



# PARTNERS *in Education*

CAL POLY POMONA

Spring 2014 NEWSLETTER



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**PIE's mission** is to support excellence in the preparation of future teachers at Cal Poly Pomona and, in collaboration with stakeholders, to develop and/or promote community based programs that strengthen the education of the region's students.

## Chair's Message



Sue Johnson,  
PIE Chair of the Board

As Cal Poly Pomona celebrates its 75th Anniversary, Partners in Education (PIE) has its own successes to celebrate as we enter our tenth year of supporting students, faculty, and staff at the University by advocating for quality education and educational development at Cal Poly Pomona and in the surrounding community. As we reflect on the past ten years, we are pleased to celebrate the impact PIE has had on the lives of students, faculty, and staff.

The success of PIE's Sponsor a Future Teacher program is one way PIE has made a difference not only in the lives of Cal Poly Pomona students, but in the lives of countless elementary, middle, and high school students throughout the region. Sponsor a Future Teacher provides financial assistance to students during their two-quarter classroom teaching assignments. Since its inception, this program has provided \$5,000 fellowships to 81 future teachers, allowing them the opportunity to focus their energies in the profession to which they aspire. These 81 fellowship recipients represent future teachers placed in a wide variety of grade levels and subjects, from kindergarten through sixth grade self-contained classrooms to single-subject classrooms at the junior and senior high levels.

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## Chair's Message (continued from page 1)

PIE fellowships have made the difference between recipients continuing their teacher education and completing the credential program to not being able to pursue their career any further. But, most importantly, the PIE fellowships have made a difference for countless children who will continue to be influenced by each of our recipients for years to come. As we plan for 2013-14, the PIE Board is committed to raise funds for an additional eight fellowships. We are relying on our friends and business partners to make this goal a reality. The difference this fellowship makes in the lives of the Cal Poly Pomona students selected as recipients is significant, but even more significant is the difference this fellowship will make in the lives of the hundreds of children the future teachers will impact through their

dedication, passion, and commitment to the teaching profession.

**Partners in Education** is deeply grateful for having had the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of countless students in our community over the past ten years. We are also indebted to those who have contributed to our success in so many ways. Without the support of our partners and donors, none of this would be possible, so we thank you for your tremendous support. Our successes are YOUR successes. As we celebrate our first decade, we hope to continue to make a tremendous impact on the Cal Poly Pomona community throughout the next ten years that will indeed last a lifetime!



## PIE Lifts Financial Burden

by Raquel Benitez

Like many PIE fellowship recipients, I was worried about finances during Clinical Practice, however, receiving the PIE fellowship lifted these concerns. Knowing I wouldn't have to worry about finances allowed for more time and energy to be dedicated to the classroom. This helped to create a greater learning experience for both myself and my students. I had the opportunity to work in a 5th and 6th grade combo class at Kellogg Polytechnic Elementary. I was fortunate to have both a supportive master teacher and a supportive supervisor. They both encouraged me and provided suggestions on how I could improve in the classroom. The students were well behaved, encouraged my learning, and supported me throughout my time with them. They were eager to learn and enthusiastic. I really enjoyed working with them and have a lot of fond memories. Watching the promotion of my eight 6th-grade students was such a proud moment for me. I loved being able to watch them get ready to move on to middle school.

Winning the PIE fellowship has been a great honor. It has not only provided me a means of financial support, but it has also been a beacon of hope. Growing up, I never dreamed of attending college. College was merely something that affluent families were capable of attaining. Finances, as well as a lack of college information and options made it difficult for me to think that I could attend college. This is one of the reasons I want to teach at a low-income school, to provide them with the information that I did not have; to educate students and parents early on of the opportunities that there are to attend college. Receiving this fellowship serves as an example of how there is help and support for higher education. I want to use my own experiences to help my future students understand that there are ways to attend college. It is because of great organizations like PIE, that allow for great opportunities for everyone.



