



## Sunburst, A Publication of the California Council for the Social Studies

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Dear Member,

As you move into the last few weeks of 2011, we'd like to extend our wishes for a wonderful holiday season to you and yours. 'Tis the season to treasure the people and holdings that are most important to us. This issue of *Sunburst* is abound with gifts of inspiration, special pricing, and free resources - our way of saying "thank you" for your ongoing support and dedication to CCSS and making a difference in history/social studies classrooms across the state.

### CCSS Conference is coming to Orange County!



Without a doubt, the annual conference is CCSS's premiere event and the one that many members view as the most valuable aspect of their CCSS experience. Yet not all may recognize just how enriching and renewing an experience conference attendance inevitably is. Certainly, the conference program is fantastic - colleagues giving great workshops to share their incredible work, wonderful speakers sharing expertise in history and history teaching,

social events... it's two-plus days of ongoing professional development and FUN. This year's program revolves around our theme of "[Social Studies to the Core](#)" with many sessions and workshops examining the Common Core Standards and sessions addressing Title 3 related issues such as ELL and culturally-relevant instruction.

But what really makes the conference a boom is the chance to interact and network with colleagues who are enthusiastic and passionate about social studies education. We know these are tough times for teachers, both financially and in terms of competing obligations. Gone are the days of conference stipends to pay for registration and travel expenses. Nonetheless, your participation is more important than ever. In fact our collective efforts to advocate for our field are strengthened to full measure during the conference. To help offset costs, CCSS is offering great specialty rates, such as, our *Super 5!* which allows any five teachers to register as a group and pay only \$100/person, which is a significant savings for a 3-day conference. Additionally, we've arranged for discounted rates for teachers involved in the various Teaching American History grants sponsored throughout the state. We encourage you to take advantage of group registration rates and the special events offered on our [Conference Page](#). Come join us at the conference and become a part of the CCSS community. We look forward to seeing you in the OC!

### Inland Empire Teachers Honored for Excellence

#### CCSS President



Avi Black

#### Under the Dome



Read the Latest [Legislative Update](#)

Fred Jones,  
CCSS Legislative Analyst

#### CCSS Conference Register Today



Sponsored By:



The 2012 CCSS Annual Conference will take place March 2-4, at the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Garden Grove, CA. This year's theme is "Social



Ultimately, it's what happens in the classroom that counts! A fact that was reflected in the many tributes offered on November 17 during the Inland Empire Council for the Social Studies (IECSS) Annual Awards' Dinner held on campus at California State University, San Bernardino. The IECSS recognized twelve teachers, including **Susan Myers** from Chapparel High School for ability to engage students in high levels of learning with rigorous and meaningful interaction with primary sources.

A collaborative event sponsored by the Inland Empire Council for the Social Studies (IECSS), Riverside County Office of Education, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, and CSUSB, the awards dinner provides recognition for elementary, middle, and high school teachers who inspire and engage their students, in learning the state curriculum, promote advanced history-social science thinking, and show leadership within and beyond their schools. Such a teacher is **Mark Zavodnik** of Murrieta Elementary School, who attended the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute and brought the Walk Through the American Revolution to his fifth grade class, and so is **Anita Tucker** of Victor Valley High School, whose students participate yearly in National History Day. **Leslie Smith** presented awards to outstanding San Bernardino County teachers: **Patricia Abney**, Quail Valley Middle School; **Connie Johnson**, Academy for Academic Excellence; **Brian Lamers**, Excelsior Education Center; and **Gerry Wright**, Arroyo Valley High School, and Anita Tucker of Victor Valley High School. In addition to Susan Myers and Mark Zavodnik, **Brad Shearer** also recognized Riverside County awardees: **Louise Berkley**, Victoria Elementary; **Aurelio Cortez**, Vista Heights Middle School; **Kent Byer**, Earhart Middle School; **Edward "Eddie" Jones**, Poly High School; **Kory Bootsma**, Rancho Verde High School; and **Kurt Herbst**, Great Oak High School.

The theme for this year's event reflected the 2012 CCSS Conference theme: "Social Studies to the Core," visualized with a globe's cross section showing the earth's layers. In keeping with this interpretation, Professor **Kevin Grisham**, provided an inspiring and thought-provoking keynote titled, "You in the World-Social Studies Education in a Global Age."



## Just Comment, *Why Juries?*



Because jury service affects us all - yes, even judges get called to serve - I thought I would use this first column to address jury service. I have noticed a stunning difference in the views of those who end up actually serving on a jury versus the group (we call them the "panel") as they first appear in the courtroom. When the fifty or sixty folks first appear in my courtroom, many on the panel are anxious, sometimes upset to be called away from their daily personal and business routines. But by the end of the trial, jurors are almost always happy to have served, and they have good things to say in their post-trial questionnaires. They are pleased to have performed a public service - for perhaps the only time in their lives.

Jurors who have served understand that jury service is rewarding, intense, and

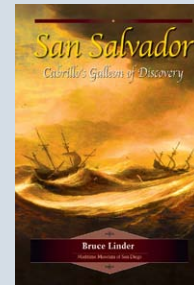
Studies to the Core!"

