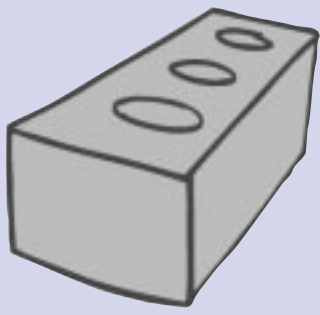


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FREE

Ground Zero



New York: A fire fighter surveys the remains of the World Trade Center. See more photos, page 2.

Photo/Courtesy Oakland Fire Department

Bin Laden Kin Was CSUH Student in Summer Quarter

By James Barnes and Mike Chang
Contributing Writers

A bin Laden family member left Cal State Hayward following the Sept. 11 terror attacks, but the total number of international students attending CSUH appears to have been unaffected.

Dr. Ray Wallace, director of the Center for International Education and a 15-year veteran of the international education field, said in an e-mail interview that he knew of only two students who chose to return home.

An American Language Program (ALP) student, Eva Lin, said she knew a student named Ali bin Laden who had left for unknown reasons, but gave the impression he might be back in a later quarter.

Christine Behrsin, advisor to International Students, confirmed that a member of a bin Laden family had attended CSUH during the summer but had left for undisclosed reasons prior to the start of the fall quarter.

The Associated Press earlier reported the FBI helped remove members of the bin Laden family from the United States to ensure their safety from retaliation.

Wallace said he heard of only one or two students expressing concern about students retaliating against them because of their ethnicity.

He said he felt the school had taken appropriate measures to insure the safety of all remaining students.

The school averages less than 20 students from Middle Eastern nations attending in a quarter. The number of international students has not been made available for the fall quarter, but according to the admissions office, 2001 figures show an enrollment of 775 international students.

Some international students at CSUH are not included in this statistic because they are in the United States as refugees.

Serpil Kus, an American Language Program student from Turkey, said she decided to attend CSUH on the recom-

mendation of a friend.

She is attempting to improve her English to help her as a nurse. She said she never had plans to leave here, because she felt New York was a safe distance from Hayward.

Kus said she has heard some students do not feel as safe as before, but they also do not wish to return home. She said her feelings stemmed from the principles of her upbringing, which have taught her to deal with adversity by looking at the positive.

"When you look at this coffee cup, you may say that it is half empty, but I say it is half full," she explained.

A group of ALP students in E.J. Hwang's class voiced similar sentiments. They also felt that because of the distance between Hayward and New York the September events did not directly affect their safety.

Their desire to improve their English outweighed their discomfort and fears. Eileen Kim said that the education available here was better than in her home country "and it will help us be able to find better jobs."

A person's reputation would also be improved if they received a degree here rather than in her home country, Kim added.

Wallace noted that CSUH offered counseling for international students.

He also said Student Affairs had established a group that communicated concerns of Middle Eastern students. Dr. Sonja Redmond is the key person to contact in that area. She can be reached at 885-3646.

"I think that it is important to keep in mind that given the diverse ethnic composition of our campus it is really impossible to determine who might be foreign and who is not," Wallace said. "We are much different than, say, a school in Montana, Idaho, Oklahoma, etc."

"I think that factor has an important bearing on how our campus deals with current issues and . . . other relevant issues."

Former Professor Settles Asbestos/Cancer Lawsuit

By Elizabeth Martin
Staff Writer

A former CSUH professor has settled a negligence lawsuit against a former university contractor.

Retired economics Professor Roy Elliot sued Raymond Interior Systems North, a successor to James L. Whitaker Plastering, after he was diagnosed with mesothelioma, a fatal lung cancer that can be caused by inhaling asbestos.

After a settlement conference in the San Francisco Superior Court, Judge James McBride approved an end to the case that gave Elliot a large monetary award.

Part of the settlement agreement called for the amount of the award to be kept confidential, but Elliot's attorney,

Steve Patty, said, "I am very pleased with the settlement and I think Mr. Elliot is pleased too, considering circumstances with his health."

In 1970, Warren Hall was sprayed with Whitaker Plastering CASCÓ Blaze Shield, a fireproofing that contained asbestos.

