

# Impact Newsletter

Fall 2021



## A Message from the Dean, Lisa Kirtman

I am excited to welcome students, faculty and staff back to campus for the start of the fall 2021 semester! The past few months have been difficult for our entire community. And yet, as I reflect back on our successes from the 2020-21 academic year, I am entering the new semester with renewed hope. I am pleased to share that over the past year, the College hired two new faculty members, six new staff members, and raised almost \$2 million in grant, private and corporate funding to support scholarship and programming. In addition, we hosted both virtual and in-person credential and commencement ceremonies for over 1,900 educators. We continued to grow our existing undergraduate programs such as Titan Future Teachers and Men of Color in Education, and we were able to provide free online tutoring to over 3,000 students in the local community. As you'll see from additional success stories included in this newsletter, I am incredibly proud and honored to lead this College.

Follow Dean Kirtman on  
Instagram and Facebook!



**College Park (CP) 500**  
**Mon. - Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm**  
**(657) 278-3411**

Our College has and will continue to provide resources that support academic achievement and the well-being of our students, faculty and staff. This success of our students and programs is only possible due to the generosity of our donors, faculty and staff. The gifts of time, energy and resources that you provided over the past year were critical to our success and have helped to pave the way for our future. I deeply appreciate your ongoing support and hard work and want you to know that the College recognizes your contribution. It's because of you, that we are able to continue to achieve our goals to integrate technology into our curriculum, to promote community engagement and to ensure that we provide a just, equitable and inclusive education.

While I expect both challenges and opportunities to come our way as we enter a new academic year, I am also confident in the College of Education's ability to stand together

to successfully meet these challenges with solutions that improve our programs for all students.

Stay well, have a great semester and thank you again for all that you do!

### **A Message from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Dianna Lopez**

The Class of 2020 and Class of 2021 are particularly special classes for the College of Education. Despite all odds, a global pandemic, incredible losses, and rapid transitions from in-person to virtual learning, our students persisted! The legacy of the Class of 2020 and Class of 2021 will be one of resilience and fortitude. Not even a global pandemic could stand in the way of them achieving their dreams. They have taken this unique moment in time, this crisis to task with a just, equity, and inclusive education in mind: How can teachers support students with disabilities in an online environment? How as educators can we fight against hate, racism, and social injustice? How can teachers support student learning when their students are grieving losses due to COVID-19? What are the right policies to ensure all students from TK-12 to higher education have access to the critical resources they need for academic, emotional, and social needs? These graduates have a remarkable journey behind them and a remarkable journey ahead of them. We could not be any prouder of our graduates-they are truly changemakers.



**Ms. Lopez and recent College of Education M.S. in Higher Education graduate, Jarrod Ventura, celebrate persistence during the 2021 Spring Commencement Ceremony!**



**Two boys receive summer camp materials to participate in the summer**

### **Ready, Set, Read! Dig Deeper 2.0**

The Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center offers summer reading camps for children and teens.

In 2018, through a partnership with CSUF's Center for Healthy Neighborhoods (CHN), the Reading Center launched a series of summer reading camps for our local Fullerton community. Since that first summer, high-need, at-risk children served by CHN have been invited to take part in the Reading Center's engaging and interactive summer camp experience, where reading is encouraged and celebrated. Even in the midst of the

## reading camp.



Two of our students virtually support two girls during the summer reading camp.

Follow the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center on Facebook!



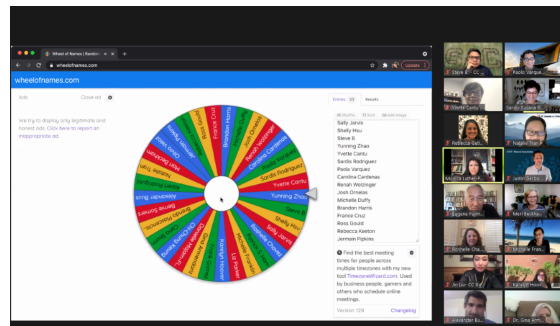
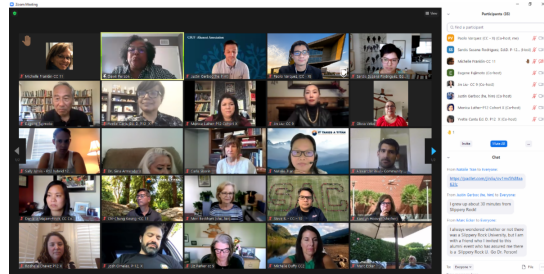
pandemic, the Reading Center was able to still bring the joy and wonder of reading to students through the creation of Ready, Set, Read! Dig Deeper 2.0. Created by COE faculty members, Joanne Chapman (HMC Center Director) and Carla Salcido (HMC Associate Director), Ready, Set, Read! Dig Deeper 2.0 is a virtual incentive program designed for three levels of children: Littles (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade), Middles (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade), and Uppers (6<sup>th</sup> grade -high school). At the program kick-off event, the HMC Reading Center passed out free books and camp materials, some of which were provided by Reading is Fundamental. In addition, each student in the camp received books and a backpack, which were generously donated by Teacher Created Materials and the Department of Literacy and Reading.

