Message from the Dean

Dean Alden Reimonenq, Ph.D.

Colleagues,

The search for the second Associate Dean is well underway. Our search committee comprised of Patricia Guthrie, Human Development and Women's Studies; Michael Lee, Geography and Environmental Studies; E. James Murphy, English; Janet Patterson, CSD; and Nan Maxwell, Business and Economics; reviewed more than 25 applications and narrowed the field to three finalists. James Okutsu, San Francisco State University, will be here for an on campus interview on Tuesday, May 2, Tom Spencer-Walters, CSU-Northridge, will be here Tuesday, May 16, and Lisa Hoshmand, Leslie University, Cambridge, Mass, will be here Thursday, May 18. All CLASS faculty and staff are invited to meet the candidates from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at an open forum on each of these dates in the CLASS Conference Room, MB 1501. We hope to have the new Associate Dean on campus July 1.

As many of you know, I have had the honor of serving on the Advisory Committee to the Trustees’ Committee for the Selection of the President. Candidates will be on campus the week of May 8-11. I urge you to participate in the activities associated with the campus visits.

Social Work Accreditation

The Department of Social Work had a very intense visit by a three-person accreditation team on Feb. 20-22 and is awaiting the findings. I was most impressed with my conversations with the review team and the praise they had for Terry Jones and his colleagues. Accreditation will add exponentially to our reputation as a university, a college, and a department.

Supporters Visit

Our latest promotion of CLASS was made to an enthusiastic group of 15 university supporters who joined Vice President of University Advancement Bob Burt, Senior Development Director Maryann Annunziata, and Associate Dean Marilyn Silva. At this special breakfast on March 1, 1 showcased the College in the University Art Gallery. Guests Virginia Irey Anderson, Howard High, John and Jodie Hunter, Malvina and George Injayan, Dwight Minnick, Jr., Louise Orsetti Leck, Florence and Bruno Orsetti, Stan Pisle, Alan Smith, Judith Stanley, Bill Reuter, and Ricky Wong were engaging, intensely interested in our mission and progress, and eager to help us meet our goals. Each left with a promotional packet containing our College Profile, and all of our department and program brochures and fact sheets. Adding to the ambiance of the morning was a musical prelude by students Christine Lee, violin; Julie Mae, violin; Jessica Smith, viola; and Alex Kadaruch, cello.

Sabbaticals

I am privileged to announce sabbaticals for the 2006-07 year:
• Dee Andrews, History
• James Forsher, Communication
• Susan Gubernat, English
• George Miller, Anthropology
• Karl Schonborn, Sociology and Social Services
• Meiling Wu, Modern Languages and Literatures

Our best wishes to all of our colleagues for a fulfilling time of exploration and renewal.

Faculty Fellows

Congratulations to the Faculty Fellows for 2005-06: Mayling Chu, Social Work; Laura Nelson, Anthropology; Anne Pym, Communication; Dianne Rush Woods, Social Work; and Evaon Wong-Kim, Social Work. Money from the Dean's Fund in Support of Academic Programming has been awarded to Godwin Ashabi in Human Development.

Many thanks to committee members Eileen Barrett, English; Toni Fogarty, Public Administration; and Patricia Jennings, Sociology and Social Services; for reviewing proposals and making these selections.

Please be aware that we are currently accepting Faculty Fellow proposals for the 2006-07 academic year. This is a change from past years. Hard copy proposals must be sent to Associate Dean Marilyn Silva, MB 1501, by Monday, May 8.

Settled in

The Dean's Office has completed the first two quarters in our new office in the Music and Business Building, room 1501. Faculty and staff say our new location is more convenient and accessible. We are feeling more a part of campus and are enjoying being surrounded by the hustle and bustle of campus life. The latest phase of the transition is the remodeling of our Conference Room, MB 1505. It houses a permanent collection of donated works by CLASS faculty, and Spring Quarter student art. I invite all CLASS faculty and staff to see the room at our New Faculty and Student Artist Reception Friday, May 19 from 2-4 p.m. Reservations are being taken through May 12 by e-mail at: barbara.barreiro@csueastbay.edu.

Sincerely,
Dean Alden Reimonenq

Events

Jewish Culture and History Series: An Evening of Contemporary Jewish Dance/ Theater. May 3, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. Free.
Fools, by Neil Simon. Friday, May 5, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 6 at 2 and 8 p.m., University Theatre. 510-885-3261.
Honors Convocation - Sunday, May 7, 4-6 p.m., University Amphitheater.
Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition - University Art Gallery. Opening reception, award ceremony Wednesday, May 10, 5-7 p.m. Exhibition on Wednesdays-Fridays, from May 11-31, 12:30-3:30 p.m. 510-885-3299. FREE.
CLASS Reception for faculty new to the college since Fall 2003 and participants in the CLASS Student Art Exhibit, Spring 2006, Friday, May 19, 2-4 p.m., CLASS Conference Room, MB 1505. RSVP by noon May 12 by e-mailing barbara.barreiro@csueastbay.edu.
Performance Fusion, culminating performances by dance and theatre majors. Friday-Saturday, May 19-20 at 8 p.m., Sunday, May 21 at 2 p.m., and Saturday, June 2-3 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, June 4 at 2 p.m. Studio Theatre. 510-885-3261.
Commencement
Concord Campus: Saturday, June 3, 4-6 p.m.
Graduate: Thursday, June 8, 6 p.m. University Amphitheater
Undergraduate: Saturday, June 10, 9 a.m., University Stadium
CLASS Undergraduate: Saturday, June 10, University Stadium, 11 a.m.
CLASS Undergraduate Reception: Saturday, June 10, fieldhouse, noon

All commencement information:
http://class.csueastbay.edu/Commencement.php

Come to CLASS . . .
Recent Achievements
Faculty
- Nidhi Mahendra, CSD, has received a grant of $198,624 from the Alzheimer’s Association for computer-based cognitive interventions for persons with Alzheimer’s Disease through February 2009.
- Timothy M. Smith, Music, has been named the California Music Educators Association Bay Section’s “Outstanding Music Educator of 2006.” This is the first time a CSUEB professor has received the music section’s top award. Professor Smith specializes in music education, conducting, instrument pedagogy, and wind band literature.

