Gayle Batey Receives President’s Medal

I was pleased to award the President’s Medal to long-time CSUB supporter Gayle Batey at the President’s Community Advisory Council (PCAC) meeting on October 14, 2015. Gayle is the longest-serving member of the PCAC. Along with her late husband, Ben Batey, she has championed student development, academic success, and graduation both at the high school and postsecondary levels. Gayle was among the donors who funded the purchase of equipment and technology for our Science III building, and is supporting the development of a CSUB-Tejon Ranch Conservancy partnership for environmental research and student internships. She widely is hailed for providing seed funding for Project BEST (Black Excellence in Scholarship and Teaching), a program to provide academic support services and scholarships to increase the graduation rates of Black male students at local high schools. Gayle similarly supports initiatives to increase the number of female university students who study mathematics and science. She is a patron of Parkinson’s disease research, which afflicted Ben in his later years. We commend Gayle for her steadfast commitment to educational attainment, CSUB, and the Bakersfield community. She joins First Lady Barbara Mitchell and Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley as the 2015 recipients of the CSUB President’s Medal.

Thomas Wallace Honored as Ole Miss Distinguished Alumnus

The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) honored Dr. Thomas D. Wallace, Jr., Vice President for Student Affairs, as a 2015 distinguished alumnus and inducted him into the Alumni Association Hall of Fame during the university’s homecoming events earlier this month. A three-time Ole Miss alumnus, Dr. Wallace earned a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education in 1978; a master of arts in educational administration in 1980, and a Ph.D. in educational leadership in 2002. The honor is but the latest in a succession of awards he has received, including: CSUB Associated Students, Inc. Administrator of the Year (2012); the University of Nebraska Student Government’s Curulis Award, presented to faculty or staff for service to students (2011); Alumnus of the Year at Northwest Mississippi Community College (2008); Black History Month Educator of the Year by the Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning in Mississippi (1999); the Minority Award of Distinction from Ole Miss Alumni Association, and the Ole Miss School of Education’s Alumnus of the Year (1998). His list of accolades continues. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Wallace on this well-deserved recognition.
Tim Vivian Awarded Nelson R. Burr Prize

Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Dr. Tim Vivian, was awarded the Historical Society of Episcopal Churches’ 2015 Nelson R. Burr Prize for his article, “Wake the Devil from His Dream: Thomas Dudley, Quincy Ewing, Religion, and the ‘Race Problem’ in the Jim Crow South,” published in the December 2014 issue of Anglican and Episcopal History. The award recognizes the most outstanding article in the journal and honors excellent and innovative scholarship in Anglican and Episcopal historiography. Dr. Vivian publishes prolifically on the history, theology, and spirituality of early monastic Christians. He earned a B.A. in English and an M.A. in comparative literature at UC Santa Barbara, an M.A. in American literature from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and an interdisciplinary Ph.D. (Classics, History, Religious Studies) at UC Santa Barbara. He received his M.Div. from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, and was a Henry R. Luce post-doctoral fellow at Yale Divinity School. Dr. Vivian is the Priest-in-Charge at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Bakersfield.

Karim Salehpoor Receives Energy Patent

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued a patent this summer to Dr. Karim Salehpoor, Lecturer in Physics and Engineering, for his renewable energy extraction device and methods for producing renewable energy from flowing air or water. The device captures the energy of flowing water or air and converts it to mechanical energy which can be transmitted to an electric generator, pump, compressor, or other rotary equipment. Practical applications abound for green energy, as energy can be generated from wind, rivers, and oceans.

Presidential Perspectives on Economic Sustainability in Higher Education

In Business Officer, the publication of the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), I joined three NACUBO Advisory Board presidential colleagues to present perspectives on achieving economic sustainability in higher education. “Economics in Motion” focuses on NACUBO’s Economic Models Project and explores the need for new higher education funding models to ensure long-term economic institutional viability. In addition to my thoughts on entrepreneurial academics, other presidential strategies include self-investment, campus culture, and cost containment.

