High inflation, the most aggressive rate-hiking cycle in 40 years, rising geopolitical risks, two wars and an emerging cold war between China and the U.S. would signal disaster for an economy. But the recession predicted by the world’s leading economists never materialized, the economist said.

Puri opened with those remarks at the 2024 Spring Economic Forecast on April 30 at the Westin South Coast Plaza. Hundreds of business leaders and academics were in attendance for the bi-annual forecast.

As always, sharing the stage with Puri was colleague Mira Farka, co-director of the Woods Center.

"The economy has been growing, especially in the last half of 2023, and even up to the first quarter of this year," Puri said. "The economy is well and alive, and doing quite well, actually, at this time."

The GDP is up, spending is up, and the unemployment rate is down. So, given those and other positive data points, "Why is everyone so depressed?" Puri asked rhetorically.

"If you adjudge it for inflation, the real value of wealth is really below what it should have been," Puri said. "Prices are not coming down. The rate of increase has not come down. New-car prices and used-car prices have gone up 10% and 30%, respectively, and the cost of grocery staples such as eggs, sugar, coffee and other food items has also spiraled dramatically. This inflation is becoming hard to dislodge," Puri said. "We’re not sure that the economic picture that we see tells us the reality of what’s going on."

"The impact of artificial intelligence on employment is also an uncertainty," Farka said. "It’s a reality that AI will reduce job opportunities for lower-income earners, academics reported.

The outlook for the economy is nuanced and complex, Farka said…favorable in the short term but a bit gloomier over the long term.

"Now, we don’t think we’re going into a recession right now," Farka said. "But there are certainly signals that a shift is coming down the line … maybe five to six months away."

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Empowerment Conference

Attendees could also attend panels and career exploration, 12 mentioned the most meaningful areas of interest at the conference.

"This is to help our students hopefully achieve in their passions and interests and being able to align their passions and interests," Lu said. "Let's say a student really loves writing. Through these interests, "Let's say a student really loves writing. Through these interests, as an advocate for the veteran community."

CSUF offers several programs for nursing students at the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels.

Advantage of this pathway, and after completing his associate's degree from Fullerton College and passing the nursing license exam in 2018, he enrolled in CSUF's RN-BSN program. Llanas found a setting that helped him develop in other aspects of nursing beyond the clinical training.

"Nursing is a very unique discipline where the public only sees a nurse as a clinical person," Llanas said. "But Fullerton did such a good job with the student, at distinguishing that we are clinical, but we are also scholarly, we are also academicians, we are also professionals. And for me personally, in my education, that was the biggest benefit." The clinical career that Llanas began on his journey, said Felipe Martinez, director of the Center for Scholars.

"For our young men of color, in particular, they can be in a lab. And I feel like it's more palatable. They want to do it all on their own, but we have people here to support them."

A large portion of our program is to provide a streamlined path for students to earn their bachelor's degree without having to repeat any of the curriculum they have already completed.

"It's been shown that as a hospital gets a higher percentage of bachelor-prepared nurses, patient safety and quality of care improves," said Martinez.

Attendees also learned about on-campus housing, mental health services, student advocacy, on-campus housing, and scholarship opportunities at CSUF with a lot of the local community college partners, as well as the funding of the program. In the RN-BSN program were in public health, a setting that offered him a different perspective on being a nurse.

"It really illustrated to me that nonclinical professional aspects of being a nurse where you're running the meetings and you're meeting with patients who are not in a gown attached to an IV pole," Llanas said.

CSUF’s RN-BSN program is one of the most prevalent and common things that we have seen over the years, where you get to the community college, a little lost in defining their major.

Attendees could also attend panels and hear from current CSUF students on a variety of topics.

"I had people that I could talk to and relate to," Brown said.

The conference provides resources to students early in their academic journey, said Paul Bartaniotis, director of the Center for Scholars.

"For our young men of color, in particular, they can be in a lab. And I feel like it's more palatable. They want to do it all on their own, but we have people here to support them."

The keynote speaker was Adrian Brown, a former Marine, worked toward my degree as an advocate for the veteran community.

The Male Success Initiative offers programs to aid men of color with higher education opportunities within the university's control.

"They can be in a lab. And I feel like it's more palatable. They want to do it all on their own, but we have people here to support them."

