

**Congratulations  
to all of our  
Scholarship & Award Recipients!**

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MANY THANKS  
TO

**ALL OF OUR GENEROUS  
Donors**

Without their support this would not be possible.

**The College of Health and Human Development**

**The Department of Family & Consumer Sciences**  
Faculty & Staff

AND THE

**The Scholarship & Awards Committee**

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**CSUN** | College of Health and Family and  
Human Development Consumer Sciences



## Scholarships & Awards

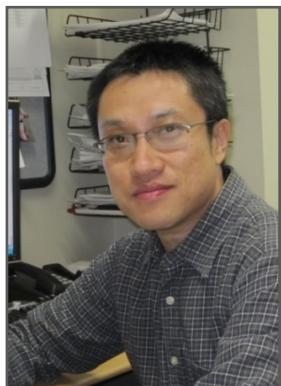
**Friday, April 27th, 2018  
5:00 to 7:00 P.M.**

Orange Grove Bistro  
California State University, Northridge

**CSUN** | College of Health and Family and  
Human Development Consumer Sciences

[www.csun.edu/hhd/fcs](http://www.csun.edu/hhd/fcs)

## A Message from Department Chair Yi 'Tom' Cai



Welcome to the annual Scholarship & Awards celebration for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, class of 2018. We're glad you're here!

Today, the most outstanding graduate students and seniors in FCS are being celebrated for their amazing achievements. We are also acknowledging the students with a pronounced excellence in service to our campus and communities. Additionally, we are here to recognize the contributions and collaborations from our community partners, thanks for your love and support to our students!

As best of the FCS, you serve as our champions and promote the common spirit among all the disciplines in the department: Family and Consumer Sciences students and professionals enhance the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities through education, research, creative endeavors, and public service.

On behalf of the faculty and staff in the department, I offer enthusiastic congratulations to our Scholarship and Award recipients for 2018!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Yi 'Tom' Cai".

Department Chair, Yi 'Tom' Cai  
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences  
April, 2018

## 2018 KON Honors Cords Recipients

from  
**Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society**  
*Omicron Beta Epsilon Chapter*



**Kappa Omicron Nu National Honor Society for the Human Sciences (KON)** promotes empowered leaders who use an integrative approach to enhance quality of living through excellence in scholarship, leadership, and research. It provides recognition and honor, as well as lifelong opportunities for networking through education and service. KON is a certified member of the Association of College Honor Societies, and serves 98 active chapters and nearly 150,000 members.

The Omicron Beta Epsilon Chapter of KON at CSUN is co-advised by Dr. Annette Besnilian and Dr. Diane Lewis-Goldstein. KON serves all options from both the undergraduate and graduate programs within the Kinesiology and the Family & Consumer Sciences majors. To receive membership: each undergraduate student must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA, have completed 45 semester units, and rank in the top 25% of their class; and each graduate student must be enrolled in a qualifying graduate program, maintain a 3.5 GPA, and have completed 12 semester units.

Honors cords are given to active member to indicate their achievement at commencement ceremonies. To receive honors cords, a member must maintain all of the basic criteria, and in addition, complete at least four hours of service.

### Spring 2018 Honor Cords

#### Graduate Students

Jennifer Gomez, *Editor*  
Sara Magadalin  
Katie Rawson, *Co-President*  
Jenica Smith, *Vice President*  
Elizabeth Torossian

#### Undergraduate Students

Patricia Allen  
Nina Amirian  
Michelle Chelepyan  
Danielle Drake  
Frida Endinjok, *Co-President*  
Jessica Flaherty  
Charleen Hsieh, *Secretary*  
Abigail Pajulas

### Fall 2017 Honor Cords

#### Graduate Students

Madelynn Esquivias

#### Undergraduate Students

Eirenel Eclevia  
Mariah Haroon, *Editor*  
Varduh Niksalyan



# 2018 Dean's Award Recipients

for  
The College of Health and Human Development

## Outstanding Graduate Student Award

**Madelynn Esquivias, Apparel Design & Merchandising**

**Madelynn Esquivias** is also the Outstanding Graduate Student recipient of the College of Health & Human Development's Dean's Award. Her story appears in a previous section of this document, as the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Student Nominee for Apparel Design & Merchandising option from the FCS department.

## Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award

**Michelle Sakoda, Food Science**

Michelle Sakoda is a senior in Food Science and Administration, who will be graduating in May 2018. Her GPA is 3.9. She is an active member of the Food Science Association (FSA), serving as an officer in the position of Historian and Web Administrator. She is also a member of the Student Dietetic and Food Science Association at CSUN (SDFSA). She is currently completing an Internship at Fresh & Ready Foods in San Fernando, CA in the area of Quality Assurance. She completed an internship at the MMC in the Summer of 2017. Michelle is a student member of several professional organizations: the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and its local section, Southern California Institute of Food Technologists Section (SCIFTS), and the Food Industry Business Roundtable (FIBR). She and her team participated in the 2018 SCIFTS Food Industry Conference Student Product Development competition. She was a volunteer at SCIFTS Supplier's Night Expo in 2017 and 2018. She has also volunteered with the Nutrition Department at West Hills Hospital (January 2014 - November 2014) and the West Hills Food Pantry (January 2015 - December 2015). She's also a volunteer harvester with Food Forward. Michelle is a co-investigator in an independent research project, a qualitative study on how hearing and deaf/hard of hearing college students perceive a version of the Nutrition Facts label that includes color coding and more visual aids. She and her fellow student researchers are presenting the project at CSUNposium this year, the CA-AFCS Conference in San Francisco on April 7, and are planning to submit a paper to the CSUN Service Learning Conference later in the year.

Michelle is planning to pursue a M.S. in Food Science after graduation.

## Program

### Welcome

College of Health & Human Development Dean, *Farrell J. Webb*

Scholarship & Awards Committee:

*Annette Besnilian, Nelida Duran, & Rosalia Garcia-Torres*

### Presentation of

### Scholarship & Awards to the Students

Department of Family & Consumer Sciences Faculty

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Pastor Herrera, Jr.  
Scholarship

The Rosalie Hilger Achievement  
Scholarships

The Besnilian Leadership  
Scholarship

The Christine H. Smith  
Scholarship

The Family & Consumer  
Sciences Scholarship

The KON Omicron Beta Epsilon  
Chapter Scholarship

The Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens  
KON Scholarship

The Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens  
ADM Scholarship

The Tom Chen Scholarship

## AWARDS

Apparel Design & Merchandising  
Consumer Affairs

Family Studies

FCS Education

Food Science

Interior Design

Nutrition & Dietetics

Dean's Awards

KON Honors Cords

## Closing Remarks

Department Chair, *Yi "Tom" Cai*

# **2018 Scholarship Recipients**

## **for the Pastor Herrera, Jr. Scholarship for Consumer Affairs**

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**Pastor Herrera, Jr. Scholarship, Pastor Herrera, Jr.** has been an adjunct professor at CSUN since 2011. He has also served on the California State License Board and held multiple positions at the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer Affairs for over 19 years. His most recent position at the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer Affairs was serving as the Director for the Consumer and Business Affairs Department. Pastor understands the importance of giving back and felt that supporting scholarships would make the greatest impact and help students with their finances as they work their way through the family and consumer sciences programs.

### **Tracy Munoz Undergraduate Student**

Tracy is graduating from CSUN May of 2019 with a B.S. in Family Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in Consumer Affairs. She is a current member of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences. She has helped raised funds to feed the homeless in downtown Los Angeles and was part of the City of Los Angeles Victim Assistance internship program. She has a strong desire to work with families, individuals, and communities helping them make long lasting life changes.

### **Outstanding Service Award**

#### **Lizbeth Diaz**

Lizbeth will be graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in FCS, Nutrition and Dietetics. Lizbeth's commitment to serving her community can be traced to her early employment at Northeast Valley Health Corporation, a non-profit health care organization serving the San Fernando Valley. Her internship at the Marilyn Magaram Center ignited her passion for education through volunteering for programs such as the garden-enhanced nutrition education and cooking demonstrations. Lizbeth joined Food Forward as a know Waste Educator where she taught Elementary School students about what food waste is, how to prevent it, and the consequences of waste to our planet via active-learning activities that included the creation of their own public service announcements (PSA). As an active member of CSUN's Student Dietetic and Food Science Association (SDFSA) she assisted in tabling events and in the delivery of the nutrition programming sponsored by the club. More recently, Lizbeth has coupled her commitment to promoting health through nutrition with her bilingual and multimedia skills to deliver Spanish language nutrition education to the Spanish speaking community via the television network Univision and through her on-line presence. She will undoubtedly be a strong leader and health advocate for marginalized and Spanish-speaking communities. This summer Lizbeth will start her dietetic internship at the University of Houston.

