

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION REPORT  
TO THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
October 9, 2015**

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Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**

California Lutheran University has been reaffirmed in its accreditation from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) for ten years, the maximum number of years allowed under federal law. This is a strong vote of confidence from WSCUC. The official letter from the Commission and the Accreditation Team's full report is available [here](#). The team's commendations and recommendations can be found beginning on page 36. We have already begun the work of addressing their recommendations, which will be discussed in the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting in October.

I am also pleased to announce that our PsyD program in Clinical Psychology was recently awarded accreditation for the maximum 7 years by the American Psychological Association. The self-study was submitted at the earliest possible date (the year the first class entered internship), the site visit occurred in April 2015, and accreditation was granted in August 2015. Accreditation is retroactive from the site visit which means all graduates from the PsyD program can assert they have graduated from an accredited program. Accreditation permits alumni greater access to employment opportunities, such as work in VA Hospitals, federal prisons, and many universities which have this requirement. Additionally, some states, such as Florida, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Utah will only allow graduates from accredited programs to become licensed as psychologists. We predict that accreditation will lead to a significant increase in local student applications and in applications from outside of California.

The academic year began with 200 faculty members attending the faculty retreat on August 26-27, including our PLTS colleagues who traveled to Southern California to participate in the retreat. The theme of the retreat was "Climate Change...for Diversity," with a keynote on diversity given by Dr. Chavella Pittman of Dominican University. Additional sessions included "Supporting underrepresented students in

higher education," "Teaching, scholarship, and service: finding balance," and "Stereotype threat."

Cal Lutheran welcomed 18 new faculty members at Opening Academic Convocation on August 31. Please [click here](#) to see short bios of our new faculty.

The remainder of this report will give you further details on the activities and accomplishments of our faculty and staff in Academic Affairs.

## Guide students to discover and live their purpose

### [Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship \(OURCS\)](#)

This summer, 32 undergraduates received fellowships through the OURCS to engage in mentored research and creative scholarship in a wide variety of disciplines, including:

- Swenson Science Summer Research Fellowships (15)
- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURFs) (3)
- Darling Summer Research Fellowships for Applied Scientific Computing (2)
- John Stauffer Research Fellowships in the Chemical Sciences (3)
- Steven Dorfman Research Fellows Program in the Environmental Sciences (5)
- Overton Summer Research Program in Economics (1)
- Jung Summer Research Fellowship for Biological Science (1)

Additionally, two students received awards from an endowed chair in Biology. All students in the summer program are immersed in a strong scholarly community, with regular meetings with their mentors, weekly peer support gatherings, and bi-weekly formal professional gatherings that require students to critically evaluate and present each step of their projects to a diverse community. Students learn field-specific skills, are guided regarding possible career pathways, and mature as individuals. Projects included:

- Novel Antibiotic Discovery to Target *Staphylococcus aureus* by Analyzing Soil Microbes - Katrina Brown (Swenson) mentored by **Theresa Rogers** (Biology)
- Relationship Between Patellar Tendon Moment Arms via DXA Imaging and Various Anthropometric Measures - Elise Brady (Swenson), mentored by **Michele LeBlanc** (Exercise Science)
- The Role of Self-Control in the Forgiveness Process - Kala Randazzo (SURF), mentored by **Andrea Sell** (Psychology)

- Cytotoxic and Mutagenic Testing of a Novel DNA Dye and Derivatives - Trevor Hougen (Stauffer), mentored by **Jason Kingsbury** (Chemistry)
- Racial Representation and Police Violence: Does Race Matter? - Victoria Butsky (Overton), mentored by **Kirk Lesh** (School of Management)
- Analysis and Characterization of Glycolytic Phenotypes Expressed in Canine Carcinomas - Tristan Burt (Jung), mentored by **Chad Barber** (Biology)
- Mitigating Farmworkers' Exposure to Dangerous Pesticides: A Chemical Analysis, Statistical Examination and Policy Recommendation for Ventura County - Audrey Neilan (Dorfman), mentored by **Grady Hanrahan** (Chemistry) and **Haco Hoang** (Political Science)
- Computer Simulations of Magnetic and Nematic Ordering in Superconductors - Dominic Lunde (Darling), mentored by **John Deisz** (Physics)

Students are currently preparing to present their summer projects at the annual Student Research Symposium, held the morning of Saturday, October 10. They look forward to sharing their work with members of the Board of Regents at that time. The symposium is also open to the whole community and has attracted a great deal of interest.

