THE HEART OF ART
Sonoma State University is changing in more ways than you realize.

One way is our new online President’s Report for 1998-2003 highlighting our progress and achievements.

Visit us on the World Wide Web at http://www.sonoma.edu/president/ and see the changing face of SSU.

What strides we have made in the past five years! This University is undergoing a transformation.

Change abounds in every facet of SSU life. That is why the theme for this President’s Report is change. Join me as we explore how Sonoma State University has grown and changed.

DR. RUBEN ARMINANA
President
Sonoma State University
FEATURES

The Heart of Art for 25 Years
“Build it and they will come,” whispered a voice in the 1989 film Field of Dreams. Although the reference was to a baseball diamond set in an Iowa cornfield, it could just as easily have been said about Sonoma State University’s University Art Gallery, which opened 25 years ago.

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Rethinking the Holocaust
This year, the Center for Holocaust Studies expanded its name to include Genocide Studies. This is not a small move. It indicates to the community that the Center is not just focusing on the Jewish experience, but is recognizing the Holocaust as a template for other mass murders.

DEPARTMENTS

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It was quite a process, but the end result is Sonoma State University’s new logo.

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SONOMA FOCUS
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Archaeologists work to uncover the footprint of two 19th-century fur warehouses at Ft. Ross. Page 6

Teachers will find it much easier to teach about California’s first inhabitants thanks to Edward Castillo.

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SONOMA SPORTS
Two national championships are only a part of what was undoubtedly a most successful year.

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DEVELOPMENT
The Bernard Osher Foundation endowed the Lifetime Learning Institute with a $1 million gift.

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Choosing a University Logo

With this issue of Insights, Sonoma State University is introducing its new logo (see above). Unlike many universities, SSU has historically used only its seal (shown below) for documents, publications and other written materials. While the University intends to continue using the seal for official documents (e.g., diplomas, transcripts, certificates), the new logo will be used for all other purposes, such as stationery, publications, merchandise items, Web pages and advertisements. The purpose is to create a distinctive mark for our communications.

The University Affairs Office led a thorough, year-long process to create the new logo. It began with 11 focus groups, interviewing employees, students, alumni and people from the community about their perceptions of Sonoma State University. They were asked to describe the University’s defining features. Several themes were clear: the close relationships between students and faculty, the excellent quality of SSU’s academic programs, the beautiful campus landscape and the University’s location in the region. The feature that was mentioned most was the lovely hills that serve as the backdrop for the campus.

Based on the focus groups, graphic artist Kerry Gilbert, a staff member in the School of Extended Education, designed an array of potential designs. Through a series of meetings with university groups and the resident’s Cabinet, several final logo designs were selected. These were presented to the campus and community for comment. More than 1,200 people responded. Overwhelmingly they preferred the “hill” logo shown above.

As a result of this poll, President Ruben Armiñana selected the new logo. An 18-month implementation period will allow offices to change to the new logo as current stationery supplies are depleted and reordered.

Emergency Management

Sonoma State University has received a grant from the California State University Commission on the Extended University to develop a professional certificate and academic credit program in leadership in emergency and disaster management. SSU, with supplemental support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Higher Education Program and interested non-profit organizations including the Global Community College, plans to initiate the program this fall.

Approved for operation through the fall of 2008. The grants are funded through Title IV of the Higher Education Act and are administered by the Office of Federal TRIO programs.

Commencement

Nearly 2,000 graduates were awarded diplomas from Sonoma State at the 2003 Commencement Ceremony on May 31. The event on the Commencement Lawn featured retiring Provost Bernie Goldstein as keynote speaker. His address, “Moments That Make a Life,” advised the graduates that they now know how to “entertain a thought, a friend and themselves.”

Goldstein retired at the end of June after 40 years of service in the California State University System.

New Wine Business Program Head

Mack Schwing has been named director of the Wine Business Program in the School of Business and Economics. He joins SSU after retiring from a 30-year career as a management consultant at Deloitte & Touche. Schwing has consulted and worked with many not-for-profit organizations over his career on issues of strategy, budgets, international marketing and customer relationships.

During his career with Deloitte & Touche, he worked and lived in Tokyo, where he was chair of the wine committee at the Tokyo American Club and active in the Japanese wine import market. He holds an MBA in production management and a BS in mathematics from Michigan State University.

Outreach Grants

The PreCollege Programs Department has received notification of three successful grant applications. The Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math and Science, and Academic Talent Search programs all received scores in the top 10 percent nationally and were each awarded 5-year grants rather than the customary 4-year grants. All three programs are approved for operation through the fall of 2008. The grants are funded through Title IV of the Higher Education Act and are administered by the Office of Federal TRIO programs.

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2003 FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BILLY BARNIER
Professor of Mathematics

Bill Barnier came to Sonoma State University in 1969 after completing his undergraduate work at San Diego State University, earning his Ph.D. at UCLA, and a postdoctoral instructorship at Dartmouth College. At SSU, he has been chair of the Department of Mathematics twice and was Chair of the Faculty in 1991-92. When asked what is most rewarding about his job, he said, “The lively interaction with students and colleagues regarding the teaching and learning of mathematics.”

Recently, Dr. Barnier has taught courses in calculus, computing for mathematics, discrete mathematics for computer science, and number theory. During fall 2003, he and several colleagues will offer a course for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute entitled “Infinity and Beyond.”

MARIÁ HESS
Assistant Professor of Psychology

Pursuing a lifelong interest in psychology, Maria Hess completed her undergraduate studies at Chico State University in 1981. She received her graduate degree in clinical psychology from the Sonoma Institute through the external master’s degree program at SSU. In 1985 she was licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist, and subsequently earned her Ph.D. in East/West psychology at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco.

Dr. Hess has taught undergraduate and graduate courses for psychology majors, as well as seminars for doctoral candidates and licensed professionals.

