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## Record-breaking Gift Funds CASAE Scholarship

Sami Bedell, a graduating senior in the College of Liberal Arts, gifted twenty-thousand dollars in November to CASAE’s scholarship fund. Another sixty-thousand dollar donation from Bedell will establish the Bedell World Citizenship Fund Scholarship in the College of Liberal Arts.



Irene Vernon and Sami Bedell.

Bedell’s gift is the largest ever in CASAE’s history. The Bedell World Citizenship Fund was founded by Bedell’s father and each member of the family-governed board has a set amount of money to donate.

According to Bedell, she did not know about CASAE, but Irene Vernon, CASAE’s Director, “sold me on it,” said Bedell. She also commented that she was impressed with CASAE’s future goals and “where it’s going.”

“Diversity issues are important

**“My hope is that this donation will help the program grow.”**

to me and they hit me on a personal level,” said Bedell. “My mom was born and raised in Taiwan and my dad is a fourth generation Iowan. Learning your background and learning your culture and where you come from is something that is very important to me. I don’t think that’s something that’s really emphasized as

being very important in our society,” she said.

“I get to experience the wonderful joy of giving our money away...We like to try to give to things that are going to really impact somebody – really help – not just say, ‘here is some money,’” said Bedell.

The CASAE scholarship was established in 2004 to support students in need. This year’s scholarship recipient is CASAE student Tania Valdez. Valdez is highlighted on page five.

## From the Director

As the Center for Applied Studies in American Ethnicity enters its 12th year, visions of its future burn bright.

This past year we have successfully implemented an Ethnic Studies Liberal Arts Major Concentration and have changed our ET concentration to an ET minor.

CASAE has also changed its mission statement to more effectively represent who we are, what we do, and what we stand for.

We continue to grow our program and are awaiting a move to a central location for all staff, faculty, and researchers. At that time, we will have an open house for the campus and community and hope that you will stop by to visit.

In this issue of CASAE News, we share our new mission, research, scholarship, and activities that will help you increase your awareness about us.

In closing, our continued success as a program is to be shared among our staff, faculty, students, donors, friends, and allies. Your talents, time, and money have allowed us to grow and succeed. I thank you all for your support and look forward to the growth of our relationships and collaborations. Please feel free to stop by anytime; my door is always open.

Happy New Year,  
Irene Vernon, Director, CASAE

## CASAE’s Mission:

The Center for Applied Studies in American Ethnicity (CASAE) critically examines the interlocking forces of domination that are rooted in socially constructed categories of gender, sexuality, class, and race. Our faculty and researchers are committed to theoretical, empirical, qualitative, textual, and community-based research, pedagogy, service, and outreach. Utilizing interdisciplinary, international, and comparative approaches, we challenge paradigms that systematically marginalize the experiences of diverse populations. In doing so, we bring to bear issues of power, privilege, and social justice pertinent to aggrieved groups in the United States and abroad. We are especially committed to nurturing civic-minded and culturally informed students who strive to strengthen the communities in which they reside. In support of the land-grant mission of Colorado State University, CASAE engages with communities on and off campus in order to effect meaningful change in public policy and social life.

*"I am still learning."*  
 {Michelangelo}

## CASAE Faculty



**{Irene Vernon, Ph.D., Director}**

Director of CASAE, Professor Vernon specializes in Native American Studies, which includes religion, law, history, literature, economic development and issues related to Ethnicity and Health disparities.



**{Michelle A. Holling, Ph.D.}**

Dr. Holling's interests concern the implications of media, gendered representations of Chicana/os & Latina/os and the varied ways that public discourse(s) rhetorically construct understandings of their identities, subjectivities and agency.



**{Roe Bubar, J.D.}**

Associate Professor Bubar's professional interests and research include American Indian Law, violence against Native women, and child sexual abuse in Indian Country and Alaska Native Communities.



**{Norberto Valdez, Ph.D.}**

Dr. Valdez has research experience in Mexico, Central America, and Cuba and has taught Chicana/o Studies, Anthropology and Native American issues.



