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New Admins Stepping In

Administrators in four top posts at Cal State are beginning work this summer as the university prepares for its 1998-9 school year, which starts Sept. 24.

Patsy Oppenheim was named the assistant vice president of student services in July, filling a position left vacant by Randy Harrell last fall.

As director of student services at the University of California, Hastings College in San Francisco, Oppenheim worked on department budgets, handled sensitive personnel issues, developed harassment, community-building and student fee programs and restructured the career services mission and staff. She had also been an associate dean at the University of California, San Francisco, where she found new ways to market the School of Law's outside services, organized alumni events, published a quarterly newsletter and coordinated a $250,000 law fund campaign. Oppenheim earned her Ph.D. in college student personnel administration from the University of Northern Colorado in 1980 and her master's in home economics from Montana State University.

Assuming the position as associate vice president for enrollment services is Don Kajcienski, who held that job at CSUSB throughout most of the 1980s before starting his own business out-of-state. Kajcienski will have a dual role now as he also will serve as the director of outreach services. He was director of admissions at both Eastern Michigan University, where he earned his M.A., and Mercy College in Detroit before coming to Cal State in 1983. He received his Ed.D. from UNLV.

Eldon Lewis will step in as interim dean for the School of Business and Public Administration on Sept. 1. Starting in 1993 and for about three years Lewis was acting dean of the school, seeing it through the last stages of a major accreditation process and preparing it for the move into Jack Brown Hall. Lewis also was the chair for the business school's accounting and finance department for many years. A native of Missouri, the 11-year Cal State faculty member earned his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri and his M.B.A. from the University of Kansas.

Out of 60 applicants from around the country, Jan Jackson was chosen to take over as dean of extended education at Cal State starting Aug. 15. Jackson has been serving as Cal State's associate dean of extended education under outgoing dean Lee Porter. Her Ph.D. in education is from the Claremont Graduate School and she earned her master's in adult education from Syracuse. She has published many articles on continuing education and served as president of the Association of Continuing Higher Education from 1992-93.

SCE Suspects Rodent Caused July Electrical Outage

No significant damage was reported following the 2 a.m., July 22 power outage at Cal State. Some of the residual effects reported, say campus officials, were that a couple of machine parts had to
be replaced and a couple of programs had to be rebooted to get the Wiley e-mail system back on track.

A 12-thousand volt switch malfunctioned, possibly due to a rodent in the switching station, and caused an electrical fire which destroyed the switchgear and connecting cables. This disrupted power virtually to the entire campus. Campus police, physical plant personnel and the San Bernardino Fire Department responded immediately. Back-up emergency power sources for major buildings and the Computer Center automatically began operation to meet emergency power needs. Plant personnel installed three other emergency generators during the day at the Commons and one residence hall. Southern California Edison crews began working to restore power almost immediately and although it was restored by 7 p.m., it was not online in enough time to enable arrangements for a concert by Andy Cleaves' jazz band to continue. The event was rescheduled for Aug. 5.

Information about the campus closure was relayed at about 6:20 a.m. to local radio stations, including KVCR-FM, KFRG and KNX. An emergency broadcast voicemail message was sent to every phone on campus and the message "greeting" was updated on the public affairs' office phone to apprise employees and students about the power outage. Public safety officials were stationed at entrances to the campus and informed drivers that the campus was closed for the day; parking lots were cordoned off and signs were posted on all buildings notifying persons of the outage and closure. An e-mail message was sent from off-campus, however, because the server was down, the message was not posted to Bulletin Board (BB).

Five days after the major power outage Southern California Edison gave notice to the campus at about 4:45 p.m., asking the university to reduce its electrical power consumption by 75 percent. The notice was in accordance with an Interruptible Power Agreement, which the university has with SCE. Under the terms of the contract, CSUSB receives electrical power at a discounted rate with the understanding that SCE can inform the campus to interrupt its power usage by 75 percent within 30 minutes from notification. Estimated penalties to the campus, had we not implemented immediate curtailment, would have been approximately $40,000 per hour.

The campus entered into the agreement to reduce electricity costs. The decision was made along with many others as the campus was going through significant budget reductions. The interruptible rate saves the campus more than $200,000 per year. Those interruptions included power failures which would have affected the power supply regardless of participation in the interruptible rate schedule.

The Bulletin Board
A SOAR Subject

Through study and discussion groups, lectures, tours and other means, SOAR (Searching On After Retirement) can give retired or semi-retired women and men the kind of intellectual stimulation they may need and want. Offered through extended education, SOAR is a member-driven, peer-led retirement group with an emphasis on "active" learning. The first meeting is Oct. 2. Call Ext. 5976 for more details.
CSUSB was named one of the 26 best business schools in the state in a special edition put out by U.S. News and Word Report. "Best Graduate Schools: Exclusive Rankings 1998" listed Cal State among several other CSU campuses, as well as Stanford, UCLA and Berkeley.