Congresswoman Lois Capps Speaks at UCSB

Congresswoman Lois Capps was the featured speaker for the Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success (IDEAS) fundraising banquet at UCSB held on May 29, 2009. UCSB IDEAS is a support group that works to create a rational conversation with the American public that goes beyond the political rhetoric around the immigration debate and instead focuses on the inspiring stories of hard working undocumented students.

While Congressman Capps in past years has sponsored the Federal Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act and spoken in support of undocumented youth, she took this opportunity to speak about immigration reform as a whole. Congresswoman Capps believes that, “We need an immigration policy that acknowledges our heritage as a country of immigrants, and one that respects the invaluable contributions immigrant communities make to our society every day. (continued on p. 17)

UCSB Ranked No. 1 Among AAU in Hispanic Enrollment

UCSB ranked number one among the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU) in Hispanic enrollment, according to the data provided by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System for the academic year 2007-08. The percent of Hispanic enrollment at UCSB reported for this period is 19.4% (undergraduates), 6.5% (graduates), 17.6% (total campus). The AAU is comprised of the top 62 research universities in the United States and Canada. UCSB is very fortunate to belong to this elite group of research universities due to the efforts undertaken by faculty, staff, students, and administrators.

Other AAU universities placing in the top ten spots are: University of Texas- Austin (2), University of Arizona (3), UCLA (4), and University of Florida (5), Texas A&M (6), UC Irvine (7), UC Davis (8), UC San Diego (9), and University of Southern California (10). (Please see Table I on p. 2 for statistics)
From the Editor’s Desk

María Herrera-Sobek
Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Academic Policy

This fall quarter 2009, our campus is being buffeted by a series of budget cuts, furloughs, salary reductions, and other measures that have been of significant concern to our faculty, students, staff, administrators, and Academic Senate leaders. In the past decade, in spite of repeated downturns and upturns in our state economy (thus causing instability and frustration in our respective departments and other academic research and teaching units), our beloved UCSB forged ahead with our superb faculty and students continually bringing honor and prestige to our campus. Our standing in university rankings continued to rise year after year, our students’ SAT and GPA scores also kept rising in an upward journey toward excellence and distinction. This has been accomplished in spite of those skeptics who view excellence and diversity as incompatible goals. UCSB did it and honors and accolades regarding diversity accomplishments have continually been heaped on our beautiful campus. For example, for a third year in a row UCSB has been the recipient of the Minority Access, Inc. National Citation Award for our “Commitment to Diversity” (fall, 2009).

Furthermore, UCSB is ranked number one in Hispanic enrollment by the American Association of Universities (see front page). We are very near our goal of reaching the status of a Hispanic Serving Institution, a US government designation which will bring much needed funds (in the millions) for our students. Our numbers, regarding women faculty hires have been in the 40% - 50% percent in the last three years. This year we hired 53.5% women faculty (15 out of a total of 28 hires). The above accomplishments have not been easy to garner; these gains have been achieved as a result of faculty commitment and hard work. The Senior Women’s Council, for example, has been working tirelessly in its efforts to mentor and recruit faculty; our administrators’ support for diversity has been unflagging. Equally impressive has been our department chairs’, and deans’ strong commitment in promoting diversity in their departments, divisions and colleges on campus. I am very grateful and appreciative of these efforts.

In these difficult times of budget cuts and furloughs, I would like to renew our commitment to diversity. Diversity and excellence go hand in hand as proven by our student statistics and faculty recruitment efforts. This economic crisis too will pass. I urge you to continue your support for diversity in this critical time. UCSB must continue to be a national leader in its diversity commitments and accomplishments.

Table 1: AAU Rankings in Hispanic Enrollment
A Message from the Chancellor

As our 2009-10 academic year began, I was so pleased to welcome all of our new students to our campus community. This year’s freshman class is the most diverse and academically outstanding we have yet seen. The average high school GPA of our entering freshmen is 3.85, up from 3.84 last year, and 3.67 ten years ago. Chicano, Latino, African American, and American Indian students comprise 29% of our new freshman class, up from 17% a decade ago.

As many of you know, UC Santa Barbara is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU), placing us within the top 2% of research universities in the United States and Canada. As highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter, our campus is also #1 among AAU institutions for our percentage of Chicana/o and Latina/o enrollment. This is true both at the undergraduate level and for our total student population.

Our commitment to diversity extends throughout our campus community. In 2007 our Santa Barbara campus (together with our four sister UC campuses in Southern California) was the recipient of a three-year NSF grant focused on advancing faculty diversity. Among the many groups on campus actively engaged with issues of diversity are our Academic Senate Committee on Diversity and Equity, Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, and Senior Women’s Council. Other significant steps aimed at achieving our goals in this area include the appointment of a full-time Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Academic Policy; a Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity; and a Director of Academic Preparation. Of course, I must emphasize that while our administrators are important facilitators and leaders, it is our faculty, students, and staff who are to be credited for the indispensable daily efforts that are so vital for cultivating a diverse community.

Even as we celebrate our achievements thus far, we recognize that we have a difficult year ahead. Due to the economic downturn, there are tremendous challenges facing our state and the University of California. We are working very hard to absorb the budget cuts while protecting our core mission of teaching, research, and public service. Our top priorities are to preserve the excellence of our outstanding teaching and research programs, the diversity of our campus community, and access and affordability for our students.

