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Nursing students at CSUSB's Palm Desert Campus and campus supporters Ron and Sherrie Auen.

# On the Cover

### **12** Portraits of philanthropy

What does it mean to give, and why is education so important to the Auens?



# spring 2013

Volume 21 Issue 2

# On the Cover

## **12** Portraits of philanthropy

What does it mean to give, and why is education so important to the Auens?

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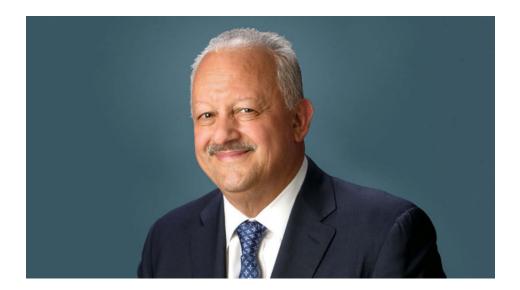
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Dear Friend,

With this spring issue of CSUSB Magazine, we introduce a new focus. We will now send this exclusive publication to friends who have gone the extra mile in their financial support of the university. We'll continue to provide more campus news and features to a broader audience in another new publication that will debut later this year.

The core tenet of our mission at Cal State San Bernardino is simple: Education is for everyone. We tell you our story to inspire you and to demonstrate in a tangible way what your support means to CSUSB. That is our goal, knowing that scholarships, academic programs, research, conferences, centers and institutes, campus cultural events, community service and the buildings and supplies required to teach our students well are things from which an entire village benefits.

This is what we want for our great inland region and beyond. Giving that propels growth, not necessarily in population, but in knowledge, character, commitment and pride. In this "new" edition of CSUSB Magazine, we hope you enjoy reading about the students, professors, alumni and supporters that make California State University, San Bernardino a vibrant and highly respected institution, and we hope to see you at one of our many campus events soon.

Tomás Morales

President

# Studies in excellence

The announcement came when CSUSB President Tomás Morales barged into the classroom accompanied by a group of faculty members who were previous award winners, along with colleagues, administration officials and San Bernardino Mayor Patrick Morris. Morales then explained to the startled students that their teacher had been named Cal State San Bernardino's Outstanding Professor for the year.

Lauded by both colleagues and students for his creative work, teaching and tireless service to the community, Juan Delgado, a professor of English and a critically acclaimed poet, said he was humbled by the award and the show of support from previous winners, colleagues and friends.

"A lot of the people in this room are my heroes," said Delgado, who also credited the support of his wife Jean, who also was in the room with their daughters Anna and Clara. "She's been one of my models as a teacher and a human being."

Among students who admitted in evaluations of Delgado that they didn't come to his class with a real regard of the subject, they said they left his classes with a stronger ability to enjoy creative writing and poetry.

For his talent in the classroom, Morales dubbed Delgado "'El Professor,' 'El Jefe'" in making the announcement. "Since 1988, he has touched generations of students, generations of creative writers."

That was particularly true locally. "What you do in the department of English as a poet, as a scribe of the human condition," said Mayor Morris, "a lot of the kids in our city need that inspiration that comes from poetry to stay in school and not to drop out." •





# Reporter rapport

Only in her first year as a TV news reporter, Gabrielle Mays, who graduated from Cal State San Bernardino in 2011 with a degree in communication studies, has received the 2012 Broadcasting Award of Excellence for news reporting by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Mays grew up in Redlands and today works as a news reporter for WLUC-TV 6 in Houghton, Mich. While attending CSUSB, she gained most of her experience as the producer for the campus news segment "Local Matters."

She entered the news reporter category with three feature stories she produced in the Houghton/Hancock region. Her entries were stories of a young girl with brittle bone disease who wanted an outdoor wheelchair to aid her in getting through the snow, a group called the Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly who assisted senior citizens in their everyday lives, and of a fire that broke out in a senior living complex.

"I came into this job not being the best on-camera personality, but I learned that if you want to be a reporter, you have to get good at telling the stories of the people that watch you every single night," said Mays. The award now sits among other honors in the Houghton news station's front office.

### news briefs

# Introductions to the Potomac

In 2011, Edgar Lopez graduated with honors from Beaumont High School, and then enrolled at Cal State San Bernardino as a business major. But after taking a class in political science, he became intrigued by public policy and changed his major to political science. This summer and fall, the CSUSB junior will be in Washington D.C., – an intern in the prestigious Panetta Congressional Internship Program, considered one of America's best.

The internship will immerse Lopez in the policies, practices and procedures of the United States Congress. It's part of the Panetta Institute, housed at Cal State Monterrey Bay and founded in 1997 by former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and his wife Sylvia.

Lopez hopes to graduate from CSUSB in 2015 and then go to law school, ultimately working as a public servant.

"I don't just want to be another member of society going through the motions," Lopez said, "but to be a catalyst for change and impact people's lives in a positive way,"

# Rogers Scholars

Sixteen students from cities throughout the Coachella Valley have been named recipients of the prestigious Rogers Scholars award for the 2013-2014 academic year. The honor is given to students at Cal State San Bernardino's Palm Desert Campus.