### **Outstanding Community Organization Award**

#### **Sun Valley Recreation Center, Non Profit**

Los Angeles City's Department of Recreation and Parks are stewards to over 16,000 acres of parkland, offering extensive recreational, social and cultural programs at 444 park sites in every Los Angeles neighborhood from the valley to the sea and includes Sun Valley Recreation Center. SVRC is located at 8133 Vineland Ave in Sun Valley and under the direction of Daniel Hernandez. We would like to recognize the "Teen Club" supervised by Messrs. Henry Melendez and Jose Dominguez for their support of our students' service learning projects and our faculty's and student's research projects. The "Teen Club" provides programming to 11 – 17 year old adolescents and have allowed the CSUN team to incorporate nutrition education and cooking classes to their programs. Research projects include, assessing Latino adolescents' food decisions and their environment (funded by the MMC), assessing the impact of nutrition education and cooking classes on the gut microbiota of Latino adolescents (in progress), and conducting an environmental scan of the food environment and promoting advocacy among Latino adolescents (forthcoming). The experiences our students gain from working with and learning from the members of the Teen Club are invaluable and the knowledge gained from our research collaboration with Sun Valley Recreation Center is transformative to our field.

# 2018 FCS Award Recipients

from  
Nutrition & Dietetics

## Outstanding Graduate Student Award **Jennifer Gomez**

Jennifer is a graduating from CSUN with a perfect GPA of a 4.0 and a Masters in Family & Consumer Sciences with a focus in Nutrition and Dietetics. Jennifer has served as a coordinator for the grocery tour program as well as a program assistant for the garden-enhanced nutrition education program at the Marilyn Magaram Center. She also served as the newsletter editor for CSUN's Kappa Omicron Nu (KON) Honor Society. At the Youth Policy Institute, Jennifer was instrumental in implementing a community wide-health assessment survey by training over 30 support staff and supervising a team of 3 data entry clerks. Jennifer is currently working as a graduate research assistant for a study on the role of nutrigenomics in preventing diabetes among Spanish-speaking Latinos with pre-diabetes. Jennifer's dedication to high quality work and mastery of advanced nutrition knowledge is unsurpassed and complemented by her service to others. Her career goal is to become a registered dietitian with the aim of delivering nutrition education programs to children in underserved communities domestically and abroad.

## Outstanding Graduating Senior Award **Karim Damji**

Karim is going to be graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in FCS, Nutrition and Dietetics. His service learning project focused on assessing the distribution partners' needs of Food Forward, a community based organization that aims to relieve hunger by rescuing 300,000 pounds of surplus produce each week and donating it to over 300 hunger relief agencies across 8 counties in Southern California. Karim's project not only improved the efficiency of the organization but also increased awareness of its existence which resulted in additional CSUN students volunteering for Food Forward. In 2016, Karim received the Volunteer of the Year Award from Food Forward for his service and leadership to the organization. Mr. Damji is extraordinary in his ability to maintain a 3.83 GPA at CSUN while working part-time at the CSUN Student Recreation Center, engaging in campus life at the MMC and SDFSA, and volunteering at Food Forward. This summer Karim will be in Thailand working on a study on the microbiomes of pregnant refugees from Myanmar and in the fall he will be applying to graduate schools that offer a combined master's degree and dietetic internship. His career goal is to become a registered dietitian to improve the health and wellness of populations domestically and abroad.

(Nutrition & Dietetics Awards continued on next page.)

