than 4 pages, and must be endorsed by their department chair. The recipient must also have a three-year entitlement or equivalent designation and must demonstrate excellence in teaching by achieving consistently high peer evaluations. The Road Scholar Award endowment fund was generously donated by Dr. John Jung, emeritus faculty member of the Department of Psychology.



Pictured above: Dr.
Judy Quon

Celebrate CLA

College of Liberal Arts

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We're on the Web!

www.csulb.edu/cla



Upcoming CSULB Events:

- Jewish Studies Program Teacher Training Workshop on the Holocaust, August 8-12 at the Karl Anatol Center
- Concert in the Grove featuring the King Salmon Band, August 20 at the Soroptimist House terrace
- CSULB 2011 Convocation August 26 at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center
- CLA 2011 Convocation August 26 at the University Studio Theater

For information, please contact the College of Liberal Arts at 562-985-5381.

Thanks a *million!*

\$2.2 million, actually! On behalf of the 9,900 Liberal Arts students at The Beach, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made a gift, large or small, during the last fiscal year.

As our support from the State declines, we rely more on the generosity of alumni, parents, faculty emeriti, and friends to provide the essential funds that allow us to provide an excellent educational experience each year.

Last year, the College of Liberal Arts raised a grand total of \$2,210,779, which will help us realize our mission to produce well-rounded citizens, effective communicators, and analytical thinkers who live knowledgeably, responsibly, and humanely in a world where complex problems demand informed, creative,

and thoughtful solutions.

The College of Liberal Arts is a dynamic and energizing thread in the fabric of the University. Last year your gifts to the College of Liberal Arts sent students around the world to gain first-hand experience in their field of study, allowed countless students to continue their education through scholarship support and gave our distinguished faculty the funds they need to stay on the cutting edge of research.

For more information on the College of Liberal Arts activities or to learn about ways to help, visit <http://www.csulb.edu/cla> today.

Again, thank you for your support, and Go Beach!



2011 CSULB College of Liberal Arts commencement ceremonies.