MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

The year 2002 was a productive one for the College of Engineering and Computer Science. Over the past year, we were pleased to welcome eight new faculty members to the College – five in computer science, one in civil engineering, one in mechanical engineering and one in electrical and electronic engineering. The College is now recruiting for twelve more faculty to start in Fall 2003. Along with arrivals, we also recognized a departure. Dr. Joan Al-Kazily, professor of civil engineering and immediate past chair of the Department of Civil Engineering, retired after 18 years at CSUS.

The College has experienced moderate growth in enrollment to just under 3,000 students. Last September, our undergraduate program was ranked in the top fifty among non-Ph.D. granting institutions by U.S. News and World Report. In addition to external recognition, the College of Engineering and Computer Science’s faculty and students continue to hold leadership positions campus-wide. For the academic year 2002-03, the Faculty Senate Chair and the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) President are both from the College of Engineering and Computer Science. Bob Buckley, a full-time lecturer in the Department of Computer Science, is serving his fourth year in his faculty-elected post as chair of the Faculty Senate, while Eric Guerra, a senior EEE student, is finishing his year as the president of the student body. This dual leadership is quite rare, especially in a comprehensive state university.

During the calendar year 2003, all seven of our undergraduate programs will undergo review for re-accreditation. The Construction Management Program will be reviewed by ACCE in March 2003 while Civil, Mechanical, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Electrical, Computer Engineering, and Computer Science will be reviewed by ABET in Fall 2003. Faculty and staff of the College are busy preparing the self-study reports for the review, and we expect a very successful outcome. A special thanks is due to the members of the College’s Industry Advisory Board (see page 3) for all their advice and support as we prepare for our program reviews.

Lastly, I would like to thank all our alumni, friends, supporters, and volunteers for all they do for us. The faculty and staff of the College still pursue the mission and goals which were set nearly 50 years ago. On behalf of the entire College, I wish you a very successful 2003. Please come back and see us when you can.

BRAJA M. DAS
DEAN
The College of Engineering and Computer Science's Industry Advisory Board (IAB) is composed of respected members from industry and government. The IAB's mission is to provide input, advice and assistance to the College's administration and its faculty in the following areas:

- Future direction of the College with respect to its mission and goals
- Effective direction and growth of the accredited academic programs and curriculum development to implement improvements
- Establish mutually productive partnerships with industry, the community, government agencies, and other educational institutions to achieve beneficial results
- Create, recruit, retain and graduate quality students
- Faculty and staff professional development
- Current and future needs of industry

The mission of the College of Engineering and Computer Science is to provide high-quality education that transforms students into professionals. These graduates will contribute to the technological knowledge, progress, well-being, and development of the Capital Region and the state of California.

The College goals are to:

- Educate a diverse population of students for entry-level positions in the basic fields of engineering, computer science, mechanical engineering technology, and construction management.
- Educate students for advanced degrees in selected fields of engineering and computer science.
- Assist engineering and computer science professionals to maintain currency in their fields by providing professional extension courses in new and evolving areas of technology.
- Assist industry and government agencies in the region and state in solving their technical problems.
- Conduct research in engineering and computer science.

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- Current and future needs of industry

**DID YOU KNOW?**

CSUS ECS was the first public university in California to offer a master’s degree in software engineering.

CSUS has 28,558 students this year, the most ever. That’s up from 23,481 five years ago.

CSUS has a resource base of about $322 million annually. About $194 million - including $42 million in student fees - is from the state’s general fund. Much of the remainder is from gifts, grants, contracts and special revenue.
Eric Guerra still knows the night janitors at the University Union by name.

He was one of them once, vacuuming the same office he now occupies as president of Associated Students, Inc.

But Guerra’s road to graduation is much longer than that.

The oldest of Zeferino and Amparo Guerra’s three children, he was born in Jeruhuaro in the Mexican state of Michoacan. His family crossed the border illegally, in 1981, when he was four.

His parents picked figs, peaches, oranges, tomatoes, sometimes with Eric beside them in the heat.

From them, he learned about hard work. Though they were not able to complete their educations in Mexico, they insisted he study hard.

You could also say, too, that it was his parents who gave him his sense of optimism, of possibility — and his sense of humor. For instance, when Eric was in first grade, his family was deported. On the way back to Mexico, his mother made a special stop: Disneyland.

Eric grew up, largely, with a life straddling different worlds: Mexico and the United States, his school life in Esparto and life with his family.

“I always felt like I was less than anybody else,” Guerra says. “I always felt like I was overlooked. There was a point when I questioned my identity.”

“But the more I thought about it, the more I realized I get to enjoy the culture, the language and all of the history of Mexico, but with all of this opportunity.”

Growing up, Guerra was active in Little League and in Boy Scouts. In high school, he wrestled, played football, showed livestock with his Future Farmers of America chapter, took part in Spanish Club and got hooked on student government.

Guerra credits his close friend Danny Enos with helping him navigate the gap between his Latino roots and the sometimes-overwhelming American culture.

After graduating high school in 1996, Guerra took advantage of another bridge, the MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement) program, which helped vastly improve his math skills when he arrived at CSUS.

Still, there came a time when Guerra felt he was “spinning his wheels” and became disillusioned with school. He says he was like so many minority students — “I found I was one of those statistics, I felt like I wanted to leave.”

A trip to the academic advising office would change all of that.

Guerra became involved with helping other students and, soon enough, was “engulfed” by student government. He’d found a sense of purpose, acting as everything from an advocate of academic competition teams to a strong voice in the ongoing efforts to create affordable student housing.

Guerra acknowledges that it’s rare for an engineering major to be so involved in student government. There’s an unfortunate stigma, he says, that engineers aren’t good communicators; that, in turn, destroys the confidence of engineers who might like to be more involved.

In fact, he points out, engineers do work well in teams: “There’s no one person who developed Microsoft.”

As president, Guerra, now 24, is responsible for an $8.2 million budget. Along with
that, he balances, as best he can, the other duties of his office along with his academic schedule. He carries a change of clothes in a backpack at all times and sometimes sleeps in his office.

To be sure, it’s not easy. “But,” he says, “it’s worth it if you love what you do.”

“You can’t do everything is the biggest realization,” Guerra says. “Sometimes I find the schedule is managing my life.”

Raja Das, dean of the CSUS College of Engineering and Computer Science, credits Guerra with the revitalization of the ECS Joint Student Council and applauds his work on and off campus.

“He is and will continue to be an outstanding ambassador for this College for years,” Das says. “His leadership ability will take him a long way.”

