ENTERING THE WORLD OF ‘BEAUTY AND THE BEAST’

The 1991 screenplay for “Beauty and the Beast” may have been based on the French fairy tale, but 1979 alumna Linda Woolverton made the characters her own. Woolverton is the first woman to write an animated feature for Disney, and the film is the first animated feature nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards. Woolverton visited campus recently to speak with cast members of the university’s fall production of the play.

Pointing to Belle’s character, she explained, “I wasn’t going to do the same old, same old. I created a new Disney heroine who read, wanted adventure. We’re invested in her … we believe this girl. She’s a girl who can stand on her own, and does.”

Woolverton also pointed to the pivotal moment for the Beast, who she described as growing up, becoming a man. The changeover begins, she explained, when the Beast gets hurt: “It’s adorable and real.”

Woolverton wrote the Broadway play and was nominated for a Tony Award and won an Olivier Award.
2019 ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME CLASS ANNOUNCED

The eighth class of the Cal State Fullerton Athletics Hall of Fame was inducted Nov. 1. The 1984 football team, Bobby Brown (men’s basketball, 2004-07), John Fishel (baseball, 1982-85), Brittany Moore (volleyball, 2005-08), Heizaburo Okawa (fencing coach, 1980-2006) and Dick Wolfe (gymnastics coach, 1961-91) make up the prestigious class.

CSUF RECEIVES NEARLY $11.2 MILLION

During the first fiscal quarter of the academic year, CSUF garnered nearly $11.2 million in awards, grants and contracts. This funding supports education and research in such areas as manta rays, electron scattering and emerging datasets for agriculture, as well as programs that encourage study in social work, allied health care and STEM fields.