**{Joon Kim, Ph.D.}**

Dr. Kim has taught various subjects, including Asian American studies, Intergroup Relations and Ethnic Studies at University of California, Berkeley, University of California, Los Angeles, and at local high schools.



**{Eric Ishiwata, Ph.D.}**

Dr. Ishiwata's research interests include the formation of race and nation; immigration and diaspora; globalization and development in Hawaii and the Pacific; as well as feminist, cultural and postcolonial theories.



**{May Fu, Ph.D.}**

Dr. Fu's expertise and areas of interest are comparative histories of racialized groups, social movements, gender and labor, and historiography.



**{Richard Breaux, Ph.D.} NEW**

Dr. Breaux is a historian of 20th century African American cultural history, with an interest in the social construction of black manhood and womanhood; African, Afro-Caribbean, and African American immigration, migration, and community studies.

Faculty were asked to suggest music, books and Web sites...here are some of their responses:

**"I've Got the Light of Freedom**

by Charles Payne for its nuanced history of the Mississippi freedom struggle in the 1960s. Payne reveals how the most ordinary women, men, and young people - people like you and me - built powerful grassroots movements that transformed society and, in the process, themselves." {May Fu}

**"Dr. Paul Farmer,**

a medical anthropologist and physician is one of my favorite authors. What I admire most about him is he has dedicated his life to treating the world's poor, raising the standard of care in the underdeveloped areas of the world, and promoting human rights." {Irene Vernon}

**"Pedagogy of the Oppressed**

by Paulo Freire because it is a model for poor people or rich people, women or men, oppressed or oppressor, or any category of humans to find themselves in this complex and violent world and to recognize that they have power to help change it." {Norberto Valdez}

"I am interested in anything that combines or juxtaposes seemingly-incommensurate genres: **John Coltrane, Sudden Rush, Ozomatli, King Chango,** some of the more clever mash-ups posted on [www.bootiesf.com](http://www.bootiesf.com)." {Eric Ishiwata}

## CASAE Faculty Highlight

# Professor Holling Selected for Oxford Round Table

Professor Michelle Holling, who holds a joint appointment with CASAE and the Speech Communication Department, was honored as the first CASAE Professor to attend the five-day Oxford Round Table in March 2005.

According to their Web site, the Oxford Round Table's intention is to "promote human advancement and understanding through the improvement of education. To this end, the Oxford Round Table provides a forum for the study and consideration of current issues facing state and national systems of education."

Holling called the Round Table "a wonderful experience and an honor." She also added that it helped provide an opportunity to network with "an interesting conglomeration of people concerned with women's rights either by virtue of their own experience or scholars

who look at women's related issues in academe regardless of their training."

While at the Round Table, Holling was assigned to respond to two papers, the first of which "addressed poor women's rights on a national level in terms of Australia's Aboriginal culture" and the second paper "explored Chinese women students' perceptions of job prospects within the context of the U.S.," said Holling.

Dr. Irene Vernon, Executive Director of CASAE said, "It was a great honor to have one of our faculty members participate in the prestigious Oxford Round Table session. Dr. Holling was provided with an incredible opportunity and her selection and participation in the Oxford Round Table is a great compliment to her and the work that she has done."

## CASAE Associates

{**Dr. Cindy Griffin**}  
Department of Speech  
Communication

{**Dr. Peter Jacobs**}  
Department of Art

{**Dr. Jane Kneller**}  
Department of Philosophy

{**Dr. Robert Hoffert**}  
Department of Philosophy

{**Dr. Kathleen Pickering**}  
Department of Anthropology

{**Dr. Donna Rouner**}  
Department of Journalism and  
Technical Communication

{**Dr. William Timpson**}  
School of Education

{**Dr. Raymond Yang**}  
Department of Human  
Development & Family Studies

## CASAE Faculty Awards

## CASAE Professors Bubar, Kim, and Holling Honored

**Roe Bubar** was recently recognized for her service and professional contributions by the *Multi-Ethnic Distinguished Service Award* in April of 2006 and by the *Larimer County Child Advocacy Guardian Award* in May 2006.

