Kevin Klose, president and CEO of National Public Radio (NPR), has been selected as the keynote speaker for CSUMB’s 2005 commencement ceremony on May 21.

Julie Packard, executive director of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, will speak at the second annual James Rote Lecture at CSUMB. Her lecture, entitled “Inspiring Conservation of the Oceans,” is free and open to the public. It will be held at the Alumni & Visitors Center, Building 97, at 6:30 P.M. on April 28. A reception preceding the lecture will start at 5:45 P.M. The annual Rote Lecture features scientists and scholars whose work links science and policy in addressing environmental issues.

“We want to inspire people to engage with nature and expose them to all the fabulous life of the oceans,” she told the San Francisco Chronicle last fall, on the 20th anniversary of the aquarium. “We've got to inspire people with a conservation ethic, to engage with nature, to build a constituency for the oceans.”

Based on her work as a board member of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Packard helped found the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the nation's first major public aquarium dedicated to interpreting a single region — the Monterey Bay. She has served as the aquarium’s executive director since its opening.

The lecture series is named for Dr. James Rote, who joined the faculty at CSUMB as a founding ESSP professor in 1995. Multiple sclerosis forced him to resign his professorship in the fall of 1997.

Due to limited seating for this event, please make a reservation by calling 582-3017.
Leaders to be honored at Celebration of Community event

The Eighth Annual Celebration of Community, set for April 27, will honor a group of people who have made significant contributions to their professions and their communities. For the first time, a hospitality category has been added. The event is a benefit for CSUMB's Local Area Scholarship Opportunities. The evening’s festivities begin at 6:00 P.M. with a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception. At 7:00 P.M., a catered gourmet dinner will be served. At 8:30 P.M., CSUMB's 2005 Distinguished Fellows will be recognized.

Tickets for Celebration of Community are $175 each. Parking in designated lots is free. Dress for this event is black tie optional. For more information, call 582-3017.

The honorees are:

**Agribusiness** — Dennis Caprara founded and is CEO of R.C. Farms and R.C. Packing, leading growers and packers of agricultural products. He is past chairman and director of the Grower Shipper Vegetable Association.

**The Arts** — Ric Masten followed Margaret Mead as the Unitarian Universalist Association Billings Lecturer. He has provided poetry readings and folk singing programs at over 500 colleges and universities in 47 states, Canada and England.

**Business** — From its founding in 1990, Tom Gray has served as managing principal of the Santa Lucia Preserve in Carmel Valley. Of the property’s 20,000 acres, the non-profit Santa Lucia Conservancy he created manages 18,000 acres of wildlife habitat. Gray is a member of the CSUMB President’s Council, having previously served as its chairman.

**Community & Public Service** — Ewalker James is the founder and president of the Citizens League for Progress, keeping residents abreast of emerging local, state and national issues. He is a board member of the Monterey Jazz Festival, president of the Seaside Cultural Arts Group, and a past board member of the Monterey County ACLU.

**Education** — Mae Johnson is a retired principal of Monterey High School, Los Arboles Middle School and Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School. She previously served on the boards of trustees of Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, Community Foundation for Monterey County and the Cultural Council for Monterey County.

**Hospitality** — Bert Cutino is co-founder and chief operating officer of the Sardine Factory Restaurant. As a principal of the Cannery Row Company, his efforts are devoted toward developing tourism to benefit the hospitality industry. He is the current chairman of the board of trustees of the American Academy of Chefs and the founder of the Meals on Wheels Culinary Classique.

**Military** — Deborah Nelson is a nurse practitioner and a captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve. She has taught in the nursing programs at MPC, San José State, Simmons College, Hartnell College and National Defense University. Nelson is a member of the board of trustees, and past board president, of the Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System.

**Sports** — Jose Gil teaches advanced art at Alisal High School. He has served as the school’s varsity boys’ basketball coach for six years. In 2003, the Monterey County Herald, Salinas Californian and Monterey Bay League selected him as coach of the year. ✽
“OPIS” seeks to help employees and departments succeed

Campus Connection recently interviewed Dennis Hungridge, CSUMB’s professional development manager, to learn about the latest program available from University Human Resources.