Guerra’s brother, Alex, a mechanical engineering major with a weakness for old cars, and his sister, Vanessa, a civil engineering major who works in the student government office, have since arrived to keep big brother in line.

“They put me in my place,” Eric says. “It’s easy to get egotistical and think you’re above every other student, but you’re not. You’re just another student. They remind me of that and remind me the other students are the ones paying me.”

Guerra’s family, which was given amnesty in 1989, has prospered in California. His father continues to work in the tomato industry as a welder, while his mother has completed her A.A. degree from DQ University and will be pursuing a bachelor’s degree in early childhood development at CSUS or UCD.

For his part, Eric plans to attend graduate school.

He’s also penciled in a few other items onto his schedule: “Getting my engineering license. Then, maybe running for school board. Then, city council, state assembly, maybe Congress – it all depends.”

Guerra pauses, clearly aware of where he stands, at a crossroads between a humble start and lofty ambitions.

Then, he adds, smiling, “I like helping people out.”

As his spring graduation approaches, Julia Smith can probably forgive her son, Fahnmusa Jangaba, for wiping out the operating system on her IBM.

Before he even knew what a computer engineering major was and before he ever made that his major at CSUS, Jangaba admits he did more than a little tinkering with his mom’s home computer.

“I always messed around with it and messed it up,” he says. “But I could always bring it back.”

A dean’s list student, Jangaba is also the student director of Engineering and Computer Science for Associated Students, Inc. and president of the ECS Joint Student Council, which includes all student professional organizations, clubs, and competitive teams within the College.

How he came to engineering is a story all its own, one in which, piece by piece, things have fallen into place.

When his mother divorced, Jangaba left his native Liberia with her for Italy and, later, the United States. After four years of living with his aunt on the East Coast, in 1994 Fahnmusa joined his mom in Sacramento, where she’d taken a job with the county.

He quickly learned he’d have to pull his own weight around the house, doing chores and generally growing up in a hurry. But by his own admission, he was not a stellar student at Kennedy High School, usually finishing his homework in front of the television.

However much he disliked math, he did like chemistry and science. Attending competitions with MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement) and his high school advisor Peter Juarez, helped intensify his interest.

At the time, Jangaba chose CSUS simply because he received some financial aid. Plus, it was close to home. An uncle, Titus Thomas, had earned his civil engineering degree from CSUS in 1996 and Jangaba had spent time with him on the campus.

Programs such as MEP (MESA Engineering Program) along with AMP (Alliance for Minority Participation), and professors like Lisa Taylor in calculus and Martin Meyers in computer science helped Jangaba learn better study skills and gain confidence.

He managed, with some work, to survive math after all.

“It’s not my favorite subject, but I learned to do it,” he says with a chuckle. “I was better at it in college than in high school, but I didn’t like it any more.”

Another important move turned out to be getting involved with clubs on campus.

“I’ve met a lot of people,” he says. “When I came here, I was kind of shy. Being a volunteer pushed me to be more outgoing. At first,
You may already be a fan of the BattleBot competition or you may have caught the competition on Comedy Central while channel surfing. BattleBots is a fast growing sport and their competitors come from all walks of life.

The infectious enthusiasm of this competition has spawned the organization of a new student interdisciplinary team. Students with interests in robotics and the thrill of the competition itself have come together to build a CSUS robot for the next BattleBot competition. This project was initiated by the ACM student organization and is led by ME student, Graham Ryland. The team shares a common passion for innovation and invention and since interdisciplinary collaboration is promoted, student participants span from the ASME, IEEE, and ACM organizations. The ME faculty advisors include: Prof Akihiko Kumagai, Prof. Susan Holl, and Prof. Patrick Homen.

The competition is comprised of remote-controlled robots fighting each other in a type of arena or “battlebox”. Scoring takes into account hits, aggressiveness and visible damage. It is also possible to win by disabling the opponent. The robots are broken up into four weight classes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Class Designation</th>
<th>More Than Measured Wt. Max.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lightweight</td>
<td>25 lbs. 60 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleweight</td>
<td>60 lbs. 120 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavyweight</td>
<td>120 lbs. 220 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Heavyweight</td>
<td>220 lbs. 340 lbs.</td>
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</tbody>
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One of the goals of BattleBots is to further the field of robotics through competition. In addition, the BattleBots program is geared to get young people interested in robotics, which is evidenced by the many toys, games, and after-school programs created by BattleBots.

The BattleBot project at CSUS provides the opportunity for ECS students to participate with faculty in research, while providing an opportunity for students to link theory and practice. The team will be entering the next competition in the heavyweight class. The robot will utilize a demolition hammer, donated from Atlas Copco, mounted horizontally, and will be capable of operating upside-down. Two heavy-duty wheelchair motors, donated by The Wheel Chair Center, will power the robot. Due to the hammer’s interchangeable bits, the BattleBot will be able to operate transposable weapons depending on each opponent’s weakness. The robot’s frame will be made up of steel while the body armor will consist of 1/8-inch titanium plating.

Donations of equipment are still needed to finish the robot. Items needed include: 1 x 2 sq. stock steel; 16 gauge titanium approx. 48 sq. feet; vibration damping materials; measuring devices (such as calipers, multimeters, 300 lb. scale); and new or used tools (such as titanium machining tools, an abrasive metal cut off saw, a plasma cutter, mig welder + tanks, cordless drills, metal drill bits). Store credit and/or cash donations are also needed to complete construction. All donations will go directly to the robot’s construction and are tax-deductible. If you can assist with any of these materials, please send e-mail to ecsalumni@ecs.csus.edu or call (916) 278-6629.

Please watch the project’s progression on the ECS website at http://www.ecs.csus.edu/students/acm/bbot/index.php.
CSUS has partnered with several organizations including the Sacramento Section of IEEE, Capital Center MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement), and SETRC (Sacramento Engineering and Technology Consortium) to offer an annual workshop for high school teachers interested in teaching pre-engineering concepts at the high school level.

The most recent workshop was held September 27-28, 2002, and attracted approximately 140 teachers, with more than 50 from high schools across California. This is the fourth year that CSUS has offered this workshop, and for the first-time, the program included more than 80 middle and elementary school teachers as well.

The workshop is designed to promote engineering and technology education, by motivating high school teachers to develop and offer pre-engineering curricula. During the workshop, the teachers spend about half of their time working on interactive laboratory experiments designed to highlight engineering concepts. These experiments can be easily adapted and integrated into a pre-engineering high school curriculum. The experiments are followed up with discussions on pedagogy, the state's content standards for science, engineering and technology articulation, and project-based learning to stimulate interest in engineering and technology among high school students.

