After nearly a decade as founding director of the Center for Community Engagement, it is with excitement and sadness that I have decided to step down effective August 24, 2007. I look forward to new challenges and a much-needed sabbatical for the 2007-2008 academic year. This will give me an opportunity to return to my research and to work on my book on women’s resistance to violence.

It has been a wonderful and exciting experience to help build strong partnerships between the university and the community and to establish CSULB as a resource to strengthen communities. Reciprocal relationships with key partners have led to ongoing civic participation opportunities for our students and opened up community-based research opportunities for faculty. I believe the CCE is in a strong position to continue the important work that we have begun and envision new ways to support the community engagement goals of our public (continued on page 4)

It is with great enthusiasm and optimism that I approach the Interim Directorship of the Center for Community Engagement (CCE). I am truly looking forward to this opportunity and to the new possibilities for the Center in the upcoming year and beyond. Under the Directorship of Dr. Pat Rozee, the Center has provided a strong foundation for CSULB to continue serving as a resource for students, faculty, and communities. The CCE will continue creating opportunities to expand civic participation for students, community based research for faculty, and empowerment strategies for communities. As a result of the outstanding work of Dr. Rozee and the CCE staff, the CCE is strategically positioned to take on an even stronger role in serving the mission of the university in new and innovative ways.

I join the CCE with the same commitment to and passion for community issues as I did in my service to the Department of Chicano & Latino Studies and my community development work in the non-profit sector in the County of Los Angeles.

My community based approach to service, teaching, and scholarship is clearly reflected in the mission and goals of the Center and the university. My immediate goals are to reaffirm existing commitments, partnerships and collaborations but also to establish new ones, and expand our scope, activities and initiatives as well as develop new strategies around community engagement. I strongly believe that these will continue to assert the university’s (continued on page 4)
INAUGURAL YEAR FOR JUSTICECORPS AT CSULB: 9 STUDENTS COMPLETED 300 HOURS OF SERVICE

The academic year 2006-2007 marks the first year of partnership between JusticeCorps and Center for Community Engagement. Funded through an AmeriCorps grant, JusticeCorps is a collaborative project of the California Administrative Office of the Courts; the Superior Courts of California, Counties of Alameda, Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara; select University of California and California State University campuses; and many community-based service providers. JusticeCorps trains college students to assist self-represented litigants in Family Law, Housing Law and Small Claims matters. Students help litigants with court paperwork preparation, referrals, or through individual aid at legal information workshops. For the students, this experience provides insight into careers in the justice system and an (continued on page 4)

USHERING IN A NEW INTERN COHORT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT RESOURCES REFERRAL PROGRAM

Congratulations to the new DVCRRP interns embarking on a yearlong commitment to provide immediate in-court assistance to victims of domestic violence: Brittany Davis, Miriam de la Vega, Chelsea Edgecumbe, Lindsay Waterworth, Jennifer Stumpp, Nicole Lohse, and Rebecca Quiroz. Since 2002, Center for Community Engagement and WomenShelter of Long Beach have teamed up to form a unique domestic violence advocacy program that operates in the Long Beach Superior Court. WomenShelter provides 40 hours of state mandated domestic violence training for interns to work in the Long Beach Superior Courthouse and interact with attorneys in the specialized domestic violence unit of the Long Beach City Prosecutors Office. Interns provide in-court crisis intervention, community resources, and follow up support to victims of domestic violence whose perpetrators are in the court system.

LOST CHILD IN LOUISIANA

“You’re my California angels.” That’s what a group of 39 CSULB students, faculty, and staff became to the mother of a Louisiana child whose life they likely saved during an alternative spring break trip to help with reconstruction in the region damaged by Hurricane Rita.

Approaching the turnoff to the church serving as their home base late one night, lead van driver Brett Waterfield saw a dark form dart across the rural, two-lane highway. Quickly realizing that it was a small child, the vans were able to pull over, and the second van’s driver, Pat Rozee, kept him safely by the van while a student came around to get him to safety.

Amazingly, they realized he was from a church family who had cooked dinner for them the previous night. The pre-schooler, barefoot and pajama-clad, said he’d left his glasses at his grandmother’s. They returned the child to his home and into the arms of his stunned parents.

