Colleagues,

Our faculty are producing regionally relevant research in top notch journals.

Assistant Professor Chandranath Basak in the Department of Geological Sciences is the first author of a high-impact paper recently published in the prestigious journal *Science*. The international, peer-reviewed journal *Science* is one of the world's top academic journals, with an impact factor of 37.205. The moratorium on announcing this paper has been lifted today (standard for a high-impact paper in *Science* or *Nature*), and Chandranath has already given a phone interview about this paper to a news organization from Boston. From the press release: “A recent study published in the journal *Science* by CSUB Assistant Professor Chandranath Basak and his colleagues from Max Planck Research Group for Marine Isotope Geochemistry, University of Oldenburg, Germany, Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Germany and Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University provides direct evidence for a slow and layered deep ocean at the peak of the last glacial period, also known as the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM; ~21,000 years ago). Basak, the lead author of the paper said ‘A slow ocean possibly helped in storing a lot of carbon in the deep ocean during this time period’. The LGM is a time when there was three times more ice on the continents than today. Since much of the water was stored as ice, the sea level dropped by about 120m. Global temperatures were about 4°C lower than today.”

William “Chris” Krugh, Department of Geological Sciences “Geomorphic constraints on the incision history of the lower Kern River, southern Sierra Nevada, California” was accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed, international journal, *Geosphere*. The paper was co-written with former CSUB graduate student Blake Foreshee. Blake is now an engineering geologist with the California Department of Conservation in the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources in Ventura, CA. Their research identified multiple pulses of erosion along the lower Kern River that are interpreted to reflect the complex history of subsidence and uplift experienced by the southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Basin. These pulses of river incision contributed to the formation of the Kern Canyon and sculpted the Kern River gorge.

CSUB 2016 MS graduate Rachel Tiner and Geology Emeritus Professor Rob Negrini (together with colleagues from the Desert Research Institute in Reno and the Centro de Estudios Avanzados en Zonas Aridas in Chile) coauthored a recently published paper in the international, peer-reviewed *Journal of Quaternary Science*. The research is based upon Rachel's geology MS thesis. The paper presents some of the first evidence that the great Northern Hemisphere cooling event at 8200 years B.P. affected climate systems south of the Equator. Their results are consistent with global climate models that predict severely weakened westerly winds in the southern hemisphere at this time. It's likely then that the severely weakened westerlies allowed easterly incursion of storms over the Andean crest to affect the high altitude lakes they studied in the Chilean Andes. Rachel's research fellowship and some travel was funded by the CREST grant. Some of her travel and most of the analyses was supported by another NSF research grant that Dr. Negrini procured.


Jeanine Kraybill, Political Science worked with the local bar association to bring the interactive play *Defamation The Play* to campus. It was a thought-provoking portrayal of an African American woman who
sued a Jewish man for defamation. When it came time to decide on the case, the judge turned to the audience and asked the audience to vote on whether she proved the case. He then led a discussion with the audience about the issues of race, gender, privilege, and socio-economic status. I was proud that CSUB is demonstrating how to host public discussions on the issues of our times in a collegial environment with civil discourse. Oh, and in the end I estimate 2/3’s of the audience thought she made the case of defamation.

**New BPA Dean Guna** conceived of and initiated the First Annual School of Business and Public Administration Research Conference with sessions involving student research and BPA faculty presentations on their research. They hosted a keynote speaker, Rajrani Kalra from CSU San Bernardino’s Geography and Environmental Studies Department who spoke on “High Technology & Siliconization of Indian Cities: A case Study of Bengaluru, India”. Thank you to all of the faculty and staff who helped with the organization of the event and who are increasing their research activity and output: **Lori Paris, Margaret Malixi, David Olson, Tony Pallitto, BJ Moore, Ji Li, Hossein Bidgoli, Jinping Sun, Richard S. Gearhart III, Jing Wang, Nyakundi Michieka, Steven Daniels, Jeremy Woods, Leonard Williams, John Deal, Caleb Leininger, and Di Wu.**

**Dean Curt Asher** launched our First Annual Author Showcase and Book Signing. The books represented were a diverse array of personal stories, textbooks, and research. We intend to host this event each year and recognize any faculty and staff who author a book in 2018. So, let Curt know when your book is published so we can celebrate your work.

The CSUB Alumni Hall of Fame, an event begun under **President Mitchell’s** leadership, inducted four new incredible alumni. Hearing their contributions and dedication to our community was truly inspiring. We are proud to call **Debbie Wood, BS Nursing and MA Education; Ed Paine, BS Business Administration; Bryan Burrow, MBA; and Jeremy Adams, MA Education** OUR alumni!

The CSUB Alumni Rising Runner recognized another quartet of outstanding alumni who are up-and-coming early contributors: **Michael Pawloski, BA Communications and Theater and Master of Social Work; Ryan Drakos, BA Political Science and MBA; Katie O’Sullivan, BS Geology; and Derek Abbott, MBA. So proud of OUR alumni!**

This month we’ve hosted many events associated with Black History Month: a Unity Breakfast where the students awarded **President Mitchell** with a Unity Award for his dedication to diversity, our second annual Gospel Fest which gave a new meaning to rocking the Icardo Center, and several special academic speakers were brought to campus.

**The Library hosted another Walter Presents:** “Rethinking Native Health: The Power of Data and Story.” We learned about the state of health care in America as part of the library’s Native Voices project. Most of the treaties between the United States and tribes include a provision to send a doctor and a nurse to a reservation. That’s become the Indian Health Service. How does that work? And what are the prospects going forward? Award-winning investigative journalist Mark Trahant discussed the state of health care in America as part of the library's Native Voices project. In fact he was to receive an award in Washington, DC the very night he was scheduled to visit us for the talk. And he chose CSUB!
Once again Chinese New Year was celebrated with food, a song by the Children’s Center kiddos, and the Lion Dance led by **Mathematics Department Chair David Gove** and two students from his Kung Fu studio. Thank you to all the organizers: **Jun-Ying Mao** who chaired the event and **Dean Mark Novak, Huaqing Huang, Charlene Hu, Di Wu, Charles Lam, Kris Krishnan, David Leonides, Sonia Silva, Terezita Overduin, Ying Zhong, Bilin Zeng, Emily Poole, Chris Shiery, David Gove, Mike Kwon, and Songpin Yan.**

February is complete; looking forward to March.

In this year of “Inspiring Excellence, Transforming Lives” it is great to be a ‘Runner!

Jenny

Jenny Zorn, PhD
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs