NASA names University of Pacific Graduate to New Astronaut Class

Jose Hernandez, a 1984 graduate of University of the Pacific’s School of Engineering and Computer Science, has been chosen by NASA as one of eleven new astronaut candidates. NASA introduced the new class during a Space Day celebration May 6 at the National Air and Space Museum in Chantilly, Va.

Excitement here at Hernandez’ alma mater continues, where several faculty members remember him well and have kept in touch with him since his graduation. Gary Martin, assistant dean of Pacific’s School of Engineering and Computer Science, says he is proud of Hernandez’ accomplishment, but also pleased at the example he sets for others.

"Jose has done some high powered things," said Martin. "But no matter how high he flies, he remains a down-to-earth, genuine person who works hard to reach his goals."

Hernandez’ story is an inspiring one. Born in the rural town of French Camp near Stockton, his childhood days were spent working alongside his brothers, sisters and parents picking crops as a migrant farm worker. Although he was 12 years old before he learned English, it didn’t take Hernandez long to set his sights much higher. Hernandez says he was a high school senior when he heard of the first Latino chosen to be part of the space program, and decided then that he wanted to be an astronaut. Following the announcement, Hernandez phoned his family and joked that his early childhood training had prepared him well for picking up moon rocks.

After graduating Franklin High School in Stockton, Hernandez enrolled at the University of the Pacific, where he earned a degree in electrical engineering and was awarded a full scholarship to the graduate program at the University of California in Santa Barbara, where he continued his engineering studies. In 1987 he accepted a full-time job with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he had worked as a co-op in college. He is credited with contributing to the development of a new digital mammography tool for early detection of breast cancer.

Jose Hernandez will return to Pacific Thursday, August 5, for a reception and dinner hosted by Pacific’s School of Engineering & Computer Sciences. His topic will be “Behind the Scenes at NASA Operations.”
Awards

The Office of Sponsored Programs, Research and Graduate Studies, announces that there are two recipients of the Summer 2004 Deans Research Award:

Monty Lo, Dept. of Chemistry
Advisor: Dr. Uta Hellman-Blumberg
Studying DNA damage by cleavage with restriction enzymes

Nancy Han, Dept. of Biological Sciences
Advisor: Dr. Gregg Jongeward
Cloning and characterization of Pax-6 from the spider, Lactroductys hesperus

The Deans Research Award allows undergraduate students to conduct research in consultation with a faculty mentor. The students can earn 1 to 4 units for the project. Up to $500 is available per student each semester, with the monies administered by the faculty mentor.

Dreyfus Foundation Award
The Department of Biological Sciences and the Office of Sponsored Programs congratulate the 2004 winner of the Dreyfus Foundation Award for Student Research, Mr. Matthew Hashimoto. Matthew, advised by Drs. Geoff and Joan Lin Ceregno is working on a project entitled "Characterization of kanamycin as a selectable marker for multicopy transformants in P. pastoris."

This award is designed to provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to spend a summer working with a faculty member on a scholarly/artistic project. It is designed to support a broad range of projects in all fields of study. The goal is to give students a valuable educational experience collaborating with faculty on professional work.

Additional information and applications on the Deans Research Awards and the Dreyfus Foundation award are available at: http://www.uop.edu/osp/internal/undergrad.asp

These are outstanding examples of the type of research being conducted by undergraduate students at the University of the Pacific. Congratulations!

noteworthy...

DRS. CHRIS NEILL and MARK VAN NESS received an $80,000 dollar grant from the Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Association of America. The research will examine the role of the immune and sympathetic nervous systems influence on functional capacity and neuro-cognitive function in 40 patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. The grant supports a collaborative effort among the Department of Sport Sciences at Pacific, DR. LUCINDA BATEMAN at the OFFER clinic in Salt Lake City, and DR. BOB SUHADOLNIK in the Department of Biochemistry at Temple University.

