



# SMI CONNECTIONS



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## Directors' Corner



SMI at the UC campuses have busily prepared for the opening of 2007-08 academic year. At UCR, SMI focused on strengthening its partnerships with the ALPHA Center and the Graduate School of Education (GSOE) to expand services for future teachers.

Through these partnerships, early field (classroom) experiences and detailed program planning provide opportunities for future teachers.

For the upcoming academic year, the ALPHA Center (<http://alphacenter.ucr.edu>) invited strong undergraduate candidates to participate in its prestigious teaching apprenticeship programs — California Mathematics and Science Teachers Initiative (CMST) and I Strive I Succeed (ISIS) programs. Over 75% of the selected CMST/ISIS apprentices prepared for this opportunity through SMI.

The SMI, ALPHA Center, and GSOE partnership is underscored by collaborating to identify UCR's Integrated Teaching Credential candidates (<http://www.education.ucr.edu/>), an intense track for students entering teaching credential program in spring quarter of their senior year.

With the looming forecast of a massive teacher retirement in 2010, SMI is committed more than ever to present early field experiences for students to work with well-trained mentor teachers and to provide opportunities to enhance students' professional portfolios. SMI will, once again, offer monetary incentives to students in EDUC 3, Imagining Teaching: Science/Mathematics Emphasis, and EDUC 4, Looking in the Classroom: Science/Mathematics Emphasis. Through UC Office of the President's generous support, EDUC 3 and 4 students may request up to \$125 for approved classroom projects. In addition, up to \$200 travel reimbursement and a \$600 stipend can be attained upon satisfactory completion (C or better) of EDUC 3 and EDUC 4. These are excellent opportunities to explore the field of teaching while meeting students' financial needs. We anticipate offering EDUC 3 in Winter 2008. For those who have completed EDUC 3, please enroll in EDUC 4 for Fall 2007. Please see an SMI Advisor for enrollment assistance.

To further improve our program, we will unveil a new mentor teacher certification program through the UCR Extension Center. More details about this certification program will be provided in future issues of *SMT Connections*.

~ Bradley C. Hyman & Leslie Y. Bushong

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### Enhance Your Professional Portfolio

- \* Integrated Teaching Information Seminar
- \* Get Prepared for Teaching Related Interviews
- \* Financial Aid Opportunities for Teaching
- \* CSET Exam Preparation Workshops
- \* Build and Improve Your Teaching Resume Workshop

**Dates and locations of SMI workshops and seminars are posted at <http://smi.ucr.edu>.**

*To register, visit <http://smi.ucr.edu/workshops>*

### Student Club for Future Teachers

The "Tomorrow's Teachers in Science and Math (TTSM)" student club last met in Spring 2007. Founders for the club have been busily working to develop a constitution and officer descriptions. According to President, Steven Wang, the club aims to submit in Fall 2007 official paperwork to charter the club with Student Life and Leadership. If you are interested in learning more about the club, please contact Steven Wang at [swang001@ucr.edu](mailto:swang001@ucr.edu).

## Scholarship Opportunities

- ☑ **Financial Aid:** To be considered for federal, state, or institutional financial aid, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). *Many of the financial aid programs are on a first-come-first served basis. Don't miss out.* Submit your application as early as January 1, 2008. Visit <http://finaid.ucr.edu/> for more information.
- ☑ **Academic Competitive (AC) and National SMART Grants:** AC Grant students receive funds that augment the Federal Pell Grant (<http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/PellGrants.jsp>), which are usually awarded to undergraduate students through FAFSA. Eligible AC Grant students can receive up to \$2,050 during their freshman and sophomore years. Eligible SMART Grant recipients are students in their junior and senior years and receive up to \$4,000. Please visit <http://smi.ucr.edu> for more details.
- ☑ **Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE):** The APLE program is a competitive teacher incentive program designed to encourage outstanding students, district interns, and out-of-state teachers to become California teachers in subject-areas where critical shortages have been identified. Training sites are often in designated schools meeting specific criteria established by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Under the APLE program, college students may qualify for up to \$19,000 of student loan forgiveness from the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). Visit <http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=111> for more details.
- ☑ **Knowles Science Teaching Foundation:** The Knowles Science Teaching Foundation (KSTF) is seeking applicants for Teaching Fellows--individuals who have earned (or planning to earn by Spring 2008) a bachelor's degree in a physical science, engineering, or mathematics and would like to teach high school science or mathematics in the U.S. KSTF Teaching Fellowships support individuals professionally and financially for up to five years. For more details, please visit <http://www.kstf.org>. Please contact Alicia Chavez, UCR Scholarship Coordinator, at [alicia.chavez@ucr.edu](mailto:alicia.chavez@ucr.edu), to help you prepare a competitive application packet. Application deadline is January 14, 2008.
- ☑ **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM):** The purpose of this grant is to provide financial support to college students preparing for teaching secondary school mathematics. For 2008-09, one scholarship, with a maximum value of \$10,000, will be awarded to a person currently completing his/her sophomore year of college. For more details, please visit <http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=1338>. Please contact Alicia Chavez, UCR Scholarship Coordinator, at [alicia.chavez@ucr.edu](mailto:alicia.chavez@ucr.edu), to help you prepare a competitive application packet. Application deadline is May 9, 2008.

## PLAN FOR WINTER 2008

**EDUC 003 - Imagining Teaching: Science/Mathematics Emphasis:** Gain applicable classroom experience. Earn \$600 stipend and up to \$200 travel reimbursement upon satisfactory completion (C grade or better) of the course.

**NASC 192- Careers in Science & Mathematics Education:** This one-unit seminar allows students to network with each other and with professionals in educational fields. Invited guest speakers will present information to help build a stronger professional network for future teachers. Expected guest speakers are: middle school teacher panel, high school teacher panel, school district administrators, and human resource specialists.

For more details about these courses, refer to **Winter 2008 Online Schedule of Classes** (available November 1, 2007).

### Reminders

- **SMI Resource Center Conference Room:** Pierce 1104 is available for prospective teachers to study and gather in small groups; wireless capability enables easy use of laptops.
- **UCR Integrated Teaching Credential Program:** Application for Spring 2008 program is October 31, 2007. Please consult with an SMI Advisor for more information.
- **Update Your Resume:** Contact the experts at the UCR Career Center, (951) 827-3631, for further assistance.
- **Quarterly SMI Advising:** Stay on track. Plan ahead. Schedule your one-on-one SMI advising appointment by e-mailing [smi@ucr.edu](mailto:smi@ucr.edu).
- **Subscribe to SMI Listserv:** Receive up-to-date information to prepare for your future career in teaching. Log on to: <http://lists.ucr.edu/mailman/listinfo/cateach-smi>.