

Impact Newsletter

College of Education

Summer/Fall 2020



Contact Information

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A Message from Dean Lisa Kirtman

In the wake of current events, parents and caregivers alike have expressed their deep appreciation for the role (and patience) of educators. Educators impact individuals, families, communities, and our society. But I am more convinced than ever that Educators Change the world.

A lot of attention is being placed on systemic racism (unfair and unequal policies and practices that give one race an advantage over another), but institutionalized racism is not new, and certainly not absent in the education system. When I say Educators Change the World, I am referring to how the education system as a whole, and teachers as conduits of that system, affect the trajectory of so many lives. Students in K-12 spend the majority of their day with their teachers, making them one of the most influential people in their formative years. A teacher can encourage and inspire, creating lasting memories and fondness. In higher education, an instructor can change the trajectory of a student's career, which in many cases can perpetuate or end generational poverty.

I am particularly proud of the College of Education faculty and staff during these unprecedented times. In spite of the limitations due to the pandemic, our faculty and staff are proving that educators change the world. They are still supporting the community through free webinars for teachers on online teaching and learning, support for Asian Language development as well as anti-racist teaching. We provided virtual summer camps in language development and reading, and this fall, we will continue to provide free virtual tutoring for K-12 students. You can learn more about this exciting work in the articles of this newsletter.

We know It Takes a Titan, and the College of Education is committed to leading the way.

Reaching our Students and Community

Supporting our Students during COVID-19: A Message from Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Dianna Lopez

During this pandemic crisis, the goal of the college is to focus on leadership on maintaining a strong culture of care and creating a healthy, safe, and inclusive community where our students can thrive. The work that we are doing would not be possible without the support of effective collaboration and community partnerships. Most importantly, this would also not be possible without the support from our generous donors, whose scholarship contributions help remove barriers that make it possible for our students to complete their educational goals and make their professional dreams a reality.



In recent months, the COVID-19 crisis has drastically changed the lives of millions around the world, including college students. Life as we once knew it has changed, leaving many students and their families without employment, and struggling to make ends meet. Basic needs such as food, transportation, and housing were widespread issues among college students even before the pandemic. This crisis has compelled our students to seek out resources, funding, change their way of living, and adapt to the crisis's pressures. To assist our students during this time, as the assistant dean for student affairs for the College of Education, I address these issues by providing holistic intentional intervention and guidance to help them navigate and access available resources such as on-campus resources and community social services. With so many needs to address, my work is dependent on effective collaborations with campus and community partners, vital to connecting students with services necessary to resolve the concerns that impact students' personal, professional, and academic success. For example, one solution is to direct students to where they can get help when it comes to food insecurity. I partner with our on-campus Tuffy's Basic Needs Center and with food banks across the state to provide our students with the information needed to access available food based on their local. It is my goal to ensure no student is left behind. Our students' well-being and academic success are our priority. If you are interested in supporting student scholarships in the College of Education please visit our giving page.

Free Virtual Tutoring Program

With the ongoing need to adapt to a virtual teaching and learning environment, our College of Education launched a free virtual tutoring program in early April 2020, to help K-12 students with their homework while distance learning from home during the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual tutoring is led by our student teachers who have all received college degrees and are in the process of receiving their teaching credentials. Not only does this provide an opportunity for our future teachers to find ways to practice and adapt to the current environment but it also helps students in need within our community.



A webpage titled "Resources for Virtual Teaching and Learning" has been created for teachers and parents that focuses on resources for online teaching and learning which you can view here. To learn more about the virtual tutoring program please visit here.

Reaching our Students and Community

Dig Deeper: Virtual Summer Reading Camp

Dig Deeper is a virtual summer reading camp specifically designed to engage high needs students in grades 1 through 9. In partnership with the Center for Healthy Neighborhoods, the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center launched the program with a book bag pick-up at Richman Elementary in Fullerton on June 13. Each student received several books, along with stationery and art supplies to support literacy activities. The program is organized through a ClassDojo site where students and parents communicate with the teachers, access curriculum and submit projects. The students receive prizes for completing literacy activities that go along with the books they are reading.



The program is supported by the Tarsadia Foundation, Teacher Created Materials, Reading Is Fundamental, Fullerton Public Library and others. If you're interested in learning more about the Hazel Miller Croy Reading Center please visit their Facebook page.