Counseling Services is pleased to announce that DR. ELLEN LIN and MARYANN PEARSON have successfully obtained a $9,000 grant from the National Asian Women’s Health Organization (NAWHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on sexual and intimate-partner violence prevention for Asian American female students. Counseling Services staff will be conducting a series of culturally-appropriate modules to increase awareness, education, and prevention within this targeted population.

DR. PAUL GLASSMAN, associate dean for Information and Educational Technology at the School of Dentistry, CHRISTINE MILLER, associate professor of Dental Practice and co-director of Pacific Center for Special Care at the School of Dentistry, RICK INGRAHAM and EMILY WOOLFORD co-authored “The Extraordinary Vulnerability of People with Disabilities: Guidelines for Oral Health Professionals” in the Journal of the California Dental Association, May 2004, Volume 32, Number 5.

The Department of Biological Sciences and the Office of Sponsored Programs announced the award of the Annual Young Investigator Grant to DR. NATASHA LEWIS, associate professor of Biological Sciences at the School of Science, for her research on “Studying DNA damage by cleavage with restriction enzymes.”

The Dreyfus Foundation Award
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Enterprise Business Partners...EBPs

EBPs are representative groups of the staff and faculty across Pacific who deliver services, process our University business, and support underlying technology. The goals of the EBPs are to provide clear and ongoing communications around business processes, data and services, to unify our 3-campus business architecture, and to better plan enterprise services to facilitate Customer Relationship Management (CRM).

Evolving and improving business practices across our organizational units and campuses requires that we have clear, ongoing communications. EBP monthly meetings are designed to be highly productive, and will identify and address key business and process needs, propose and prioritize projects, and ensure ongoing progress toward the business and service goals of the University.

An introductory meeting for new EBP members will be held in July, and EBPs will begin regular monthly meetings in September, 2004.

In July, the EBP Chairs will be inviting the proposed members of the new EBPs to an introductory "EBP101" meeting. We hope it will be informative; members will gain more details on the methods and goals of the EBPs. To learn more, please visit the EBP web (http://www.pacific.edu/EA/EBPs/html/EBPs.html). If you would like to be a part of the EBPs, please contact the Chair for the EBP that represents your area.

Enrollment Services & Student Life
Chair: Cindy Bogue, Kim McCormick, Michele Dominiak

Human Resources & Payroll
Chair: Jane Lewis, Tara Juano

Finances, Assets & Facilities
Chairs: Debbie Kallman, Mike Firpo
University Advancement
Chairs: Caroline Darsie, Cathy Dodson

Teaching & Learning Administration
Chairs: Kathy Ray

University Makes Strategic Investments in New Fiscal Year

At its May meeting in Sacramento, the University of the Pacific’s Board of Regents approved an operating budget of $155.4 million for the fiscal year that began on July 1, an increase of $8 million from the previous year. This unrestricted funds budget supports educational and general expenses on all three of Pacific’s campuses (Stockton, Sacramento, San Francisco).

The increase will allow the University to improve faculty and staff compensation, boost financial aid for students and strengthen information technology.

Approximately $5.25 million will go to cover the next year’s phase of a multi-year plan to offer more competitive salary and benefit packages. It will also help offset the rising cost of medical insurance and a planned increase in the University’s contribution to employee retirement accounts.

Nearly $900,000 will be used for technology investments on all three campuses. University-funded student financial aid will also grow by $516,000, to a total of almost $30 million.

In addition, the Board approved an $11.5 million bond issue. The University will use the proceeds for facilities improvements and capital equipment purchases. The majority of funds from the bond will be used to renovate and upgrade student living space, including the installation of fire sprinklers in every residence hall. Sprinklers will also be installed in the School of Dentistry’s building in San Francisco.

Tuition increases for the schools of Law and Dentistry were also approved. Full-time law students will now pay $29,222 per year, an increase of 5.5 percent. Students in Pacific’s Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) program will face tuition and fees totaling $58,565. Pacific is the only university in the nation to offer a three-year dentistry program; all other dental schools require four years.

