Powering Academic Success

Friends and Colleagues,

It has been such a pleasure to be your provost this year. I have been able to meet so many of you and applaud your numerous successes. Thank you Beth and Alma for your work in sharing these stories with the campus community. I look forward to meeting more of you in the new year as I continue to learn about this wonderful institution and make progress on our shared future. My family and I wish you a Happy Holidays.

Andy
There is still ample space in our “Writing Marathon” – **Monday, January 12** and **Tuesday, January 13**, from **9:00am - 3:00pm**, in MLK 213. This is a great opportunity to concentrate on a writing project or two and get something "out the door" before the semester begins. As always, we will provide coffee/tea/nibbles throughout the day as well as lunch. We express our appreciation to the MLK Library staff for making this wonderful space available to us. Please complete the brief January 2015 Writing Marathon Sign-Up by January 7.

Check the CFD website for more opportunities to prepare for the Spring Semester.

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**Department Updates**

**The Contemporary Tax Journal**

**The Quarterback Club**

**Honors Faculty**

Several years ago, the members of the SJSU Quarterback Club (a 100% volunteer organization) decided to honor faculty on the field at home football games. According to club president Tony Locy, “We wanted to show our appreciation for the exceptional work done by our school’s faculty members.” At each home game this year, two faculty members were honored. The honorees are selected by the Office of the Provost and by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. This year’s honorees were:

- **August 28** - Jo Farb Hernandez, Art and Art History; Linda Levine, Health Science and Recreation
- **September 27** - Olenka Hubickyj, Physics and Astronomy; Gina Ferenzi, Communication Studies
- **October 4** - Julia Curry Rodriguez, Mexican American Studies; David Bruck, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research
- **November 1** - Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Occupational Therapy; Jean Novak, Communicative Disorders
The SJSU MST Program is proud to announce the publication of the Fall 2014 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal* (Volume 4, No. 1).

**Dean Steele elected to United Way Silicon Valley Board**

Dean David Steele of the Lucas Graduate School and College of Business was elected to the United Way Silicon Valley Board on December 11, 2014.

**The Silicon Valley Innovation Challenge**

Sponsored by the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business, this year’s challenge brought problem solving apps for scheduling classes and Night Square, providing increased safety for bike commuters. These are

- November 15 - Matthew Spangler, Communication Studies; Joanna Fanos, Psychology

**Collaborative for Reaching & Teaching the Whole Child wins $100K Prize**

The SJSU Collaborative, founded in 2009 by Dr. Nancy Markowitz, Elementary Education, focuses on integrating social-emotional learning skills into teacher preparation. The Collaborative was selected from more than 200 applications submitted to the Building Vibrant Communities competition and will receive $100,000 from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and Ashoka Changemakers to support its ongoing work.

The Collaborative focuses on both student and teachers. The program integrates the competencies of self-awareness/self-management, social awareness/relationship skills, and responsible decision making into the curriculum at the college and school district levels.

[Click here](#) for more information about the SJSU Collaborative for Reaching and Teaching the Whole Child.
just two examples of the innovations presented. Click here for the full story. (Pictured above: Dean David Steele, and Bill Nance, SCIC Director, congratulate Sargon Jacob for winning first place.)

Moss Landing Marine Lab Professor Receives National Honor
Kenneth H. Coale, Moss Landing Professor of Marine Biology, was honored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Coale was elected as an AAAS Fellow for studies of trace element biogeochemistry in marine waters and the response of marine phytoplankton to exogenous iron deposition. Coale is among a select number of California State University faculty members to receive this distinction.
For more information on Coale’s award, click here.
For more information about Professor Coale, click here.

COOL4Ed Project wins Outstanding Instructional Technology Website award
The California Open Educational Resources Council (CA-OER), chaired by SJSU’s Dr. Katherine D. Harris, English, just won an award by extension through COOL4Ed. The COOL4Ed project won the "Outstanding Instructional Technology Website" award at the annual Directors of Educational Technology/California Higher Ed conference on December 4, 2014. CA-OER is working on bringing low cost or free etextbooks to students in California Community Colleges, UC, and CSU schools -- to reduce student textbook cost by $100-200 per student. The biggest hurdles are rigorous peer review of the OER textbooks, making faculty aware of the massive numbers of OER textbook options, and creating a repository where the OER textbooks and reviews can be found. CA-OER makes & implements policy; COOL4Ed is our public repository. The project is the first of its kind despite fraught partnerships among three massive state educational
For News from the School of Music and Dance, check the latest issue of Upbeat (PDF).

Research Foundation Annual Report
The San José State Research Foundation Annual Report is now available here.

SJSU’s Academic Senate is Unique
Unlike many other campus-governing bodies, San José State University has representatives from the faculty, administration, and students. Click here to see:

- A complete list of senators
- Committee members
- Senate policies and resolutions

Opportunity
Sally Casanova California Pre-Doctoral Scholarship Program
Application forms for the 2015/2016 Sally Casanova California Pre-Doctoral Scholarship Program are now available. Each pre-doctoral award is for $3,000. For more information, view the full announcement here (PDF). Please share this information with eligible students.

Appointment
Rae Ann Stahl has been appointed to institutions and the State of California. Nine faculty from CCC, UC, CSU have been working tirelessly for a year on this important project.
WASC Report

The WASC report was submitted on August 20, 2014. Following an offsite review by the accrediting team, we received a set of reviews that included several commendations for the work that SJSU is doing to support and assess student learning. The steering committee is working to address specific inquiries and requests in anticipation of the accreditation visit April 14-16, 2015. For more information, visit the SJSU WASC homepage.

Cami Johnson has been the Chair of the WASC Accreditation Steering Committee for the university since August 2013. She is the primary author of the 60-page report (PDF)

Here are some important links:

- Intro to WASC - This is an amusing short animation describing the WASC accreditation process.
- Faculty Participation
- The WASC Institutional Report

As Associate Dean, Ms. Stahl is responsible for administering the technical services, information technology and digital initiatives departments. Significantly, she is charged with providing leadership in developing the technology strategy for the future of the SJSU library. Ms. Stahl will continue to take graduate courses toward the MLIS degree with the SJSU School of Information. Please join us in congratulating Ms. Stahl as she assumes this leadership role.

Restore Coyote Creek
Increase in Graduation Rate

SJSU's six-year graduation rates for both frosh and transfers have increased for the Fall 2008 entering cohorts. For the Fall 2008 frosh entering cohort, our six-year graduation rate was 49.7%, compared to 46.6% in Fall 2005. For the Fall 2008 transfer cohort, our six-year graduation rates were 74.7% compared to 66.5% in Fall 2005. Thanks to all who are involved in student success--your efforts are paying off.

San José State mourns the loss of Irene Dalis

Irene Dalis was more than a cultural icon. She was devoted to nurturing
opera through the founding of Opera San José as an art form and to nurturing promising students through the SJSU Opera Workshop. Read the full story here.