2003 STAFF APPRECIATION AWARDS

MARY ROGERS
Music

Mary Rogers came to the campus in 1981. From the many letters that supported her nomination, it is apparent that, as one letter states, “Mary is nothing less than the heart and soul of the Music Department. I’ve never seen Mary not greet everyone who comes to her office with a smile, a kind word and her absolute full attention. She is a cherished friend and mentor to staff, students and faculty.”

NELS WORDEN
Chemistry

Nels Worden’s outstanding and consistent contributions have brought him nominations for this award three times. He graduated from Sonoma State in 1981 with a B.S. in chemistry. He started working at SSU in 2000 in his current position as the Chemistry Department technician and has consistently exemplified wonderful creativity in his position.

Nels participated in the creation of two new on-line experiments in the analytical chemistry class, an area in which he has an extensive professional background.

For SSU’s 40th anniversary celebration, Nels took the initiative to locate argon gas and replace the oxygen inside the time capsule, better preserving the contents of the time capsule. Nels also sets up the chemical reactions for the chemistry magic show.
Five Questions: Provost Eduardo Ochoa

As he begins his first academic year at Sonoma State as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Eduardo Ochoa shares some of his thoughts about education — higher education — and where he fits in.

“To be able to advance the mission of the CSU and at the same time do it through a vehicle of the liberal arts feels like a very good match for me.”

Sonoma State is part of the CSU and therefore shares the mission of serving California through access to higher education, something to which I have committed myself. At the same time, SSU also has a distinctive identity as a fine liberal arts institution. This fits with my own background in liberal arts education, which has basically transformed my life as a student and educator. To be able to advance the mission of the CSU and at the same time do it though a vehicle of the liberal arts feels like a very good match for me.

Two of the campuses at which you have worked are very ethnically diverse. Sonoma County is not as diverse. What role should diversity play in the classroom?

It is important because of the world we live in and the kind of state California is becoming. The world we live in requires us to interact with diverse cultures. There is a transformation that college students go through in their learning and life experiences. It is not enough to get grounded in the classics of western civilization and traditional liberal arts education. Students also need to have an understanding of the different ways human beings relate to each other and to navigate that in all of their future dealings. Having a diverse student body enriches the educational experience for all students, in the classroom and beyond.

What process do you see as crucial to continually improving academic programs?

Continuing to work on our assessment process for our academic programs that allows us, in a systematic and focused way, to improve the quality of our programs. We need to see how the programs are working, see if the outcomes that we hoped to achieve are being achieved, and then diagnose what needs to happen from there. The move toward assessment is a national trend and one that is vital to the growth of higher education. Another issue is to have a coherent general education program. Given that we are a liberal arts institution, we must be strong in that area, and we are. It should be one of the things we are well-known for: having a particularly effective GE program. Any university has room for improvement in this area.

Sonoma is a liberal arts institution with a strong emphasis on the use of technology. In what way do you feel liberal arts and technology co-exist?

That is an interesting question because there are a couple of models that are well understood and easy to identify for a comprehensive college that is not a research-oriented type of university. One is the small, liberal arts university dedicated to four-year general education and the other is the comprehensive university such as some of the larger CSU campuses that cover the whole waterfront and have a strong element, if not dominance, of professional degrees. There is also something in between. In fact, there are other universities that are bigger than a traditional liberal arts college, but not so big as a comprehensive university, with fewer than 10,000 students, that still have a strong emphasis on undergraduate education, a strong liberal arts program, but also have selected professional programs with some graduate degrees. I think this is a viable model. When you’re at that size, you have enough breadth of coverage in the disciplines that you are able to offer an exciting menu of choices to students. You are also clearly responding to community needs by providing the professional programs. Having a strong liberal arts undergraduate education as a core allows you to provide a solid foundation for the professional programs. This is always good because of the world we live in where knowledge is exploding. In the end, what is going to be enduring for students are their critical thinking skills and their ability to structure their own learning. That is really the fundamental purpose behind a liberal arts education.

What does SSU do very well?

The strength of SSU is providing a liberal arts education in a public university setting. The public setting makes a college education accessible to more people. SSU has also taken a comprehensive approach to the undergraduate experience. There is an understanding that what goes on in classrooms is only part of the education; there is also an expansion of support activities that have been traditionally housed in student affairs. Having them also a part of academic affairs has strengthened the experience and has a potential for real synergy between support functions and the classroom. The whole notion of an integrated experience for students is an impressive strength at Sonoma State.
Murder Where? In the Stacks!

BY KAREN BRODSKY
University Library

Murder in the Stacks,” now in its third year, is quickly becoming a popular Sonoma State tradition. Working with the Berkeley-based entertainment company Murder on the Menu, the Library and Residential Life staff co-host a murder mystery in the library as part of fall orientation week. This interactive “who-dunnit” provides a truly unique evening for students, staff, faculty and librarians to socialize in the library building, while picking up some clues about the Library’s services.

Working as detectives, students move from suspect to suspect asking questions and taking notes, trying to solve the murder. The suspects are stationed at various service points throughout the library, such as the multimedia desk or the ever-popular Automated Retrieval System, which has often “delivered” the victim’s body to the circulation desk. Insisting on their innocence, the suspects tell their side of the story, interwoven with facts about the Library and its services.

“The Residential Life staff are always looking for ways to educate the students about campus resources,” says Mo Phillips, Residential Life coordinator. “This type of evening – blending a social event with an educational experience – is certainly appealing to students, especially entering freshmen, who can be hesitant about trying new things.”

“Murder in the Stacks” kicks off the Library’s yearly instruction program, designed to make SSU students savvy customers of information through drop-in workshops and course-integrated instruction. These early orientation sessions are critical for new students, and the Library staff remains committed to these after-hours events because of the friendly introduction it provides for students.

