Dr. Gerald Monk (Professor, CSP) is co-author with John Winslade of the recently released book, *Practicing Narrative Mediation: Loosening the Grip of Conflict*. In addition, their book *Narrative Therapy in Practice: The Archaeology of Hope* was just published in Japanese.

Dr. Bobbie Atkins and Dr. Mari Guillermo (Interwork Institute) have had their proposal, “Project Higher Education: A Universal Model for Success,” funded by the Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education. The three-year award will enable them to continue the work and progress of the Disability & Diversity Project. Of special note, the technical review of their proposal was awarded a perfect score of 100 (maximum 100 points possible) by all three reviewers.

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) recently held their 4th Annual NALEO Education Leadership Initiative National Summit on the State of Latino Education & NELI Legislative Hearing on Pre-K and the Early Grades in Washington, D.C. Dr. Lou Murillo, Director of COMPACT for Success, presented the COMPACT for Success Program, one of three presenters on the panel of the three-day Summit.

Ms. Theodosia Ballard, a fifth-grade teacher at Porter North Elementary School, was one of five local educators named 2008 County Teacher of the Year. Theodosia has been certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and is currently enrolled in the joint USD/SDSU doctoral program.

Dr. Fred McFarlane (Emeritus Professor, ARPE) and Dr. Nan Zhang Hampton (Professor, ARPE) have received a grant from the Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange. The grant supported Drs. McFarlane and Hampton’s trip to China this past October, the purpose of which was to provide technical assistance to the Chinese Rehabilitation Association for People with Disabilities and to conduct a needs assessment of rehabilitation workers in China.

A new book, *The Multiple Faces of Agency: Innovative Strategies for Effecting Change in Urban School Contexts* was recently published, with Dr. Alberto J. Rodriguez (Professor, PLC) serving as editor. Dr. Rodriguez has also been named Principal Investigator for SDSU for a major grant sponsored by the National Science Foundation, “The Effective Science Teaching for English Language Learners (ESTELL): A Pre-Service Teacher Professional Development Research Project Across Three Universities in California.” The total funding for the project is $3.1 million over four years.

Several COE staff members were recently recognized at the 35th Annual SDSU Staff Awards: Presidential Staff Excellence Awards were presented to Martha Pedroza (Dean’s Office) for “Innovation,” and to Cecilia Necoechea (Joint SDSU/CGU) for “Service to the University.” Kathleen Borsos-Wooley (STE), Marilyn Bredvold (Dean’s Office), and Lisa McCully (Office of Student Services) were recognized for 20 years of service, Julie White (Dean’s Office) was recognized for 15 years of service, and Elsa Tapia (EDTEC) for 10 years of service.