The True Adventures of Drama Grads

2004-05 Annual Report and Honor Roll of Donors
Six years ago when we started planning the first truly comprehensive fundraising effort in the history of California Lutheran University, consultants advised that a realistic goal for a campaign would be $35 million.

At the time, a $35 million effort, modest by today’s standards, seemed an ambitious leap for a university whose previous fundraising campaigns had generated amounts of $4–6 million. At an epochal meeting in October 1999, however, the Board of Regents—passionately committed to the future of CLU, confident in the strength of our supporters, and assured of the benefits to our students—more than doubled the goal to $80 million and launched the Now is the Time campaign.

The campaign officially concluded on May 31, 2005, and I am pleased to report that we not only achieved the goal of $80 million but exceeded it by $13 million for a total of over $93 million in campaign gifts and pledges. Now is the Time raised more funds than had been raised cumulatively in the first four decades of CLU’s history. A record number of 6,000 donors opened their hearts to support it.

The successful completion of the Now is the Time campaign marks a major turning point in the history of California Lutheran University. It has already, and will continue to have, a great impact on the students who come here and on the quality of education they receive.

The introduction of the beautiful Spies-Bornemann Center for Education and Technology—with its state-of-the-art media production studio, interactive classrooms, offices and laboratories—has elevated expectations, standards and performance across a spectrum of fields and contributed significantly to the new national accreditation of CLU’s School of Education.

These advances will be multiplied as the Gilbert Sports and Fitness Center, the Samuelson Aquatics Center, the George Spies-Bornemann Center for Education—new track and soccer fields are constructed north of Olsen Road and change the campus landscape this year and next.

No less important than the new physical facilities are the professorships and centers that have been funded through the campaign, the scholarships that have been endowed, the support that has been received for daily operations, and the millions of dollars that have been put in trusts, annuities and estate plans to endow the future of the University.

Now is the Time has moved the University well along the road to becoming one of the best liberal arts universities in the West. CLU is a more competitive, attractive, substantial and notable university today than it was five years ago.

During this period, student applications have doubled; more than 40 new faculty have been appointed; undergraduate enrollment and the number of students living on campus have grown by several hundred; the student body has become significantly more talented and diverse; new undergraduate and graduate programs have been added; and the University has risen steadily in regional and national rankings. There is no question that the resources, the facilities and the élan provided by the campaign have played a major role in these advances.

With the momentum and self-assurance of the Now is the Time campaign, the University is focusing now on the need and opportunities for additional science facilities and a performing arts center, greatly increased faculty and student endowments, and program initiatives in our liberal arts college and professional schools.

CLU is still a young university. It will have more lessons to learn and growing pains to endure. Much more needs to be accomplished. But the Now is the Time campaign and its many generous donors have laid a very solid foundation for our future. They have taken us far beyond our initial expectations.

For further information about the Now is the Time campaign and the donors who so generously supported it, please see page 7 and the enclosed Annual Report 2004–2005.

I am pleased to report that we not only achieved the goal of $80 million but exceeded it by $13 million for a total of over $93 million in campaign gifts and pledges.
A \textit{CLU} Making History Project consists of seven storyboards placed in strategic locations on campus. They tell the story of the University's founding, its growth, and some of the special people who contributed to its success. Each board bears the name of its donor(s): Board of Regents, William J. Kane, Chair; Randolph L. Kohn; Vice Chairman; James D. Power IV; Secretary.

Decades of Church Leadership Recognized

The Rev. Josephine Tio, a Lutheran Church leader in Hong Kong, was presented with an honorary degree from California Lutheran University during a special ceremony at the Southern California West Synod Assembly in May. The ceremony took place before 500 delegates and clergy of the Western United States. The Rev. Frank Kausin, '70, Senior Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks, assisted in the ceremony.

History Gains Prominence Through Graphic Displays

The history and accomplishments of California Lutheran University are now visible throughout campus because of the generosity of several donors. The CLU Making History Project consists of seven storyboards placed in strategic locations on campus. They tell the story of the University’s founding, its growth, and some of the special people who contributed to its success. Each board bears the name of its donor(s): Journey of Faith - Ethel Ruth Beyer Pioneering Spirit - The Estate of Dr. Nena Amundson Building a City - Dr. William Hanner In Support of Scholars - Della S. Greenlee ’82 Athletic Tradition - John W. Woudenberg Ranch Reminders - The Estate of Dorothy Mae (Donna) Fargo On the Air - Dave ‘78 and Ann (Gangsei ‘78) Watson Committee members for the CLU Making History Project are Rich K. Ech, Ph.D., Chair; Michael L. Adams ’72, Carol Koechekian ’81, Della Greenlee ’82 and Penny Yost ’83, ’99.

Gilberts pledge another $5 million

California Lutheran University granted 472 bachelor’s degrees and 266 master’s degrees during Commencement exercises in May. This is the largest graduating class in the University’s history.

Above Center: Gordon Sprenger, left, former president of the American Hospital Association and retired president and CEO of Allina Health Systems, was keynote speaker at the undergraduate Commencement. President Luther Luedtke presented Sprenger with the Doctor of Laws honoris causa during the ceremony.

Above Right: Charles Massy, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Business, presented the keynote address during the afternoon ceremony honoring candidates for master’s degrees.

Below: Left: Legendary labor leader and community activist Hank Lecay was honored with the Exemplar Medalion.
Dirt Flies at University Village

University Village Thousand Oaks, the first continuing care retirement community to be built in Ventura County, held formal groundbreaking ceremonies on May 31. Located on property purchased from California Lutheran University, University Village is situated on the northwest corner of Campus Drive and Olsen Road.

More than 300 future residents of the new community, as well as city dignitaries, local business and financial leaders, and Continuing Life Communities representatives attended the celebration. Among the speakers was Cal Lutheran President Luther S. Luedtke.

“One of the most momentous and fully debated decisions the CLU Board of Regents has made in the past decade was to sell this precious land to Continuing Life Communities,” he noted. “We consider it a trust in perpetuity for the well-being of our friends.”

For additional information on University Village Thousand Oaks, please call (800) 671-8509 or visit the community’s home page at www.uvto.com.