Since its establishment in 1994, the Rogers Scholarship has been awarded to more than 300 PDC students. The awards have totaled more than \$1 million. Mary Stuart Rogers Scholarship recipients must demonstrate a sincere commitment to their own personal growth, compile outstanding academic records, demonstrate leadership qualities, and show a desire to serve their fellow students and communities. The award is a merit-based scholarship and only awarded to the top students at PDC.

# The law of increasing rewards

Andrea Schoepfer, an assistant professor of criminal justice at Cal State San Bernardino, received the Young Career Award from the White Collar Crime Research Consortium at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology earlier this year in Chicago. Schoepfer is recognized nationally for her work on white-collar crime.

The award is given to young scholars who have pub-



# Back on campus

Better advising and tutoring programs, powerful twoday mandatory orientation sessions and other focused academic support programs are the reasons behind more Cal State San Bernardino first-time freshmen returning to the university for their second year than ever before. The efforts show that the percentage of first-year CSUSB students who come back continues to rise at record levels. With a campus record of nearly 90 percent of first-time freshmen that began at Cal State San Bernardino in fall 2010 and returned the following fall, CSUSB ranks third in the 23-campus CSU system for the one-year continuation



rate. "We're doing an increasingly better job of providing our first-year students what they need to be successful as soon as they arrive at the university," said Andy Bodman, CSUSB provost and vice president for academic affairs.

lished extensively on the topic. Her most recent study examined the theory of desire for control to explain white collar and conventional crime.

While Schoepfer was receiving her Young Career honor, a colleague and veteran also in criminal justice, Larry Gaines, was receiving a PROSE honor from the American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence.

"Policing in America: Exam Cram" is a study guide that

accompanies the textbook co-written by Gaines, professor and chair of the CSUSB criminal justice department. The guide-turned-mobile-app enables students to test their knowledge of a wide range of subjects extracted from the textbook co-written by Gaines and Victor Kappeler. It provides a set of user-friendly quizzes that test students' knowledge of policing basics, including organization and management, use of force, culture and behavior and police-community relations.



The Murillo Family Observatory opens up the world of science to students and the community.

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# The brittle history of

# CALIFORNIA

place to stay.

By Alan Llavore





Toni Callicott remembers the destructive days in 2003 of the Old Fire, which claimed 1,100 homes in the San Bernardino area.

"Water in a crisis like that is critical, and we needed to find more," said Callicott, who in 2003 was the CEO of the Inland Empire Chapter of the America Red Cross and currently serves on the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department commission. She also is director of campaigns and partnerships at Cal State San Bernardino.

Bernard Kersey, then the general manager of the city water department, and some staff were in a large room with larger maps "with all these lines and all these little dots," Callicott said. "And he walked right over to this one, put his finger on it and said, 'Try this one. Try this valve."

They did, and water flow increased in an area of the city that desperately needed it. None of that would have been possible had Kersey, when he was first hired by the city in 1975, not walked the area and mapped the water system. "Because of that, that's how he knew where the valve was," said Callicott.

For that, and many other reasons compiled over a long career with the city's water department, the Water Resources Institute at CSUSB named its map room the Bernard C. Kersey Archive Room in the fall of 2012. Along with that came \$28,000, which helps the WRI's effort to preserve old maps of the region's water systems. Many of the old documents are folded, dried and frail, making it almost impossible to open them up to digitally copy them without the paper falling apart. In the Kersey Archive

Room on the fourth floor of the university's John M. Pfau Library, the WRI places these older maps in a special humidifying compartment, restoring them to the point that they can be opened, photographed and converted into digital files that the public can access, while also preserving the original document.

"These are very valuable documents – they are unique and can't be reproduced – so we need to make sure that we preserve them appropriately," said Jeff Thompson, CSUSB's associate provost for research.

"This remarkable act of generosity," said Tomás Morales, CSUSB president, "serves as a testimony to the (city water) department's commitment to preserving for future generations the inland region's water history, the history in which former General Manager Kersey figured so prominently."

In addition to the archive room, the donation has enabled the WRI to create an oral history of Kersey's life and 30-plus year career with the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department, which began in 1975, and the hiring of a special consultant to work on cataloging the archives, Thompson said. And some of the funds will also help in the development of a display of a historic fire hydrant at the CSUSB natural sciences museum and to document the water history of San Bernardino.

But the Bernard C. Kersey Archive Room will be the "living legacy in Bernie's name," Thompson said. It will

eventually be the repository for the items from the University of California, Berkeley water archives that were given to CSUSB and UC Riverside, as well as documents related to the region's watersheds from the Santa Ana River, the Mojave and the Coachella Valley.

"We feel that it's critically important that these documents be preserved here at the university," Morales said. "State universities serve the public good, and our support and our partnership with the Water Resource Institute is an example of how we serve the public good. ... In large part, because of donors and friends, the WRI has grown rapidly since its founding, both in terms of archival material and stature.

"In fact, the WRI is now a leading resource for area water leaders and students, as well as community members interested in water history." Morales said. "It really is an extraordinary repository of water-related documents, maps and drawings, and we expect the collection to continue to grow."



Photo from facebook.com/NationalModelUN



A buzzing General Assembly Hall during the spring National Model United Nations conference in New York City

# Keeping it adroit at the UN

# CSUSB teams demonstrate why they're named among the world's best

By Alan Llavore

If the Model United Nations and Model Arab League were athletic competitions, the word "dynasty" would surely be attached to Cal State San Bernardino. Instead, best in the world and best in the region will suffice nicely for these two CSUSB academic programs, which sent teams that competed in the National Model United Nations competition in New York in March and in the Southern California Model Arab League Conference at the University of California, Santa Barbara in early April.

