



## University Hall Renamed Milton A. Gordon Hall

On Jan. 22, the California State University Board of Trustees renamed Cal State Fullerton's University Hall as Milton A. Gordon Hall in recognition of the 21-year legacy of service by the university's fifth president. During Gordon's tenure, the university grew from serving 25,600 students to more than 36,000 and became one of the most diverse campuses in the CSU. Gordon presided over numerous construction and building projects that added 22 buildings. He also significantly increased outreach to the community. In athletics, he cheered on the Titans to two national championships in baseball (1995, 2004).

"Milt loved Cal State Fullerton," said Margaret Faulwell Gordon, his wife. "I think he was happiest during commencement, watching thousands of degree recipients run across the field to the graduation ceremonies. He would be so proud, standing there, watching them. He had a very strong belief in the transformative power of education. He experienced discrimination and segregation in all of its many forms, and these experiences stayed with him. He believed access to education was the way to fight this discrimination."



## \$1.5 Million Grant Award to Transition Math Majors Into Teaching Profession

A National Science Foundation Noyce Program grant, expected to total \$1.5 million over five years, will be used to recruit and prepare mathematics majors to become high school math teachers.

The project, in which first-year funding of \$941,815 has been awarded, partners with Anaheim Union High School District, Santa Ana Unified School District and Santa Ana College. It seeks to increase the number of highly qualified secondary math teachers, said David L. Pagni,

professor of mathematics and director of the "Transitioning Math Majors Into Teaching" project, along with Cherie Ichinose, associate professor of mathematics, Patrice Waller, assistant professor of secondary education, and Christa Solheid, professor of mathematics at Santa Ana College.

Each year of the grant, CSUF's College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and College of Education, along with math faculty at Santa Ana College, will reach out to STEM majors and identify and recruit 11 "Noyce Associates" and 10 "Noyce Scholars" into a mathematics teaching concentration. The project will provide internships for the Noyce Associates and scholarships for Noyce Scholars.



## Educator Champions Teaching, Learning of Asian Languages

Natalie Tran, director of the campus National Resource Center for Asian Languages, has been awarded a four-year U.S. Department of Education grant expected to total nearly \$700,000. The center focuses on improving the teaching, learning and research of Asian languages in Orange County — and beyond.

"The goal is to strengthen multiliteracy and multiculturalism in our schools," said Tran, chair of secondary education and professor of educational leadership.

To build on the accomplishments and continue the center's work, the U.S. Department of Education has awarded CSUF a four-year, \$684,000 grant, with first-year funding of \$171,000 awarded this year. In 2014, CSUF was awarded a \$709,564 grant to establish the center, housed in the College of Education, and one of 16 language resource centers in the country.

## Cyanobacteria Study Seeks to Reveal Evolution of Oxygen on Earth

In Hope Johnson's Dan Black Hall laboratory, she and student researchers are growing cultures of cyanobacteria — bacteria that produces oxygen during photosynthesis.

Cyanobacteria could hold the key to understanding how oxygen evolved on Earth billions of years ago and what it means to the planet in the future as pollutants contaminate the environment.

"One of the things that makes us human is our desire to reflect on how we came to be, why we have such abundant life on Earth, and where else in the universe could life survive and thrive," said Johnson, associate professor of biological science. "The presence of oxygen on our planet is so integral to life, shouldn't we try to understand how that happened?"



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## Did You Know?

Grand Central Art Center is the result of a unique partnership between CSUF and the City of Santa Ana. Located in the heart of downtown Santa Ana, the art center is a mixed residential, commercial and educational complex. The Grand Central Art Center was originally built in 1922 as a market. The building was a single story and contained stalls for independent grocers, produce vendors, butchers, etc. and was constructed mid-block between First and Second Streets, with openings facing both Broadway and Sycamore Street. The Grand Central building served as the central market for Orange County up until the 1940s.