As we head into the final month of the spring semester, I invite you to take a glance at the many exciting accomplishments that have taken place at the University of La Verne.

We celebrated the 55-year career of our iconic faculty member, Professor of Biology Dr. Robert, “Bob”, Neher, who will officially retire at the end of the spring semester. Dr. Neher was one of the first to champion sustainability efforts on campus and he helped La Verne achieve our recent recognition in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges, which acknowledges La Verne for its commitment to sustainability in campus infrastructure and co-curricular programing.

Another recent point of pride was our university playing host to the 2013 United States Universities National Debate Championships on our beautiful campus. Our stellar debate team placed 8th out of 164 teams from 46 competing institutions, including Yale, Harvard and several others from across the globe.

La Verne also recently welcomed Dr. Eboo Patel, a national interfaith leader, to speak to our students, faculty and staff about the importance of creating interfaith cooperation and understanding. His presentation could not have been more relevant, as he was the university’s guest during the week of the devastating and tragic Boston Marathon bombings. Dr. Patel challenged our campus to continue to further develop positive interfaith relationships in a constant effort to promote a more tolerant community at La Verne, regionally, nationally, and worldwide.

I am continually inspired by our outstanding students, faculty and staff who work hard every day to make La Verne such a remarkable institution. These are only some of the examples of impressive efforts our Leos put forth daily. I am confident that this newsletter will help you gain a deeper appreciation for the University of La Verne.

Sincerely,

Devorah Lieberman, Ph.D.
La Verne Debate Team Hosts National Championships, Ranks 8th in Nation

On April 12 – 14 the University of La Verne welcomed 46 colleges and universities from around the world to campus as it hosted the 2013 United States Universities National Debate Championships, one of the most anticipated debate competitions of the year. La Verne reached the top 8, surpassing schools such as Harvard, USC, UCLA, Duke University, UC Davis and Hawaii Pacific University.

Ultimately, Yale, Loyola Marymount, Stanford and Carroll College advanced to the final round, with Yale winning the championship. Although La Verne, 2007 USU National Champions, did not make it through to the final round, six La Verne students received prestigious distinctions:

- **Octofinalists**
  - Ava Jahanvash & Jonathan Singleton

- **Quarter Finalists**
  - Sam French & Carl Decker

- **Semifinalists**
  - Gia Karpouzis & Melanie Nadon

In addition to being named semifinalists, Nadon was named 8th Best Speaker in the nation and Karpouzis was named Best Novice Speaker in the nation.

Read More.

Recent Marriage Family Therapy Grad Awarded $18,500 Stipend

A recent graduate from the University of La Verne’s Marriage Family Therapy master’s program is a step closer to becoming a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the State of California.

Larissa Lucas is one of 84 statewide MFT applicants to receive the California Educational MFT Stipend Award in the amount of $18,500. Lucas graduated with her M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy in February 2013.

Recipients of the stipend are able to apply the $18,500 to educational costs in exchange for a year of paid or unpaid employment at a mental health service agency administered by a county in California.

Read More.

Biology Professor Honored for 55 Years of Dedicated Service in Teaching

Professor of Biology Dr. Robert “Bob” Neher taught thousands of students throughout his 55 years as a faculty member at the University of La Verne. On April 12, Dr. Neher was honored at the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center for his unparalleled dedication to science, students and the University of La Verne community.

Throughout the past several decades he has helped faculty develop research projects that have brought millions of dollars in grants into the Natural Science Division. He plans to continue research on the environment and genetics after retirement.
The University of La Verne has been recognized as one of the country’s most responsible green colleges by The Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges for 2013. On April 24, La Verne was honored at a ceremony hosted in Washington D.C. for the accomplishment. Out of 806 schools that were evaluated, The Guide profiled 322 higher education institutions in the U.S. and Canada that demonstrated a strong commitment to sustainability in curricular and co-curricular programming, campus infrastructure, and career preparation.

La Verne was recognized for the Sustainable Campus Consortium, a university-wide committee, composed of faculty, staff and students, that helps develop initiatives for university sustainability efforts, and raises awareness and understanding of environmental issues. Adding to La Verne’s ‘green’ ranking are its LEED-certified buildings, Campus Center and Vista La Verne residence hall; its drought-tolerant, native landscaping; and its successful recycling program.

The Princeton Review last recognized the University of La Verne for its green efforts in 2011.

Dailey Theatre Presents ‘The Merchant of Venice’

Questions and issues of love, betrayal, justice and mercy are explored in William Shakespeare’s “The Merchant of Venice,” the latest production presented by the University of La Verne’s Department of Theatre Arts.

This production is directed by Professor of Theatre Arts Dr. David Flaten, and is the senior thesis project for Stephanie Aguilar and Alvario Renteria.

Show Times: May 2, 3, 4 at 7:30 p.m. Closing matinee will be on May 5 at 2:00 p.m.

CAMPUS’ Art Collection

“CAMPUS” discovers and rediscovers the rich, culturally diverse art that adorns the walls, hallways and landscapes of the University of La Verne’s campus. Ranging from figuration to abstraction and from intimate detail to monumental scale, CAMPUS features a rich cross-section of artists.

‘CAMPUS’ Art Collection

Lorenzo Hurtado Segovia

Harris Art Gallery

(April 23 - May 30)

Irene Carlson Gallery of Photography

Geolocation: Desertscape

(April 25 - May 24)

Where do Twitter tweets originate? Nate Larson and Marni Shindelman answer that question in their new photo exhibit “Geolocation: Desertscapes.”

“Geolocation: Desertscape” by Lorenzo Hurtado Segovia

Harris Art Gallery

(April 23 - May 30)

These tweets have my location? Copyright 2013 Nate Larson & Marni Shindelman

Irene Carlson Gallery of Photography

Geolocation: Desertscape

(April 25 - May 24)

Read More.
Students and Alumni Honored at Far West Athletic Trainers’ Association Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium

University of La Verne Athletic Training Education Program (ATEP) students and alumni attended the Far West Athletic Trainers’ Association (FWATA) Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium April 5-7. The Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards acknowledged junior athletic training student Danielle Wilke with the Gail Weldon Memorial Scholarship.

La Verne ATEP alumna Amanda Seibert was acknowledged by the California Athletic Trainers’ Association (CATA) with the Lifesaver Award. This was given for her role in resuscitating a runner in the Holiday Half Marathon who collapsed and was found without a pulse. Through Amanda’s efforts, the runner was eventually revived and continues to improve. Amanda is currently the Assistant Athletic Trainer at Bonita High School.