We remain unwavering in our commitment to provide our students with a top-quality education within a supportive and diverse academic community. I invite our faculty, staff, students, alumni, and supporters to be our partners in this important endeavor. In particular, I urge you to share your stories and perspectives with our elected officials, to help reaffirm the value of diversity and excellence at UC.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to each member of our campus community — we appreciate your hard work during these challenging times, and most of all your continuing dedication to our university and its future. Through our sustained collaborative efforts, we will continue to build on the progress we have made together.
As we head into the 2009-10 academic year, it's good to look back on the outcomes of last year's recruitment efforts in building on our growing diversity. On the student front, we enrolled 4587 freshman this fall, of which 29% are underrepresented minorities, and 50% students of color, a continuing increase from years before. Transfer student diversity also increased, 25% underrepresented minorities and 39% students of color. We continue to lead the AAU universities in per cent underrepresented minorities and per cent Hispanic undergraduate students, and we are among the top 7 in graduate students. Of the 28 faculty we hired last year, 15 -- or 53.5% -- were women. This is the third year in a row that half or more of our faculty hires were women. We have been intentional about keeping both our student and our faculty applicant pools as diverse as we can, and the growing success rate in diversifying our campus is a reflection of that intentionality of purpose. We still have a long way to go, but we are definitely making forward progress.

Claudia Martínez Appointed New Director of Academic Preparation

In January, 2009, Claudia Martínez was appointed UCSB’s Director of the Office of Academic Preparation (OAP). Martínez provides integration and coordination of the campus’ P-20 student academic preparation programs and educational partnerships that are working to increase college enrollment among K-12 students attending local schools. The Office of Academic Preparation works corroboratively with a number of programs and units across campus to promote and improve access to higher education for primarily low-income and underrepresented students. In this work, the OAP works with several campus partners including the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, Division of Student Affairs, the College of Engineering, the California NanoSystems Institute, the Chicano Studies Institute, the Center for Black Studies Research, and others, as well as with local schools, school districts, and community based organizations. The new director also serves as UCSB’s liaison to the Hispanic Association of College and Universities (HACU).

Ms. Martínez came to UCSB in 2001 when she was hired as the Project Director for UCSB’s ENgaging LAtino Communities for Education (ENLACE y Avance) project, an initiative of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and housed within the Chicano Studies Institute. Prior to coming to UCSB, she worked for four years at UC Merced where she was one of that campus’ founding staff members and where she worked primarily in the development of outreach and educational partnerships for UCM in the San Joaquin Valley, becoming Interim Director of Academic Programs in 2000. Prior to working for the University of California, Claudia established a long record of work in the public policy and civil rights arena in positions with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO), and the CA Rural Legal Assistance Foundation (CRLAF).

A native of Los Angeles, Claudia received her B.A. in Law and Social Policy from UC Berkeley and her M.A. in Public Policy from UC Berkeley’s Richard and Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy.
A Message from the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity

By Ricardo Alcaíno

With the retirement of Paula Rudolph as the University’s Sexual Harassment Officer, the Chancellor, Gene Lucas, and I took the opportunity to review the University’s structures to address harassment and unlawful discrimination issues. Early in 2008, the Office of Equal Opportunity and the Sexual Harassment/Title IX Complaint Resolution Office were co-located. This arrangement diminished the relative isolation in which these two offices had functioned in the past. It also improved our efficiency and collaboration, since we both shared a common goal of bringing resolution to unlawful discrimination and harassment on our campus through investigation, mediation, and education. The success of this collaboration pointed to a merger of the two functions as a logical next step in order to further increase resource efficiency and to consolidate the depth and breadth of the harassment/discrimination mitigation and education expertise on our campus. The merger officially began on July 1, 2009, and the new name for the consolidated organization is the Office of Equal Opportunity and Sexual Harassment/Title IX Compliance.

NEW STAFF

Ariana Alvarez has been selected as the Office of Equal Opportunity’s new Sexual Harassment Officer and Senior Equal Opportunity Investigator. Ariana joined the office July, 2009. She comes to us from the County of Santa Barbara where she served as the Equal Employment Opportunity Manager for more than four years. In addition to her experience at the County, Ariana worked for a law firm and a management consulting firm, where she was involved in addressing unlawful discrimination issues. Ariana is a native of Santa Barbara, and received her education at UC San Diego as well as California State University Northridge.

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Fall 2009 NSF-PAID Chairs’ Retreat

The NSF-PAID “Leading Through Diversity” Chairs’ Retreat took place September 14-16, 2009 at Lake Arrowhead, CA. A series of diversity-oriented presentations were scheduled during the three day retreat in which approximately 45 faculty members from the five southern California UC campuses participated. Of particular interest was the interactive theater offered by the Life Theatre group. Other activities included featured speakers, UC Interim Vice Provost Lawrence Pitts and Sheilla O’Rourke.

Information was presented that encouraged participants to revisit their ideas or opinions about bias, conflict, leadership, excellence and the future of the academy. Participants were asked to listen with an open mind, engage in the group discussions and consider possible implications for change in their own departments.

Portions of the retreat were designed to provide an opportunity for expertise to be shared. Through open participation and listening to each other, it was expected that participants would gain ideas and practices that they can implement in their own departments after the retreat was over. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, the retreat provided participants with a connection to their peers that transcended the few days spent at Lake Arrowhead. Over the course of the activities and social interactions, participants had the opportunity to network with peers, seek advice and offer counsel on all the day-to-day dilemmas that chairing a department presents. The UCSB Participants who participated in the NSF-PAID retreat include: Kimberley Turner, Professor and Chair of Mechanical Engineering; Ricardo Alcaíno, Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity/Sexual Harassment; and María Herrera-Sobek, Associate Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity, and Academic Policy.