All teachers receive a laboratory manual, a textbook, and a take-home equipment kit. Approximately 30 faculty, students, and alumni from ECS lead the workshop. With funding from SETRC and MESA, all the teachers were provided with a stipend to attend the workshop.

Organized by the Chair of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, S.K. Ramesh, this K-12 engineering outreach program was the subject of an invited presentation on fostering campus collaborations at the IEEE Dean’s Summit II this January 2003 in Miami, Florida. Along with the Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, Rosemary Papalewis, and the Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Ric Brown, Prof. Ramesh presented CSUS’s teacher preparation workshop. Accompanying the CSUS team was local Center High School teacher, Mr. Jim Fritch. This program has a National Science Foundation proposal pending to expand the summer workshops in 2004 through 2007.

For more information on this program, you may contact Prof. Ramesh at (916) 278-6873 or rameshs@ecs.csus.edu.
New Department Chairs Effective July 1, 2002

CHRIS S. TOMINE is the new chair of the Department of Civil Engineering, succeeding Joan Al-Kazily who held the position since January 1997. Tomine came to CSUS directly from Oregon State University where he earned his M.S. degree in Physics and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, specializing in air pollution control. He earned his B.S. from UC Berkeley in Engineering Physics. Tomine has served in a number of capacities at CSUS during his 33-year tenure: professor of civil engineering; director of Asian-American Studies; director of the Faculty/Student Mentor Program; director of the Capitol Area MESA Program; and the director of Administration and Business Affairs for the University.

ESTELLE M. EKE is now serving as chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Eke succeeds Thin D. Ngo, who served as chair since the fall of 1996. A native of Sierra Leone, West Africa, Eke came to the U.S. in 1975. She received her B.S. degree from Purdue University and both her M.S. and Ph.D. from Rice University. In 1983 she became the first African-American woman to receive the Amelia Earhart Award, an award given each year to 30 women worldwide in aerospace-related sciences and engineering. After her graduate studies, Eke worked in industry as a maneuver analyst for the navigation systems section at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA. Prior to joining the CSUS faculty in 1990, she taught at Tuskegee University. Eke has served the department as the graduate coordinator from 1999-2002 as well as a mentor to students in the Cooper-Woodson program on campus.

NEW FACULTY spring 2002

The Department of Computer Science welcomes WEIDE CHANG as a new assistant professor. Chang received his Ph.D. from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and held the position of assistant professor at that institution. His M.S. degree is from CSUS and his B.S. degree is from the Chinese Culture University, Taipei. His research interests are in context sensitivity, forward compatibility, and smart devices and interfaces.

JINSONG OUYANG comes to the Department of Computer Science from a position as a research scientist and technical liaison for Hewlett-Packard. An assistant professor for the department, Ouyang received his Ph.D. from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. His M.A. and B.S. were both from the University of Electronic Science and Technology, China. His research interests include manageability, security, and reliability in distributed, networking, and embedded systems.

AHMED M. SALEM has joined the Department of Computer Science as an assistant professor. Dr. Salem received his Ph.D. from the Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, in which he also served as a research assistant. His M.S. is from CSU Chico, while his B.S. is from the University of Dayton, Ohio. His current research interests include software engineering, software testing, software design, software process improvement, software security, and information retrieval.

NEW FACULTY fall 2002

A. S. (ED) CHENG joins the Department of Mechanical Engineering as a new assistant professor. Cheng received his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley. He received dual M.S. degrees from M.I.T. and his B.S. from UCLA. Prior to coming to CSUS, he served as an instructor and research assistant at UC Berkeley. His current research interests include thermodynamics, combustion, internal combustion engines, and air quality engineering.

VAHL (SCOTT) GORDON comes to the Department of Computer Science from Sonoma State University, where he held the position of associate professor. Gordon holds a Ph.D. from Colorado State University and both his M.S. and B.S. from CSUS. He received a CSUS Alumni Honors Award in 1989. His research interests include artificial intelligence, genetic algorithms, neural networks, programming languages, database design, and software engineering.

TED D. KROVETZ is a new assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science. Krovetz’s Ph.D. is from UC Davis, his M.S. is from Oxford University and his B.S. is from Stanford University. Previously he held a lecturer position at UC Davis. His interests include cryptography, network security, and theoretical computer science.

The Department of Civil Engineering welcomes ABOLFAZL (KOuros) MOHAMMADIAN as assistant professor. Mohammadian earned his Ph.D. from University of Toronto. His M.S. is from Shiraz University of Technology, and his B.S. is from Iran University of Science and Technology. He has received two prestigious awards from the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) for his doctoral and postdoctoral research. His research interests include transportation, traffic engineering, travel demand modeling, decision-making process and choice behavior, data mining, and applied econometrics.

NEW FACULTY spring 2003

MILICA MARKOVIC joins the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering as an assistant professor. She comes to CSUS from Spectra Corporation where she was a senior design engineer. Previously she was a research professor at Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY. She received both her Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and her undergraduate degree (Dipl. Ing.) from University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Her academic interests include communication electronics and wireless transmission.

Each spring, the College of Engineering and Computer Science confers awards that honor and recognize achievement for outstanding teaching, research and service. The 2002 awards were recognized at a reception in May.

Outstanding Teacher: Prof. Gui Zhang, Department of Computer Science, Outstanding Scholar: Prof. Ralph Huang, Department of Civil Engineering, Outstanding Service: Prof. Anne-Louise Rodinsky, Department of Computer Science, Outstanding Staff: Denise Nichols, ECS Dean’s Office

(L to R) Gui Zhang, Anne-Louise Rodinsky, and Ralph Huang. (Not pictured: Denise Nichols)
The ECS Construction Management (CM) program has been awarded a $30,000 first-place grant by the Construction Employers’ Association (CEA), which annually awards grants to deserving universities as part of its Construction Management University Grant Program. This represents the fifth consecutive year that CEA has recognized our CM program with a grant award.

For the 2002 program year, the CEA Construction Management University Grant Program Committee evaluated grant applications from five universities based on such factors as impact to the building construction industry and quality of the grant proposal. In addition to CSUS, the other universities that received grant funding from CEA included the UC Berkeley; Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo; Chico State; and Stanford University.

CEA presented CSUS with the 2002 Donald L. Warmby Leadership Award in recognition of its first place grant award. CSUS’ grant will be used to develop CDs, construction props, and construction materials samples, and to catalogue the contents of the construction library. In addition, the program will receive funding for student academic achievement scholarship awards.

