



Dean's Update

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SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

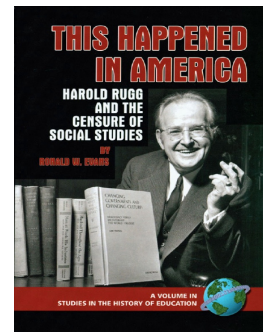
College of Education

Dr. Lasisi Ajayi (Assistant Professor, Division of Education, Imperial Valley Campus) is the recipient of a University Teachers Scholar Award for 2008 by Rotary International Grants. Additional congratulations to Dr. Ajayi for recently becoming a United States citizen.



Dr. Charles "Chuck" Degeneffe (Associate Professor in Rehabilitation, ARPE) has been selected as President-elect for the National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE), the professional organization of educators dedicated to quality services for persons with disabilities through education and research. Formed in 1955, the NCRE is the leading professional association for rehabilitation educators in the 21st Century, representing over 90 institutions of higher education and more than 700 individual members. Dr. Degeneffe will assume the presidency during the 2010-11 academic year.

Dr. Ronald Evans (Professor, STE) has been awarded the 2008 Exemplary Research in Social Studies Award for his book, *This Happened in America: Harold Rugg and the Censure of Social Studies*. The book is a biographical account of Harold O. Rugg, professor at Teachers College, Columbia University, whose innovative social studies textbooks came under attack from patriotic and business groups in the early years of World War II. The National Council for the Social Studies, the premier social studies organization in the country, will give the award to Dr. Evans in November at their 88th Annual Conference in Houston, TX.



Dr. Doug Fisher (Professor, STE) will be inducted into the California Reading Association Hall of Fame at CRA's annual conference in Sacramento this month, in recognition of the contributions he has made at the local, state, and national levels. Hall of Fame inductees have made lasting contributions in the areas of service to local councils of the California Reading Association; dedication to the

cause of literacy; leadership in reading/language arts; and scholarship that is recognized by professional peers. More information is available at www.californiareads.org.

The National Education Association recently awarded **Dr. Fernando Rodriguez-Valls** (Assistant Professor, Division of Education, Imperial Valley Campus) a grant in the amount of \$5,000, which was used to implement Literacy Circles with one hundred families whose children were enrolled in first grade at Blanche Charles Elementary in the Calexico Unified School District. A second \$100,000 grant recently awarded to Dr. Rodriguez-Valls from the University of California Subject Matter Project will also be used in developing learning communities with the staff at Blanche Charles Elementary. The preliminary findings of both projects will be presented in the 54th International Reading Association in February 2009 in Phoenix, AZ.



The U.S. Office of Special Education Programs recently awarded **Dr. Carol Robinson-Zañartu** (Chair, CSP; Interim Chair, CFD) \$800,000 for a four year partnership with Valley Center Pauma Unified School District and four surrounding reservation communities. They will support the training and preparation of 12 school counselors and psychologists, and work with teachers, youth and community members to bridge the achievement gap, especially within the Native American populations.