



Journalists and Librarians Celebrate 60 Years Together

As the Dean of CSUN’s Oviatt Library, it is my pleasure to congratulate the CSUN Journalism Department as you celebrate your 60th anniversary. I’ve always thought that librarians and journalists had a great deal in common. We both value democracy and free speech as a sacred trust in society. We fight against censorship. We love archives. We advocate for access to information. We value different points of view, but we also hold dear the search for accuracy and truth.

The history of student journalism on the CSUN campus, primarily in the Sundial, has always been documented by the Library. At first we kept paper copies, and later we microfilmed the entire run of the Sundial. A few years ago, we began to digitize the Sundial’s past issues, and, in 2016, we completed the full digitization project. Today, every current and past CSUN student and faculty member – and indeed, anyone on the planet with an Internet connection – can look up each past issue of the Sundial and read about any topic documented by Sundial reporters, from the historic to the mundane. Robert Kennedy’s visit to the CSUN campus was covered in depth by Sundial reporters, as were the contentious and sometimes violent student protests of the 1960s and early 1970s, the inauguration of each of the five CSUN presidents, and many other dramatic moments in the history of the university.

The Library’s role in digitizing the Sundial is not just for preservation purposes, but also to provide access to future journalists, historians, and other interested parties who wish to look back on the history and evolution of this amazing campus.

Again, let me offer my congratulations to past editors of the Sundial, faculty and students from the Journalism department, and members of the CSUN Journalism Alumni Association on a great run of 60 years.

— Mark Stover, Oviatt Library Dean

It’s my pleasure to welcome alumni, family and friends to the CSUN Journalism Department’s 60th Anniversary Reunion Celebration. It’s exciting to have you here to help the Department’s faculty, staff and students commemorate this important milestone.

I have spent nearly 20 years – a third of the department’s history – serving as a faculty member, teaching key reporting/newswriting skills courses, and as department chair, since Fall 2012. In that time, like the news and media professions, the program has evolved significantly.

Today’s Journalism Department embraces technology, emerging as a leader on several fronts – from its converging student newsrooms and bilingual multimedia operation to its digital and participatory and citizen journalism projects. The Department’s curriculum has been transformed to reflect the growing importance of digital media, global communications, citizen journalism, and underreported communities in the United States.

With eight student media outlets in two languages and a thriving public relations agency, we have increased the visibility and reputation of our student journalists as well as the faculty’s work in emerging fields. Our graduates are in high demand, probably best exemplified by the trio of 2018 broadcast graduates, who recently secured positions at the major networks – ABC, CBS and NBC – in New York City. Our faculty and staff are high achievers, too, consistently earning top honors, regionally and on the national stage.

In this age of fake news, when some politicians and others consider journalists the “enemies of the people,” we know the practice of Journalism, with its adherence to First Amendment concepts and the principles of accuracy and fairness, may never have been more important than it is now. Journalism, no matter where it takes our graduates, remains relevant and vital to the future of our democracy.

We’re immensely proud of our program and its storied history, and look forward to honoring our rich traditions during the 60th Anniversary Reunion Celebration.

Thanks for being here!

— Linda Bowen, Department chair

Welcome fellow Matadors from 60 years of San Fernando Valley State College and California State University, Northridge. The Journalism Department has produced more than 4,000 alums who work for newspapers, radio and television stations, online outlets and public relations and marketing firms. They work in business, the law, government and every imaginable field using the writing and critical thinking skills honed in their four (or more ☺) years on campus.

When I graduated in 1967, I believe there were 20 of us who walked at graduation. Many of our graduates have gained national reputations, including the late reporter, columnist and editor Frank del Olmo and pop music critic and author Robert Hillburn, both of the L.A. Times. Making their mark in public relations were the late Lynne Doll, former president of the Rogers Group, and Bill Imada who founded the IW Group. And don’t forget the CNBC trio of Bill Griffith, Sue Herara and Ron Insana, all of whom were on the ground floor of television business journalism. All the above as students learned journalism basics and much more while at CSUN. The same goes on today in the department and those students deserve our support.

That’s what the Journalism Alumni Association (JAA) does year in and year out. We give scholarships to students, sponsor a speed mentoring program, and, for the last four years, we conducted a one-on-one coaching program for students who needed some extra help with their writing. We offer speakers for classes and of course serve as a forum for alums to reminisce and network.

If you are not already a member of the JAA, please take a moment to join this evening at the registration desk or online at <https://www.csun.edu/alumni/chapter/journalism>. The cost is only \$40 and you receive all the benefits of the university Alumni Association. Finally, be sure to follow us on Facebook, Linked in and Twitter.

— Bob Rawitch ‘67

President Journalism Alumni Assn.



The first edition : February 1, 1957

Sundial encapsulated in Oviatt’s digital editions

Wyatt Samuelson
CSUN Today

California State University, Northridge’s *Sundial* has been a part of the campus since it was known as San Fernando Valley State College. When the first issue was published in the spring of 1957, the publication did not have a formal name. The cover showed a large black question mark, with a call for students to help think of a clever name.



Over time, the name of the publication varied, from *The San Fernando Valley Campus State Standard*, *Daily Sundial*, *State Sundial*, *Valley State Sundial* and finally to what is now known as *The Sundial*. Its first issue covered stories such as Delmar T. Oviatt, the college dean at the time, welcoming students back from break, and various stories on local activities.

From diverse protests to large events on campus, the student-led Sundial has captured the

heart and attitude of students, faculty and staff on campus for more than 60 years.

In order to preserve CSUN’s history, *The Sundial* has been completely digitized and archived in the Delmar T. Oviatt Library. This grueling process of taking editions published and photographing every page, then uploading them to a database, took the Oviatt staff years to complete, with the help of the Online Computer Library Center. *The Sundial* used to print four issues every week, but in recent years, publication was cut to one printed issue each week and other coverage offered through *The Sundial* website.

“Student writers have covered CSUN’s pivotal points, from ethnic studies [taking] off to the Northridge earthquake and the campus’ explosive growth,” said Gretchen Macchiarella, publisher of *The Sundial* since 2015. “The digitization of *The Sundial* is able to show those important moments.”

Stephen Kutay, a Digital Services Librarian at the Oviatt, played a large part in the digitization process. When Kutay joined the CSUN faculty, only about half of *The Sundial* was archived.

“There were many gaps [in] what we had at that time, and many sections were missing,” Kutay said. “We had to get into contact with the journalism department and physically go through their bound newspapers to fill in those gaps, some of which were beyond wear.”

Kutay emphasized the value these archives hold for CSUN.

“When we digitize these documents, we’re preserving history forever. These documents no longer have an expiration date,” he said. “We’re able to show a direct look into CSUN’s past, unaltered.”

Kutay was able to complete the archive with a grant from the campus quality fee, a grant funded by and used for students. The grant allowed him to hire students and faculty to complete the process.

It’s important for past students to see their work at *The Sundial* archived, said Cynthia Rawitch, journalism professor emerita and publisher from 1984-94.

“There would be no Sundial if there were no students,” Rawitch said. “It’s a way for people to look back at the good times they had at *The Sundial* and see the stories they wrote.”

Rawitch also noted that the digitization will help alumni pursue employment opportunities.

“People can now easily pull up the work they did at *The Sundial* and show it to an employer they are interested in working for,” she said. “It can potentially open many doors for them.”

The Sundial is completely run by CSUN students, with every issue and story created and edited by students. For every story, there is a strict deadline, and student writers must be able to manage their schedule accordingly.