Alternative Spring Break

Last semester, 12 CLU students opted for an “alternative spring break” and an opportunity to teach English to children in the rural town of Monte Cristi, Dominican Republic. The CLU students worked along with 30 other volunteers from throughout the United States to provide an English learning curriculum and activities for more than 80 children at the Hogar la Esperanza de un Niño orphanage on the north coast about 30 miles from the Haitian border. It was the first time CLU has participated in an alternative spring break program coordinated through Orphanage Outreach and CLU’s Community Service Center (CSC). However, according to Kirstine Odegard, Coordinator of CSC, CLU hopes to make alternative spring breaks an annual event for students who want to get involved in global service projects.

See more photographs of the alternative spring break online at www.clunet.edu/magazine

Pearson Library Is 20 Years Old

Alma Pearson, center, chats with Maderthe Mdegella ’05, left, and Jeanne West at the 20th anniversary celebration of the opening of Pearson Library. The celebration included the unveiling of a portrait of Pearson and her late husband, Clifford, by artist Robert Andes. Along with a major donation to the library that bears their name, the Pearsons established a charitable trust for the scholarship, and provided a generous sponsorship for the Distinguished Speaker Series of CLU’s Center for Leadership and Values.

Campus Highlights continues on page 20

Now is the Time

CLU’s comprehensive campaign to raise funds to build a new classroom building, an events center and athletic fields, and to increase scholarships, operating funds, endowment and planned gifts came to a spectacular close May 31.

Results of the successful campaign were revealed by President Luther S. Luedtke at the conclusion of an appreciation dinner honoring Now is the Time major donors. He announced that $93 million was raised, far exceeding the $80 million goal set for the campaign.

CLU athletes and their coaches welcomed donors to the dinner with handshakes and rousing thank yous. Despite the near three-digit heat, attendees were in high spirits as they entered the gym, which was awash in purple and gold, its basketball backboards shimmering with hologram swatches and tables centered with ice sculptures fashioned in sports motifs.

Speakers for the evening included master of ceremonies Joanie Young, Chair of the Regents Advancement Committee; L. Karsten Lundring ’65, Co-Chair, Now is the Time Campaign; Andy Fox ’98, Thousand Oaks City Councilman, Kevin Jussel, ASCLU President 2005-06, Karen Bornemann ’70 Spies and Jack Gilbert, who made lead gifts for the Center for Education and Technology and the Sports and Fitness Center respectively; and Steve Wheatly ’77, Vice President for University Advancement, who introduced a media presentation documenting the history of the gym/auditorium called “If These Walls Could Talk.”

During his announcement, Luedtke told the jubilant audience: “This campaign alone has raised more money than was raised during all of CLU’s previous 40-year history.”

In addition to record-breaking fundraising, the campaign also drew the largest number of donors with more than 6,000 individuals, businesses and foundations participating, he pointed out.

“Your presence here tonight makes our celebration so much more meaningful. It is your generosity and steadfast support that have brought us to this day.”

Physical results of the fundraising effort are already visible on campus with the completion of the Spies-Bornemann Center for Education and Technology and construction of the Gilbert Sports and Fitness Center, Samuelson Aquatics Center, George “Sparky” Anderson Baseball Field as well as a track and soccer fields.
2004-2005 Sports Wrapup

Cal Lutheran’s athletic teams finished the 2004-2005 season with a number of outstanding performances. Swimming and diving wrapped up the winter season with two Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) championships. The spring season was highlighted by two conference championships, two SCIAC Athlete of the Year awards, and numerous individual accolades, including several All-America picks. Off the field of play, a total of 43 student-athletes were named to CLU’s Scholar-Athlete Society at an awards ceremony in May.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

The swimming and diving teams under head coach Tom Dodd completed their second season ever in CLU history. Junior Jennifer Rios stepped up to become the conference champion in both the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. She was the first CLU swimmer to set national qualifying times in both events. Junior John McAndrew was the top performer for the Kingsmen.

BASEBALL

The baseball team with head coach Marty Slimak finished the season with a 26-14 overall record and a 16-8 mark in the SCIAC that put them into a second place tie with the University of Redlands. Junior third baseman Christian Hariot capped an impressive season by being selected to the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA)/Rawlings All-America Second Team. In June, junior pitcher Matt Hirsh was selected by the Houston Astros in the Major League Baseball Draft (30th round, 914th overall).

GOLF

The Kingsmen golf team had another successful season under head coach Jeff Lindgren. After placing second in the league, the team finished in 15th place at the NCAA Championships in Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla. It was CLU’s eighth trip to the NCAA postseason. Junior Alan Johnson was named to the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA)/Ping All-America Second Team.

SOFTBALL

The softball team led by head coach Debby Day ended the year 21-16 overall and 11-7 in the SCIAC for a third place finish. Sophomore third baseman Prudence Kjontvedt capped an incredible year by being selected to the Louisville Sluggers’ National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) All-America First Team. Kjontvedt ranked second in the nation with a .547 batting average and was chosen as the league’s Athlete of the Year.

MEN’S TENNIS

The men’s tennis team coached by Mike Gennette ended the season with a 5-2 loss to the University of Redlands at the NCAA West Regionals in Santa Cruz. The Kingsmen finished the season 18-5 overall and 8-2 in the SCIAC, good for a second place finish behind Redlands. Senior Quinn Caldaron was named to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-America Team for the first time in his career after he advanced to the semifinals at the NCAA Singles Championships in Santa Cruz. Caldaron was also picked as the league’s Athlete of the Year. Freshman Artem Fatkhiev was named the Division III Western Region Rookie of the Year by ITA.

WOMEN’S TENNIS

Under the tutelage of first-year head coach Ben Roberson, the women’s tennis team ended the year with an 11-8 overall record and 7-3 in SCIAC for a third place standing. Both senior Lisa Novajosky and sophomore Michelle Sekyra were selected to the All-SCIAC Second Team.

TRACK AND FIELD

The track and field team with head coach Scott Fickerson boasted two major standouts in long distance runner Heather Worden and javelin thrower Grady Guy, both juniors. Worden won the SCIAC Championship in the 800m and the 1500m and later broke the CLU record for the 1500m with a time of 4:35.36 at the California-Nevada Championships in Fresno. Worden and Guy were both selected to compete at the NCAA Championships in Iowa.

WOMEN’S WATER POLO

The women’s water polo team under head coach Craig Rond compiled a 9-20 record in its second season finishing seventh in the SCIAC with a 2-8 record. Junior Danielle Rios scored a team-high 53 goals and was named All-SCIAC Honorable Mention. Freshman Nicole Pecel tallied 48 goals in just 20 games and was chosen as a member of the All-SCIAC Second Team.
Dan Kuntz, who has served as CLU’s Interim Director of Athletics since August of 2004, has been appointed Director of Athletics. In this role, he will manage the University’s 19 intercollegiate sports that compete at the NCAA Division III level in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC).