Faculty Mentoring and Underrepresented Graduate Student Achievement: Moving Beyond Recruitment and Retention

by Mary F. York, M.Ed. UCSB Social Science Graduate Diversity & UC DIGSSS Coordinator

The UC Diversity Initiative for Graduate Study in the Social Sciences (DIGSSS) Alliance is a partnership between, UC Santa Barbara, UC Berkeley, and UC Los Angeles, which collaborates with dozens of faculty to recruit and retain underrepresented graduate students in the social sciences. It creates an environment that nurtures and advances graduate student achievement.

Faculty in Anthropology, Chicana and Chicano Studies, Communication, Economics, Feminist Studies, Linguistics, Political Science, Sociology and other academic departments join forces to serve as advisory board members and seminar speakers to support the work of the DIGSSS Program. Further, DIGSSS works within the institution to ensure students are effectively accessing institutional resources, it develops faculty led professional development seminars, it provides individual advising and it collaborates with faculty to monitor and advance the academic growth of underrepresented graduate students. As a result, most underrepresented Ph.D. students in these departments not only persist, but thrive.

The following is a sampling of social science student achievements that substantiate the vision and dedication of UCSB Social Science faculty to cultivate the academic and professional achievement of underrepresented graduate students and to move beyond recruitment and retention.

(continued on p. 7)
(continued from p. 6)

**Bernadette Gailliard** is a third-year communication student who successfully defended her Master’s thesis titled, “Toward a More Complete View: Extending the Organizational Assimilation Index Measure and Incorporating Marginalized Others into Assimilation Research” (2008). Bernadette credits her faculty mentors, Dr. Dave Seibold and Dr. Karen Myers for her achievement by encouraging her to create small, attainable goals rather than having to look at everything at once.

**Mario Guerrero**, a third-year political science student, was awarded the UCSB Academic Senate Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, an American Political Science Association Latino Scholarship and the UCSB Graduate Opportunity Fellowship for 2009-2010. Under the mentorship of Dr. Garrett Glasgow and Dr. Eric Smith, Mario has been encouraged by his mentors within his department to maintain a rigorous research agenda.

“Juan-Vicente Palerm is an exceptional mentor. He makes time for me, even when obviously bombarded with academic and administrative tasks”, reports **Martiza Maksimow**, a third-year anthropology student who received a second place award for her paper titled, “Desde la Frontera: An Oral History on the Borderlands” at the 80th Annual Southwestern Anthropological Association (SWAA) Conference. Martiza also successfully defended her Master’s thesis titled “Memories, Migration and Identity on the Alta-Baja California Borderlands” (spring 2009).

Under the mentorship of Dr. Denise Segura and Dr. Victor Ríos, **Rachel Sarabia**, a third-year sociology student successfully defended her Master’s thesis titled “Going to Bat: Identity Dueling, Femininity, and Consciousness Development among Latina Athletes” (fall 2008) and was awarded a three year Ford Fellowship. Rachel asserts, “My mentors were crucial to my current achievements. Dr. Segura was always there providing emotional as well as academic support, and encouraged me to stay on pace. Furthermore, Dr. Ríos was diligent and helpful in providing useful feedback on my Ford application.”

**Mary Danis** is a fourth-year communication student mentored by Dr. Michael Stohl. Mary advanced to candidacy (ABD) in June, 2009, and successfully defended her dissertation proposal entitled “Muslims in the media: Social consequences for Muslims in America.” Further, Dr. Stohl supported Mary’s scholarship by extending a lead co-publishing opportunity: Danis, M. & Stohl, M. “From 7/7 to 8/10: Media framing of terrorist incidents in the United States and United Kingdom”, in *The Faces of Terrorism: Cross-Disciplinary Explorations*, David Canter (Ed.) (forthcoming fall 2009).

The UC DIGSSS program and the social science faculty will welcome the fifth cohort of underrepresented graduate students to the UCSB campus this year.

To learn more about the program or participate in activities, visit: www.socialsciences.ucsb.edu/digsss.html. Please contact Mary York: myork@ltsc.ucsb.edu or Dr. Beth Schenider: schneider@soc.ucsb.edu.
UCSB Ethnic and Multicultural Archive Launches Teatro Campesino Online

More than 100 vintage video recordings of the world-renowned Latino theater company El Teatro Campesino are now available online courtesy of the California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives (CEMA) at UC Santa Barbara’s Davidson Library. The digitized videos, 118 in all, make up the Teatro Campesino Online Collection, and can be accessed on CEMA’s ImaginArte Web site.

The recordings, which represent the first 25 years of El Teatro Campesino’s history, include vintage theater performances, historical documentaries on the farm workers movement, scenes from the award-winning play and film “Zoot Suit,” and such shows as “Rose of the Rancho,” “Los Corridos,” and “La Pastorela.” Also part of the collection are interviews with founding director Luis Valdez and other members of the theater company, and commentaries by United Farm Workers leader César Chávez.

The most influential Latino theater company in the country, El Teatro Campesino has made major contributions to Chicano culture in the United States, and, more broadly, to the development and expansion of the boundaries of theater. The videos are a part of the theater company’s archives that have recently been opened for use. The complete archives also include scripts, production notes, photographs, audio recordings, graphic art, set designs, and correspondence files.