Jean West Discusses new Book on Domestic Violence

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. On Thursday, October 29th at noon in the Stockdale Room, the Brown Bag Luncheon series will feature Dr. Jean Jaymes West, Associate Professor of Marketing, who will discuss her book, Misperceptions of Intimate Partner Violence in the 21st Century: Two Decades of Lies. The book examines the responses of female domestic violence survivors to public service announcement campaigns targeting the issue. Findings suggest inaccurate representations and labeling exacerbate the problem for some women. The brown bag luncheon is sponsored by Campus Programming and is open to all.

Jorge Talamantes Receives $3.2 Million Engineering Grant

Physics professor Dr. Jorge Talamantes has received a 5-year $3,249,688 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for his proposal entitled, "Increasing the Productivity of the
Engineering Degree Pipeline in the High Needs Southern San Joaquin Valley: A Sound Cooperative Project with Bakersfield College." The project will develop a new Power/Energy Engineering track at CSUB and a seamless, scaffolded degree pathway from Bakersfield College (BC) to degree completion at CSUB. Through the high-impact practice of inter-segmental collaboration, the project will increase both the number of BC students enrolled in a fully-articulated engineering curriculum with an approved plan for transfer to CSUB, and the graduation rate of CSUB STEM students. The Title V project targets Hispanic, high need, and underrepresented students.

**Kemnitz, Newberry, and Kohli Receive $2.6 Million U.S. Department of Education Grant**

A $2,624,968 grant from the U.S. Department of Education will help improve student learning outcomes, increase degree completion rates, and develop essential 21st Century workforce skills of CSUB’s high need students. **Dr. Carl Kemnitz**, former Associate Vice President for Academic Programs; **Dr. Paul Newberry**, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, and Director of the General Education Program; and **Dr. Vandana Kohli**, Associate Dean for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies, received the 5-year Title V grant for their proposal, "Giving Students a Compass: Improved Completion Outcomes and Essential 21st Century Skills for Hispanic and Other High Need Students."

**Hossein Bidgoli’s *MIS6* Published**

Mobile apps, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, a YouTube channel, an e-book with interactive flash cards, and a print textbook with tear-out review cards are a few of the "anywhere, anytime" learning features of **Dr. Hossein Bidgoli**’s recently published Management Information Systems textbook, 6th edition (*MIS6*). The print and digital learning tools were suggested by student and faculty focus groups and are designed to improve content accessibility for 21st Century learners. New topics include social commerce, web and mobile analytics, and mobile marketing. Dr. Bidgoli is the 2015-16 **Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity Award** recipient.

**Adam Pennell Offers Exemplary Hybrid Course**

The CSU Quality Online Learning and Teaching (QOLT) Award recognizes exemplary teaching and learning in hybrid and online courses. Physical Education and Kinesiology Department lecturer **Adam Pennell**’s course, “Walking” has been hailed as exemplary. The QOLT evaluation instrument includes 54 items and the process includes instructor self-evaluations, as well as peer and student evaluations. The course will be featured in announcements, presentations, and the QOLT website.

**Student Conducts Research from Bakersfield to Bristol, England**

Senior biochemistry major Nkiruka (Nikki) Oragwam was one of ten students selected nationwide to conduct publishable research abroad this summer at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. A University Honors student, Nikki applied to the University of
North Carolina’s National Science Foundation-funded International Research Experience for Undergraduates summer research program. Priority was given to students with undergraduate research experience, particularly in organic or organometallic synthesis. Nikki’s research, “Improving NOE methods in obtaining inter-proton distances for 3-methylpiperidine,” focused on improving nuclear overhauser effect spectra methods of reading inter-proton distances for small molecules. The award included a $4,000 stipend in addition to travel and accommodations costs and academic credit for the 7-week summer research program.

