Subject: [Chabssstaff] CHABSS December 2024 Newsletter -- Giving Day Updates!
Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 12:12:20 PM Pacific Standard Time
From: Tim Meehan
To: CHABSS Staff
Attachments: ATT00001.txt



A Note From The Dean ...



Today is Giving Day. We give every day to support student academic success, but if you have the capacity for a financial donation, there are several

Student academic success certainly includes promoting opportunities for those students eager to take on high-impact practices such as undergraduate research. In the language of our RTP criteria, it also means "faculty are expected to set clear expectations of success and to instruct with the assumption that all students can learn." What that meant in 2012 and what that means in 2024, as we continue to come to terms with a post-COVID student body and a 96 percent university acceptance rate, is an important conversation for us to engage.

However, none of our assumptions and aspirations for students' academic success matter if students, faculty, or staff are not safe on campus, in their neighborhoods, and in their homes. I commit to join the CSU leadership and all students, faculty and staff who "continue to support and protect all members of our communities."

While we are uncertain what a commitment to protect will entail come

worthy causes in CHABSS. I will be making my gift to the Student Success fund, which provides funding for students like past recipients Miguel Garcia, Helayna Walton and Amandah Altamirano to conduct and present research.

January and following, December is a time for celebration, and I hope to see many of you at the 3 p.m. or 6 p.m. commencement on Sunday, December 15.

With best wishes for the end of semester and holiday break,
Liora



Giving Day 2024 is Here!

CSUSM's annual Giving Day demonstrates how powerful the heart of a Cougar really is as we come together today for our 10th CSUSM Giving Day to support the people and programs we love. CHABSS is supporting five funds. Check out the buttons below for updates!

Live updates and new challenges added!

Anthropology Student Travel Scholarship

Anthropology Ethnobotany Garden

CHABSS Career Readiness

CHABSS Student Success Grant

Music Ensemble Fund

Student Success



Diversity Winner's Impact

Turning Ripples Into Waves

Alli Mulqueen struggled through much of her academic career before learning of her diagnosis of ADHD at 17, a discovery that would alter her life trajectory. Many 17 year olds in her shoes would have been frustrated over the delayed diagnosis and perhaps the unnecessary struggles that she endured. But those who know Mulqueen know she leveraged her experiences and observations to bring about change. Mulqueen, a psychological science senior, was recently honored with the President's Student Champion Award for Inclusive Excellence and Diversity. She's championing a cause to bring a center for disabled and neurodivergent students to campus.

Mulqueen making an impact



American Indian Student Follows Passion for Animals, the Environment

It was a visit to CSUSM in the fourth grade that taught Aiden Valverde, a fourth-year American Indian Studies major, how to spread his wings. And it was an internship with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that really helped him take flight. Valverde was exposed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife internship from an email sent to multiple California universities. The Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office was searching for a Native student

who was interested in conservation. Valverde jumped on the opportunity, aced his interview and began his job as an intern.

Internship experience sparks AIS major's passion



Volleyball-playing Comm Student Excels After Overcoming Challenges

Ever since student-athlete Jada Blake was 6 years old, the volleyball court had been

her sanctuary — a place where family issues and everyday struggles could fade into the background, leaving just her and the game. That was, until she reached her freshman year of high school. Quickly, the court she loved so much became a source of distress, and Blake found herself faced with her biggest opponent yet: depression. The communication major opened up about her struggles and her path to recovery.

Communication student on road to recovery while a standout athlete

Faculty Highlights



Regalia Available for Commencement

The Dean's Office has commencement regalia available to lend to faculty for participation in one or multiple CHABSS ceremonies. We have a limited supply, and sizes will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. If you wish to reserve regalia for the ceremony, please complete the form below no later than Dec. 6. Regalia will be available for pick up from SBSB 4115 Dec 9-13 and will need to be returned to the Dean's Office following commencement.

CHABSS regalia reservation link

Faculty participation link



Heard's Play in November Focused on 'Love Letter to Toxic Couples'

Theater lecturer Shaun Heard recently directed a first-of-its-kind production at CSUSM. “The Motherf**ker with the Hat,” a play by Stephen Adly Guirgis, was produced in November to engaged audiences. Heard has been teaching theater at CSUSM for

seven years, and the play is part of his course curriculum in his introduction to acting class. The course is a lower-level general education class and is usually full of students who have never acted before. Heard assigns students scenes and they do an in-class production, but this is the first time the play was being brought to the stage at CSUSM.

Heard again pushing boundaries on stage

Alumni Achievements



Lightning Strikes: CHABSS Alumni Transform Passion Into VR Enterprise

Murchison Falls National Park is a safari park in Uganda that boasts some of the best wildlife in the world, home to 76 different species of mammals and 451 species of birds. It's located more than 9,000 miles from California, and a multiday safari there costs many thousands of dollars. On a Thursday afternoon in mid-February, a group of residents at the Bayshire Carlsbad assisted living facility made the exotic trip for free when white virtual reality headsets were placed over their faces. CHABSS alumni Tracy (criminology and justice studies, '07) and Jeremy (sociology, '15) Ford in October 2022 launched Lightning Tours, which brings VR sets to senior living facilities.

CHABSS alumni help others through VR business



M.A. Student Receives Sociology Award

Simon Griffith (third from right above), a graduate student in the Master of Arts of Sociological Practice program, was recently awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student Award for 2024 at the California Sociological Association conference, which was held Nov. 1-2 in Pomona. Griffith's research focuses on the sociology of queer life, cities and human agency. He examines what happens to the collective identity of queer neighborhoods as society's perception of LGBTQ+ people evolves.

Grad students earns conference award in sociology

Save the Date



Dec. 3 — **Wind Ensemble:** St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 7 p.m.
Dec. 3 — **Summer in Italy OM 305 Info Session:** Zoom Meeting, https://csusm.zoom.us/j/82007784376
Dec. 4 — **Fall Improvisation Concert Directed by Cherie Hill:** ARTS 101, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 4 — **Jazz Ensemble:** ARTS 111, 7 p.m.
Dec. 5 — **Summer in Spain Language Info Session:** MARK 322, 12-12:50 p.m.
Dec. 6 — **Featured Student Recital:** ARTS 111, 6 p.m.
Dec. 6 — **Summer in Spain Language Info Session:** Zoom Meeting, https://csusm.zoom.us/j/88032868966 1-1:50 p.m.
Dec. 12 — **January in Italy Health Meeting:** UNIV 444, 12-1 p.m.
Dec. 15 — **Fall Commencement**: Sports Center, 3 and 6 p.m. (CHABSS majors)



The CHABSS newsletter is produced by the dean's office communications team. It's published the first Tuesday of every month during the fall and spring semesters. Submissions for consideration in the newsletter can be sent directly to tmeehan@csusm.edu or dropped off to SBSB 4115. The deadline for submission is the Friday prior to publication.