The project, which was funded through a grant from the University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC MEXUS), contributes to UC’s ongoing outreach and community education efforts. The videos will help meet the growing need for teaching and research materials on the social and cultural history of the Chicano movement in this country, especially in the theater arts.

CAMP Program Provides Mentorship and Research Opportunities for Undergraduates

This summer marked the eighteenth year of the UC - California Alliance for Minority Participation (CAMP) program. Funded by the National Science Foundation’s Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program, CAMP is a UC system-wide alliance dedicated to improving access and participation by underrepresented minority students in science, math and engineering fields. At UCSB, CAMP is administered by Dr. Julie Standish in the Materials Research Laboratory Education Office, under the direction of faculty PI Glenn Beltz, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies in the College of Engineering.

(continued on p. 18)
José Hernández is a former UCSB grad student who is scheduled to be rocketed into space aboard NASA’s Discovery space shuttle. Hernández’s philosophy echoes the themes of hard work and perseverance but adds careful planning to the equation. As the youngest of four children in a migrant field worker’s family from Michoacán, Hernández was born in French Camp, near Stockton, on the family’s annual trip from Mexico to Northern California. Due to the itinerant nature of following the harvests, the children did not attend school for more than a few months at a time. One consequence was that Hernández was 12 before he felt comfortable with the English language. Fortunately, his parents decided to make Stockton their permanent home so that their children could gain an education and free themselves from the fields.

Though he remembered the end of the Apollo era and was “infatuated with becoming an astronaut” as a boy, it was his senior year of high school in 1979 before Hernández dedicated himself to that goal. “When I heard that Dr. Franklin Chang-Díaz had been selected as the first Latino American astronaut, that sealed the deal for me,” he said.

Vowing to pursue his dream by studying electrical engineering, he accepted a five-year program at Stockton’s University of the Pacific (UOP), which offered generous financial aid, and he was able to live at home. “That was what life dealt me and I embraced it,” he said. “I decided to get the best (undergraduate) education I could and go to a better school to get a master’s degree. That’s what I ended up doing at UC Santa Barbara.”

As a UOP work-study student at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory he met Sanjit Mitra, a UCSB professor of electrical engineering. Mitra was impressed by the young man’s thirst for education and encouraged him to apply to UCSB for his graduate degree. Later, Mitra would serve as graduate adviser and chair of Hernández’s comprehensive examination committee.

Coming to UC Santa Barbara on a full Graduate Engineering Minority Fellowship, Hernández could, for the first time, devote himself full-time to his studies. He took his courses and finished in 12 months. The only drawback was that it was the first time he was away from his family. But UC Santa Barbara had the Minority Engineering Program, which became “a refuge, a (surrogate) family” for him, he recalled.

Hernández worked full-time at the Livermore National Lab after securing his Master of Science degree in 1986. He would stay there 14 years, mostly as an electronics and materials engineer, but rising to manage a program to dismantle Russian nuclear bombs to reduce the threats of nuclear terrorism. Along the way he learned to speak Russian and to fly a private plane. As much as he enjoyed the challenges of the lab, he constantly honed his skills to enhance his chances of becoming an astronaut candidate. In 2004, the effort bore fruit, which led, with the help of friends, to the creation of the Reaching for the Stars Foundation to help inspire young people to learn math and science.

-- by Vic Cox (excerpts taken from Coastlines Magazine)
Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE), a non-profit organization, was founded in spring 2001 to promote equal opportunity for women and girls in science and engineering and improve their scientific and career advancement. WiSE encourages the participation of all science/engineering undergraduates, graduates, researchers, faculty, and professionals in the Santa Barbara area. The following are a few resources WiSE has made available to the campus community.

WiSE sends out a newsletter to an audience of 566 (and counting) that provides information about upcoming WiSE events, fellowship and internship opportunities, and other events of interest on campus and in the local community.

WiSE member Aubrey Cano started a UCSB WiSE Mentor Finder Website. This website (http://ucsbmentorfinder.blogspot.com) is linked to the main WiSE website and is a listing of graduate students’ research bios in the sciences at UCSB who are willing to be mentors to undergraduates. The site was launched to undergraduates during spring quarter via their website and through announcements to undergraduate advisors in science and engineering departments. So far there are 15 mentors listed, and already approximately 10 new mentoring relationships have formed this quarter.

For more information about WiSE and its members please visit: www.wise.ucsb.edu

2009 Diversity Award Winner: Juliana Bernal Ostos

WISE established the Diversity award to recognize graduate students who have taken the initiative to promote and support diversity at any level of education in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Ms. Bernal Ostos, a second-year Ph.D. Student in the Materials Department, received the award based on her outstanding achievements in outreach and mentoring activities in the STEM fields. In just two years at UCSB, she has already made a marked impact towards promoting STEM diversity, locally on campus, in the greater Santa Barbara community, and nationally, influencing students at other institutions. In addition to participating and volunteering within the many outreach/mentoring activities facilitated by UCSB’s CNSI or MRL (such as “Family Ultimate Science Exploration” and “It’s a Materials World”), Ms. Bernal Ostos is also deeply involved with mentoring high school and undergraduate students throughout the school year.