### *Raquel Benitez*

*received her Liberal Studies degree from Cal Poly Pomona in 2012. She has completed her first block of Clinical Practice and will complete the second block of Clinical Practice in Fall 2013.*



## PIE Makes Dreams Come True

by Amelia Callejas



*Amelia Callejas*

*finished her single-subject credential in math in June 2013. She is a 2013 Partners in Education fellowship recipient.*

I cannot put into words how grateful I am to have been chosen to receive the PIE fellowship. It definitely made a huge difference for me during my student teaching. If it wasn't for receiving the fellowship, I would have had to work another full-time job at night to support myself through my student teaching and I can honestly say that I do not know if I would have been able to do that. Clinical Practice was extremely stressful and such a busy time. The stress of teaching full time for the first time in my life was not easy. There was so much that came along with it and having to also complete my credential courses and finish the Teacher Performance Assessments (TPAs) was a lot to handle. I don't know that I would have been able to finish my credential if I had to work another job full time as well. Because of the PIE fellowship, I was able to dedicate my time as a student teacher to doing my best, learning from the experience, spending more time on planning great lessons, being there for my students, and offering them the help they needed after school. It was also such a relief knowing I could take my time doing the TPAs and give them my best, which was such a stressful part of Clinical Practice. I've always wanted to be the best teacher I can be and truly make a difference in my students' lives. I feel that having had this opportunity definitely helped me accomplish this.



*Jason Corella*

*is set to finish his single-subject math credential this fall. He is a 2013 Partners in Education fellowship recipient.*

*He is currently teaching pre-calculus and statistics at Damien High School in Los Angeles.*

## PIE Prepares Teachers for the Future

by Jason Corella

The PIE fellowship has played a big role in my student teaching experience. When I found out I had been chosen to be a PIE fellowship recipient I felt as if all this weight was lifted off of me. I no longer had the stress of having to balance work, school, and student teaching. Throughout my student teaching I was able to stay late and help students understand the material that was covered not only in the classes that I taught but also in other subjects. I know that I would not have had the experience I had with my cooperating teachers and with my students had it not been for the PIE fellowship and the mentorship I received through the PIE Fellowship committee. I am currently working as a high school teacher and feel that through the experiences I had while student teaching, experiences I would not have had without the PIE scholarship, I am a better prepared teacher.

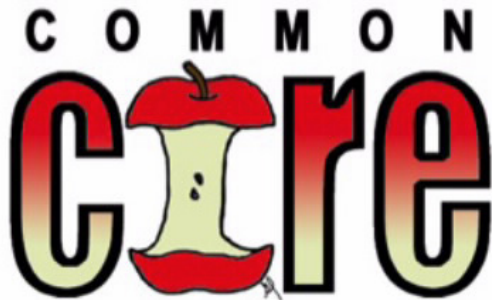




## Common Core State Standards: An Investment in Our Workforce of Tomorrow

by Nick Salerno, Superintendent, El Monte Union High School District

The shift toward the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) will infuse a systemic change in California's educational system with a focus on ensuring students are college and career ready upon high school graduation. Built upon not only what students need to know, but also on how they arrive at solving complex problems, the CCSS will help students learn unique skills they will need to be successful in a rapidly changing global economy. The CCSS will include the incorporation of the "Four C's": communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking as we help our young people to become independent thinkers rather than simply memorizing rote facts. Our students deserve nothing less; we as education leaders could give them nothing more important.



CCSS is not a federal mandate imposed upon us; the standards were driven by several states' need to agree on common standards measuring college readiness. This set of shared national standards will help to ensure that students in every state are held to the same level of expectations that students in the world's highest-performing countries are, and that they gain the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for success in postsecondary education and in the global arena.

California, along with 44 other states, is transitioning to the CCSS beginning in the 2014-15 school year. Developed by educators, the standards keep the best of what we have in California; while reducing the number of concepts and skills to be learned, the instructional program will have greater depth and application of knowledge to allow students to understand at a higher level. Educators in California are putting these standards to work, using them as the foundation for remodeling our education system. To successfully achieve full implementation of the CCSS, schools and districts must develop a plan that includes professional development, assessment, and parent education. After many years of No Child Left Behind and a narrower focus on English language arts and mathematics, realization of the Common Core provides a major philosophical shift, not just a minor tweaking of the existing system.

Professional development for teachers and administrators will be an essential component as educators shift practices to incorporate a greater focus on student engagement, collaborative work in the classroom, higher order thinking skills, project-based learning, and deeper questioning of students across all grade levels.

(continued onto page 5)

Tools for Teachers and Administrators: Implementing Common Core State Standards

October 29 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major ABC

Join us for a dynamic workshop with K-12 leaders who have implemented Common Core strategies in their school districts. We will break into discussions at the elementary, middle, and high school levels to address concerns and challenges faced in implementing the CCSS. In addition, teams will present technology tools in education, ways to engage community members in the classroom, and a special session for K-12 administrators. There will be time for professional dialogue and Q&A. This free event is open to education students, faculty, alumni, and community members. RSVP to Kristen Jaoui at 909-869-5370.