Q: What’s the biggest issue you hear about from people on campus?
A: Communication — or the lack of communication. It seems to be the most important issue in departments and is related to many of the other concerns people have. When it comes to communication issues, we often hear that “my boss doesn’t tell me very often what’s going on” or “I hear things through the grapevine or from our website, but not from my manager.” My focus in professional development is always on communication.

Q: How can we improve communication?
A: In many ways. A new program we are offering, called the Organizational Performance Improvement System — or OPIS for short — addresses many of the issues staff members and department managers face. The program grew out of comments made by participants in other programs such as communication or teamwork sessions. OPIS is a voluntary program, available to any department on campus, to help folks develop fresh ideas to solve existing problems and to tackle specific performance issues, such as improved communication or time management.

Q: How does OPIS work?
A: It dawned on us that a more effective way to bring professional development to each department on campus would be to gather everyone in a department in a brainstorming session. This is what we are doing. Our focus is directed toward a specific issue that’s real and authentic within that department. The process is tailored to the department’s needs and desired outcomes. The process can be as straightforward as a one-day retreat or as complex as a semester-long series of activities and outcomes. Basically, OPIS provides a framework for focusing the energies of employees on resolving issues that face the department. The participants in the session develop the outcomes. I’m only the facilitator. Unsolicited advice is always seen as criticism. That’s not my job. My job is to say “here’s a process we can work through.”

Q: Are both staff and managers invited to OPIS sessions?
A: Yes. Getting folks in the same room and talking about a single topic levels the playing field. Everybody’s opinions and suggestions are important in making the process work. People don’t want to have their time wasted. All the research in adult learning clearly shows that adult learners need to know that what they are going to do means something to their job or to their life. Through OPIS, we hope to facilitate change to help both employees and departments succeed.

Q: How can departments take advantage of OPIS?
A: The process starts with a phone call or e-mail request from the department to me. I will arrange to meet with department representatives, discuss the issues, and together decide if OPIS is an effective strategy for addressing the need. If the answer is yes, we work together to craft sessions responsive to the needs identified by the employees in the department. We focus on outcomes — what will folks be able to do, think, or understand as a result of the sessions. When participants identify and agree on results, they are more likely to move toward resolving the issues at hand.
Earth Day, April 22, is a day to reinvest in our environment. At CSUMB, lot of paper ends up in the trash can or unused in a file cabinet. Recycling that paper, as opposed to tossing it into the trash, helps the environment. It's a good time to start a new habit and put the paper in the proper bin — a recycling bin.

CSUMB's Waste Management Group is sponsoring Earth Week April 18 through 22. Various activities are planned, including a “Clean Out Your Files Day” on April 22. On that day, staff and faculty will be asked to recycle old documents. To find out what's recyclable, visit the Monterey Disposal website at www.montereydisposal.com and click on "recycling information". For every ton of paper recycled, CSUMB saves 17 trees, 3,000 gallons of water, three cubic yards of landfill space, enough electricity to power the average home for six months, and 60 pounds of pollutants are kept out of the atmosphere.

Other Earth Week activities include a "Bike to Breakfast" on April 19. Those bicyclists riding to the University Center between 7:00 and 10:00 A.M. that day will get a free continental breakfast to start the day.

On April 20, between noon and 2:00 P.M., environmental awareness booths will be available in the Main Quad and an organic food BBQ will be catered by Sodexho. The BBQ will kick off a corn-based plastics container replacement project, spearheaded by Associated Students and Sodexho. Material made from corn requires 50 percent less fossil fuel than older containers, and corn is completely compostable. It's the beginning of the end of styrofoam and paper products in the Dining Commons. On April 21, the BBC will feature an environmental art exhibit from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. A reggae concert from 8:30 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. will follow. Outdated cell phones and rechargeable batteries will also be collected at the event.

For more information on Earth Week activities, contact the Waste Management Group on FirstClass.