Nurse White is accused of the crime by this group during last year’s Murder in the Stacks, but they were wrong!

2002-2003: What a Year It Was

BY BRANDON BRONZAN
Sports Information

Despite a mascot change, the Sonoma State Athletic Department did not miss a beat in 2002-03. Wearing “Seawolves” on their uniforms for the first time, SSU enjoyed a year that was highlighted by a national championship, a league championship and numerous individual achievements, including all-conference performances and broken records.

The SSU men’s soccer team brought home the 2002 Division II National Championship with a miraculous run to the title that took the team all the way to Virginia Beach, Va. For their efforts, two SSU players earned All-American status (Ryan Smith and Matt Bernard) and Coach Marcus Ziemer was named conference, regional and national Coach of the Year.

Men’s Basketball and Women’s Tennis also advanced to NCAA post-season competition. Several individuals made their mark in the record books in 2002-03. In late April, Danielle McDavid recorded her 227th career hit, setting a new school record for softball hits. A few days later, her 229th hit broke SSU’s baseball hits record making McDavid the school’s all-time leader for softball or baseball.

Local basketball star Chris Oliver missed the first part of the season, but came back to break the Sonoma State record for blocked shots in a career.

Santa Rosa native Nestor Bernabe capped an outstanding tennis career at Sonoma State by winning the prestigious Ojai Valley Tournament and taking home All-American honors.

In all, 27 student-athletes brought home all-conference honors and seven attained all-region status.

In the classroom, the Seawolves put the ‘student’ in student-athlete. The women’s cross country team earned All-Academic team status and seniors proudly wore sashes displaying their sports on graduation day.

On the Calendar

November 14-15
Third Annual Ron Logsdon Basketball Classic. For ticket information or contributions, please call the men’s basketball office at (707) 664-2726.

May 1, 2004
Bidnight Madness — Silent auction, live auction and dinner to benefit Sonoma State University Student Athletes.
The “soft gold” of sea otter and sea lion pelts drew Russia to build one of its few outposts in northern California in the early 1800s, the southernmost Russian settlement built in North America.

Kashaya Pomo Indians watching the ships on the horizon the day the first fur traders landed would later see 25 Russian and 80 Native Alaskans build a fort on a craggy terrace along the coast.

Sonoma State University archaeologists worked recently on an $80,000 project to determine the footprint of two 19th-century fur warehouses that had disappeared over time.

The fur warehouses housed sea otter and sea lion pelts stocked for later shipment to Alaskan outposts and trade with foreign countries, particularly China. They were also a place to store supplies and tools, and to trade beads and other materials.

Mike Newland was co-field director for the project through Sonoma State University’s Anthropological Studies Center, which has worked on 70-plus projects throughout California totaling more than $3 million this past year.

He and colleague Mike Meyer went through the work of the two earlier expeditions, carefully trying not to dig where others had dug. This kind of effort becomes, he says, a sort of “archaeology of archaeology” in trying not to duplicate previous efforts.

They eventually learned that the first warehouse had been built between 1812 and 1814 on bedrock which had been scraped clean, as in modern building techniques. The second warehouse had been added on just a short time before the fort was sold in 1841, and redwood timbers were just pushed into the ground.

Newland speculates the settlers either learned after several decades that redwood didn’t rot when directly in touch with the soil or they were in a hurry to “pretty the place up” before the final sale.

Another possibility that the archaeologists are pursuing is that the differences between the two warehouses might be attributed to a change in construction techniques from the early years of the fort, when it was primarily a private enterprise, to later years, when the fort essentially came under Russian Navy control.

During the excavation, the SSU crew found glass, shards of wood and beads that might have been dropped or fallen out of barrels, or between wooden planks onto the earth beneath the warehouses. A segment of bedrock, possibly chipped to serve as a step, was also unearthed.

**History of Fort Ross Online**

Established as an outpost to develop the fur trading business and supply food to the Alaskan settlements, Fort Ross lasted only 30 years. Historians are still speculating on the reasons for its demise. With their kayaks and spears alone, the Native Alaskans brought from Alaska by the Russians effectively hunted the sea otter and sea lion out of existence in the area within less than 10 years. Later agricultural efforts never paid off either. The Fort Ross site is a rich cultural site for archaeologists and historians since it shows an interface between Kashaya Pomo Indians, Russian traders and Native Alaskan seal hunters.

See SSU history professor Steve Watrous’ in-depth history on the early days of Fort Ross at www.mcn.org/1/rrparks/fortross/.

Click on Russian American Company.

**EXCEL-lent Dig**

The mesmerizing scrape, scrape, scrape of a trowel can intrigue a young mind used to video games and action figures.

Mike Newland infused his students in their first archaeology class last year with the spirit of the chase by focusing the class on gathering clues about a mysterious burial. But over a weekend this summer he brought them to his project at Fort Ross and put them to work doing some real digging.

It was an amazing thing for Newland to see his EXCEL archaeology students grasp the essence of their digging and pursue the effort with such zeal. They were getting up in the morning before he was, ambling around the site eager to begin digging for another day.

With little more than a trowel and serious dose of patience, they worked to slowly scrape away dirt and sift for clues of life that had gone on in the past.
Edward Castillo
Connecting Teachers, Students, Past and Present

BY SUSAN KASHACK
University Affairs

Dr. Edward Castillo teaches college classes filled with students who know little about Native American history or the contributions of Native Americans who helped shape California. He’s not surprised, since his childhood education was not much different.

But he and some colleagues are primed to change what elementary school children are taught about Native Americans and they have received more than $100,000 from the California State Library Research Bureau to produce a teacher’s guide to assist teachers with their classroom discussions about California Indian history.

“The guide will contain engaging classroom activities that teach students about the unique identities and cultural contributions of California’s First People, past and present,” says Castillo. “The teacher’s guide will be used throughout California in all eighth-grade classes, a pivotal time for children learning about history.”