So far in 2015, the OURCS has awarded 19 undergraduates with funding to present their research and scholarly projects at professional conferences off campus. Four students presented their research in Exercise Science at the American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting in San Diego; Twelve students presented their studies in Psychology at a regional conference in Las Vegas, Nev.; Two students presented their research in History at a regional conference in San Diego; and one student presented her work in English at the international English honors society conference in Albuquerque, NM.

### [Study Abroad](#)

Experiential Learning in Action: Cal Lutheran groups travel to Cuba and Spain!

## CUBA



As part of a politics course offered this past spring semester, a group of 14 students went on an extensive educational tour of Cuba. It is the third time that a group from Cal Lutheran has visited the island nation since 2012. Led by **Greg Freeland** (Political Science), the class spent two weeks learning about Cuban culture and politics through visits to community organizations and local cooperatives. They visited an organic vegetable farm, heard from local experts and historians, and enjoyed lively musical performances. They learned about the Cuban health care system, met with artists, musicians, economists, as well as students and faculty from the University of Havana. They even met with several members of the National and Municipal Parliament and visited the US Interest Section. History was in the making the day the group departed; the U.S. lifted Cuba from their state sponsored terrorist list, paving the way for even more cultural exchanges such as these in the future.

**SPAIN**





Also offered in spring 2015 was a unique new course entitled Barcelona: Through the Looking Glass. **Rafaela Fiore Urizar** (Languages and Cultures) teamed up with **Michael Gagliardo** (Mathematics) to offer students a whole new take on Spanish detective fiction. Following a semester of work, 15 students from Cal Lutheran traveled to Barcelona in May to witness first-hand the relation between space, architecture and math as it relates to detective fiction. Students explored the many neighborhoods of Barcelona and had guided tours of the Gothic quarter, las Ramblas, and a number of Gaudi's most famous buildings. The students were exposed to local culture through a cooking class, museums, musical performances and even a guest lecture from a local author. All the while they kept up blogs, which reflected the intensive learning experience this seminar provided.

This fall, 60 CLU students will be studying in partner locations in: Australia, Belgium, China, Costa Rica, England, France, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Scotland, Spain, Thailand, Washington DC, and traveling around the world with Semester at Sea.

## **Continue to set high institutional academic standards**

***Faculty Appointments, Awards, Presentations, Publications, Exhibitions, Performances and Grants***

[Click here](#) to view our new "At the Leading Edge" publication highlighting the work of our faculty for the 2014-15 academic year.

Members of the Board of Regents will receive copies at the October Board meeting.

### **Distinguished Faculty**

**Trudy Arriaga**, former Ventura Unified School District Superintendent for 14 years and new Distinguished Educator in Residence in the Graduate School of Education, is publishing her first book in October: *Opening Doors: An Implementation Template for Cultural Proficiency*.

**Rose Aslan** (Religion) was selected to participate in a faculty seminar on the teaching of interfaith understanding by the Council of Independent Colleges and Interfaith Youth Core with support from the Henry Luce Foundation. The seminar took place in June at Boston College.

**Edlyn Peña** (Graduate School of Education) was appointed to serve on the National Institutes of Health's Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC). The IACC is a federal advisory committee mandated by Congress to advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services on issues related to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Peña will serve for four years on the committee.

**Diane Rodriguez-Kiino** (Graduate School of Education) was nominated to serve a three year term on the United States Fulbright Selection Team as a Japan and Korea Regional Peer Reviewer beginning this fall.

**Tim Weaver** (Business, Bachelor's Degree for Professionals Program) received the 2015 Ventura County Volunteer of the Year Award from the Women's Economic Ventures.

