University to Host National Resource Center for Asian Languages

Cal State Fullerton has been awarded a four-year $709,564 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to support the development of a National Resource Center for Asian Languages on campus. The grant will fund the development of instructional and professional development resources to enhance the teaching, learning and research of less commonly taught languages in the United States, including Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and Japanese.

Natalie A. Tran, associate professor of educational leadership, is leading the center, which will support Cal State Fullerton’s Vietnamese degree program, language teaching credential and bilingual authorization.

$1 Million Endowment Campaign Goal Reached

Cal State Fullerton President Mildred García recently announced at the annual Economic Forecast Conference (sponsored by Mihaylo College of Business and Economics and the Orange County Business Council) that a $1 million endowment campaign goal to support and sustain Mihaylo College’s annual economic forecast and analysis has been reached. A center within the college will be named the James and Jeanette Woods Center for Economic Analysis and Forecasting.

The original pledge of $500,000 was made by James D. Woods, chairman emeritus and former CEO of Baker Hughes Inc., and his wife, Jeanette, longtime CSUF supporters. Woods, a 1967 business administration graduate, began his business career while attending the university. Woods serves as a member of the Mihaylo College of Business and Economics Dean’s Advisory Board, and the couple provided substantial support during the business school’s capital campaign.

Robotic Arm Research Presented at Conference

To share their research to improve the quality of life for patients with Lou Gehrig’s disease, Cal State Fullerton’s Kiran George, assistant professor of computer engineering, and his students presented their brain-computer interface controlled robotic arm at the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) 2014 International Conference on Systems, Man and Cybernetics in San Diego.

George and the students are developing a low-cost, brain-computer interface-assisted robotic system that allows such patients, with minimal effort and training, to perform simple, but significant tasks, that they would otherwise be unable to perform.

Grant Award to Protect, Improve Paleontology Collection

Cal State Fullerton has been awarded a three-year, $500,000 National Science Foundation continuing grant for the protection and curation of the paleontology collection at the John D. Cooper Archaeological and Paleontological Center.

The center’s collection contains fossils important in understanding the history of life in North America and the north Pacific Ocean over the past 180 million years. The grant helps to address the critical need to catalog about 100,000 fossils and will fund new museum cabinets, supplies and the hiring of four Cal State Fullerton students to assist with the curation. The Cooper Center is a partnership between Cal State Fullerton and Orange County Parks.
HACU Delegation Visits Campus

A Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities delegation of presidents from several Central American universities visited the campus in October. Representatives from El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua, met with international programs staff to discuss student and faculty exchanges, memorandums of understanding, specific study abroad opportunities and requirements of host institutions, as well as other areas of collaboration. They also met with deans, department chairs and faculty members.

The purpose of the program is to explore and increase ties among higher education institutions in support of President Obama’s “100,000 Strong in the Americas” initiative.

Did You Know?

- The average age of a Cal State Fullerton student is 24 years.
- Our international students hail from 81 nations.
- Faculty members were awarded $21.5 million in grants and contracts for research and scholarly activities in 2013-14.
- Cal State Fullerton is one of only 110 institutions to be named with distinction to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll – for the seventh consecutive year.