In January, the board authorized a 4.9 percent increase in undergraduate tuition and fees for the upcoming school year. Full-time undergraduate tuition for the academic year 2004-05 will be $24,320. Pacific’s increase remains well below the national average for private colleges, which was 6.0 percent last year, according to The College Board.
**Noteworthy continued**

ROBERT HALLIWELL (TJLSOPHS), with Principle Investigator, DR. TIM DELOREY at the Molecular Research Institute, CA, and colleagues at Moltech Corp, CA, and the University of Wisconsin (Milwaukee, WI), have recently been awarded a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The grant of $497,000 is to investigate the "Attenuation of Memory Impairment using Benzo-diazepine Ligands". DR. HALLIWELL’s lab will undertake important electro-physiological experiments over the next 2 years and will receive $75,109.

SAID SHAKERIN, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, presented his work on water fountains at the annual conference of the American Society for Engineering Education in Salt Lake City, 19-23 June, 2004. The title of his paper was: “Water Fountains Blend Art and Engineering, and it was published in the conference proceedings.

PEGGY KAY, OIT project Manager, participated in the Gartner-sponsored summit "Project Portfolio Management North America" from July 11-13. This event is an all expense paid, invitation-only event for IT professionals with reputations for delivering quality strategic IT programs and services.

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**The Bulletin is**
published twice monthly during the academic year.

Editor: Jennifer Murphy ’05
Executive Editor: Lauren Hersh Weiser

The next issue will be published August 18
Submissions are due August 11
Send submissions to: bulletin@pacific.edu
209.946.2311

**BULLETIN BOARD ADS ARE FREE** to Pacific faculty, staff, parents, students and friends. Placement is first come, first served based on space availability. All ads will run one month unless a renewal is requested. Send email to bulletin@pacific.edu.

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**MOVING SALE:** Futon in excellent condition (white-washed wood frame; double size), $75 obo. Rattan love seat, $10 obo. Computer desk in excellent condition with pull-out keyboard/mouse tray & cd hutch in light pine finish, $30. Call Ellen 954-0888 or email elin@pacific.edu.

**DINING TABLE:** Brueners Mahagony, x-lg leaf + pads, exc. cond. Also will include 5 chairs no addl. $875 (209) 367-0400.

**HOUSE TO RENT:** 2 bdrms, 1 bth, 1 car garage, w/d, gardener incl. Nice neighborhood, close to University of the Pacific. $1100. per month, $1000. deposit. 209-478-5036 or 209-463-2810.

**FOR SALE:** Matching queen size sleeper sofa and love seat. Custom fabric with beige and sage as primary colors. $3000 new, asking $500. Loft bunk bed set up with built in tower of drawers, shelving, and desk; $200. Three piece entertainment center, white washed. Will accommodate 32” television, open shelves on side pieces with plantation shutter doors on bottom of all three pieces; asking $500. Call Jayne at 946-2579 or e-mail at jmchugh@pacific.edu


**2000 KIA SPORTAGE EX:** 4D SUV. 94,800 miles, but well-maintained. Extended power-train warranty. V4, automatic transmission, AC, power doors and windows, alarm system. Asking $5,750. Call Robyn at 808-271-3679 or e-mail r_richard@pacific.edu.

**CONDO FOR RENT:** Very nice, very clean 2 bdrm. 1 bath upstairs condo next to Swenson golf course. $695 per mo. No Smokers. No Pets.Call Karen (925) 449-0999

**ELECTRONIC RECLINER CHAIR-** New. Dark beige leather - reclines fully to flat position with push button ease. Extremely comfortable. Purchase price $800 - selling for $500. Also, 4’ wide movie screen with tripod stand - all in one $25; Red metal folding chair, good condition $10. Call 467-1439 eves.

**ROOM FOR RENT:** $425, 1 Bedroom for rent include all utilities. This is a newer home in the Western Ranch area. I am renting 1 room (fully furnished) include full bathroom. Washer/Dryer included and all other amenities is available. Located off I-5 freeway and Downing exit. Very nice neighborhood. Non smoking/No Pets. Please call Myra (209)-983-8529 Home; (408)849-1342 Cell.

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The Office of Marketing and University Relations is located at 3601 Pacific Ave., University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA 95211.