CLASS is on the Move

Colleagues,

I hope all of you continue to find the summer a time of renewal in preparation for what promises to be a busy Fall quarter. I thought it would be appropriate to keep you informed of what is happening in CLASS over the summer. As you will see in this issue, there is certainly a lot going on.

You have received the first issue of CLASS Notes, and I would like to thank all who supported the first publication with information for articles, pictures, and news items. We received enormous praise from many of our constituencies, and I would like to publicly acknowledge the very good work Diane Daniel has done to actualize this project.

If you haven’t heard, the CLASS Dean’s office is moving! In anticipation of the 2006 completion of the Business and Technology building and the planning for a new administration building, it is critical that the CLASS Dean’s office find a permanent home. We have searched the campus for space and have appealed to the kindness and generosity of the Music office. I want to express my deepest gratitude to Mariko Abe, Fred Palmer, and Timothy Smith for all of their help in working with us to acquire adequate space. Although we have not worked out all of the details, my office will be moving into Music and Business (MB) 1501 (a suite of offices occupied by Music) by 1 September in preparation for the Fall quarter.

This move is the beginning of a series of moves that will allow CLASS to reclaim much needed space for our faculty and academic programs in MB. Current plans include moving my office now and the English and the Modern Languages departments next year into Music and Business. These permanent homes for CLASS departments will save the university a great deal of money that would be spent on acquiring temporary space when we would have to move out of Warren Hall. Although these plans are still tentative, it is important to manage expectations as we proceed through this period of transition.

Although change presents particular challenges, I am energized by this move. Being close to the daily operations of CLASS instruction and student support is important for a dean’s work in assisting in the achievement of the highest levels of academic excellence. As your Dean, I need to be in the mix of things, observing what’s going on and responding to your needs.

As I start my third year with you, I am happy at the prospect of signaling a change for us that I hope will lead to the kind of organizational coherence that will provide foundational support for achieving our next set of CLASS goals. I look forward to sharing such goals with you at the state-of-the-college address on 20 September. Until then, rest well and be well.

Sincerely,
Dean Alden Reimonenq

Marilyn Silva Named Associate Dean

Marilyn Silva has been named Associate Dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences (CLASS) by Dean Alden Reimonenq. Dr. Silva, who has served as CLASS Interim Associate Dean since the Fall of 2004, holds a bachelor's and master's degree in English from New York University, and a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley, 1983. Dr. Silva came to California State University, East Bay in 1983 as a lecturer in the Department of Human Development, and was hired to a tenure track position in Human Development and English in 1986. She was promoted to full professor in 1995, chaired the Department of Human Development from 1996-98, served as interim associate dean of the College from 1998-2000, interim chair of the Department of Art from 2000-2001, and chair of the Department of English for three years. As Associate Dean, Dr. Silva will principally handle curriculum, assessment, lecturer matters, student matters, and oversee the production of the College class schedule.

Editor’s note

CLASS Notes welcomes items for publication. If you have a recent publication, exhibit, or accomplishment, or have received a grant (within the past few months) that has not been publicized by the College, please send it to diane.daniel@csueastbay.edu, with “CLASS Notes” in the subject field. Due to the size of the College, all items must be kept brief. Accompanying photos or artwork should be sent in a 72 dpi jpg format. Thank you.

Recent Achievements

Faculty

- Professor Evaon Wong-Kim, Social Work, has been awarded a $57,068 grant from The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation for her “Taking Cancer, Saving Lives: Breast Cancer Training Project in Hong Kong.”

- Sally Murphy and Gale Young, Communications, have been awarded $100,000 from The Ford Foundation for their project, “Catharsis and Courageous Conversations: Using Interventionist Theater and Dialogue Methods to Foster Multicultural Understanding.”

Students

- Tobias B. Barr, a senior majoring in Music, and Carolyn Maynard, a junior majoring in Ethnic Studies, have been elected to represent the CLASS students on the Associated Students, Inc. Board for the 2005-06 academic year.

- Charlene D. Jacinto, a senior majoring in History, has been elected to serve as a student representative to the Academic Senate for the same term.

- Teresa Brandt, an English graduate student, has been awarded a $3,000 grant as one of 74 Sally Casanova California Pre-Doctoral Scholars for 2005-06. Her faculty sponsor is Debbie Barrett-Graves, English.

Staff

Sue Montgomery has joined the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences (CLASS) as an Administrative Support Assistant I in the Dean’s Office.