Easily digestible outlines about reservations, rancherias, cultural areas, current practices and governance issues will make California’s Native American history comprehensible to contemporary students.

Castillo is a professor and chair of the Native American Studies Department at Sonoma State University. He is an intensely passionate teacher who works every day as a scholar to enlighten and educate college-aged students about Native American history and culture.

Edward Castillo, professor and chair of SSU’s Native American Studies Department, received more than $100,000 from the California State Library Research Bureau to develop a guide for classroom discussions about California Indian history.

The Teacher’s Guide will also provide an overview of the Constitution of the United States, the Gold Rush, statehood and the Westward movement, the period of rapid immigrant population growth, and the rise of industrial America—all from the perspective of the Native Americans. This unique perspective is something that Castillo, Norton and Trafzer hope will help young students understand what led to modern reservation life through allotment of Tribal Lands, the fight for self-governing rights and the current life of California’s Native Americans.

“‘It’s important to teach children the culture of California Indians and to explain why more than 10,000 acres of reservation and rancheria lands were lost in an ill-conceived plan to ‘Free the Indians.’ Teachers will be encouraged to outline Euro-American historical experiences, technological and philosophical attitudes toward the natural environment, and especially to the human beings they encountered in this place they called the culture of California Indians and to explain why more than 10,000 acres . . . were lost in an ill-conceived plan to ‘Free the Indians.’”

—Edward Castillo

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“We want students to also understand the growing participation of California Indians in national civil rights efforts, to feel the history behind the effort,” says Castillo. An example of a noted civil rights effort was the occupation of Alcatraz Island by American Indians in 1969. Castillo was there and later helped make several documentary films on this pivotal event in modern California history.

Castillo is well known for his scholarly work in the discipline of Native American
For 20 years they have told stories of gas chambers and ghettos, of cattle car rides to death, of Danish rescuers and American liberators.

The Holocaust Lecture Series at Sonoma State University has hosted scholars, heard the tales of concentration and death camp survivors, and speculated about the causes of genocide and how it arises.

Each year, the series has tried to highlight not only new aspects of the Jewish Holocaust during World War II, but of current genocides that have emerged around the world.

And as Sylvia Sucher of Santa Rosa says, “there has been no shortage of modern day examples.”

Sucher is a member of the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust which, in partnership with the University, has helped the series evolve. (See sidebar.)

This year, the Center expanded its name to include Genocide Studies. Through the Department of Sociology where it is housed, the Center offered its first course on the sociology of genocide taught by director Dr. Myrna Goodman.

““The Holocaust is the genocide we measure all other genocides against. We ask how can our understanding of the past helps us recognize genocidal situations before they occur.””

— Myrna Goodman

This is not a small move. It indicates to the community that the Center is not just focusing on the Jewish experience, but also recognizes the Holocaust as a template for other mass murders.

“The Jewish Holocaust provides the framework for the study of genocide because it is the ultimate example of how genocide evolves,” says Goodman. “Plus, it allows us to understand the processes that contributed to other genocides,” she says, such as the attempted extinction of the Armenians by the Turks. “It is also imperative that we study contemporary examples like Rwanda and Kosovo,” she adds.

“The Holocaust is the genocide we measure all other genocides against,” says Goodman. “We ask how our understanding of the past can help us recognize genocidal situations before they occur.” Such recognition must be teamed with the political will to stop the killing, Goodman says.

Elaine Leeder, dean of the School of Social Sciences, says Holocaust Studies scholars are now looking into the influences of genocide on second- and third-generation families of survivors.

“But we want to keep the remembrance alive, too,” Leeder says. The accounts of survivors from concentration camps are a main feature of the lecture series with the aim of ensuring that future generations of students do not see it all as ancient history.

Goodman says, “the most powerful aspect of the lecture series is the impact of the personal eyewitness accounts of Holocaust survivors and, more recently, the survivors of Rwandan, Cambodian and Bosnian genocides.”

Other lecturers have looked at the psychology of evil, the resurgence of neo-fascist groups and the history of persecution.

Each year the series focuses on a theme. This past year’s was “Witnessing, Resisting and Preventing Genocide.”

The 2003 program was highlight-
The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust started as an ad hoc group that met in the 1980s on the Sonoma State University campus to observe the memories of the Warsaw uprising in Poland. These small memorials evolved into a yearly lecture series to offer the community a chance to continue their interest in the causes and history of the Holocaust.

SSU’s Center opened in 1987 with Dr. John Steiner, a Holocaust scholar and survivor of the death camp at Auschwitz, taking a leading role along with community human rights activist Robert L. Harris who worked tirelessly in the Center’s development. In addition, 15 faculty from disciplines throughout the University have been involved on a regular basis in research and on-going scholarship. Those involved through the years have included Philip Beard, Steve Waterous, Edward Castillo, Noel Byrne, Barbara Lesch-McCaffry, Ilka Hartmann and Joel Nueberg.

The Alliance has now become a community-based group that has provided Holocaust education in area schools through visits by local survivors. It ties various community organizations, synagogues and churches together for teachers to use in classroom instruction. The course regularly enrolls more than 100 students each spring semester who are encouraged to examine the issues of individual accountability and formulate ideas about the prevention of genocide in the world.

Holocaust studies were mandated by the State legislature in 1983 as a component in the social science curriculum in middle- and high-school general education requirements.

How a Center and a Community Alliance

The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust started as an ad hoc group that met in the 1980s on the Sonoma State University campus to observe the memories of the Warsaw uprising in Poland. These small memorials evolved into a yearly lecture series to offer the community a chance to continue their interest in the causes and history of the Holocaust.

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The Alliance has now become a community-based group that has provided Holocaust education in area schools through visits in cooperation with University faculty members.