Tandy Lau, a journalism and Asian American studies double major and student writer at *The Sundial*, said he puts a lot of thought into his writing and reporting process for the paper.

“I like to come prepared when I write my stories,” he said. “I write my questions, outline my story and record so that I have a consistent story all around.”

Lau said he hasn’t decided exactly what he wants to do after graduation.

“I do know that if I work hard enough, I will be able to find something to do that I’ll really enjoy,” he said. “*The Sundial* is definitely preparing me for this.”



For decades, the newspaper’s student writers have provided a taste of CSUN campus life, Macchiarella said.

“*The Sundial* gives the reader a feel for the school,” she said. “It’s the small stuff and the in-betweens that show CSUN’s student culture. I am excited that people are now able to see that with *The Sundial* archived.”

Macchiarella said the archive shows the changing nature of the journalism industry and how students are contributing to those changes.

To see *The Sundial* archives, please visit the Oviatt Library website, <http://digital-library.csun.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/Sundial>

Journalism’s innovation honors longtime tradition

“Before there was a journalism department, before there was even a journalism course at Cal State Northridge, there was The Sundial, the University’s feisty student newspaper.”

– Mayerene Barker,
Sundial editor, Spring 1960

Today, The Sundial is a digital-first operation focused on mobile news delivery that epitomizes an innovative Department celebrating its 60th anniversary. The Sundial’s first edition was published in February 1957, predating by more than a year San Fernando Valley State College and the Journalism program. Founding Professor Erling H. Erlandson, veteran reporter/editor, had an abiding belief in basic journalism education: “All journalists should study media law and history, learn a language, and minor in one of the liberal arts.”

Professors DeWayne Johnson and Kenneth Devol joined Erlandson in 1960 and 1961. They built a strong reputation in those early years for a practical program incorporating both print and broadcast writing and editing. Under their leadership, the program was first accredited in 1967. It has since been continuously accredited, with diverse leadership.

While founding faculty’s original curriculum plans remain reflected in today’s course offerings, the program has blossomed well beyond its modest beginnings with broadcast, public relations and ethnic media at the forefront. In Spring 2018, the campus Educational Policies

Committee unanimously approved a far-reaching redesign of the curriculum that creates, for the first time, distinct options in Broadcast and Public Relations along with the main Journalism major. Eleven new courses were added, including multiplatform storytelling, news literacy and engaging diverse communities. Many other courses were updated to reflect transformations in the profession.

Always a practical program, the Department established the Broadcast emphasis in the 1960s so students could report news and sports on the campus radio station. In the years since, the Department launched three TV broadcast outlets, including Valley View News, a weekly 30-minute newscast solely covering the San Fernando Valley, in the 1970s; On Point, a weekly public affairs program, first airing in 1996/97, and the latest, Matador News, introduced in Spring 2014. Journalism student journalists continue to report the news in both English and Spanish on KCSN’s LatinAlt channel.

The Public Relations program was added in the 1990s as the Department joined the College of Arts, Media and Communication. By 2000, ethnic and community media had become vital. TV newscasts in Spanish, Valley View en Español and Noticias del Valle, were produced until 2008 – mirroring sweeping demographic changes on our campus, the region and state, where minorities have become the majority. By Fall 2005, traditionally underserved students began to

move into the majority, and by Fall 2017 represented close to 70 percent of the Department’s students.

Now, Latina/o students make up the largest number of our students: In Fall 2017, they comprised nearly 60 percent of Journalism majors.

Bilingual students published the first issue of El Nuevo Sol in 2003, as a four-page insert to The Sundial. The Spanish-Language Journalism interdisciplinary minor started three years later. Today, El Nuevo Sol, the award-winning bilingual multiplatform platform run by students, produces projects on contemporary issues in Latino communities with pioneering multimedia content. Later this month, its alumni will mark a milestone – its Quinceanera – a celebration of its 15th birthday.

In Fall 2001, the Department moved into the distinctive Manzanita Hall with dedicated classrooms, teaching labs, studios and newsrooms.

These changes have brought renewed energy to a Department with 500 undergraduates and about two dozen full- and part-time faculty, plus eight staff members. The broader and deeper scope recognizes our strengths in ethnic and global journalism, reporting on social justice and urban life and our creative use of digital and social media.

Like the original feisty Sundial, CSUN Journalism moves into the future as a lively, transforming program dedicated to preparing our students to work in a profession changing at the speed of light.



Sundial newsroom, circa 1960s



Sundial newsroom, circa 2017

Sundial Memories

Robert Hilburn

*Spring 1958/Fall 1960/
Spring 1960*

The college was so new in the fall of 1957, when I started classes, that we didn't even know what to call it: The San Fernando Valley branch of Los Angeles State College or simply Los Angeles State College, but the confusion was cleared up the following July when it was given its independence and named San Fernando Valley State College. The enrollment was only around 2,500, but the ambition level was high, especially in the journalism department where Dr. Erling H. Erlandson welcomed a small group of students—many of us from Reseda High School—and let us pretty much design the paper we wanted. I was editor of The Sundial my freshman, sophomore and senior years (I was ineligible my junior year because I was in student government).

Where many colleges wanted the newspapers to only reflect campus news, we were allowed from the start to cast a wider view. The result was stories ranging from a Q&A with John F. Kennedy, who was still a U.S. Senator, to our favorites in the Academy Awards competition. Erlandson even found a way for us to publish an evening "preview" edition of the next morning's paper, just the way the Los Angeles Times did. The idea was to better acknowledge the large number of adult night students on campus.

This freedom led to some pretty indulgent things, but it also encouraged the staff take its responsibility (or simply its opportunity) seriously. The paper made all the things we learned in journalism classes meaningful, and that experience prepared me for my first newspaper job. To a remarkable degree, there was nothing in the first year in the real world of journalism that I hadn't experienced on the Sundial and I will always be thankful for the foundation and inspiration of those years in Northridge.



Bob Tarlau

Fall 1964

When I was The Sundial editor in fall of 1964, it was a twice a week publication. It was also the last semester we put the pages

together in "hot type" (for those of you who remember Linotypes, chases and mattes). During my time at Valley State (yes that's what it was then), the Sundial moved from what we called "the pot factory" (we shared some of the space with the ceramics studio) in the old Fine Arts Building to new digs in Sierra Hall.

I was also the first student news director of KEDC-FM (now KSCN). It was a 10 watt station. We used to kid that you could receive it off campus if the wind was blowing the right direction. Our first broadcast station from our new news studio (in Sierra Hall) was the Johnson vs. Goldwater election night in November 1964, which I announced along with another former Sundial editor, Tom Sanger. Most of all, I remember the high calibre of the department's three founding faculty members, Erl Erlandson, DeWayne Johnson and Ken Devol. All have passed on now... but their memories remain for so many of us.

Leah Cartabruno

1965

True to my double majors of political science and journalism, I was serving on the student government board when the Dean of Students said to me: "If I tell you why I want you to do something, you'll do it." I was shocked when working for the California Assembly the Speaker said the same thing to me.

Near the same time at college, being sports editor of the Sundial was fun and then I became the editorial editor. That was the actual beginning of my experience that eventually stretched to the California Journal magazine as managing editor. My performance was affected by the dingling of the news machine that interrupted my news class as I ran over and read that President Kennedy was shot.

Although it took me five years to get my BAs because both departments would not count the same elective toward graduation, the basis was set for working eventually in the Carter Administration and at NASDAQ when Steve Jobs brought Apple on board and then back to the California Legislature. CSUN helped me establish my mental foundation and skills for the political and news career I enjoyed.

