CSUF Welcomes Students Back to School

Nearly 40,000 students were expected to begin classes at Cal State Fullerton in late August, greeted by 25 new tenure-track faculty members and additional program offerings. Of those students, approximately 8,000 were first-time freshmen and transfer students and 1,600 were graduate and post-baccalaureate students.

Mihaylo College of Business and Economics added two minors in sales and marketing this fall, while the Department of Health Science was officially renamed the Department of Public Health. The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics is offering a new course called “Think Like Einstein” to help students strengthen scientific reasoning skills, and the College of Communications will take students in “Reporting About Minorities of the Southern Border” to Tijuana to report about issues at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Other fall activities include the Sept. 6 Convocation, a campuswide celebration welcoming students and faculty back to school, and Student Life and Leadership’s annual Discoverfest, a showcase of university clubs and organizations.

TEACHERS SHARE STRATEGIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF EVERY CALIFORNIA STUDENT

Thousands of pre-K-12 teachers gathered July 27 for a day of learning at 30 sites across California, including Cal State Fullerton. The fourth annual Better Together: California Teachers Summit focused on enabling teachers to personalize their learning by choosing their own professional development path and sharing different learning styles in their own classrooms.

Internationally acclaimed expert on creativity and innovation Sir Ken Robinson delivered the keynote address at CSUF, which served as the summit headquarters.

Mathematics teacher and CSUF alumna Susanna Meza-Huynh, who teaches at Brookhurst Junior High School in Anaheim, was one of more than 800 teachers who attended the day of learning at CSUF.

“The summit gives teachers an opportunity to share their ideas and connects them with a professional network to personalize learning, both for themselves and their students,” said Meza-Huynh ’11, ’13 (B.A. mathematics-teaching mathematics, M.S. education-secondary education, single subject credential in mathematics).

The California Teachers Summit is the result of a partnership between the California State University, the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities and New Teacher Center.

COMMUNITY INVITED TO CONCERT UNDER THE STARS

Join Cal State Fullerton for an evening of dazzling musical entertainment performed by students and alumni, culminating in a fireworks spectacular. This year’s Concert Under the Stars takes place Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Intramural Field. Festivities begin at 5 p.m., with the concert following at 8 p.m.

“Throughout the year, our music and theater arts students have opportunities to perform in concert halls around the world,” said Dale Merrill, dean of the College of the Arts. “Concert Under the Stars is one of our favorite ways to showcase the talents of all our students together for our own community.”

As Cal State Fullerton’s signature fundraising event, Concert Under the Stars draws thousands of attendees each year. Proceeds support scholarships and student-centered programs. For more information, visit fullerton.edu/concert.
CSUF NAMES NEW PHILANTHROPIC BOARD MEMBERS

Cal State Fullerton’s Philanthropic Board of Governors has named two new community members. The new members are Scott Coler ’85 (B.A. business administration-finance), president and principal of Capital Pacific Real Estate, and fellow business administration alumnus Charles Harmon, senior manager, administration division of American Honda Motor Co. Inc.

Also joining the board are Vanessa Acuña ’02, ’03, ’07 (B.A. liberal studies, teaching credential, M.A. educational leadership), immediate past president of the Cal State Fullerton Alumni Association, as the alumni representative and Joshua Borjas, president of CSUF’s Associated Students Inc., as the student representative.

The mission of the Philanthropic Board, a nonprofit auxiliary organization, is to build and strengthen relationships with the community and encourage advocacy, as well as investment and support of Cal State Fullerton. This year’s board chair is Kerri Ruppert Schiller ’82 (B.A. business administration-accounting), senior vice president and chief financial officer of Children’s Hospital of Orange County. Joseph Hensley, Orange County market president of U.S. Bank, is the chair-elect.

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Did You Know?

As faculty members explore and increase the use of ebooks, rentals or free, peer-reviewed textbooks and other Open Educational Resources, Cal State Fullerton students are reaping the benefits. Over the last two years, the university’s partnership in the OpenStax Institutional Partnership Program and Affordable Learning Solutions effort have saved students an estimated $994,977 in textbooks and other course materials, says Shelli Wynants, director of online education and training.