Harvey Hall to Receive Honorary Doctorate

Former Bakersfield mayor Harvey Hall will be awarded an honorary doctorate, the CSU’s highest honor, at our spring commencement ceremony on May 19, 2017. He will receive a Doctor of Humane Letters in the name of the CSU and CSUB for his recognized eminence and achievements in the field of emergency medical response and transportation, and his distinguished service to the community and CSUB. Mayor Hall founded and is the CEO of Hall Ambulance, now the largest privately-owned emergency and non-emergency medical transportation provider in California. As Bakersfield’s longest serving mayor, he contributed his entire mayoral salary during his 16 years of service to provide more than $250,000 in scholarships to almost 300 high school, community college, and CSUB students. He is an advocate for business and entrepreneurship, and has been instrumental in the Sister City Project, Keep Bakersfield Beautiful, and the initiative to end homelessness in Bakersfield.

He is a strong supporter of our student-athletes and is a familiar face at athletics competitions. Mayor Hall donated eight automated external defibrillators to the University to equip each of our sports facilities. We congratulate soon-to-be “Dr. Mayor Harvey Hall” for this deserving recognition.

Recipients Selected for the Wendy Wayne Award for Ethical Behavior

The late Dr. Thomas Larwood and South High School senior Yoceline Aguilar will receive the Wendy Wayne Award for Ethical Behavior at the Kegley Institute for Ethics dinner this evening at the Stockdale Country Club. The award is given to an adult and a youth in our community who exemplify strength, courage, and service to others. Ms. Aguilar will receive a $5,000 scholarship to the institution of her choice and a $5,000 donation will be made to the Valley Fever Americas Foundation in Dr. Larwood’s name. Dr. Gordon Nipp, Jayden Laird, Sergio Rodriguez, and Jeremiah Turner also will be celebrated for their service at the event. The evening is co-sponsored by Kaiser Permanente and San Joaquin Community Hospital. Dr. Christopher Meyers serves as KIE Director.

Coach Barnes is in Rare Air with 100th Win

Men’s basketball head coach Rod Barnes earned his 100th CSUB win with the team’s February 18th 51-48 road victory against Seattle. He became our 8th head coach of men’s basketball in 2011 and is in his sixth season. He stands in the rare company of former coaches Pat Douglas and Henry Clark to make this historic achievement.

At its annual gala earlier this month, the Kern County Black Chamber of Commerce honored
Coach Barnes with its first ‘Community Pride Award.’ The award recognizes his leadership in guiding the team to its first March Madness appearance in the 2016 NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Tournament.

Men’s Basketball Wins WAC Regular Season
The Roadrunners won the Western Athletic Conference regular season with a 69-49 homecoming game win over Chicago State Saturday night. The team has earned the top seed at the upcoming March 9-11 WAC Tournament in Las Vegas.

Hansen Leads Swimmers to WAC Gold, Silver & Bronze
Chris Hansen, Director of Swimming, coached our men and women swimmers to multiple medals in the 2017 WAC Swimming and Diving Championships this past weekend.

Senior Paola Hernandez won gold in the 200 freestyle at the WAC championships Friday night, earning our fourth gold in the event in as many years. Her winning 49.94 time in the 100 freestyle earned her the gold and made her the second female CSUB swimmer to break the 50-second barrier.

Junior Lovre Soric brought home the silver in the 400 individual medley with a time of 3:52:56, breaking both his personal record and the school record in so doing. His 1:45:14 time in the 100 backstroke set a school record and earned him a spot in the US Open and World Trial qualifier.

Rivera Coaches Wrestlers to Tournament Bronze
Head wrestling coach Manny Rivera guided the team to a third place finish at the Pac-12 Wrestling Championships this past Sunday. Four wrestlers will advance to the NCAA Division I Championship in St. Louis, Missouri March 16-18. Sean Nickell won the 125-pound title and an automatic berth. Coleman Hammond earned a spot in the 149-pound bracket with a 12-0 decision in the semi-final round. Lorenzo De La Riva moved forward in the 165-pound bracket with a 4-2 post-regulation time win in the semi-final round. Matt Williams took the final automatic berth in the 197-pound weight class after a 6-2 victory in the third place bout.

