Meet the New CASSA Executive Board!

Welcome to the Fall 2009 semester! Many changes have come to CASSA with the new school year. Last spring, CASSA retired its advisor, Professor Shelli Wynants, of four years as well as the majority of its Executive Board. Professor Wynants has been replaced by our new advisor, Dr. Kate Bono. Of the eleven positions on the board, ten were graduating seniors, leaving many positions to be filled by new members for this Fall 2009 semester. The one and only returning Executive Board Member, Lani Endo (formerly CASSA’s Vice President), has continued on this year as the CASSA President, while the other positions have been filled with fresh faces. In an effort to allow you to get to know the new board, each member has contributed a brief statement about themselves in hopes of introducing themselves to you. From all of us, it’s a pleasure to meet you and we look forward to a great year with CASSA!

President - Lani Endo

Hi there! My name is Lani and I’m very excited to be CASSA President this year! I’m in my third year as a Child & Adolescent Studies major, with plans to become an elementary school teacher. I started off in CASSA as a general member for a semester when I first came to CSUF. I became part of the Executive Board as ICC Representative in my second semester, and served as Vice President last year. CASSA has made a huge difference in my college experience so far. I’ve learned so much from being a part of CASSA and I’ve made so many friends through the organization. This year, it’s my goal is to promote CASSA and make it the best that it can be. I would also like to see an increase in the amount of participation from our members at meetings and guest speaker events, community service projects, and leadership opportunities. I also represent many of you, serving as the ASI Board of Director representing the College of Health and Human Development. If there’s a question in which I can’t answer, I’ll be sure to direct you to someone who can. Whether you are looking to voice a concern or wanting someone to grab lunch with, my door is always open. I enjoy surfing and snowboarding as well as scrap booking in my free time. I love my friends and I love being at CSUF! Once a Titan, Always a Titan!

Vice President - Jessica Gutierrez

Hi, I’m Jessica Gutierrez and I am the Vice President of CASSA. I am currently a second year Child and Adolescent Development major, with the hopes of pursuing a career as an elementary school teacher. I joined CASSA during my freshman year as a way to get involved at school and meet new people with the same interests as me. As a CASSA member, I was able to participate in various community service opportunities, increase my knowledge about different career paths that correlate to my major, and network with other people. I immediately became involved as a CASSA member, and I decided to be Vice President because I wanted to strengthen my leadership skills. In addition to being on the CASSA board, I am also a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars at school. In my spare time, I enjoy photography, scrap booking, and spending time with family and friends. An interesting and random fact about me is that I can probably quote any line from Friends. I am very outgoing and willing to lend a hand when needed, so don’t be a stranger and feel free to ask me any questions!
Finance Manager – Melody Tsai

My name is Melody and I am currently in my third year at CSUF as a CHAD major. I first heard about CASSA from a board member who presented an overview of what CASSA was all about. That was enough to draw me in. During my membership with CASSA, I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Santa Ana Zoo, to participate in the CHOC walk, which benefits the children in the Orange County hospital, as well as meet awesome people, make new friends and build connections with faculty. After having a blast as a member last year, I decided to do something more by being on the board as Finance Manager this year. Pushing myself to take on this role as Finance Manager is a huge responsibility, but I feel that the only way for me to learn and grow is to push myself to do something outside of my comfort zone. Apart from CASSA, I am involved with the Association of Chinese Students Club to learn a little more about my heritage/culture and I currently work at the Children’s Center as a teacher’s aide taking care of infants. When time and money allows it, I hope to travel to different countries to learn and experience different cultures.

Information Manager – Lindsey Ellsworth

Hey! My name is Lindsey and I’m a third year, recently declared Child and Adolescent Studies major, as well as this year’s Information Manager for CASSA. I joined CASSA last Spring semester, mainly as a resource tool. As it turned out, CASSA helped lead me to actually declare my major as Child and Adolescent Studies. I had no idea what I wanted to major in, let alone any sort of career plans prior to joining CASSA. Teaching was always in the back of my head, but I had my reservations about the profession. After attending CASSA’s guest speaker events and volunteering at Orangewood, I began to feel a sense of reassurance about the teaching profession. At the time I heard about CASSA Board Elections I was writing for the College of Health and Human Development’s monthly newsletter, so I felt I had the experience to take on the position, but my timid nature nearly let this opportunity pass me by. Luckily, I had the encouragement of our new CASSA President, Lani, and a few other CASSA members, and I ended up running for the position. Now here I am today as Information Manager. Currently I am also the Director of Administration for the College of Health and Human Development’s Inter-Club Council and working part time as a student assistant here on campus. I anticipate being very busy this year, but when I have time to myself I enjoy cooking, going for long drives, and spending time with my family and friends, particularly my mother and nephew.