They later learned that his mother put the boy to bed before going to nurse her three-week-old baby while her husband showered. Tearful and shaken at the thought of what could have happened had the group not happened by at that particular moment, his mother exclaimed, “You’re my California angels, sent here to save my baby.”
MORE HELLOS AND GOODBYES

Early last semester we celebrated with Administrative Coordinator Meredith Freijo and her husband Horacio the arrival of little Augustine Bastian Freijo. As her maternity leave drew to a close, Meredith made the difficult decision to focus on her graduate studies and caring for Augustine rather than returning to her position with the CCE. Meredith has been a steady and committed staff member, and we have deeply appreciated the special skills she’s contributed to the CCE team.

Another bittersweet goodbye: Interim Administrative Coordinator Diana Porras recently received the prestigious Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholar Award and was accepted for a congressional internship in Washington, DC this fall. Diana has been outstanding as our interim Administrative Coordinator.

Congratulations and best wishes to both Diana and Meredith! We will miss you both!

Join us in welcoming Carmen Contreras as our new Administrative Coordinator and Chenoa Woods as our Administrative Support Assistant. Carmen joins us from the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office and brings with her rich experience and a reputation as a competent, collegial, and compassionate employee. Chenoa Woods previously worked with the CCE as a student assistant before graduating last December. Chenoa rejoined us in June and will begin graduate studies in September.

Join us in welcoming Carmen and Chenoa to the CCE!

WELCOMING A NEW PARTNER—VILLAGES AT CABRILLO

A new partnership is developing with organizations serving homeless families, individuals, and veterans at The Villages at Cabrillo, located in West Long Beach on a 26-acre former Navy Housing site. Emergency, transitional, and subsidized housing, along with numerous supportive services, are provided by U.S. Vets, Inc., Long Beach VA Medical Center, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Native American Changing Spirits, Comprehensive Child Development, New Image, GLASS, Long Beach Parks and Recreation, and LBUSD.

The CCE, Dr. Michael Fender (Linguistics), Center for Language Minority Education and Research, and LB BLAST are working with these organizations to identify opportunities to help strengthen the community. One focus is to help develop a coordinating infrastructure to connect these independently-run programs to reduce duplication, fill service gaps, and provide a means for agencies to provide more seamless support for the residents they serve. We also seek to renovate a modular building to create a common community space for youth and family programs.

Faculty and students interested in working with the Villages at Cabrillo through service-learning, community-based research, Federal Work Study employment, internships, or volunteer projects can contact the CCE at 985-7131.

“Emergency, transitional, and subsidized housing, along with numerous supportive services, are provided…”

Meredith with Baby Augustine on a bear skin rug during their summer vacation to Washington.
NEW SERVICE-LEARNING GENERAL LIABILITY PROGRAM

Chancellor Reed recently announced the establishment of a new general liability program, Student Academic Field Experience for Credit Liability Insurance Program (SAFECLIP), which, according to CSU’s Chief Risk Officer Charlene Minnick and Community Service Learning Administrative Director Season Eckardt, “provides professional and personal general liability coverage for students enrolled in service-learning course sections for which they are receiving academic credit. The program provides indemnity including legal defense costs for students, faculty, campus and host institution (community agency) if there is a claim or lawsuit involving injury to others or damage to property in connection with service learning and other academic fieldwork experiences.”

To be protected under this program, faculty should inform the CCE what service-learning courses they are teaching (including section) and which community agencies they plan to utilize. Students should register through the CCE’s online database (SL Pro). Coverage also requires that a site agreement be in place between the University and community agency. If you are not certain if an agreement is in effect, please contact the CCE and we can make that determination and if necessary, begin the process. The University is in the process of determining specifics regarding full implementation of SAFECLIP, so we will update you as the program takes shape.

(JusticeCorps continued from page 2) opportunity to help litigants who are often low-income and cannot afford to hire an attorney. According to Adam, a senior in political science, “I have enjoyed assisting litigants as they attempt to push their cases through what can seem to be an extremely convoluted and overwhelming process.” Applications are still being accepted to participate during the 2007-2008 academic year. Download the JusticeCorps application at: www.csulb.edu/cce

(Roee continued from page 1) university.

In the spirit of undiscovered opportunities, I am very pleased to introduce Dr. Juan Benitez as the CCE’s new interim director. Juan joins us from the tenured faculty of the department of Chicano and Latino Studies, bringing with him a wealth of community and economic development experience. In the coming weeks we hope you will come by AS-124 to greet Juan and share with him your ideas for community engagement.

As always, our wonderful staff, Carina Sass, Katlin Choi, and Chenoa Woods, are available to assist you and continue the important work of the CCE on campus and in the community. I want to thank each of them for their professional and caring work in the community and for giving me the support I needed to make me look really good! To all my friends, have a productive and joyful year.