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**A new voice at KAZU**

Brian Beckmann is the new operations director and Morning Edition host at KAZU radio. He comes to the Central Coast from KWMU radio at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where he was weekend host and weekday substitute host.

Beckmann has been heard on KAZU spots since mid-March, but his voice is now heard frequently on the morning broadcasts. Listen to KAZU online at www.kazu.fm or on the radio at 90.7 FM.

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**Renee Curry appointed dean**

Dr. Renee Curry has been appointed dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS), effective July 1, 2005. Curry joined CSUMB in 2000 as an English professor in HCOM. In 2003, she became director of HCOM. In 2004, she assumed the interim dean duties for AHSS.

"Dr. Curry has created a collaborative and collegial staff and faculty team through her commitment to shared governance," noted Provost Diane Cordero de Noriega. "She has also become a valued member of the campus leadership team."
The 7th Annual Heritage Festival is scheduled for April 7. A day-long series of events will be presented in partnership with MPA and the World Theater.

At 10:00 A.M., the ensemble Alegría will take the stage. Well-versed in the traditions of jazz, Afro-Cuban and Afro-Brazilian musical styles, Alegría has forged a sound that is uniquely its own.

Jonah and the Whalewatchers are scheduled to perform at 4:00 P.M. The band's repertoire includes calypso, soca and more modern dancehall reggae, plus ska and hip-hop tunes that are guaranteed to get people up and dancing.

Admission to each event is free and open to all staff, faculty, students and the public. For more information, call MPA at 582-4085.

Music and Performing Arts (MPA) will present its annual Spring Concert on May 8 at 3:00 P.M. in the newly renovated Music Hall.

Under the direction of Paulette Gissendanner, three choral ensembles will perform. They include Nuovo Plaisir, The CSUMB Singers and The Gospel Choir. Selections include works by Copland, Barber, Kee and others. Elena Volkova and Eddie Mendenhall will provide piano accompaniment. Also performing will be the CSUMB Jazz Combo, under the direction of Paul Contos.

Faculty, staff and students, as well as the public, are invited. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call 582-4085.

A panel on professional ethics, recently convened before hundreds of students in the University Center, heard Father Robert Drinan, Jim Bracher, founder of Bracher Center for Integrity in Leadership, Salinas Mayor Anna Caballero, and Leon Panetta address ethics concerns in government and business.

Drinan, a former five-term U.S. congressman from Massachusetts and law professor at Georgetown University, has pursued careers as a priest, scholar, lawyer, politician, activist and ethicist. In addition to serving as a visiting professor at four American universities, he has received 21 honorary degrees.
Emmalyn Yamrick, resident director in Residential Life, will attend the Western Association of College and University Housing Office (WACUHO) annual conference for professionals in Los Angeles during April. Yamrick, in her eighth month as a CSUMB employee, won the 2005 ACUHO-I Annual Conference scholarship, which covers the cost of registration, travel and lodging for the conference.

Attending the conference will enable Yamrick to network with other professionals in her field and provide an opportunity to learn new ideas and processes to advance CSUMB's programs. "This is a huge recognition for Emmalyn and for the growth of our Residential Life program at CSUMB," noted Michelle Donohue, assistant director of Residential Life.

Yamrick will attend the conference programming sessions and also take part as a presenter with Donohue and Marya Llamas, resident director. The trio will present details about CSUMB's suicide prevention program. Yamrick will also serve as a panelist in a roundtable for new professionals.

Upcoming conference to cover all aspects of wireless technology

CSUMB's Wireless Education & Technology Center (WETEC) will host the second annual Wireless Community & Mobile User Conference at the Monterey Conference Center June 1 to 3. Cisco Systems will sponsor a strolling dinner on June 2 in the new Ocean Edge Wing (which opens the same week) at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. The conference offers attendees sessions and forums with leaders in the wireless world, covering mobile applications in education and the public sector. These include:

- Wi-Fi & mobility — future scenarios for digital citi-zenry
- Ship-to-shore Wi-Fi, featuring the work of CSUMB faculty members at the Elkhorn Slough and Point Lobos
- Wireless broadband and multimedia
- Presentations from local and national leaders on the latest Wi-Fi technologies, including mesh networks, WiMax and network security
- Exciting student demonstrations and projects using mobile technology

CSUMB faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the conference. Admission to the conference proceedings is free. To register, contact Karen Letendre at 582-5384 or Arlene Krebs at 582-5025. Visit wetec.csumb.edu for details and information.