Funding for SSU’s Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies comes from the Alliance, the School of Social Sciences and the Paul Benko Holocaust Educational Endowment. Benko was a professor of biology, Holocaust survivor and founding member of the Center’s faculty advisory committee.

The Center has developed resource materials over time and its collection includes reference materials, video tapes, study guides and a host of materials for teachers to use in classroom instruction. The course regularly enrolls more than 100 students each spring semester who are encouraged to examine the issues of individual accountability and formulate ideas about the prevention of genocide in the world.

With the guidance of SSU faculty, the courses are some of the most popular among students. Holocaust studies were mandated by the State legislature in 1983 as a component in the social science curriculum in middle- and high-school general education requirements.

Photo by Ilka Hartmann
“Build it and they will come,” whispered a voice in the 1989 film *Field of Dreams*. Although the reference was to a baseball diamond set in an Iowa cornfield, it could just as easily have been said about the University Art Gallery, part of an Art Building complex of studios and classrooms planned during the 1970s and opened on the northwest corner of the Sonoma State University campus in 1978.

And come they have. Over the last 25 years, the Art Gallery has been visited by thousands of students, faculty, staff and members of the public from across the region, across the country and even across the ocean. They have come to see more than 100 exhibitions of modern and contemporary art by more than 800 regional, national and internationally recognized artists such as Richard Diebenkorn, Mildred Howard, André Kertész, Judith Linhares, Hung Liu, Joan Snyder, Bill Viola, Peter Voulkos, William Wegman and many others. They have attended hundreds of lectures by artists, critics, curators and scholars. And they have read dozens of catalogs and brochures, published by the Gallery, that provide insights into the artists and their work.

The 25th anniversary of the founding of the University Art Gallery is a milestone that is being celebrated, beginning in September, with a series of exhibitions, lectures and publications that will continue through May 2004 (see back cover). It also provides an ideal opportunity to reflect on the Gallery’s rich history and numerous contributions to the cultural life of Sonoma State University, Sonoma County and the North Bay region.

To hear some people tell the story, it all began with Ronald Reagan. As one of his final acts in office, Gov. Reagan signed legislation in the early 1970s awarding Sonoma State College funds to construct a new building to house studios, classrooms, faculty offices, a slide library and an art gallery. This was not the first home for the Department of Art (now the Department of Art and Art History), but it would be a vast improvement over the cramped quarters in the basement of Darwin Hall where students and faculty had worked since the campus opened in 1966. The lobby of Darwin Hall served as a kind of ad hoc art gallery for the display of student, faculty and local artists’ work, though the concrete walls proved quite a challenging surface on which to hang the paintings.

After years of planning (the first architectural renderings were done as early as 1971), construction began during the summer of 1976. Eighteen months later, the new $2.4 million, 46,400-square-foot facility opened in January 1978. Designed by the San Francisco-based firm Anshen and Allen Architects and built by Todd Construction Company of Santa Rosa, it was described at the time as “perhaps the best art facility in the state.” The redwood-clad structure included spacious and well-lit studios for ceramics, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture (including a complete foundry), as well as two art history lecture rooms. The Gallery, with its 23-foot ceilings and 2,400 square feet of exhibition space, was designed to accommodate the monumental paintings and sculptures popular with many artists during the 1970s. It was immediately recognized as one of the largest and best-equipped spaces devoted to changing exhibitions of contemporary art in Northern California.

On Friday, April 7, 1978, the University Art Gallery opened its first exhibition, a survey of work by 24 prominent Northern California artists organized by acting director Inez Storer. (Storer, herself a respected painter living in Marin County, currently teaches at the San Francisco Art Institute.) The roster for the exhibition—including William Allan, Robert Arneson, Joan Brown, Wally Hedrick, Tom Holland, Robert Hudson, Cornelia Schulz and William T. Wiley — reads like a “Who’s Who” of Bay Area contemporary artists.
and in many ways created the standard for high-quality exhibitions the Art Gallery has always tried to follow. As Storer said on the occasion of the opening, “With this exhibit, we hope to set the integrity of the future life of the Gallery.”

That first exhibition did indeed have a profound and positive impact on the Gallery’s future. The success of the first show helped convince the University administration to fund a permanent, full-time position of gallery director. Bob Nugent, now professor of painting and drawing, was appointed director in the fall of 1981. During his tenure, the first catalog was published on the occasion of the ambitious exhibition, Sculpture ’82. He also created “Art from the Heart,” a benefit auction that is held each February just before St. Valentine’s Day and during which works of art and local goods and services are sold to support the exhibition, publication and lecture programs. The auction, which celebrates its 20th anniversary on February 14, 2004, is now the longest-running benefit auction in the region.

The Art Gallery has continued to evolve in response to the changes in the art world and its audience. Since 1990, several exhibitions have been organized in recognition of the contemporary art world’s increasing cultural diversity, such as Body/Culture: Chicano Figuration and Shared Experiences/Personal Interpretations: Seven Native American Artists. The Gallery has also developed programs in collaboration with local school districts that help explain the complexities of contemporary art to young viewers. The Gallery has taken note of the expanding use of new technology in visual art with exhibitions in sound, image and object, which included artists using video projection and digital images.

During the past two decades, the University Art Gallery has played an early and central role in Sonoma County’s rapidly growing art scene, in part by making world-class artists and their work available to local viewers — but also, by training scores of students in art history and museum practices who have since found a place on the staffs of museums from Santa Rosa to New York.

