ALBERTO RODRIGUEZ LEADS SECOND FORUM ON BILINGUAL EDUCATION
The second working forum on the state of bilingual education in California was held at San Jose State University this past February to continue the work started last fall here in San Diego by Alberto J. Rodriguez, COE faculty member and Co-Director of the Center for Equity and Bliliteracy Education Research (CEBER). The main goal of these forums is to examine the factors that promote and/or obstruct the advancement of bilingual education in California, enabling specific issues and plans of action to be drawn and identified. Participants in the forum worked on the development of a vision statement that should provide much needed focus and direction for the improvement of bilingual education in the State. For more information contact arodrigu@mail.sdsu.edu.

FRANK HARRIS III PRESENTS WORK, RECEIVES HONOR
Dr. Frank Harris III (ARPE) presented his collaborative work with the Center for Urban Education at the University of Southern California at the Annual ACE conference. Dr. Harris and his colleagues spoke on the topic of race-based disparities in student access, success, and achievement, which persist at many colleges and universities, despite recent efforts to achieve diversity and increase accountability in higher education. Dr. Harris was also recently honored with the American College Personnel Association’s (ACPA) Standing Committee for Men 2008 Outstanding Research Award in recognition of his study “The Meanings College Men Make of Masculinities and Contextual Influences on Behaviors, Outcomes and Gendered Environmental Norms: A Grounded Theory Study,” and related research.

PROFESSORS OCHOA AND CADIERO-KAPLAN PARTICIPATE IN BILITERACY TEACHER SYMPOSIUM
Alberto M. Ochoa (PLC) and Karen Cadiero-Kaplan (PLC), past president of California Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, were visiting experts at a recent gathering of Oregon educators and school leaders at a symposium on biliteracy and biculturalism at the University of Oregon, sponsored by their College of Education’s Department of Teacher Education. “Teacher educators and school leaders are looking closely at current research in biliteracy instruction to insure that Oregon’s increasing [English-language-learner] student population is receiving the best education possible,” said Professor Edward M. Olivos, organizer of the event. Symposium guests included the Oregon Superintendent of Public Schools, four school district superintendents and 70 other participants.

MARILEE BRESCIANI AWARDED GRANT
The NASPA Foundation Research Committee recently awarded Dr. Marilee Bresciani (ARPE) a grant in the amount of $2,990. This funding will provide research support for graduate student Jessica Hickmott of the MA in SA degree program.

TAMARA COLLINS-PARKS ELECTED CHAIR
Tamara Collins-Parks (PLC) has been elected Elementary Level Chair for CATESOL (California and Nevada Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages). She officially assumed her new role at the State CATESOL Conference in Sacramento April 10-13. The Elementary Level Chair is active in keeping members informed of upcoming legislation that affects English Learners and keeping CATESOL informed of current issues in the field. If anyone in the college has information or concerns that they would like to see shared with CATESOL, Tamara can be contacted at biliterate@gmail.com.

SCHOOL PSYCHS ON THE RUN!
On the impetus of one of their own currently battling cancer, a group of fellow psychology graduate students led by Dr. Tonika Duren Green raised over $1,500 participating in the Point Loma Nazarene University “Relay for Life” under the team title “School Psychs on the Run!” The students reflected on their experience in their field experience journals and have plans to submit a presentation proposal to the 2009 National Association of School Psychology Convention. Visit Relayforlife.org for more information.

DOCTORAL STUDENT NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR
After 14 years of experience teaching in the city, San Diego native Theodosia Ballard was named a 2008-2009 Teacher of the Year by the San Diego Unified School District for her outstanding accomplishments at Walter J. Porter Elementary School. A 1993 SDSU liberal studies graduate, Theodosia earned a master’s degree at SDSU and is currently enrolled in the joint USD/SDSU doctoral program.

ALBERTO OCHOA RECEIVES CESAR CHAVEZ AWARD
Dr. Alberto M. Ochoa, chair of the Department of Policy Studies in Language and Cross Cultural Education, was honored at the recent Cesar Chavez Day at UCSD, in recognition of his work to further Chavez’ ideals in the community by working to provide equal opportunities for Latino students in San Diego county schools.