No stranger to athletics at Cal Lutheran, Kuntz has enjoyed great success as the head coach of both the men’s and women’s soccer programs since 1993. Under Kuntz, the Regals have won nine SCIAC titles while the Kingsmen have earned the league crown five times. In addition, many of Kuntz’s players have earned academic awards for their outstanding performances in the classroom.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to lead the Cal Lutheran Athletics Department during this exciting period in the school’s history,” says Kuntz, who was named the National Soccer Coaches of America’s (NSCAA) West Region Coach of the Year in 1996, 1997 and 1998. “It is invigorating to see the development of new athletic facilities, and I’m looking forward to helping CLU Athletics reach the next level.”

A 1984 graduate of Arizona State University with a bachelor’s degree in telecommunications/broadcast station management, Kuntz earned a master’s degree in educational technology from CLU. He served as the founding general manager of KCLU-FM and directed its formal beginning as a National Public Radio station.

Kuntz will continue to lead the Kingsmen soccer program, while Nancie Moskowitz, an assistant with the Regals for the past five years, will take over the reins of the women’s squad.

For up-to-date sports news and scores, please visit www.clunet.edu/sports

William Shakespeare is one of the most quoted writers in the Western world. Part of the Bard’s success no doubt is due to the timelessness of his prose. It is remarkable just how often his words, written 400 years ago, ring true today. Consider, for example, these lines from As You Like It:

All the World’s a Stage; And all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts ...

Shakespeare could have written those now famous lines to describe some of the young men and women who leave CLU with a degree in theatre arts. They do indeed play many parts ...
since graduating from CLU magna cum laude nine years ago, Tracy Bersley '96 has acted, directed, danced, choreographed and taught her way from California to New York and several points in between. Her most recent role includes writing curriculum for a new MFA program in directing, which she will be overseeing at State University of New York (SUNY), Purchase. An assistant professor at both SUNY and New York University (NYU), Bersley teaches acting, viewpoints, yoga, period movement, non-Western theatre and dramatic writing while also directing and choreographing productions for SUNY's Conservatory of Theatre Arts and Film. At NYU, she also conducts independent studies, directs plays, advises graduate students on their thesis projects, and teaches ballet and yoga.

Multitalking isn't new to Bersley. While a student at CLU, she won recognition and awards for writing, directing, musical performance and acting, including for her role as Hedda Gabler. "Playing Hedda in Ibsen's Hedda Gabler proved to be one of the enormous challenges that I still to this day refer to," she says.

Prologue

Bersley chose drama as her undergraduate major because the University didn't offer a program in dance (her first love). Unsure of her ability to make it as a performer, she hedged her bets by declaring physics as a second major. However, she soon switched from physics to music and has found her musical training to be hugely important. "I think I am able to provide a unique perspective to students who are seeking a career in the business," she points out, "as I'm out there every week auditioning, mailing headshots and pounding the pavement, as it were."

Kevin Kern '90

Kevin Kern's first big break came as the result of a little help from his friend and fellow CLU drama major Jill Urbach. Kern chose drama as a major "...to win made it worth while." He didn't mean it, of course. Kern chose drama because it was (and still is) his passion, and he is now teaching, directing and acting — "exactly what I said I wanted to do." Kern's first big break was in a commercial for Lee Sportswear. Kern then accepted a directing residency at McCarter Theatre in Princeton, N.J., where she rubbed shoulders with some of the greats of the American Theatre, including Sam Shepherd, David Mamet, Emily Mann, Jane Alexander and Tony Award winning actor Jefferson Mays. She also served as director of McCarter's Youth Conservatory Program and movement director for mainstage productions as well as a guest lecturer at Princeton University.

"I like almost everyone else he knew, Kevin Kern '90 waited a lot of tables in the early years. After graduating from CLU and earning an advanced degree, he found an agent fairly quickly but it took eight months to book his first job. When his agent told him that was fast, he replied, "Yeah! I was ready to quit three months ago!"

Tracy Bersley '96

Bersley then accepted a directing residency at McCarter Theatre in Princeton, N.J., where she rubbed elbows with some of the greats of the American Theatre, including Sam Shepherd, David Mamet, Emily Mann, Jane Alexander and Tony Award winning actor Jefferson Mays. She also served as director of McCarter's Youth Conservatory Program and movement director for mainstage productions as well as a guest lecturer at Princeton University.

"They like CLU students because they have found them to be dependable, hard working and quite talented," says Kern, who has served as a guest director and teacher and continues to do freelance work with the camp.

Ah, Shakespeare

Kern has been a member of the Kingmen Shakespeare Company (KSC) since its inception nine years ago. In addition to performing in KSC's summer productions in Kingmen Park, he has served as director and principal instructor for Camp Shakespeare (ages 8-16), as well as Associate Artistic Director in charge of educational outreach for the Shakespeare Educational Tour. Bringing theatre to children is important to Kern, and he hopes to continue the mission in the school districts in Mississippi.

There have been many thrilling as well as fulfilling moments in the actor's professional career (appearing in The Merry Wives of Windsor with David Hyde Pierce, Tracey Ullman, Noah Wiley and the "great Harvey Korman"; landing his first TV commercial, joining Actors Equity), but possibly the biggest thrill was seeing his first movie win Grand Prize at the Big Bear International Film Festival last spring. "Seeing myself on the big screen was a bit scary, as my nose looked huge," admits Kern, who plays one of the leads in the romantic comedy A Night at Sophie's. Kern feels that CLU alums have a lot to be thankful for, "They like CLU students because they have found them to be dependable, hard working and quite talented," says Kern, who has served as a guest director and teacher and continues to do freelance work with the camp.

All the world's a stage

"I love what I do so much that it never feels like work."
You’ll never make a living off it!

“I graduated feeling completely confident in pursuing whatever I had to, to make a living in theater.”

Cherylynn Carter ‘93 dreamed of being a journalist—the next Oprah Winfrey—if truth be told. With that in mind, she came to CLU planning to major in communication arts... with a few drama courses on the side so she’d feel comfortable in front of the camera.