Michael Schwager, gallery director since 1991 and coordinator of the burgeoning gallery and museum studies program, is optimistic about the Art Gallery’s future. “Twenty-five years is a good moment to pause and look back at all the Gallery has accomplished — and also to look at what lies ahead. Sonoma County’s interest in visual art has never been higher. We’ve been right in the middle of the county’s art scene since 1978, and the next 25 years look just as exciting.”
Elliott Continues to Expand His Legacy at SSU

F. George Elliott, faculty emeritus in the School of Education, continues to build his lasting legacy at SSU. George, an SSU faculty member from 1968-1992, a mentor of hundreds of student teachers in the Santa Rosa City Schools and a respected and admired colleague at Sonoma State University, has made a generous contribution which will furnish the school’s new conference room and reception area. His gift will also provide state-of-the-art media equipment for facilitating meetings and for use by faculty and staff.

In early July, Dean Phyllis Fernlund and faculty members Marty Ruddell and Perry Marker hosted George and some of his friends on a tour of the School of Education’s new facilities on the first floor of Stevenson Hall. Following the tour, the Development Office hosted a luncheon during which George and attendees reminisced about the establishment and growth of the School of Education at SSU.

Dean Fernlund stated, “George’s watchful and demanding eye created a career legacy of so many well-prepared teachers and administrators for the Santa Rosa secondary schools. Now, because of his generosity, we can complete our conference room and reception area. These spaces will be named in his honor and reflective of the quality of programs offered here which George was instrumental in building.”

$1 Million Osher Gift for Lifelong Learning

When Ed Stolman first introduced the concept of a lifelong learning institute to Sonoma State University in 2001, he realized seed money would be needed to start the program. As chair of the Friends of LLI, Stolman introduced the program to Bernard and Barbro Osher of the Bernard Osher Foundation. The Foundation soon agreed to provide $100,000 annually to help the University develop the new institute.

But that was just the beginning of the relationship between SSU and the Osher Foundation.

Only two years old, the success of Lifelong Learning Institute is now a recognized fact. The program attracted more than 800 students last year. The University anticipates an even higher enrollment this year. Equally important, LLI attracted the attention of other campuses in the California State University and University of California systems, many of which are now creating similar programs based on the Sonoma State model.

The Osher Foundation, which has a history of philanthropic support for education in California and other states, understood this was an opportunity to enrich the lives of the growing senior population. The Foundation recently made a $1 million endowment gift to Sonoma State, the earnings of which will provide on-going support for the Lifelong Learning program.

In recognition of the Osher Foundation’s strong and continuing support, Sonoma State and the CSU have named the program in its honor. Now bearing the name, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Sonoma State University, the program intends to continue offering stimulating courses to its students who are “50 or better.”

For more information on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Sonoma State University, contact Lou Miller, Executive Director: (707) 664-3189.

For information on contributing to the LLI Endowment Fund, contact the SSU Development Office: (707) 664-2712.

A Gift for State-of-the-Art Equipment

“I wanted to give back,” explains Deborah Hatfield. “I wanted to make a gift to the Art Department in a way that will affect the students directly and immediately.”

Deborah Hatfield, a 2003 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in art, has recently made a $75,000 gift to Sonoma State University to improve the equipment in the Art Department.

“SSU has wonderful art faculty and facilities, but funds to maintain the equipment are insufficient,” said Hatfield. “I am a sculptor and saw firsthand that the kilns, for example, are old and need constant monitoring during the firing process.”

The Art Department has used the funds to purchase a variety of equipment that art professor Greg Roberts says “will take the studio from 1960’s technology to 2003 technology.” Among the purchases, the department is buying state-of-the-art equipment for the metal shop and two Geil kilns, which are computer controlled and considered to be the ‘Cadillac’ of kilns.

“This gift,” says professor Roberts, “gives students in the ‘3-D’ department the opportunity to create work they never could have done with the old equipment.”
Donald Herriott  
BS Physics, 1972  
School of Science and Technology

Three Outstanding Alumni to Receive 2003 Award

The Alumni Association is pleased to announce the selection of three outstanding Sonoma State University alumni for the 2003 Distinguished Alumni Awards. The Distinguished Alumni Award was established in 1987 to recognize the outstanding professional achievements of graduates and former students, and to highlight their humanitarian activities, contributions to society and support to Sonoma State University. It is the highest honor bestowed upon Sonoma State University graduates by the Alumni Association.

Donald Herriott  
BS Physics, 1972  
School of Science and Technology  
President and General Manager  
Roche Carolina, Inc.

Mr. Herriott began his career in the banking industry in California. He joined SYNTEX pharmaceutical company in 1981 where he has held several key management positions around the country. Roche Holdings, Switzerland acquired SYNTEX in 1994. In 1996, Mr. Herriott moved to Florence, S.C., to assume his present role as president and general manager of Roche Carolina, Inc. He has served on several boards, including the Commission on Higher Education and the South Carolina Technology Alliance. He chaired the Governor’s Workforce Education Task Force, which published a report entitled “Pathways to Prosperity,” and received the South Carolina State Library 2001 10 most notable state publications award. He currently serves on the South Carolina Board of Economic Advisors; the Palmetto Institute, an economic development research organization; the South Carolina Governor’s School of Science and Mathematics Foundation; and the South Carolina Research Authority. He is also the chair of the 2,600 member South Carolina Chamber of Commerce. In 2001, the South Carolina Career Guidance and Placement Association named Mr. Herriott the Business Person of the Year.

See Page 14
Jamie McCleary is entering her senior year in the Hutchins School. A young woman of extraordinary energy and passion, she has already set career goals that extend a decade beyond graduation. For the first 10 years of her career she hopes to teach fourth-grade students. Then, with her teaching background and many years of practical experience, she would like to pursue a master’s degree in administration and become a school principal. This career path would prepare Jamie for her ultimate goal of becoming a member of the California State Board of Education, where she aspires to revolutionize the education system by working to create innovative ways to educate students of different racial, economic and academic backgrounds. For the past three years, Jamie has been a Presidential Scholar, a group of students selected for their academic excellence. Recently she served as a panelist for the Northern California School Districts to give a student’s perspective on how the recent state budget cuts will affect education in Sonoma County.

