



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Media Contact: Mike Singer**

**760.341.2883, ext. 78107**

[msinger@csusb.edu](mailto:msinger@csusb.edu)



## **Cal State campus encourages students to become teachers**

PALM DESERT, Calif. (August 13, 2009) – Director of Post Graduate Education Programs at the Palm Desert Campus of Cal State San Bernardino, Dr. Carl Brown, wants people to know that there will be K-12 teaching jobs in the Coachella Valley in coming years.

He says that, “despite news of some districts having to let teachers go during the immediate budget downturn, there is still a need for teachers in particular subject fields such as mathematics, science, special education, and high school subjects. Moreover, local districts have a number of senior teachers in all fields who are likely to retire within the next two to five years. So, current university students and community members wishing to return to the university to earn teaching credentials should not defer plans to enroll.”

The California State University, San Bernardino, Palm Desert Campus offers complete teaching credential programs; with courses available at convenient times for working students and flexible plans that can be completed in one or two years. For those graduate, post-baccalaureate and credential students new to the university, applications are still being accepted for the Fall 2009 quarter (until August 31) and the Winter 2010 quarter.

California is facing a critical shortage of qualified teachers. Over the next decade, the state is expected to lose more than 100,000 teachers to retirement. This equates to one-third of the teacher workforce. Shortages will be particularly prominent in special education, math, science and high school English.

Executive Director of California Council on Science and Technology, Susan Hackwood, is quoted in a 2007 press release as saying, "The shortage of fully prepared math and science teachers is undermining the quality of the state's education system and hampering the ability to produce college graduates with degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Without focused action, California will continue to fall far short of producing the skilled and knowledgeable math and science teachers it desperately needs over the next decade."

According to a 2007 press release by the Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning, "almost one-third of the teaching workforce is 50 or older. Thirty-two percent of the teaching workforce was 50 years old or older in 2006-07. About one-third of the workforce will be eligible for retirement within ten years."

Students are encouraged to contact the campus's Education Department at 760.341.2883, ext. 78145 or visit [http://pdc.csusb.edu/Teacher\\_Education.htm](http://pdc.csusb.edu/Teacher_Education.htm) for more information about specific programs.

For general information about the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, contact Mike Singer in the Office of Public Affairs at 760.341.2883, ext. 78107.