Bubar was awarded the Multi-Ethnic Distinguished Service Award for her service in tribal communities throughout the country and her involvement locally and nationally with tribal organizations that address child maltreatment and family violence.

The Guardian Award from the Larimer County Child Advocacy Center recognized Bubar's work in the areas of multidisciplinary teaming, development

of Children's Advocacy Centers, and her expertise in the forensic interviews of children in child sexual abuse cases.

**Joon Kim** received an *Academic Enrichment Award* from the College of Liberal Arts and was selected for the *Field Research Fellowship* by the Korea Foundation.

Kim's project for the Academic Enrichment Award addresses the continuities and changes in South Korea's foreign worker policies and the attendant politicization of struggles by labor unions, religious organizations, and advocacy NGOs.

The Korea Foundation is an independent organization affiliated with the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs. It was established with the aim of enhancing Korea's image and reputation through the promotion of various academic and cultural exchange programs.

**Michelle Holling's** essay "El Simpatico Boxer" received the *B. Aubrey Fisher Award*, which is presented annually to the best paper published in the *Western Journal of Communication* during the preceding year.

Essays are judged according to several criteria, including significance of contribution to scholarship, innovation of substance and design, rigor, grace, parsimony, and evocativeness of expression.

\*If we missed an award you received recently, please contact Becky Anderson in the CASAE office.

*"We are here, charged with the task of completing (one might say creating) ourselves."* {William Cook}

## CASAE Adjunct Faculty

{**Blane Harding**} has been at CSU since 1991 and he teaches upper division Black Studies courses. Blane is this newsletter's highlighted adjunct faculty member (at right).

{**Eileen Connell**} recently completed here Ph.D. in Sociology here at CSU. She has taught sociology and women's studies at UNC and CSU. She has taught Ethnicity in America and Ethnicity in the Media for CASAE.

{**Alyssa Samek**} received her Master of Arts in Speech Communication from CSU in 2005. Her research focuses on rhetoric, contemporary political culture, personal and political identities, and media.

{**Julie Sullivan**} is the CASAE representative to the College of Liberal Arts Adjunct Faculty Council. She is working with and doing research for the Zapatista Health Care System in Chiapas, Mexico.

## CASAE Adjunct Highlight

# Harding an Asset to Students and University

Blane Harding has been an asset to students and the University since his arrival in 1991. His many accolades speak to this fact as do his students. "Professor Harding does a really good job connecting with his students in a way other professors can't or won't," said Sami Bedell, who did her Senior Capstone with Harding. "He's refreshing," she said.

Harding currently serves as the Director of Advising, Recruitment, and Retention for the College of Liberal Arts, the Prelaw Advisor, and as an adjunct faculty member for CASAE. Harding also serves as a retention faculty member with the Council for Opportunity in Education which oversees the national TRIO programs.

He is involved in a variety of activities, workshops, and multicultural training sessions for area schools and organizations. He serves as the faculty advisor for several student organizations on campus

which include the Ethiopian Student Organization and the Baptist Bible Study.

"It is difficult for me to find the words of appreciation for the exceptional teaching and advising that Blane does," said Irene Vernon, CASAE Director. "His love of students is evident in the classroom as well as in his advising. Winning awards for both, he brings professionalism, humor, energy, enthusiasm, excitement and most importantly, knowledge to the classroom. He is essential to the success and timely graduation of our students - and he is definitely vital to CASAE's mission and programs."

Harding is the recipient of several honors and awards including: CSU Minority Distinguished Service Award, College of Liberal Arts Excellence in Teaching Award, CSU Alumni Association "Six Best" Teacher Award, and the History Department Phi Alpha Theta Outstanding Professor Award.

## CASAE Staff

{**Jodi Griffin**} has worked in the CASAE office for five years. She enjoys dealing with faculty, staff and students. Jodi is a proud grandmother of Tate, who has a little brother or sister on the way!!

{**Sherry Hunter**} is a brand new addition to CASAE's staff. Sherry has worked in higher education for over seventeen years and enjoys working with students. "I am very excited about working in the CASAE office and with an outstanding group of people," she said.

{**Samantha Farro**} is a graduate student in counseling psychology and has worked for CASAE for three years. Originally from Florida, she plans to pursue a career in research and social justice as it relates to mental health.