Jamie’s passion for teaching extends to other areas of her life. She is a writing tutor for the SSU Writing Center where she helps students of all ages and grade levels. She also tutors freshmen through the English 99 program that helps incoming students adjust to college-level writing. In addition, her interest in human development led her to work with young children with mental and physical disabilities. Jamie is a member of the SSU True Vine Gospel Choir, and for her, singing has become a way to “reach the hearts of students” and to gain confidence and self-esteem.

The Nichols Scholarship Selection Committee was comprised of five volunteers who served countless hours to refine the selection process, review applications and interview top candidates. Special thanks to committee chair Anita Christmas, Heather Howard, Amy Madruga, Tiffany O’Neil and Barbara Thorsen.

2003 Ambrose R. Nichols Jr. Scholar: Jamie McCleary, Hutchins School of Liberal Studies

George Triest
MA Special Education, 1980
Credentials, 1979 & 1980
School of Education
Managing Director
California Institute on Human Services
Sonoma State University

Mr. Triest joined the California Institute on Human Services in 1979. Working in collaboration with the CIHS director, he has overseen the successful implementation of more than $100 million of grant-funded programs that have benefited children and families throughout the United States. These programs include a national high school reform program, teacher training on improving instruction for language to minority students in local schools, professional development for early educators in Head Start centers, and multidisciplinary training on the prevention of substance abuse and child abuse/neglect for personnel in hundreds of California agencies.

His commitment to the local community includes service as the board president for Becoming Independent, a major provider of employment training services for people with developmental disabilities in Sonoma County, and as board president for a local synagogue. He was also instrumental in securing funding for a new free medical clinic in Cotati.

Thanks to the members of the DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI SELECTION COMMITTEE for the many hours they served and their commitment to the selection process.

William Babula, Dean, Arts and Humanities
Anita Christmas, Alumni Association Board Member
Sean Frisch, Alumni Association Board Member
Michael Kiraly, Administrative Manager, Univ. Library
Robert McNamara, Asst. Professor, Political Science
Perry Marker, Associate Professor, School of Education
Jason Spencer, President, Associated Students, Inc.
David Purney, Alumni Association Board Member
Sheila Mackintosh-Sims, Office Manager, School of Business and Economics
Barbara Thorsen, Alumni Association Board Member

Toby Tyler, Alumni Association Board Member

Farewell
Hellooooo…. and now sadly goodbye. Three days a week and full-time in the summer, Alumni Office staff and visitors were greeted with Kim vanRuiten’s signature “Hellooooo.” Kim has worked as our student assistant for two and half years and has become a part of our alumni family. She performed all her work assignments with zest and team spirit and is well known for her creative talents.

Kim graduated in 2002 with a BA in Liberal Studies from the Hutchins School. She is currently working on her teaching credential and will be completing her student teaching at Mary Collins Elementary School in December.
ALUMNOTES

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name ____________________________

Former or Other Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City ____________________________ State ______ Zip ______

Phone ____________________________ Day (   ) ____________ Evening (   ) ____________

Social Security Number ____________ Birthdate ____________

Degree(s) ____________________________ Year(s) ____________

Major(s) ____________________________ Year(s) ____________

Email ____________________________

What are you doing now? ____________________________________________

__________________________________________

Signature ____________

Visa □ MasterCard # ____________ Exp. Date ____________

Please note that your name, address, phone number, school and year of graduation may be used by the Sonoma State University Alumni Association for the development of University affiliated marketing programs. If you do not wish to have this information used, please notify the Alumni Association.

For information, call (707) 664-2426

Send this form along with check, credit card information or money order to:

Sonoma State University Alumni Association
1801 East Cotati Avenue
Rohnert Park, CA 94928-3609

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP PACKAGES

Life Memberships

□ $450 Joint Life Membership
□ $300 Single Life Membership
□ $350 Associate Life Membership
□ $250 New Grad Life Membership

Annual Memberships

□ $70 Annual Family Membership
□ $40 Annual Single Membership
□ $50 Annual Associate Membership

□ Complimentary (one-year new grad)
□ Promotional ($5 for second year when...

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBER BENEFITS

• Library privileges at SSU and all 23 CSU campuses (Does not include Lexus-Nexus remote access)
• Group rates for health, dental and vision insurance
• Access to SSU Career Center/$5 discount on annual fee
• 10% discount on Lifelong Learning Institute courses
• 10% discount on Excel Summer Programs for Youth
• MBNA alumni credit card (no annual fee) and MBNA Auto Insurance Program
• Kaplan Education course discount
• Apple and Dell computer values through SSU Bookstore
• Access to Online Alumni Directory
• Bi-annual Insights/Alumnotes newsletter
• Quarterly E-Connection email bulletin
• Access to campus fitness center and swimming pool at discounted rates
• Seasonal promotions at SSU Bookstore
• Use of campus facilities
• Discounts on athletics and performing arts events
• Use of e-Gems software
• Discounts to theme parks and auto rentals
• New Grads Only: One year free membership to the New Student Recreation Center

Contact Information:
SSU Alumni Association
Sonoma State University
1801 East Cotati Ave.
Stevenson Hall 1027
Rohnert Park, CA 94928-3609
Phone: 707/664.2426
Fax: 707/664.2952
Email: alumni.office@sonoma.edu
Web site: www.ssualumni.org

2003-2004 Alumni Association
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Student Ambassador Representative
Wayne Rowlands
BA Biology, ’81
Tracy Terrill
BS Business Administration, ’97

FALL 2003
## 1970s

### Catherine Kuhlman
BA, biology, ’75, has been named executive director of the North Coast Regional Water Control Board. Prior to the appointment, she served as acting director of the Water Division in the U.S. Environmental Agency’s San Francisco office.