Rising Runners Doing Well
Four outstanding recent alumni, one selected from each school, returned to campus as celebrants in the Rising Runner Ceremony as part of Homecoming Week this past Friday. The young alum shared the stories of their college-to-career journeys.
2007 graduate Theresa Barket, the School of Social Sciences and Education’s Rising Runner, earned a PhD in anthropology at UC Riverside in 2016. As an undergraduate and doctoral student, she conducted archaeological research in California, Egypt, and Jordan. She has taught anthropology courses at UCR and UCLA and currently works as a lecturer in the Anthropology Department at CSULA and part‐time as a senior archaeologist at Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. in Orange, California.

Tyree A. Boyd-Pates, chosen by the School of Arts & Humanities, is Program Manager and History Curator at the California African American Museum in Los Angeles. Tyree is also a professor of African American studies, and he delivers tailored keynotes, workshops and training sessions to community organizations, institutions and companies across California. He is a contributing writer to such publications as The Huffington Post, Black Voices, and Yes! Magazine.

Double Alumnus John M. Hash (’07, BS, Biology; '10, MS, Biology) was the Outstanding Graduate from the School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering. He earned a Ph.D. in entomology from UC Riverside in 2015. John has published eight papers. His work has received awards from the Entomology Society of America and the Entomological Society of Washington. He has discovered and described more than sixty new parasitic fly species from Central and South America, and has conducted field expeditions to Costa Rica, Singapore, Australia, and Columbia, funded in part by a grant from the National Geographic Society. John has worked as a lecturer of several evolution courses at UC Riverside and continues his research in collaboration with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles (LACM).

Business and Public Administration’s Lourdes Nilon is a double alumnus (’08, BA, PA; '09 MPA) with more than 14 years of experience in organizational management; community relations and engagement; fundraising; philanthropy; and management of local, state and federal programs. Lourdes worked for Bakersfield Memorial Hospital Foundation’s Children's Miracle Network Hospitals where she was responsible for raising $500,000 per year for pediatric medical care. Lourdes currently is the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations in University Advancement at CSUB where she focuses on identifying, engaging and stewarding relationships with corporations, businesses, organizations, foundations and the community‐at‐large to develop CSUB’s annual and major giving opportunities.

Joe Gonzales and Nikki Blue are Bob Elias Hall of Fame Inductees

Former wrestler Joe Gonzales and assistant women’s basketball coach Nikki Blue were inducted into the Bob Elias Kern County Sport Hall of Fame’s Class of 2017 this past Thursday night. In his 1978-79 and 1979-80 wrestling seasons, Gonzales achieved near‐perfect records of 43-1 and 55-0, respectively. His NCAA record 448 takedowns still stands. He was a five-time champion in the open freestyle wrestling, a five‐time member of the U.S. World Team, a three‐time World Cup champion, and a member of the 1984 Olympic freestyle team.
Blue was a standout player at West High School where she scored a record-setting 2,938 points, and at UCLA where she was a first-team All-Pac 10 player during her four years there. Her 1,797 points, 602 assists, and 325 steals position her as UCLA’s No. 5 highest scorer, No. 2 in assists, and No. 3 in steals. She played several years in the WNBA with the Washington Mystics, New York Liberty. She also played in Turkey and Greece. She served as assistant coach at UNLV prior to joining the coaching staff at CSUB.

CSUB - A Beautiful Campus
The Campus Beautification Committee is proud to recognize members of our campus community each month for their outstanding contributions toward keeping CSUB beautiful. Congratulations to November’s winner, Housing & Residence Life for their adopted area, Student Housing East, and to January’s winner, Counseling Services for their adopted area, the Counseling Center. If you are interested in adopting an area or would like to learn more about the Campus Beautification Committee, please visit http://www.csub.edu/about_csub/beautify/.

Nothing to do?
Check Out These and Other CSUB Events

February 28
Wendy Wayne Awards
Black History Month Finale

March 3
Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra
History Forum - What Do Politics have to do with Starving Millions?

March 4
Recyclemania E-Waste Drive
Math Field Day Awards
Men’s Basketball vs. Grand Canyon
(Senior Night – final regular season game)

March 10
18th Annual Student Research Competition

Find these and other academic, alumni, arts & culture, campus life, community, or athletics events on RunnerCal. Access the calendar from our home page by clicking the “Calendar of Events” link at the bottom of the page. Plan an event using the 25Live online scheduling program.

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 Friday, March 17, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. 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