Most notably, Ms. Bernal Ostos showed inspirational dedication in mentoring the robotics team at Dos Pueblos High School, including leading an all-girl team in the design and manufacturing of two of the robot’s components. The team went undefeated in the Sacramento Regionals and won “Best Quality Robot” at the World Championships in Atlanta, and Ms. Bernal Ostos was with them every step of the way.

Engineering Sciences Building at UCSB

Juliana Bernal Ostos

Photo by George Foulsham
Assistant Professor Thuc-Quyen Nguyen, (who received her B.S, M.S. and Ph.D. in physical sciences from UCLA) has had an exceptionally distinguished career having garnered several awards including the Dissertation Award from UCLA, the Outstanding Performance in Research in Physical Chemistry, and the Outstanding Innovative Research Award for Advanced Materials. She served as a research associate in the Department of Chemistry and the Nanocenter at Columbia University working with Professors Louis Brus and Colin Nuckolls on molecular self-assembly, nanoscale characterization and devices.

In 2004, UCSB was fortunate to have Nguyen join the faculty of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department as an assistant professor. She has quickly established a nationally and internationally recognized research program in the area of organic optoelectronic materials, with special emphasis on characterization of nanoscale electronic properties. Since her appointment at UCSB, she has obtained over 5 million dollars in funding to support her research groups and has published over 40 papers. She has mentored 17 undergraduate students, 9 graduate students, and 8 postdocs in the past 5 years. Recognition for her research includes the 2005 Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Award, the 2006 NSF CAREER Award, the 2007 UCSB Harold Plous Award, the 2008 Camille Dreyfus Teacher Scholar Award, and the 2009 Alfred Sloan Research Award.

Professor Nguyen is not only a brilliant scientist and excellent teacher, she is an involved and giving member on campus and has participated in local school science nights and Science and Technology Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (S&T MESA) Day, organized campus visits for high school students, and developed science activities for children. Nguyen has served as a faculty advisor and a guest speaker for the Women in Science and Engineering organization.

Professor Ahmad Atif Ahmad went to the University of Utrecht for a quarter to teach an upper division course, “Islam and Government”. The class discussed women in politics, revolution theories, and popular rule from the perspective of medieval Muslim jurists. His current research project is a book provisionally titled “The Extinction of the Law” addressing the absence of good government and the gradual death of legal systems. It revives a debate among medieval Muslim legal theorists about the death of the state and the death of the shari’a.
Suad Abdul Khabeer is a Dissertation Scholar in the Department of Black Studies at UCSB. Suad is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Princeton University. Her dissertation, “The Fifth Element: Muslim Youth, Identity and Hip Hop in Chicago” focuses on the intersections of race, place, and popular culture in the identity making of young American Muslims. She is particularly interested in the racial and spatial signifiers embedded in the aesthetic practices of American Muslim youth. Along with the written work she will complete a short ethnographic film that also explores these issues. She earned her Bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and spent a year of post-graduate language study in the Middle East. Suad is also a senior project advisor for the award-winning PBS documentary, New Muslim Cool. In addition to her academic research, Suad is an artist; her most recent work of poetry was published in the anthology Living Islam Out Loud: American Muslim Women Speak in 2005.

Damien Schnyder is a University of California President’s Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Black Studies at UCSB. His dissertation addressed the connection between the public education and prison systems. In conversation with the school-to-prison pipeline scholarship, Damien’s dissertation analyzed the micro-processes by which public education as a state structure facilitates the movement of black male bodies into the labyrinth of the prison system. However, departing from the body of literature, he details how the public education structure is an ideological and pragmatic extension of the organizational logic of prison. Building upon his dissertation project, Damien’s current research as a postdoctoral scholar builds on his dissertation project and provides a needed analysis with regard to the effects of the expansion of the prison system upon public education. In addition, building upon the work of scholars of prison masculinity, his analysis will provide detailed linkages with respect to the construction of black masculinity by the prison and public education systems. Damien received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin. He holds a M.A. in sociology and B.A. in African and African American Studies from Stanford University.

Zakiyyah Jackson is a Dissertation Scholar in the Department of Black Studies at UCSB. Zakiyyah is a Ph.D. Candidate in African Diaspora Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Her dissertation is titled, “Becoming Human: The Question of the Animal in Afro-Modernism.” It starts from the premise that Modernity has cast Black people in an uncertain position with respect to the emerging caesura dividing “the human” from “the animal.” Her project investigates how Black cultural producers: namely novelists, filmmakers, and artists have sought to trouble Modernism’s human/animal boundary and re-define the human. She has accreditations in Film Studies as well as Gender and Sexuality Studies. She earned her Bachelor’s degree from The Ohio State University in Women’s Studies and Political Science.
Gevirtz Graduate School of Education held its 4th symposium in the “Policy Goes to School Series” entitled “Accountability and Quality in Higher Education: Are They Compatible?” on May 28, 2009. This symposium examined how educational research can and should influence policy. At this event a panel of experts examined what accountability means in higher education, especially in light of the UC Accountability Framework. Public higher education has long recognized the need to be responsive to its many publics. Except, however, for financial controls, it has not relied on the kinds of formal accountability mechanisms, such as standardized tests, which are common in elementary and secondary education. The challenge for higher education is to show that it is accountable for the outcomes expected by stakeholders without narrowing the curriculum or compromising the educational opportunities and research creativity that have made U.S. universities major engines for economic growth, upward social mobility, and personal development.