## Common Core State Standards *(continued from page 4)*

In addition to new instructional strategies and a realignment of the curriculum at all grade levels, the CCSS requires a new system of assessment. The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) is currently creating new assessments for use across the country. The SBAC assessments require online testing. This is a major departure from the paper and pencil tests students have taken in the past. As a result, technology will need to be infused into the curriculum, providing students with the necessary skills to demonstrate their knowledge in an online environment.

### The Common Core State Standards are a good thing because they will:

1. Build America's **competitive** workforce edge.
2. Create **consistent** academic expectations across the states.
3. Result in high school graduates better **prepared** for college and/or work success.
4. Require classroom instruction and assessment to reflect **21st century** reality.
5. Allow student achievement results to be **compared** across states.

Our future will depend on educated, innovative, independent thinkers who are entering our classrooms at age five and graduating as college and career ready. The CCSS provide a consistent, clear understanding of academic expectations across the states as we prepare 21st century learners and ensure California's competitive edge in the global workforce. There is no better time than now to embrace the shift to the CCSS and invest in our future!

Ona Sandi, Assistant Superintendent, Savanna School District contributed to this article.



## CEMaST Works with Schools and Districts to Promote Math and Science Learning

by Brian Jersky, Dean, College of Science



The Center for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (CEMaST) is one of the primary ways the College of Science at Cal Poly Pomona serves the educational community. CEMaST is a focus of collaborative efforts between the College of Science and the College of Education and Integrative Studies (CEIS).

CEMaST is committed to improving mathematics and science teaching and learning for all learners, and helps connect area teachers and administrators with university faculty so that they can work together to improve teaching and learning. CEMaST promotes the study of science and mathematics by all students and assists area schools and districts in identifying and solving context-specific problems related to the curricula, teaching, and evaluation of science, mathematics, and technology.

The experiences shared by K-12 teachers and Cal Poly Pomona faculty create a symbiotic relationship that crosspollinates to other teachers and faculty as new programs and partnerships blossom.

We recently learned that the National Science Foundation awarded Dr. Nicole Wickler a \$7.7 million grant that will propel these efforts to a new level and will allow local area teachers to work closely with university faculty to further develop innovative teaching and learning in Southern California and beyond.





## Fall 2013 Calendar of Events



### **W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center Tours & Horse Show**

**October 6 (Horse show is 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.; tours are held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)**

Experience the beauty and tradition of the Sunday Arabian Horse Show. These Sunday exhibitions of the beautiful Arabian horse were started by university benefactor W.K. Kellogg in 1926. Cal Poly

Pomona is privileged to carry on this Southern California tradition. For more information, please contact Kelly Pina at 909-869-4988.

### **CEIS Open House: College Relocates to the Quad**

**October 10 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Buildings 6 and 94**

The College of Education and Integrative Studies will celebrate its recent move with an Open House which includes a special presentation by Dr. Douglas Kellner, George F. Kneller Philosophy of Education Chair at UCLA. The new location places the college on the east side of the Quad in Buildings 6 and 94. Please join us for fun, food, and festivities. For more information, contact Kristen Jaoui at 909-869-5370 or [kmfuston@csupomona.edu](mailto:kmfuston@csupomona.edu).

### **21st Annual Pumpkin Festival**

**Oct 19-20 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**



### **Farm Store at Kellogg Ranch**

Join us for the 21st Annual Pumpkin Festival where you can choose from thousands of pumpkins right out of the patch. Eat and play games at the College of Agriculture student club booths or head over to our popular Insect Fair at the Bronco Student Center (runs from 9 a.m to 5 p.m.). We have a corn maze, petting zoo, horse rides, entertainment,

and lots of activities for kids! If you like pancakes, we've got them. Join us for our pancake breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Bring your appetite! For more information, please visit: <http://www.csupomona.edu/~farmstore/pumpkin-festival.shtml>

### **Reception and Presentation on The Arab World in Motion: The Fate of Multiculturalism and Women's Rights in the Aftermath of the "Arab Uprisings"**

**October 23 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

**Bronco Student Center, Ursa Minor**

Join us in welcoming Dr. Fatima Sadiqi to Cal Poly Pomona. Dr. Sadiqi is serving as Cal Poly Pomona's Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence for the 2013-2014 academic year. Dr. Fatima Sadiqi, an expert and well known scholar in gender studies and linguistics from Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fes City, Morocco was awarded the Fulbright grant by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

### **Tools for Teachers and Administrators: Implementing Common Core State Standards**

**October 29 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.**

**Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major ABC**

Join us for a dynamic workshop with K-12 leaders who have implemented Common Core strategies in their school districts. We will break into discussions at the elementary, middle, and high school levels to address concerns and challenges faced in implementing the CCSS. In addition, teams will present technology tools in education, ways to engage community members in the classroom, and a special session for K-12 administrators. There will be time for professional dialogue and Q&A. This free event is open to education students, faculty, alumni, and community members. RSVP to Kristen Jaoui at 909-869-5370.