George Robertson

Fall 1965

I was the first editor of the Daily Sundial at Valley State College when the newspaper changed its nameplate on Sept. 21, 1965 from The Sundial because we started publishing four times a week – Tuesday through Friday.

My fondest memories are working with a terrific team of student journalists who were supported by a dedicated team of sales people led by Bob Rawitch, advertising manager, who later went on to become an editor at the LA Times. Bob also worked on the news side and was the first Sundial reporter to cover the California State College board of trustees meetings.

I started working at the Sundial in my sophomore year as a reporter and eventually got promoted to city editor, managing editor and finally editor in my final semester before graduating.

One of the biggest headlines during my semester as editor was on Oct. 27, 1965 during the height of the Vietnam War. It read: "Draft Extends Call of Married Men." The headline topped an in-depth report about how the Selective Service announced that "childless married men are now eligible for induction." It hit me hard since I was, in fact, a childless married man – one of nearly 5,000 students on campus at the time.

Perhaps my favorite story as editor was published Nov. 9, 1965 – "Doors Closed to Press. Finance Meeting Bars Daily Sundial." The article about two Sundial reporters and a photographer barred from an Associated Students finance meeting even generated coverage in the LA Times.

In my last story for the Daily Sundial – "VSC from Citrus to Concrete"—traced the growth of the college over the past decade and plans for the next five years that included a College Union building, new track and housing projects.

Bob Rawitch

Fall 1966

Like most of you, I have so many memories of my time at San Fernando Valley State College and most revolve around the Daily Sundial. But the one that stands out was in the middle of not-yet-Dr. Ken Devol's Mass Comm course at 8 a.m., Tom

Wyneken rushed in and yelled "the President had been shot in Dallas." It was of course Nov. 22, 1963. Ken quietly said, "class dismissed" and we all went down to then not-yet-Daily Sundial office, which was a tiny room in the Fine Arts Building next to the Art Department's potting wheels, and watched Walter Cronkite reporting the limo race to Parkman Hospital and then the announcement of the President's death.

I had not yet joined the Sundial, but I did so the next semester, selling advertising. I was Business Manager for three semesters and then switched to editorial, making a quarter of what I had earned on the business side. I served as editor for Fall 1966. My last semester I took a night class from a L.A. Times editor, John Foley, who liked a series I wrote on whether newly-elected Gov. Ronald Reagan would impose tuition at the state's colleges and universities. John put in a good word for me with the Times city editor, Bill Thomas, who weeks later offered me a summer internship before I went to Northwestern University for a master's in journalism, where I met wife Cynthia. In early June 1968 I returned to a reporting job on the Metro staff, ironically days after Bobby Kennedy's assassination, and spent 29 wonderful years at the paper as a reporter and editor.

Sandi Leonard Barrett



I have many fond memories of working on the Sundial and taking journalism classes that preceded my 1968 graduation from Valley State College. One memory that stands out is working on a long term assignment for the Investigative Reporting Class. We met one day a week for 3 hours and each student selected an area of concern to investigate, write the paper and then present findings to the class. I chose to investigate abandoned refrigerators and their subsequent hazards. I remember meeting with a man who headed a group whose goal was to eliminate this hazard, particularly as it related to children. This gentleman was a roofer and we arranged to meet at his work. Since he was very busy, we conducted the interview while he was

on the roof and I was shouting questions from the lawn. It worked and I was able to write an essay that was both heartbreaking and informative. As a final exam, each student read their report. Mine included information on the many children who had crawled into an abandoned refrigerator, got stuck inside and subsequently died. As I was reading, I glanced up and saw that many of my classmates were crying...at that moment, I realized the power of the written word. This experience took place nearly 50 years ago and I haven't forgotten it.

Larry M. Kushner

My time at Valley State gave me the time I needed to advance my professional skills. Being Co-Photo Editor on the Sundial with Al Jacobs during 1970 was a great experience. My classmates became life long friends. While working on the news paper we formed a club; the Matador Gourmet Society. We had a lot of fun, and a real learning experience to boot. I have fond memories of my days at Valley State.

John Rogers

Spring 1972/Fall 1972



I arrived in the fall of 1968 when the department was fairly small, only about 50 majors and five full-time faculty as I recall, but it would explode in the years to come as the Watergate scandal erupted and for a brief time it seemed everybody wanted to be Woodward and Bernstein.

While I was there I had the good fortune to have some of the finest instructor-mentors I've met during my 50 years in journalism, including Mike Emery, Ken Devol and Pete Wilson, who composed the nucleus of the faculty when I arrived in 1968 and each of whom I remained friends with until their passing. Zena Beth McGlashin, Tom Reilly and Larry Schneider would come later and they were key mentors as well.

The Sundial, however, was key to my development as a print journalist. It was there we applied what we learned in the classroom to a real-life environment. At various

Mentoring a generation of student journalists

Victor Rojas

In 1973, Cynthia Rawitch began teaching in an emerging journalism department at California State University, Northridge. What began as a temporary position, flourished into

a 42-year long career with the university, helping transform an infant journalism program into a well-respected department.

Rawitch began her career as most journalists do, with a natural curiosity that developed into a passion. Growing up in New York City, she

attended Joseph Pulitzer Junior High School, named after the famous publisher Joseph Pulitzer, who helped introduce "yellow journalism" to the world.

"I knew I wanted to be a journalist by the time I was in ninth grade," Rawitch said. "I was in the class that put out the school newspaper, and I fell in love with the act of asking questions, being nosy and getting to stick my nose where other people couldn't, wouldn't or shouldn't."

Rawitch received her master's degree at Northwestern University in Illinois, and while she was there she met Robert Rawitch. He was also an aspiring journalist and after graduation the newly married couple moved to Los Angeles.

"We came to California, a place I thought I would never live," explained Rawitch. "[Robert] went to work for the L.A. Times and within a few months I went to work at the Associated Press in the Los Angeles bureau."

For four years, Cynthia worked for the Associated Press. She began as a "cub reporter," covering local stories, including the San Fernando Valley earthquake of 1971. Towards the end of her career at the Associated Press, Cynthia became pregnant with her first child and ended her time reporting.

"The four years that I was there, I loved doing it, made lifetime friends doing it and it was just an interesting job," Ratwitch said.

During Cynthia's pregnancy, her husband

was working at his alma mater, San Fernando Valley State College, later renamed California State University, Northridge in 1972. He was a part-time professor teaching a reporting class. Ken Duval, who was the department chair at the time and Robert's old mentor, asked him if his wife Cynthia would be interested in teaching in the expanding department.

"I've only been married four years Ken, but I've learned not to speak for my wife. Here's her phone number. You can call her and ask her," Robert Rawitch recalled telling him.

Cynthia Rawitch explained that although she loved teaching not being part of the story was a difficult adjustment to make, but it stuck.

"I fell in love with the university, I fell in love with the department, I fell in love with teaching in a way I never thought would be true," Rawitch said.

She worked first as a professor, then as publisher of the Daily Sundial, department chair and finally culminating with her role as vice provost towards the end of her career. During the 10 years she was publisher of the Daily Sundial she ushered student journalists through stories on topics as complicated as suicides and professor shootings.

"I spent 42 years here, and those were the best years. It was also the toughest years," said Rawitch.

Several students went on to have successful careers as journalists. A few returned to campus, however, and followed their dreams, as she did many years ago to inspire and influence the next generation of young journalists.

Professor Stephanie Bluestein was Cynthia Rawitch's student in the late 1980s for a class in media ethics. She recalled Rawitch invoking a strong work ethic with her students. This is something Bluestein tries to implement now, as she teaches the same class years later.

