

A PUBLICATION OF THE STUDENT CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2008

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Fall Leadership 8 Conference





## FALL LEADERSHIP: A SUCCESS!

CHRISTOPHER PANCOAST, SCTA NORTHERN REGIONAL VP

One Voice One Message We're here to say, Education Our purpose S-C-T-A!



Conference participants in a breakout session.

Fall leadership was quite a success! Everyone enjoyed the chant given at both the beginning and end of the conference. One member stated, "It really got every-

one else in a good mood and excited." We had approximately 160 SCTA members and chapter advisors attend the November 8-9 event. Everyone whom I talked to proclaimed to have enjoyed the weekend long conference. It was exhilarating to see so many fresh new faces. David Sanchez, CTA President, was motivating and informative. There were many workshops members could

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## WELCOME SAN MARCOS TO SCTA!



Welcome to new chapter, CSU San Marcos! Chapter Leaders: Nancy Daly, President; Allison Peck, Vice President; Noreen Towle, Secretary; Colin Cornforth, Treasurer; Christina Hatch, Events Coordinator; Bailey Gesiriech, Recruitment and Sara Ouellet, ASI Representative. Advisor: Dr. John Halcón.

WWW.STUDENTCTA.ORG

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- CHRISTOPHER PANCOAST (SONOMA STATE UNVIERSITY), c\_pancoast.scta@hotmail.com

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HEIDI RICO (CSU FULLERTON), HRICO@CSU.FULLERTON.EDU

#### **ETHNIC MINORITY REPS:**

- ARELI DOHNER-CHAVEZ (CSU STANISLAUS), SCTA.EMR@GMAIL.COM
- CARMEN REYES (Mt. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE), CREYES\_EMR@YAHOO.COM

#### **CCTC LIAISON:**

SCOTT CHANCE CARRICO (CSU STANISLAUS), SCTAREP@GMAIL.COM

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- ERIN TANIHARA (CSU EAST BAY), ETANIHARA@HORIZON.CSUEASTBAY.EDU
- STEPHANIE DEVOY (UCLA), SJDBRUIN@UCLA.EDU
- JAMIE FALLS(CSU SACRAMENTO), JALLSFAMIE@SBCGLOBAL.NET
- Maaria Thompson (CSU Stanislaus), Studentcta.ra@gmail.com

#### PAST OFFICER:

Jane Rodgers, Rodgers.jane@gmail.com

#### CTA BOARD LIAISON:

Dian Dolores Hasson, Hassondi@aol.com

#### **NEA BOARD LIAISON:**

ANN SHADWICK, ANSHADWICK@AOL.COM

#### **NEA STUDENT CHAIRPERSON:**

ANTHONY DANIELS, ADANIELS@NEA.ORG

### **STUDENT CTA CONSULTANT:**

GAIL WATTS, GWATTS@CTA.ORG, 650/552-5346

#### STUDENT CTA OFFICE:

SOPHIA Georgiadis, SGeorgiadis@cta.org, 650/552-5345

## Contact the Editor! Submit an Article!

I Choose to Teach! is a publication by the Student California Teachers Association, an affiliate of the California Teachers Association and the National Education Association. To submit information or articles, please contact:

#### Heidi Rico

hrico@csu.fullerton.edu

Deadline: January 18, 2009:

Be a part of February 2009's issue!

Mark Your Calendars	
December 2008	
6	CBEST & RICA Exams
13	SCTA Executive Board Meeting,
	Burlingame
23-Jan. 2	WINTER RECESS
January 2009	
10	CSET
16-18	Rural Issues Conference,
	Las Vegas, NV
19	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY
23-25	State Council/ SCTA Board Meeting, Los Angeles
30- Feb.1	Good Teaching Conference, North
Feb. 7	CBEST & RICA
Feb. 16	PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY
Feb 20-22	Region 3 Leadership Conference Torrance
Feb. 21	SCTA Executive Board Meeting,
	Burlingame

## AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER

## TAMMY TANNER, SCTA MEMBER, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

"I was afraid of speaking in front of a large audience and had no idea what to talk about."

ver the course of my education and being a member of Student CTA. I have always wanted to present a workshop. Although, like many of us, I was afraid of speaking in front of a large audience and had no idea what to talk about. Well after a year of talking to my fellow teachers about it, they convinced me to take the leap and submit my application to the conference committee. After waiting for weeks to find out whether I had been chosen,

I received a notice that I had been selected. I was thrilled to be chosen to do a presentation. I was ready to go.

Then the big day came, October 17, 2008. I was ready for this moment and was fully prepared. When I saw my workshop sign, I became nervous. I had an hour and a half to give a presentation on the topic of Howard Gardner's *Theories of Multiple Intelligences*. There were more than thirty people in my workshop, and not one of them got up and left the room. By the time the workshop was

over, I was feeling great. I can share information that I used in my presentation in my classroom. The reviews were positive, as well the feedback. People asked questions and wanted more information. I was thankful for those who convinced me to apply and supported me through this great experience. It was an experience of a life time, one that has changed me and has made me a better educator.