The plenary address at the event was presented by Mark Yudof, President of the University of California. Yudof served as chancellor at the University of Texas from 2002-2008. Before that he was president of the University of Minnesota and was a longtime dean, provost, and faculty member at the University of Texas at Austin. In addition to serving as UC president, he holds a faculty appointment in the School of Law at UC Berkeley, where he once was a visiting professor. Inside Higher Ed writes, “Few presidents of public research universities have been as clearly associated with the national accountability movement as Mark Yudof, who as head of the University of Texas System helped put in place a broad framework for public reporting about the performance of the university’s 15 campuses and health centers.”

The first event in the series entitled, “Promoting Pre-K through Graduate School Educational Success” held in January 2008 was a resounding success. Congresswoman Lois Capps, a panelist at the event, said, “I’m going to go back to Washington and encourage all my colleagues in the House to hold events like this one.”

For more information on this event and future events hosted by the Gevirtz School of Graduate Education visit: http://education.ucsb.edu/home.html
Gevirtz School Members Receive Awards and Grants Aimed at Diversity

By George Yachtisin

This spring one faculty member, two researchers, and a graduate student at the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education received prestigious plaudits for work they have done or are about to do in the field of diversity. Cynthia Hudley, Professor in the Department of Education, received the 2009 Distinguished Scholar Award from the Committee on Scholars of Color at the American Educational Research Association national conference.

Erika Felix and Sukkyung You, both assistant research faculty, were awarded a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) two-year grant to conduct the study titled “Natural Disaster and Risk of Psychiatric Disorders in Puerto Rican Children”. In addition, Jenss Chang, a Ph.D. student in Clinical Psychology, was awarded an American Psychological Association Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Fellowship.

The Distinguished Scholar Award from the Committee on Scholars of Color recognizes scholars who have made significant contributions to the understanding of issues that disproportionately affect minority populations, and minority scholars who have made a significant contribution to educational research and development. Hudley says, “It is a particular honor to receive such a prestigious award for work I have done over the years to improve the education and achievement of our most vulnerable students and communities.”

The goal of Erika Felix and Sukkyung You’s study is to understand the family, school, peer, and community experiences that promote or prevent adverse mental health outcomes following a disaster. Following the 1998 Hurricane Georges disaster that struck Puerto Rico, a database with unique potential to address many of the methodological short-comings of much of previous child disaster mental health research emerged. Felix and You’s two-wave epidemiological study of child and adolescent psychiatric disorders improves upon many prior studies on children’s post-disaster mental health and recovery through its sampling strategy, high quality measurement of psychiatric disorders, breadth and depth of measurement of socio-ecological risk and protective factors, and the use of multiple informants.

Jenss Chang’s MFP fellowship is more than a simple scholarship that only provides financial support. An MFP fellowship is a professional training appointment into a community of other students and professionals who hold similar professional interests. The MFP provides stipends, or living allowances, to students who hold the fellowships. However, it also facilitates professional development and provides professional guidance with the aim of moving students towards high achievement in areas related to ethnic minority mental health research or services.
Something for All the Senses: Center for Black Studies Research Presents Music, Poetry, Film, Food, and Scholarship
by Amy R. Ramos

This past spring, the Center for Black Studies Research offered a wide variety of programming, including poetry and music, films, multicultural cuisine, a conference to support research and archiving of Black California materials, and a symposium of Haiti scholars. The Center is pleased to be joined by community members, students of all levels, and faculty and scholars from around the state and nation for these events.

Jazz, Blues & Langston Hughes
The Center collaborated with the Brotherhood of Santa Barbara, the Lobero Theatre, and the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission to co-sponsor the eighth annual tribute to Langston Hughes for being an exceptionally influential African-American literary figure. This successful event was part of Santa Barbara’s National Poetry Month activities and included poetry readings and musical performances. The evening also marked the release of a new Center publication, Black Street: Poems by Sojourner Kincaid Rolle.

It Was All of Us: Dr. Shirley Kennedy, The Life of an Activist
This feature-length documentary film about the late Dr. Kennedy, a community outreach coordinator for the Center, distinguished educator, and a longtime activist for progressive causes in Santa Barbara, premiered in April, 2009. The film was produced by the Center with the assistance of the Institute for Representational Multimedia Art (IRMMA), as well as grants from the Fund for Santa Barbara and the California Council for the Humanities California Stories program, and donations from Building Bridges and from individuals. The filmmakers, Anita David and Frederick Backman, and the narrator/interviewer, Sojourner Kincaid Rolle, all donated their services. Dr. Kennedy played a critical role during the early days of Black Studies at UCSB, as well as in establishing community foundations such as Building Bridges and Not In Our Town.

African-American Traditions in California: Establishing a University of California System-wide Network to Address Research, Curricular, Public Policy, and Archival Needs
Organized by Professors Gaye Johnson and Clyde Woods of the Department of Black Studies, this University of California Humanities Research Institute-sponsored project was held in May, 2009. There were three sessions held during the day-long meeting: “Organizing a UCSB-Based System-wide Network to Support Research on Black California,” “Building Archives for Black California Materials,” and Organizing African-American Public Policy Research.” The Center will become the home of two UC system-wide networks on African-American humanities research and on African-American policy research. The third initiative agreed upon was to foster a system-wide humanities project that encourages the production of oral histories that will be available online. Entitled “Generations of Memory,” the project will focus upon individuals who were part of the mass migration to California during the 1940s.