Students participating in both conferences represent a country and meet with fellow delegates to address issues that real-life diplomats often encounter. CSUSB's two Model United Nations teams, representing Palestine and Turkey, were awarded Outstanding Delegation honors - the highest possible award - at the 2013 National Model United Nations conference in New York City. For CSUSB, it marked 18 Outstanding Delegation Awards in the past 20 years. The conference is held in

two sessions because it draws schools from throughout the world; CSUSB participated in the second session, March 24-28. It also marked the 37th year that CSUSB has participated – one of only six institutions in the world that have participated at least this long - and the first time the university sent two teams. The Outstanding Delegation honor was awarded to just 18 institutions out of 183 universities and colleges that participated at this year's second conference. In total, organizers said, more than 5,000 students from more than 40 countries in six continents participated in both sessions.

"This means the top award is the top 10 percent of MUN programs worldwide," said Kevin Grisham, the program's faculty adviser for the 24 students on the two teams. "With both of our delegations winning, it puts us in the top 5 percent of MUN programs globally, as the New York conference is the largest and oldest MUN conference in the world."

In addition, the teams were recognized for Outstanding Position Papers. The team representing Palestine earned the honor in five out of the six committees its delegates were assigned to, and the Turkish delegation earned Outstanding Position Papers in four of the nine committees in which its delegates participated.

Soon after, on April 5-7, another student delegation traveled north to UC Santa Barbara to participate in the Southern California Model Arab League Conference. The team of 10 students representing Saudi Arabia earned the 21st Outstanding Delegation honor at that conference - that's 21 times students have brought home top honors in the 21 years CSUSB has sent a team to a Model Arab League conference, making it one of the more successful programs in the nation.

"CSUSB students competed against some of the top colleges and universities in the Western U.S. at the Southern California MAL Conference, including





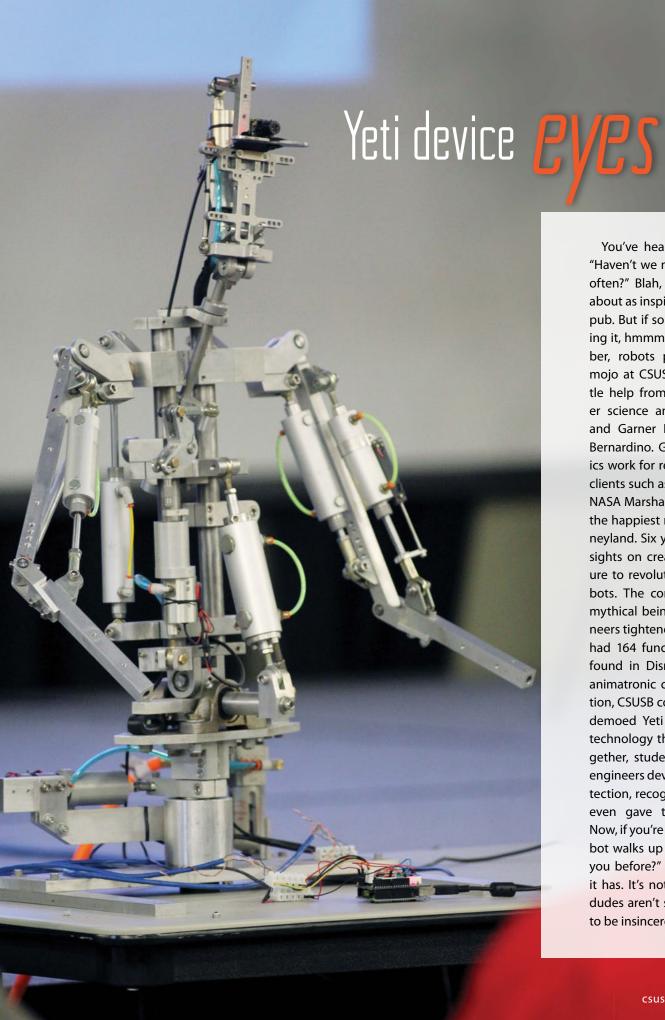
The warm-up for the big conference in the Big Apple brought together three diplomacy teams from CSUSB and teams from other area colleges, all practicing their best diplomatic skills during a simulation held on campus.

UC Santa Barbara, the Air Force Academy, Monterey Institute for International Studies (a graduate school of Middlebury College), and CSU San Marcos," said Grisham.

In addition to the team honor, select students also were recognized for their individual effort. Emily Hoskins (biology-pre-med) won the only Outstanding Chair award given at the conference, and Stephen El-Khatib (Arabic language, literature and culture and social science dual major) won one of the two Honorable Mention awards given to the chairpersons at the conference. And CSUSB students won individual committee awards in four of the five committees in which they participated.

The key to success for both programs has been the preparation the students put in, said Grisham, who was a participant in both MUN and MAL when he was a CSUSB student in the 1990s. That preparation includes learning as much as they can about the country they represent, including its politics and policies. When they can, they also tap real-life diplomats who work in consulates in Southern California. At MUN and MAL conferences, the teams are judged on how well they represent their real-life counterparts as they address various issues and challenges that diplomats work on daily.

