



THOUSANDS OF TITANS GRADUATE

Spirits were high as 10,000 graduates and candidates for graduation celebrated at Cal State Fullerton's May 16-17 commencement ceremonies. Approximately 60,000 attended the weekend ceremonies.

Saturday's keynote speaker was Richard Lui, an MSNBC dayside anchor who anchored for 12 years with the cable and satellite channel, as well as on NBC and CNN Worldwide.

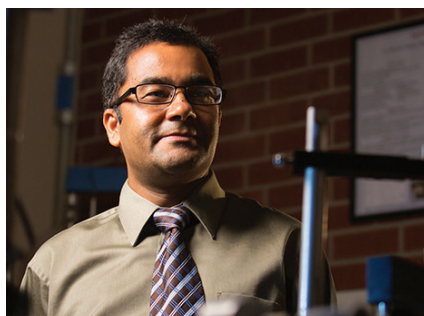
Sunday's keynote address was delivered by Julián Castro, 16th secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and former mayor of the city of San Antonio.

As he acknowledged the graduates, José L. Cruz, provost and vice president for academic affairs, told the audience: "Today is the commencement of your future. All of us who have watched you along this path — family, friends, faculty, staff and administrators — are proud to have been a part of your journey to success. We may think of ourselves as teachers, but it is all of you who teach us, day after day, the greatest lessons in perseverance, integrity and courage."

PROFESSOR ASSISTS IN NEPAL RECOVERY EFFORT

Cal State Fullerton civil engineer Binod Tiwari co-led a team of 11 geotechnical experts to Nepal, following the powerful 7.8-magnitude earthquake that hit the country April 25, killing more than 5,000 and destroying homes, temples and other historic buildings.

Tiwari is part of the national Geotechnical Extreme Event Reconnaissance Team, funded by the National Science Foundation. The team collected technical information to support the rebuilding of the country, said Tiwari, who was born in Nepal.



"Our team evaluates the effect of the earthquake on triggering liquefaction, seismic amplification and other effects that caused damage to infrastructure, including buildings and cultural, historic and religious sites," said Tiwari, an expert on landslides and slope failure. "We check what types of buildings sustained earthquake damage and what types did not. We also see the earthquake's effect on bridges, dams and highways and examine landslides triggered by the earthquake."



GUARDIAN SCHOLARS SALUTED

A realization of dreams and the anticipation of promising futures set the celebratory tone when faculty and staff members, donors and friends gathered May 6 for Cal State Fullerton's annual Guardian Scholars Recognition Reception to honor the six graduating seniors.

The Guardian Scholars Program awards former foster youth a full scholarship to the University and provides the additional support needed to help them achieve their educational and personal goals and transition to self-sufficient adulthood.

Established at Cal State Fullerton in 1998, the collaborative partnership between public agencies and the private sector was the first of its kind in the nation. Since then, nearly 100 scholars have earned CSUF degrees.

If you would like to make a gift or learn more about Guardian Scholars, contact Victoria Jagoda at vjagoda@fullerton.edu.



CAMPUS HONORS GRADUATING VETERANS

Cal State Fullerton's student veterans have spent years serving the nation at home and abroad, representing the five military branches — Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

At the 8th annual Veterans Appreciation Night, almost 30 student veterans, of 172 scheduled to graduate, were honored for their academic achievements, community engagement and service to the Student Veterans' Association.

If you would like to make a gift or learn more about Veterans Services, contact Victoria Jagoda at vjagoda@fullerton.edu.



PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARS HONORED

Fifteen President's Scholars graduated this year — continuing a tradition that began 36 years ago when Cal State Fullerton began the merit-based program.

Cal State Fullerton's President's Scholars spend up to four years in a comprehensive, rigorous program that offers experiences and opportunities in academics, leadership, service and mentorship.

This year's graduating class of President's Scholars had an average GPA of 3.85. The incoming class of freshman scholars has an average GPA of 4.28, and the Veteran Transfer Scholars, coming from community colleges, have an average GPA of 3.86.

In addition, President's Scholars provided 2,674 hours of community service this year and had a nearly 100 percent rate of involvement in student organizations or colleges. Almost a third of the scholars also work on-campus.

If you would like to make a gift or learn more about President's Scholars, contact Victoria Jagoda at vjagoda@fullerton.edu.



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Did You Know?



- Robert Istad, professor of music and director of choral studies, made his Segerstrom Center Concert Hall conducting debut on May 17. Istad was recently appointed Pacific Chorale artistic director designate for the 2017-18 season.
- For the 2012-13 academic year (the latest figures available), Cal State Fullerton awarded 7,472 bachelor's degrees. This makes up nine percent of the total bachelor's degrees awarded by the 23-campus CSU system.
- Inaugurated in 1974, Cal State Fullerton's School of Nursing began with just eight students and four faculty members. Since 1990, the school has graduated more than 3,300 students.