Students
- Shria Watkins, a graduate student in Public Administration, is this year’s recipient of the Barbara Owen Memorial Scholarship. Named for a long-time CLASS staff member, the award supports students combining single parenthood, work and a college education.
- Katherine Hageland, who will receive her Master’s Degree in English Literature this June, has been accepted by the University of California, Riverside English Department Ph.D. program and awarded a Dean’s Distinguished Fellowship of approximately $91,000 over four years.
- Rosalind Clemons, Human Development; Jamie Franklin, Speech Pathology; and Felicia Hines, Criminal Justice Administration; were among six students to receive scholarships from the African American Faculty and Staff Association on Feb. 24.

Alumni
Linda Sanford, BA ‘93 (ENVT), MA ’96 (GEOG), has been named chair of the Geography Program at Laney College in Oakland.

Staff
Madeleine M Apple has joined the CLASS Office Administrative Team as Interim Director of Academic Resources, replacing Nichole Sparks who left for a position with the City of San Francisco.
Madeleine holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Accounting from CSUEB, and has worked here since 1990, most recently as an Administrative Analyst in the Accounting Office where she was responsible for registration fees for approximately 13,000 students, was responsible for the Sail Billing Module, supervised changes to fees, refunds and parking sections of the quarterly Class Schedule, and scheduled all nightly production jobs for Student Financials.
Prior to coming to CSUEB, she was in the General Accounting Department at Chevron’s Corporation Headquarters in San Francisco for 11 years.
Madeleine can be reached at madeleine.apple@csueastbay.edu.

C.E. Smith Anthropology Museum Exhibit Opens
George Miller, C.E. Smith Museum of Anthropology director, left, welcomes guests to the opening of the current exhibit, “Immigrants All: Our Migration Tales and Genetic Trails.” The admission free exhibit is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays through June 9 at MI 4047.

Distinguished Writers Series Completes First Year
Often, good things come about by indirection. So it is with the English Department’s Distinguished Writers Series. Last year, John and Kathleen DeClercq established an endowment to fund an annual poetry prize to honor John’s mother, Helen “Jackie” DeClercq, who worked for many years in administration at CSUEB. In discussions related to the new endowment, the fact that our university had never had a regular series of visiting poets and fiction writers came up. Dean Alden Reimonenq invited the English Department to request a grant from the Dean’s Fund in Support of Academic Programs to launch such a series in 2005/06 with three events.

Jim Krusee
On November 10, 2005, Los Angeles writer Jim Krusee inaugurated the Distinguished Writers Series with an afternoon workshop for our creative writing students and a reading in the Biella Room. Krusee teaches in the Graduate Writing Program at Antioch University and at Santa Monica College, where he founded and edited the nationally respected Santa Monica Review. His poetry, for which he received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, can be found in three collections, Jungle Girl, Small Pianos, and History of the World. In 1997, Krusee published his first volume of short stories, Blood Lake, followed in 2002 by the novel Iceland, selected by The Los Angeles Times and The Austin Chronicle as one of the 10 best fiction books of the year. His work has also appeared in American Poetry Review, ZYZZYVA, Iowa Review, Crosscurrents, Florida Review, and Manoa.

Suheir Hammad
On February 8, 2006, internationally known performance poet Suheir Hammad appeared before a standing-room-only audience in the Biella Room. Hammad’s work has appeared in numerous periodicals, including The Amsterdam News, Essence, STRESS Hip-Hop Magazine, and The Middle East Report. Her poetry has been featured on the BBC World Service and National Public Radio. She also appeared on the debut episode of HBO’s “Russell Simmons’ Def Poetry Jam.”

California Poet Laureate
This year’s Distinguished Writers Series culminated in a reading by Al Young, California’s Poet Laureate, on April 4, 2006. The occasion also marked the celebration and public presentation of student winners of the first annual Helen “Jackie” DeClercq Poetry Prize.
An international lecturer and performer, Young has seen his work translated into a dozen languages, and he has traveled to the Persian Gulf to lecture on African-American literature and culture for the U.S. Department of State.

DeClercq Poetry Winners
Three English Department majors were introduced at the April 4 reading as the first annual “Helen ‘Jackie’ DeClercq Poetry Contest” winners. Graduate students Katherine Hageland and Anthony Pino, took first and second prize, respectively; and Christine Carreiro, a senior, took third prize. The contest was open to all currently enrolled CSUEB students. The winning essays will be published in the campus literary magazine, “Occam’s Razor.”

DeClercq Winners Meet Poet Laureate

California Poet Laureate Al Young, right, met with “Helen ‘Jackie’ DeClercq Poetry Contest” winners, Anthony Pino, and Christine Carreiro. Katherine Hageland was out of town.