# 2018 Scholarship Recipients

for the  
Rosalie Hilger Achievement Scholarships

**Rosalie Hilger Achievement Scholarship for Family Studies, Rosalie Hilger** This scholarship was made possible by a generous gift from Ernest Hilger, on behalf of the Hilger Family Trust, and in honor of Ernest's most beloved wife, Rosalie Hilger. Ernest established this scholarship to carry on Rosalie's legacy, her caring and gentle spirit, and to benefit future generations of students, something that Rosalie was passionate about.

Rosalie Hilger was an alumna of CSUN's Family and Consumer Sciences program and served as an adjunct professor at East Los Angeles Community College and Los Angeles Mission College. This scholarship is awarded to students who have demonstrated a positive life path for themselves and their family and who utilize their own positive energy and education as a way to help them succeed in their chosen profession.

## **Karina Almanza** Graduate Student

Karina is a Graduate Student and Dietetic Intern at California State University, Northridge earning her Master's degree in Human Nutrition. Anticipating to complete her Master's in 2019, Karina has a keen focus on incorporating her nutrition expertise in helping the community through the promotion of healthy lifestyle choices. Having recently graduated with a B.S. in Clinical Nutrition from University of California, Davis, Karina proudly holds managerial experience in a foodservice, sustainability, nutrition, and community-hospital setting. As an RD, Karina hopes to inspire others to carry a holistic view on a healthy lifestyle, whether it be through public policies or one-on-one consults in an outpatient or clinical setting.

## **Cassandra Moore** Undergraduate Student

Cassandra is a Nutrition and Dietetics student graduating from CSUN in 2019. She is known as a hardworking and determined student. Cassandra hopes to continue her education once she graduates to earn her Masters in Nutrition and Dietetics. As a RD, she hopes to work with diabetics and help change the way the disease is perceived in the community.

## 2018 Scholarship Recipients for the Besnilian Leadership Scholarship

**Besnilian Leadership Scholarship, Annette Besnilian** CSUN has been a second home to Annette Besnilian and her family for over 27 years. She first earned her bachelor's degree from CSUN in Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Science in 1994. Then completed her doctorate in Educational Leadership at CSUN in 2013. She is currently the Executive Director of the Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics and faculty in Nutrition and Dietetics in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The gift proceeds for the Besnilian Leadership Scholarship will provide annual scholarship awards for undergraduate or graduate students enrolled in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department. The scholarship was established to help support students and provide leadership opportunities for those who intend to apply to local or national conferences or annual professional symposia to present their research.

### Tommy Lor Undergraduate Student

Tommy Lor will graduate from CSUN in the Spring of 2019 with a B.S. in FCS Nutrition and Dietetics option, following, he plans to pursue a dietetic internship within a graduate program. Tommy will serve as the Treasurer for the Student Dietetic and Food Science Association in the 2018-2019 academic year. Tommy has previously completed the Food Science Lab Assistant Internship for the MMC and hopes to participate in either the Let's Grow Healthy and or Fit to Win Internship in the future. Tommy spends time volunteering at Food Forward as a Glean Team Leader and at Monday Night Mission, feeding the less fortunate; while working part-time as a server. Tommy hopes to present his qualitative research study, Perceptions of Incorporating Visual Aides Into The Nutrition Facts Label Among College Students, at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting Expo in 2019. He also plants to present at the 2019 California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Conference. As a Registered Dietitian, he hopes to pursue a career within a clinical nutrition setting before starting a private practice.

## 2018 FCS Award Recipients from Interior Design

### Outstanding Graduating Senior Dilshika Kulasekara

Dilshika Kulasekara graduated from CSUN with a BS in FCS Interior Design this past Fall 2017. From the start Dilshika distinguished herself as one of the most talented, hard-working, and conscientious students in the class. She brings great professionalism and creativity to all her work in interior design. She is willing to explore new ideas and has an entrepreneurial spirit. Dilshika is a KON student honor society member and has a genuine interest in the pursuit of knowledge and has been an outstanding student with exceptional promise with a keen ability to address formal design ideas in response to social and cultural issues. Dilshika is one of the most generous and caring people, always assisting others with a positive attitude. She has shown herself to be a leader among her peers and has been an asset as a lab assistant throughout her tenure here at CSUN.

### Outstanding Community Organization Award Terri Burkhart, EPIC Contract Group, For Profit

EPIC Contract founded in 2015, covering 10 counties in Southern California and 18 cities in North LA County, LA, Orange County, San Diego, Inland Empire, Coachella Valley.