### **Staff Presentations**

**Cathy Alexander, Andrea Cruz, Rodney Reynolds** and **Melinda Wright** (Educational Effectiveness and Institutional Research) and **Grady Hanrahan** (Academic Affairs) in collaboration with students David Tushin and Matthew Guerrero presented "Going Experiential! Defining, Collecting, and Analyzing Experiential Learning Data" at the 2015 WSCUC Academic Resource Conference in Oakland in April and the 2015 Association for Institutional Research Forum in Denver in May.

**Cindy Grether** (School of Management) presented "Transitioning to a New Learning Management System" at the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) Conference in St. Louis in April.

### **Faculty and Staff Development** **Graduate School of Education**

The full-time faculty members in the Department of Counselor Education have been participating in once per month cultural proficiency training with a consultant in order to support the ongoing development of a department that advocates access, equity, and inclusion of all students in K-12 and higher education. Adjunct faculty members are also participating in biannual workshops on cultural proficiency. Faculty presented a workshop describing their journey at the annual Cultural Proficiency Institute this summer.

### **Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)**

At the August faculty retreat, the CTL shared some of the lessons learned from the recent offering of five blended (partially online, partially face-to-face) courses in the traditional undergrad program. The center has also created a 5-week online faculty development program, aimed at local CPAs with no teaching experience, that will walk participants through the process of creating and teaching effective university courses. Finally, in conjunction with Distance Learning, the center has supported the trial transition of five Bachelor's Degree for Professionals courses into blended courses.

### **Distance Learning**

The Distance Learning team facilitated blended and online course development by supporting faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Management and Bachelor Degree for Professionals Program. Two traditional undergraduate blended classes were delivered in the spring term. A summer undergraduate blended course was offered to high school students enrolled in the Upward Board Program, a first for that program. Two fully-online traditional undergraduate courses were delivered this summer. Onsite video capture and editing support was provided, and closed-captioning added for ADA-compliance.

### **Program Reviews**

Interdisciplinary Educational Studies, Art, Computer Science, Exercise Science and PsyD programs completed the program review process this summer. English, Geology, Criminal Justice, Accounting, Philosophy, Religion and Master's in Clinical Psychology programs have had external reviewers visit and are finalizing their program reviews. Music, Theatre, Communication, Financial Planning and MPPA programs have completed program review reports and expect external reviewers to visit this fall.

**Collaborative Opportunities**  
**Graduate School of Education**

The Department of Counselor Education is finalizing a partnership with the Conejo Valley Unified School District to create a School Counselor Professional Development District. The district and program faculty will collaborate to offer professional development for Cal Lutheran's school counseling interns and for school counselors and intern supervisors in the district. Candidates will be placed in the district under this new partnership starting this fall.

The federally funded Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program provided free speech/language services to children with hearing loss this summer through No Limits for Deaf Children at their Culver City and new Oxnard facilities.

Through a grant received from Amgen, the GSOE is working with Ventura County middle school science teachers on Next Generation Science Standards. **Michael McCambridge** is the campus lead on this project.

**School of Management**

The School of Management has recently formed an alliance with the Port of Hueneme and the Economic Development Collaborative of Ventura County (EDC-VC) to create a research-based internationalization program for various industry sectors in Ventura County. The collaboration will take place under the global "World Trade Center" brand.

**Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS)**

PLTS hosted the annual **ELCA Convocation of Teaching Theologians** this past August. Fifty five ELCA Professors from ELCA Colleges and Universities and Seminaries spent three days studying and dialoguing around this year's theme: **The Immigrant Church in the United States & Canada: Past, Present, Future**. The ELCA covered the costs of the professors' travel and accommodations. Local hosting costs were covered by a generous donation from long-time friend of PLTS and member of Cal Lutheran's Board of Regents, Dr. Judy Larsen. The Convocation was chaired by Dr. Shauna Hannan, PLTS Preaching professor.