"We wanted to work really hard for her. She had very high standards," Bluestein said. "She was just so very passionate about journalism and it was important to her."

As an administrator, Rawitch worked diligently to raise funds for the department. She worked on making scholarship availability more accessible for students who needed the money to further their education. In addition, with the idea and help of students, she established the first Spanish language television newscast on campus, called "Valley View En Español." She officially retired in 2016.

times I was sports editor, city editor and co-editor, and we broke stories on everything from racism in the athletics department to corruption in student government. Along the way there were of course numerous fondly remembered hijinks, fueled in large part by marijuana and hormones. But I'll leave those for the reunion's war stories.

I left CSUN in 1973 with a degree in journalism and for the past 45 years print journalism has been my calling. For the last 31 I've been employed by The Associated Press, working as an editor in New York, a writer in Los Angeles and a correspondent in the Midwest.

Kitty Dill-Durich

It was in '72 that I clutched a bachelor of arts degree from CSUN (then Valley State College). Having paid my way through school, I was very conscious of what it takes to be simultaneously working and dashing to campus for classes, especially while being in Ventura County. My major: Journalism. Related Minor, English.

Then in '80, in much the same circumstances, there was another diploma, this a CSUN Master of Arts in Education, Educational Psychology, Counseling and Guidance.

The latter is how I found two swell friends living in The Valley who let me sleep on their sofa when I was too tired to drive home safely; and how I connected with fabulous Karen Cozzens. Years before she would marry Stan Hibdon, Karen and I were sharing a Reseda apartment (Saticoy and Keswick) when THE EARTHQUAKE struck.

To let our respective families know we were safe, I dashed downstairs with coins in hand to the single pay phone.

Returning upstairs, Karen inquired: "What did the families say." Stunned, I gawked: "Oh my gosh, I forgot to call them.... I called The Star [newspaper]."

Downstairs I rushed a second time. But by now, phone lines even out of state were clogged. It would be several days before our families knew we were OK. Karen's wonderful mom Shirley and dad (Ken Cozzens, a Ventura police captain) role-modeled for me that they could disagree, make up and be friends. It was from them I learned it was quite OK to get mad then kiss and make-up. Life lessons.

After '72, I was hired by Marv Sosna, Editor of the awards-winning News Chronicle, Thousand Oaks. As Editor of the Living sections (Family, Food, Religion, Youth, Life and Variety) I would have the privilege of working with Karen. What luck! And every so often, our paths still cross. Fate.

Kim Kent Wyard

Spring 1974



For those of us in the early 1970s, the Sundial and the "J-Department" elevated CSUN from a commuter school to a much more enhanced and personal experience.

It was the era of the Viet Nam War and some of us covered an antiwar demonstration. Secure with our LAPD issued press passes we marched from campus to the Bank of America on Reseda Blvd. and had a sit-in. At least one Daily Sundial photographer was himself photographed in handcuffs despite a press pass!

We dealt with workforce issues! It was a challenge to put out a daily newspaper particularly in 1973 when the Associated Student support disappeared. That cut into the student stipends which impacted the morale and enthusiasm of the labor pool.

We took risks! 1974 was the year of

the "streaker" and the Daily Sundial, edited by myself and co-editor Steve Rosenthal, published a front page picture of a naked couple streaking across campus. This was much to the chagrin of the Board of Publications which didn't appreciate the esthetics of frontal nudity.

We had fun! I have great memories of trips to the Grand Canyon and Fresno to attend SDX Conferences and of being amazed to experience an April snowstorm (Flagstaff, not Fresno). Somewhere I have the pictures!

Some went out of bounds! A mysterious and annoying "telephone tapper" is rumored to have resulted in a student suspension and, of course, the widely read, Smutsman, pushed some buttons.

We bonded with our faculty! We all looked forward to the annual progressive spaghetti dinner when faculty members opened up their homes and served meal courses. It was a great opportunity to meet and mingle with Ken Devol, Earl Earlandson, Mike Emory, Larry Schneider, "Doc" (Dewayne) Johnson, Sam Feldman, and Tom Reilly.

Ross K. Goldberg

Fall 1974



The term "college experience" is very much in fashion these days; not sure it even existed when I entered San Fernando Valley State College in 1971. But regardless of the vernacular, we all knew that's what we were seeking. Some found it through Greek societies, some through college athletics and some through theater or band or assorted clubs. There were even those for whom classes were enough. Everyone had their own recipe. For me, I found my experience and sense of belonging as part of the journalism department and, more specifically, my years on the Sundial. The Sundial offices were our halfway house between classes and home -- a place to go, a place to make friends and a place to make memories that still burn bright 45 years later. It was more than putting out a newspaper and learning our craft. Remember the Journalism banquets? The progressive dinners at profs houses? The Friday afternoon basketball games in the upstairs gym? The laughter, the smiles, the pure joys and the snap, crackle and pop that come with youth?

I had the privilege of being editor of the Sundial in my senior year and that experience will forever remain my back belt from college. My co-editor became godfather to my only child. My sports editor honored me by making me best man at his wedding. And my mentor professor became a trusted friend until the day he died.

To Jim and Mike and Sam. And to Steve, Greg, Willie, Dave, Kim, Terry, Killer, Ken, Diane and so many others. Thanks for the memories and the magical time. Here's hoping the best is yet to come.

Jim Yeager

Fall 1974



I've been fortunate enough to live -- what for me -- has been an amazing career including serving as morning City Editor for The Los Angeles Herald -Examiner, Worldwide Head of Public Relations for Universal Studios' Theme Parks, Senior Vice President Corporate Communications for Warner Bros., founder of breakwhitelight Public Relations with such clients as LiveNation, The Emmys, Union Station, Lionsgate, Merlin Entertainment, Six Flags, Steve Madden, M&M's World and even serving as President of CSUN's Journalism Alumni Association.

My work has afforded me the

opportunity to travel the world plying my trade in far-flung reaches ranging from China, to England to France to Spain to Japan. There's been many celebrities, talented collaborators and wonderful friends made along the way.

All this began years before though with other celebrities, collaborators and friends...

At a place called San Fernando Valley State College.

The celebrities then had different billings: "Doctors" of sorts:

Dr. Feldman.

Dr. Emory.

Dr. Devol.

Someone simply known as "Doc."

These esteemed journalism professors on our sleepy campus. Each had an abiding passion for sharing their knowledge and advice.

They were teachers and they were friends.

We needed them as both in those days. My Sundial co-editor and dear friend to this day, Ross Goldberg and I share the dubious distinction of being the only editors in the paper's history when it wasn't part of the journalism department or Associated Students due to a spat between those organizations. Rather than allow us to list in the independent waters we found ourselves in, they helped guide us from afar in our memorable and tumultuous tenure in Sierra Hall.

Indeed, that experience as the first graduate student to serve as Sundial editor has held me in good stead for a staggering 45 years.

And for that I am forever grateful.

Steve Wyard

Class of '75

The J-Department was smaller in 1969; the 100 class was being taught by a brand new instructor: Mike Emery, who seemed to be the personification of "The Absent-Minded Professor." Tom Reilly

taught basic reporting; Pete Wilson instructed while drinking cups of coffee and chain-smoking cigarettes (you could smoke anywhere on campus then), Earl Earlandson and Ken Devol took care of the upper division classes while Doc Johnson handled Photo Journalism. Students and professors freely interacted at such events as The Progressive Dinner (each professor hosted a different course at their home, with beer being available from salad to dessert) and the Journalism Awards Banquet. Such activities promoted a collegiality that often engendered lifelong friendships -- in my case, Tom Reilly was a mentor, counselor, friend and occasional co-conspirator, without whom I would not have graduated.