But, as so often happens, fate stepped in and gently steered her in a different direction. It started shortly after her arrival on campus. She remembers one day walking along, feeling a little homesick, when she passed by the Little Theatre where some students were building a set. Before she knew it, she was part of the group, feeling comfortable and not nearly so homesick. “It was a family feel and really filled a void,” Carter recalls.

“I would say my drama major chose me rather than I chose drama,” the would-be journalist continues, explaining that she realized she had enough credits for a major.

Since childhood, the California native has been fascinated with theatre and the magic of telling a story, but she knew early on that her talent wasn’t in acting. “My organizational skills and my need to run things propelled me into the production aspect,” she notes.

After graduation, Carter accepted an intern position with the Los Angeles Music Center where she was involved in several star-studded events including openings at the Mark Taper Forum and the groundbreaking for Disney Hall. She was also press and advertising agent for the Mark Taper, which enabled her to get a good look at the theater scene in L.A.

“I had a chance to see what my career choices were, and I was convinced that theater was not for me,” she says.

Behind the Scenes and Liking It

After a brief internship at a small advertising agency in Los Angeles, Carter accepted a position with the international advertising agency TBWA Chiat/Day as a junior producer. She started in December 1993 and is still with the agency 12 years later.

One of the many memorable television commercials she helped produce was the popular Nissan “Pigeons” commercial for the 1997 Super Bowl. She also worked on the Taco Bell talking Chihuahua commercials for both TV and radio, and six years ago became the Radio Producer for TBWA Chiat/Day Los Angeles. Some of her high-profile clients include Nissan, Infiniti, Pran- zoïl, Bull Park Franks, Shell Products, Uncle Ben’s and Apple.

Moving to radio was a natural progression for the CLU alumnus who over the years has found a niche for herself in voiceover.

“I thrive in this role,” she says, “because I seem to have an ear for the right voice.”

In a business that has a reputation for backstabbing, Carter admits to a “tendency to become everyone’s friend” and refuses to “play Hollywood political games.” Nicknamed the “nicest person in advertising,” she is often asked for career advice by actors and voiceover artists. Recently, at the suggestion of friends who pointed out the marketability of her advice, she started One-on-One Consultation. Her services include listening to reels, choosing an agent, marketing oneself, working with producers, audition etiquette and more.

For Carter, it isn’t and never has been all about acting.
In Their Own Words

CLU project chronicles Chumash heritage

When Beverly Folkes first shared her Chumash heritage with the children in a local school, their response shocked her. Asked what they knew about Native Americans, they replied, “They’re all dead!”

Other misconceptions abound. “There are still a lot of kids – and even parents – who think we lived in teepees, like the Plains Indians,” says Chumash storyteller Alan Salazar.

Now, in a 180-degree turnaround, the Chumash are telling their own stories – not only chronicles from their past, but stories of how they live today, with individual responses to the challenge of integrating into mainstream society while maintaining important cultural traditions. And it was made possible through an initiative of CLU.

The concept took root when Sue Bauer, Ed.D., CLU’s Director of Computer Training, became aware of grants being offered by the California Stories Uncovered campaign of the California Council for the Humanities. The campaign organizers envision a kind of “cultural dig,” in which researchers look beyond statistics and stereotypes to get a sense of the real people who make up the state’s population. Bauer saw an opportunity for the University not only to participate but also to provide a meaningful experience for students.

“It was up to us to craft what we wanted our project to be,” she explains, “so I thought of the indigenous people. Chumash Indians have been the foundation of this area’s heritage. We need to know more about their roots, but also what life is like for them today.”

Bauer, who served as project director, recruited history professor Michaela Reaves, Ph.D., and Director of Educational Technology David Grannis to collaborate on the project. Once the grant was awarded, the History and Multimedia Departments went into action: students fanned out to homes, workplaces, campuses, and the Chumash Interpretive Center to interview 10 individuals of Chumash descent.

Interviewees readily obliged. “I think it’s marvelous,” says Juanita Flores. “We’re urban – we don’t live on reservations – so it’s an entirely different way of living.”

Citing inaccuracies in books and articles, Folkes says she appreciates being contacted by CLU. She believes the videos will help counteract those inaccuracies. The completed videos are destined for interactive kiosks to be set up at the Chumash Interpretive Center in Oak Regional Park.

The students posed broad questions about family and growing up, history and religion, and contemporary life. Though some topics – notably religion – drew a range of responses, common threads emerged. “My grandmother had the final word,” says Ted Garcia. “If there was a problem, she would discuss it, and she would say, ‘This is how it is.’”

Regina Washtigoligol notes that the Chumash are considered a matrilineal, matriarchal society. “Our tribe is one of the only matrilineal matriarchal tribes in the United States,” she explains, “so I thought of the indigenous people. Chumash Indians have been the foundation of this area’s heritage. We need to know more about their roots, but also what life is like for them today.”

Rachael Hanswinkels ‘06 records Beverly Folkes in front of an ap.
Though Michele LeBlanc, Ph.D., has never actually thrown a javelin, scientifically speaking she is an expert in the sport.

LeBlanc, who was recently named the Nena Amundson Professor of Biomechanics, has spent the past seven summers analyzing every split-second move of top American javelin throwers to help increase their chances of competing internationally and ultimately in the Summer Olympic Games.

“Improving athletic performance has a lot to do with biomechanics,” explains LeBlanc, who records and analyzes the intricate movements of hundreds of javelin throws before preparing in-depth reports for the coaches and athletes. “The science of human movement is so connected to how athletes maximize performance safely and efficiently.”

At the USA Track & Field Championships in Carson this past summer, LeBlanc and two students spent two days capturing data with a special focus on the release phase of javelin throws, followed by hours of downloading the images and computing various values associated with each particular throw.

According to LeBlanc, there is a small stipend provided by the U.S. Olympic Committee in conjunction with USA Track & Field, but the project is primarily a service for the athletes. Of course it also provides her students with some funding and the opportunity to work on a meaningful research project. Several of LeBlanc’s past research assistants from CLU, Pepperdine and Cal State Northridge have gone on to conduct graduate-level research and to present papers at conferences based on their experiences with the project.

“It is such a benefit for students to work on projects like this,” says LeBlanc. It fits perfectly into the newly reorganized Science Division’s initiatives of integrating the science within a research-based curriculum. Biomechanics combines physics, math, statistics, anatomy, computers, even cinematography.