{**Becky Anderson**} is a graduate student in the Journalism and Technical Communication department. Her research involves perceptions of credibility in visual communication. She is responsible for all visual publications for CASAE.

{**Anthony Grimes**} is an undergraduate work-study at CASAE majoring in Speech Communication with a minor in Ethnic Studies. He is originally from Denver and plans to enter ministry work upon graduation.

{**Cynarra Tweed**} has been working as an undergraduate work-study at CASAE since 2004. Cynarra is a Speech Communication major and a CASAE student. Cynarra is a native of Park Hill in Denver.

{**Carly Roberson**} is pursuing an Ethnic Studies major with a minor in Spanish. She is an undergraduate work-study and hopes to pursue a Master's Degree in Speech Therapy.

# Valdez Awarded Scholarship

Tania Valdez, a senior CASAE student pursuing certificates in Chicano/a Studies and Women's Studies and majoring in Sociology with a minor in Spanish, has been selected as this year's recipient of a \$1,200 dollar CASAE Scholarship.



Tania Valdez.

The scholarship is awarded to a student who demonstrates an interest and understanding of diversity and cultures as well as experience with diverse populations.

Valdez, who works two campus jobs, said this scholarship "is highly necessary...throughout the past three years of college, it truly is with the support of my scholarships that I have been able to be involved in all of the activities I do here on campus. Without the support of scholarships, I most likely would have to be working much more, which would severely diminish my experience here."

As part of an independent study last semester Valdez researched domestic violence against Latinas. The independent study also comprised a service learning component that had Valdez working with Spanish-speaking Latinas at Crossroads Safehouse. Beginning in January 2007 Valdez will work as a "bilingual advocate

to assist women in the home after an assault occurs," said Valdez.

Valdez is also a mentor for the Key Service Community and for the past two years, she has helped conduct pre-college workshops for middle and high school students in Commerce City, Colo.

This March during her spring break, Valdez is a co-site leader for a trip to Juarez, Mexico where students will explore economic issues, specifically focusing on femicides.

"Having been Tania's advisor and professor for the past few years," said CASAE Professor Michelle Holling, "I have seen her rise to the challenges presented from course material as well as pursue opportunities that have her experience perspectives and situations that broaden and deepen her commitment to social issues...she is a student-scholar who is oriented toward social justice for all individuals and marginalized communities, in particular."

"Though most of my involvement has surrounded Latina/o issues," said Valdez, "I also recognize the importance of educating myself and others about many different cultural groups in order to further build our communities."

## CASAE's Donors

Sami Bedell  
Samantha Farro  
Charles Fassel  
Catherine Coleman Kane  
Bruce Lytle  
Marc Lytle  
Ben Thompson  
Dale Utley  
Irene Vernon  
Vernon Construction (Ed Vernon)



Thank you to our generous donors. If you are interested in giving to CASAE, please fill-out the form on the back of this newsletter.

"The point is not to pay back kindness but to pass it on."  
{Julia Alvarez }

"As I give, I get."  
{Mary McLeod Bethune}

## CASAE Assessment and Evaluation

CASAE is actively engaged in Program Improvement and welcomes comments and feedback. For students, faculty and others interested in pathways for researching CASAE's performance, please visit CSU's Planning for Improvement and Change Web site: <http://improvement.colostate.edu/index.cfm>. For login information, please contact Dr. Kim Bender, Director, at 970.491.5388 or via e-mail at [Kim.Bender@colostate.edu](mailto:Kim.Bender@colostate.edu).

## CASAE's Guiding Principles:

We envision CASAE as a premier Ethnic Studies Program of the 21st century and beyond, committed to teaching, research, outreach, community service-learning, and social justice. Our objective is guided by the following principles:

**Access and Success:** Provide the underrepresented populations in the State of Colorado with access to higher education and ensure their academic success through mentoring, peer support, and guidance.

**Diversity:** Initiate new ideas for meeting the University's diversity goals and build on the existing curricula and programs on diversity to bring greater awareness to its importance.

