GIFTS TO CSUF TOP $17.5 MILLION

Cal State Fullerton ended its fiscal year this past June having attracted more than $17.5 million in philanthropic gift commitments, exceeding funds received during the previous year. This total is second only to 2008 when Steven G. Mihaylo made a transformative $30 million gift to the College of Business and Economics.

The gift total is only one measure of the University’s recent fundraising success. Since 2012, the number of alumni donors has grown by 37 percent, with the number of individual donors overall growing by 39 percent. Participation in giving by faculty and staff has risen to 17.4 percent.

In addition, nearly 1,450 graduating seniors participated in the University’s class gift program in 2014-15 — donating funds back to the institution they now call their alma mater. Plans for the funds raised include several projects to enhance the campus’ commitment to sustainability.

“Our students and all members of the Titan community thank our alumni and other generous supporters,” said Greg Saks, vice president for University Advancement. “They have again demonstrated that Cal State Fullerton is investment-worthy, and they are truly helping to prepare the future leaders of Orange County and beyond.”

CEREMONIAL GROUNDBREAKING FOR TITAN STUDENT UNION EXPANSION

A ceremonial groundbreaking was held for the Titan Student Union expansion. Construction on the student union began in June. The renovation will add a total of 26,000 square feet and includes a three-story addition at the southeast corner of the building. Part of the renovation will also open up the lower level for enhanced seating. Funding for the construction is through existing Titan Student Centers reserves. Facilities are open and available during construction; completion is expected by December 2016.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS CSUF $7.2 MILLION

California State University, Fullerton has been awarded a seven-year grant that is expected to total $7.2 million to guide seventh-grade students in Anaheim on a pathway to higher education. First-year funding is $1.1 million.

The U.S. Department of Education grant funds the University’s GEAR UP-Anaheim (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) efforts, in partnership with the Anaheim Union High School District, local business and community partners, to provide educational services to help a cohort of students from South and Sycamore junior high schools prepare for and pursue a college education, then enter and complete their freshmen year of college. The University also operates “Cal State Fullerton-GEAR UP.”

The program will be offered to all of the seventh-graders from the two junior highs — approximately 1,500 students — through their years at Anaheim and Katella High schools, as well as their first year of college.

CSUF MOVES UP IN U.S. NEWS RANKINGS; CONSIDERED A ‘BEST VALUE’ IN CALIFORNIA, THE WEST

For the 15th consecutive year, Cal State Fullerton is ranked among the nation’s “Top Public Regional Universities” in the West, announced in September by U.S. News & World Report. CSUF is now No. 7 — up from No. 9 in last year’s ranking.

In addition, the University has the second lowest percentage of students graduating with debt in the West.

Cal State Fullerton continues to be among the nation’s “Best Bang for the Buck” universities, according to Washington Monthly, which recently released its annual rankings of “schools that do the best job helping non-rich students earn marketable degrees at affordable prices.”

Cal State Fullerton is No. 7 in the West and No. 5 in California for “best value.”

This is the fourth consecutive year that CSUF has been selected for the list.
Cal State Fullerton faculty and staff members received nearly $6 million in grants and contracts between July 1 through Sept. 30, the first quarter of the academic year. The awards fund a wide range of projects from helping students succeed to studies in health sciences, women and politics, climate change, and elder financial exploitation.

Cal State Fullerton’s enrollment for fall 2015 is 38,948 (56 percent female)

The average age of a CSUF student is 23 years old.

This fall, we have 2,410 international students from 78 nations.