

**GERONTOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION**  
**San Diego State University**

**NEWSLETTER**

**October, 2004**

**LECTURE/SEMINAR SERIES HONORING  
PERCIL STANFORD OPENS OCTOBER 19**

For over thirty years, Professor Percil Stanford pioneered the field of gerontology at SDSU (1972-2002). He became a recognized leader nationwide. Now he returns to SDSU to be the keynote lecturer at the lecture and seminar series named in his honor. The kickoff will be Tuesday, October 19, at 5:30 pm in Room 100, Nasatir Hall, on the SDSU campus.

The Stanford Series includes six major speakers (three each semester). The lectures are on Tuesdays with follow-up seminars, led by Gerontology Department faculty, on Thursday evenings. Sponsored by the Department of Gerontology, the Gerontology Alumni Association and the Gerontology Student Association, the series keynote is titled **“In California, The Minorities Are The Majority.”** Dr. Stanford and the next two lecturers have all worked in the field of minority aging.

Dr. Fernando Torres-Gil, UCLA’s Director for Policy Research on Aging and former U.S. Assistant Secretary for Aging, will follow Dr. Stanford on November 9 and David Baldrige, Director of the National Indian Project Center, will lecture on December 7. Three new lecturers will be announced for the spring semester.

**2004-2005 GSA Officers**

New GSA officers were elected at the first membership meeting September 7:

President	Siobhan Hancock
Vice President	Yen Diep
Secretary	Marie Begay
Treasurer	Wende Chan
Events Chair	Rebecca Galavan
Publicity Chair	Jane Clements

Regular Board meetings are held once a month at the call of the GSA President.

***Recruitment Luncheon Draws  
Community College Advisors***

The annual GSA-sponsored recruitment luncheon (Sept. 30) drew student advisors from half of San Diego’s community colleges. Meeting with Gero faculty and staff, the advisors were provided with SDSU and gerontology enrollment materials with a goal of recruiting transfer students.

# LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE OPENS AT SDSU COLLEGE OF EXTENDED STUDIES

Taking college courses just for fun probably isn't at the top of the list for most undergraduates. But that's the concept behind the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute sponsored by the SDSU College of Extended Studies and funded by a \$1 million grant from the Osher Foundation. The Foundation has also funded similar programs on other California state university campuses.

Scores of interested prospective "students" attended an open house on Saturday, September 18. GSA volunteers helped with event details and one of the Department's students is completing her internship at the Institute.

Institute administrators and faculty have crafted a curriculum for the fall semester that is varied and intriguing. Courses are designed seemingly to tease the notion of potential conflict with each other: "Religions of the World" and "The Impolite Subjects: Sex, Religion and Politics" or "How To Win The Race With Time: Anti-aging Weapons" and "Disease and History." Some will compliment each other: "What is Language?" and "Medieval English Literature." For those whose curiosity was sparked by the Summer Olympics: "An Introduction to Ancient Greek Myth and Drama." And for gerontologists: "Keys To Robust Living."

"Students" wanting to attend just a lecture have three choices: "Cross-Cultural Issues" by SDSU Provost Nancy Marlin. She bases her lecture on the popular book, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, which received rave reviews as part of SDSU's summer reading program. Then there are two lectures relating to food and wine offered by two of SDSU's college deans: "The Pleasure of Eating: The Brain's Perspective" by Thomas Scott, Dean of the College of Sciences, and "Explore The World of Wine" by William Byxbee, Dean of the College of Extended Studies, who offers tastes of his own extensive wine collection to his "students."

The Lifelong Learning program is for people in the larger SDSU community who are 50 and older. Gerontology Chair, Dr. Mario Garrett, is on the Institute's Board.

## **GSA and GAA Share A Table**

GSA and the new Gerontology Alumni Association (GAA) began the year's outreach to community audiences on behalf of the Department of Gerontology by sharing a table at the "ABC Workshop" on September 9 sponsored by the San Diego Alzheimer's Association. ("ABC" stands for "Activities, Behaviors and Care-giving.") The all-day conference was host to over 300 participants, many of whom availed themselves of the new Departmental brochure and the GAA pamphlet. Several offered internships for GERO 400 and 700 students.