How did we put out a daily paper back then? No PCs, laptops, cellphones or anything like that -- Al Gore hadn't gotten around to inventing the internet yet -- so reporters typed their stories on manual Royals or Underwoods and sent them to a copy editor, who made the necessary revisions with a thick lead pencil. Pages were laid out on a paper sheet by the news editor, and everything was sent to the Backshop, the domain of Vic "The Bear" Herman, whose volcanic temper and propensity to fling razor blades and stick them in the ceiling made dealing with him almost as scary as the knowledge that you'd have to pass Dr. Devol's Law Class in order to graduate. The Backshop actually had state of the art equipment that utilized computerized keyboards and a photographic "cold type" process for typesetting, but copy had to be put through a waxer and pasted up on page forms before being taken to the printer.

So in the end, what did deciding to go to Valley State, studying Journalism and working on the Sundial mean to me? Just about everything, actually.

Elevating unheard voices in college and career

Baraa Alkassir

Adolfo and Delia Flores wanted to secure their son's life financially, so they enrolled him in Bravo Medical Magnet High School, a public high school in the Los Angeles Unified School District. They were upset with his decision when it was time to pick a college and major.



"I wanted to be writer. I liked books and I thought, what is it to write one? Then I was in high school and realized that I can be nosy, look into things, play detective," said Adolfo Flores, CSUN journalism graduate and national security correspondent for BuzzFeed News.

His parents were concerned about him not making any money and not finding a job. Flores pointed out that that journalists in Mexico, where his parents are from, are "not viewed in the best way."

Adolfo and Delia Flores own a restaurant now after they worked most of their lives in the restaurant business. Flores said they always made sure he was safe and far from any negative influences, since he grew up in Montecito Heights where a lot of gang activity occurs.

Although his family helped him avoid danger in his younger years, Flores now is fueled by it.

"I love my job," said Flores. "Last week I was in Texas talking to sex workers and drug addicts for a story about a border patrol serial killer. I get to do that. My work, they fly me to run around this little town and ask people questions and find things out. It's fun. I like to ask questions and hold people accountable."

Growing up, Flores, did not see enough Latino journalists in the written media. His parents and other relatives looked up to television anchors and reporters, rather than writers.

"In The Sundial and especially El Nuevo Sol there was a lot of importance placed on elevating voices of the unheard, voices of Latinos," Flores said.

Professor José Luis Benavides was the first person to give Flores a chance to do "real journalism" outside school, through the Spanish-language student publication El Nuevo Del Sol.

"It is very significant and important for the [student] portfolios to have stories that are larger than just campus life and also the fact that now [journalism] is a digital medium," Benavides said. "It breaks the boundaries of the print matter. Now [journalists] have to be mindful of reaching local as well as national and sometimes international audience."

Flores was inspired by Benavides to be part of the bigger picture and to feel the impact of his journalism.

"He invited me to a reporting project in Tijuana to do a story about AIDS and the Latino community, so we went to an AIDS hospice and spent three days with the patients getting their stories, and we did this big issue so it wasn't only focused on the CSUN community," Flores said.

After graduation, Flores wrote first for the Pasadena Star-News and then the Pasadena Sun, as a city hall and public safety reporter, respectively. In 2014 he was part of the L.A. Times' team covering the Isla Vista shootings that was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in the breaking news category, and he won a National Association of Hispanic Journalists' award for feature writing in 2015.

His work this year as the national security correspondent for BuzzFeed has made him a leader in immigration coverage at an important and turbulent time in our country's history. He was a key correspondent on one of the biggest stories of the year: the massive caravan of Central Americans migrants who traveled across Mexico to the U.S.

"He's at the forefront of reporting and writing about remarkably consequential issues of our times. It's gratifying to see his work attract so much attention on the national stage," said Linda Bowen, chair of the journalism department and former assistant managing editor/features editor for the Santa Barbara News-Press. "My colleagues and I are proud of his successes and know he's only getting started."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ADOLFO FLORES

Flores reporting during caravan migration in Tijuana, Mexico.

Sarah Baisley *Spring 1977*



A highlight during my term as editor was when Dr. Ken Devol arranged for some of us to attend the USC journalism banquet featuring Ben Bradlee, executive editor of the Washington Post, as the keynote speaker.

Afterwards, we got to drive him to Burbank Airport to catch his flight to Santa Barbara. But when we got there the private plane, which was scheduled to take him, wasn't there so I offered to drive him. We found him a hotel to stay overnight. I showed up early the next morning in my Volkswagen Beetle. I had him all to myself the next couple hours to talk shop, editor to editor, about the dynamics of a newsroom. He said most of his reporters watched the clock to get out in time to make their DC commutes except for Bob Woodward. His Watergate fame had not gone to his head. Bradlee could count on him to show up early every morning and be the last one to leave.

For my last issue, I asked him if he could write something for the Daily Sundial. Bradlee sent me an op-ed piece which we published in the same issue where the banner headline was about Dr. Robert Heath being fired after a year-long battle. Associate Editor Lee Whitney diligently attended disciplinary hearings, dug and reported on the first tenured professor to be fired in CSUN's history. I'm so grateful for the opportunities, experiences and fine people at the CSUN Journalism department. By the way, it was great fun organizing the progressive dinner, with dessert culminating at my house.

Dr. Melinda Sue Norrin *Class of 1981*



CSUN was known as a "commuter" school when I attended from 1976 until 1981. I was fortunate to join the Journalism department and work at the Matador bookstore so I observed CSUN as employee and student.

Pleased to have known student Golden Mike award winners Bill Griffith and Rick Hollicker at that time.

FRIENDS - Sadly, two amazing friends committed suicide. Scott Rubenstein was a straight-A student and Bookstore Manager who murdered both parents before taking his life. Nadine Grigoriev, another student and Matador employee overdosed on antidepressants. The

most shocking death was the chopped up and buried parts of a murdered PE teacher caught in a love triangle by a bookstore student employee, Laurie Anderson (who was later convicted).

JOURNALISM - The Journalism department was fabulous. It was after Watergate and Nixon resigning, as J students we were taught to search for truth, interview multiple sources and properly spell names. Professors Mike Emery, Sam Feldman, Maynard Hicks, Cynthia Rawitch (and her famous Times reporter husband, Bob Rawitch) set the bar high.

CSUN got me a PAID internship at Blue Cross which lead to two public relations scholarships then a full time job in corporate PR. I was president of PRSSA and active with student chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, the Society of Professional Journalists. Loved my time at CSUN!

Pat Biby Teeters *Spring 1979*



Nearly 40 years later, my memories as the Daily Sundial's editor for the Spring 1979 semester at CSUN remain vivid. I was fortunate to work with a talented, creative staff that took pride in every issue we published.

The Sundial, consequently, received a SPJ/SDX Mark of Excellence award that spring, named as one of the "best all-around student newspapers" in a four-state area. We were proud.

I attribute much of the credit for that award to former CSUN professor and Sundial Publisher Bill Thomas, our mentor and guide. He also led our staff through a revolutionary change in newspaper production—replacing typewriters with computers. In our Jan. 22, 1979, issue, we wrote that the Sundial would begin using "new video display terminals, the latest in electronic editing." Feature Editor Carroll Lachnitt wrote a follow-up story with the headline, "Land of 'Lou Grants' has new inhabitant—computer"—ancient history in today's newspaper business.