And the experience goes beyond role-playing for a conference. Past participants in both programs say the conferences gave them real-life experiences in diplomacy and relationship building. Many have gone on to careers in diplomacy and public service at the local, state and federal levels of government, while others have gone on to prestigious graduate programs, such as the Harvard School of Law.



"Haven't we met?" "Do you come here often?" Blah, blah, blah. Pick up lines about as inspiring as flat beer at a noisy pub. But if something like C3PO is saying it, hmmm, that's special. In December, robots put on that mechanical mojo at CSUSB. They did it with a little help from their friends - computer science and engineering students and Garner Holt Productions in San Bernardino. GHP has done animatronics work for restaurants and museums, clients such as MGM Grand, Mattel, the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and the happiest robot place on earth, Disneyland. Six years ago, GHP had set its sights on creating an animatronic figure to revolutionize entertainment robots. The company named it after a mythical being, and by the time engineers tightened the final screw, the bot had 164 functions, twice the number found in Disney's most sophisticated animatronic creation. At the presentation, CSUSB computer science students demoed Yeti Vision, ground-breaking technology that lets the Yeti "see." Together, students, instructors and GHP engineers developed the process of detection, recognition and reaction. They even gave their creations whiskers. Now, if you're sitting at the bar and a robot walks up and says, "Haven't I seen you before?" don't worry. Chances are it has. It's not just another line. These dudes aren't sophisticated enough yet to be insincere.

You've heard them a million times.



# of philanthropy



In California's Coachella Valley, the Berger Foundation is making a difference

Sherrie and Ron Auen

"To know Ronald and Sherrie Auen is to know that their passion extends well beyond the gift of land, funds and resources," California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White says. "They give of themselves and their time, which is the truest principle of philanthropy." The new CSU chancellor first met the Auens thousands of miles away, when he was the president at the University of Idaho, Moscow, from 2004-2008. White and the Auens came together on the 1,200-acre ranch they donated to UI that became the Nancy M. Cummings Research, Extension and Education Center, a hands-on agricultural training facility in Salmon, Idaho. Located in farm country, the center is aimed at giving students in that area skills that will help maintain and grow their own communities.

Ideals like this and the Auens' midwestern, middleclass roots synched well with the philanthropic visions that had guided the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation, which Ron Auen has headed since 1988 as its president and CEO. The private family foundation was established by its namesakes in 1961. Sherrie was born in Illinois, raised in Idaho and headed for California to go to school. Ron was also born in Illinois, but his residence was in Iowa. He moved to Pasadena, Calif., with his family when he was 7 years old. His family of six lived in a two-bedroom home. Ron's bedroom was a tent in their backyard. Ron worked, as did his sisters and brothers, from a very young age in an effort to assist the family.

Like the Bergers, the Auens look not to give people a handout through their philanthropy, but rather give them a hand up, "to help people to help themselves," the foundation's mantra that has stood the test of time.

In 1992, Ron and Sherrie established the Auen Foundation, which is dedicated to enhancing the overall quality of life of the aging population by supporting charitable programs and services aimed at meeting the social needs of mature adults and their families. Growing up with live-in grandparents, aging issues and the value of intergenerational connections were things Sherrie developed a passion for at a very early age. Today, Sherrie is a trustee and the program director for the Auen Foundation, where she works daily, just a few doors down from Ron and the Berger Foundation offices.

One of the Auens' favorite success stories of giving is the Berger Foundation's support of the "I Have a Dream" program founded by Eugene Lang. On a television show in the early 1990s, Ron heard Lang tell his story, how he had returned to his school in Harlem to give a talk, but just before he delivered his speech he heard from the school principal that most of the children would never graduate from high school. In that moment, Lang abandoned his speech and instead told the kids that he'd fund the



Student orientation event at PDC

college education of any student there if they finished high school. That was the beginning of the national "I Have a Dream" Foundation. The concept of sponsoring large groups of at-risk youth so moved Ron that he wanted to meet Lang, and did. He came back motivated. In 1991, board members from the Berger Foundation visited a school in Pasadena, from Ron's old school district, where, as part of the national program, the foundation adopted a class of third-graders. The students and families in that class were informed that, if the third-graders finished high school, the Berger Foundation would fund their college or trade school educations. But

it wasn't always easy to convince a parent that perfect strangers were going to give their kid funds for college. One grandmother and guardian made her skepticism crystal clear, looking the foundation committee in the eyes and saying they were lying. After experiencing the one-on-one mentoring, tutoring and special experiences the program offered her granddaughter, she discovered they were not, and the one child of hers who had become a recipient of the Berger Foundation's goodwill also became the embodiment of hope for her siblings, all of whom would graduate from high school and attend college.

The next year, believing that third-grade was slightly too late to pull children into the program, they started with first-graders. For the next 15 years, the Berger Foundation sponsored some 150plus children, with more than 90 percent of them graduating from high school. Ron knew what many of these children were up against. They could wake up mornings wondering if there was any escape from the drugs, wrong crowds or palpable apathy that ate at their neighborhoods and schools. As a teenager, Ron was out on the streets and "known," he remembers. When he was 15, he somehow managed to join the military. There, he ran into a few problems, too, but served for nearly five years in the Army, earning a GED, and positioned as a field artillery gunner in Europe for a period, scored high on a military IQ test, and found himself in a newly formed counter mortar radar unit, which expanded his base of education.