### Donald Merrill
BA, biology, ’71, is in the final stages of acquiring a U.S. patent for an electronic facilitation venue, the key to the development of an electronic free market.

### Emilie Berriezo Rodger
credential and MA, education, ’79, was named Teacher of the Year 2003 in the Northern Arizona University College of Education. Rodger is an assistant professor of instructional leadership.

### Brad Seligman
BA, English, ’75, founded the Impact Fund, a Berkeley nonprofit organization that underwrites others’ class-action civil rights, poverty and environmental lawsuits. He graduated from Hastings Law School in 1978.

## 1980s

### Antoinette Matthies Davis
BA, physics, ’84, is executive director of the Activity Owners Association of Hawaii. She earned an MBA at the University of Hawaii in 2002.

### Morten G. Ender
BA, sociology, ’86, certificate in Nonprofit Organization Administration, ’88, is an associate professor of sociology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the U.S. Military Academy. He teaches sociological theory, cinematic images of war and the military, and marriage and the family. He is the co-editor of “Teaching the Sociology of Peace and War: A Curriculum Guide,” and “Service-Learning and Undergraduate Sociology: Syllabi and Instructional Materials.” He earned an MA and PhD from the University of Maryland.

### Richard Ferguson
BA, physics, ’87, is currently a pilot with United Airlines. After graduation, he served as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force.

### Diane Flores-Kagan
BA, English, ’89 and MA, English, ’96, is a full-time instructor at Antelope Valley College. She teaches English and is the director of the Writing Center.

### Teena Ferris Miller
BA, liberal studies, ’87, is teaching first grade in Vacaville Unified School District. She is a member of the executive board. She served on the platform committee of the California Democratic Party and is a member of the Vallejo Civil Service Commission.

### Dan O’Donnell
BA, physics, ’83, is a group manager for computing technology in the computing services department at the RAND Corporation, Santa Monica.

### Charles Press
BA, accounting and finance, ’86, is the technical advisor to the Santa Rosa District Principal Auditor Board of Equalization Sales and Use Tax department.

### 1990s

### Deanna Williamson Blom
BA, communication studies, ’94, moved to Georgia last year with her husband Johannes Blom, an orthopedic surgeon and a major in the U.S. Army deployed to the Middle East shortly after they were married in 2002. Blom is serving as the director of new business for the Hauser Group in Savannah and Atlanta. In 2001, she did consulting work in Russia, France and the Netherlands.

### Daniel Hogan
BA, physics, ’99, is an officer in the U.S. Navy, and is currently the reactor controls assistant aboard the USS Pennsylvania, a nuclear submarine based in Bangor, Wash.

### David E. Miller
BS, physics and mathematics, ’96, is a graduate student in experimental particle physics at Purdue University, where he received his master’s degree in 2000. He is now conducting research at Fermilab in pursuit of his PhD.

### Monika Ivancic
BS, physics, ’93, is the associate director of the Magnetic Resonance Facility in the chemistry department of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### Peter Rooney
BA, physics, ’86, has recently been named the deputy staff director of the U.S. House of Representatives Science Committee. Formerly he was the staff director for the subcommittee on research, and founding director for the Forum on Technology and Innovation. He also served as a program officer at the National Academy of Sciences. As the American Physical Society’s Congressional Fellow for 1998, he worked in the office of Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut. He earned his PhD in physics at the University of California, San Diego, where he was a teaching assistant and an IBM fellow.

### 2000s

### Jennifer Clark
BFA, art, ’02, had a piece of artwork purchased by the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, housed inside the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco. The purchased drawing/monotype, The Object of My Affection, was completed while at SSU. Clark is currently attending the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, and hopes to teach and become a master printer.

### Justin Flory
BS, physics, ’02, is an engineer in research and development at True Time, Santa Rosa.

### Angela LaSpisa
MA, psychology, ’02, is teaching yoga and is in the process of setting up a new company to help people battling anxiety and depression.

### Sarah Silva
BA, physics, ’02, is the assistant program manager in the GLAST Education and Public Outreach Team at Sonoma State University.
Alumni Grove Brick Path Dedication Ceremony

Alumni Grove, by the lake
2:15 p.m.

Alumni, Students and Friends Leave Their Mark on SSU
Please join us for the dedication of the bricks that have been purchased by more than 210 alumni, students and friends of Sonoma State University during the first phase of the Alumni Association’s brick campaign.

PLEASE RSVP to the SSU Alumni Office.

The deadline to purchase a brick for the second phase of installation is February 15, 2004.

To receive an invitation, contact the SSU Alumni Office.
Then & Now

1979. The students of Don Potts performance art course were among the first to enjoy classes in the one-year-old University Art Gallery building. Here the class mimics Potts, donning masks of his face.

2003. Michael Schwager and Carla Stone, the University Art Gallery director and exhibit coordinator, respectively, hang a print from the Gallery’s private collection by Victor Vasarely. The two have planned a full year of shows in observance of the Gallery’s 25th anniversary.

25TH ANNIVERSARY UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY 2003-2004 EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Sept. 11 - Oct. 19 “Renunciation: A Requiem,” an installation by Seyed Alavi
Nov. 6 - Dec. 14 Art Department Alumni Show
Nov. 16 25th Anniversary Alumni Show
Feb. 11, 12, 13 “Art from the Heart” Preview Exhibition
Feb. 14 20th Annual “Art from the Heart” silent auction benefitting the Art Gallery
Feb. 26 - March 21 25th Anniversary Show
April 1 - 18 Annual BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts) Show
April 29 - May 22 Juried Student Exhibition

2003. Michael Schwager and Carla Stone, the University Art Gallery director and exhibit coordinator, respectively, hang a print from the Gallery’s private collection by Victor Vasarely. The two have planned a full year of shows in observance of the Gallery’s 25th anniversary.