[Register today!](#)

[View the pre-conference program!](#)

Advance Registration rates are good through February 17th.

### Featured Resource



The voyage of explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, along the coast of California in 1542, provides California and the United States West Coast with its origin story - the first interaction of European explorers with indigenous peoples, the first time that California was plotted on the maps of the world, and the first hint of the multi-cultural society that California would become.

The study of Cabrillo and his flagship, [San Salvador](#), touches on a host of subjects that stand as the cornerstone of California history and social science studies.

[Click here](#) to read a sampling of Bruce Linder's book, *San Salvador*, and be sure to visit the [San Diego Maritime Museum's](#) website to learn more about the book, the building of the replica ship, and when the San Salvador may be coming to a port near you!

### Your 3R's Connection

sometimes even exhilarating as one discovers the truth of how the justice system works, and how twelve citizens from all walks of life and backgrounds come together to reach a just result. Because of their experience, these jurors have lost their fear and apprehension. They know they can rely on common sense, they have the law the judge provided to decide the case, and they have the impressions and thoughts of fellow jurors as they decide whom to believe and which witnesses to rely on. As a result, those who end up on a jury understand how our justice systems works, what happens at a trial, how the truth comes out. They see the Constitution in operation - in a way, they become the living embodiment of our Constitution.

The right to a fair and impartial jury is one of the most important guarantees of the Constitution. It is at the core of the justice system. It is what distinguishes our country, as a nation under law, from most of the governments in the world and throughout history. But constitutional rights only exist as long as there are people who are willing to uphold them and fully participate in the process. [Click here to read the full article by Judge Karnow.](#) And, don't miss the tried and true [free lessons](#) related to teaching about juries. Most of the lessons were designed by participants or leaders in the California On My Honor Civics Institute for teachers, a teacher professional development program co-sponsored by the Administrative Office of the Courts and California State University College of Education. All lessons have hands-on engaging activities and have been both peer reviewed and field tested in classrooms.

## CCSS Endorses Michelle Herczog for NCSS V.P.



### JOIN NCSS BY THE DECEMBER 31 DEADLINE AND VOTE FOR MICHELLE IN MARCH!

Our very own Past President Michelle Herczog is running for vice-president of the National Council for the Social Studies. Join us in supporting Michelle's efforts by [becoming a NCSS member](#) now and voting for her in the election that will take place in February/March 2012. While her opponent is a worthy contender, Michelle's credentials to hold this position

of leadership are truly outstanding and merit her election. She currently serves on the NCSS Board, and has been instrumental in advancing the group's standing as an advocate for social studies education on Capitol Hill. Within the state, her influence is extraordinary, a function of her tireless efforts to promote civic education as central to a well-rounded student experience in school. Suffice it to say that there is nary a person working on history-social science professional development or policy around California who has not been touched by her work and enriched by what Michelle has done for the field. She deserves to win election to the position she seeks, and NCSS will be a better organization for her leadership.

Voting is open to NCSS members only, so if you're not a member yet, consider joining now - [the benefits are many](#). With support at all levels for social studies instruction at a low ebb, it is more important than ever to be a contributing member of the nation's strongest organization of social studies educators.

## Standing up for Social Studies



It is my hope, which is shared by the CCSS leadership, that all of the readers of the Sunburst will get more involved in the defense of Social Studies. It should not come as news to any of you that the core placement of our subject-matter is in jeopardy, and that this existential struggle is the direct result of federal and state policies created by politicians who lack the perspective, context or will to prioritize H/SS as an essential element of every child's education.

It is incumbent upon each of us to become advocates for Social Studies. We need to remind our students, their parents, our site administrators, our local elected trustees and everyone we professionally associate with about the central importance of having a broadly educated, civically responsible citizenry. And then we need to help connect the dots back to instructional time devoted to H/SS curriculum and those "require/fund/measure" drivers that have thus far ignored our discipline. I betcha you'll be surprised how this simple

**California Three Rs**  
**Rights, Responsibility, and Respect**  
 A Project of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association and The First Amendment Center

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Teaching the Importance of Religion in the Modern Civil Rights Movement  
 By Jack Kinloch, Northern Humboldt Union HS District, CA 3R's Having Committee

I always loved teaching the Civil Rights Movement. It didn't matter if I was working at a Catholic elementary in Oakland or a public high school in Humboldt County—the topic grabbed the attention of my students and didn't let go. But until the summer of 2006 when I participated in a weeklong workshop in Alabama, and then a year later when I had the honor of hosting the late great Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth in Humboldt County, that the fundamental but often downplayed role of religion

This issue features a teachable moment relating the importance of religion in the modern civil rights movement.

[Click here](#) to read the latest issue of the 3R's Bulletin.

[Visit the 3R's website](#) to access archived bulletins and teacher resources.