Ron says he feels the time in the service saved his life because of the strict discipline and structure, which carried consequences for a person's actions. These were concepts he had never paid attention to but it was, as he puts it, the beginning of a positive life path. Although he did not receive a traditional high school diploma or a college degree, Ron worked for free to learn skills, and dabbled in higher education throughout his life, including taking some classes at Cal State Long Beach in the 1950s and '60s. He studied drafting, radio announcing, took flying lessons for a pilot's license and learned more about construction, which gave him the expertise for his building and developing career.

As the CEO for the Berger Foundation, Ron car-



ries with him a belief in programs imbued with a measure of discipline, because it sets the table for forays into philanthropic work. The Berger Foundation is run differently than most philanthropic foundations in the country. Rather than meeting once every few months to review applications and select grant recipients, an executive committee, made up of working board members meets "dayto-day," reading proposals together and going onsite to meet the people and see the programs under consideration.

"The Berger Foundation is a team," says Fred Jandt, dean of the Palm Desert Campus. "It is not Ron and Sherrie alone by any means. Ron carefully handpicked the original board of people he had worked with for many years whom he trusted."

While the members of the board, and how they have worked, have been consistent, the recipients of Berger Foundation grants began to shift about 18 years ago. In the beginning of the couple's philanthropic endeavors, about 25 percent of Berger Foundation gifts were awarded near the home headquarters in the San Gabriel Valley, with the other 75 percent going throughout the U.S. This meant Ron, Sherrie and members of the executive committee were doing a lot of traveling. In 1996, beyond traditional retirement age for most board members, they were drawn to a simpler life, where the Auens made their second home in Palm Desert. Exposing the pros and cons of relocating, a board decision was made to move the foundation's headquarters to Palm Desert.

"Little did we know," says Sherrie, "the needs that were here, because we saw the surface of everything. How wonderful it is to live here." The Coachella Valley is that. It is a strange mix of those who worked hard to make it – and have – and those who are working hard: farm laborers, dry cleaners, and restaurant and hotel workers. Today, almost 90 percent of the funds from the Berger and Auen Foundations go to causes in the Coachella Valley. "We came here for the quality of life for ourselves, we thought. We didn't realize we came here for the community. Once we were here we realized the needs and the impacts the foundations could have."

The Berger Foundation has, in the words of one

Nursing students (from left to right) Corynn Busch, David Welch, Tiffany Caranci and Daniele Knickerbocker give the Auens a tour of PDC's hi-tech nursing lab.

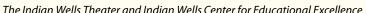
friend, become an "industry" in California's Coachella Valley.

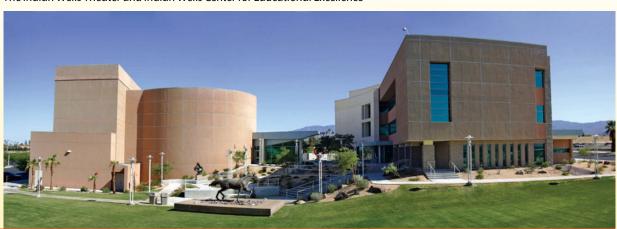
"The Auens are consummate philanthropists and community partners," says CSUSB President Tomás D. Morales. "This is why they are so good at what they do. Their giving in the United States, and especially in the desert, has helped transform lives and advance education."

The Auens have certainly done that for CSUSB. When approached in 2002 by former Indian Wells Mayor Dick Oliphant, who was co-chairing a vigorous campaign to raise funds for the first permanent building at Cal State San Bernardino's Palm Desert Campus, a quick decision was made by the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation Executive Committee to underwrite \$4 million and finish the first building. Dick says he was driving when he received the call from Ron, and said he nearly ran off the road. Surprisingly, that wasn't the last time a call from Ron distracted Dick from driving. After the completion of the building, which sported a 123-seat auditorium and smart technology, Ron called while Dick was on his way home from San Francisco. "I told him we were going to name the auditorium after him and his wife Jan. We heard a screeching and turning, and he said, 'I damn near broke my car!""

When you're doing good deeds, almost causing a man to crash twice are forgivable trespasses. Through years of giving, the Berger Foundation has fixed a lot of things. Since Ron took the helm, the foundation has awarded grants totaling nearly \$400 million dollars nationwide. Since the inception of the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, the foundation has extended in excess of \$6 million toward the CSU facilities in Palm Desert, now a campus of four permanent buildings thanks also to the area towns, foundations and citizen donors that have rained upon the campus more than \$35 million in a model public-private partnership that was once featured on the front page of the Sunday New York Times. Today, the PDC is a blend of squared and rounded architecture and vintage desert landscaping all at the corner of Cook Street and Frank Sinatra Drive.

The reward for the Auens has been to see a fouryear college grow in the low desert and make life simpler for new crops of students. It was true for their daughter, Catharine Reed, a single mom with two children living in Palm Desert who never would have been able to make the drive from there to CSUSB. For years, she took one or two classes at a time at the Palm Desert Campus, working on her degree in psychology and graduating just five years ago. In June, the Auens will go to commencement ceremonies for the Palm Desert Campus and be awarded honorary doctorates of humane letters from CSUSB, something they both say they are proud to receive. Ron says he is particularly emotional about it. He works every day to ensure more kids that are growing up like he did are given opportunities to see their potentials and reach their dreams, because the school of hard knocks is not necessarily the path he would direct young people down. "Education," says Ron, "is an immeasurable gift."





