



California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White and CSU Trustee Rebecca D. Eisen (far right) congratulate CSUF Education Professor Ruth Yopp-Edwards.

Extraordinary Educator Honored by CSU

For Ruth H. Yopp-Edwards, teaching has been at the core of her being throughout her 40-year career as an educator. The Cal State Fullerton education professor and former elementary school teacher is a role model and mentor to scores of students, as well as future and veteran teachers.

“Teaching is rewarding, it’s meaningful, it deepens my understanding of and appreciation for the human experience in all its diversity,” said the CSUF alumna. “It allows me to learn every single day and to share that adventure with others.”

Because of her dedication and contributions to her academic discipline, Yopp-Edwards was selected to receive California State University’s 2017 Wang Family Excellence Award. She is one of five recipients from the CSU’s 23-campus system — four faculty members and one administrator — who was recognized at the Jan. 31 CSU Board of Trustees meeting.

In her nomination of Yopp-Edwards for the prestigious systemwide honor, Cal State Fullerton President Mildred García emphasized the professor’s “sustained record of the highest levels of achievement in teaching, scholarship and service. Her impact on students, the University, the profession, and the local and broader community has been nothing short of extraordinary.”



PHYSICS STUDENT A “GRAVITY SPY”

Student Isa Patane, under the mentorship of Joshua Smith, CSUF associate professor of physics and the Dan Black Director of Gravitational-Wave Physics and Astronomy, is contributing to “Gravity Spy,” where citizen volunteers can help scientists detect gravitational waves.

Through this National Science Foundation-funded effort, thousands of worldwide users, known as “gravity spies,” are helping the Advanced Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) in its ongoing exploration of the universe to detect more gravitational waves. LIGO announced the first detection of gravitational waves on Feb. 11, 2016, following the discovery in September 2015, with the help of CSUF scientists — and a century after Einstein predicted their existence.

“The Gravity Spy project not only allows for research with other scientists, but with the public as well,” added Patane, a scholar in CSUF’s NSF-funded gravitational-wave research program.

Patane and Smith also engage with citizen scientists on the Zooniverse discussion forum, where they provide blog and social media updates about the project.



MALE SUCCESS INITIATIVE AIMS TO HELP MEN OF COLOR THRIVE

Vincent T. Harris recently landed his “dream job” as the director of Cal State Fullerton’s Male Success Initiative (MSI). In this role, Harris hopes to bring his research and passion for helping men of color transition through higher education.

MSI began as a pilot program three years ago to better understand the state of men of color at CSUF and to explore ideas about what they need to be successful. Student Affairs has been piloting it for about three years, and now it’s time to take it to the next level.

“Our urgent need will be to provide services for our black and Latino male students, whose graduation rates both nationally and at CSUF are significantly lower than other cohorts,” Harris said. “But that doesn’t mean we won’t eventually get around to supporting anyone who falls under the umbrella of manhood. We want these groups to know that CSUF is a place where they can attend and succeed.”



CSUF HELPS SMALL BUSINESSES PREPARE FOR DISASTER

The regional Small Business Development Center Network for Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties is helping businesses prepare for something they hope will never happen: a disaster.

Administered by Cal State Fullerton's Mihaylo College of Business and Economics, the network's seven centers are now offering continuity training to help small businesses anticipate, prepare and recover in the case of a natural disaster.

The Seismic Safety Commission grant awarded \$220,000 to fund the effort.

"The focus is to help businesses plan how they will respond both during and after, say a large earthquake," said Michael Daniel, director of the CSUF Small Business Development Center. "We're helping business owners develop individualized disaster preparedness plans that are best suited for their business and operations."

CSUF PARTNERS WITH PEACE CORPS TO ADVANCE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Cal State Fullerton has partnered with the Peace Corps to offer advanced educational opportunities to those who have served in the Peace Corps. As part of the Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program, the University will provide financial assistance and professional experience — via internships in underserved communities — to former Peace Corps volunteers accepted into the graduate degree program in anthropology.

Since 1961, nearly 400 graduates from Cal State Fullerton have taken part in the program and 10 are currently serving in the field. California was the No. 1 state in total volunteers with the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana metropolitan area ranked third in the nation, according to a recent ranking by the Peace Corps.



2600 Nutwood Avenue, Suite 850
Fullerton, CA 92831

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Did You Know?

- Fans can purchase tickets for various **Cal State Fullerton athletic events** by visiting fullertontitans.com/tickets. The Athletic Ticket Office can also be contacted by phone at 657-278-2783 or by email at athletictixs@fullerton.edu.
- Fans can also keep up with the latest in **Titan Athletics** by following us on:
 - Facebook (facebook.com/fullertontitans)
 - Twitter (@FullertonTitans)
 - Instagram (FullertonTitans)
 - Snapchat (FullertonTitans)

In addition, the baseball team has established its own Twitter (@BaseballTitans) and Instagram accounts ([csf_titansbaseball](https://instagram.com/csf_titansbaseball)).

- The **Fullerton Arboretum** has a partnership with Monkey Business Café in Fullerton. The Arboretum shares the harvest with the café in exchange for their providing labor to plant, grow and harvest the crops.