### Teaching with Primary Sources



The California History-Social Science Project (CHSSP) in partnership with the Library of Congress, is providing professional development designed to enrich classroom instruction through the expanded use of primary sources, improved student understanding of the process of historical investigation, and enhanced student reading comprehension and writing ability.

Visit the [Teaching with Primary Sources](#) website to learn how you can take advantage of this PD opportunity in your area.

### Exercise your Vote



National Council for the Social Studies elections are fast-approaching. In order to participate in the 2012 election of new officers and Board of Directors you must

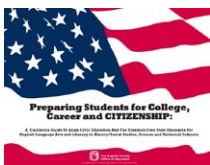
message will resonate with whomever you discuss it with, and how a light will turn on in their eyes with this insight as to why students entering our nation's finest colleges lack basic understanding of U.S. History, simple economics, geography and civics. And one final note: Feel confident as you make this pitch to whomever you come into contact with, knowing that you are the expert on this particular subject. Smart and busy people may have their areas of expertise, but nobody understands this particular issue better than CCSS members ... so be bold and advocate for the central placement of Social Studies in every child's classroom. Speak as if the very fate of our nation depends on it ... because it does! [Click here to read Fred's full article.](#)

## December Dilemma



During a time of the year when major religious holidays are celebrated, it is important to remember that not everyone shares the beliefs of the majority. On the other hand, everyone does have the same right to believe or not to believe. To deal with this diversity effectively and with the least harm, it is essential for public school leaders, parents, and students to remember that the primary purpose of public schools is academic. It is appropriate in the school setting to learn about religious beliefs and practices, but it is not right to celebrate or practice these beliefs in any manner. To learn more about this topic and learn how to support the teaching and learning of religious holidays within the public school system, you don't want to miss reading this issue of the [December Dilemma](#).

## College, Career & Citizenship



The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Initiative led by the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association reviewed the fundamental mission of K-12 education across our nation to inform the development of a set of standards that identify the critical knowledge, skills, and dispositions vital for success in college and career in the 21st century. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects and the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics were designed to be robust, provide a clear and consistent understanding of what students are expected to learn, and be relevant to the real world. However, not knowing the path our students will take regarding college or career, one thing is certain - wherever they live or work in our nation, they also need to be prepared to become informed, responsible and engaged members of our democratic society. In other words, in addition to being prepared for college and career, they need to be prepared for citizenship. To guide California educators in meeting the goal of preparing students for college, career AND citizenship, the Los Angeles County Office of Education has published an innovative resource, [Preparing Students for College, Career and CITIZENSHIP: A California Guide to Align Civic Education and the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects](#). Developed in collaboration with the Trinity County Office of Education and the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, the guide is intended to achieve a dual purpose: to provide English-Language Arts teachers a civic education context for improving literacy skills and, to provide social studies teachers a pedagogical framework for building literacy competencies needed for civic life. Reading, writing, listening and speaking skills are critical to success in all subject areas, hence, this guide provides a methodology that can be easily replicated for teachers of science, mathematics, health education, visual and performing arts, and career technical education. [Read the full article featuring the six proven practices](#) that constitute a well-rounded high-quality civic learning experience.

## Learning via Global Connections



*How can California educators introduce social science content into California classrooms that simultaneously introduces students to 21st century global studies, incorporates Common Core literacy objectives and uses quality on-line resources?*

Global Connect @ UCI is an original educational partnership developed by UC Irvine's School of Social Sciences to enrich California's secondary school curriculum in international

be a member on or before December 31, 2011.

CCSS members are running for NCSS positions and they need your vote.

[Join NCSS Today!](#)

## CCSS Membership



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Questions, comments, and/or submissions, please contact:



[Sunburst Editor](#)  
Laurie Mosier

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studies. The Program translates cutting edge University social science teachings on the 21st century into age appropriate curriculum for high school learners. Through a significant partnership with Saddleback Unified School District's Laguna Hills High School and the Orange County Department of Education, Global Connect has created an original 2-semester Globalization and International Relations Course. Classroom lessons are innovative in structure and not only teach students factual information, but serve as an ideal platform for analytical reflective thinking about global issues. The course is currently being implemented in ninth grade classrooms at Laguna Hills and El Toro High Schools.

] So, you might be asking, "How can educators within and beyond Orange County access the new curriculum?" Well, UC Irvine has addressed the question of access and immediacy through the creation of a series of GlobalScope Curriculum Guides. These guides can be viewed and printed via [on-line access](#) and the curriculum is continuously updated current global issues and events. Through the lenses of the social science disciplines of political science, economics, sociology, international studies and anthropology, Global Connect brings contemporary global issues, events and challenges to the students as current events - not as history. For additional information on the GC curriculum or programming, please contact Ellen Schlosser at [edschlos@uci.edu](mailto:edschlos@uci.edu).

Together, we will continue the effort to provide quality history/social studies education for our students. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Sincerely,**

*California Council for the Social Studies*

*Superior Court of  
California, San Francisco*

*Ellen Schlosser,  
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*Julie Weaver,  
CCSS Exec. Secretary*

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