Among the audience were Titan alumnus Jose Llanas, who was Fullerton that showed me that this is the section's primary advertising sponsor, and providing them the opportunity to get their baccalaureate more quickly."

"We have a story idea or comment for the section? We can be in a lab. And I feel like it's more palatable. They want to do it all on their own, but we have people here to support them."

PHOTO COURTESY CSUF NEWS MEDIA SERVICES

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A W A R E N E S S  M O N T H
Mental Health Resources Guide students to programs
Need for help isn’t always obvious
By Nicole Gregory, 14

For the third consecutive year, Cal State Fullerton coordinated a campus Mental Health Awareness Fair May 1-4. Hosted by the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) office, along with Partners4Wellness/Connect, the event was successful in reaching an audience of students, according to Jacqueline Gerali, a faculty counselor/coordination education specialist with the department.

"We like to work on reducing stigma behind my commitment to excellence in teaching consistent with the mission of the university and California State University," said Gerali, who was moved that her 4-year-old daughter was the recipient of the 2024 Carol Barnes Excellence Award. "It equips me with the style, mentorship and commitment to share my passion for biology."

She leads the department's Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice Program. In 2015, she helped a student staying abroad through her compassion, empathy and resilience and spark and hours in "Evolutionary Genomics and Aging" presentations and peer-reviewed "outstanding" evaluations from students. "Evolutionary Genomics and Aging" presentations and peer-reviewed "outstanding" evaluations from students.

As a Cal State Fullerton undergraduate student, Parvin Shahrestani struggled with mental health issues. "I was unmotivated, not interested and not engaged in the biology experience for students," she said. "I became aware of my difficulties in learning biology, and I decided to take a course in psychology."

"We encourage students to engage in open discussions," said Garcia, who helped her stay on track. "I will continue to learn my role in our collective mission of the university and California State University."

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Maliya Taylor runs to rub the toe of the Fallen David statue for good luck.

OPPORTUNITIES

fall.”

and other available programs that made

learned about the Tau Theta Pi sisterhood

degree,” said Vazquez. “Additionally, I

be supported in my pursuit of a medical

the health science/pre-med workshop,

Student Association Dance Team.

Folklorico de CSUF and the Nigerian

showcase and student performances

also featured an organization and club

Black/African American. The event

identifying as Native American and

were tailored events for students

as the large Latino population.”

and University Honors programs, as well

conduct stem cell research,” she shared.

school and is confident Cal State

Vazquez has her sights set on medical

laptop, priority registration and more.

scholarship offers full tuition for four

science, is a recipient of CSUF’s

10,000 guests, including 3,156 admitted

majors, take photos with Tuffy the Titan,

workshops related to their intended

college, learn about university resources,

admitted students and their families

knew she had chosen the right college.

the Cal State Fullerton campus for

Alamitos High School, stepped onto

An aspiring psychiatrist or oncologist,

Vazquez, who plans to study biological

Each year, Experience CSUF welcomes

When Alana Vazquez, a senior at Los

Animo: Latinx Counseling Emphasis

LAUNCHES 2023-24

provides

undergraduate students with high

enrollment in the midst of the academic

curriculum, offered in English and

preparing professionals how to effectively approach

Spanish, teaches aspiring mental health

training that prepares them to work with

The program is built into the master’s

and those related to the Latinx community,
such as intergenerational family conflict,

ethnic identity, immigration and

intersectionality.

Jeannie’s core curriculum also

provides students with training that

meets the requirements needed to

license as a professional

in a clinical counselor or marriage and family

in California.

In 2015, Excellence in Education recognized

the Animo: Latinx Counseling Emphasis as one of 19 Examples of

Excellence Finalists in the nation.

Mathematics Intensive Summer Session

CSUF’s Mathematics Intensive

Summer Session, also known as Project MISS,

was created in 1990 to address a nationwide shortage of female students,

primarily Latinas, going into STEM fields. Project MISS is a summer program

that provides middle and high school students with opportunities to attend

courses and develop their skills to prepare for high school and college.

Working with mathematics instructors

and collaborating with their peers,

students build community, and improve

and collaborating on project activities.

The program aims to create

opportunities for women in STEM and

increase the amount of women in the

STEM workforce. Since 1990, more

than 2,000 students have completed the

program.

In 2021, Excellence in Education named

Project MISS as one of 21 Examples of

Excellence Finalists in the nation.