Elliot alleged in his complaint that he contracted mesothelioma after inhaling the carcinogen at that time. Mesothelioma is the most serious of all asbestos-related diseases. It is a rare form of the disease that develops in the lining of the chest or abdomen.

According to the Mesothelioma Resource Web, most cases of this currently incurable cancer are attributable to asbestos exposure.

Asbestos is a naturally occurring group of incombustible silicate minerals. In the past, asbestos was added to a variety of products to strengthen them and provide heat insulation and fire resistance.

If asbestos particles become airborne and are inhaled, they can remain in the lungs for a long period of time, producing the risk for severe health problems that do not appear until many years later.

According to Patty, Elliot is very sick at home. He has shortness of breath, chest pain, and weight loss.

Ken McCarthy, attorney for the defendant, had no comment on the settlement.

CSUH Student Killed in Local Auto Accident

By Jeff LaBarge
Staff Writer

A Cal State Hayward student died on her 19th birthday Tuesday when her car was struck head-on by a suspect driving a stolen vehicle that was involved in a police chase.

Karen Marie Gordin, a sophomore majoring in mass communication, was on her way to the Hayward Plunge

where she worked as a swim instructor and life guard when a stolen van slammed into her Geo Prism on A Street near Santa Clara Street. She was pronounced dead at 6:29 a.m. at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley.

"Karen Gordin was a mass comm major beginning her second year this

See **Accident**, page 8.

CSUH Vice President Resigns

By Zachary T. Honeycutt
Staff Writer

In the wake of this fall's embezzlement scandal, Cal State Hayward Vice President Dennis Elohe has resigned.

Elohe's resignation as vice president of university advancement, announced in a statement issued by CSUH President Norma Rees, will take effect on

January 2, 2002.

According to Rees' statement, Dr. Jodi Servatius, a member of the faculty in the School of Education, will serve as interim vice president for university advancement.

Servatius will assume the job Jan. 3.

See **Resignation**, page 8.

Faculty Rejects Semester Conversion

By Jennifer Givens
Staff Writer

California State University Hayward faculty have voted overwhelmingly to keep CSUH on the quarter calendar.

The vote was 230 "no," 70 "yes," or nearly 77 percent rejecting the concept.

The debate over whether CSUH would convert to the semester calendar began last spring. Since that time,

discussions relating to the topic have occurred throughout the campus.

Between Nov. 5 and 16, CSUH faculty voted on the conversion, sought by CSU Chancellor Charles M. Reed, and by Nov. 19 the tally was announced.

The overall eligible-voter turnout was 75 percent, a CSUH record for faculty voting.

CSUH President Norma Rees was unavailable for comment.

Teddy Bear Drive Under Way at CSUH

By Francisca Buenostro
Contributing Writer

Cal State Hayward's annual Teddy Bear Drive to help abused chil-

dren of the Calico Center runs through Dec. 14.

Accounting and Fiscal Services is in charge of the event. It requests do-



nations of teddy bears, journals, children's books and new video or audiocassettes. Donations are to be taken to Warren Hall room 645.

CSUH has been involved in the Teddy Bear Drive for several years, with AFS in charge of the fundraiser for the last two years.

Last year the drive collected 260 bears; this year the goal is to exceed that amount and gather 300 bears.

The Calico Center, a child abuse listening, interview and conditioning center, is an agency that diagnoses and treats abused children in Alameda County.

The children are referred by police officers, firefighters, paramedics and other sources. The center documents the abuse by making audio and video recordings of the children telling their stories. They are given teddy bears before they leave.

"My husband is a member of the Fremont Police Department, a detective," said Sandy Willett of the AFS staff. "We heard of the center through him."

"The problem we saw this year is that there are older children, too. Teenagers that go through this center might not want a teddy bear. This is why we're taking donations of journals."

As of last week, the drive had collected about 50 bears, along with journals and blank cassettes.

"This is for a very good cause and we really could use students' involvement," said Willett.

Teddy Bear Care: Donations should be taken to Warren Hall

Photo/Nicole Pestana