



# Fall 2008 Convocation

Eduardo M. Ochoa

Provost and Vice President for  
Academic Affairs



# Topics

- New Faculty & Announcements
- WASC Accreditation
- Agenda for 2007-08

*[ Slides of this presentation will be posted at  
<http://www.sonoma.edu/aa/provost/reports/> ]*



# New Full-time Faculty (I)

## *School of Arts and Humanities (2)*

- **Dr. Christina N. Baker, American Multicultural Studies (Assistant Professor)**

Ph.D. 2007 University of California, Irvine. Formerly Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Research on Educational Opportunity, University of Notre Dame

- **Dr. Russell Andy Collinsworth, Music (Assistant Professor)**

D.M.A. 2008 Arizona State University. Formerly Director, Maria Carrillo High School, Instrumental Music & Maria Carrillo High School Band Booster, Inc.

# New Full-time Faculty (II)

## *School of Business and Economics (1)*

- **Dr. Carl Torbin Thomsen, Business Administration (Associate Professor)**

Ph.D. 1973 Michigan State University

Formerly Professor, Health Policy and Management,  
School of Public Health, Loma Linda, CA

# New Full-time Faculty (III)

## *School of Education (3)*

- **Ms. Heather Brace, Educational Leadership and Special Education (Lecturer)**  
ABD, M.Ed. 2003 University of Florida
- **Dr. Viki Montera, Educational Leadership and Special Education (Assistant Professor)**  
Ed.D. 1996 University of Arizona. Formerly Academic Coordinator, University of California, Davis, School of Education and Teaching
- **Dr. Susan Campbell, Literacy Studies and Elementary Education (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2006 University of California, Davis.



# New Full-time Faculty (IV)

## *School of Science and Technology (4)*

- **Dr. Thomas Buckley, Biology (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 1999 Utah State University. Formerly Sr. Research Fellow, University of New South Wales and Bushfire CRC
- **Dr. Jon Fukuto, Chemistry (Associate Professor)**  
Ph.D. 1983 University of California, Berkeley. Formerly Professor, Pharmacology, University of California, Los Angeles
- **Dr. Suzanne Rivoire, Computer Science (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2008 Stanford University
- **Dr. Scott Nickleach, Mathematics and Statistics (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2008 University of Pittsburgh

# New Full-time Faculty (V)

## *School of Social Sciences (7)*

- **Dr. Julie L. Shulman, Counseling (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2003 The University of Memphis. Formerly Assistant Professor, Alliant International University
- **Dr. Adam Zigelbaum, Counseling (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2005 Ball State University. Formerly Assistant Professor, College of Education, Governors State University
- **Dr. Eric J. Williams, Criminology and Criminal Justice (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2008 Rutgers University. Formerly Visiting Professor, University of Puget Sound
- **Dr. Cynthia Boaz, Political Science (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2002 University of California, Davis. Formerly Assistant Professor, State University of New York at Brockport
- **Dr. Sheila Katz, Sociology (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2008 Vanderbilt University
- **Dr. Lena McQuade, Women's and Gender Studies (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2008 University of New Mexico. Formerly Dissertation Fellow, University of California, Santa Barbara
- **Dr. Don Romesburg, Women's and Gender Studies (Assistant Professor)**  
Ph.D. 2006 University of California, Berkeley. Formerly Visiting Professor, Sonoma State University



# WASC Accreditation

- Two-stage process of reaccreditation:  
Capacity & Preparatory Review,  
Educational Effectiveness Review
- CPR completed and WASC Commission  
letter received in Spring 2008  
(<http://www.sonoma.edu/aa/portfolio/>)
- ER visit will be in October 2009
- Six issues to be addressed before ER visit



# WASC's Six Issues

1. Address expressions of concern
2. Reach consensus on SSU's complex mission
3. Coalesce disparate planning efforts
4. Close the loop on assessment of educational outcomes
5. Reach agreement on GE reform & timeline, and show progress
6. Extend SSU's diversity efforts

# Issue 1: Address Concerns

- Senate March 2008 comprehensive resolution outlined proposed responses to confidence vote
- President provided a detailed response in a recent memorandum to Senate Chair
- Follow-up conversations should provide basis for fruitful progress in a number of areas

## Issue 2: Consensus on Mission

- SSU needs to clarify its dual nature as liberal-arts & sciences institution and a comprehensive university
- “Notes on SSU’s Mission” - jointly developed by Deans Council and Senate Academic Planning Committee (<http://www.sonoma.edu/aa/portfolio>)
- Campus-wide dialogue on the topic at multiple venues

# Issue 3: Coalesce Planning

- Relationship of University Strategic Plan, academic planning, campus physical planning, and divisional planning will be articulated and formalized
- Academic planning will coalesce by linking Deans Council with Senate Academic Planning Committee in a manner to be established
- Senate review and endorsement of University and Academic Affairs planning will be sought



