# TITAN



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# FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS GATHER FOR CONCERT UNDER THE STARS

Motown sound filled the air as more than 5,000 people gathered at Cal State Fullerton for the University's annual Concert Under the Stars. The event grossed more than \$750,000, which will be used for student scholarships and student programs. The evening performance showcased several CSUF alumni as well as University President Mildred García who danced alongside cast members as she welcomed the crowd to campus.

## **CAMPUS LIBRARY CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "DUNE"**

The Pollak Library will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the popular science fiction epic, "Dune," this fall with a speaker series, an exhibition called "Dune: From Print to Cinema and Beyond," film screenings and a costume contest.

The exhibit, opening in early October in the Salz-Pollak Atrium Gallery, will highlight author Frank Herbert's creative process, and illustrate the impact of his scholarship and imagination. It will include the University's Frank Herbert manuscript collection, artwork by campus artists and other collectibles.

Cal State Fullerton acquired the "Dune" manuscripts in the late 1960s from Herbert.



He and the late Willis E. McNelly, CSUF professor of English and renowned science fiction scholar and critic, had developed a close relationship over the years. McNelly edited the critically acclaimed "Dune Encyclopedia," and Herbert lectured in McNelly's science fiction class.

For details, visit: library. fullerton.edu/visiting/ programs/2015-dune-50thanniversary/index.php



# STUDENT RESEARCH FOR ALS PATIENTS HELPS PEOPLE COMMUNICATE ONLINE

Computer engineering major Krystle Ilisastigui and several of her classmates are developing an electronic communication system to enable ALS patients to access the Internet and communicate via email, text document, chat or Skype using thoughts, facial expressions and head movements, said Kiran George, associate professor of computer engineering.

George and his students have worked on the prototype since February — supported by a \$100,000 grant from the Oakland-based Disability Communications Fund — and partnered with the ALS Association Orange County Chapter to fine-tune the technology and design.

What is most appealing about the technology is that the device is user-friendly, requires minimal training and is low cost, observed Jared Mullins '04 (B.A. political science), executive director of the ALS Orange County Chapter.

The wireless communication system utilizes commercially off-the-shelf components to minimize design time and cost, George explained. The goal is to keep the device's cost under \$150.

If you are interested in supporting this project, contact Hart Roussel, director of development for the College of Engineering and Computer Science, at hroussel@fullerton.edu.



President Mildred García appeared with Steve Churm, vice president, Orange County Register; Christina Altmayer, executive director of Children and Families Commission of Orange County; and Steve PonTell, president of LaJolla Institutes, at a recent OC Forum event.

### **EDUCATION INTEGRAL TO ORANGE COUNTY'S FUTURE**

Cal State Fullerton President Mildred García struck a chord on Sept. 2 with fellow panelists and members of the Orange County Forum when she pointed out that being "pro-education" is a necessity for achieving desired gains for the region.

Garcia was part of a three-person panel that commented on the 2015 Orange County Community Indicators Report, which tracks countywide trends related to the economy, income, housing, education, health, safety and infrastructure.

"You can't be pro-housing, or pro-health, or pro-infrastructure, or pro-economy unless you are pro-education," said García, who was introduced as the "First Lady of higher education in this region."

"We all know ... that if you have a good education, you are more likely to buy a house, more likely to be involved in your community, more likely not to use social services, more likely not to go to prison," García said.

García cited gains made at Cal State Fullerton, including the six-year graduation rate rising to 61 percent from 51 percent, as well as a narrowing of the education gap from 12 percent to 9 percent, all in three years.



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# **Did You Know?**



- The Titan Class of 2015 was the largest ever with nearly 9,500 graduates.
- The University boosted gift commitments from \$8.5 million in 2012-13 to over \$17 million in 2014-15.
- Cal State Fullerton welcomed nearly 39,000 students for the Fall semester, including 4,350 first-time freshmen.
- The renovation of the Titan Student Union will add a total of 26,000 square feet and a three-story addition at the southeast corner of the building.
- The National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) has awarded gold accreditation to the College of Communications' NSSLHA chapter for the fifth consecutive year. This is the student division of the national professional association for speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Less than 10 percent of student chapters nationwide attain gold chapter recognition each year.