



CONVOCATION ADDRESS SPOTLIGHTS TITAN ACHIEVEMENTS

A near-capacity crowd of new and veteran faculty, students and staff gathered Aug. 17 to hear President Mildred García's annual Convocation address. Her strong and positive message on what the University has achieved since the establishment of the Strategic Plan and what the future will hold drew enthusiastic applause at various points during her speech.

President García also stressed how the efforts of the entire campus community help transform students' lives, pointing to higher graduation rates and progress on closing the achievement gap for underrepresented students as evidence of the University's success.

For the coming year, she outlined a variety of initiatives, including development and implementation of an Academic Master Plan, a drive to increase participation in high-impact practices, further course redesign and student support services to help students succeed, increased efforts to build upon "sense of place," and continued efforts to recruit and retain a high-quality and diverse faculty and staff.



SUMMIT BRINGS TEACHERS TOGETHER

Hundreds Gather at CSUF for Statewide Day of Learning

Hundreds of teachers from across Orange County and the region came to Cal State Fullerton for the first-of-its-kind "Better Together: California Teachers Summit" to hear messages of resilience, persistence and, most of all, how to be inspiring and engaging in their classrooms.

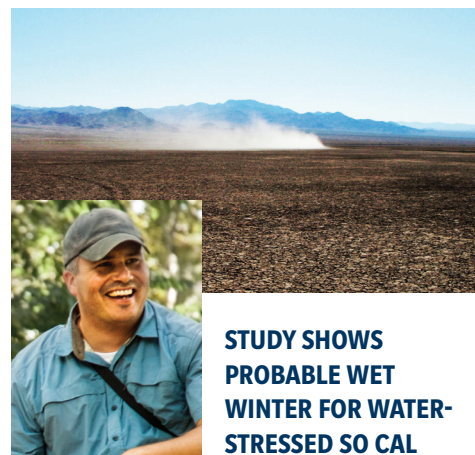
An estimated 15,000 California teachers came together statewide for the free, daylong event and shared best practices to teach the new California Standards in math and English language arts.

California State University, New Teacher Center and the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities and its member institutions partnered to organize the event. The summit was co-sponsored by the California Department of Education and supported by grants to CSUF, New Teacher Center and Loyola Marymount University from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the S. D. Bechtel Jr. Foundation and the Silver Giving Foundation.

CSUF AGAIN TAKES TOP SPOT IN #MYTOPCOLLEGE CONTEST

Cal State Fullerton once again claimed the top spot in Forbes' #MyTopCollege social media campaign, which featured thousands of tweets and Instagram postings highlighting school spirit and passion from students and alumni of more than 250 universities nationwide.

Forbes launched this year's competition in June and announced the winners July 28 to coincide with the July 29 release of the magazine's annual rankings of America's Top Colleges.



STUDY SHOWS PROBABLE WET WINTER FOR WATER-STRESSED SO CAL

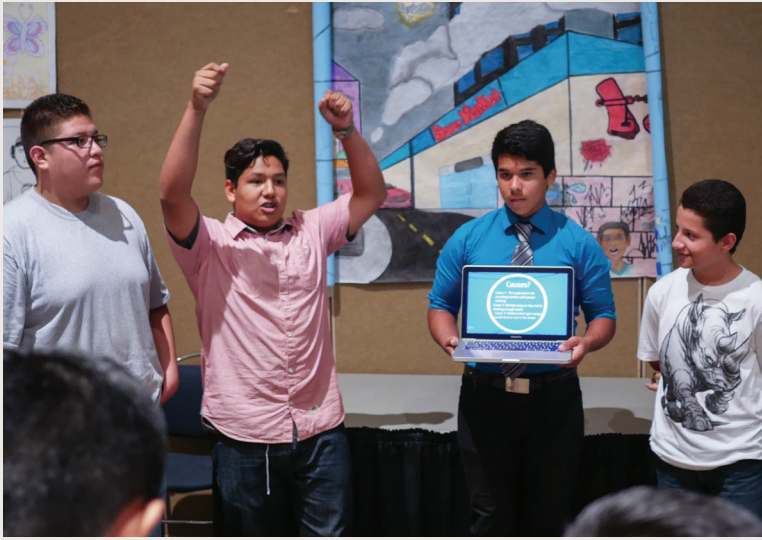
Cal State Fullerton geologist Matthew E. Kirby and six student scholars view their latest research effort as a drought-buster study.

Their research on climate change in the Mojave Desert and Southern California demonstrates a persistent connection between warming sea surface temperatures in the Pacific and winter climate over the past 14,800 years — potentially signaling a very wet winter this year.

"The finding is very interesting in the context of our present climate situation with the warming of the Pacific, or El Niño conditions," said Kirby, associate professor of geological sciences.

Kirby's study, co-authored with his students, was published Aug. 8 in the peer-reviewed journal *Quaternary Research*.

"What we see in the past is often a good analog for what can happen in the future," Kirby said. "Will future global warming and rising sea surface temperatures in the Pacific generate more winter precipitation in Southern California? Our research says probably — if the past 14,000 years are a good indicator of how the climate system behaves."



MIGRANT STUDENTS SHINE IN STEM

\$250,000 California Department of Education
Grant Funds Program

Future middle school teacher Jacqueline Rodarte spent the past two weeks helping to teach 95 migrant students from across the state who came to campus for the CSUF-Migrant Student Leadership Institute, funded as part of a \$250,000 grant from the California Department of Education.

The July 11-25 residential program introduced participants to higher education and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning and careers.

“Migrant students are one of the most underserved student groups,” said Rodarte, a student in the single subject credential-social science program and a teaching assistant for the institute. “I enjoyed empowering the students to fulfill their goals and to realize that college is a viable option.”



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Did You Know?



- The Clayes Performing Arts Center is a \$48-million complex that provides state-of-the-art facilities for performance and instruction. The College of the Arts presents more than 400 public theatre and dance performances, concerts and recitals, art exhibitions, and other special events each year.
- The John D. Cooper Center, established as a partnership between the University and the County of Orange, has curated thousands of artifacts, specimens and objects associated with archaeological and paleontological investigations throughout the county.