## human development



They got in trouble with the law and have been behind bars. But a parenting program is attempting to free these incarcerated women, help these women break out of patterns of destructive thinking, women who, no matter how much time they've served, will always be mothers.

#### By Carmen Murillo-Moyeda

When Cal State San Bernardino psychology professors Faith McClure and Laura Kamptner were awarded a grant in 2010 to create a program for incarcerated mothers, their goal was to help the mothers develop a close bond with their children. It was a goal that could go a long way in preventing the next generation from repeating the cycle of incarceration.

Studying more than 300 incarcerated women at Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center in Devore, the researchers conducted psychotherapeutic parenting classes focusing on the influence of attachment, family stability and positive parenting. The project also included joint therapy to mothers and their children to help them transition back into their homes after release from jail. While most parenting programs focus on behavioral change, McClure and Kamptner sought to create an attitude shift through the use of an attachment-based model for parenting instead of punishment.

"The behavioral model works well until the parents experience high emotional distress," says Kamptner. "However, without a change in attitude toward parenting, and until the parents can have empathy for their children, they have difficulty being consistent and responding appropriately during emotional distress."

"Our parenting program provides empathy for the parents in how they were raised and then helps them develop empathy for raising their own children," explains McClure.

"More importantly," says Kamptner, "because incarceration is often a multigenerational problem, family stability protects against intergenerational transmission of incarceration." It is a holistic approach to relationships, Kamptner and McClure say, an approach that teaches the inmates to learn from their mistakes rather than repeat poor behaviors.

"When we intervene early with mental health issues, we significantly increase the prognosis for positive outcomes for families," says McClure.

Upon completing the program, participants felt more competent as parents, showed interest and more involvement with their children, and were much more capable of demonstrating positive parenting skills. "I want to say 'thank you' for helping me open up and let go of some of my baggage," said one participant. "Though it's only a first step, it's a step closer to healing and becoming a better person."

Another said, "This class helped me understand my issues and issues with my family."

"I have taken a similar class three times on the outside but have learned the most here in four weeks than those 52-week classes," said another participant.

"These results are highly promising, because research shows that strengthening families, especially parent/child attachment, is critical in facilitating children's psychological well-being, successful peer relationships and academic endeavors," says McClure.

The team of CSUSB students assisting with the project included Tierra Patterson, who began working on this project just before graduating with two bachelor's degrees - one in psychology and one in child development - in fall 2009. Intriqued by the project, she continued as a graduate student with increasing responsibilities until completing her master's degree in clinical counseling in June 2012.

Mentored by both professors Kamptner and McClure, Patterson said the project reinforced her decision to work with incarcerated women. "This experience has helped me fine-tune the direction of my career."

The most eye-opening piece for her, she says, was seeing the



A mother at Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center spends time with her children as part of a program that takes a more holistic approach to parenting.

strength of these women. "They have experienced so many traumatic and painful things as children themselves and yet they still have a huge capacity to love and a desire to be good parents to their children." Watching the parents interact with their children and utilizing the skills they learned in the parenting classes has been the most rewarding for her. Patterson is now a research coordinator supervising five undergraduate research assistants and 11 undergraduate interns who facilitate classes at the county jail. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in the fall and is interested in programs that work with the incarcerated population.

During the project, the researchers added a 48-hour training component for incarcerated fathers, which included parenting skills, dealing with personal loss and trauma recovery. One of the men said, "I learned a lot ... that helped me better understand my own trauma and grief." More than half of the female inmates also went through a parent-child re-entry program upon release from county jail to help maintain their sobriety, practice developmentally appropriate parenting, man-

age stress and acquire better coping skills.

But the funding that allowed for the re-entry piece of the study has been exhausted.

"We need to find ways to supplement the research funding to reinstate this important component of the project and to acquire student support at every level, including community service and research training," says McClure.

"In the future," adds Kamptner, "we would ideally like to extend the research long-term by following the parents and children who have participated in this project. But this can only happen with continued funding."

The incarcerated mothers project has been possible through a partnership with CSUSB's Institute for Child Development and Family Relations, Community University Partnerships, the San Bernardino County jail, the Children's Fund and the First 5 program. The professors have presented their findings at a number of academic conferences and are currently writing a manual that describes the specialized parenting approach.



photography by Robert Whitehead



# Desert visions

Cal State San Bernardino originally began offering classes in Palm Desert in 1986, when the university turned a construction trailer into one office and a single classroom. Five modular buildings and one dean later, in 2002, the Coachella Valley Center became known as the Palm Desert Campus and opened its first permanent structure, the Mary Stuart Rogers Gateway Building. Three more buildings went up over the next several years, all privately financed by the people, local governments and foundations of the Coachella Valley. The PDC serves more than 1,000 students today. It celebrates a milestone this fall when it welcomes its first freshman class. •