A Taste of the African Diaspora
This culinary and social event was organized by Dr. Nadège Clitandre, University of California Office of the President (UCOP) post-doctoral fellow, and was co-sponsored with the Department of Black Studies and the African Diasporic Cultural Resource Center. Students and faculty members alike crowded into the Center’s conference room, lured by the opportunity to relax, chat, and sample delectable dishes from Ethiopia, Jamaica, Haiti, and other parts of the globe.

Haiti: False Starts, New Beginnings
The Center sponsored this symposium as part of Haiti Flag Week observances in May, bringing together speakers and scholars from around the nation for a full day of panels, lectures, and films. Among the program’s speakers were economist Tatiana Wah, who has served as a consultant to the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme on Haiti development, and Carolle Charles, a sociologist and former Fulbright scholar whose research focuses on gender and transnational labor issues. This symposium was key in moving the discussion about Haiti past the typical narrative of revolution, rebellion, and struggle toward a conversation about development, reforestation, and economic sustainability.
Dr. Moses Chikowero joined the History Department as an assistant professor of African history in July, 2009. Chikowero was born in Zimbabwe, where he received his first degree from the University of Zimbabwe, followed by a Ph.D. from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada, in 2008. In 2008-09, he did his post-doctorate at the Center for Historical Analysis, Rutgers University. His current research focuses on the history of popular music in Zimbabwe from the 1930s to the present. He has also written on the history of electrification in Zimbabwe. His has published in the Journal of Southern African Studies, the premier journal in the field, and in other scholarly venues.
IDEAS at UCSB (continued from front page)

Real immigration reform will help bring friends and neighbors out of the shadows and provide a path to citizenship for those who have worked hard, played by the rules and contributed to their communities."

IDEAS hopes to break new ground and provide the motivation, and resources these students need to continue their higher education studies and dreams. From the money raised from the banquet “Tonight’s Dreams; Tomorrow’s Realities”, IDEAS has been able to establish a scholarship accessible to undocumented UCSB students.

For more information contact IDEAS at: ideas_ucsb@yahoo.com.

UCSB Gains New Bridge to the Doctorate Award from the National Science Foundation

The California Nanosystems Institute (CNSI) and the College of Engineering announced that UCSB has received a National Science Foundation award to fund Graduate Research Fellowships. This award of nearly 1 million dollars is made possible through the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Bridge to the Doctorate program (BD).

Each Fellowship Award Includes:

- $30,000 annual student stipend for each of the two years
- $10,500 annual for tuition and fees for each of the two years
- Additional years of support, if needed, for students in good standing
- Participation in local and national professional conferences
- Industry Networking
- Professional preparation for successful applications to postdoctoral positions

The Office of Education Programs at CNSI coordinated the recruitment of a cohort of new graduate students to the science, engineering, and mathematics disciplines. The initial cohort of BD scholars, recruited this past summer, includes graduate students in the Departments of Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Earth Science, and Statistics and Applied Probability.

Professor Glenn Beltz, Associate Dean, College of Engineering, the BD co-principal investigator commented: “We are very excited that this outstanding group of new students chose UCSB for their graduate studies. Their success will increase our institution’s contribution to promoting greater diversity among our nation’s science, engineering and mathematics leaders. We look forward to their contributions to their chosen fields and to UCSB in these next years of study with us.”

Professor Beltz developed the proposal with other co-PIs including Professors Craig Hawker, Susan Mazer, Kenneth Millett, and Alec Wodtke. The BD program will also benefit from commitments from MLPS Dean Pierre Wiltzius, Engineering Acting Dean Larry Coldren (continuing a pledge made by former Dean Matthew Tirrell), Graduate Division Dean Gale Morrison, and CNSI Acting Director David Awschalom.

Ofelia Aguirre, Manager of Educational Programs at CNSI coordinated the first cohort. She will also work with the California LSAMP leadership and UCSB faculty to organize a program of academic and professional development activities that engage BD scholars at UCSB.

Please contact Ofelia Aguirre at Aguirre@cnsi.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-7472 for more information about the program.
CAMP Program (continued from p. 8)

CAMP encourages student achievement through a variety of components, including summer and school year research opportunities, career building workshops and opportunities to present at national and regional meetings.

This summer, ten UCSB undergraduates, ranging from sophomores to seniors, participated in mentored research projects through the CAMP program. In addition to research, participants practiced oral presentations, attended a weekly seminar series, participated in workshops on research ethics, laboratory safety, scientific writing and poster preparation, and presented their final results in a campus-wide poster colloquium. “[CAMP] opened my eyes in learning new possible career options that I had never considered before and also motivated me to stay in the sciences”, said one student.

Both continuing and new interns will participate in CAMP during the school year, and many of the continuing interns will take the opportunity to present their research at professional meetings. Last year, CAMP students presented at the national conferences of the Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and the Society for the Advancement of Chicano and Native American Scholars (SACNAS), as well as at the Southern California Conference on Undergraduate Research (SCCUR) and the annual statewide CAMP symposium at UC Irvine, which featured student researchers from all nine UC campuses.

The primary goal of the CAMP program is to encourage underrepresented minority students to continue on in science and mathematics to undergraduate and graduate degrees. Recent UCSB CAMP participants are currently enrolled in or have completed graduate degrees at CSU Los Angeles, Duke University, UC Irvine, UC Berkeley and UCSB. Of the CAMP experience, Sandra Roman, a fourth year biology major, said, “It made being a scientist a feasible goal.”

