



## CONVOCATION 2016: CHARTING SUCCESS, LOOKING AHEAD

In August, President Mildred García delivered her fifth CSUF Convocation address. The presentation focused on ways CSUF is meeting the goals of the University's strategic plan. Some of the highlights of her address included the following:

- A diverse group of 9,949 Titans earned 10,312 degrees this past year.
- Fifty-nine new tenure-track faculty members were hired for the upcoming academic year — one of the most diverse groups yet.
- Last year, CSUF had the highest number of individual, alumni and parent donors in University history. Total gift commitments for fiscal year 15-16 are more than \$22 million.
- Four years ago, the University's six-year graduation rate was 51 percent. It now appears as if graduation rates for first-time freshmen will reach 63 percent. In spring of 2012, four-year graduation rates for transfer students were at 67 percent. Today, it's 75 percent.

"Education has the transformative power to help students achieve their dreams," García said.

## WHERE ART AND ANTHROPOLOGY MEET

Recent visitors of the Santa Fe Springs Swap Meet might have come across a unique sight — a collective "memory tent." They could write down a recollection they had of the swap meet on a piece of tarp, which would then become part of the tent.

The intervention, which explored memory in relation to the swap meet, was the end project of students who chose the art track in Karen Stocker's Anthropology 350: Culture and Education course. Those who signed up for the class could choose between the traditional — writing a literature review of a chosen topic, for instance — or the art option, which focused on the research design component and was led by Amy Sánchez and Misael Díaz of Cog•Nate Collective.

"The style of learning varies for each group of students — those who chose the art option and those who selected the traditional option — as does the stage of research they take on," explains Stocker, associate professor of anthropology. "In addition to having shared class meetings and readings common to both groups of students, one group then hones in on research design and experiential learning, and the other focuses on archival research. Both groups learn about research in an in-depth manner."



## GETTING NUTRITION FACTS STRAIGHT

Do students consider nutrition when reaching for a soda, chips or a granola bar? Pimbucha Rusmevichientong, a Cal State Fullerton assistant professor of health science, is leading several studies to better understand how food labeling affects college students' purchasing decisions.

"The FDA believes the current version of the nutrition facts label provides too much information for the average consumer, and that most people only pay attention to a few items like the serving size, calories per serving size and some macro-nutrients," said Rusmevichientong. "We plan to test how well college students understand both the current and new version of the FDA label, as well as an alternative version."

The new label features the total calories in a larger font, updates the serving size calculation, displays added sugars, includes gram amounts for vitamin D and potassium, and removes calories from fat and amounts of vitamins A and C.

Most manufacturers will have until July 26, 2018, to comply with the updated FDA label.



## STUDENTS RETURN TO CAMPUS

The 2016-17 Academic Year began in mid-August when thousands of students arrived on campus. An enrollment of nearly 40,000 is anticipated.



## BEYOND THE 2016 OLYMPICS: WILL THE GAMES RETURN TO LA?

Before the 2016 Summer Olympics began, five cities were already vying to host the 2024 games. Budapest, Hamburg, Los Angeles, Paris, Rome. Which city will it be?

Cal State Fullerton Olympics scholar Matt Llewellyn says Los Angeles is a strong contender and the evidence can be traced back to 1932, when the city was first awarded the Olympic games.

“In many ways, Los Angeles laid the framework for hosting the Olympic games and doing it very well,” said Llewellyn. “The fact that we have palm trees lining the streets of Los Angeles today is a direct result of hosting the Olympic games.”

Following the success of the 1932 games, Los Angeles continued to bid for the summer games. But it wasn’t until 1984 that the games would return to Los Angeles, after its only competitor — Tehran, Iran — dropped out.

“The 1984 games were extremely successful. Instead of building new stadiums and arenas, Los Angeles decided to go a radically different route by using and investing in pre-existing structures like the Coliseum,” said Llewellyn. “In fact, Cal State Fullerton was the official venue for the team handball event at the 1984 games.”



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## Did You Know?



- The national average for first-time freshmen who graduate from four-year public universities within six years is 48 percent. At CSUF, 63 percent of students graduate within six years.
- Approximately 45% of our more than 250,000 alumni live in Orange County.
- Built in 1931 and restored in 1995, the George G. Golleher Alumni House was named after a generous key gift from George G. Golleher (BA Sociology '71) for complete internal and external renovation of the house.