Asteroid Naming Honors Professor

Astronomer Leo Connolly (Physics) is being honored by the naming of an asteroid—6479 Leoconnolly—a distinction earned by only a few of the thousands of astronomers internationally.

Nominated for the honor by students of an advanced Summer Science Program he directed in Ojai, CA for 11 years, Connolly becomes the world's 6479th such namesake, which typically has been allotted to Greek historical figures and the discoverers of asteroids.

The asteroid, formerly known as 1988 LC, was discovered by Dr. Eleanor Helin of Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. The temporary label was assigned until the asteroid "had been observed enough times," Connolly explains. "It usually goes twice around the sun before it is named," he adds, noting that because the LC designation also happened to be his initials, his admirers were prompted to choose this asteroid for his honor.

The asteroid bears his full name—as one word—because another Connolly has initials, his admirers were prompted to choose this asteroid for his honor.

The honor, which is registered in the International Astronomical Union's database at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory by Dr. Brian Marsden, was proposed by his students and staff as Connolly was stepping down from leading the National Science Foundation-funded science program last summer. More than 400 high school students had participated in the program, which is held at the Thacher School in Ojai, during Connolly's 11-year tenure. Part of their work had included photographing asteroids and determining their orbits.

The work can be tedious, Connolly observes. "If you don't set the telescope (accurately), it can be a challenge...to look among the 10,000 images (in that field) and find the dot that moved." It is difficult to find the known bodies let alone the asteroids, whose orbits change over time due to the influence of planets like Jupiter, he adds.

Connolly, who lives in San Bernardino, says he's "very appreciative" of the distinction, which was facilitated by Dr. Helin and his wife, Jackie, as well as the students, who wrote the proposal. He feels distinguished by the honor because it is not a "gimmick...like 'buying' a star. The astronomical community has a problem naming things. There are some unwritten rules that have been agreed upon internationally" as a process for designating discoveries, he notes. "Potentially there are several thousand more (asteroids) to be discovered, depending upon how well they can be seen.

The asteroid, 6479 Leoconnolly, is named for his 11 years of leadership in a young scholars summer science program in the Ojai Valley, Leo Connolly had Asteroid 6479 named after him.

CAMPUS EXAMINES CURRICULUM, POLICIES IN UDC REPORT

(Reader's Note: Over the next two quarters The Friday Bulletin will report the results of four questions asked on the diversity survey taken on campus almost two years ago. Faculty, students, staff and administrators were given a chance on these questions to voice opinions about specific issues. In this edition, the first of these four questions.)

Since the fall of 1993, when Cal State launched its campaign on diversity, no small debate has swelled over where that campaign is headed and just what diversity means.

The debate, in part, has been held on paper. Taken in April of 1994, the diversity survey has come with, what else, diverse and polarized views. One of the four questions in which campus staff, students, faculty and administrators were free to explain their answers and ask them to size up the university's curriculum and policies.

That the curriculum was "not diverse enough" was the faculty's most common concern, said the University Diversity Commission's survey report, put together by principal researcher Ellen Greenbaum, acting dean (Social and Behavioral Sciences) and Kathryn Ervin, associate professor (Theatre Arts) and released last summer.

DIVERSITY AT CSUSB

One-hundred ninety-one faculty answered the survey and many believed, said the results, the curriculum was "still too Eurocentric," even though these same people recognized the strides the campus has made.

"I think we're making some good progress, but real success requires a more diverse faculty," wrote one "Euro-American" man.

An African-American student—one of 3,351 who completed the survey—looked that view a step farther. Making faculty feel at home is part of the university's job, she said, "not just hiring professors for a short time and then running them away so they can fulfill temporary race quotas."

The report pointed out, however, that losing minority faculty is not automatically the product of a weak commitment to diversity. "Even good programs and policies," it said, "are prone to such cynical criticism if they are not completely successful."

While 61 percent of Cal State's undergraduates said that the university supported students' cultural diversity, the majority also said that the university needed more diversity in its curriculum. Students most often said Asia, the Middle East and Africa were inadequately covered in class offerings or the materials used. And they said that creating a wider selection of courses that fulfill general education requirements would help round out the academic program.

But in clear contrast to faculty and students calling for more cultural recognition were those who seemed to say that they were being forced to place political correctness in the name of education. Said one male Chicano professor of the current focus on multiculturalism, there is "too much on culture and gender, not enough on honor. Most curriculums seem to stress anger and judgment." Another faculty member could only masterfully deflect support for the diversity movement saying, "There is always a shift to 'hot,' popular causes... This kind of temporary imbalance is fine."

Staff at CSUSB had less to say about the curriculum, negatively, than did faculty and students. Instead, the 198 respondents talked about the policies, specifically, hiring and promotion practices.

It was on the four qualitative questions that staff showed more polarization than any other group when it came to opinions about campus climate. "This is one of the most troubling findings," said the UDC report, and "suggests a strong need to further investigate, discuss and deal with problems in this area."