**Social Justice:** Promote a University culture that embraces the challenges of social inequality by understanding its nature and dynamics through public forums and discussions, and by working toward correcting the varied kinds of inequalities that undermine the morale of the University community.

**Community Empowerment:** Serve as a bridge to the underrepresented communities in the State of Colorado by supporting community-based research and teaching that foster community empowerment.

**Academic Excellence:** Maintain high levels of academic excellence by training students to be critical thinkers and by preparing them to be responsible leaders and citizens in the rapidly changing and increasingly globalizing areas of our social, economic, and political life.

"Life is demanding of me, 'Start again. Begin new things. Again set to work to build your world.'" {Jean Toomer}

## CASAE Research

# Researchers Address HIV Prevention in Native Communities

CASAE researchers Pamela Jumper Thurman Ph.D., Barbara Plested Ph.D., and Martha Burnside, B.A. along with CASAE's Director Irene Vernon are currently working on a project funded by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The project, **Strengthening Community Access to and Utilization of HIV Prevention Services** is a five year project to provide capacity building assistance (CBA) to Native Communities, Tribal Health Departments, State Health Departments, other CDC funded CBAs and organizations serving Native Americans (defined as American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians).

Their directive is to build community capacity by offering Community Readiness training to communities who are providing HIV/AIDS related services to Native communities. The mission for this project is to work collaboratively with Native communities to increase effective HIV/AIDS prevention and encourage and support early detection through testing.

To date, this project has served approximately fifty Native communities and provided presentations and workshops at approximately sixty HIV/AIDS focused events.

For more information on the project Strengthening Community Access to and Utilization of HIV Prevention Services, please visit [www.happ.colostate.edu](http://www.happ.colostate.edu).

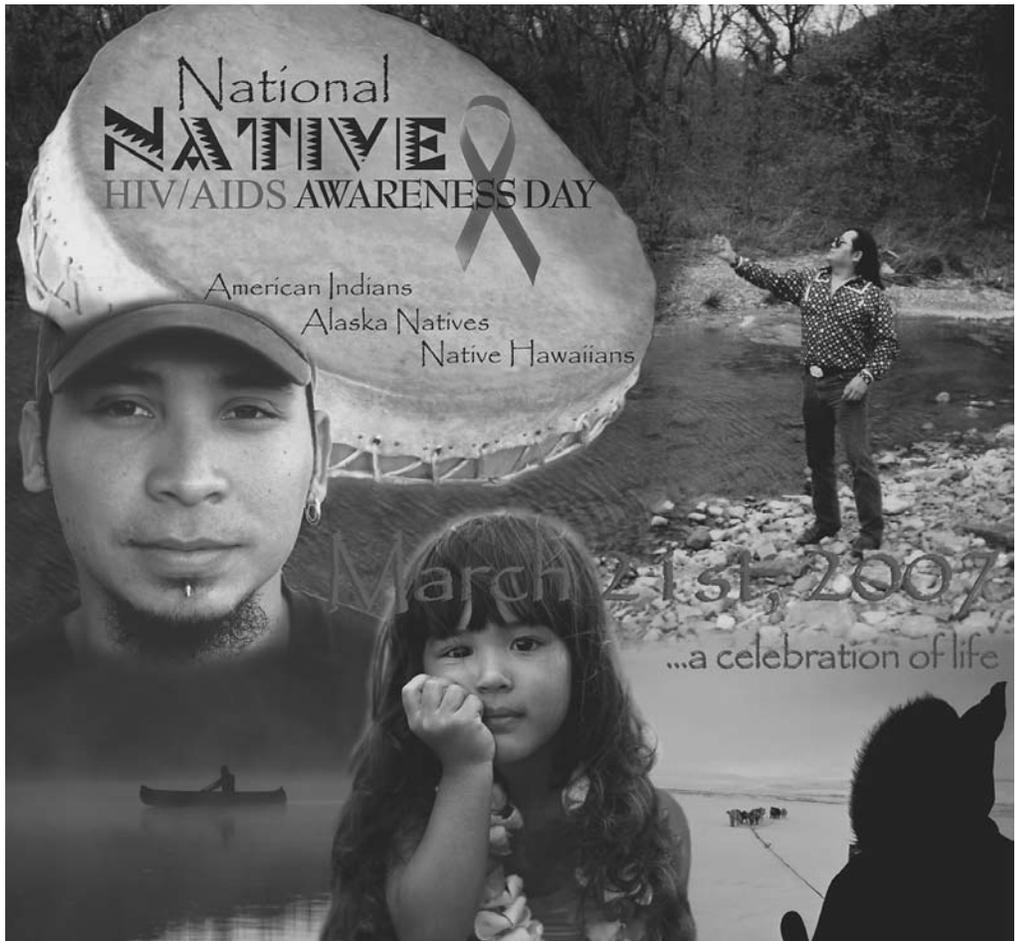
Last month, CASAE's researchers received an award from First Nations Behavioral Health Association honoring the work done by the CASAE team and the Community Readiness Model (developed by CASAE and Tri-Ethnic Center researchers) as one of the ten