## **ARE YOU AWARE OF ISLAMIC TRADITION?**

### KARIM MILBIS, SOUTHERN REGIONAL VP

"The skills and responsibilities of an intercultural educator include understanding culture and cultural diversity, striving for equity in schooling, and promoting achievement"



As future educators, we face a diverse student population that demands a complicated set of skills to promote achievement for all students(Diaz-Rico & Weed, p. 231). The skills and responsibilities of an intercultural educator include understanding culture and cultural diversity, striving for equity in schooling, and promoting achievement Diaz-Rico & Weed, 232). Knowledge of the deeper elements of culture - beyond superficial aspects such as food, clothing, holidays, and celebrations - can give teachers a cross-cultural perspective that allows them to educate students to the greatest extent possible (Diaz-Rico & Weed, 231-232).

Among the diverse cultures of the United States that teachers may encoun-

ter within their classrooms is the Islamic or Muslim culture. Whether it is student named Muhammad or Fatima, the following guestions may be asked; how are you going to learn about these students' cultures and combat prejudice in ourselves and others? Fortunately, there is an online resource for teachers to learn more about Muslim culture and history called the Council on Islamic Education (CIE). CIE was founded in 1990 and is a national, non-profit research institute and resource organization based in Fountain Valley, California. Their mission is to support and strengthen American public education as the foundation for a vibrant democracy, a healthy civil society, and a nationally and globally literate citizenry.

The Council on Islamic Education (CIE) provides academic information about Islam and Muslim history to educators in the context of U.S. curricular requirements for teaching about world history and world religions, and in accordance with prevailing guidelines for teaching about religion. CIE's work in the U.S. education field, particularly at the K-12 level, is intended to support our nation's voung citizens in their studies of world and U.S. history, geography, the social sciences, and world religions.

CIE publishes articles on various topics in leading educational newsletters, journals, and other media such as *Current Issues in Comparative Education* (CICE), *Association for Su-*

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pervision, and Curriculum Development (ASCD), Religion and Education, and the Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education (CSEE). These essays and articles address the current debates surrounding teaching world history and textbook design, and provide educators with guidelines for teaching about religion and issues of religious accommodation. CIE also publishes teaching guides and references that provide information on Muslim holidays, teaching about Islam and Muslims in the public school classroom, and

strategies and structures for presenting world history. They also make available online lesson plans based on documentary films, lessons based on CIE Teaching Units, and thematic and topical lessons.

CIE is comprised of a diverse group of professors and academic scholars from universities across America. CIE is a non-profit organization registered in the State of California and is a publicly supported institution and receives financial contributions from members of the American Muslim community and other Americans who value their work. For more informa-

tion, please visit their website at: <a href="http://www.cie.org">http://www.cie.org</a>.



Sources: *The Crosscultural Language and Academic Development Handbook* by Lynne T. Diaz-Rico and Kathryn Z, Weed; and the Council on Islamic Education website.

"Not only did

the children

learn about

\_\_\_\_\_

reading and giving to others

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of history. "

## WE READ 100 BOOKS!

## TAMMY TANNER, SCTA MEMBER, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

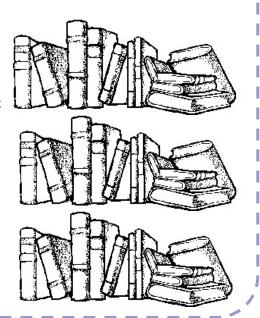
y students are helping others while they help themselves this school year by participating in Scholastic Book Clubs' Classrooms Care Program, a philanthropy-based literacy campaign, designed to teach children about the joys and importance of reading and giving. The kindergarten class of Tower Academy helped put books in the hands of children in the Need-Simply Program, by reading books themselves. This fall, the students in my classroom and all across the country read 100 books and in turn Scholastic Book Clubs, a division of Scholastic, the global children's publishing and media company, donated one million new books to dis-

advantaged children nationwide. Participating classrooms can choose to whom they want books donated from a long list of local groups. This year, my class chose the New Orleans communities. Not only did the children learn about reading and giving to others in need, but also a little bit of history. The Classrooms Care initiative is open to all classrooms nationwide through Scholastic Book Club catalogues and the Scholastic Web site.

Scholastic Book Clubs Classrooms Care offer both students and teachers an opportunity to celebrate the importance of reading, and to demonstrate our spirit of service and sharing.

When we finally reached

our goal of 100 books, not only did we get certificates, but the satisfaction of helping other children in need. The children were thrilled to reach this milestone together as a class and give books to our friends in New Orleans.



