Commission Optimistic about Science Standards

Staff from the Academic Standards Commission met in Long Beach last week with leaders from two groups who competed for a contract to assist in the development of the state science standards. The three-hour meeting left staff and consultants optimistic that the once competing groups could work together.

Bonnie J. Brunkhorst, a professor of science education/geology at CSUSB and the chair of the Science Coalition, submitted one of the proposals. Stan Metzenberg, an assistant professor of biology at California State University, Northridge, and the chair of the Associated Scientists, submitted the other responsive proposal.

Metzenberg and Brunkhorst, together with the staff of the commission, will comprise the team charged with drafting the science standards based on the guidance the commission Science Committee provides.

While some areas of the joint workplan need additional agreement, the consultants found several areas of agreement. Both are highly committed to K-12 education and to rigorous science standards.

Both acknowledged that they may disagree on how certain content issues are included in a standards document, but are committed to presenting the information objectively so the commissioners can decide.

"I am encouraged by the meeting," said Commission Chair Ellen F. Wright. "Dr. Brunkhorst and Dr. Metzenberg are both highly capable people and they bring to the table gifted resources. Their professionalism and willingness to find the most positive way to work together can only lead to the best set of standards this state can produce. We hope our work will become a model for the rest of the nation."

Despite the differences, Brunkhorst agreed that the partnership had plenty of advantages. "By working together," she said, "we can bring a broad spectrum of scientific perspectives, as well as the perspectives of teachers and educators into the process of developing science standards. This is what is needed to get the job done."

And said Metzenberg, "This new level of cooperation is a tremendous victory for the K-12 students of California. I have confidence in our abilities to work productively as a team."

The commission issued an RFP in December to solicit proposals to write standards for science. At its January meeting, the commission voted to accept a recommendation from the proposal evaluation team to decline the bids. The commission recommended that the staff try to benefit from the strengths of both proposals by working with leaders from the Associated Scientists and the Science Coalition to agree to write the standards together.
Top-Shelf Professors, Staff to be Honored

Four of your colleagues are being honored at the Golden Apple Awards banquet on Feb. 26 at the San Bernardino Hilton. They are: Cynthia Bird from accounting and finance, Renee Pigeon from English, Manuel Castro of public safety and Tina Howe from the Coachella Valley Center.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social half-hour followed by dinner at 6 p.m. and a program that includes video profiles on all of the honorees. Cal State music faculty, Rob Dunham and Tamara Harsh, will be providing entertainment with an ensemble and the chamber singers. The event will be videotaped and played back on Channel 3 several times. It is sponsored by the Education Roundtable consortium, which celebrates the quality of education delivered at Cal State, Valley College and in the city schools.

Dinners are $25 per person. Invitations will arrive next week; if you don't receive one, you may indicate to the public affairs office your interest in attending and supporting the accomplishments of our deserving faculty and staff.

Hewitt, Lapin Talk Truth, Tradition

The "mysteries" that sometimes separate Christians and Jews are the focus of the discussion, "What Christians and Jews Should Know About Each Other...But Are Afraid to Ask," when Hugh Hewitt and Rabbi Daniel Lapin speak on Wednesday, Feb. 18 in the Recital Hall.

Positive relations is the goal of the eleventh annual Morrow-McCombs Memorial Lecture which begins at 7:30 p.m..

Hewitt is the co-host of the weeknight television news and public affairs show, "Life & Times," aired on KCET in Los Angeles. He also is the host of the PBS series, "Searching for God in America."

Rabbi Lapin is president of the national religious movement, Toward Tradition, as well as a syndicated radio host, national speaker, and noted author. He founded the Pacific Jewish Center, a now legendary Orthodox synagogue in Venice.

The annual Morrow-McCombs Memorial Lecture was created in memory of the late Ray McCombs and his long-time friend Lilian Morrow through a special endowment. The intent of the lecture is to create a better understanding and appreciation of the Jewish and Christian religions.

‘Yerma’ Production Marks Anniversary

“Yerma,” the Spanish story of a woman's obsessive desire to be a mother, will be presented at Cal State in celebration of playwright Frederico Garcia Lorca’s 100th birthday.

A poet and dramatist, Lorca lived from 1898-1939. Set in a land that is barren and rugged, the tragedy is created, in part, by Yerma's discouraging husband whose only desire is to keep her as his sole possession and to be rich. Their lack of communication and her intense need to have a child
destroys her happiness.