Another memorable story was when 10,000 copies of the Sundial were stolen from campus distribution boxes. The "theft" was resolved when the newspapers were later found dumped on a lawn. It all may have been due to a dispute with a student organization over a controversial motion picture advertisement they did not like. Charges were dropped, and freedom of the press prevailed.

My most vivid memory is of several of my CSUN professors telling me that working as a small town newspaper editor would be their ideal job. I took their words to heart, and that's what I do today. My husband Darrel and I have owned a

regional senior newspaper, The Valley Messenger, in Yucaipa, California, for 28 years. I continue to work as a writer/editor—thanks to the journalism skills I acquired nearly 40 years ago at CSUN's Daily Sundial. Also, "thanks for the memories."

Eric Sondheimer *Class of 1980*

My favorite memory is being sports editor and interviewing football coach Jack Elway in his small enclosed coaches' office. He was a big-time smoker, and it was before the days of no smoking in offices, so imagine doing an interview as Country Jack smoked away. One of the most entertaining, nicest people around and the father of John Elway. It was an exciting time to cover CSUN football and at the same time cover John Elway at Granada Hills High as a stringer for the Daily News.

David Foy *Fall 1981*

I remember most of all the people .. I made lifetime friends during my three semesters on the Sundial during 1980-81 — as reporter, Opinion Editor and Editor in Chief. They are too numerous to mention but Gail Dicker (now Pinsker), Bill Mazal, Jeff Curtis, Karen Fredericksen, Gail Minkow (now Morgan), Richard Pusateri, Abe Hernandez, Jay Harn, Terry Clawson, Corrine Ohana Clawson, Maria LaGanga, Key Bowline, Marla Kneely (was that her maiden name???) instructor Roger Wetherington, Professor Bill Thomas and the late Teri Hutchison are the ones that quickly come to mind ...

The Sundial was really a true family. I loved the people there and I treasure the times I had there with everyone. If I had to remember a single story it would be covering Ronald Reagan as he addressed a huge rally at Devonshire Downs (then owned by CSUN) during October 1980 as he was on the cusp of winning the presidency.

But stories were sort of secondary to the non-stop partying, dating and friendships that were part of my Sundial experience.

Stuart Levine *Class of 1986*



To this day I remember being a freshman in a Journalism or Communications 100 course and the professor telling us that while being a reporter, writer and/or editor was a noble profession and important to society, it was certainly no way to make a living. Wages would always be low and while you might survive you would never thrive. Although money was never a driving force in my career choice, I didn't want to completely ignore it either.

With that in mind, I seriously contemplated changing my major to accounting, in which I had some success in high school. After taking an accounting class, however, I realized it would be a terrible mistake. Whether or not I'd be ever be able to afford a house on the hill or a ritzy vacation every year didn't matter. I had the pulse of journalism running through my veins and that was not to be ignored.

So with that in mind, joining the Daily Sundial was where I found my calling at CSUN, meeting like-minded students who understood the thrill of a byline and the rush of a breaking news story. Whenever I had time to kill between classes, I would instinctively head to the Sundial newsroom, which felt like a second home.

There was always a story to work on or edits to be made for stories not yet published. More importantly, though, the newsroom was a place where I could always find a friend who shared common interests. The conversation could range from favorite interviews to the latest Dodger win. Also, it was pre-Internet, so you actually talked to people instead of looking into a phone. I will always recall my time at the Sundial as an exceptional training ground for my career. And for that I'm incredibly thankful.

David Kano



When people hear 'California State University Northridge' or CSUN -- the name doesn't seem to hold prestige or merit with most individuals. In fact, the name may not have that affect on students or alumni. However, as both an undergraduate and graduate student from CSUN, I can attest to the tools it has provided me to work professionally in

journalism, television, film, and other facets of the entertainment industry. There may not be a strong connection with other alums to help in those industries -- but with hard work and skills learned, CSUN alum are able to compete with the best in the world. Yes, there are advantages to going to USC, UCLA, Stanford, North Carolina, Columbia, etc., but if you put yourself in the right situation -- hard work with some talent supersedes talent with little hard work. Just take a look at some of the notable alum.

Ron Epstein *Spring 1990*



I came to CSUN because of the highly-regarded Journalism program. I looked at other schools, but none had the hands-on training that would get me a job, or the faculty who were working in the field and could teach what I needed to know and prepare me for what I would find.

My decision to come to CSUN was a life changer. I got a world-class education from professors who cared, and guidance from those who were a few steps ahead of me in life. I got involved in the department – first at the Daily Sundial, then at KSCN and along the way with the CSUN chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

I made amazing contacts along the way who helped me in my career, and met fellow students who have become lifelong friends. In my junior year I even got introduced to a girl in the Journalism Department. A couple weeks later we went on our first date, and 3 years after that (in 1992) we got married.

I covered sports and news for the Sundial. I learned how to be a good writer, to make sure I spelled everything correctly and hit my deadline. I then learned how to be a good editor, and then a good leader. I learned that my way is my way, but it's not necessarily the best way. I learned to trust others.

Today, my wife and I run our own publishing business and it's built on the foundation and principals we learned in Sierra North.

If someone would have told me 30 years ago that the first time I set foot in the Daily Sundial office would change my life, I wouldn't have believed it. But it did – and I'm eternally grateful.

Robin Heinz Bratslavsky *Spring 1992*

I was Sundial editor in Spring 1992, the semester of the Los Angeles riots. CSUN police made our staff leave campus as the unrest began, which meant we could not publish the paper for the next day (unheard of in Sundial history). Sundial photographers went out on their own and captured some of the first images of the citywide turmoil. A few editors who were roommates took the police scanner to our off-campus apartment to follow the news.

The Sundial also became an unwilling participant in a controversy between the athletics department and the Black Student Union. Our coverage of campus happenings was called unfair — even racist — at times. The newspaper's diverse staff answered the charges with grace and continued to provide balanced coverage of campus news and events.

Working on The Daily Sundial as a reporter, copy editor, managing editor and editor in chief was the highlight of my college experience. It was transformative for me as a student and taught me so much about the craft of journalism. I made lifelong friends, got my first "real" job through Sundial connections and even met my husband (via The Sundial business office).

Elena Epstein *Class of 1992*



When I think back to my college years, my best and most memorable memories revolve around the Journalism Department and my work at the Sundial. Learning to be a reporter, late nights finishing a story on deadline, grabbing dinner from "the roof" of the old Sierra North building and being with my wonderful fellow reporters and editors – that was college for me. Not only did my friendships and my career all revolved around the Sundial, I even met my husband while working at the Sundial. I will forever be grateful for my experience there.

Making herself at home

Raychel Stewart

At 13, she knew she loved journalism. She was a reporter and editor for her junior high and high school's newspaper in Bakersfield. But when it came time to decide on a college, her decision was based on location, so she could be right next to her grandma in the San Fernando Valley.

Today, Stephanie Bluestein is an associate professor at CSUN, and a winner of Journalism Educator of the Year in the Two-Year College Division from the Education Coalition and three Pulitzer Prizes as a part of the Los Angeles Times staff.

"It's so weird that I only applied to this one university, I end up getting three degrees from it, and I end up teaching here," Bluestein said. "All because grandma lived in North Hollywood."

Bluestein entered CSUN as an enthusiastic therapist-to-be. However, when freshman year ended, she was far less enthusiastic. Feeling unsatisfied with her career choice and grades, she enrolled at Los Angeles Valley College, where she began taking journalism classes.