Membership Manager – Kayla Globerson

Hey everyone! My name is Kayla Globerson and I am a sophomore CHAD major/Natural Sciences minor. I am your Membership Manager for the ’09-10 Executive Board. I am also part of the CSUF chapter of the National Society for Collegiate Scholars. I love to dance, listen to music, go to the movies and the beach, and I LOVE chocolate! An interesting fact about myself is that I was a baby model for hospital magazines. My future plans are to earn my teaching credential; go to graduate school; teach elementary school; and study abroad. One of the places I would like to go is Australia to study the Great Barrier Reef. Being a commuter student, which I am sure many of you are, I knew I had to find some way to get involved at CSUF in order to meet new people. Once I heard about CASSA, I knew right away that this club was a perfect fit. It has been a great way to network with professors and professionals, and I have connected with not only past and present board members, but many people involved in CASSA that I otherwise may never have met. Though I joined CASSA in the Spring of my freshman year, I ran for this year’s board so I could contribute to the growth of CASSA. My hope for this year is that all CASSA members will be able to contribute something meaningful that will have a lasting impact on this club, and that everyone takes away at least one experience from CASSA that they remember forever. I look forward to meeting you all and making this an unforgettable year!
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Community Projects Manager – Brianne Ray

Hello CASSA! My name is Brianne Ray and I am a second year here at CSUF. I am a child and adolescent studies major with a plan to minor in human services. After obtaining my bachelor's degree, I would like to go to grad school and earn a master's degree in counseling. These two degrees will help me reach my goal to work in a career involving child psychology; this could possibly include social services. One thing I know for sure is that I definitely have a heart for working with children. As for extra-curricular activities, I am involved in another club on campus called Campus Crusade for Christ. For fun, I love to surf, play volleyball, and really enjoy photography. Something random that I would like people to know about me is that I have been to Western Samoa, and it was there that I discovered I enjoyed working with kids. During my second semester of freshman year, I remember I was in search of a way to get more involved in my major and was extremely excited when I found out about CASSA. Not only did it provide me with new friends, but it gave me better insight as to how I could help the children of my community and enlightened me about what I could do with my major in the future. The more volunteering I did at places like Orangewood, the more encouraged I felt to be a part of something bigger than myself. Now, here I am! This is my first semester on the CASSA board as well as my first time being the Community Projects Manager. Through this position, I hope to give you all the opportunity to volunteer and experience CASSA in a positive way just like I did last year.

Professional/Career Development Manager – Jessica Williams

Hi, my name is Jessica Williams and I am your Professional and Career Development Manager. I am a senior, and my major is Child and Adolescent Development. This is my second year as a member of CASSA. I knew I wanted to join CASSA as soon as I picked my major. I saw how CASSA was involved in so many different activities and how much fun the members seemed to have. My experiences last year prompted me to become a board member this year. I want to continue building CASSA’s great reputation and give the members guest speakers that will help them learn more about the different career options they have available. Teaching has always been a dream job for me. Ever since I was little I’ve said if I could be anything, I would be a teacher, and after some very hard work I am seeing that dream becoming reality. In my spare time I enjoy drawing, reading, scrap booking, and hanging out at Disneyland.

Departmental Award/Activities Manager – Amy Tso

Hello! My name is Amy. I am a third year with double majors of CHAD and PSYCH. I do not know what my future career plans are as of right now but definitely something in the fields of pediatric health care or counseling. This is my second year as part of CASSA. I first joined CASSA was to meet new people and to volunteer. My position in CASSA is Departmental Awards and Activities Manager. I am responsible for updating the CASSA bulletin boards in the EC building. I also help plan the Celebration of Achievement Awards at the end of spring semester. Lastly, part of my position is to plan the social events for the club members. I decided to take on a position in CASSA because I wanted to keep busy and take part of an organization that really makes a difference as an organization. This year, through my position, I hope that I can bring people closer together through social events and keep spirits high. Two personal goals that I hope to achieve, as a CASSA board member are to gain a better understanding of what type of jobs are available with my majors and how a club works behind the scenes. On campus, I am also involved with the Student Leadership Institute Club. An interesting fact about myself is that I buy socks from the children’s section because the adult socks’ sizes are too big for my feet. Some of my interests include tasting or looking at pictures of food from different cultures, shopping at H&M stores, and traveling.
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ICC Representative – Veronica Lopez

Hello! My name is Veronica Lopez and I am the Inter-Club Council (ICC) representative for CASSA. My duty is to represent CASSA and communicate with various organizations and clubs in the college of Health and Human Development. As an ICC representative I am responsible for writing proposals to apply for funding that is used for guest speakers and workshops for our meetings. I am a senior majoring in Child and Adolescent Development, with the goal of becoming an elementary school teacher. This is my third semester in CASSA, two semesters as a member and this upcoming year as ICC representative. In my spare time I like to go salsa dancing, play volleyball, relax at the beach, and spend time with my family. I welcome you to CASSA and I hope you enjoy this upcoming year.