American Physical Society Scholarship Celebrates Diversity

Luis Leal has been awarded a 2008-2009 American Physical Society (APS) Scholarship for Minority Undergraduate Physics Majors. The goal of this scholarship is to increase the number of underrepresented minorities obtaining degrees in physics. It provides funding and mentoring to minority physics students to enhance their education and help them prepare for success in various careers. Through the generosity of corporate and individual donors, the APS has been able to offer the APS Scholarship for Minority Undergraduate Physics Majors.

This program, which began in 1980, has graduated students who have received their Ph.D.’s in physics and are now working as physics faculty members in universities, as well as research scientists at corporations and national labs.

Luis, who goes by the name Stephen, is a first-year physics major at UCSB. He grew up in the small city of Visalia, CA. Stephen says that coming from a smaller community really helped him to appreciate the advantages of a big university. He attended Redwood High School and according to Stephen, the school, while full of spirit, lacked in the availability of laboratories and course materials geared toward higher learning. Stephen comes from a close-knit Hispanic family that places a high value on education. Stephen’s areas of interest include nuclear technologies and nanotechnology.
Diane Fujino was the featured speaker for the spring 2009 Diversity Lecture Series. Based on her research on the Asian American Movement (AAM) of the 1960s-70s, which sought to create Afro-Asian solidarities rooted in the radical vision of Bandung and Black Power, Diane Fujino’s talk examined shifts in racial ideologies and discussed its meaning for social change today. In the late 60s and early 70s, AAM activists contested the model minority logic that pitted “good minorities” against “bad minorities.” In doing so, they upheld protest as an important means for gaining self-determination and the power to control one’s destinies and collective freedom dreams.

According to Fujino, today we see a revisiting of older ethnicity models of race relations, with a multicultural twist. Barack Obama’s model minority success and philosophies—not to mention his multiracial body and life in Hawaii and Indonesia—lead one writer to ask, “Could Obama be the first Asian American president?” In many ways, Obama reproduces the model minority logic through his efforts to distance himself from discussions of race and the history of Black militant protest, and his deployment of a “can do” spirit to encourage non-elite Black audiences to stop wallowing in victimization.

Fujino asserts that “If multiculturalism stays at the level of celebrating diversity, without directly contesting racism, then we see the re-creation of the 1960s model minority emphasis on gaining individual upward mobility through hard work and personal responsibility and a discounting of political struggles for power.”

**Zona Rosa**  
by Carlos Morton  
The play, “Zona Rosa,” was staged at UCSB on August, 2009. “Zona Rosa” (Pink Zone) is a district in Mexico City where gay people congregate. Written by UCSB Theater Professor Carlos Morton, the play deals with the murder of a medical doctor in 1992 and is based on a true story. Mark Valdez of Los Angeles directed the play.

**Chicano Liberation Theology**  
by Mario García  
Mario García’s latest book focuses on the role of religion in the Chicano Movement of the 1960’s and 1970s. This was the most widespread and significant civil rights, identity, and empowerment movement by Mexican Americans in the United States. This book highlights how Catholic teachings inspired an urban movement.

**Who Would Have Thought It?**  
by María Amparo Ruiz de Burton  
Professor Amelia Montes spoke at UCSB’s Chicano/a Studies Department, October 6, 2009, on her new critical edition of the novel *Who Would Have Thought It?* by Amparo Ruiz de Burton. Ruiz de Burton was the first Mexican American woman to write novels in English and the first nineteenth-century California writer to publish a novel in the aftermath of the Mexican-American War (1847-48). Her first book, *Who Would Have Thought It?*, tells the story of Lola, a young, orphaned Mexican girl rescued from Indian captors. The book offers a stunning portrayal of the clash of cultures and communities, and a fresh perspective on Civil War America.
Luis Leal Award 2009

Graciela Limón Receives Leal Award for Distinction in Literature
by Andrea Estrada

Writer and educator Graciela Limón received the 2009 Luis Leal Award for Distinction in Chicano/Latino Literature. The award was presented on October 29, 2009. The Leal Award is named in honor of Luis Leal, a professor of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UCSB, who is internationally recognized as a leading scholar of Chicano and Latino literature.

A professor emeritus at Loyola Marymount University, Limón taught U.S. and Hispanic literature and also served as chair of the Department of Chicano and Chicana Studies. Currently a visiting professor at UCSB and UCLA, she teaches courses in Latina/Chicana narratives, border narratives, and contemporary Latin American literature. Although she has written extensively on Mexican, Latin American, and Caribbean literature, she now devotes her time to creative fiction.

Limón is also the author of “Left Alive”; “Erased Faces,” which received the 2002 Gustavus Myers Book Award; “The Day of the Moon”; “Memories of Ana Calderón”; and “In Search of Barnabé,” which was awarded The Before Columbus Foundation American Book Award.

A native of Los Angeles and the daughter of Mexican immigrants, Limón received her undergraduate degree in Spanish literature from Marymount College. She completed her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in the same field at the University of the Americas in Mexico City and at UCLA, respectively.

“Graciela Limón is one of the most productive of Chicana novelists and one of the best,” said Mario T. García, professor of history and of Chicano and Chicana Studies and the organizer of the annual Leal Award. “She is long overdue to receive major attention as a major American writer.”

Interested in submitting material for the Spring 2010 issue? Please send your information to diversity@evc.ucsb.edu

For a PDF version of the Diversity Forum newsletter, please visit: http://diversity.evc.ucsb.edu/newsletters

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