## Support student achievement across all programs

### Student Services

#### Center for Student Success (CSS)

At the end of the spring 2015 semester, approximately 75% of the STAR Program participants (77 of 102 traditional undergraduate students) were in good academic standing. At the end of the spring 2015 term, approximately 82% of the Academic Support Program participants (14 of 17 graduate students) regained good academic standing.

#### Disability Support Services (DSS)

Serving 174 students from fall 2014 through summer 2015, DSS experienced a 12% increase when compared to the amount of students served in the previous year (155 students). This continual increase has grown significantly since the fall 2008 term when DSS served 54 students.

#### Student Support Services (SSS)

- The Department of Education awarded SSS a \$1.2 million grant to continue the program for five years. As of September 2015, SSS has been at Cal Lutheran for 25 years. They are honored to continue their work supporting first generation students, low income students, and students with disabilities.
- In August, SSS hosted 36 incoming first year and transfer students for their annual Summer Orientation to Academic Resources (SOAR) program. Students lived on campus, attended sessions from important offices on campus, asked questions to faculty and current SSS participants, and built connections with students from similar backgrounds. For more information about SOAR, [click here](#) to view their video.
- At the end of the Spring 2015 semester, the average GPA for SSS participants was 3.2.

## Build and modernize sustainable facilities

The Art Department faculty have met a number of times with the architect to design the floorplan of the Rolland Art Center.

In order to support and enhance the academic program, Information Systems and Services (ISS) made the following technology upgrades and enhancements:

#### Computer lab upgrades

- In maintaining currency of computer labs on campus, upgraded three open labs and several smaller departmental labs.

#### Chapel Audio Visual upgrades

- The Samuelson Chapel is now outfitted with a four robotic camera video system, to streamline and automate recordings and broadcasts of chapel services and other events. The chapel audio systems have also been upgraded to include an eight channel wireless system.

#### PLTS IT initiatives

- ISS is rolling out electronic application form and payment gateway for the new Praxis online program at PLTS. The electronic application will streamline the traditional paper application submission.

## **And attract students of high ideals and promise**

### **Bachelor's Degree for Professionals Program**

The Bachelor's Degree for Professionals Program is growing their outreach effort, and this fall will meet with counseling teams at 5 community colleges (LA Valley College, LA Pierce College, Moorpark College, Ventura College, and Oxnard College), meet with Department Chairs in Psychology, Communication, and Business at these colleges, as well as make numerous classroom presentations in community college courses.

They have also developed a mission, vision, and values statement (tied to the mission of Cal Lutheran) to help articulate our commitment to post-traditional learners. [Click here](#) to view.

In order to increase flexibility for students (and thereby enrollments), the Bachelor's Degree for Professionals is piloting 9 courses in a blended (hybrid) delivery format; 5 courses are being delivered fall term, 4 courses spring term. Students will meet their instructors face-to-face every other week (6 class meetings; about 20 hours of instruction). The rest of the course delivery (about 30 hours) has been designed using asynchronous online-instructor led activities (pre-recorded lectures, discussion boards, etc.). The pilot is being formally researched, to ascertain if the delivery method is as effective, more effective, or less effective than the same courses delivered in a face-to-face format.

### **Graduate School of Education**

- Five cohorts (78 students) of new educational leadership candidates started this summer – one in Santa Maria, two in Oxnard, one on the main campus, and one in Woodland Hills. This is a large increase from having 2-3 cohorts over the past few years.
- The Department of Learning and Teaching continues to develop and expand the Professional Development School model for teacher candidates in the districts of Moorpark, Conejo Valley, and Las Virgenes.

### **Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary**

***Praxis: Lifelong Education for Faith and Practice***, a fully online clergy and lay education program is being launched by PLTS. *Praxis* is unique for the ELCA in that it is fully online and asynchronous. Its main premise is that ministry professionals and lay persons are life-long learners who need to maximize the time they have for education. Its goal is to boost and enhance ministry skills, and to raise up leaders in the congregation and world. ELCA's Presiding Bishop, The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, and The Rev. Steven Boumman, Executive Director of the Congregational and Synodical Mission Unit of the ELCA have provided inaugural talks to accompany the advertising of PLTS' online lifelong education program.