Reverse discrimination—or its perceived incidence—was, hands down, staff personnel's most common complaint. Feelings ranged from anger to indignation to disappointment.

"I think that the ability to perform and past performance for the university should be just as important—if not more important—than the color of our skin," said one Euro-American woman. "I know that reverse discrimination exists here and I am not disillusioned and angered by it. I think that reverse discrimination actually contributes to racial prejudice on this campus.

And to some degree the diversity committee's report agreed.

If reverse discrimination is prevalent, it cannot help to improve relations among groups, since members of one group may tend to resent people in other groups they
A NOTE FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

GO TO SEA WORLD

Faculty, staff and friends are invited to join us at Sea World for a picnic and a day of interesting sights on July 27. The day includes entrance into Sea World, a picnic lunch, and a FREE second day, which may be taken the next day or anytime through Sept. 30.

Adults are only $26.50 and children are $20.15. Call Jenny in Human Resources for more information. Space is limited. Tickets may be purchased from 9-11:30 a.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cash only. No refunds.

CRIME STATS

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BREAKFAST ADDRESSES BUSINESS EDUCATION CONCERNS

The role of business in education reform is the topic at the next Business Partners Executive Breakfast Jan. 31 at Cal State.

"Business and Education: Investment in Our Children and Our Nation" is the title of the talk by featured speaker, Jim Charkins (Economics). Like many educators and business policy-makers, Charkins believes that students are not prepared to enter the 21st Century workplace.

He will talk about Economics America of California and how the organization is trying to give students relevant curriculum. Charkins is executive director of Economics America of California and the economic editor for the Wall Street Journal Classroom Edition Teacher Guide.

The breakfast runs from 7:30-9 a.m. in the Cal State Upper Commons. Cost for Business Partners members is $12 and $17 for the general public. Group rates also are available to Business Partners members at $60 for a table of six, and $80 for settings of six for general corporate tables. Call the CSUSB School of Business and Public Administration at Ext. 5771 for reservations.

DIVERSITY...

(continued from front)

perceive as advantaged." Gaining a vision for "greater inclusion of underrepresented groups in all categories of employment," said the report, "will ease fears of affirmative action policies.

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IN MEMORIAM

John Summers, who was employed at CSUSB as a groundskeeper from 1972-85, passed away on Dec. 19. He is the late husband of Margaret Summers, who worked at the university from 1968 until her retirement in 1991.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Kimberly R. Cousins (Chemistry) and her husband, Alan Oshira, on the birth of their baby boy, Michael Cousins Oshira. He was born Nov. 30 and weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce, measuring 18 inches.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

EAT BURGERS, BAKED GOODS

Buy an Orange Burger cooked up by the Association of Latino Faculty, Staff and Students from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Feb. 7. Pay $3 for pre-sale tickets and $3.50 the day of the cookout. Then, come Valentine’s Day, Feb. 14, buy that special state employee some baked goods or a gift from 8 a.m.-noon from association members. For an extra 25 cents, they deliver. Both sales will be held outside University Hall. The association is raising money for scholarships and student programs.

FIVE 2 202

Before submitting its work trip reduction plan to the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Cal State must give the campus 30 days to review the plan under Rule 2202. A copy of that plan will be available in the library and in the Computer Services Office, UH 130, from Feb. 1-March 1.

STUDENT ORIENTATION

Know a student who would make a good leader? The New Student Orientation program is now recruiting. Call the Student Life Office at Ext. 5234 if you have any suggestions. Applications are due Feb. 23.

OPEN ON SATURDAY

Starting Jan. 27 the information services booth will be open on Saturdays from 7 a.m.-noon. Parking will still be free. Information on Saturday events should be faxed to Parking Services. Questions? Call Quentin Moses at Ext. 5912.

THROUGH FEB. 23

Art Show. "The Hitchcock" exhibit includes yarn paintings, stone sculptures and dance dramas. University Art Gallery. Gallery hours Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Free. Ext. 5802.

TUESDAY, JAN. 30

Women’s Tennis. Cal State, Bakersfield, 1:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 1


Men’s Basketball. Grand Canyon University, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 2

Men’s Volleyball. La Verne, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3

Women’s Basketball. Cal State, Dominguez Hills, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 6

Women’s Tennis. U.C., Riverside, 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7

Talk. Brown Bag Lunch Series with Dr. Mary Tessera, Noon-1:30 p.m. Women’s Resource and Adult Re-entry Center. Free. Ext. 7203.

Men’s Volleyball. Orange Coast College, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

Women’s Basketball. Grand Canyon University, 7:30 p.m.

THE FRIDAY BULLETIN

is a bimonthly newsletter published for administrators, faculty and staff of California State University, San Bernardino.

Next issue: Friday, Feb. 9. Items for publication should be submitted in writing by 5 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 30 to:

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