Donald Warmby, who passed away last year, was instrumental in initiating CEA’s Construction Management University Program to support and promote quality construction management education and to develop long-term relationships with the participating universities.

Professor Tom Matthews of the EEE department presented a paper at the 32nd ASEE/IEEE Conference explaining the advantages of this plan that creates differing, yet complementary roles for laboratory spaces. The Teaching Laboratory is designed to support group instruction of beginning students, while the Projects Laboratory can support simultaneous work on diverse projects.

The remodel project was first envisioned during the summer of 2000. Partial support was obtained from the State of California’s Strategic Workforce Initiative, allowing infrastructure improvements to begin during the summer of 2001. The completed Teaching and Projects Laboratories were opened to students at the start of the fall 2002 semester, and a grand opening event was held on October 4, 2002 to showcase the project and thank its sponsors.

Every January 1, we start a new year and resolve to use it wisely. One of the wisest gifts you can give your family is to put your affairs in order. Are your will and estate plan current?

One of the most important gifts you can give to future generations is a bequest in your will for CSUS. Your gift will help to continue the tradition of affordable educational excellence and touch the lives of countless students.

For more information about making a bequest to CSUS, contact Sheila Hard in University Advancement at (916) 278-4079; write to 7750 College Town Drive, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95826-2344; or e-mail advancement@csus.edu.
CORPORATE PARTNER

The College of Engineering and Computer Science is fortunate to have many corporate partners. It is no wonder why. The Capitol Region is home to many high-tech companies and to federal, state, city and county agencies that employ CSUS graduates.

The University currently educates nearly 30,000 students each year, approximately 3,000 or 10% by the College of Engineering and Computer Science. The College’s leadership role takes on even more importance with the knowledge that some 50% of California’s engineers are educated by the California State University system. California, in turn, produces about 10% of the nation’s engineers.

The educational challenge is great. Intel is one of our greatest educational supporters. This partnership is expressed in many ways – through graduate hires, participation in cooperative education programs, leadership on several College Industry Advisory Boards, and through monetary and equipment donations.

Over the last two years, Intel has contributed over $215,000 to the College of Engineering and Computer Science both in cash gifts and equipment donations. With the amount of state funds decreasing, private support is more valuable than ever.

Intel has provided leadership support to one unique program in the College. The MESA Engineering Program (MEP) Honors Partnership (MHP), formerly known as Project Success, received funds from Intel in the fall of 2002 to expand the CSUS MEP program to CSU San Jose, UC Davis, and UC San Diego. The MHP office is housed at CSUS and will provide services to MEP students in all four universities.

MHP started in June 1991 with originally 17 industry sponsors and 22 students. Coordinated by Jaime White, the program organizes students’ work and class schedules from the summer before the freshman year through graduation. The program provides students with the opportunity to work during the summer and course breaks, enabling them to attend school full-time without the added pressure of part-time employment. The result is a significant reduction in the average time to complete an engineering degree. Over the past 12 years, 114 students have been sponsored by regional companies and agencies.

Two scholarship programs have continued through Intel’s generosity. The Intel Undergraduate Scholarship program has continued in its fourth and final year. This program provided $2,000 annual renewable scholarships to students from their freshman year through graduation. In addition, Intel continues to fund the Level One Communications Scholarship, which supports students majoring in electrical and electronic engineering. Special thanks for Patrick Isakanian for assisting in this scholarship. The corporate commitment continues in spite of Intel’s acquisition of Level One.

Intel also supports ECS’s highly-regarded MEP through program support and student scholarship assistance. MEP Director Madeleine Fish cites Linda Wells-Hott, Intel Folsom Education Manager, as one of the key reasons for Intel’s continued partnership. “Many of the MEP programs and student services exist solely on external support from industry and alumni. Linda knows the value of our programs and continues to advocate for more dollars to higher education. We are indeed fortunate to have her on our team.”

Lastly, Intel continues to assist ECS in maintaining its state-of-the-art facilities. This year, the Departments of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Computer Science have both been recipients of equipment donations. In Computer Science, five workstations have been donated to support the establishment of the Software Testing Research Center, headed by Prof. Ahmed Salem. This equipment helps support the more formal software engineering and testing courses set to begin in 2003-04.

The College’s faculty, staff and students thank all those at Intel for their continued support.

CORPORATE WORKPLACE LUNCHEON: AEROJET

CSUS reaches out to its alumni in many ways. One such program is the new Corporate Workplace Luncheon series, a program geared toward companies that employ Sac State graduates. The series provides a way to bring the campus to alums at their workplace.

Last August, CSUS hosted approximately 50 Aerojet employees at a lunch at their Folsom site. Sac State administrators, faculty and staff provided updates on current campus happenings, cultural events, and athletics programs. Awards were given for such milestones as ‘oldest alum,’ along with a raffle for Sac State paraphernalia and a weekend getaway for two.

Aerojet was chosen to kick-off the 2002-03 luncheon series because it boasts nearly 150 active employees who are CSUS graduates. Aerojet and its corporate giving arm, GenCorp Foundation, are longtime supporters of CSUS; over the past two decades, the firm and its Foundation have made contributions and equipment donations valued at nearly $575,000.

In the College of Engineering and Computer Science, two endowed scholarships were started in GenCorp’s name—one open to all E&CS students, and one designated only for mechanical engineering majors. At CSUS, endowed scholarships are established with gifts of $10,000 and above. This year GenCorp contributed $11,500 to ECS benefiting the MEP and Project Success/MHP programs, along with providing crucial support to upgrade the mechanical engineering labs.

If you are interested in having CSUS come to your corporate workplace, please contact Mary Currey, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations for the University at (916) 278-3658 or e-mail curreym@csus.edu.
ALUMNI PROFILE:
ORIN BENNETT

By Cary Golden

Orin Bennett will be the first to admit it took time to appreciate what California State University, Sacramento gave him.

Bennett, the 54-year-old principal and vice president of MHM Engineers and Surveyors, built his career on a foundation of knowledge from CSUS. And as the first in his family to earn a college degree, he is proud of his education. Just before he graduated with his civil engineering degree in 1971, he met his future wife and mother of his two children, Claire, in a CSUS music class.

But it was only once he actually began hiring engineers that he recognized a pattern. “I’ve hired engineering students from Cal, UC Davis, Cal Poly, Sac State, Chico State, and UOP, and — consistently — the engineers from the CSU system are better producers from the beginning,” he says. “Don’t misunderstand, the graduates of other universities are smart and well educated, but they are not as well prepared to be producers at the beginning of their careers.

