

# @FULLERTON

## CSUF | Alumni Newsletter



### Featured News



We may be confined to our homes but that doesn't mean TITANS can't connect! Join the Office of Alumni Engagement for exciting upcoming virtual programming! Tune in every Titan Tuesday on the [CSUF Alumni YouTube](#) channel to catch a new episode of Cooking with a Titan. So far we've seen delicious recipes from bacon mac & cheese to chile verde sauce and we'll be airing an extra special episode tonight, don't miss it! In addition we have our first-ever [virtual paint night](#) coming up on May

9th which will feature a Titan inspired painting and finally, participate in our weekly [Titan Community Talks](#). These are virtual opportunities for alumni to connect with current CSUF students. Visit our website or social media sites to stay up to date on our latest events!

[Learn more](#)

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## Alumni News



### **Alumnus is at the Forefront of Developing COVID-19 Testing**

Luigi Basilio '12, a scientist at Zymo Research Corp., is at the forefront of helping to develop accurate testing to detect the new coronavirus and stop the spread of COVID-19. Basilio credits his education and research experiences at Cal State Fullerton for giving him the knowledge and skills to work in the science and technology industry. [Photo credit: Keith Kim]

[Read more & meet other Titans against COVID-19](#)

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## Alumna Helps Mobilize Food Bank During Pandemic

Two months into Claudia Keller's '17 (M.P.A.) role as chief mission officer for Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County, word of a new coronavirus began to surface. The Cal State Fullerton alumna found herself helping to lead one of the most substantial efforts in the county to keep food-insecure families fed through this pandemic.

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## **Alumnus Partnered with Nail Salons to Donate Gloves and Masks**

CSUF alumnus Tam Nguyen '05, president of Advance Beauty College, worked with nail salon owners and their suppliers to turn a negative into a positive for others. Nail salons were among the businesses hardest hit by the coronavirus crisis.

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## Professionals Learn to Design Online Instruction for Today's Virtual World

Designing and teaching digital instructional content is more than recording a PowerPoint lecture and posting it online. Daryn Bryden '18, wanted to learn research-based approaches to developing online training and instruction. He enrolled in Cal State Fullerton's graduate program in [instructional design and technology](#), broadened his skills to create online teaching materials — and landed a job promotion at Apple.

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## Virtual Tutoring Program Launched to Help K-12 Students

Cal State Fullerton's College of Education has launched a free virtual tutoring program to help K-12 students with their homework while distance learning at home during the coronavirus pandemic. Amber Holloway '12, top left, is coordinating the virtual tutoring program, with volunteer education students Samantha Ouellette, from the top, Jessica Rosete, Jeanne Hoffa, and Julia Zwayne.

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## **Cal State Fullerton Alumna Who Struggled to Read Specializes in Teaching Literacy**

Zoila Gallegos '13 is now helping 'the ones who have fallen through the cracks.' Gallegos says she "hated" reading as a child, but today she's a middle school assistant principal and enjoys teaching literacy to at-risk youth. Gallegos received a second master's degree in reading education from CSUF and is a recipient of the 2020 Distinguished Alumni award from CSUF's College of Education.

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## Basketball Alumnus Finds Success in Europe

Khalil Ahmad '19, a former Cal State Fullerton standout, was named First-Team All-Premier League. A year ago, Khalil Ahmad wrapped up his CSUF basketball career as one of the most prolific scorers in school history. After graduating last May, he competed in the Drew Summer League in Los Angeles when his agent brought him an interesting job offer.

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## **CSUF Alumnus Strives to Reshape Local Orange County Housing Policy**

The lack of affordable housing continues to be an issue in Orange County and in much of California. As the chapter executive officer of the Building Industry Association of Southern California's Orange County chapter, Steven LaMotte '09, works with local governments in an effort to ease regulations on construction, which can lead to more housing availability.

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## CSUF Alumni on YouTube!

Titans, join us on YouTube, and enjoy all our virtual programming. Catch our weekly series and meet fellow Titan alumni. See something you like and want to get involved? Get in touch with us. Lastly, support your CSUF Alumni family and subscribe to our YouTube channel.

Subscribe

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## Titans in the Spotlight

### Alumni



### **Laura Arce '00 , Lecturer, Biological Science named Titan of the Year**

Arce '00 was named Titan of the Year during this year's University Awards ceremony. She is a long-standing, part-time lecturer in biological science whose primary teaching assignments include upper-division courses in molecular and cancer biology, as well as a lower-division laboratory course for students accepted into the Research Careers Preparatory (RCP) program that she directs. In addition to serving as the RCP program director, she conducts research on-campus and leads her own community outreach events.

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## **Student**



## Bryan Ruef

Bryan Ruef is currently serving triple duty as EMT, entrepreneur, and student. Ruef created a cloud-based dispatch system, supporting first responders with [10-8 Systems](#), designed for managing emergencies. COVID-19 has created a massive spike in demand for *10-8 Systems*.

Between running his business and patients to the hospital, he is grateful that classes are now online. “I have no clue how I could have been able to finish the semester if I had to attend in-person classes on top of all this,” he says.

[Read More](#)

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## Campus News

- [Titan Voices Blog](#)
- [Next Vice President for Student Affairs Selected, Steps into Top Post in Summer](#)
- [Titan Experts Share COVID-19 Health Information With Hispanic Community](#)
- [Titan Entrepreneur Shares Lessons for Success in New Book](#)
- [Virtual Town Hall Addresses Faculty, Staff COVID-19 Concerns](#)

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## Calendar

TUESDAY, MAY 5	<a href="#">NEW Cooking with a Titan</a>
TUESDAY, MAY 5	<a href="#">Alumni &amp; Student Game Night</a>
THURSDAY, MAY 7	<a href="#">Titan Alumni Talks</a>
THURSDAY, MAY 7	<a href="#">Alumni &amp; Student Open Forum</a>
SATURDAY, MAY 9	<a href="#">Virtual Paint Party</a>
MONDAY, MAY 11	<a href="#">Titan Alumni Talks</a>
MONDAY, MAY 11	<a href="#">Titan Alumni &amp; Student Community Talks</a>
TUESDAY, MAY 12	<a href="#">NEW Cooking with a Titan</a>
THURSDAY, MAY 14	<a href="#">Titan Alumni Talks</a>
Starting Early June 2020	CSUF Alumni Virtual Book Club

[More CSUF Alumni Events](#)

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**GEICO GIVEBACK**

To help provide support during COVID-19, we're giving our auto, motorcycle, and RV current and NEW policyholders a 15% credit on your next 6-month or 12-month policy term. Get a Titan quote today!

Get a quote

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## **Are you a member of the CSUF Alumni Association?**

These are unprecedented times, and now more than ever, we need to lean on each other to make our Titan community the strongest it's ever been. Consider joining the Alumni Association, and a portion of your lifetime membership fee will be allocated to our student scholarship fund. [Become a member today!](#)

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