The performances will be held in the Recital Hall at 8 p.m. on Feb. 6, 7, 13 and 14. Tickets are $4 for the general public, $3 for students, and free for children under 10. For more information call Mirta A. Gonzalez at Ext. 5814.

The Bulletin Board

Burger Sale

Save room for a burger, beans (while they last), chips and a drink on Feb. 25 when the Black Faculty and Staff Association serve up lunch for $3.50 with a pre-purchased ticket or $4 on sale day. If you don’t eat beef, there’s turkey or veggie burgers. The sale goes from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Student Union Walkway. The proceeds go to scholarships. Call Cynthia Linton at Ext. 3037 or Aminia Diop at 7260.

CSUSB Employees’ Contributions Up

Donations from Cal State faculty, staff and administrators to the Arrowhead United Way fund were up by 10 percent this year.

The rise, surmises Bill Takehara, the associate vice president for financial operations and the campus’s AUW campaign coordinator, may be due in part to the extra push at the end of the campaign by division and department representatives. “I asked them to stress that contributions will stay in the local county.”

The figure this year reached $29,000, up from $24,000 the year before.

Learning History

Celebrate Black History Month during February’s time of remembrance at Cal State. The African Tragedian with Robin Scott Peters as Ira Frederick Aldridge will be presented on Feb. 18 at noon in the Student Union Events Center. The Multicultural Center presents The Lana Walton Theatre Ensemble in “The Truth of the Matter” on Feb. 26 at noon in the Events Center.

Personnel

Community Service

George M. Georgiou (Computer Science) has been elected as Master of San Bernardino Masonic Lodge No. 178, a 131-year-old organization, for 1998. Freemasonry, which is a non-political organization, strongly supports public education.

Frank Rincon (Student Services) gave the keynote address at the annual awards banquet for the Boy Scouts of America, California Inland Empire Council, Cahuilla Lodge, Order of the Arrow. The event was held in the Student Union Events Center on Jan. 24.

Tom M. Rivera (Undergraduate Studies) was invited to read for the U.S. Department of Education from Jan. 25-30 to evaluate applications submitted for funding under the Talent Search Grants Program.
Calendar

Friday, Feb. 6

Spanish Play: Opening Night.
"Yerma," by Frederico Garcia Lorca. A woman's intense desire for a child is greeted with cold resistance by her husband. Feb. 6, 7, 13 and 14. 8 p.m. in Recital Hall. General admission $4, students $3 and children under 10 free. Ext. 5844.

Friday, Feb. 6

Music
CSUSB Symphonic Band performs "Trittico" by Nellybel and "Chorale and Alleluia" by Hanson. 8:15 p.m., Recital Hall. General admission $5, students and senior citizens $3. Ext. 5859.

Friday, Feb. 6

French Film Series.
Begins with "La Haine (Hate)" by Mathieu Kassovitz, best director for film at 1995 Cannes Film Festival. In a Paris suburb, angry youth take over a housing project after a young Arab is wounded by police. Rated "R." English subtitles, 7 p.m., UH-106. Students $2, general admission $3; season pass for all five films $12 at door. Ext. 5849.

February

Black History Month Events.

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Talk
Hugh Hewitt, host of PBS series, "Searching for God in America," and co-host of KCET program, "Life and Times," and Rabbi Daniel Lapin, syndicated radio host and president of national religious movement, Toward Tradition. "What Christians and Jews Should Know About Each Other ... But are Afraid to Ask." Eleventh Annual Morrow-McCombs Memorial Lecture. 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall. Free. Ext. 5981.

Friday, Feb. 20

French Film Series.
"J'ai pas sommeil (I Can't Sleep)" by Claire Denis. Not rated. English subtitles. 7 p.m., UH-106. Students $2, general admission $3; season pass for all five films $12 at door. Ext. 5849.

Through March 12

Art Shows.

The Friday Bulletin is a biweekly newsletter published for administrators, faculty and staff of California State University, San Bernardino. The online edition of the Friday Bulletin can be found at http://enrollment.csusb.edu/~pubaff/Friday/cover.html. Next issue: Feb. 20. Items should be submitted in writing, on disk or through e-mail by 5 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 10 to:

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