June 6, 2011
Week Eleven, Spring Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

This week is Final Examination Week.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Parking Permit Expiring? If your UCSD parking permit expires June 30th, you must purchase a new one. If you pay for that permit with payroll deduction, your deductions will also stop June 30th. Read more here.

Summer shuttle changes - Several routes reduce or suspend service during summer. Check the summer shuttle changes (PDF) for your route.

What to do for lunch? - Several of the campus cafeterias and cafes close or reduce hours for the summer, so peckish staff, faculty, and students will have to make other arrangements. Check availabilities here. The restaurants in the Price Center will be open over the summer.

Annual Staff Picnic – Details, including the date of the picnic, are not available at this time. Watch the Staff Association’s website for updated information.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Ananse stories for children - The Storytelling class has been offering performances of the material they have been working on all quarter. Ananse the trickster (similar to Coyote in some Native American stories) is a spider, and is one of the most important characters of West African and Caribbean folklore. There is one performance left, and all are welcome.

Wednesday, June 8th, 6:30-7:30pm, at Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street, San Diego. (619) 527-3405.

Grad students Sherrice Kelly, Rebecca Bonebrake, and Kathryn Lieber will be walking twenty-six miles in the 2011 Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. As a team they have pledged to raise $7,200. You can follow their progress online.
Congratulations to Graduating Undergraduate Class of 2011 – A great time was had by all at last week’s Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony in the Poitiker Theatre. The event was MC’d by Chair Allyson Green, and Kim Rubinstein (photo) provided an inspiring, heartfelt Keynote speech. The ceremony ending with a moving rendition of "Feeling Good" by the undergraduate singing class led by Linda Vickerman and conductor Matthew Bovee. You can view photos of the ceremony here. (Thanks to photographer Gaeun Kim.)

This year’s outstanding students were honored to receive awards given by current faculty and beloved guests including Arthur Wagner, Yvonne Gaffney, Ron Ranson, Jade Power, and the parents of Eric Bowling. The Department greatly appreciates the support of the many people who have made these awards possible! The Award and winners are:

The Dr. Milton H. Saier, Sr., Memorial Award is made to a Theatre or Dance major in good standing in their Junior or Senior year who has demonstrated significant and professional talents in one or more departmental productions in the year of the Award. Recipient: Claire Kaplan.

The Bronowski Award is made in honor of the late Jacob Bronowski to a Theatre major who has proven a double commitment to the creative work of the Department, and, in that work, sustained growth that has led to significant creative achievement. The awardee must have demonstrated qualities of maturity, independence, and awareness that point toward the prospect of continued growth as a theatre artist. Recipient: Alexandra Freeman.

The David Heikkila Scholarship was established by his partner, Clark Ritter, in 1996 in memory of David, an alum (BA 1991), who passed away in 1995 of AIDS. The Scholarship is awarded to the graduating Senior Theatre major who best embodies the qualities that made David unique: excellent scholarship, service, collaboration, energy, and commitment. Recipient: Dan Shapiro.

The Stewart Prize in Theatre is awarded to a Theatre major or minor who has provided outstanding contributions to one or more Departmental theatrical productions. Recipient: Melanie Chen.

The Stewart Prize in Choreography is awarded to student(s) participating in the Spring Dance Concert and whose work in that production is judged to be of outstanding merit. Recipients: Emily Aust and Forrest Harrop.

The Leandra Smith Memorial Dance Scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate Dance student of exceptional promise in memory of Leandra Smith, a UCSD Dance student who passed away at a young age. Recipient: Matthew Armstrong.

The Chair's Award for Distinguished Service was created so that Faculty could officially recognize students who have distinguished themselves repeatedly in service to the Department. The Department Chair makes nominations for this award to the faculty. Recipients: Lauren Wong and Lindy Luong.

Dr. Floyd Gaffney Award - The recipient of the Dr. Floyd Gaffney Award is an outstanding graduating senior with a dance or theatre major, a GPA above 3.5. The individual should demonstrate the commitment and dedication of Dr. Gaffney in promoting excellence to professional performance and/or community service using the performing arts. Recipient: Carol Cabrera.
The Ron Ranson Award is in honor Ron Ranson, a professional designer and a recipient of the Saltman Distinguished Teaching Award (2000) who retired from active teaching in the Department in 2003. The Ron Ranson Award will be awarded to a graduating theatre major who has distinguished his or herself in multiple production design assignments over at least two years, while maintaining high achievements academically, and who, in the faculty's judgment, most exhibits the above-and-beyond attitude Ron showed the department for 24 years. Recipient: Jaymee Ngernwichit.