**Student Housing Complex Wins Valley Blueprint Award**

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agency selected the CSUB student housing development to receive the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Award of Merit in the Sustainable Development: Residential category. The award recognizes "outstanding achievements and practices in the built environment...provid[ing] visual examples of attractive, functional and environmentally friendly projects that could have relevance throughout the Valley," according to award guidelines. Pat Jacobs, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management, accepted the award on the University’s behalf at the SJV Regional Planning Agency’s 11th annual Fall Policy Council at Yosemite on October 8, 2015. The Bernard Bros., Inc., Steinberg Architects, and Quad Knopf, Inc. also were present. The San Joaquin Valley Blueprint initiative began in 2006. It is a collaboration of the 8 Central Valley counties from Stockton to Bakersfield to create a regional vision of land use and transportation to guide growth in the SJV over the next 50 years. Our thanks to Quad Knopf for the nomination.

**CSUB Garners Two Kern Green Awards**

Dr. Aaron Hegde was named Eco Educator of the Year, and CSUB won the Waste Reduction and Recycling award at the 4th annual Kern Green Awards held at Alumni Park. Dr. Hedge is Associate Professor of Economics; Director of the Environmental Resource Management and Agricultural Business programs; and co-chairs the President's Sustainability Committee.

CSUB also won the Waste Reduction and Recycling award for diverting more than 96,000 pounds of waste from the landfill in 2014. We have invested in more recycling bins, a Big Belly solar powered trash compacting bin, and composting, and our students engage each year in Recyclemania, a national, student-led, friendly recycling competition among colleges and universities. Pat Jacobs, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and co-chair of the President's Sustainability Committee, accepted the award on the University's behalf.

The Kern Green Awards acknowledge and provide positive reinforcement to businesses, nonprofits, schools, and individuals for their efforts to implement green and sustainable practices. The initiative is the brainchild of Sasha Windes, founder and program manager, and member of the President’s Community Advisory Council.

**Runner Reader, One Book, One Bakersfield, One Kern**

The International Bank of Bob: Connecting our Worlds One $25 Kiva Loan at a Time is the 2015 common reader selected for the CSUB Runner Reader and One Book, One Kern. The book details author Bob Harris’s global travels to see the results of thousands of $25 micro loans he made to impoverished people worldwide. He uses humor to scale the subject of world poverty down to the individual level to illuminate how individuals can effect change.
One Book events have taken place throughout the county in September and October, and culminate with the author’s visit, book discussion, and book signing at CSUB this evening, October 28, 2015, 7:00-9:00pm in the Icardo Center. The event is free and open to the public. Parking is free in Lot “I” at the south end of campus.

**University Counselor Training Center Offers Low-Cost Counseling Services to the Public**

Low-cost individual, couple, family, and group counseling services are available to the public at the University Counselor Training Center (UCTC). Services are provided by advanced CSUB graduate student clinicians and sessions are supervised by a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Counseling services are $25 for the first session and $15 for each subsequent session; however, no client is turned away if the cost presents a financial hardship. During the last academic year, 20 graduate students provided more than 1600 hours of therapy to members of our Bakersfield community. Clients expressed a high level of satisfaction.

The UCTC is located on the second floor of the Education Building (Building 34) west of the “red brick road” in the center of campus. Enter via the wooden stairway. The center is most conveniently accessed from Don Hart Drive West. The University is accessible via Golden Empire Transit which stops at the campus from 5:45 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Services are by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call the voicemail at (661) 654-3402 and leave your name and telephone number(s). The clinic manager will return your call as soon as possible.

**Save the Date**

The campus holiday reception will take place on December 3, 2015 from 3:00-4:30pm in the Dezember Reading Room of the Walter Stiern Library.

**Upcoming Events**

Whether you are looking for academic, alumni, arts & culture, campus life, community, sports, or a calendar of highlight events, find them on RunnerCal. Access the calendar on our website by clicking the “Events” link at the bottom of the home page.

**University Council**

University Council is an open forum for members of the campus community to voice concerns or make suggestions for continued improvement. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. The next meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m., Friday, November 20, 2015, in the Albertson Room.

I look forward to seeing you around campus or at an upcoming University or community event. Take care.

Horace Mitchell
President