The two students currently assisting LeBlanc – Carina Epley ’06 and Mabel Robles ’06 – are both majoring in exercise science and sports medicine (ESSM), a discipline that was once exclusively physical education, but now involves several subdisciplines. The burgeoning field has a lot more to do with science, says LeBlanc. Therefore, ESSM has become part of the Science Division, which the currently chairs.

“At least 75 percent of our ESSM program includes science classes,” admits Epley, whose interest in the javelin project was sparked in LeBlanc’s biomechanics class.

“Participating in this project gives us an opportunity to see what research is like and to help us prepare for graduate school,” adds Robles.

Like many ESSM students, Epley plans to become a physical therapist. Robles plans to become an occupational therapist while others in the program will use the strong science focus to enter a variety of fields in medical, industrial and educational settings.

LeBlanc got involved in the biomechanics of the track and field athletes when she was a graduate student at Indiana University. Her work with the athletes influenced her so much that her dissertation for her Ph.D. in biomechanics focused on building mathematical models of throwing and finding scientific answers to what causes high velocity of movement.

Through her work with the athletes at the Track & Field Championships, LeBlanc has designed advanced computer software that assists in producing 3-D coordinates of the athletes and using these coordinates to compute various kinematic and kinetic parameters. From those calculations, researchers can conduct ongoing research to better understand the human movements and to offer more useful advice to athletes in a variety of sports.

The project entails collecting data using three fixed video cameras and calibration equipment, and downloading the footage into the computer for manipulation to build models of each athlete. Using data from the eight to nine male and female finalists, LeBlanc and her team digitize 21 body landmarks and three javelin landmarks to get a 3-D image of the release phase of the throw. That half-second movement – just two steps captured in 60 video frames per second – can make the difference between winning and losing, explains LeBlanc.

Once the models are developed and reports written, the research team meets with the athletes and coaches to explain what slight changes in movement might result in a better throw. For example, the angle of the javelin and the angle of the knee affect the aerodynamics and the step length, respectively. Thus the distance and velocity of the throw are affected. It is a complicated process, but LeBlanc tries to combine scientific and athletic jargon to make it easier to understand.

“We try to avoid causing ‘paralysis by analysis’ by not giving the athlete too many suggestions for change,” says LeBlanc. “We try to give them some very basic things that are easy to change and that can produce the best and safest results.”

With the increased interest in science-laden ESSM and biomechanics, LeBlanc is eagerly awaiting the completion of the Gilbert Sports and Fitness Center where state-of-the-art labs will allow students to work on athletic training and human performance studies. The labs will include an isokinetic machine, a motion analysis system, force plates and electromyography equipment, as well as equipment that measures oxygen consumption, metabolic costs and heart rates.

LeBlanc believes the new center is going to be a giant leap for the ESSM program. “It will be a great benefit in preparing our students for many careers including biomechanical analysis of world-class athletes,” LeBlanc explains. So when the 2008 Summer Olympics take place in Beijing, there may be a closer connection to CLU than anyone would imagine.
Profit from the Source:

Two new professorships have been endowed at CLU – the Uyeno-Tseng Professor of International Studies and the Nena Amundson Professor of Bioinformatics.

Michael Brint, Ph.D., former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a tenured member of the Political Science Department, is now serving as the Uyeno-Tseng Professor of International Studies. As the holder of the first endowed professorship in the social sciences, he will devote particular attention to expanding CLU’s international studies programs and developing a new program for Inter-American Studies.

Michele LeBlanc, Ph.D., the Nena Amundson Professor of Bioinformatics, joined the CLU faculty in 2003 as an assistant professor of mathematics and exercise science. She completed her doctoral degree at Indiana University in the area of human performance and since has conducted biomechanical research for the U.S. Olympics with a focus on the physics of movement in javelin throwing. (See related story on page 18.)

The Uyeno-Tseng Professorship is named for businesswoman Yutaka Uyeno, an honorary member of CLU’s Board of Regents, and Edward Tieng, Ph.D., a former United Nations official who retired as a professor of political science after teaching at CLU for nearly 40 years.

The Nena Amundson Professorship is named in memory of one of the charter faculty members at CLU and the former chair of the Physical Education and Kinesiology Department.

Professorships Expand Program Development

The Board of Regents of California Lutheran University approved the following promotions in rank and tenure for faculty, effective August 2005.

Karsyndye Fugel, Ph.D. (Mathematics) was granted tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor. Cynthia Jew, Ph.D., and James Valadez, Ph.D. (School of Education) were elected to tenure.

Faculty members promoted to the rank of full professor are Sonnathan Basu, Ph.D. (School of Business: Herbert Gough, Ph.D. (Political Science); Robert Meadows, Ed.D., Ph.D. (Criminal Justice); Leanne Neilson, Psy.D., (Psychology); Reinhard Teichmann, Ph.D. (Spanish); and Jarvis Streeter, Ph.D. (Religious Studies).

Julia Siegert, Ed.D. (School of Education) was promoted to the rank of associate professor.

Rank and Tenure

Moving UP!

California Lutheran University jumped from 18th to 16th on the U.S. News & World Report list of top schools in the West (from Texas to the West Coast) offering quality bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

For the 11th straight year, CLU has been placed in the top tier of Western Regional Universities in the U.S. News & World Report annual rankings which were released in August on the U.S. News & World Report Web site (www.usnews.com) and posted in the Aug. 29 edition of the U.S. News & World Report magazine and in the U.S. News & World Report America’s Best Colleges Guide 2005.

The Class of ’05 was recognized at the 2005 Commencement in May. Members of the 40-year class who led the procession are, back row, from left: Richard Arneheim, Bill Earing, Larry Hockenberry, John Lundblad, Ruthanne (Croom) England, Barry Whisle, Martha (Nogen) Pfieger, Karsten Lundring, Jerry Anderson, Louise (sampson) Smith, Lynda (Benton) Elsmendorf, Beren Ulken (retired professor), Ruth Ann Johnson, Judy (Schoeller) Beley, Fred Kemp, Carole (Smith) Smith, Carolyn (Dykstra) Smith, frost Raw Barba (link) Burke, Linwood Howes, Karolyn (Isacson) Kingsbury, Luoma (weber) Rattray, Dinah (korb Schmidt) Baster.

Get CLUed In!

To receive your copy of the monthly alumni electronic newsletter CLUed In, e-mail alumni@clunet.edu
MyCLU Community Network

Soon you will be able to stay connected to...

- Classmates
- Former roommates
- University events and resources
- and more!!