“I feel that the excellence of the engineering college at Sac State is not as well recognized as it should be — part of the reason for my involvement is my passion for that recognition.”

There’s something else Bennett has noticed. Even with all the skill gained from their education, CSUS graduates are modest about their alma mater.

Says Bennett, “I think some graduates think, ‘I only went to Sac State – how can I be special?’ We need to get over that. CSUS Engineering and Computer Science graduates don’t stamp on their forehead where they graduated like they might had they graduated from Cal or Stanford, but many have excelled and, in some ways, received a better education. I want CSUS graduates to be proud of that.”

After two years at Shasta College, paying his way with summer jobs, he came to CSUS, then a much smaller cluster of one-story buildings. To Bennett, who grew up in Anderson, Calif., the campus seemed big and as beautiful then as it is today.

Classes could be daunting, too. “I was not a gifted student, so I had to spend a significant amount of time studying,” he says. “I realized I had to work hard to compete. There were three kinds of students, it seemed: those who were smart and didn’t study, those who were smart and studied, and those of us that had to put in long study hours.”

Bennett credits a number of CSUS professors and instructors for providing guidance along the way: Dr. Norm Castellan, Dr. Joseph Paduana, and Dr. Ken Kerri.

One of Bennett’s classmates was Mike Smith, now his partner at MHM Engineers and Surveyors. Smith joined MHM upon his graduation in 1971 and rose to president of the company.

Bennett would first be one of four employees to open the Sacramento office of the international engineering firm of CH2M Hill. Bennett left to start Moldenhauer Bennett & Co., which merged with Psomas and Associates only to end up working alongside Smith at MHM.

In 1995, Bennett joined MHM, because “it was a practice that allowed me to work on projects again.” Smith, who oversees MHM’s Marysville office, and Bennett, who opened the Roseville office, have similar business philosophies: “Proper business decisions and company success become more likely when philosophies align,” Bennett says.

Their company, with its 35 or so employees, has an annual volume of $3 to $4 million.

Bennett says MHM stays small intentionally, allowing for good client service, and the opportunity to be selective about the work the company undertakes.

Among the more recent projects for MHM, which traces its roots back to 1892, are the Yuba County Motorplex, facilitation of the city of Lincoln Highway 65 Bypass, some major water projects for the city of Roseville, and a regional sewer project serving an area from Nevada County north of Auburn, to the city of Lincoln.

Bennett “came back” to CSUS, when he joined the College’s Industry Advisory Board in 1990 at the invitation of former dean Don Gillott. He later joined the Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Chapter and became a member of the CSUS Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Braja Das, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science, calls Bennett “one of the finest alumni of this College, one whose dedication and service is unparalleled. His uncompromising faith that this college will someday be known as ‘the best in the west’ has continued to amaze me. He is truly a friend of the college and CSUS.”

Bennett says it’s been rewarding to be able to give advice based on experience, and that he continues to be impressed with how CSUS professors turn out well-prepared graduates who stand out at Caltrans, Intel, Hewlett-Packard, and at many other companies in the Sacramento area. That, he says, “speaks volumes about the program.”

Whether it’s by donation, by speaking to classes, by sitting on a board or by hiring CSUS graduates, Bennett says alumni have an obligation to the university.

“There’s a need, if not a responsibility, to give back to the institution that educated you,” Bennett says. “And you can do that in a lot of ways, and all of them are outstanding ways to give back.”

For details on how you can get involved with your alma mater, contact Orin at obbennett@mhm-rose.com or ecsalumni@ecs.csus.edu.
PAST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS HONORED

ECS alumni Scott W. Maxwell, ’85 CM (left), and the late Ronald W. Smith, B.S. ’62 CE, MBA ’67, M.S. ’96 CE (right), along with the other 37 past presidents of the CSUS Alumni Association, were honored during the dedication ceremony of the Past President’s Photo Gallery. Since the inception of the Alumni Association in July 1950, former students and graduates of the University have performed important functions for the Alumni Association to enhance the interaction among alumni, students, the community and the university. The photo gallery is permanently located in the lobby of the Steven Lee Yamshon Alumni Center.

Ran Smith served as association president from 1995-96. A room in the Yamshon Alumni Center is dedicated to his memory. Scott Maxwell served as president from 1999-2000. Scott is currently the Vice President for Unger Construction Company in Sacramento.

ALUMNI NOTABLE

Dr. Sia Nemat-Nasser, B.S. ’60 CE, was honored by ASME International (The American Society of Mechanical Engineers) with the Society’s Nadai Medal for outstanding theoretical and experimental research in a wide range of material systems and investigations into various phenomena. The medal, established in 1975, recognizes distinctive contributions to the field of engineering materials and was presented during the 2002 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition held in New Orleans, La., November 17 through 22.

Dr. Nemat-Nasser received his master’s in civil engineering and his doctorate in engineering at UC Berkeley, in 1961 and 1964, respectively. He began his teaching career as an assistant professor of civil engineering at CSUS from 1961-62. After earning his doctorate, he spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow and senior research engineer at Northwestern University before accepting an assistant professor position at UC San Diego, where, in 1969 he was promoted to tenured associate professor. He returned to Northwestern University as professor in 1970 and then returned to UC San Diego in 1985, where he has remained.

In Memoriam

Dr. Howard L. Hartman, first dean of engineering at CSUS, died in January 2002 at age 77. Born in Indianapolis in 1924, he attended the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Co., from 1942-1944. He later earned a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in mining engineering from Penn State University. He received his doctorate from the University of Minnesota. After serving as a mining instructor at University of Minnesota, he held faculty posts at Penn State, the University of Alabama, Colorado School of Mines and Sacramento State. Dr. Hartman served CSUS as dean from 1967-1971 and also served as dean of engineering at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tn. After his retirement in 1989, he and his wife of 55 years, Bonnie Hartman, returned to Sacramento because of its proximity to Yosemite.

Dr. Vishnu Agaskar of the Department of Civil Engineering passed away on July 1, 2002. Born in Mumbai (Bombay), India in 1936, he showed a great passion for the technical arts from an early age. After studying engineering in India, he came to the U.S. to complete his master’s and Ph.D. at Stanford University. Following his studies, he accepted a professorship at CSUS where he taught, and served in roles including Department Chair and Graduate Adviser, for 31 years. He retired in May 2002 and he looked forward to spending time with his family, and in pursuing travel, woodworking, theatre and fine wine. His devotion to academics and his students was only preceded by his love for his family: wife Evelyn of 28 years, his daughter Maya, and his son Rajan. The Agaskar family invites those wishing to memorialize Vishnu to make donations in his name to the CSUS Engineering General Fund, c/o CSUS Trust Foundation, College of Engineering and Computer Science, 6000 J Street RVR 2014, Sacramento, CA 95819.

