# TITANREPORT



### WELCOME TO THE 'ROARING '20S': TITAN ECONOMISTS OPTIMISTIC ON FAST RECOVERY

Resident economists Anil Puri and Mira Farka, director and co-director, respectively, of the Woods Center for Economic Analysis and Forecasting, provided an optimistic outlook on the national, Southern California, and Orange County economies with their spring economic forecast.

They cite several reasons for the upbeat assessment: COVID-19 vaccination and virus trends are positive; the government's response to the crisis has been swift and generous; and the economy has strong underlying fundamentals, helping the recovery to remain resilient.

Puri noted that Orange County took a bigger hit from the pandemic than other parts of the nation. "There's one primary reason for that: leisure and hospitality are huge employers here. But Disneyland is reopening and recovery, I think, will be sharp, but it'll take some time before we get back to the pre-pandemic level of jobs."

However, said Farka, "Consumers are sitting on a pile of unspent cash. And household wealth has skyrocketed. This fire power is about to be unleashed as vaccine distribution ramps up and the economy reopens. Welcome to the Roaring '20s."

BIT.LY/CSUF-ECONOMIC-RECOVERY-2021

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# University Partners With Providence St. Jude Medical Center to Provide Vaccinations for Titans

Cal State Fullerton encourages all community members to be vaccinated. A partnership has been developed with Providence St. Jude Medical Center to provide vaccinations to employees, students, and their family members with choices for on-campus clinics or at St. Jude locations. For more information, visit coronavirus.fullerton.edu/vaccine-and-testing.

"Our goal, as a campus, has been to try to ensure our campus...and by extension, our community...is protected from COVID-19," said Ellen Treanor, associate vice president, strategic communications. "By partnering with Providence St. Jude Medical Center, we are able to provide our campus community of about 40,000 students and 5,000 faculty and staff with access to this vaccine."

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LATEST DETAILS ON HOW THE CAMPUS IS PREPARING FOR A RETURN TO CAMPUS, VISIT CORONAVIRUS.FULLERTON.EDU.

### COMMENCEMENT 2020-21: GUESTS ALLOWED TO MULTI-DAY CELEBRATION

Graduates from 2020 and 2021 may bring two guests as they line up to cross the stage, and guests will have a front-row view of grads receiving their hard-earned and much-deserved degrees. The event will be livestreamed so that other friends and family may watch in real time.

Grads and their guests are reminded that throughout these events, we will follow COVID mitigation protocols. If health recommendations change and the need to pivot to a different commencement plan arises, graduates will be notified via email.

FOR ALL UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE COMMENCEMENT WEBSITE AT FULLERTON.EDU/COMMENCEMENT.





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## **Fullerton Students Success Skyrockets**

Although many called it a "lost year" as students spent hours in front of computer screens instead of in a classroom, Titans' participation and grades went up! The campus offered virtual advising, outreach campaigns, faculty training, and other interventions to keep students engaged and learning.

The effort paid off. Comparing data from fall 2019 to fall 2020, the Division of Academic Affairs noticed many positive outcomes.

"The average GPA (grade-point average) among undergraduates increased by 4.5%," said Karyn Scissum Gunn, associate vice president for student success. "In addition, the freshman average GPA increased by 4.1%. Although student outcomes are surveiled across all levels, the freshman focus was particularly significant for fall 2020 because these students had to transition as first-time college students and do so virtually amid an epic global, societal and even personal disruption."

Scissum Gunn believes that heightened efforts by faculty members to deliver effective virtual instruction and the comprehensive training on virtual instruction offered by the campus's Faculty Development Center played a significant role.

BIT.LY/CSUF-SUCCESS-DURING-PANDEMIC

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**TITAN** noun | tī-t<sup>o</sup>n one who stands out for greatness of achievement



## **Titans of Giving: John Echeveste**

John Echeveste, CEO of LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes in downtown Los Angeles, recently committed to create the Echeveste Family Scholarship in the College of Communications. This scholarship is open to students who are pursuing a communications degree with a concentration in public relations or journalism. Special consideration will be given to students who are participating in the Latino Communications Institute.

Echeveste earned his bachelor's degree in communications at Cal State Fullerton and has worked as a newspaper reporter and in public relations for more than 30 years before joining LA Plaza in 2014. He is a founding member of the Hispanic Public Relations Association and was a partner with VPE, one of the country's largest Hispanic-owned public relations agencies.

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