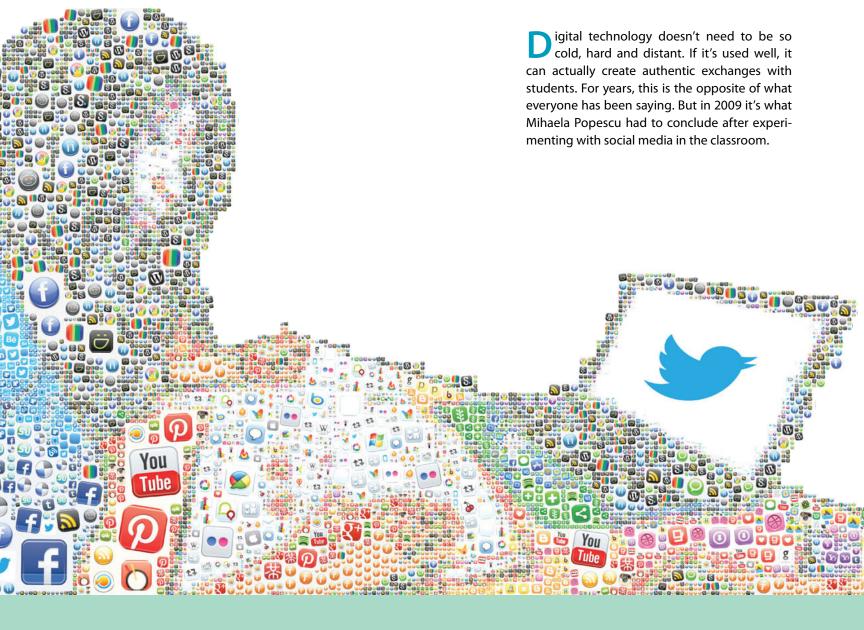






# That delicate digital

No question. Teaching online is here to stay. But what colleges are trying to figure out now is how to make the virtual classroom a tangible, human, learning experience.



# balance









From making it easier for a teacher to reach out to learners in an environment that felt familiar to them, to creating "affinity spaces" where learners with similar interests could work together on common tasks, Popescu began to see technology differently. "I strive to work with, not against, the media tech-

nologies that students use as part of their everyday experience." In that first course, Digital Media and Communication, she had students use Flickr — an online photo-sharing site — YouTube and microblogging to produce multimedia narratives about themselves. Then she had them share these with their peers.

The result, Popescu said, was that "students learned about the creation of online identities, commented on each other's work, initiated conversations about online identity management and reputation mechanisms, and generally performed much better in the final exam than previous classes exposed to the same textbook."

In that class, while Popescu was busy doing her job, along came the award. It was a big surprise for the Cal State San Bernardino assistant professor in communication studies to learn this past winter that she was one of four California State University faculty to be honored with the 2012 Sony Electronics Faculty Award for Innovative Instruction with Technology.

Technology has helped Popescu gauge how well students understand the information she gives them by providing her the opportunity to see how they apply it outside of class. For example, through online venues, such as Facebook, other students would spontaneously join in conversations that were not bound by classroom time. With her participating in the conversation, she said, "it developed different relationships between the students and me. We became, if not friends, at least people on the same level. They used me as a resource in ways they didn't dare do in class, where the distance between us – the psychological distance – was so large. It was a way to connect in more sincere terms."

> She explained it this way: text messaging, being on Facebook or getting on Google+, for ex

ample, are things students do outside the classroom. To have an instructor "meet them there (where they felt more comfortable) changed the terms of the relationship for the better."

While the use of technology can make learning easier for students, Popescu doesn't see it as a universal solution. Not

The challenge of education is to "articulate the bridge between the students' life and what we are trying to teach them."

all students learn as easily as others, and different students have different learning styles. "So it's important for lesson designers to know the particular audience of students," she said. "There are creative ways in which to use these technologies that we don't even know about. To be able to learn what makes sense for students and to communicate with them on their own

terms, that is an opportunity for us if we manage to do it right."

Cal State San Bernardino, which has launched a Digital Literacies Series through the CSUSB Teaching Resource Center, is moving in that direction, she said. "What I see happening is the entire campus coming together to better understand technology and have deeper conversations about how to use it in the classroom."

The challenge of education is to "articulate the bridge between the students' life and what we are trying to teach them," Popescu said. So if social media, immersive technology, such as Second Life, and online games can achieve those purposes, "then why not use them?"

"The challenge (for the instructor) is not keeping up with the technology - that's the easy part," Popescu said. "The challenge is to design assignments that make meaningful use of technology. Technology is never the end objective. Technology is the way to get better interaction, more authentic meetings between students and the instructor, and students with students, to help them understand something in a way that feels more natural to them."

# Comeback Kids

Two stories of winners of the Dianna J. Pelletier Resiliency Scholarship, which awards a \$500 scholarship to encourage students on academic probation or were dismissed from the university, to stay in school.

Sandra Riz, Riverside



Sandra Rizk, a junior with a double major in computer science and Arabic language, literature and cultures, had been on academic probation between spring 2011 and 2012 and was on a probation contract for those three quarters. Her father fell ill and was losing his eyesight, and other family members were forced to work. Rizk stayed home to care for her father.

"I was the only one left in the house who had to drive my father around and see his doctors and take care of his daily needs. ... With so many challenges present in my life, it was time to take matters in my own hands and push myself past the many difficult circumstances facing me. I had all my potential back and I was fully focused and dedicated to my education ... I 're-found' my desire to learn and even spent more time at school attending classes and labs. I went to school on my days off to spend time focusing on my studies and improving my overall study habits."