ALUMNI HONORS

Five ECS alumni were recognized for professional and personal achievements at the CSUS Alumni Association’s 2002 Alumni Honors Luncheon. Pictured left to right, the 2002 honorees were: Terry Murphy, B.S. ’88 EE, currently a supervising transportation engineer with Caltrans. David Ferguson, B.S. ’88 CS, who recently started his own company and was formerly with DST Output as the VP for Product Development. Carol Reed, B.S. ’81 CM, has her general contractor’s license and is currently a part-time project manager for Unger Construction Company. Nathaniel Martin, B.S. ’92 IE, the energy conservation coordinator for the CSUS Facilities Management Department. Andrew Lindsey, B.S. ’00 EEE, design engineer for Parallax, Inc. in Rocklin, CA.
A couple of years ago, Mark Williams of Fairfield brought the Armijo High School wrestling team to stand on the bank of the American River.

There, just a few paces from the Guy West Bridge on the Sac State campus, he showed them a small but handsome monument declaring that, in November 1985, Mark “The Wing” Williams threw a rock 497 feet, across the river.

The wrestlers tried and failed, to match his feat. Splash, splash, splash.

“They needled their coach until he tried, too. Plunk, into the water,” Williams says. “If the marker wasn’t there, I don’t think they would have believed it. ‘I could never do it again. My arm’s long gone. I’m sure there will never be a repeat performance.’”

Maybe not by Williams. But over the years, others have tried. Some say they knew someone who did it, too, but they can never seem to place the name.

“It’s not quite George Washington throwing a silver dollar, but throwing a rock across the river has become, in its own way, a sort of campus tradition,” Williams says.

Student groups have held rock-throwing contests. Brandon Kline, a junior government major from San Luis Obispo, took part as a freshman and said Associated Students, Inc., has talked about a contest this spring.

Kline, a former baseball pitcher, felt confident he could manage the throw, but covered no more than three-quarters of the distance. Of the more than 50 people who took part in 2000, he says, none made the toss when he was there (“some people came close”), though one person practicing almost hit another.

Interestingly enough, the tradition began in a surveying class taught by longtime civil engineering instructor John German.

As German tells it, students standing around before the lab portion of the class would take to trying to out-do each other with their throws. A number, including Williams, were athletes, and there was more than a little pride at stake.

One day, Williams said to German, “Hey, I want to show you this,” then made his throw.

Not a ripple of water. The stone had made it across.

“Man, that was cool,” says German. “It was an amazing thing to see.”

Williams says his throws across were a bit lucky. “I did it overhand, it was almost like throwing a Frisbee. The rocks were heavy enough to throw but light enough to catch the air current and really carry,” he says.

But German says his former student managed the throw consistently. Since the course is a surveying class, German set his students to measure the toss; hence the precise number on the marker.

Williams’ classmates were so impressed, German says, they wanted to purchase a monument. German insisted he’d pay for it himself.

A framed photo of Williams still sits in German’s office on campus, and German requires his surveying students to measure distances to and from the “famous monument.”

Over the years, German says maybe three others have made the throw.

“It’s a Superman throw,” he says. “People can’t resist throwing a rock — especially guys — and to see the look on their face when it only goes halfway … well, it’s a lot further than it looks.”

Don’t expect anyone to make the toss anytime soon, either, German said. Recent work along the levee has left behind “just little baby rocks – the old ones were flat and twice as big – it’s kind of like trying to throw a feather. They just won’t go.”

Williams, now the 38-year-old owner of Williams Construction, a general contractor specializing in custom homes, says someday he’ll be happy to bring his wife, Leslie, and kids Rachel, Michael and Brad to see the monument.

Sure, he won’t able to repeat the toss. But what a thing to be remembered for.

“Forget all the engineering and wrestling,” laughs The Wing, “it’s throwing a rock.”
The classes of ‘63, ‘71, ‘86, ‘91 and 2000 were surveyed for this issue of New Dimensions. Please feel free to send your update to ecsalumni@ecs.csus.edu.

1963

DAVID L. KELLY, CE, is the Vice President, Chief Engineer for Meadow Burke Products in Sacramento. He has been with the company for 42 years. He is married and has five children.

W. MARTIN ROCHE, ’64 CE, is retired from the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and Turlock Irrigation District. He is currently self-employed doing water resources consulting work. Mr. Roche received his MS degree from Stanford University in 1965 (wmroche@aol.com).

1971

DONALD BLACHLY, ME, works for Coso Operating Company LLC and is the manager of Performance Engineering. He had been the site manager of the Coso Geothermal Plant, a 250 net MW geothermal plant, for the past six years (don@blachly.com).

BILL CLARK, EEE, now retired, and has worked for Hughes Aircraft, Texas Instruments, E Systems and Raytheon. He received his MS from CSU Northridge in 1976 and has worked primarily on aircraft avionics including radars, IRCM, ECM, communications, and navigational aids (bandsclark@hot.rr.com).

JOHN A. HANSEN, EEE, has been an engineer with Boeing for 29 years. He received his MS in EEE in 1973 from CSUS and reports that his last ten years in Boeing’s Flight and Lab Test have been the most fun (john.hansen3@attbi.com).

RICHARD HEIDENREICH, EEE, is the President of Texas Medical Equipment, LLC. He received an MS in EE from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1975 and a MA in Management from Webster University in 1979. He has nine children and 20 grandchildren.

ALAN T. INGHAM, CE, has worked for the California Department of Toxic Substances Control for the past 20 years. He received his MS in CE from CSUS in 1973 and reports that his education has served him well as he got into various building, drainage and water/wastewater management projects on his ranch south of Mather Regional Park (aingham@dsc.ca.gov).

1986

RANDY ANDERSON, CE, has been working for the California Dept. of Transportation for the past 16 years as a senior engineer. Married to wife Molly for 12 years, they have two children, Lauren, 8, and Robert, 5 (RMLRand@aol.com).

JOHN S. BAILEY, ME, earned his PE in mechanical engineering in 1997 and opened his private practice, JS Business and Engineering Solutions, Inc., in 2000 (jsbailey13@cs.com).

1993

WILLIAM S. JOHNSON, M.S./CE, is retired. He and his wife Bonnie have two daughters, Dr. Kim Johnson and Terry Johnson, MBA (dseahawk@tomatoweb.com).

