The New Year is off to a very positive start and I am pleased to share news with you from the College of Education. As we settle into the spring semester, it is exciting to review the positive things that have happened so far in 2007. We were pleased to host so many of you here for the Founders Wall Dedication event in January. How wonderful it was to see so many enthusiastic supporters of the College of Education come together for the official unveiling of the Founders Wall. It was truly a delightful morning and an historic day for all of us.

CSUF has been chosen by the Chancellor’s Office as a “best practice” model for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) teacher preparation. In January, a group of 20 faculty from the COE and NSM presented an overview of our programs to Dr. Howard Gobstein, Vice President for Research and Science Policy of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. Dr. Vikki Costa and Dr. Martin Bonsangue led the discussion, and which was also attended by Dr. Beverly Young, CSU Chancellor’s Office and President Gordon. The presentation highlighted the interdisciplinary collaboration among departments, colleges and with the public schools, which makes our program so successful.

We have also scheduled an NCATE pre-visit to help us prepare for our Accreditation visit this fall. The NCATE team will be here in early April and this exercise will help us identify our strengths and weaknesses as well as give everyone a practice run. And finally, just a few weeks ago we had a visit from WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) as we work towards attaining the first independent doctoral program in Education within the CSU system.

There is a lot more to come this year and I hope that you are as excited as I am. I invite you to take a few moments and learn of the news from our terrific faculty, staff, and students:

Department News

The Department of Secondary Education is pleased to report on the basis of the Intern Retention Study conducted annually that 82% of the students in the Professional Track from the 2001-2002 school year through the 2005-2006 school year are still teaching in the classroom!

The Department of Special Education is holding the 2nd Annual Joint CSUF and University of Kansas Strategic Instruction Model General Education/Special Education Collaboration Conference, which will be June 14-16th at the Holiday Inn, on Beach Blvd. in Buena Park. Sessions will be provided for administrators, teachers and staff developers on response to intervention and effective strategies for content teachers in diverse classrooms. The keynote speaker is Don Deshler from the Center for Research on Learning, an international expert in the field of Learning Disabilities and Effective Instruction at the Secondary Level. A reception for faculty and school administrators will take place on Thursday, June 14th at 6:00. All faculty in the College of Education are invited to attend. We also wish to invite all SPED and EDSC students to attend the sessions beginning with the Keynote at 8:30 on Friday, June 15. The conference fee is $50 for CSUF students, which will cover the cost of books and meals.

Faculty News

Donna Bennett in Elementary and Bilingual Education continues to work with Culver City USD, Redondo Beach USD, Alhambra, El Segundo, and Beverly Hills teachers on differentiated instruction, particularly focusing on GATE. She is also working with the parents in these districts, helping them to understand the new direction the state has taken with services for GATE.
Also from the Elementary and Bilingual Education Department, Teresa Crawford and Ginger Geftakys continue to implement the Teachers and Students as Artists program at Golden Hill and Richmond schools in Fullerton. They’ve collected 25 new art pieces to add to the COE Children’s Art Gallery this spring.

Shanan Fitts in Elementary and Bilingual Education received third place in the National Association for Bilingual Education dissertation competition.

Also from the Elementary and Bilingual Education Department, Earl Gotts was the speaker at Cerro Villa Middle School at the “English Language Learner Celebration” which honors students who have made progress toward English proficiency. The celebration took place on February 28th.

Laurie Hansen in Elementary and Bilingual Education recently presented at the NCTM Regional Conference and NABE National Conference and anticipates the publication of her book, Science through the Year (Grades 1-2), this spring by Teacher Created Materials.

Belinda Karge from the Special Education Department has been selected to serve on a statewide Commission on Teacher Credentialing panel that will make recommendations regarding restructuring of Education Specialist credentials.

Ellen Kottler from the Secondary Education Department is co-author of two new books by Corwin Press, Secrets to Success for Beginning Elementary School Teachers and Counseling Skills for Teachers, 2nd edition. She presented with one of her co-authors at the Association for Teacher Educators Conference last month in San Diego.

