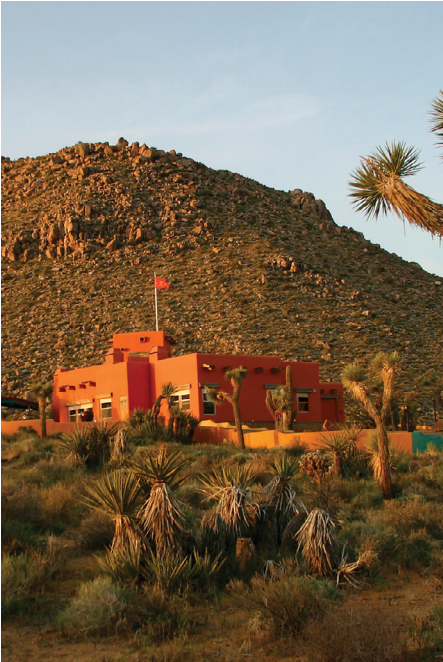


TITANREPORT



Alumnus Pledges \$4 Million Gift to Support Desert Science

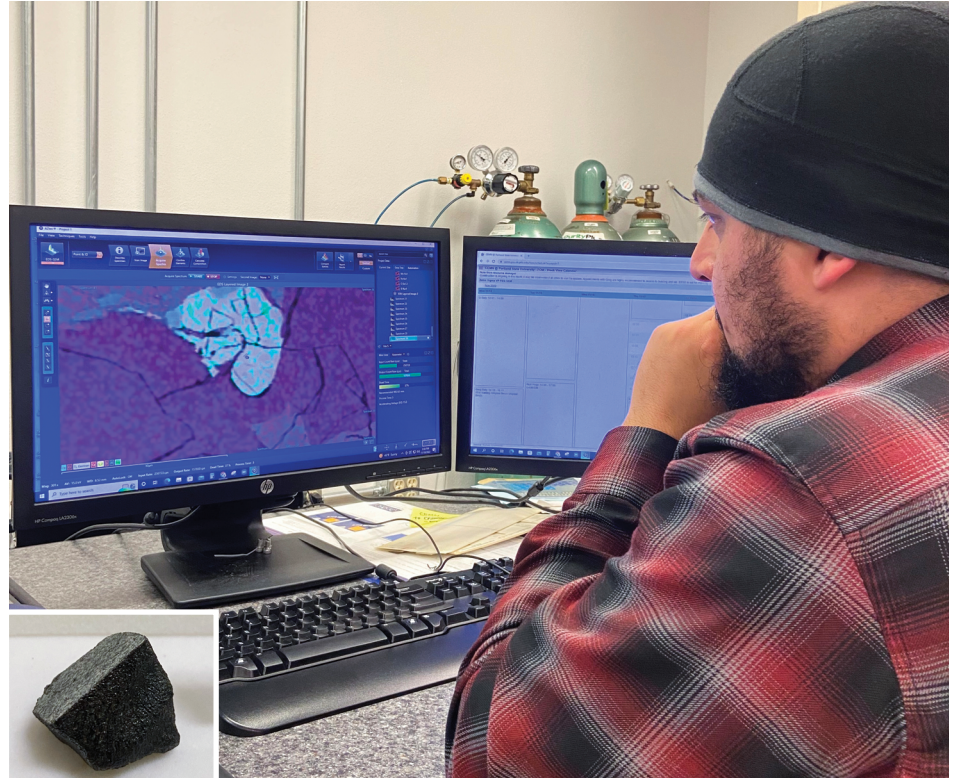
Wanting their Joshua Tree desert estate preserved in all its vast beauty, Cal State Fullerton alumnus Brian Rennie '70 (B.A. biological science) and his wife, Lori, recently pledged a planned gift valued at \$4 million to support desert science studies, conservation and climate change research.

The bequest includes 20 acres of desert land, their 2,500-square-foot Santa Fe pueblo-style home and funds to maintain the property.

"We were seeking the right organization to respect the land and the desert as much as we do, and to continue to utilize it in a way that supports our intentions," said Rennie. "We feel confident that this will happen through our gift to the university."

Their gift is part of CSUF's first-ever comprehensive philanthropic campaign, which raised more than \$270 million.

[BIT.LY/CSUF-ALUMNUS-PLEDGE-DESERT-SCIENCE](https://bit.ly/csuf-alumnus-pledge-desert-science)



Student Researches Rare Meteorite From Mars

Geology major Vince Mugica has a sample of a Mars meteorite he studied on his desk at home. Mugica recently performed a chemical analysis of the rare space rock, including its mineral composition, to classify the Martian meteorite discovered in Northwest Africa in 2020.

Described as a "stone with shiny, black fusion crust with melt veins visible," the meteorite's official name is Northwest Africa 15497, given by the Meteoritical Society's Nomenclature Committee. There are only 347 confirmed Martian meteorites in scientific and private collections to date.

"Studying Martian meteorites allows me to investigate igneous processes on the planet and how those processes compare to Earth," said Mugica, who presented his research at the March 2023 Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in Texas. "Meteorites can help us put constraints on the formation and evolution of planetary bodies throughout our solar system."

Mugica plans to graduate in May and is applying to graduate schools to study meteorites.

"I never saw myself as a scientist or as someone who would be capable of conducting this type of work," said Mugica, a first-generation college student. "It was an empowering moment to hold a rare Martian meteorite in my hand. It strengthened my resolve in what I'm capable of doing. This project was a dream come true."

[BIT.LY/CSUF-GEOLOGY-MARS-METEORITE](https://bit.ly/csuf-geology-mars-meteorite)

CSUF 'Dreamer' Attends State of the Union Address

Paulina Jimenez, a Cal State Fullerton senior majoring in sociology, was among the invited guests in the balcony of the Capitol during President Joe Biden's Feb. 7 State of the Union address. Jimenez was a guest of alumnus U.S. Rep. Lou Correa, who over the years has invited seven DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students to attend.

This semester, Jimenez is participating in Cal State DC Scholars, a program that sends students to Washington, DC, for a semester to serve as interns, take classes and earn college credit.

[BIT.LY/CSUF-DREAMER-SOTU-DC](https://bit.ly/CSUF-DREAMER-SOTU-DC)



2600 Nutwood Avenue, Suite 850
Fullerton, CA 92831

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TITAN noun | tī-tən
one who stands out for **greatness of achievement**



Online Graduate Programs Rank Among Nation's Best

Two Cal State Fullerton online graduate programs — business and engineering — ranked in the top 40 of U.S. News & World Report's 2023 Best Online Programs list.

The online master's in business programs are No. 33 (tied) of 223 in the nation and No. 2 in California, behind USC. The category does not include the MBA.

The College of Engineering and Computer Science's master's in engineering programs ranked No. 34 (tied) of 118 in the nation and No. 3 in California, behind UCLA and USC.

See more CSUF rankings at fullerton.edu/rankings.