DENNIS E. O’HARA, ME, is retired and working part-time as a remodeler. He is the father of eight, three in college, two graduated. He has been married for 27 years to Bronwyn. He is the inventor of a smart control valve that could measure flow rate, upstream and downstream pressure, temperature, and two-phase flow, with an on board computer and network communication (dennisiohara17@hotmail.com).

CURTIS A. RIGGS, EEE, retired in 1986 after completing 22 years with the USAF. He received his MS in 1973 from the U.S. Air Force Institute of Technology. During his career, he worked mostly with long-range detection systems for monitoring worldwide compliance with nuclear test ban treaties (curtriggs@juno.com).

MICHAEL SO, ME, has worked as the launch manager for 11 years with DaimlerChrysler. He received his MS in administration from Central Michigan University in 1997 (mxzso@aol.com).

LAWRENCE C. SPENCER, MS/CE, is retired from the California State Water Resources Control Board.

THOMAS STOUT, CE, is the principal transportation engineer for Stanley Consultants in Des Moines, IA and has been with the company for seven years. He received an MS in CE from the University of Nebraska in 1992.

1999

RICKY LEE CHADDOCK, CS, received his MS in Computer Science from CSUS in 1993. He has worked for United Defense in Fridley, MN as a senior staff engineer for the last seven years. He is married to CSUS alumna Lori Chaddock, and they have three children (RickR-Lori.net).

CINDY ELLING PRISCARO, CS, is working for Hewlett-Packard in Mountain View, CA as an information technology engineer. She has been with HP for 16 years.

WILLIAM S. JOHNSON, M.S./CE, is retired. He and his wife Bonnie have two daughters, Dr. Kim Johnson and Terry Johnson, MBA (dseahawk@tomatoweb.com).

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1977

CINDY ELLING PRISCARO, CS, is working for Hewlett-Packard in Mountain View, CA as an information technology engineer. She has been with HP for 16 years.

BARBARA “BOBBIE” LEBECK, CE, is retired. She has worked in Medford, OR and is currently seeking mechanical/manufacturing employment. She has worked in a variety of organizations from regulatory, aerospace, satellite, OEM, metal and plastic industries. This has broadened her knowledge and taken her places she would have never pursued if it weren’t for her studies at CSUS (sjh_498@yahoo.com).

EMERY L. KELLY, CE, received his MS in CE in 1992. He works for Labet-Anderson, Inc. as a senior analyst in San Antonio, TX. He recently retired from the USAF after 24.5 years of service. He spent five months last year in Bahrain and Pakistan for OEF. He has been married for 21 years and he and his wife have three children – Chris 19, Bridget 17, and Meaghan 11 (nkelly@satx.rr.com).

KEITH D. KENWORTHY, CM, is an estimator and project manager for Westcon Construction Corp. and has been with the company two years (kenworthy@westconconstruction.com).

W. MARTIN ROCHE, ’64 CE, is retired from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Turlock Irrigation District. He is currently self-employed doing water resources consulting work. Mr. Roche received his MS degree from Stanford University in 1965 (wmroche@aol.com).

JOHN J. JEWETT, M.S./ME, is retired from Aerojet, where he worked on the team that constructed the propulsion system for the NEAR (Near Earth Asteriod Rendezvous). As a team member, he signed his name on the heat shield that was part of the spacecraft that landed on Asteriod Eros.

RICHARD HEIDENREICH, EEE, is the President of Texas Medical Equipment, LLC. He received an MS in EE from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1975 and a MA in Management from Webster University in 1979. He has nine children and 20 grandchildren.

ALAN T. INGHAM, CE, has worked for the California Department of Toxic Substances Control for the past 20 years. He received his MS in CE from CSUS in 1973 and reports that his education has served him well as he got into various building, drainage and water/wastewater management projects on his ranch south of Mather Regional Park (aingham@dsc.ca.gov).

MARCO A. BELL, CE, received his MS from CSUS in CE in 1999 and then received an MBA from Florida Atlantic University in 2000. He is currently the owner of Marco Water Engineering in Palm Beach, FL (marcorey@bellsouth.net).

RICKY LEE CHADDOCK, CS, received his MS in Computer Science from CSUS in 1993. He has worked for United Defense in Fridley, MN as a senior staff engineer for the last seven years. He is married to CSUS alumna Lori Chaddock, and they have three children (RickR-Lori.net).

CINDY ELLING PRISCARO, CS, is working for Hewlett-Packard in Mountain View, CA as an information technology engineer. She has been with HP for 16 years.

BRIAN HENDEL, ME, received a MS in Engineering Management from Washington State University in 2002. He is currently a senior systems engineer for TRW in Richmond, WA and has been with TRW for 15 years.

WILLIAM S. JOHNSON, M.S./CE, is retired. He and his wife Bonnie have two daughters, Dr. Kim Johnson and Terry Johnson, MBA (dseahawk@tomatoweb.com).

RANDY ANDERSON, CE, has been working for the California Dept. of Transportation for the past 16 years as a senior engineer. Married to wife Molly for 12 years, they have two children, Lauren, 8, and Robert, 5 (RMLRand@aol.com).

JOHN S. BAILEY, ME, earned his PE in mechanical engineering in 1997 and opened his private practice, JS Business and Engineering Solutions, Inc., in 2000 (jsbailey13@cs.com).
ROBERT MATTHEWS, CS, works for CMS Peripherals, Inc. in Costa Mesa, CA. He is the lead developer of the CMS ABS (Automatic Backup System) for Macintosh (see www.cmsproducts.com). He is also into photography (see www.matthewsphotography.com). At AOL, he worked on the team that created AOL 4.0 (wwrobertm@aol.com).

BRIAN MCDONALD, ME, received an MBA from St. Mary’s in 1999 and is the director of a company in Dublin, CA. He is married with a six-year-old daughter in the first grade (bmcdonald@calpine.com).

KEVIN M. RANKIN, EEE, is an electronics engineer for Defense Microelectronics Activity in McClellan, CA and has been with the company for 16 years. He received an MBA from UC Davis in 1997 (c3rankin@msn.com).

SIMON TIEN, CPE, is a technical account manager for Microsoft Corp. in Washington. He speaks highly of his education at CSUS and says it was “a place that builds character with integrity!” (simon_s_tien@hotmail.com).

JIM TUSSEY, ME, left the OEM automotive firm in 1989 and started a pharmaceutical software firm. SRS, Inc. now has systems in five states, but not California…yet! (jim@srs-pkon.com).

