

READING EDUCATORS GUILD

California State University, Fullerton

Newsletter

August 2020 Volume 48 Issue 2



New Times! New Ways to Stay Connected!

By Kathi Bartle Angus

As we have all recently learned, maintaining connections can be challenging! REG has long been successful in keeping our graduates connected, but the means have definitely evolved over our 50 years of existence. Back in 1970, we began with quarterly meetings on campus and delivered a mimeographed (!) newsletter by USPS. Over the years, we added an e-directory, email blasts and social media as new ways to stay connected.



Now we are looking at another evolution. Our online master's program has allowed us to extend our reach internationally. Graduate students have completed our program from multiple states and countries, including Afghanistan, China, and Saudi Arabia. This broader base of alumni has created the need for more resources to stay connected electronically.

The REG board has voted to fold our membership into the Titan Alumni Association. This larger, well-resourced group will allow us to maintain valued connections and provide more member services. We will still maintain our program's social media presence, and we hope to continue to offer a few in-person events. But going forward, we will reach out to program alumni and keep our far-flung members virtually connected through the Titan Alumni Association system. The Titan Alumni Association will also be supporting our 50th Anniversary Celebration when it is safe to have it. We are excited about this new structure and are certain you will be too!



If you are not currently a member of the Titan Alumni Association, please read on to learn how to join and the benefits offered through Association membership. REG will not be collecting dues this year. Instead, we encourage all program alumni to join the Titan Alumni Association. Please indicate your Master of Science degree on the Association's membership form and keep your contact information up-to-date in that forum so we can continue to share our news, information, and events with you.



Be a part of a community of Titans dedicated to supporting the university by joining the **CSUF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**. The Association hosts a range of activities designed to connect alumni with one another, current students and the university. From borrowing privileges at all 23 CSU libraries to discounts on performing arts tickets and a range of insurance products, the CSU Alumni Association has great tangible benefits.

- **Explore Membership benefits:**

<https://alumni.fullerton.edu/membership/>

- **Take advantage of special 2020 grad rate:** 2020 grads are eligible for a special lifetime rate of \$57!

<https://alumni.fullerton.edu/membership/>

- **Learn about upcoming events:** Keep an eye on the events calendar for information about upcoming opportunities to get together with fellow Titans. You can also connect in the Titan Pro Network online community.

<https://alumni.fullerton.edu/events/calendar.php>

- **Update your information:** Make sure that you can be reached when something exciting is happening by updating your information with the university. This is the best way to make sure that when invitations are sent for anniversary gatherings or announcements of new deans are made, you can be kept on the list and in the know.

<http://ua.fullerton.edu/updatemyinfo/>

- **Join CSUF's own version of LinkedIn, Titan Pro Network (TPN):** This is where folks can gather in a sort of "virtual club" space.

<https://alumni.fullerton.edu/studentoutreach/titanpronetwork.php>

- **Consider the book club that is launching soon:** Our first book is going to be *Designing Your Life*. We'll be doing a range of books as the program progresses, and many times participants will get to vote on the selection. Folks can sign up here.

<https://www.pbc.guru/fullerton>



News from the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center

By Kathi Bartle Angus, Director

This year has been a time of dynamic change at the Reading Center! Once campus closed in March, we began figuring out how to tutor, assess, and provide intervention in a virtual environment. Here are some of the projects we are working on:



Ready, Set, Read!, a virtual reading camp. Students in the high-needs area served by the Center for Healthy Neighborhoods, our partners in several projects, were invited to join us for Ready, Set, Read!, an eight-week reading incentives program. As a part of this program, students from grades one to nine meet once each week on Zoom. Each student has received several books, thanks to a generous donation from Teacher Created Materials, and they are completing a variety of fun and engaging activities that help them go deeper into the books. Our teen group is especially enjoying reading the *Hunger Games* series! Joanne Chapman (2010) has been creating the original curriculum that is powering this camp.



Virtual Reading Center. We are planning to launch a virtual Reading Center at the start of the fall semester. Graduate students in our master's program will be matched with students from the Reading Center waiting list and students at Edison Elementary in Anaheim. This involves a new partnership facilitated by alumna Heather Krstich (2014). They will meet twice a week for 45 minutes over a secure Zoom link in breakout rooms. While we hope to be able to return in person to the Reading Center when it is safe, the virtual environment allows us to serve a wider range of students.

ACADEMIC
Success



Academic Success Program. The Academic Success program at the Center for Healthy Neighborhoods in Fullerton will continue to operate virtually with the support of our literacy specialist, Carla Salcido (2018). In addition, we are expanding the program to include virtual assessment of Academic Success students by graduate students enrolled in our assessment class, READ 516. The graduate students will assess the children and provide guidance to the program's volunteer undergraduate tutors.