From the Special Education Department, Jan Weiner was honored on February 3, 2007 with the Robert Gaylord-Ross Scholar Award in the area of services for individuals with severe disabilities at the 25th Annual CALTASH Conference.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the following faculty members have been awarded stipends from President Gordon to pursue a research or creative project as they move forward with the tenure process: Erica Bowers, Keni Cox, Shanan Fitts, Woo Jung, Jennifer Ponder, Ken Stichter, Michelle Vander Veldt and Lisa Winstead.

Staff News

If you haven’t already done so, please stop by and welcome Doug Gardner, our new data analyst in the Dean’s Office. Doug is in EC 190 and can be reached at ext. 5620.

Please also welcome Steven Rubalcaba, our newest addition to our Credentials Department. Steve comes to us from the Admissions and Records department and we are so pleased to have him with us.

We are thrilled to announce the return of Therese Berthon-Lomas. Therese served on an extended jury duty (over four months!), but has finally returned to her position assisting the Education Leadership department.

Sadly, we must say good-bye to two retiring staff members – Kathy Kamau and Terry Lee. We wish them the best of luck and will miss them.

Student/Alumni News

Members of the Dean’s Student Advisory Board are organizing an Education Night for April 3, 2007 in the Titan Student Union. This will be an excellent opportunity for students to learn more
about the masters program in the College of Education and provide them with information on credentials, jobs, accreditation, etc.

Students in Educational Leadership’s Tier II Program of School Leaders with Dr. Linda Orozco are required to write a manuscript and submit for publication. We are proud to announce these manuscripts have/are being published within the next few months:

**Michael Kellison** [Graduate-Summer Thai Program 2006]
*Transforming a School From Me to We*
Journal: Principal (National Association of Elementary School Principals)
Issue: May/June 2007

**Julie Rehmer** [Graduate-Fall 2006]
*Family Reading Night: A How to Guide*
Journal: Library Media Connection
Issue: April/May 2007

**Kathi Wagner** [Graduate-Fall 2004]
*The Reflective Leader: Thoughts from a Third Year Administrator*
Journal: Principal (Association of Calif. School Administrators)
Issue: Nov./Dec. 2006

**Calendar**

The College of Education has some very exciting and important events on the horizon. Please mark your calendars for the following:

- The College of Education **Advisory Board** will meet on Thursday, April 12, 2007 at the Golleher Alumni House. The meeting will begin at 7:30 am and include breakfast.

- The College of Education **Advancement Board** will also meet on Thursday, April 12, 2007 at the Golleher Alumni House. The meeting will begin at 12:30 pm and include lunch.

- In conjunction with the Orange County Department of Education, the College of Education will co-host the first **National Board Certified Teacher Reception** on April 17, 2007 at the Meridian Club in Fullerton. More information will be sent out soon.

- The second annual **Honor an Educator** event will take place on Sunday, April 22, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Meridian Club in Fullerton. This event is a wonderful opportunity for those in the community to recognize outstanding educators. Please visit our web site for more information: [http://ed.fullerton.edu/Awards/Intro_HonorAnEduc.html](http://ed.fullerton.edu/Awards/Intro_HonorAnEduc.html).

- The College of Education is pleased to announce the first annual **Teachers and Students as Artists Dessert Reception**, which will take place on Saturday, May 12, 2007, from 1:00 – 2:00 pm on the second floor patio of the EC Building at CSUF. There will be a gallery tour honoring the artists, their teachers (and student teachers), and their families. All are invited to attend.

- This year’s **Commencement Ceremony** will take place on Saturday, May 19, 2007. Our **Credential Ceremony** will be held on Friday, May 18, 2007. Please visit our Commencement web site for more details: [http://ed.fullerton.edu/Current/commencement.html](http://ed.fullerton.edu/Current/commencement.html).
The COE Faculty/Staff Retreat will take place on August 16, 2007 at the Richard Nixon Library, from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. Staff members will just join the faculty members for lunch at noon.

In Closing

We truly are off to a great start in 2007 and have a lot to look forward to throughout the year. Thank you for continuing to offer your support and hard work toward our many endeavors and projects!

Best Wishes,

Claire Cavallaro, Dean