She returned to CSUN ready to take on being a student journalist and determined to graduate. Bluestein worked at The Daily Sundial for two semesters and got a taste of what the journalism field is like. She went on to report for Los Angeles Daily News and was eventually hired as a trainee at the San Fernando Valley Edition at Los Angeles Times, where she spent the majority of her career as a reporter.

After earning her master's degree, Steph-

nie raced around the Los Angeles area teaching at Pierce College, Moorpark College, and CSUN all while beginning her doctorate degree in 2009. Feeling overwhelmed, Bluestein was thrilled when a full-time teaching position at CSUN opened up, and joined the faculty.

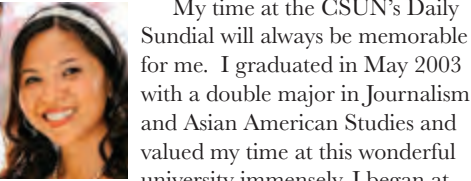
The following year, she became Dr. Stephanie Bluestein after earning her doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

Apart from teaching, Bluestein is also a member of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, the American Educational Research Association, and is President of the Society of Professional Journalists in the Greater L.A. Chapter.



COURTESY OF STEPHANIE BLUESTEIN

Ivy (Ybuan) Sudjati
Spring 2003



My time at the CSUN’s Daily Sundial will always be memorable for me. I graduated in May 2003 with a double major in Journalism and Asian American Studies and valued my time at this wonderful university immensely. I began at the Sundial as a staff writer, then moved up to become the city editor and eventually, in my last year at CSUN, became the editor-in-chief. It’s hard to imagine that at 23-years-old, under the sage guidance of Manley Witten, I was responsible for managing a staff of 19 editors and 17 staff reporters where we had to churn out a daily paper while juggling a full class load. Although it was at times quite stressful, I learned so much about time management, the importance of the press and was always proud to be part of a handful of universities at the time that actually published a daily paper (to a circulation of over 37,000 no less!).

As EIC, one of my main goals was to provide better representation and cultural awareness in covering a lot of the events and issues that pertained to the diverse student population. Although I am not currently working in the industry, the journalistic bug still lives, as I find myself documenting my life experiences through various forms such as social media, blogging and photography. I appreciate my experience in the Sundial newsroom and take the lessons and growth that I was able to attain there with me everywhere I go! Congratulations to the Daily Sundial and the Department of Journalism for 60 years of excellence and for providing students with such a strong and thorough foundation. Go Matadors!

Danielle Directo-Meston
Fall 2008



It’s been a decade since I was editor in chief of the Daily Sundial, but I remember that fall 2008 semester like it was yesterday. Under the guidance of new publisher Melissa Lalum, our class ushered the paper into the social media age and blasted the Sundial’s very first tweets and Facebook updates. We reported on issues that land on the front page every semester: Expired elevator permits, executive pay raises, and the ever-prevailing parking problem. We also had our share of defining stories: The unconstitutional passing of Prop. 8, massive enrollment cuts, our SPJ award-winning coverage of grad student Esha Momeni’s imprisonment in Iran, and heartbreakingly, the deadly Metro train crash and the death of one of our own editors. Among the many unforgettable headlines, however, this one stands out the most: “OBAMA WINS!” (I know, I buried the lede here.)

On the night before President Barack Obama’s historic election, we had two versions of Wednesday’s paper ready to be put to bed. Editors, reporters, friends, and significant others were huddled in Manzanita Hall 140 around the newsroom TV and pizza, anxiously glued to CNN for the name of the next commander-in-chief. We were a staff of multi-generation Angelenos, immigrants, first-generation Americans, DREAMers, mothers, first-time voters, long-time voters, progressives, and conservatives, all collaborating together to put out a university paper before deadline.

Like newsrooms across the globe, we fed off the electricity of the election and the incredible rush that comes with chasing a breaking story. Experiencing the night of November 4, 2008 as a college journalist, however, was a powerful moment for me as a writer and first-generation Filipina-American. I’ll never forget the profoundness of being surrounded by a diverse team of students from all walks of life converging to see the first black president claim victory.

Written in honor of Manley Witten and Dylan Miles

G. Rand Rodriguez, 1964-2018

Graduating from CSUN after attending other colleges, G. Rand Rodriguez was a journalism major and editor-in-chief of The Daily Sundial in Fall 1988. He met his wife, Juli, while she was Features editor, and they married shortly afterward. Married for nearly 30 years, they had four children: Rex, Hunter, Chloe and Fifi. Rand died of cancer on Oct. 2, 2018. He was 54 years old.

How Paul Bond Ruined The Sundial

Jed Bookout

Although many students suspect their teachers don’t like them, Paul Bond knew for sure.

“My managing editor at The Sundial and I were sitting in the back of a classroom,” Bond recalls. “A professor said to the class, ‘journalism is a very competitive field. Ninety percent of you will never work in journalism. And you two’ — which is when she pointed to me and my managing editor — ‘never will.’”

Bond, who is now a writer for The Hollywood Reporter, was made editor in chief of The Sundial in January 1994 after returning to CSUN following a semester at Georgetown, where he graduated from The Institute for Political Journalism. Prior to the start of the spring semester that year, Bond looked forward to establishing a focus on hard news with a bipartisan, non-biased approach.



Damage sustained at CSUN from the 1994 earthquake.

But on Jan. 17, 1994, the Northridge earthquake hit, drastically changing the face of the campus as well as the tone for the entire semester.

“We had already prepared our first newspaper and the top story was about how NAFTA, a new trade agreement at the time, might affect CSUN and the surrounding area,” Bond said. “That all went by the wayside.”

Bond drove for four hours in hostile traffic to go to school the morning of the quake, which registered 6.7 on the Richter scale and killed 57 people, including two CSUN students. On the freeway, piles of concrete from fallen bridges were engulfed in flames due to various oil spills. Upon arriving at the campus, Bond discovered the science building in flames, the parking structure crumbled, and the Oviatt library cracked and tilted.

But where many saw chaos, Bond saw news.

“Me and my chief copy editor went into the crumbled parking structure,” Bond said. “We wanted to be the only reporters on the planet with pictures inside the crumbled structure.”

After the earthquake, most of CSUN’s campus was condemned. Temporary trailers were hauled into the area and, following a brief delay of the start of the semester, CSUN informed The Sundial they could resume production.

Following a short period in which the paper had to be printed at Cal State LA, Bond and his staff were given a trailer on campus to run The Sundial.

“We would give the floppy



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAUL BOND

Bond interviewing Jay Leno, one of the many celebrities that visited campus after the 1994 earthquake.

disks that had the copy editing to one of our guys, who was a track star,” Bond said. “He would run half a mile to the art department with these stupid floppy disks, run back, grab another.”

The disaster could not sustain the paper for an entire semester, and after four or five weeks, the staff started focusing on more controversial pieces that offended many students and faculty on campus.

“I wanted to buck the trend on campus that I saw,” Bond said. “It was so politically correct, so stifling, so group think and I hated it. And they knew I hated it because of the stories I wrote.”

When he’s not working at The Hollywood Reporter, Bond acts as an adjunct professor of journalism at College of the Canyons in Valencia. His work at CSUN directly informs the work he does now, which he passes on

every day to aspiring journalists, some of whom go on to careers of their own.

“He brought a passion that really transformed who I am,” said Austin Dave, the Chief Multimedia Journalist for The Signal in Santa Clarita. “I now know how to be concise, how to get to the point in a way that’s not cut and dry that paints a full picture. He taught us that through his own passions.”

Almost 25 years after both Bond and the earthquake erupted in tandem, his most notable memory about CSUN takes place in a classroom. Not too long after the original campus had been ruined by the earthquake, a professor told Paul her thoughts about his vision for the paper.