Other projects that are simmering on our back burners include a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Brea to offer Reading Center services as part of their after-school program, plans for Saturday events at the Center (like Family Fun Day), a celebration of our 50th anniversary, and the launch of our campaign to raise funds for Reading Center scholarships.

There are several platforms that we are testing and using with success in the summer camp program and the Academic Success program, including ClassDojo, Padlet, Nearpod, Scholastic Core Clicks, EPIC, and Tumble Books. We incorporate public library e-resources, and we have created our own YouTube channel. Some instruction uses old friends like Google Slides and Google Docs, as well as Microsoft PowerPoint with embedded videos and links.

The Reading Center leadership team will be in transition at the start of the fall semester! Kathi Bartle Angus (1979) will be stepping down as Director, and Joanne Chapman will take over the reins as Reading Center Director, with Carla Salcido stepping into the Associate Director role. Kathi will continue her involvement with the Reading Center through the Reading Center Leadership Council.



Joanne Chapman (left) and Carla Salcido (right)

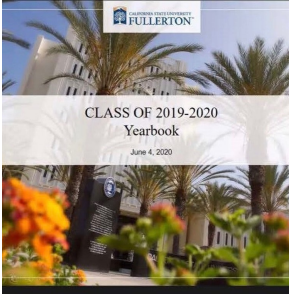
Please visit the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center Facebook page to see photos and more news of our activities.

We're Golden!

The Department of Literacy and Reading and the Reading Center are celebrating 50 years of service to teachers and students. We will celebrate as soon as we can, and all will be invited! Our original planned date of *10-10-2020* had a nice ring to it, but unfortunately, that date seems too soon to safely plan a celebration. Watch your email and the REG Facebook page for announcements about the future celebration date.



READING DEPARTMENT GRADUATES



The class of 2019-2020 observed its graduation milestone with a virtual graduation, as did so many graduating classes across the country. However, the lack of an in-person celebration in no way diminishes the excitement of adding these new Master of Science degree recipients to our alumni ranks. Their virtual commencement ceremony included a virtual yearbook which shared memories from their three years of study.



Special congratulations are given to Giovanni Pasinato, who was named the Edwin Carr Fellow for this graduating class. This award is given for meritorious achievement throughout the master's program to an individual deemed to make outstanding contributions to the field of literacy education.

We hope the new grads will take advantage of the special price of \$57 being offered for lifetime membership in the Titan Alumni Association. REG is moving under its organizational umbrella this year, and joining the Titan Alumni Association will allow you to stay connected with REG and CSUF. For more information, follow this link:

<https://alumni.fullerton.edu/membership/>

See additional information about membership in the Titan Alumni Association elsewhere in this newsletter.

Fall 2019

Autumn Altier
Alexandra Avila
Susan Chang
Jessica Dancosse
Sarah Didion
April Foskett
Eric Fuller
Camille Jaramillo
Christina Jimenez

Brittney Kornow
Sara Lam
Monica Larsson
Caroline Look
Cesar Mondaca
Elizabeth Monson
Diana Montenegro
Donna Murray
Giovanni Pasinato*

Valerie Peters-Spiropoulos
April Rivas
Jennifer Silva
Pamela Stiefel
Becky Torres
Magaly Yanez

Edwin Carr Fellow ()*

Spring 2020

Emily Aguilar
Jaime DaPra Duncan
Melissa Huisken
Nora Magana

Jessica Mejia
Elizabeth Miquelon
Kristina Noreen
Isabel Perez

Kendall Price
Kayla Robarge
Shelbi Stanley

Department of Literacy and Reading Education News

The Department of Literacy and Reading Education is delighted to announce the appointment of two new assistant professors to the faculty. Congratulations to Dr. Laura Keisler and Dr. Madeleine Mejia!

Dr. Laura Keisler is well known by our students already! She has taught a variety of graduate and undergraduate courses in the department for almost a decade. She will continue to teach in the graduate program and will be coordinating the undergraduate program, as well as the Post-Secondary Literacy and Learning Certificate Program.



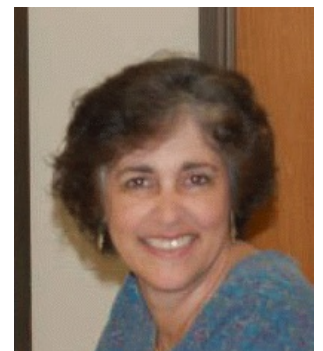
Dr. Madeleine Mejia comes to us from USC, where she was the director and taught in the Reading and Literacy Added-Authorization Program at the Rossier School of Education. She brings a wealth of experience, including serving as a literacy specialist in the Boston schools. Her primary teaching assignment will be in the graduate program, including our capstone course, READ 581, Strategic Interventions for Literacy Specialists: Practicum, and READ 507, Literacy in the Academic Disciplines.