Alumni Relations will soon announce the launch of the MyCLU Community Network – a Web site dedicated to serving California Lutheran’s alumni.

By registering on this password-protected, secure site, you will be provided with a CLU e-mail address, access to a personal profile page that you may personalize as you wish, a “Personal Pals” and “Hints and Reminders” section, a searchable alumni database and an eMessaeger center.

In addition, you will be able to easily update your Class Notes, register and pay for events, and participate in the CLU Business Card Exchange. You’ll even have access to some of Pearson Library’s article databases.

We want to hear from you!

We are interested in promotions, new jobs, education updates, address changes, new e-mail addresses, marriages, births, deaths, honors and awards.

Write to your class representative listed below or to the Alumni Relations Office at: California Lutheran University Alumni Relations Office 60 W. Olsen Road #1500 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 alum@clunet.edu

If interested in being a class representative, please contact the Alumni Office at (805) 493-3170.

Janice (Thompson) Filer
Ed.D., Canyon, Calif., is a high school assistant principal at California Academy of Math and Science, CSU Dominguez Hills.

John Kasten, Napo, Calif., is an architect with Kenner & Kasten Co. He and wife Cindy (Ruheder ’77) have two-acre vineyard and make their own wine.

Lea Lamp, Glendale, Ariz., is a teacher with Deer Valley School District in Denver.

Dave Barrett, Oceanside, Calif., coaches varsity baseball at Oceanside High School and was named to the California Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. He recently retired as

Alumni Relations will soon announce the launch of the MyCLU Community Network – a Web site dedicated to serving California Lutheran’s alumni.

By registering on this password-protected, secure site, you will be provided with a CLU e-mail address, access to a personal profile page that you may personalize as you wish, a “Personal Pals” and “Hints and Reminders” section, a searchable alumni database and an eMessaeger center.

In addition, you will be able to easily update your Class Notes, register and pay for events, and participate in the CLU Business Card Exchange. You’ll even have access to some of Pearson Library’s article databases.

We want to hear from you!

We are interested in promotions, new jobs, education updates, address changes, new e-mail addresses, marriages, births, deaths, honors and awards.

Write to your class representative listed below or to the Alumni Relations Office at: California Lutheran University Alumni Relations Office 60 W. Olsen Road #1500 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 alum@clunet.edu

If interested in being a class representative, please contact the Alumni Office at (805) 493-3170.

Janice (Thompson) Filer
Ed.D., Canyon, Calif., is a high school assistant principal at California Academy of Math and Science, CSU Dominguez Hills.

John Kasten, Napo, Calif., is an architect with Kenner & Kasten Co. He and wife Cindy (Ruheder ’77) have two-acre vineyard and make their own wine.

Lea Lamp, Glendale, Ariz., is a teacher with Deer Valley School District in Denver.

Dave Barrett, Oceanside, Calif., coaxes varsity baseball at Oceanside High School and was named to the California Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. He recently retired as

Alumni Relations will soon announce the launch of the MyCLU Community Network – a Web site dedicated to serving California Lutheran’s alumni.

By registering on this password-protected, secure site, you will be provided with a CLU e-mail address, access to a personal profile page that you may personalize as you wish, a “Personal Pals” and “Hints and Reminders” section, a searchable alumni database and an eMessaeger center.

In addition, you will be able to easily update your Class Notes, register and pay for events, and participate in the CLU Business Card Exchange. You’ll even have access to some of Pearson Library’s article databases.

We want to hear from you!

We are interested in promotions, new jobs, education updates, address changes, new e-mail addresses, marriages, births, deaths, honors and awards.

Write to your class representative listed below or to the Alumni Relations Office at: California Lutheran University Alumni Relations Office 60 W. Olsen Road #1500 Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 alum@clunet.edu

If interested in being a class representative, please contact the Alumni Office at (805) 493-3170.

Janice (Thompson) Filer
Ed.D., Canyon, Calif., is a high school assistant principal at California Academy of Math and Science, CSU Dominguez Hills.

John Kasten, Napo, Calif., is an architect with Kenner & Kasten Co. He and wife Cindy (Ruheder ’77) have two-acre vineyard and make their own wine.

Lea Lamp, Glendale, Ariz., is a teacher with Deer Valley School District in Denver.

Dave Barrett, Oceanside, Calif., coaxes varsity baseball at Oceanside High School and was named to the California Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. He recently retired as
Among the Chosen Few
Two 2005 CLU graduates were selected for prestigious international and national awards for excellence in their respective fields.

Michael Alberti: A biochemistry and molecular biology major, who graduated summa cum laude in May, was chosen by the Board of the Swedish Council of America to receive its 2005 Glenn T. Seaborg Science Award. As a recipient of the Seaborg Science Award, the Camarillo native will travel to Stockholm later in the year to attend the Nobel Prize ceremonies and to participate in a weeklong Stockholm International Youth Seminar. He and the 24 other young scientists, representing 18 countries, will visit the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, the Karolinska Institute and the Nobel Museum, and make formal presentations of their own work.

Melissa Binder, who graduated summa cum laude with a degree in history and Spanish last spring, was selected by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Washington, D.C., to become one of 47 fellows in its 13th annual nationwide fellowship competition. Binder is the only fellowship recipient from a California university. With plans to continue her studies at CLU, the Santa Paula native will use the award, which was funded by the Henry Salvatori Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Los Angeles, to attain her teaching credential and a master’s degree in education. Recipients are required to teach American history or social studies in a secondary school for at least one year after graduation.

The choosing process for the national fellowship is conducted on a three-tiered basis: U.S. regional competitions, U.S. national competitions, and international competitions. Melissa’s success in this competition is due, in large part, to the exceptional support and encouragement provided by the Career Services Office at CLU, the Career Services staff, and her mentor, Dr. Margaret King.

Kids International. The organization is raising $100,000 to help build a medical clinic to serve local villages.

Maj. Dann Ettner, Phoenix, Ariz., a Chaplain reservist with the U.S. Army, has been reactivated as part of Operation Noble Eagle to minister to soldiers who are going overseas or returning. He is based out of Los Alamitos, Calif., but travels extensively. Dann spent several months of 2002 as Army Air Base Chaplain at a camp in Kush-Khuraband, Uzbekistan, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom troops.

Mary Ann O’Neal (MA), Carson, Calif., is serving as a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey.

Ellen (Dvorack) Coleman, Lancaster, Calif., teaches biology at Highland High School in Palmdale.