Website Manager – Sarah King

Hi, I am Sarah King and I am a senior in psychology. I am this year’s CASSA Website Manager. I have been involved with CASSA since last fall, and took on a club position to be more active and involved with the club. I joined CASSA because I like working with children and think they are very imaginative and creative, which is fun to be around. I enjoy reading, writing, playing on the computer and hanging out with both friends and family. I am also highly involved with SLI, which is the Student Leadership Institute.

Faculty Advisor – Dr. Kate Bono

Hello, my name is Dr. Kate Bono and I am the new faculty advisor for CASSA. I have been a full-time faculty member in the Department of Child and Adolescent Studies since the fall of 2006. I earned my Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University in applied developmental psychology in 2003. After I finished my Ph.D., I took a position as Research Director at the University of Miami’s Linda Ray Intervention Center for At-Risk Children and Families. While at the University of Miami, I conducted program evaluation and research in an early intervention program for children who were prenatally exposed to cocaine and several parenting programs for at-risk families. I currently teach courses focused on research methods, early child development, and families. I also conduct research about the contributions of parenting, interventions, and child abilities to the development of school readiness in both typically developing and at-risk children. In addition to CASSA, I am also involved in community organizations focused on Early Childhood Education, such as the Orange County Association for the Education of Young Children. When I am not working, I spend time with my family and friends including my two boys Dario, who is 4 ½, and Alex, who just turned 1. I also enjoy traveling and reading novels. This year, I hope to help support CASSA to be the best organization possible!
CASSA Represents at DiscoverFest!

Despite scorching temperatures, CASSA came out to the central quad to promote the CASSA organization at Discoverfest. Discoverfest was a two-day event that took place September 2nd and 3rd. Every major club and Greek house was there to promote their organization. The CASSA table was in an ideal location with heavy foot traffic and many opportunities to recruit members. The CASSA table was decorated with two big picture poster boards of past events, balloons, flyers, and free giveaways such as candy, pencils, notepads, key chains, and school colored leis.

CASSA representatives informed inquiring minds about CASSA’s involvement and purpose as a club and many eagerly grabbed a flyer and promised to come to the kick-off pizza social. Some students were so enthusiastic about CASSA they became members right on the spot! Each board member was excited about promoting CASSA and answering every question that came their way. The board members even walked around to the different booths to network with other campus organizations, while simultaneously promoting CASSA to the other clubs. Overall, Discoverfest was a great way to put the word out about CASSA and show our fellow Titans about the opportunities in store for all CASSA members!

PIZZA SOCIAL!

CASSA Kicked-off the 2009 fall semester with a Pizza Social for prospective, new, and returning CASSA members. In CASSA’s new meeting location, Mihaylo Hall 1117, the Executive Board hosted their first meeting, greeting a full house of over 50 guests with pizza, chips, and refreshments. After brief introductions from the board, the guests were given an overview of the opportunities CASSA has to offer via a slideshow presentation of past CASSA events by Vice President Jessica Gutierrez. Following the slideshow, Website Manager, Sarah King, gave a tour of the CASSA website and Community Projects Manager, Brianne Ray, introduced upcoming volunteer opportunities to the crowd.

On behalf of the CASSA Executive Board, we would like to thank those of you who came for making the Pizza Social a great success. We hope you all enjoyed the meeting and hope to have a wonderful year!
Community Service

School Supply Drive Donation

As many members of CASSA plan on entering the teaching/education field, CASSA knows the importance of having the proper supplies for school. Having these supplies is imperative to one’s learning. However, not every child has the resources to purchase such necessities. In an effort to help those less fortunate, CASSA held a school supply drive from September 28th through October 8th. We collected 33 bundles of school supplies at a cost of at least $5 a bundle. These items were then donated to the child patients at OC CHOC Hospital in Orange. Members who donated earned one hour per $5 bundle, with a maximum two hours total towards their cord log hours, but most of all they helped make a difference in a child’s life. Bundles were graciously donated. Many members went above and beyond and items received ranged from pencils to crayons, to binders and backpacks! Thanks you to all those who took part in this opportunity!

