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SPECIAL MESSAGE

CASA provides students the opportunity to engage in a social network with other CHAD majors and to associate with the community. Being a part of CASA this past academic school year has provided both of us an opportunity to be in leadership roles. As President and Vice President of CASA, we have had the chance to see familiar and new faces in this student organization. We think it is amazing the breadth of commitment, dedication, passion, and motivation we have seen in the board and members. One of our main goals as CHAD majors is to touch the lives of children. It is astounding the effort and time we have put in as a student organization for the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 semesters through our community service events, guest speakers, fundraising opportunities, and leadership development opportunities. We thank you all for making CASA a wonderful experience.

To Shelli and Dr. Kim: Simply, THANK YOU! Thank you for your guidance, patience, dedication, and time in your efforts towards CASA. Working with the both of you has been a privilege and wonderful opportunity.

To the returning and new members of CASA: we both are thankful that we have been able to meet and interact with you at Wednesday meetings and through community events. We hope that the tools and resources CASA has offered will be valuable to you in the future. We see all of you as potential and great leaders. Whatever it is that you desire to do with your degree in Child and Adolescent Development, we wish you the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Cameron Heath and Pamela Gutierrez
The Mystery of the Broken Violin

I am a teacher’s aide for 4th grade music. One day, I asked a violin player where her violin was. She said, “It’s outside in my case, but it’s broken.” I asked her to get it so I could try to fix it. She said, “No, you can’t. It’s broken really bad.” Another teacher went and checked on the violin and whispered to me, “It’s perfectly fine. I even tuned it up.” I asked the girl again to please bring me her violin. She went outside, came back in several minutes later, held up her violin, and said, “See, I told you it was broken.” It was hard not to laugh when we saw it. The bridge was off, the strings were pulled out, and the pegs were loose in her hand. I guess she really didn’t want to play her violin that day.

Jessica Higgins
Senior CHAD major
2008-2009 CASSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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We’d like to give a special thank you to those who have supported CASSA at our restaurant fundraisers. CASSA had a fundraiser at Knowlwood’s on February 22nd. We also had a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen on March 20th.

GUEST SPEAKERS - Heather Creelman

Our first guest speaker of the spring semester, Mary Read, talked to us about the counseling field. We learned about the rewarding points of her job and the schooling that is required to pursue the career.

Our second guest speaker, Chris Heusser, is a professional physical educator, and she shared with us the importance of physical activity for children. Not only did she provide information on how to get kids up and moving, but she also had us play fun games that got us physically active. Mrs. Heusser provided us with fun games and activity ideas that we could introduce to kids, and the best part was that they were a lot of fun!

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.
- Marian Wright Edelman
Dr. Susan Shipstead is a familiar face to CHAD majors. In her 22 years working in the department, she has served as Jumpstart Coordinator, CASSA Faculty Advisor, and CHAD Academic Advisor. With the deepest gratitude for these and other contributions she’s made to the CAS department, we bid Dr. Shipstead a fond farewell as she prepares to enter the next exciting stage of her life: retirement!

Dr. Shipstead graduated from the University of Michigan in 1971 and received her Master’s in Education from Harvard in 1974. She worked for the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation using the same curriculum she is still using with Jumpstart now. In 1976, she received her Ph.D. from Stanford.

Every class that Dr. Shipstead teaches is very special to her because each brings a unique perspective and has different rewards. However, one class that she is especially passionate about is CAS 300, Elements of Effective Professional Communication. Many students enter the department lacking the writing skills needed to succeed in the major, and this class gives them the skills that are critical to their success.

During her time at CSUF, Dr. Shipstead has contributed to the department in many ways. She has been a CHAD advisor at the Irvine Campus and has greeted thousands of incoming students at both New Student Orientations and Welcome to Fullerton Days. As another service to the department, Dr. Shipstead was a CASSA advisor from Spring 2006 to Spring 2007 alongside Shelli Wynants. She loved being the CASSA advisor and enjoyed working closely with the board members, some of whom she still keeps in touch with.

A time-consuming, but rewarding, activity that Dr. Shipstead has played an enormous role in is the Jumpstart program. Through Jumpstart, Dr. Shipstead has attended conferences, collaborates with CISL, visits classrooms, holds parent workshops focusing on at-risk 4-year-olds, and works with the High/Scope curriculum, all using developmentally appropriate methods. In May, Dr. Shipstead was awarded CISL’s Extraordinary Internship Coordinator award for these achievements.

