

**Barbara Graves**  
**P.O. Box 1640, Capitola, CA 95010**  
**(831) 462-4303 or [Capitola@dancin.biz](mailto:Capitola@dancin.biz)**

**October 24, 2008**

Dear Faculty, Staff, and CSUMB Administrators,

Enclosed are the materials requested for the CSUMB job posting for the positions of Undergraduate Research Coordinator and Training Coordinator.

Although I meet the positions' requirements, like most self-employed, community-involved professionals, I find that standard application forms do not provide opportunities to list my full experience. For example, I conceived and organized a program called "Traffic Busters in Schools" which reduces air pollution and VMT (Vehicle Miles Travelled) totals by encouraging children and their parents to walk to school. After procuring \$50,000 in grant funds, I created the materials and trained a network of volunteers in schools across Santa Cruz County. The creative elements such as *Smart Sneaker Week*, *Walk 'n Wave on Wednesday*, and *the Walking School Bus* can be seen online at [www.TrafficBusters.org](http://www.TrafficBusters.org). The program's clean-air impacts were measurable.

Most people who know me comment on how much energy I have. In addition to my day-job, I usually serve on a number of Boards and Commissions in the community, such as the *Public Advisory Committee of the Soquel Creek Water District* investigating groundwater science, and the *Public Advisory Committee of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District*. Currently I serve as Vice-Chair of *Capitola's Commission on the Environment*, Technical Training Coordinator of the statewide *Grassroots Champions Coalition*, Community Action Program representative for the local chapter of the *National Writers' Union*, and Environmental Justice Coordinator for the *Environmental Caucus of the California Democratic Party*.

For this work, I have received a number of awards, such as the **2007 Bob Hattoy California Environmental Activist Award**, **2005 Regional Volunteer of the Year Award** from the California Democratic Party, **1999 Citizen of the Year** by the Capitola Chamber of Commerce, **2008 Volunteer of the Year** by Surfrider Foundation, and **best community involvement committee of 2001** by the Santa Cruz Regional Transportation Commission. My community involvement has also been honored by a number of legislative and congressional resolutions by Assemblymember John Laird, Senator Bruce McPherson, Senator Joe Simitian, and others.

What rarely comes through on paper is my passion for helping students to become the best that they can. When I organized a Colorado state touring group of high school dance students, I did everything from the choreography to grant writing to driving the bus, but more importantly from my perspective is that I'm the kind of coordinator who later helped those students to achieve their dreams.

I hope you will give me the opportunity to speak with you about how I might contribute to the CSUMB programs. Except for December 4-9 when I'll be away on training tours, I'm available for interviews.

Sincerely,

Barbara Graves