The Wagner Award is made in honor of Founding Chair and Emeritus faculty member Arthur Wagner. The Wagner Award will be made to a graduating theatre major who has distinguished him or herself in multiple acting assignments in departmental productions over at least two years, while maintaining high achievements academically. Recipient: Lee Montgomery.

The Jean Isaacs Performance Award is given to a student whose performance in either the Faculty Concert or the Spring Concert is judged to be outstanding. Recipient: Sung-Ji Park.

Jorge Huerta Award - The recipient is a student who best exemplifies Dr. Huerta’s excellence in artistry, scholarship and leadership in Latina/o Theatre Studies. Recipient: Diana Cervera.

Margaret C. Marshall Leadership Award - The recipient is a student who best exemplifies Professor Marshall’s enthusiasm, dedication and leadership in Dance. Recipient: Courtney Cecile Lipthay.

The Allan Havis Playwriting Award – Funded by Michael Carnick, the Award was created to provide support to an exemplary undergraduate studying playwriting in theatre and Dance. Recipient: Tylar-Nicole Pendgraft-Clabby.

The Eric Bowling Award goes to a talented undergraduate playwright, in good academic standing in their senior year, who is kind and generous like the gifted young man this award commemorates. Recipient: John Robert Ousley, III.

Linda Vickerman’s Singing Class performing at the 2011 Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony.
ADMINISTRIVIA

June 6th - Final Week Begins
June 10th - Last day to remove a “I” prior quarter
June 13th - last day to request a grade of “I”
June 22nd - Grades available on TritonLink

ALUM UPDATES

Dance Alum Jakey Toor (BA ‘02) is a dance teacher in the San Francisco Unified School District. Four hundred students in their Cesar Chavez Elementary School recently performed flash mob style dance to the popular song Jai Ho from the movie Slumdog Millionaire. Check them out and listen to an interview with Jakey.

Barnaby Carpenter (MFA ‘98) appears as “John Foster” in Air We Breathe, a short film just completed this year. Barnaby has appeared Off Broadway at Women’s Project, the Manhattan Theatre Club, Lincoln Center, New Perspectives Theatre, and Center Stage. At the Regional level, he has worked at Shakespeare Theater, McCarter Theater, Wilma Theater, Victory Gardens Theater, Westport Country Playhouse, Henlopen Theater, and the La Jolla Playhouse. In addition to Air, he has appeared on film in Shuffle and Conversations with ID. His TV appearances include spots on the Young Indiana Jones Critics Award and the Tommaso Iacovella Award for Excellence in Acting (Duke University).

Jessica Damrow Sherman (MFA ’00) will be directing the The Circle Players of Piscataway, New Jersey, production of William Shakespeare's As You Like It. The show is scheduled to run in September. Jessica was away from the theatre for a bit while she earned a Master of Arts degree in Theology and the Arts from Columbia University/Union Theological Seminary (in 2010).

Randé Dorn (BA ’96) is the director of the Randé Dorn Dance Company in Los Angeles. Her choreography has been presented throughout Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego. She was the recipient of the Department’s Stewart Award, nominated for a Horton Award for Outstanding Choreography, and the recipient of the 2003 Irvine Foundation DanceMaker Grant for the development of new work. She was one of the winners of the inaugural round of the San Diego Young Choreographers Prize last year. There’s an interview with Randé online that includes a video of one of her works.

Nakissa Etemad (MFA ‘96) is a professional dramaturg, producer, French translator, editor, and writer based in San Francisco, CA. She has worked in the field of dramaturgy for over nineteen years, including full-time posts as Dramaturg and Literary Manager for The Wilma Theater in Philadelphia and San Jose Repertory Theatre, and as Resident Dramaturg and Artistic Associate for San Diego Repertory Theatre. The Regional VP-Metro Bay Area of Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, Nakissa serves as a Dramaturg for various projects with Playwrights Foundation of San Francisco, including current work with the Cultural Services of the French Consulate in San Francisco. Read more here.
Congratulations to the Undergraduate Class of 2011, our newest Alums!
Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department’s Facebook Alumni page!

Have news to share? Please let us know. Send your news and photos to us at TandDNews@yahoo.com and we’ll share them in the next edition. The Newsletter is going on vacation for the summer, but we’ll be checking our “in” mailbox and will be sending out a Special Edition in late summer. We wish you every success in your endeavors and a good summer break. Stay in touch!