Her father underwent eye surgery in May 2012 and his vision was fully restored by August 2012. In fall 2012, Rizk enrolled in 18 units and earned at 3.67 GPA for the quarter. She also received an additional 4 units by passing a Credit-By-Exam for Arabic 201.

Ryan Adams, San Bernardino



Ryan Adams is a freshman majoring in business administration, but was on academic probation for poor grades and faced possible dismissal from the university in the winter 2012 term. He had a GPA of 0.93 after being on academic probation in his first quarter at CSUSB in 2011. Receiving the dismissal notice from CSUSB turned his life around.

"I felt something that day that has literally changed my life. I fought the hardest to stay back in school, to quit my bad habits, and try to stay on track. ... Receiving less than a D average for the term was unacceptable. I promised myself I couldn't just go out like that. ... Saying no to my 'friends' and saying yes to my new study buddies; countless nights of no sleep, but for this time, a different reason than getting drunk and doing idiotic things; these nights were sleepless with studying and doing my homework, a new concept for me, ... I got my first A of college that quarter (spring 2012), it felt amazing. My hard work actually meant something other than losing out on being with my friends and going out to have fun."

Adams raised his GPA during the spring 2012 quarter and then earned a 3.63 GPA while enrolled in 12 units for the fall 2012 quarter. •

The resiliency scholarship fund was established in 2007 and co-founded by Dianna Pelletier, a CSUSB alumna who was an academic adviser. Individuals or organizations interested in supporting CSUSB students through the scholarship can contribute to the CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation and designate the Dianna J. Pelletier Resiliency Scholarship P308540, as the program.

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California State University, San Bernardino offers a variety of arts and entertainment events throughout the year. It may be best to confirm an event at the number listed.

#### art exhibits

RAFFMA.csusb.edu. (909) 537-7373

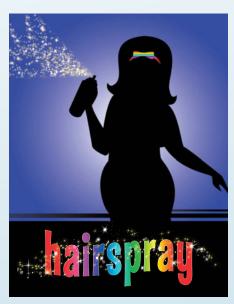
"A Walk through Teméeku: A look into the past and present of the Luiseño people." Now through May 22, 2013. RAFFMA hours Monday-Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Thursday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Suggested donation \$3.

"The First Generation of Chicano Muralists in Southern California, 1968-1985." Now through May 25. RAFFMA hours Monday-Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Thursday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Suggested donation \$3.

#### theatre

Theatre.csusb.edu. (909) 537-5884

"Hairspray," May 31, June 1, 6, 7 and 8 at 8 p.m., and June 1, 2, 8 and 9 at 2 p.m. Barnes Theatre. General admission \$15, senior citizens, military and CSUSB Alumni Association members \$12, students with I.D. \$6.



opens May 31

#### music

Music.csusb.edu. (909) 537-7516

CSUSB Concert Choir/Chamber Singers. June 3, 7:30 p.m. Performing Arts Recital Hall. General admission \$11, senior citizens \$9, students \$6.

CSUSB Symphonic Band. June 5, 7:30 p.m. Performing Arts Recital Hall. General admission \$11, senior citizens \$9, students \$6.

CSUSB Chamber Orchestra. June 6, 7:30 p.m. Performing Arts Recital Hall. General admission \$11, senior citizens \$9, students \$6.

#### special events

#### **MAGIC SHOW**

Arena.csusb.edu. (909) 537-7360.

"Masters of Illusion." June 1, 8:15 p.m. Based on award-winning TV series. Features eight renowned magic acts. CSUSB's Coussoulis Arena. Tickets \$15, \$28 and \$35. Parking \$5.

#### **SUMMER WEDNESDAYS**

Arena.csusb.edu. (909) 537-7360.

Summer Wednesdays concert series, July 3-31. All shows at 7 p.m. (outdoors) in Lower Commons Plaza. Free admission and complimentary parking in Lot D. Bring picnic baskets, lawn chairs, blankets. Food vendors also will be on hand.

July 3: The Latin Society opens Summer Wednesdays with big band Latin jazz.

July 10: The Best of Everything performs rhythm and blues.

July 17: Powerflex 5, a psychobilly, punk surf band.

July 24: Desperado, a tribute to the Eagles.

July 31: CSUSB's Coyote Radio Best of the Bands contest winner closes Summer Wednesdays.

#### commencement weekend

Commencement.csusb.edu

(All ceremonies in Coussoulis Arena will be webcast live at http://acm.csusb.edu/Services/ videoproduction/livevideo.html)

June 13: CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, 6 p.m. The Show at Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa in Rancho Mirage.

June 14: The Investiture of Tomás D. Morales fourth president of California State University, San Bernardino. 9 a.m., Coussoulis Arena.

June 15: College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, 8:45 a.m. Master's, doctoral degrees ceremony for all five academic colleges, 12:45 p.m. College of Arts and Letters, along with students earning bachelor's degrees from College of Education, 4:45 p.m. All ceremonies in Coussoulis Arena.

June 16: College of Business and Public Administration, 8:45 a.m. College of Natural Sciences, 12:45 p.m. Both ceremonies in Coussoulis Arena.