# Issue Four: Assessment

- Academic Program review cycle, including assessment of identified student learning outcomes
- Evidence of subsequent curriculum and pedagogical improvement
- Continuous diffusion of best practices in the cycle of assessment and program improvement



# Issue Five: GE Reform

- Completion of detailed learning outcomes for GE by GE Subcommittee
- Discussion and decision by faculty on the direction of GE reform
- Development of timeline for path of GE reform
- Tangible results by end of Spring 2009



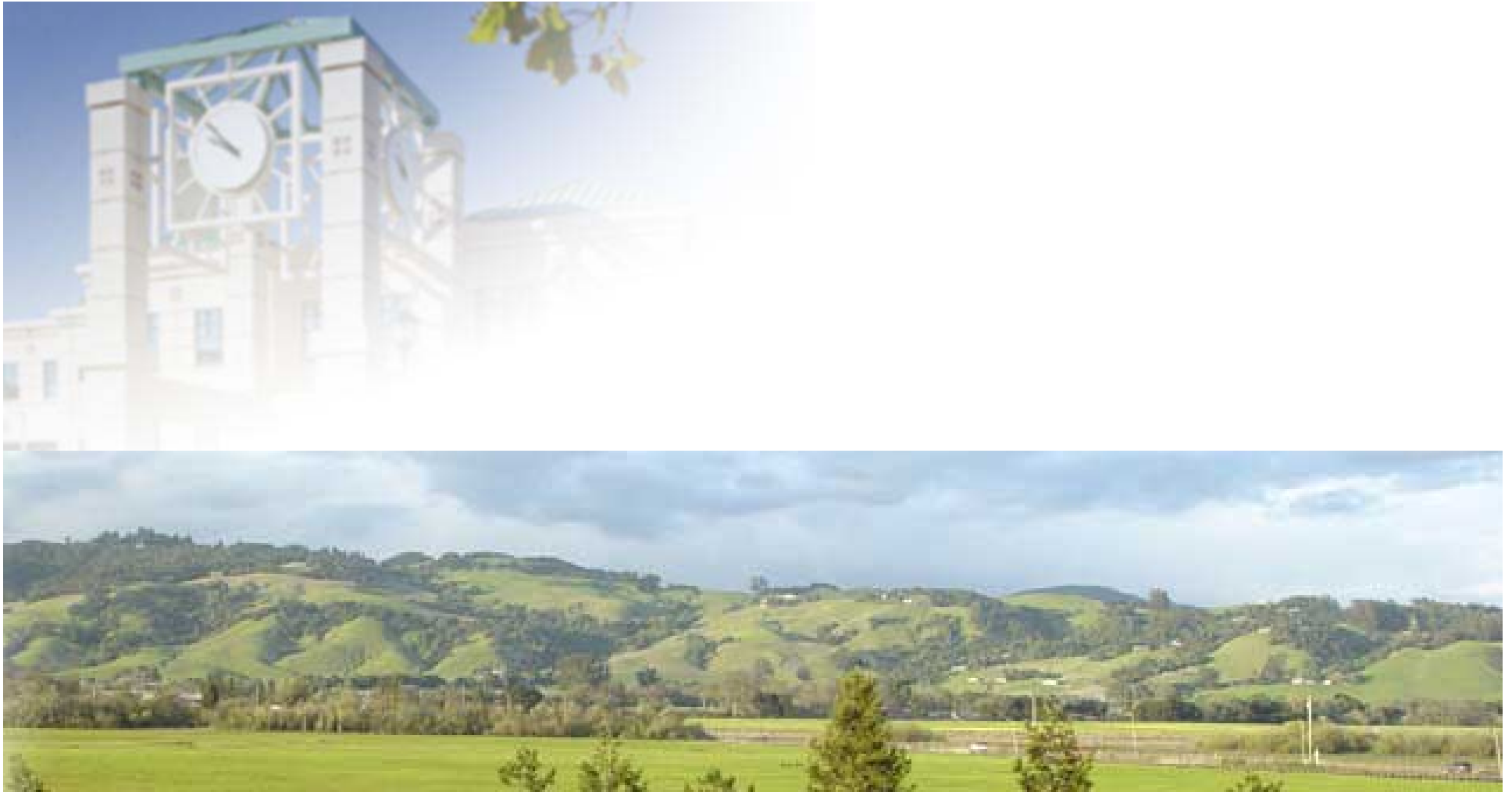
# Issue Six: Diversity

- Creation of President's Diversity Council in consultation with faculty and campus community
- PDC to steward broader and deeper effort to enhance diversity and global and multicultural competence in hiring, student recruiting, curriculum, and campus life



# Our blessings (still...)

- A dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators
- A beautiful campus in a beautiful setting
- SSU as the intellectual and cultural hub of the North Bay, a region with an affluent population open to supporting SSU
- The potential to transcend our constraints and to create a virtuous circle of continuously improving programs, students, faculty, and external support
- The opportunity to build on these strengths and shared goals together



**HAVE A GREAT YEAR!**