“She said, ‘You’re ruining The Sundial,’” Bond stated. “Which was weird to me. At least people were paying attention.”

In Appreciation

The Journalism Department, Journalism Alumni Association and the Oviatt Library wish to thank the businesses and individuals below who donated goods or services to the online silent auction.

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If you are not already a member of the CSUN Journalism Alumni Association, please join to support the Journalism Department and stay in touch with alums. By joining the CSUN Alumni Assn. and designating the JAA as your chapter of choice, the chapter gets a portion of your dues and you get a host of other benefits including discounts on services, various kinds of insurance and more. Even if you don’t need the benefits, please consider joining the JAA. You can sign up tonight at the registration desk or go to <https://www.csun.edu/alumni/chapter/journalism> and sign up later online.

PR class lured her to journalism

Natalie Schettritt

By the first semester of her fourth year at CSUN, Xiomara Morales was lost, unhappy and thinking about dropping out, regardless of how few classes she had left to her communications degree. Then she got into a brutal car accident on her way to class that left her injured and without transportation.

After two and a half weeks of missing class, Morales decided to return to school by Uber and talk to her professors about a plan of action. As she waited for a professor to return to the office, she overheard some students nearby talking about their presentation while waiting for class. Morales impulsively decided to attend this unknown class, slip in the back row to spectate.

“I was in such a low place, looking for anything to inspire something inside me again,” says Morales.

The lecture focused on public relations campaigns. After every-

one presented, she felt excited realizing this was an area of study she could potentially excel in. She was captivated by the content. She loved the subject and professor’s commentary. She observed the whole class, even though she was not enrolled in it.

“Dropping into this class ignited something within me,” says Morales.

For a moment she thought she would switch her major to journalism and be in school for as long as it took. After some thought, she decided to stick with her communications major and find a way to incorporate her newfound love of journalism.

With a fresh sense of ambition, Morales found a way to make it to class every day from that moment on. She wanted to learn all that she could about the field. The following semester, she enrolled in three journalism classes on top of her communications classes.

“Something about these journalism classes helped me grow out of my shell, learn to deal with many kinds of people and person-



COURTESY OF XIOMARA MORALES

alities and prepared me for the real world,” Morales says.

She got an internship at Power 106 radio station, supporting her decision to work in public relations. And in December 2017, Morales graduated with honors and got hired full time as a receptionist at the radio station. When the PR and sales assistant position became available, Morales was the first to apply. After getting rejected three times, she finally got hired her fourth time applying.

“She is talented and never turns down an opportunity to learn. ... Her ambition and drive will take her far,” said senior account executive Kim Bitran.

Though she is grateful for her communications degree, she attributes a lot of her personal and professional growth to the CSUN Journalism department and the classes she took within it.

“If I hadn’t walked into that PR class, I don’t know where I would be today,” she said.

World traveler stays put at CSUN

Fernando Martinez

Profesora Retis is what her students call her.

Jessica Retis was born and raised in Peru, but a love of travel and journalism took her to Lima, to Mexico City, and eventually to Spain. In Spain, Retis was able to continue working in media, began teaching and got her Ph.D. in contemporary Latin American studies.

“I wanted to come back to Mexico but at the same time I wanted a better life for my family, so I decided why not L.A. ... It’s close enough,” she said.

Retis feel into love with the community at CSUN because it was the Latin community she loved and longed for. She is now one of two full-time faculty teaching in the Spanish Language Journalism minor.

“This professor is CSUN’s gem,” said former student Monica Gonzales. “She really cares about her students. She really puts in the effort to try to get everyone to understand Spanish media and the issues regarding it. I seriously cannot thank her enough for expanding our minds and pushing her students to do better.”

In May, Retis was awarded CSUN Excellence in Teaching award, for the second time. At the award event, Professor Pat Swenson recognized the many places that Retis’ former students work and “extensive professional recognition for her work and teaching, a continuous record of publication, multiple CSUN research awards, and engagement in the wider CSU community.”

“But to me,” Retis said, “the real reward was reading the letters that former student wrote about me and how much I have impacted their lives made all of my work meaningful.”



JORDAN NATHAN

Setting students up for success

Jordan Nathan

Movement and noise from the setting up of cameras and equipment can be heard all around the news studio. Lincoln Harrison circles around the set for CSU Northridge Wednesday journalism department On Point production, turning on lights and flipping switches.

After 15 years, his unusual mix of journalism and engineering education has become central to the broadcast productions. His forever growing portfolio collection of student work on his computer shows generations of journalists who are now working all around the country. He keeps track of graduates he has helped who now have jobs in the field and stays in touch with many of them, such as Shelby Bracho, who works in Grand Junction,

Colorado and Maria Cortez, who works in Yakima, Washington.

A broadcast journalism major, Mario Saucedo has been at CSUN for four and a half years. He helps work on CSUN On Point by writing scripts, finding guests and makes sure that each show he is in will be ready to go.

“Whenever your story airs on Valley View News [Harrison] will send you an email and he will contact some professional journalists and they can send you feedback on what you did,” Saucedo said.

Growing up, Harrison was something of a tinkerer working with devices and electronics. This got him interested in engineering and radio broadcasting which led him to obtain his high school job at his local radio station in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His interests

carried him through to graduate school at the University of Missouri, and there to his future wife, Reva Hicks.

“I met the wife and that’s the big deal, she and I came out to California six months apart to get our jobs, and this is where we have been since,” Harrison said.

After 23 years working at ABC, he started at CSUN as a broadcast journalism professor in 2003 and later became the TV Lab Media Production Specialist. He estimates he has helped produce about 500 shows since 2007.

“Lincoln is invaluable,” said Aron Bender, the Interim News Director at KSCN. “His work ethic and knowledge are incomparable. Lincoln has had a major impact and influence on hundreds of students’ success and careers.”

A much deserved thank you to all the full-time faculty who taught, coached, supported, nudged, encouraged and maybe even at times threatened the more than 3,000 students who have gone through the San Fernando Valley State/CSUN journalism program over 60 years. And a further thank you to the hundreds of part timers who did the same but are too numerous to mention.

60 Years of Journalism Faculty

Past Full-Time Faculty

Lori Baker Schena

Bert Barer

Ken Devol (deceased)

Erling Ehrlandson (deceased)

Michael Emery (deceased)

Sam Feldman (deceased)

Keith Goldstein (deceased)

Zena Beth Guenin

Felix Gutierrez

Dennis R. Hart

Jack Robert Hart

Susan Henry

James Hill

Amani Ismail

Jerome Jacobs (deceased)

Harold Y. Jones

Dwayne B. Johnson (deceased)

Kim Karloff

R. Kent Kirkton

Melissa Lalum

Rick Marks

Bryce Nelson

Katherine Orloff

Tom Reilly (deceased)

Natalie Ryder Redcross

Cynthia Z. Rawitch

Maureen Rubin

Lawrence Schneider (deceased)

R. Larry Snipes

Charles St. Cyr

William Thomas

Ray Tippo

Joe Webb

Roger Wetherington

Pete Wilson (deceased)

Manley Witten (deceased)

Current Full-Time Faculty, including FT lecturers

Linda Bowen (chair)

Jose Luis Benavides

Elizabeth Blakey

Stephanie Bluestein

David Blumenkrantz

Benjamin Davis

Marcella De Veaux

Bobbie Eisenstock

Daniela Gerson

David Grewe

Taehyun Kim

Gretchen Macchiarella

Jessica Retis

Sally Turner

Melissa Wall

Arvli Ward

Yue Zheng