(Benitez, continued from page 1) role as a leader in endeavors for the betterment of society.

In closing, I invite everyone to come visit the Center and to share with us your ideas about community engagement and how we can better work with and serve our faculty, students, and communities.
YOU NEVER KNEW WHAT THE CCE COULD DO FOR YOU!

SERVICE LEARNING PRO AND PARTNER MATCHING

Service Learning Pro (SLP) is an online database tool used by CCE to improve collaboration and coordination among SL faculty, community partners, CSULB students, and the CCE. By publishing course descriptions, agency profiles, and community projects online, SLP streamlines the current course/project matching process and empowers faculty and community agencies to select partners that best correspond with their needs. Through the Project Search feature, faculty can view SL projects published by community agencies. Likewise, the Course Matching feature enables community partners to search through the current semester’s course offering. Both faculty and community partners can then submit online requests for matches between courses and projects. To learn more about SLP and its additional features or to create an SLP account, please contact the CCE.

IRA—REIMBURSEMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Thanks to the Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) Program, each semester the Center for Community Engagement is able to offer service learning students direct reimbursement for the costs they incur as part of their SL course projects and activities. To take advantage of this fine program, faculty with active service learning courses are asked to send an email to cce@csulb.edu with the following information: the name, number, and section of their service learning course, their course syllabus, a short description of the anticipated service learning activities, and the estimated amount of funds they will need for their students. Most requests range between $300-500 per course. Funds are allocated on a first-come first-served basis, so faculty interested in participating in this program are encouraged to contact the CCE as early as possible. Faculty, please remind your students to retain all receipts for purchases or services; this will facilitate a quick turnaround on monies returned to students. For more information regarding the reimbursement process, please contact Carina Sass, CCE Associate Director (x5-2376 or csass@csulb.edu).

ONLINE RESOURCES AND OUR WEBSITE

For the latest news and information on the CSULB service learning and community-based research front, check out the Center for Community Engagement website (http://www.csulb/cce). Throughout the year, the CCE posts upcoming events, funding opportunities, student job announcements, and calls for community-based research and service-learning faculty proposals. The website is also the portal to the Service Learning Pro Database and hosts the volunteer opportunities webpage, which lists one-time and ongoing service positions for students throughout the Long Beach/Los Angeles/Orange County areas. Information regarding the International Service Learning Program and Alternative Spring Break Program are also published on the website as well as CCE-specific forms and resources including an electronic listing of the CCE library, available to faculty, students, and staff. In addition, community agencies and CSULB faculty are encouraged to sign up for the CCE list serve. To receive periodical emails regarding upcoming CCE events and service learning and community-based research information, complete the sign-up form (http://careers.csulb.edu/mailman/listinfo/servlearn).
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The Center for Community Engagement wants you to save these dates!

- **September 12, 2007** Call for Proposals/RFP Deadline for Fall Service-Learning and Community-Based Research Curriculum Workshop for faculty who wish to participate.

- **October 8, 2007** Deadline for nominations for faculty and community partners who have gone the extra mile for service learning will be honored at our recognition ceremony.

- **October 21-27, 2007** 7 Days of Service is a week of events dedicated to civic engagement, service, community-based research and partnerships.

- **October 21, 2007** The AIDS Walk LA launches the week of service.

- **October 22, 2007** The CCE hosts the Community Engagement Reception/Recognition Ceremony, as a kick-off event for 7 Days of Service.

- **October 26, 2007** Long Beach Social Forecast presentation

- **October 27, 2007** Make a Difference Day, part of 7 Days of Service, allows students, faculty and community members to get their hands dirty helping people in need.

- **October 28, 2007** University by the Sea is an opportunity to learn new, exciting and interesting facts while strolling through downtown Long Beach.

- **January 2, 2007** Call for Proposals/RFP Deadline for Spring Faculty/Community Learning Community for faculty who wish to participate.

- **April 18, 2008** The Community Issues Forum brings together youth, parents, community leaders and the academic community to address community-wide issues and foster and strengthen community partnerships to promote improved responses at every level in our community.

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**CCE CONTACT INFORMATION**

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- **Carmen Contreras** Administrative Support Coordinator  
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- **Chenoa Woods** Administrative Assistant  
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**Curriculum Development Faculty Fellows**

- **Valerie McKay** (Fall ’07)  
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- **George Hart** (Spring ’08)  
  (English)  
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**UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BOOKS!**

**CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WILL BE MOVING TO ACADEMIC SERVICES ROOM 147 JANUARY, 2008**

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