Dr. Brad Biggs announced his retirement at the end of the spring semester. He is returning to his home state of Indiana to be close to his family. Our students appreciated the unique perspectives he brought to his teaching in both graduate and undergraduate courses. Congratulations on your retirement, Dr. Biggs!

Congratulations Maureen Provenzano, REG Volunteer of the Year!

Maureen Provenzano (2010) has been named Volunteer of the Year for her work on the REG board. Maureen was instrumental in making all the arrangements for our last two breakfast meetings. For those who have done event planning, that is no small task! Maureen worked with our partners at Alta Vista Country Club to ensure that the events included a wonderful setting and delicious food. She also played a major role in developing and hosting our Family Reading Fun Days and is always generous in sharing her time hosting alumni events, including our graduation receptions. Volunteers like Maureen are what it takes to make REG such a welcoming and a fun organization.



Thank you, Maureen!

Outstanding Alumna for 2020

Joanne Chapman, M.S., M.A.

Joanne Chapman (2010) was nominated by REG board members and unanimously approved by the faculty of the Literacy and Reading Department to be the recipient of the Outstanding Alumna Award for 2020. She is a Titan through and through, having earned her Bachelor of Arts degree and teaching credential at CSUF, as well as her Master of Science degree. She also competed as a hurdler on the CSUF track team!

Joanne has had a long and varied career in education, beginning as a primary teacher in Chino Valley Unified School District, then teaching preschool while her three children were young. Joanne returned to CSUF in 2008 to work on her Master of Science degree and received the Brenneman scholarship to support her studies. Following



graduation, Joanne accepted a position at Fullerton College as an adjunct teacher in the Reading Department. This position led to positions at other community colleges, including Chaffee College and Long Beach City College, where she specialized in teaching academic reading and critical reading and thinking. In 2014, Joanne joined the CSUF faculty as a part-time instructor in the Department of Literacy and Reading. She quickly earned recognition for her expertise in creating online classes in critical thinking. Joanne completed a Master of Arts degree in English in 2016 to further her expertise in teaching undergraduate students. Recently, she has been sharing her expertise with others as we

prepare to do more online instruction this fall. Joanne was invited in 2015 by CSUF to become an elementary student-teacher clinical coach and has continued doing that work and mentoring young teachers.

When the College for Kids program developed by Drs. Kath Glasswell and Erica Bowers needed literacy specialist coaches for the Orange Unified School District summer program, Joanne was one of the alumni selected. Her growing expertise led to an appointment as Associate Director of the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center in 2017. Those who follow the Reading Center news know that Joanne's dedication and creativity in that role has been immensely important to the Reading Center's growth. She was instrumental in establishing a partnership with the Center for Healthy Neighborhoods, and has written and developed three reading camp curricula in a little over two years, serving as camp director for each one!

Joanne has also provided considerable leadership in the field of reading. She is currently serving as the College Reading and Learning Association's California Chapter's Treasurer and has taken on multiple leadership roles at various campuses, including Fullerton College One Book, One College Committee Member, Chaffey College Lab Assignment Revision Committee Member, Fullerton College Adjunct Mentor, and Fullerton College Student of Distinction Committee Member. She has made multiple presentations in various professional settings and has served as a mentor for her student teachers in developing their own presentations.

Joanne's colleagues marvel at her boundless energy and "can-do" attitude. When asked, "Can you do this?" her usual response is, "Yes, we can do anything!" Joanne has not only demonstrated excellence in teaching over her career, but she has also demonstrated a professional commitment to her field that has made her a credit to the Department of Literacy and Reading and the entire CSUF campus community!



Follow us!

Department of
Literacy and Reading Education,
Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center,
and
Reading Educators Guild



REG CSUF

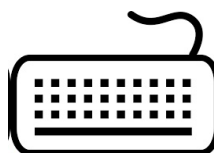


Instagram

@REG_CSUF

Visit REG at

<http://ed.fullerton.edu/reg/>.



Please add REGSUF1970@gmail.com

to your contacts so you don't miss any announcements and events!



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FULLERTON

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WE NEED YOU!

If you are interested in helping guide REG's transition to Titan Alumni Association or plan its 50th anniversary celebration, please contact Linda Vander Wende at readncraft@aol.com.