Center for Educational Partnerships

The Center for Educational Partnerships was

recognized for its commitment to practices that expand and equip

students to a wide range of college

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By collaborating with educational and community-based

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Real-world trading floor is mirrored

By Larry Otach, CSUF News Media Services

There’s an indication that Titan Capital Management, the rigorous student financial services program at Cal State Fullerton’s College of Business and Economics’ Finance and Accounting Department, is

Forecast

For the first time in history for example, nonmortgage interest payments, such as payments on credit card debt, are nearly as high as mortgage payments. Home prices in the Phoenix area that analysts have been predicting short-term extensions on their mortgages, so their landlords and borrowers a reprise since the housing market was not far from extensions, the economists reported.

The country’s unemployment rate has ticked up to 4.2% in February, up from 3.4% a year ago.

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Steve Scott Invitational. teammate John Clifford. He won the 400 Championships, an event won by both the 4-by-100 and 4-by-400 relays.

"I knew the crease of my hands better now. I trekked my thumbs watching the clock for you," he said. 

"Gates on the importance of his beloved track mates, which he mainlines through track practices and meets.

"In Mott's gymnastics, we trust. If I find someone else, they're getting stuffed into my grubby little naps," Gates said. Gates on where some of those stories came from and why he believes it like, well, a girlfriend.

"That's the best sense of humor, and that's me. My dad and my brothers have that sense of humor, and it rubbed off on me. My girlfriend likes my sense of humor, which is all that matters, honestly.

You grow up with a quick-witted father and older brothers and you are a quick-witted son.

"You're capable of this.' "I was the sixth man, and the fifth man was one of those fluke occurrences that often happens in college recruiting. It came down to me," he said. 

"The ability to accept that I have an A sense of confidence.

"That was a pretty big thing, and we're not going to get you in here and get you an indoor season by more than a quarter-second. To 6.75 seconds. He shaved a third-of-a-second off his PR in the 200. To 20.97 seconds. He ran a very fast CIF Finals, a 10.64 at the Masters meet and a 10.68 in the state preliminary in the 100. He holds the third leg, taking the baton from Emerson and passing it to sophomore Isaiah Emerson and Justin Lowe. They told me, "We believe in you. We trust you. You've proved yourself on the track. You're capable of it," Gates said.

The result: a 46.2-second quarter-mile. Gates had shaved more than two seconds off his personal record.

"I was the sixth man, and the fifth man was one of those fluke occurrences that often happens in college recruiting. It came down to me," he said. 

But to fully understand not only Gates' personality but his versatility in Titans' coach Marcus Barraco's sprint squad, we go to another event at last year's Big West Championships—the 4-by-400 relay.

The week before the conference championships, Barraco met Gates out on the track to discuss his eligibility for the race for the conference championship. In that year, Gates' best time in what is probably the most difficult event for a runner was 50.31 seconds. He had yet to break 50 seconds.

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"I said I was going to run this race like I have every other time in my life and go out and do it. It's one thing to appreciate what you've accomplished. It's another to appreciate what the other schools share the same market— the Titans. Dominic Gates' performance was impressive at the Mt. SAC Relays last month in Walnut.

"Gates on where some of those stories came from and why he believes it like, well, a girlfriend.

"That's the best sense of humor, and that's me. My dad and my brothers have that sense of humor, and it rubbed off on me. My girlfriend likes my sense of humor, which is all that matters, honestly.

You grow up with a quick-witted father and older brothers and you are a quick-witted son.

"You're capable of this.' "I was the sixth man, and the fifth man was one of those fluke occurrences that often happens in college recruiting. It came down to me," he said. 

"The ability to accept that I have an A sense of confidence.

"That was a pretty big thing, and we're not going to get you in here and get you an indoor season by more than a quarter-second. To 6.75 seconds. He shaved a third-of-a-second off his PR in the 200. To 20.97 seconds. He ran a very fast CIF Finals, a 10.64 at the Masters meet and a 10.68 in the state preliminary in the 100. He holds the third leg, taking the baton from Emerson and passing it to sophomore Isaiah Emerson and Justin Lowe. They told me, "We believe in you. We trust you. You've proved yourself on the track. You're capable of it," Gates said.

The result: a 46.2-second quarter-mile. Gates had shaved more than two seconds off his personal record.

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