The goals of the program were to strengthen students' reading skills and to empower parents as partners. Created on a foundation of choice, students were provided with a menu of options and activities were designed to spur interest in literacy activities in order to prevent the summer melt that so often occurs. To best support students in the virtual environment, weekly Zoom meetings were offered, where students had the opportunity to further engage with staff and their peers about the books they read. The success of the program has been evidenced by the high number of student participants – 71 – and recognition in the Spring 2021 edition of *The California Reader*.

## The Ed.D. Alumni Network

In 2003, CSU Fullerton became one of five CSU campuses to receive approval to partner with UC Irvine in offering the Educational Doctorate degree. Then-President Milton Gordon stated:

"In joining with our regional partners to mount this joint program, Cal State Fullerton stays true to its mission: making learning preeminent. This program is an important example of the university's objective of being a center of activity essential to the intellectual, cultural and economic development of our region."



True to these words by President Gordon, the Ed.D. program has gone on to become a center of activity in educational leadership in the region. In 2010-11, eleven students earned their Educational Doctorate degrees at CSU Fullerton. In 2019-20, forty students

earned their Ed.D. in either PK-12 or Community College leadership. With the 2021 cohort, CSUF will have awarded over 300 Educational Doctorate degrees. With alumni serving as superintendents, principals, college presidents, and vice presidents, as well as a broad range of other educational leadership roles in the region, it is past time to begin to earnestly develop the CSUF Ed.D. Alumni Network.

Thanks to the initiative of Ed.D. alumni Dr. Sardis Susana Rodriguez and Dr. Paolo Varquez, as well as a host of other alumni, the Ed.D. Alumni Network is taking shape. With the support of the Department of Educational Leadership and the CSUF Office of Alumni Affairs, the Alumni Network has held a successful online kick-off event, and developed their mission to create "...meaningful engagement to raise awareness, pride, participation, volunteer involvement, and philanthropic commitment to the CSUF Ed.D. program." Activities are taking place now, including an active Linked-In group of alumni; participating in information sessions for potential students; offering mentoring for current students; plans for an Education Week mixer in the Fall; as well as a family social event for alumni in the Spring.

This is clearly a motivated group that plans to make a positive impact on the Ed.D. Program and the work of the College. We welcome their enthusiasm, expertise and energy. Be on the lookout for Ed.D. Alumni Network activities in the coming years!



## Alumni Spotlight

**Congratulations to Dr. Steven  
Bautista!**

**A recent CSUF College of  
Education Ed.D. graduate who  
was elected President of the  
Association of California  
Community College Teacher  
Education Programs  
(ACCCTEP).**

Since 2000, Dr. Bautista has served as a Professor, Counselor and Faculty Program Coordinator for the Center for Teacher Education at Santa Ana College (SAC). This highly successful program has been awarded the prestigious Exemplary Program Award by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, recognizing outstanding community college programs. In his work as program coordinator for the Center for Teacher Education, Dr. Bautista oversees the daily operation of a multifaceted academic and student services program aimed at the preparation of K-12 teachers. He serves as the co-chair for the Regional Teacher Education Council in Southern California and was previously an executive board member of the National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs (NACCTEP). In 2015, Dr. Bautista was selected by his peers for the Distinguished Faculty Award. The Distinguished Faculty Award is awarded for teaching excellence and is the highest honor bestowed upon a faculty member of Santa Ana College. In 2017, he was honored as one of five Orange County Teachers of the Year. Before joining Santa Ana College, he served as the Transfer Center Director at Fullerton College. Dr. Bautista has earned his bachelor's degree in Psychology, master's degree in Clinical Psychology, and a doctorate in Community College Leadership, all from California State University, Fullerton.

### Donor Spotlight

Don Pease, professor emeritus, and Ann Pease are retired faculty members who taught in the Department of Elementary and Bilingual Education in the College of Education.



They recently donated more than \$500,000 to the College of Education to endow two faculty awards: The Don and Ann Pease Teaching Excellence Award to recognize a faculty member for their program leadership, course development, and student and faculty evaluations; and the Don and Ann Pease Scholarship Excellence Award to recognize a faculty member for their research, publications, conference presentations and outreach activities. The couple is also funding an inter-block learning program grant endowment designed to encourage faculty members and "block leaders" who model and promote student cohorts to share what they are learning with one another and other student blocks.



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THE CAMPAIGN FOR CAL STATE FULLERTON

**SUPPORT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
EDUCATORS THROUGH  
AN ESTATE GIFT**

There are many charitable gift and estate planning strategies to create a legacy and support CSUF such as IRA Rollover, Securities, Life Insurance or Income, Charitable Bequest or Life Estate, and more. Contact us for more information.

**Have you already included CSUF in your estate plan? Please let us know so we can thank and recognize you as a part of our Ontiveros Legacy Society.**

657-278-3947  
[csufplannedgift@fullerton.edu](mailto:csufplannedgift@fullerton.edu)  
[csufplannedgift.org](http://csufplannedgift.org)

## Call For Action

The College of Education is looking to highlight quotes in their communications.

Please answer the following questions and send them to Lisa Miller at [limiller@fullerton.edu](mailto:limiller@fullerton.edu).

- What made you want to become a teacher/administrator/reading specialist/instructional designer/researcher?
- What is the most rewarding part of your job?

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