With the conclusion of the Spring 2006 semester approaching rapidly, it is time for another issue of COE Connected. I first want to thank all of you who attended my “event” on Friday, for the cards and kind comments made, and for the amazing gift Sue and I received. It was a wonderful occasion for my family and me. Many of you met my mom who was in attendance. For someone who was concerned that I would never make it out of the second grade this was a uniquely positive occasion. So, thanks to all and special thanks to Carmen for planning and orchestrating the day.

As you are all aware Dr. Claire Cavallaro will be assuming the dean’s position on July 10th. She brings tremendous experience and credentials to the position. We very much look forward to Claire stepping into her new role.

The faculty search process is complete. We have hired eight new faculty. Joining Dr. Ken Stichter, (Educational Leadership), Shanan Fitts, Dr. Jennifer Ponder, Michelle Vander Veldt and Dr. Lisa Winstead (Elementary and Bilingual Education), Eduardo Sanchez and Dr. Woo Sik Jung, (Special Education) will be Dr. Erica Bowers. Dr. Bowers just completed her degree from USC and will be an assistant professor with the Reading Department.

We continue to expand our presence on the CSUF Irvine campus. We have secured Building 65. The College of Education will move most, if not all, of its Irvine programs from the main building to Building 65. This will allow us to expand our graduate presence on the Irvine campus. Of special importance is that our new Community Learning Research and Resource Center will be housed in Building 65.

Thanks to Kathy Bihr, Executive Director of the Tiger Woods Learning Center, for hosting meetings for both our Advancement Board and Edwin Carr Fellows Advisory Board. We very much enjoyed her hospitality and tours of the Center.

And, the component of COE Connected we enjoy the most – bragging about our faculty, staff, and students.

- The following students were honored as Edwin Carr Fellows. Karen Alcala, M.S. in Education/Educational Administration; Robin Berry, M.S. in Education/Reading; Pamela Greer, M.S. in Education/Special Education; Susana Prado, M.S. in Education/Elementary Curriculum and Instruction; and Tanya Skubacz, M.S. in Education/Secondary Education. For those of you unfamiliar with the award, it is given to those graduate students who demonstrate exceptional potential for making significant contributions to the field of education.
• A very special honor went to Rachelle Cracchiolo who earned her M.S. in Education, Elementary Curriculum and Instruction in 1976. On April 22nd she received one of five Vision & Visionaries Distinguished Alumni Awards from the CSUF Alumni Association. Rachelle is a founding member of our Advancement Board.

• JoAnne Greenbaum (Reading) was selected by the Intercollegiate Athletic Department as “Faculty of the Year.” She was selected from dozens of nominees and was honored for having “...inspired, supported and challenged student athletes to achieve academic excellence.”

• Congratulations to Lynda Randall (Secondary Education) and Kristin Stang (Special Education) for being elected to At-Large Seats for the Academic Senate. There were six seats available and Lynda and Kristin earned two of them. Thanks to all faculty for voting. The College of Education had the highest percentage of voters of any of the University’s eight colleges. Speaking of votes Andrea Guillaume (Elementary and Bilingual Education) in being elected to the Faculty Personnel Committee received the highest number of votes of any candidate running for any Academic Senate position.

• The following faculty received Faculty Enhancement and Instructional Development (FEID) grants. Thirty-five proposals were submitted and 14 were funded:
  ✓ Loretta Donovan, Development of an Online Course, “Distance Education – Issues and Trends.” (Elementary and Bilingual Education)
  ✓ Lynda Randall, Development of a Prototype of Online Instruction Using Video and Digital Text. (Secondary Education)
  ✓ Jan Weiner, Fostering Behavior Support Cases from Personnel Preparation: Applied Curriculum for Teachers. (Special Education)

• The following individuals were recognized for outstanding service to the university for the 2005-06 academic year.
  ✓ Debra Ambrosetti (Secondary Education)
  ✓ Duane Clizbe (Secondary Education)
  ✓ Amy Cox-Petersen (Elementary and Bilingual Education)
  ✓ Lisa Kirtman (Elementary and Bilingual Education)
  ✓ Ron Oliver (Educational Leadership)
  ✓ Chris Renne (Elementary and Bilingual Education)

Finally, it is with real regret that we accept the resignation of Ileana Masoucos-Hurtado, Assistant to the Dean. Ileana’s husband has been offered a very fine position in Houston and their tentative date to move to Texas is May 27th. In her short tenure Ileana has been an extremely positive and productive member of the Dean’s Office. We will miss her.

Again, as the semester comes to a close, we want to thank all for making this an excellent year.
Ash and Carmen