CLIFF WATSON, ME, has been working for the last 8.5 years as a senior mechanical engineer for the Sacramento County, Construction Management unit (icowlifter@hotmail.com).

1991

KIMBERLY MCQUEILLON BRADLEY, M.S./EE, is a senior communications specialist with SBC Services, Inc. in Sacramento and has been with the company for seven years. She has been married to Charles Bradley for 11 years and has two children, Christian, 8, and Kierra, 4 (kb4131@sbc.com).

GARY CYRAS, CPE, currently lives in Olympia, WA. He is married, one child, another on the way, and has been moving around the country chasing the corporate carrot. He received his Executive MBA from the University of Phoenix in 2001 and has been the general manager, Dupont Compatibility Validation, with the Intel Corporation for nine years (gary.cyras@intel.com).

STEVEN HONG, EEE, is the pastor of Christ Family Church in the Bay Area. After being employed as an ASIC CAD engineer for a few years, he hit a “mid-life” crisis at the tender age of 25 and started traveling to live with locals in Central and East Asia. He got married, and now invests his life in people through the church that focuses on restoring families and strengthening marriages (steve_c_hong@yahoo.com).

ISMAEL JACOBO, CE, has worked for Caltrans over the past 11 years. He resides in San Diego and is still in the Army Reserves (civilmel@yahoo.com).

RICK L. POEPPELMAN, M.S./CE, is the chief of structural design for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Sacramento, where he has worked for 19 years. In 1992 he married fellow CSUS grad Timi L. Ross and they have two daughters, Samantha, 6, and Jessica, 1½. Rick has worked on two significant engineering structures in the area. The first was the East span of the Bay Bridge where he did the tech review and had to climb to the top. The second was Folsom Dam as a modification designer and reviewer where he had to rappel down the face of the dam! (Rick.L.Poeppelman@usace.army.mil).

HOSSAIN SALIMI, CE, worked for the California Department of Water Resources for two years after graduation. He then transferred to Caltrans and has been the Senior Materials and Research Engineer for 10 years providing foundation and geotechnical seismic recommendations for new bridges as well as existing structures throughout California. He is married and has two young children (Hossain.Salimi@dot.ca.gov).

LILY SU, CS, is a Principal Systems Engineer with the City of Sacramento (lsu@cityofsacramento.org).

BILL SWINGLE, EEE, has worked for Electro-Test, Inc. for the last 11 years and lives in Janesville, CA (Bill.Swingle@electro-test.com).

2000

JONATHAN CORPUZ, CE, works for the Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co. as a project engineer in Honolulu, HI (jcorpuz@hdcc.com).

DAVID DOMYANCIC, CS, has been with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for 10 months working as a computer scientist (Ddom678@yahoo.com).

AMY Y. FONG, CE, a design engineer with Mark Thomas & Co., has been with the company for two years (afong@mtcosac.com).

SUSIE HERBERHOLZ, CS, has been a part-time faculty member in the Department of Computer Science at CSUS for three years. She resides in Rocklin, CA (herberholz@csus.edu).

JOSHUA B. HESPELER, ME, works for Lockheed Martin Management and Data Systems as a Hardware Engineer for Product Development. He is half-way through a M.S. in ME at Santa Clara University. He married Caren Chiang, CSUS ’99, in September 2000 and they bought their first home in Campbell, CA in November 2001 (joshua.b.hesperler@lmco.com).

REZA MOLAVI, CS, received an MBA from National University in 2002. He resides in Citrus Heights, CA (rezamolavi@hotmail.com).

DANIEL S. NEGRILA, ME, has been a project engineer with New United Motor Mfg., Inc. (NUMMI) for three years (dnegrika@hotmail.com).

HIEU NGUYEN, CE, is a transportation engineer with the Washington State Department of Transportation. He has been with WSDOT for nearly two years and resides in Bellingham, WA (hng74@yahoo.com).

CHONG T. OH, M.S./ME, is a mechanical engineer with the Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division in Maryland (ohct@navair.navy.mil).

JAIME ROBLES, ME, is a design engineer with Rix Industries (roblesmomax@hotmail.com).

OSCAR SERRANO, CE, spent last summer in Europe. After 18 months in the real-world, he returned to school and will get his MS in environmental engineering in May 2003 from UC Berkeley (oscarenbuenosaires@hotmail.com).

ERIC SULLI, CPE, is a test engineer for Apple in Sacramento. He will pursue a pharmacy degree in fall 2004 and is currently taking pre-requisites. He reports that taking Chem 1B is tough in the evenings, but he is nailing it with an A+. He missed school so much that he had to come back! (superhero95823@yahoo.com).
DID YOU KNOW?

CSUS has the largest cooperative education program in the state, offering hundreds of students each year academic credit for work experiences related to their major.

For information on the ECS Co-op Program, please contact Carol Hopfe at (916) 278-7220 or hopfec@csus.edu

Fahnmusa

Continued from Page 5

I was a good worker but I wasn’t necessarily a good leader.”

“I think I’ll always be nervous in my heart to speak in front of people, but I don’t run from it anymore.”

A computer hardware class in his second year showed Jangaba his future. Computer engineering, he decided, was a happy medium between computer science and engineering. He’s now in his second year at Hewlett-Packard, working in the JetDirect Division.

“I think in the end Sac State has turned out to be a good choice,” he says. “There’s a lot of good students, good clubs and a lot of good instructors, too. And it’s small enough that people pay attention to you and you can get help.”

Having inherited his mom’s love of travel, Jangaba says he’s planning to attend graduate school someplace new. But don’t expect him to become a stranger.

“I’ve made a lot of friends here, and I love this campus,” he says. “I won’t be gone forever. Sacramento will always be my home.”

Downsized or wanting a career change…

..we can help!

If you have graduated in the last 18 years, you probably are familiar with Cici Mattiuzzi, the Director of Career Services for ECS. Cici has worked in employment development and placement for more than 25 years and continues to be a valuable resource for students and alumni alike.

Many alumni don’t realize that ECS Career Services don’t end with graduation. Alumni are eligible to use all of the services of the ECS Career Center. The easiest way to find out about services is to view the ECS Career Services web page at www.ecs.csus.edu/career. Alumni can sign-up for the weekly e-mail newsletter, Career Updates, where you are provided with information on job listings, job fairs, on-campus interviews, technical seminars and guest speakers, salaries and salary negotiating, employer contact information, career workshops, career counseling services, and office hours.

Cici’s office is in Riverside Hall 2008; she can be contacted at cici@ecs.csus.edu or (916) 278-7091.