## DID YOU ROCK THE VOTE? CSU MONTEREY BAY DID!

### RACHEL JARVIS, SCTA NORTHERN REGIONAL VP

SCTA's CSU Monterey Bay Chapter hosted CSUMB's first ever "Rock the Vote," voter registration rally. CSUMB (home of the Otters) SCTA partnered with our campus Monterey Bay Dem"otter"crats as well as the Otter College Republicans. Once the event was in full swing, Associated Students and the Student Activities Office took notice and joined in our campaign for change. Tabling the event, we had local candidates, proposition advocates, and other campus clubs such as Students for Quality Education and CSUMB Christian Fellowship.

It was truly an AMAZING event with the theme *Voters are the Agents for Change*. Keeping the true premise of "Rock the Vote", there was music, speakers, and free food! We had 6 bands including Justin Stie and the Trees, Blazing Laylas, Mapless, and others. Speakers included Mayoral Candidate



Northern Regional VPs Rachel Jarvis and Christopher Pancoast

Bruce Delgado, Salinas Mayor Dennis Donahue, and Libertarian Activist Savva Vassiliev. We also had a special visitor, SCTA's Northern Regional Vice President Chris Pancoast, who took part in the festivities and supported our cause. Our event was more than we could have hoped for, with 100+ students registering to vote. *Students are realizing that they really can make a difference in this election.* 



# **Congratulations!**

**Future Educator Scholarship** (Community College Students) Mandy Hopper, American River College—\$300 James Yarrow, Santa Ana College—\$300

**Ed Romeo Scholarship** (Undergrads at a 4-year institution) Shannon Luster, UCLA—\$500 Megan Vick, California Lutheran—\$500 Herb Foreman (Credential Students)
Julie Nomof, CSU Stanislaus—\$700
James Nunez, San Diego State—\$700
Yuko Hirayama, Westmont College—\$700

L. Gordon Bittle Memorial Scholarship for SCTA. Three (3) \$2000 scholarships are awarded. Deadline: Feb 6, 2009. www.cta.org or jcollins@cta.org.

## SPORTING THE GOT TUITION T-SHIRT

#### SAIRA DIAZ FLORES, SCTA MEMBER

Throughout fall quarter, I have been wearing my *got tuition* t-shirt. This catchy slogan was distributed at the NEA-SP Summer Leadership Conference in June, as a part of the National Education Association—Student Program campaign to raise awareness about collage affordability issues. The t-shirt's message is a great way to spread awareness about issues concerning college students, because viewers just can't help but comment or start a conversation. It always surprises me that many people, including college students, in my community are clueless about the issues around No Child Left Behind and the budget cuts effecting education. My *got tuition* t-shirt has definitely allowed me to educate people about many important issues that affect students throughout the state and across the nation. T-shirts are a very effective campaign resource and I encourage everyone to use this great tool for a future campaign!

http://www.facebook.com/pages/got-tuition/18317899393

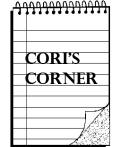
## TEACHING CREDENTIALS LINGO

### CORINE CALOCA, SCTA PRESIDENT

Multiple Subject (MS) Teaching Credential: If you are planning to teach elementary school (K-6) you are seeking a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

**Single Subject Credential:** If you are planning to teach middle school or high school and want to teach one specific subject (e.g. Math, English, History, etc) then you are seeking a Single Subject Teaching Credential.

**BCLAD:** The Bilingual Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development Teaching Credential allows you to specialize in the instruction to English Learners (EL) in their primary language. As a teacher you are proficient in teaching in two languages, in English and in the students' primary language. You can obtain a BCLAD-MS or BCLAD Single Subject credential. The BCLAD credential is not only offered in Spanish but also in 16 other languages. Instead of holding a credential, you can also obtain a BCLAD certificate through examination.



**CLAD:** Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development Certificate authorizes you to teach to English Language Learners (ELL). Instruction is in English and you can teach English Language Development (ELD) and Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (SDAIE).

**SPED M/M Credential:** The Special Education Mild to Moderate Credential allows you to teach students with specific learning disabilities, mild to moderate mental retardation, emotional disturbance, and attention deficit and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders. It is a K-12 credential.

**SPED M/S Credential:** The Special Education Moderate to Severe Credential allows you to teach students with autism, deaf-blindness, moderate to severe mental retardation, attention deficit and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, and serious emotional disturbance. It is a K-12 credential.

**ECSE**: The Early Childhood Special Education Credential includes mild/moderate and moderate/severe disabilities and allows you to teach children from birth to pre-kindergarten.

\*In Special Education, there are other specializations such as the credentials in Visual Impairments, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Physical and Health Impairments.