### **Film Screening and discussion of "La Bestia" and "7 Soles"**

**November 13 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

**Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major**

Filmmaker and author Pedro Ultras will be present at the screening of his films "La Bestia" and "7 Soles." The presentation will be followed by a discussion based on the films centered around the larger theme of of People in Motion: Journeys of Hope, Journeys of Peril.



## Fall 2013 Calendar of Events continued...



### **Kellogg Distinguished Public Lecture Series**

**November 14 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.**

**Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major**

Annie Leonard, director of the Story of Stuff Project and author of "The Story of Stuff," will speak on

campus as part of the Kellogg Distinguished Public Lecture Series. This event is cohosted

by the First-Year Experience Committee. The event includes a reception, lecture, and Q&A.



A round table discussion with Dr. Fatima Sadiqi (Amazighs, North Africa) and three scholars working with the indigenous peoples of North America, South/Central America, and the Hawaiian/Pacific Islands.



## Winter 2014 Calendar of Events

### **Kellogg Distinguished Public Lecture Series**

**January 30 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.**

**Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major**

The Kellogg Lecture Series is proud to host Dr. Rigoberta Menchu Tum. Dr. Rigoberta Menchu Tum, a Guatemalan indigenous k'iche' woman, has demonstrated leadership at the forefront of the social struggle at the national and international scope. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992, the youngest person ever to be bestowed with this honor.

### **Homecoming Fire and Ice Celebration**

**February 7 from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.**

**Bronco Commons**

Join us for a unique evening kickoff of Cal Poly Pomona's Homecoming activities. This event will feature ice-skating, food sales, and a Rec Sports Competition. For more information, contact the ASI Programs and Marketing Department at (909) 869-2720 or the Office of Student Life and Cultural Centers at (909) 869-2841.

**Indigenuity in Motion: Impact of and responses to globalization by indigenous communities in the Americas, North Africa, and Pacific Islands.**

**February 26 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

**Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major**



## DID YOU KNOW?

Enrollment in colleges and universities is estimated to reach a record 21.8 million this fall, according to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the Education Department's statistics arm.

- There are about 3.3 million elementary and secondary public teachers in 2013-14.
- More than 2 million students took 3.7 million Advanced Placement exams in 2012 in an attempt to earn college credit while still in high school, according to the College Board, which administers the test.
- Consider the financial benefits of finishing college: The Census Bureau reports that adults with a bachelor's degree or more earned an average of \$81,761 in 2011. Those with high school degrees or GEDs earned an average of \$40,634, while the average wages for workers who didn't finish ninth grade was \$26,545.
- 77% of children ages 3 to 6 were enrolled in all-day kindergarten as of October 2011.
- In California, about 45% of children enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 speak a language other than English at home.

Athletes can make more than \$20 million a year. Teachers educate future leaders and make about \$51,000 a year.

### Consider a Gift to PIE!

Support for PIE comes in all shapes and sizes. No gift is too large or too small. Each and every contribution matters. Our primary objective is to provide \$5,000 fellowships to students who are preparing for their student teaching experience, one of the most financially challenging periods in any teacher's life. Having to work full or part time while student teaching is extremely difficult, and in some cases, impossible to do. PIE fellowships keep our best, financially neediest students in the classroom at a time when they should be focused on that experience. Help touch a life now and indirectly touch hundreds if not thousands of students who will benefit from the experience of these future teachers.

Consider a gift of \$25 to \$25,000 or more. Consider a gift-in-kind that benefits our annual awards celebration or provides supplies for student teachers. It is all good and it all makes a difference! Gifts and inquiries should be sent to:

**Scott C. Warrington, Vice President**  
**Cal Poly Pomona**  
**Office of University Advancement**  
**3801 W. Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768**

Checks should be made payable to the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation. For inquiries, please call 909-869-6989 or e-mail [pie@csupomona.edu](mailto:pie@csupomona.edu).



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**Sue Johnson**

*PIE Chairman of the Board*

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