

# **Marine Scientists Study Epidemic Threatening Sea Stars**

A puzzling disease is killing sea stars along the West Coast in one of the largest marine epidemics. To understand the effects on sea star populations and what might be contributing to the onset and intensity of the outbreak, Cal State Fullerton marine biologists are collaborating on a study to learn more.

"This disease was first noted in 2013, and progresses rapidly in sea star individuals," said Jennifer L. Burnaford, associate professor of biological science. "Sea stars can go from seemingly healthy to dead in a few days."

The study involved a consortium of 18 research groups, known as the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network, which monitored and

collected data from more than 130 intertidal sites along the West Coast. The study analyzed 16 years of data at 88 sites from southern British Columbia to San Diego, including Orange County. Cal State Fullerton marine scientists and scores of student researchers contributed data to the project by working with colleagues at Cal Poly Pomona to monitor four sites in Orange County: Shaws Cove and Treasure Island in Laguna Beach, Dana Point and Crystal Cove State Park.

The marine biologist and her colleagues and students will continue monitoring efforts to evaluate the consequences of the epidemic on rocky intertidal shores.

### PRESIDENT VIRJEE MEETS WITH FULLERTON LEADERS, ALUMNI



Recently, President Fram Virjee met with various city and community leaders to learn more about Fullerton and North Orange County and how the university might continue to work cooperatively with the community.

Among those that met were members of the Fullerton City Council, Fullerton Mayor Doug Chaffee, members of the chamber of commerce, local business owners and non-profit leaders. Following a tour of the Fullerton Police Department, the president met with Greg Schulz, president of Fullerton College, then moved on to the Fullerton Arboretum where he met with various Arboretum staff and supporters. The day ended at the Honda Center where he and university donors enjoyed an Anaheim Ducks ice hockey game.



# LATINO COMMUNICATIONS ALUMS MENTOR CURRENT STUDENTS

Luz Ileana Torres '16, a weekend producer for Telemundo in Dallas, says she could not have predicted how quickly her career in broadcast journalism would progress after connecting with Cal State Fullerton's Latino Communications Institute. But she's grateful her mentor, the institute's director Inez González, could see into her future.

CSUF's institute and communications curriculum offer immersive opportunities on and off campus, where students gain a competitive edge and real-world experience producing the news. The alumni saw results, earning attention and out-of-state job offers, immediately after graduation. The unique and practical experiences are key in preparing for a career, but students also need to listen when mentors suggest prioritizing that career well before it's time to walk in commencement ceremonies, the trio said.

Jose Campos '14 (B.A. communications-journalism), a bilingual digital producer for Telemundo in Dallas, and Alfredo Sanchez '16 (B.A. communications – journalism), a sports broadcaster for Telemundo in Oklahoma also spoke to students in the LCI program.



The latest cohort of Cal State DC Scholars spent time with alumnus U.S. Rep. Ed Royce '77 (B.A. business administration-accounting), second from right, who chairs the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### DC SCHOLARS CAPITALIZE ON A 'ONCE IN A LIFETIME' EXPERIENCE

Cal State Fullerton student Leah Milhander dreams of becoming a U.S. ambassador to another country. She also sees herself working for the State Department or the Peace Corps.

When she learned about the Cal State DC Scholars program, which has given hundreds of Titans access to the nation's capital since 2006, she jumped at the chance to explore her interest in international relations. Milhander, one of 10 students interning in Washington, D.C., this spring, spends her weekdays with the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The complete list of Cal State Fullerton's spring DC Scholars internship sites are: U.S. Rep. Lou Correa (D-CA), U.S. Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA), U.S. Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA), House Democratic Caucus, House Foreign Affairs Committee, U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA), Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), U.S. Department of the Interior - Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Patriotic Millionaires, and United Nations Foundation.



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# **Did You Know?**

## Celebrating CSUF's 60th Anniversary

In 1968, the university faced a crisis. It did not have room for the projected class of 2,000 students nor offices for about 100 faculty members. To accommodate students, the campus imposed enrollment limits and paid closer attention to the timing of when classes were offered. To house the new faculty, 18 trailers with 72 offices were rented and set up between the gymnasium and the library that summer. Most offices (about 102-130 square feet each) housed two professors, each with a desk and a chair. These trailers remained on campus until 1971.