\*\*There are many other credentials and careers to choose from in education. These credentials mentioned are just a few. If you are planning to transfer or apply to a teacher-credential program, it is very important that you talk to an advisor or credential analyst. There are many requirements to pass, so give yourself plenty of time. Don't forget to save money and study for the CBEST, CSET, and/or RICA exam.

\*\*\*Just because you have obtained your credential does not mean that you are cleared for life. Once you have obtained your MS or SS credential you must go through the California Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Induction Program (BTSA). The BTSA program is completed during your first year as a teacher. After obtaining our your Special Education credential, you must continue working towards your Level 2 credential in order to obtain your professional clear credential.

Dear Members,

The following is my submitted report for the November 7th California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC or sometimes CTC). As your liaison, I serve as a messenger for all future teachers of California to the Commission with privileges to speak if the need so arises.

The CTC is comprised of 15 voting members and 4 ex-officio members. Of the 15 voting member positions, 5 are currently unoccupied and may be filled by appointment by the Governor. Of these 5 unoccupied seats, three are reserved for "Teacher Representatives".

As you can read in my report, the last meeting emphasis was on a third-tier credential recommendation; very relevant to you as a future teacher and as a current student teacher. The full commission report is available from this link, <a href="http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2008-11/2008-11-agenda.html">http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2008-11/2008-11-agenda.html</a>, select agenda item 2D.

If you have any suggestions or thoughts on this, or any other part of my report, or questions about my position, please contact me at <a href="mailto:SCTArep@gmail.com">SCTArep@gmail.com</a>.

Sincerely yours,

Chance Carrico, CCTC Liaison

## **CCTC Report November 2008, Sacramento**

Other CTA Liaisons Present: Kathy Harris and Harold Acord.



## Part 1-Review of what happened:

Applicable highlights from the November 6, 2008 CTC Meeting, held in Sacramento include:

- A. State Senator Jack Scott was given special recognition for his work in the California Legislature.
- B. The most exciting and relevant issue before the CTC at the November general session was the proposal for a third-tier credential authorization and requirement. As currently proposed this is highly applicable to student teachers and established teachers for a number of reasons: A third-tier credential is an optional credential for teachers who wish to be master teachers to student teachers. Requirements would be college credit and other satisfactorily completed requirements. This means a teacher who has been teaching for 10 or more years would need to take college level coursework to become credentialed to be a master teacher for student teachers.

The creation of a new credential, instead of a certificate which was the original proposal, adds in cost to CTC overhead for administrative paperwork oversight.

Individual commissioners appreciated the concept of 'creating depth to the teaching field' by adding layers of requirement to become a master teacher. The submitted review report to the CTC reads, in part, as follows: "typical career paths have teachers doing the same thing on the first and last day of their careers" (PSC 2D-3, November 2008). Which seems to discount the new requirements for adapting to students' learning needs, on-going in district trainings, CTA offered informational workshops and conferences, and requirements for credential renewals already in place by the CTC.

CTA recommendation is for professional growth, but not as it is currently proposed by the CTC. CTA liaisons and staff spoke to this effect. The commission decided to move forward by giving staff directive to move forward on exploring implementation of the concept.

## Part 2-Recommendation for future meetings and action items:

Other than staying vigilant to current issues, such as the third-tier credential proposal, there are no pending highly relevant applicable action items on the immediate meeting's agenda.

## Part 3-Next Meeting:

Scheduled for Thursday and Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at Commission Offices, 1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95814.

#### (Continued from page 1)

choose from. Each one providing its own unique component to help future teachers and leaders. During Saturday's breakout sessions, members really enjoyed the carousel walk, where members shared activities and ideas. The jeopardy game was also a big success! It offered information that members might not have known otherwise. Several campuses took the information with them and are planning to use the ideas for their own chapter meetings and events.

It was beneficial having everyone socialize with members from campuses other than their own. I personally am glad to have had the chance to meet new members and even have one-on-one time with them; getting to know members' needs and wants. I was able to find out new ways of how I or the other board members would be able to help out.

"I think the best part of the Fall Leadership Conference was being able to meet students across California that are interested in teaching. I feel that it provided me a picture of what my generation of educators will be like. I enjoyed the teacher retention workshop because it was interesting talking about the "behind the scene" issues of teaching."

Barbara Vanderheyden
 UCLA Chapter President



Jeremy De Nieva, SCTA Executive Vice President, closing the Fall Leadership conference with the unity clap.

The social event turned out to be a fun night of great dance moves and music. Many people put on their dancing shoes and stepped out on the floor. DJ Jonas did a fantastic job and we all had a blast. I really am convinced that the saddest part of the conference was that it was only two days long. I look forward to seeing everyone again at the Representative Assembly in April. Please don't be afraid to ask your Executive Board for help, information, resources or even just to let us know how your chapter is doing. We are here for you!

## CONNECT WITH OTHER SCTA MEMBERS ON FACEBOOK

HTTP://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=10082695964