Brent Hoy-Bianchi, Grass Valley, Calif., is Mental Health Coordinator for Milhans Children’s Services in Nevada City.

Jeanne (Friedrich) Myers (TC), Paso Robles, Calif., is a resource teacher at Flomson Middle School.

Carla (Kountze) Javier (MS), Williamsburg, Va., is Project Director at Child Development Resources in Norge.

Veronica Slager, McLean, Va., is a government relations executive with North Star Group, a consulting firm that does federal lobbying, grant writing and policy analysis.

Susan Lundeen ’88 Smuck and Paul Newhauss ’93

Susan Lundeen ’88 Smuck graduated from CLU with a B.S. in business administration and psychology. Since graduation, she has worked in human resources in a number of industries, including manufacturing and medical insurance.

In 1993, Susan joined the global biotechnology company Amgen as a staffing specialist and later became Senior Director of Human Resources for Amgen, Ventura County’s largest private employer.

Susan was the first expatriate to be a part of the management team that started Amgen’s distribution center in Breda, The Netherlands. Until recently, she was head of Amgen’s staffing organization and managed the Executive Talent Movement. In addition, Susan is a busy CLU volunteer as well as a frequent speaker at campus events.

Paul Newhauss ’93
In 2003, the National American Institute of Architects bestowed the Young Architects Award on Paul Newhauss for “exceptional leadership during the first 10 years of licensure” as an architect. His submission for this award combined two important ambitions: a strong desire to be engaged in the world through art, design and fabrication; and a conviction that his life’s work should directly benefit his community.

Paul freely admits that these ambitions were formulated during his years at CLU as a young art student. His experiences led him into a new intellectual journey. After completing his Ph.D. in 1993, he became President of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and traveled throughout the country attending meetings and speaking at medical schools and conferences. Although he earned his M.D. years ago, it was Peter’s degree from CLU and a class in American Puritanism that catapulted him into a new intellectual journey. After completing his Ph.D., Peter served as visiting professor in the History Department at CLU for two years.

2005 ALUMNI CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

After graduation, Paul joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in rural Costa Rica. Relying on his art and design knowledge, he developed projects that taught skills, earned income, and improved the health conditions of the community.

During the last decade, Paul’s design work has focused on public buildings — libraries, laboratories, a college, a courthouse, a post office, a museum, an elementary school and a police station — facilities that are all vital to the operation and cultural well-being of communities.

Peter McDermott ’92, M.D., Ph.D.
Peter McDermott chose to embark on a new path, one that would result in a very different career. His journey of self-discovery started with an evening class in American history at CLU in 1990 and came to a climax in 2002 when he completed his doctoral degree in 17th Century British Studies at University of California Santa Barbara.

Having completed his anesthesiology residency at Marquette University in 1965, Peter practiced medicine for 10 years in Oxnard and Camarillo before accepting the position of Vice Chairman of the Department of Anesthesia at King Fahd Specialist Hospital and Research Centre in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. For two years, where he was able to influence the design and policies of this new medical facility.

In 1993, Peter became President of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and traveled throughout the country attending meetings and speaking at medical schools and conferences. Although he earned his M.D. years ago, it was Peter’s degree from CLU and a class in American Puritanism that catapulted him into a new intellectual journey. After completing his Ph.D., Peter served as visiting professor in the History Department at CLU for two years.
Our sympathies go to Dena and her husband, John, on the death of their son Jack, who passed away on July 11, 2004, at the age of 5.

Mark Melchiori, Santa Bar- bara, Calif., President and Chief Financial Officer of Melchior Construction Co., was profiled in the April 8-14 issue of Pacific Coast Business Times.

Meredith Lawson, Green- wich, Conn., is Manager of the Proposal Unit for MetLife Inc. in New York City.

Rebecca Maves, крас, Calif., is a firefighter-paramedic with the San Francisco Fire Department.

Gayle (Nelson) Anderson ‘88, Anaheim, Calif., is President of Arroyo Nursery Inc.


Robert Irwin, M.D., Uni- versity of California, was a public relations firm. She is Head of Mental Health Marketing, a public relations firm.

Robert Irwin, M.D., Operations Manager for Moore Wallace, a business printing company in Las Vegas, Nev., is managing partner of FM Marketing, a public relations firm.

Joan (Powers) Frost ‘90, Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a senior planner with the Lyon County School District.

Angeles National Forest. She is Head of Mental Health Marketing, a public relations firm.

Lynn (Ellington) Harker, Nepeanville, Ill., started UCAN2, specializing in gifts of encouragement. To request a gift catalog, e-mail Lynn@UCAN2.com.

Curt Nordal, J.D., Houston, Calif., is a President of Poolp- hydrology and Pipe- clayd Rough and Vice Presi- dential of Arroyo Nursery Inc.

Carmel Valley, Calif., is founder of Seed of Change, LLC, a life coaching firm that helps people set goals and be assertive.

Timothy Zeddies, Ph.D., Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a stay-at-home dad and loves playing with their three children while she works.

Luis Gutierrez, Orange, Calif., is a regional sales manager with Tyson Foods.

Mark Marius, Royal Air Force Upwood, United King- dom, is a stay-at-home dad with their three children while his wife, Kjersti (Berg ’94), works on base as a physician. Before Kjersti was transferred to RAF Upwood, Mark was president of the Officers’ Spouses’ Club at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico.

Dan Lent-Koop, Canarillo, Colo., owns dbf SoL Physical Therapy, an outpatient physi- cal and hand therapy service. He was profiled in the “Who's New In Business” section of the Fort Collins Coloradoan.

Kjersti (Berg) Marius, M.D., Royal Air Force Upwood, United Kingdom, was recently promoted to Major in the U.S. Air Force and assigned to Royal Air Force Upwood in England near Cambridge.

Dr. Michael Odegaard.

Robert Irwin, M.D., University of California, was a public relations firm. She is Head of Mental Health Marketing, a public relations firm.

Robert Irwin, M.D., Operations Manager for Moore Wallace, a business printing company in Las Vegas, Nev., is managing partner of FM Marketing, a public relations firm.
Congratulations to the following alumni and friends who will be inducted into the 2005 Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame:

### Players

- **Andrew Barber** ’96, baseball
- **Jill (Gallegos) ’96 Jaglowski, soccer**
- **Troy Kuretich** ’87, track
- **Fredrik Nanhed** ’98, football
- **Kimberly Peppi-Kuenn** ’87, softball/basketball
- **DeeAndra (Pilkington) McGuff, softball**
- **Karsten Lundring** ’65, Luther Schwich
- **Troy Kuretich** ’87, track
- **Richard Hill, Baseball**
- **Diane Berkland** (TC ’96), a counselor and assistant professor at Ohlone College in Fremont. She received tenure in March.

