

TITANREPORT

George Takei, Daniel Dae Kim, Michael Phelps Visit Campus

George Takei, author, film star and social justice activist appeared on campus to discuss his New York Times bestselling graphic memoir, “They Called Us Enemy,” Cal State Fullerton’s One Book, One CSUF program selection for the past year.

Takei discussed his life in the Japanese internment camps after his family was sent there following the Pearl Harbor attack, and his work on social justice issues.

For the past three decades, **Daniel Dae Kim** has increased exposure for marginalized groups — especially Asian Americans — as an actor and producer on such television shows and movies as “Lost,” “Hawaii Five-O” and to combat stereotypes of Asian Americans. Kim recently spoke to about 300 Cal State Fullerton students and community members on his work in entertainment and social justice advocacy.

After 24 years in the sport, **Michael Phelps** walked away with 28 Olympic medals in swimming — 23 gold, three silver and two bronze. He competed in five Olympic games by the time he was 31. Sitting on CSUF’s stage, the swimmer credited those accomplishments to three crucial elements: hard work, dedication and drive.

As Phelps added medals and accolades to his professional record, his career was marked with mental health struggles. He spoke about his experiences with ADHD and depression, and told students that one of the hardest lessons he learned was how to be vulnerable and ask for help. “Understand that not everything’s going to be perfect. You’re going to have problems. You’re going to have hard times. I want every single one of you to ask for help,” said Phelps.



Music Professor Wins Grammy for Best Choral Performance

On a night that honors music’s biggest stars, Cal State Fullerton alum and music professor Robert Istad accepted his first Grammy award for the recording of “Mahler: Symphony No. 8, ‘Symphony of a Thousand.’” Istad received his award in the category of best choral performance during the 64th Annual Grammy Awards Premiere Ceremony on April 3, 2022.

Istad said that this win isn’t just about the music. It’s about the people who made the music come alive.

“I thought about the many singers who performed with their entire souls to make this recording so special. So many of Pacific Chorale’s singers are CSUF Titans, and the Grammy award is really dedicated to them,” expressed Istad ’01 (M.M. music-performance), an alumnus of CSUF’s School of Music.

[BIT.LY/CSUF-MUSIC-PROFESSOR-WINS-GRAMMY](https://bit.ly/csuf-music-professor-wins-grammy)

\$5 Million Funding to Help Build New ‘Gateway’ Bridge

Cal State Fullerton recently received \$5 million in federal funding for a new pedestrian bridge that will span a key campus crossing at Nutwood and Commonwealth avenues. This bridge will protect pedestrians (including university students, faculty and staff), reduce accidents, mitigate neighborhood concerns, improve traffic flow, reduce vehicle trips and encourage walking and biking.

U.S. Rep. Young Kim, with the support of U.S. Rep. Lou Correa and U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, was able to secure \$5 million in the FY2022 Omnibus Appropriations bill. This, in addition to the \$1 million state budget appropriation received last year, will allow CSUF to start planning and developing this critical pedestrian bridge.

The success of this funding was a community effort with the support of the City of Fullerton, county and state officials, alumni and a host of external stakeholders including a number of local and ethnic chambers of commerce.

Titans Reflect on an Epic Season

The buzzer on March 18 signaled the end of one of the biggest basketball games in Cal State Fullerton's history. The matchup for the first-round game of the NCAA Championship Tournament wasn't easy. The Titans would have to take down No 2 seed Duke.

And while the final score of 78-61 didn't reflect a victory for the Titans, it showed the world that they are a gritty bunch of student-athletes determined to leave a lasting impression on their families, friends, and fans. This season the team which was 21-10 won the Big West Championship tournament defeating Long Beach State to punch their ticket into the NCAA Championship tournament as a 15-seed.

BIT.LY/CSUF-TITANS-REFLECT-ON-BASKETBALL-SEASON



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TITAN noun | ti-t'n
one who stands out for **greatness of achievement**



Ukrainian Professor Teaches Ethical Hacking in Cybersecurity

Current wars between countries are being fought on land and in cyberspace, says Mikhail Gofman, Cal State Fullerton associate professor of computer science. While ensuring virtual protection against enemies is an extreme use of ethical hacking, applications exist in less threatening situations as well.

Gofman studies and teaches the concept of ethical hacking — an authorized attempt to gain access to a computer system, application or data. In addition to serving as director of CSUF's Center for Cybersecurity, Gofman is a faculty coach for a student-led team of up-and-coming cybersecurity professionals known as the Offensive Security Society.

Aiming to foster cybersecurity education at CSUF, the club's motto is simple: To catch a criminal, one needs to think like a criminal.

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