best "most promising" programs nationally. In January 2007 CASAE's researchers, in collaboration with Kauffman & Associates, Inc., will also begin an evaluation of Native Aspirations II, a project focused on suicide prevention in Native communities.

{Pamela Jumper Thurman, Ph.D.} is a Western Cherokee and Senior Research Scientist with CASAE. She has 18 years of experience in mental health and substance abuse research and epidemiology. She is a co-developer and co-author of the Community Readiness Model.

{Barbara Plested, Ph.D.}, a Research Scientist with CASAE, has worked extensively in the provision of direct services to special populations and serves as an evaluator and grant writer for several Native American programs. She is one of the developers of the Community Readiness Model.

{Martha Burnside, B.A.} is a Research Associate with CASAE and serves as the Tribal Liaison/Field Coordinator and Community Readiness trainer. She is an enrolled member of the Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma.



This poster was designed to celebrate National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on March 21, 2007.

## CASAE Courses

## Spring and Summer 2007 Courses Announced

## {SPRING 2007}

<b>ETCC 100</b>	Introduction to Ethnic Studies {Fu}
<b>ETCC 205</b>	Ethnicity in the Media {Samek & Sullivan}
<b>ET 208</b>	Native American Art & Material Culture {Jacobs}
<b>ET 234</b>	Native American Literature {Avery}
<b>ETCC 251</b>	African-American History Since 1865 {Knight}
<b>ETCC 252</b>	Asian-American History {Kim}
<b>ET 254</b>	La Chicana In Society {Holling}
<b>ETCC 255</b>	Native American History {Sullivan}
<b>ETCC 256</b>	Border Crossings {Ishiwata}
<b>ET 312</b>	African-American Situation {Harding}

<b>ET 316</b>	Multiculturalism & the Media {Rouner}
<b>ET 432</b>	Latina/o Routes To Empowerment {Valdez}
<b>ET 444</b>	Federal Indian Law & Policy {Bubar}
<b>ET 480</b>	Capitalism and Ethnic Conflict {Valdez}
<b>ET 493</b>	Ethnic Methods & Writing {Noethen}

## {SUMMER 2007}

<b>ETCC 100</b>	Introduction to Ethnic Studies {Kim}
<b>ETCC 205</b>	Ethnicity in the Media {Valdez & Sullivan}
<b>ET 354</b>	A Century of Black Cinema {Harding}
<b>ET 438</b>	Contemporary Native Amer Lit {Mogen}

## Media Library

CASAE has an extensive collection of DVDs and videos on topics such as diversity, culture, racism, his/herstory, and sociology. The collection contains films that cover various genres including shorts, documentaries, narratives and television programs. Some of our titles include...

CASAE is proud of our rich collection of current, historical, educational, mainstream, independent, and political DVDs and videos. Feel free to stop by the office for a complete list of our programs or more information about checking out a film. CASAE is also pleased to offer the resource library as a viewing room across from the office to view all films on the premises.

Our media library can be accessed on our Web site at <http://www.colostate.edu/Dept/CASAE/list.pdf>



"The challenge is in the moment,  
the time is always now."  
{James Baldwin}

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