Several Hundred Women Gather at CSUF for Women's Conference

About 750 women attended the sixth annual Women's Conference sponsored on March 15 by U.S. Rep. Ed Royce and held at Cal State Fullerton. A series of workshops on topics ranging from financial fitness to managing work-life balance were offered.

President Mildred A. García welcomed Congressman Royce – a proud Titan alumnus – and greeted the crowd prior to the presentation by keynote speaker Angie Harmon. Harmon, perhaps best known for her starring role as Assistant District Attorney Abbie Carmichael on NBC's "Law and Order," serves as a UNICEF Ambassador to fight human trafficking.

Harmon recently returned from field study in Nicaragua, where nearly half of the population is under the age of 23. “The children there are so inspiring and resilient,” she said. “It was touching to see how they care for their peers. UNICEF helped create a peer-to-peer youth group so the children in these groups go out and bring other children into the fold. They learn options other than living on the streets. They’re helping each other.”

Graduate Program Receives $1.3 Million Grant

A $1.3 million grant will provide Cal State Fullerton students with stipends to complete a master of social work degree in return for committing to work for a minimum of two years in a public child welfare agency.

The federally funded California Social Work Education Center MSW stipend program provides for two years of support, at $18,500 per year, to full-time students enrolled in the child welfare concentration. Part-time students also are eligible for stipends that cover tuition, books and travel.

David Chenot, chair and associate professor of social work, said the grant covers the stipends for the 35 full- and part-time students in the program, as well as salaries for four faculty members and one support staff. It also covers other expenditures associated with the program.

Chenot said Cal State Fullerton has received the annual funding every year since the MSW program began in 2009. The UC Berkeley-based program was created in 1990 with 21 graduate schools of social work participating.

CSUF Commencement Speakers Announced

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez will address Cal State Fullerton's graduating class at the May 18 commencement ceremonies. Richard K. Davis, chairman, president and chief executive officer of U.S. Bancorp, will be the May 17 commencement speaker, and will be awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters.

Sanchez began her congressional career in January 1997 and is serving her ninth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. She represents the state's 46th Congressional District, which includes the cities of Anaheim and Santa Ana, as well as parts of Garden Grove and Orange.

The ranking member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces and the second-ranked Democrat on the Committee on Homeland Security, she also is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and sits on the bipartisan, bicameral Joint Economic Committee. This is Sanchez's second time as a CSUF commencement speaker; she previously spoke in 1997.

A 1983 CSUF graduate, Davis helms a financial services holding company with more than $361 billion in total assets and business across the United States, Canada and Europe. U.S. Bancorp is the parent company of U.S. Bank, the nation's fifth-largest commercial bank.

He joined U.S. Bancorp in 1993 and has served as its president since 2004. He became CEO in 2006 and chairman in 2007. Davis was honored by his alma mater in 2008 with the Distinguished Alumni Award. He has participated in Professor for a Day programs, in the “Salute to Business Leaders” program, and was a contributor to the building campaign for Steven G. Mihaylo Hall. Since 2009, he has served several times as a guest speaker during the annual Economic Forecast Conference sponsored by Mihaylo College and the Orange County Business Council.
Provost Appointed to The Education Trust Board of Directors

José Cruz, provost and vice president for academic affairs, was recently appointed to the board of directors of The Education Trust, a national research and advocacy organization that promotes equity-minded educational policies and practices.

Prior to his appointment at Cal State Fullerton, Cruz served as vice president for higher education policy and practice at The Education Trust, where he was responsible for all strategic and operational aspects of the Access to Success Initiative.

One of the nation’s largest voluntary efforts to increase student access and success, the initiative worked with 22 public higher education systems and 312 campuses serving 3.5 million students.

‘Science Guy’ Wows Students at Sold-Out Program

Bill Nye the “Science Guy” spoke to more than 1,000 students, campus and community members during his March 20 CSUF presentation stressing how students can help change the world.

Nye, well known for his educational science program in the 1990s, was the keynote speaker for the “Explorations in Citizens Science” symposium presented by the Natural Sciences and Mathematics Inter-Club Council.

President Mildred García welcomed the Cornell University grad to campus, citing the special event to bring Nye to Cal State Fullerton as an example of how “Titans Reach Higher.”

Did You Know?

- As just one assessment of student outcomes, CSUF graduates earn more than the national average, according to “Working for California: The Impact of the California State University,” published in 2010 by ICF International.
- The CSUF Osher Lifelong Learning Institute offers 122 classes to more than 1,384 active seniors each semester.
- Seven electric-vehicle charging stations are available on the Cal State Fullerton campus.
- CSUF’s Human Communications Studies program is a national Top 10 department for research in North America, according to the Communication Institute for Online Scholarship.
- The College of Education offers five online master’s degree programs. The programs were rated 24th overall out of 204 programs by U.S. News & World Report.