Dr. Shipstead has also contributed to the field of child development. As a part-time faculty member, Dr. Shipstead co-authored three editions of *Through the Looking Glass: Observations in the Early Childhood Classroom*, a textbook that has been used nationwide in observation courses since 1994.

After this semester, Dr. Shipstead and her husband are both retiring. She plans on using the first six months to decompress, but she will not be resting long! In her retirement she plans on traveling; quilting, a pastime she has enjoyed since childhood; writing; and, of course, continuing to work with children.

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments, Dr. Shipstead, and best wishes for a wonderful and rejuvenating retirement!

“I love my job, I love the people I work with, and I feel I contribute a lot.”
C O M M U N I T Y  S E R V I C E  O P P O R T U N I T I E S

C O M M U N I T Y  L I T E R A C Y  F E S T I V A L

-Kelly Anderson

This year has been filled with amazing community service events for CASSA! This semester alone we have had almost 50 HOURS of community service events, giving the 2007-2008 year a total of nearly 75 HOURS! Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who helped CASSA donate so much time to our community! The most recent event was the Community Literacy Festival at CSUF’s Irvine campus. Many children and parents celebrated literacy by participating in workshops, book signings, reading groups, jumphouses, and balloon artist activities with Safari Sadie! Thank you members who joined our fellow CHAD majors to motivate the literacy of children.

Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile

-Albert Einstein

Left: CASSA members volunteering at the event.
C E L E B R A T I O N  O F  A C H I E V E M E N T

The 2008 Celebration of Achievement Awards Ceremony of the Department of Child and Adolescent Studies was held on Monday, May 5th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the TSU Pavilions. At this event, CAS faculty members proudly acknowledged the accomplishments of many of our students, including:

- Honors graduates (summa, magna, and cum laude)
- 2008 CAS Department Awards recipients
- Scholarship recipients
- Dean's List students (Spring 2007, Fall 2007)
- CASA Board members
- CASSA cord recipients
- Big Sibs
- Jumpstart students
- CAS Peer mentors
- Student athletes

This event is a great ceremony to honor those recognized. All CHAD students and families were encouraged to attend to receive any of the honors listed above and also to support fellow CHAD students being honored.

Every year CASSA is in charge of setting up the decorations for the event. This gives CASSA members an opportunity to earn more volunteer hours toward CASSA events for their cords.

The theme this year was flowers, and the decorations were very colorful and fun! Save early May for next year's Celebration of Achievement, and come enjoy a night filled with food, awards, networking, and fun!
“Going for the Gold,” the event held on April 12, 2008, was a great experience for the CSUF community. The event turned out to be very festive and enjoyable. The University provided a 1k walk and 5k run to open the event. There was music, free food, and a lot of information related to health and health-related organizations. Most importantly children and families had a great time playing games and enjoying the sunny weather. The participants were entertained by our very own Tuffy the Titan, who demonstrated how to properly warm up before and after a race!

CASSA had the honor of playing a part in the celebration. At our table, CASSA displayed free pamphlets on dieting facts, a food pyramid, and a BMI chart. The Department of Child and Adolescent Studies provided free gifts for everyone including pedometers, key chains, and sticky notes.

CASSA board members designed a fun game for children that involved a hurdle race and quiz questions about the importance of healthy eating and exercising. The purpose of the game was to get the participants to exercise and actively learn about what is right and wrong when exercising. The children had to conclude the hurdle race with an agility ladder, which they found challenging but fun! Not only did the children enjoy the game, they were educated and received bubbles as prizes.
CASSA Mission Statement

CASSA is the Child and Adolescent Studies Student Association for Child and Adolescent Development majors. CASSA is an organization in which student, faculty, and community members interact to help students develop their leadership skills, professional skills, and knowledge of children. CASSA also provides opportunities to interact with fellow students and faculty in an atmosphere that fosters social networking. In addition to hosting regular monthly meetings, semi-annual career development days, and a variety of other social events, CASSA sponsors community service activities and public awareness activities.

A special thank you to all of the dedicated CASSA members who participated in the Staffpro fundraisers at the Honda Center. These fundraisers were a great success!

“I got to go inside where the concert was going on, so I got to see Carrie Underwood perform.”
-Anna Nam

“The event was well-organized, and I would certainly volunteer again. Overall, it was a good experience and a pretty simple way to fundraise for our group.”
-Stacy Hill

Thank you for supporting CASSA by donating or purchasing baked goods!