OC Children’s Book Festival

CASSA volunteered at the Orange County Children’s Book Festival on October 3rd and 4th. On the first day, CASSA was the sole organization helping with the event set-up for the actual event that was to occur on Sunday. Volunteers helped set up booths for the over 80 vendors. CASSA volunteers went up on ladders carefully tying up banners for each booth. We also had volunteers helping up on stage.

Hundreds of children and their parents came to the event on Sunday. The isles were jam-packed with smiling faces. The vendors varied from author signing stations to teacher supply booths to health food companies. The festival was upbeat with three different stages. There was always a different performance on each stage including the Irish dancers group, story telling, and a caricature artist. Other festivities included a kids’ carnival, temporary tattoos, a mini train, and a petting zoo. CASSA volunteers walked around the event providing help where needed. Some CASSA volunteers approached several vendors for their contact information for possible guest speakers or for event volunteer opportunities.
Guest Speaker Events

Lillybeth Saisis, Assistant Director from the Center for Careers in Teaching, came to speak to CASSA on September 23rd about the requirements necessary to become a teacher. To teach in California, one must earn a Bachelor’s Degree and earn a credential. Considering many CASSA members plan to teach, this was a great opportunity for CASSA members to get information regarding their future careers.

Saisis broke down the prerequisites for admittance into CSUF’s credential program stating that one must have their Bachelor’s degree, take the CBEST and CSET (preferably one year before applying to the credential program), and have a minimum GPA of 3.0.

She also answered individual questions from CASSA members in attendance and gave out pencils with the contact information for the Center in Careers in Teaching office.

Overall, it was a very informative and successful event. Thank you, Lillybeth Saisis for taking the time to speak with CASSA!

Beverly Vargash, Assistant Director at CSUF’s Children’s Center, was the guest speaker for CASSA on October 7th. She came with a plethora of information for those in attendance.

The Children’s Center is a child care service here on campus that provides child care for CSUF students and some faculty and staff. It contains six different classrooms ranging from age groups of infants to preschool children.

The Children’s Center also has employment, intern, and volunteer opportunities. Currently there are 25 interns and 25 student assistants from various majors working at the center. It is also available to students for observation studies and future career opportunities. Many of the current teachers at the center earned their degrees from CSUF themselves.

As Assistant Director, Vargash fulfills many duties. Her job description encompasses many administrative processes. She is in charge of the hiring, scheduling, and everyday coordination of the Children’s Center. Vargash has the very difficult task of managing 180 children, the center’s employees and interns, parents, and the various schedules and needs of the center’s population, but she does a great job!

Thank you Beverly for an informative presentation and the services you and the Children’s Center provide to CSUF!
GENERAL MEETINGS

Every other Wednesday in Mihaylo Hall room 1117, CASSA has its general meetings. At these meetings members learn about volunteer opportunities, board socials, and other events and opportunities CASSA has to offer. They also have activities and games for members to get to know each other and have fun.

BOWLING WITH CASSA

“Bowling and Billiards Night” was the first CASSA social this semester. The event was held at the TSU Bowl and Billiards, underground floor in the TSU. As the sun set on October 8, and the clock hit six o’clock, the members and friends began to slowly arrive into the quiet room of eight bowling lanes, computers, and tables. As soon as the music and neon lights enlivened the room, bowling balls began to roll down the lanes and the excitement levels began to rise. As the night continued, a steady stream of members rotated in and out of the event. Little Caesar’s pepperoni and cheese pizzas, chips, cookies, fruit snacks, and sodas were served to the enthusiastic, chattering CASSA members and friends. Even though the billiards were not used, the bowling lanes kept everyone engaged and entertained. As the social came to an end at 8:00 PM, the room was filled with not only the music but also commotions from the chattering of friends. The bonding event was definitely a huge success. Thank you all who came. It was a blast!
UPCOMING EVENTS!

October:
18 – CHOC Walk
20-22 – Furlough Days
23 – Orangewood
28 – Guest Speaker
30 – Orangewood Halloween Dance
31 – Halloween at the Zoo

November:
4 – General Meeting
6 – Volleyball Social
11 – Veterans Day
13 – Orangewood
14 – Pretend City
17 – Orangewood
18 – Guest Speaker

December:
2 – General Meeting
3 – Ice Skating Social
5 – Kathyland
9 – General Meeting
11— Last Day of Classes
14-18 – Finals Week

For more information about becoming a CASSA member or general questions feel free to email us at:
csuf.cassa@gmail.com
Or stop by our office in EC 553
Mondays: 11:30-12:45, 2:30-4:00, 4:30-6:00
Tuesdays: 10:00-10:45, 11:30-12:45
Wednesdays: 8:15-10:30, 1:00-3:45, 2:30-4:00
Thursdays: 10:00-10:45, 11:30-12:45, 2:30-7:00
Fridays: CLOSED