**Marine Scientists Study Epidemic Threatening Sea Stars**

A puzzling disease is killing sea stars along the West Coast in one of the largest marine epidemics. To understand the effects on sea star populations and what might be contributing to the onset and intensity of the outbreak, Cal State Fullerton marine biologists are collaborating on a study to learn more.

“This disease was first noted in 2013, and progresses rapidly in sea star individuals,” said Jennifer L. Burnaford, associate professor of biological science. “Sea stars can go from seemingly healthy to dead in a few days.”

The study involved a consortium of 18 research groups, known as the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network, which monitored and collected data from more than 130 intertidal sites along the West Coast. The study analyzed 16 years of data at 88 sites from southern British Columbia to San Diego, including Orange County. Cal State Fullerton marine scientists and scores of student researchers contributed data to the project by working with colleagues at Cal Poly Pomona to monitor four sites in Orange County: Shaws Cove and Treasure Island in Laguna Beach, Dana Point and Crystal Cove State Park.

The marine biologist and her colleagues and students will continue monitoring efforts to evaluate the consequences of the epidemic on rocky intertidal shores.

**PRESIDENT VIRJEE MEETS WITH FULLERTON LEADERS, ALUMNI**

Recently, President Fram Virjee met with various city and community leaders to learn more about Fullerton and North Orange County and how the university might continue to work cooperatively with the community.

Among those that met were members of the Fullerton City Council, Fullerton Mayor Doug Chaffee, members of the chamber of commerce, local business owners and non-profit leaders. Following a tour of the Fullerton Police Department, the president met with Greg Schulz, president of Fullerton College, then moved on to the Fullerton Arboretum where he met with various Arboretum staff and supporters. The day ended at the Honda Center where he and university donors enjoyed an Anaheim Ducks ice hockey game.
Did You Know?

Celebrating CSUF’s 60th Anniversary

In 1968, the university faced a crisis. It did not have room for the projected class of 2,000 students nor offices for about 100 faculty members. To accommodate students, the campus imposed enrollment limits and paid closer attention to the timing of when classes were offered. To house the new faculty, 18 trailers with 72 offices were rented and set up between the gymnasium and the library that summer. Most offices (about 102-130 square feet each) housed two professors, each with a desk and a chair. These trailers remained on campus until 1971.

DC SCHOLARS CAPITALIZE ON A ‘ONCE IN A LIFETIME’ EXPERIENCE

Cal State Fullerton student Leah Milhander dreams of becoming a U.S. ambassador to another country. She also sees herself working for the State Department or the Peace Corps.

When she learned about the Cal State DC Scholars program, which has given hundreds of Titans access to the nation’s capital since 2006, she jumped at the chance to explore her interest in international relations. Milhander, one of 10 students interning in Washington, D.C., this spring, spends her weekdays with the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