For those involved in mobile education the goal of WETEC is to provide resources — from research to technical issues to case studies to conferences, symposia, newsletters and webcasts. The WeTEC website serves as a clearinghouse, enabling users to publish, archive, search and easily retrieve an array of up-to-date resources that effectively integrate wireless technologies in the teaching and learning environment.
New employees

Jose Aguilera, Admissions Counselor — A&R
Cesar Becerra,* Academic and Recruitment Advisor — CAMP
Brian Beckmann,* Operations Director and Morning Edition Host — KAZU Radio
Miklos Benedek,* Underwriting Specialist — KAZU Radio
Patricia Casey,* Grants and Contracts Specialist — G&C
Manual Duran, Police Officer — UPD
Patrick Finch,* Research Scientist — SEP
Ramiro Medrano,* Recruitment and Placement Specialist — High School Equivalency Program
Audren Morris, Director of Financial Aid — FA
Pedro Ortega,* Recruitment and Placement Specialist — High School Equivalency Program
Sherry Porter,* Associate Teacher — CDC
Lindsay Scarr, HR Information Systems Assistant — UHR

Transfers & Promotions

Denise Castro, Coordinator of Compliance — ASRH

Probation Passed

Michael Machado, ITCD Lab Coordinator — ITCD
Sara Torbitt, Web Programming Specialist — TSS

Departures

Thanks to each of you for your service to CSUMB:
John Beccaria, CP&D — hired September 2001
Joshua Callahan, IS&NS — hired April 1998
Minerva Estassi, Teacher Education — hired August 1996

Note: Separation dates previously noted on internal announcements may not coincide with an employee’s last day on the payroll, which is reflected in the list above.

*Foundation employee

Thanks to University Human Resources for this information.

CSUMB’s newest police officer

Manual Duran has joined the UPD as its newest officer. He previously served as a police officer with King City. Duran looks forward to providing law enforcement services on campus, recognizing that working in UPD requires flexibility in dealing with a wide variety of citizens, from students, faculty and staff to people from surrounding communities who drive through the campus. An important skill he brings to UPD is fluency in Spanish.

“To me, the CSUMB Vision is the future of California,” Duran said. “It’s going to make us all stronger.”

Upcoming conference for higher education business officers

The Western Association of College and University Business Officers (WACUBO) will hold its annual conference in Monterey from May 1 to 4. Dan Johnson, CSUMB’s vice president for administration & finance, is the host chair for this year’s event.

One of the conference events open to CSUMB staff and faculty will be a golf tournament played on the Old Del Monte Golf Course on the morning of May 1. Details are available from Fred Hardee at 582-3383.

WACUBO offers business officers in the western region opportunities to develop professionally, to identify solutions for issues affecting higher education, and to share their expertise with colleagues.
Newest building retains reminders of Fort Ord

The new Alumni & Visitors Center, Building 97, carries a quiet tribute to the past — some of the recycled wood ceiling in the lobby comes from Army buildings that stood on the site, one of several ways CSUMB is preserving the heritage of Fort Ord. The building functions as a visitor greeting center and gathering place for staff, faculty and students. As its name suggests, it’s home to the Alumni Association. The building also houses offices for University Advancement and Grants & Contracts. Noll and Tam of Berkeley was the architect. The general contractor was Tombleson, Inc. Within Campus Development & Operations at CSUMB, Niraj Dangoria had overall responsibility for the project. Working with Kathleen Ventimiglia, he facilitated the project through its design stage. Katie Timmerman was the construction manager, and Chris Pentony was responsible for inspecting its construction. Mehul Mody and Marilyn Davies assisted with the furnishings.

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- [ ] I do not wish to receive a hard copy of future issues of Campus Connection.

Eddy Hogan
Bldg.12