K-12 Online Teaching Webinars

Most K-12 teachers were not prepared for virtual only teaching. To assist, the SchoolsFirst Center for Creativity and Critical Thinking developed free K-12 webinars that focused on online teaching strategies. The College provides free access to the webinars through our YouTube Channel. To learn more, about the K-12 Online Teaching Webinars, please visit our website here.

Webinar Series on Anti-Racist Teaching

Our Secondary Education Department is offering free social justice and anti-racist teaching webinars this fall semester, presented by faculty members who are rising up to promote anti-racist teaching and learning. The webinars are available to teachers, teacher candidates, faculty and community members and focus on dismantling racist policies, practices, and ideas that influence schools, teachers and children, as well as taking action that addresses anti-racist teaching. There are several webinar topics, which are available with free registration here. The first webinar was scheduled in mid-August and others are scheduled to follow on Tuesdays from 4:00pm-5:30pm. To learn more about the webinar series on Anti-Racist Teaching, please visit our website here.



College Recognition



Dr. Emma E. Holmes Faculty Fellowship Recipient

The College of Education is excited to share that Dr. Fernando Rodriguez-Valls, Secondary Education, has been selected to receive the Dr. Emma E. Holmes Faculty Fellowship for the 2020-21 academic year, for his project, **Project LIEF-ALL (Linguistically Inclusive Education For-All)**. This fellowship is funded through the generosity of Dr. Holmes, professor emeritus in the Department of Elementary and Bilingual Education, provides reassigned time to support faculty engagement in local education settings. The award is made on the basis of a competitive application process. The review committee found that his proposed project was well developed and addresses college strategic priorities. Moreover, his project is consistent with the purpose of the Fellowship – to support faculty development and school/community engagement.

To view our list of previous recipients please visit our Emma E. Holmes Faculty Fellowship webpage [here](#).

Faculty Spotlight

We congratulate Dr. Josephine H. Pham for the high achievement of receiving the 2020 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Division K Outstanding Dissertation Award, for her dissertation study, *The Multi-faceted Nature of Racially Transformative Practices: Bringing Invisibilized Labor and Leadership of Teachers of Color*. The Division K Outstanding Dissertation award recognizes a dissertation of exemplary conceptual, methodological, analytic, and writing quality on a topic of key significance in teaching and teacher education.



Donor Spotlight

The College of Education recently received a \$100,000 grant from the Warne Family Charitable Foundation to support students who are pursuing a degree, credential or authorization in Special Education. Selected through a competitive application process, twenty-five (25) COE students will be awarded a \$4,000 scholarship that will support academic expenses, including tuition, fees, and books. Providing meaningful scholarship assistance that enables students to persist and excel in their studies, the Warne Scholars in Special Education program at CSUF will advance the educational and career success of academically talented and ambitious students who come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds during the 2020-21 academic year. To learn about how you can help to support the academic and career success of talented College of Education students, please contact Katie McGill at kmcgill@fullerton.edu or visit <https://give.fullerton.edu/college-of-education>.

Save the Date to Support Teachers as they Change the World

To support the efforts of current and future teachers – the heroes in our classroom – the College of Education is excited to announce "Teachers Change the World," an online fundraising campaign that will kick-off October 1st. Thanks to a special matching-gift challenge from Teacher Created Materials, **gifts will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$10,000!** We hope you will join the College of Education in this campaign as we raise funds to provide much-needed support to our local teachers. Through this campaign, the College of Education will empower current and future teachers by providing them with the programming, support and resources they needed to positively impact the lives of their students, their community and our world. Stay tuned for more information!



Upcoming Events

2020 Virtual Ed Week:
SAVE THE DATE: Mon.- Fri., November 16-20, 2020
 For event updates, visit our Events webpage.



We thank our students for their perseverance, our faculty for their dedication, our staff for their support, and our supporters for believing in our mission. You are all Titans and It Takes a Titan to advocate for our future teachers as they change lives and change the world.

To support our mission and our initiatives on community engagement such as virtual tutoring, K12 teaching webinars, distance learning and language instruction webinars, as well as J.E.I.E. and student scholarships, please visit <https://give.fullerton.edu/college-of-education>.

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