



Dr. James Smith
California University

FacultyStats

Hometown: Santa Barbara, California

Department: Biology

Course(s) taught: Biology 101, Biology 202, Anatomy

What had the biggest impact on your decision to join your school's faculty?

I received my undergraduate degree at CU, and I knew about the school's dedication and commitment to its students. When I heard the biology department was looking for a full-time professor, I could not resist.

What makes your school and your class unique?

I try to adapt to each student's individual needs. Some students absorb more by reading and listening, while others prefer actually doing things themselves. I bring both approaches into my classroom.

What can high school students do to prepare for college?

I encourage students to visit a few colleges and spend some time talking with professors and students. Web sites and brochures are informative, but it's amazing what one can learn from an in-person visit.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

There is so much depth to being a professor. I feel that I am teaching students what they need to know to move onto the next stage in their lives, educationally or professionally. It is challenging and rewarding.

Q: Do you have any advice for future students?

A: Don't procrastinate. Keep up with your classes on a daily basis. Also, get involved. There's no better way to get to know people and feel at home than to join an organization on campus or in the community.

What is your favorite campus-wide event?

I love the Condor homecoming football game. Win or lose, it's always a great time, from the pre-game activities to the game to the halftime show to the dance afterwards.

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