### Coaches

- **Brian Angel, Moorpark, Calif.,** was named business-person of the year by the Moorpark Chamber of Commerce. Brian is President and co-founder of Anson Wireless, an authorized dealer for Verizon Wireless.
- **Wendy (Alker) Peters (MS),** Santa Barbara, Calif., is a full-time tenure-track faculty member in the Counseling Department at Santa Barbara City College.
- **Jonathan Sist, San Diego, Calif.,** is a senior software engineer with BAE Systems. He earned a master of science in engineering from San Jose State University in December 2003.
- **Margaret Tennant (MS),** Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a career counselor at Moorpark College. She was profiled in the Ventura County Star on May 23.

### Friends

- **Karsten Lundring** ’65, Luther Schwich

For reservations, please call (805) 493-3170

To learn more about the Hall of Fame, please visit www.clnet.edu/hof

---

Diane Berkland (TC ’96), San Jose, Calif., is a counselor and assistant professor at Ohlone College in Fremont. She received tenure in March.

Christian Press, Woodland Hills, Calif., is an administrative assistant in the Community Reinvestment Act (CIRA) Department of Countrywide Bank in Thousand Oaks.

Brian Angel, Moorpark, Calif., was named business-person of the year by the Moorpark Chamber of Commerce. Brian is President and co-founder of Anson Wireless, an authorized dealer for Verizon Wireless.

Wendy (Alker) Peters (MS), Santa Barbara, Calif., is a full-time tenure-track faculty member in the Counseling Department at Santa Barbara City College.

Jonathan Sist, San Diego, Calif., is a senior software engineer with BAE Systems. He earned a master of science in engineering from San Jose State University in December 2003.

Margaret Tennant (MS), Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a career counselor at Moorpark College. She was profiled in the Ventura County Star on May 23.

Amy Walt, Denver, Colo., is Director of Goalkeeping for Littleton Soccer Club. Her article “Breaking Goalkeeper Silence” was published in the January/February issue of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America’s Soccer Journal.

John Welsey, Newbury Park, Calif., is a member of the Los Angeles-based roots reggae band The Expanders and is “doing his part to see that 2005 becomes ‘The Year Reggae Broke.’” The band has played at the famous House of Blues, Zen Sushi and B.B. King’s.

Tom Herman, San Marcos, Texas, is Passing Game Coordinator for the Texas State University football team. He was profiled in the April 25 issue of the San Marcos Daily Record.

Jennifer Otto, Walnut Creek, Calif., is an internal auditor for BIC. She received her Certified Internal Audit (CIA) certification in February and has been named Secretary and Academic Relations Committee Chair for the Northern California East Bay chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Matt Preston, Williamsville, N.Y., is a pilot with Chautauqua Airlines, an Indiana-based regional airline that code shares for Delta, United, US Airways and American.

Jeffir Johari, Oxnard, Calif., is a technical services chemist with Rhodia Inc., a French chemical company in Los Angeles.

Matt Powell, Cedar Park, Texas, began a two-year term on the Cedar Park City Council in May.

Erick Turner, Sacramento, Calif., is an associate attorney with the law firm of Williams & Associates. He graduated from Baylor University law school in February.
By Randall B. Lindsey, Ph.D.

One of the reasons I accepted the job as Interim Dean of the School of Education in 2004 was because I knew that the value I place on important issues like diversity reflects the cornerstone of the school.

My own approach to diversity is based on achieving cultural proficiency personally and professionally. So, I began my one-year tenure as dean with a goal to share and promote the knowledge of cultural proficiency with faculty, staff and students as well as with members of local school districts. The School of Education faculty and staff had reviewed the University’s mission statement and developed a parallel statement of their own. In accordance with the mission of CLU, the School of Education seeks to develop reflective, principled educators who STRIVE to:

- Serve as mentors and models for moral and ethical leadership
- Think critically to connect theory with practice
- Respect all individuals
- Include and respond to the needs of all learners
- Value diversity
- Empower individuals to participate in educational growth and change

Although all of these goals are important, I feel strongly that a value for diversity is the cornerstone to teaching and practicing cultural proficiency. By using the word “value,” I don’t mean the popular terms of tolerance or acceptance or embracing that are often tacked onto discussions of diversity.

To truly understand the value of diversity, it must become part of what we do in all aspects of our lives, as administrators, as teachers, as citizens. All scholarship, service and leadership must be infused with a value for differences on all levels.

As a student of U.S. history, I am aware that diversity in our country has unfolded unevenly and manifests itself today in many of the disparities that exist among groups. As the United States enters into the 21st century, the need for addressing issues of diversity grows at a rapid rate. The key role of schools of education is to prepare teachers, counselors and administrators to address the opportunities and challenges afforded in the varied and diverse communities in which they serve.

My vision for a culturally proficient school is that the educators and students who know they are valued for their own personal contributions to the cultural mix, and community members will become involved in the schools to facilitate cultural understanding.

The culture of the school will grow at a rapid rate. The key role of schools of education is to prepare teachers, counselors and administrators to address the opportunities and challenges afforded in the varied and diverse communities in which they serve.

Building cultural proficiency requires informed and dedicated faculty and staff, committed and involved leadership, and time. We all need time to think, reflect, assess, decide and change. This approach does not involve the use of simple checklists for identifying culturally significant characteristics of individuals, which may be politically appropriate, but socially and educationally meaningless.

The goal of cultural proficiency is achieved when educators make the moral commitment to deliver the benefits of our democracy to all citizens. Since the birth of our country, the ideals of democracy have continued to unfolded in ways that include an increasing proportion of our citizenry.

Schools of education are important linchpins in framing programs in a manner that value the diversity that exists in the communities we serve. I believe our own School of Education is striving to do just that.

Dr. Randall Lindsey, Director of the Doctorate in Educational Leadership (Ed. D.) Program, served as Interim Dean of the School of Education through June 2005.

Placing Value on Diversity
It’s all happening Homecoming weekend! If you’d like to help get the word out and volunteer some time for your reunion, please call the Alumni Relations Office at (805) 493-3170 or e-mail alumni@clunet.edu.