EPIC contract group, a multi-line marketing firm providing solutions for commercial, hospitality, healthcare, higher education, GSA and CMAS furnishings opportunities in Southern California. EPIC, with over 35 years of combined experience offers a diversified team of dedicated professionals, covering A&D, dealer and end user clients. It is with this team that we are providing to our manufacturers and customers in Southern California, EPIC SOLUTIONS outstanding customer service and product knowledge with contract/hospitality furnishings.

EPIC customer service, well-designed quality products and most of all SOLUTIONS. Our mission is to create STYLE WITH SUBSTANCE by providing innovative products for architects, designers, dealers and end users.

member of the CSUN Photo Club and runs her own photography business. She has helped the FCS Department by acting as the photographer to create the Food Science option brochure and filming a video to do outreach and promote the program. She is currently completing an internship at Wanderlust Creamery in Tarzana.

### **Outstanding Community Organization Award Cantara Cellars, *For Profit***

Cantara Cellars, located in Camarillo, CA, has been a strong partner with our Food Science program, providing internships for our seniors. Cantara Cellars is a local winery and tasting room producing a broad selection of award-winning red and white wines. They specialize in producing wines made from grapes grown in the Lodi Appellation in Northern California. The owner, Mike Brown, has been a strong mentor and internship supervisor for many years. They have created a positive learning experience for CSUN students.

## **2018 Scholarship Recipients for the Christine H. Smith Scholarship *for Nutrition, Dietetics, and Food Science***

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**Christine H. Smith Scholarship for NDFS, *Christine Smith***  
was a beloved professor in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department for almost 30 years. She was a co-advisor for the department's Student Dietetic and Food Science Association for over 20 years, served as the director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), and stood as the chair of the Marilyn Magaram Center Advisory Board. Dr. Smith was instrumental in guiding students into becoming registered dietitians and she remained a large part of the DPD program after her retirement. She and her husband, Owen '65 (Theatre), M.A. '67 (Drama) met at CSUN, had a fairytale romance, and both were influential members of the CSUN community. In 2013, they passed away just 81 days apart — Owen after battling cancer and Chris after an accident at her home. Prior to their passing, the Smiths decided to leave a gift from their estate to CSUN, their second home. In their will, the Smiths directed funds in the form of a planned gift to five different areas at CSUN, including this endowed scholarship for a student in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Science.

### **Kimberly Anne Poquiz Undergraduate Student**

Kimberly is a Nutrition and Dietetics student and she will be graduating in Spring 2019. She is currently serving as the Co-publicity Officer for the Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society. She is also a member of the Student Dietetic and Food Science Association and was recently elected as the Editor for the upcoming school year (Fall 2018 to Spring 2019). She is also highly involved with the Marilyn Magaram Center and has been a student intern for three consecutive semesters already. She is currently a Fit to Win/Health Assess Intern and also helps out with the Lab School Internship every two weeks. She is also volunteering in the Pediatrics Department at the Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center to get more exposure with children in the hopes of becoming a pediatric pediatrician in the future.

**Reena Sooda**  
**Undergraduate Student**

Reena will be graduating from CSUN in Spring 2019 with a B.S. in FCS Nutrition and Dietetics option and will be pursuing her dietetic internship along with a Masters in Physician Assistant studies. She is an intern at the Marilyn Magaram Center and a peer mentor for the Humanities Department at CSUN. Reena is a member of Golden Key International Honor Society and KON. She is the president-elect of FRN, fundraising treasurer-elect of SDFSA, and in the running for secretary of FSA. By completing her dietetic internship and masters in Physician Assistant studies she hopes to merge the world of healthcare and nutrition to provide an upper echelon of medical care through proper nutrition, and not through unnecessary medications.

**2018 FCS Award Recipients**  
from  
**Food Science**

**Outstanding Graduating Senior Award**  
**Nina Morin**

Nina Morin is graduating from CSUN with a B.S in Food Science and Administration. For the last year she has been the president of the Food Science Association (FSA) and the student representative of the Southern California Institute of Food Technologists Section (SCIFTS). In this role she attends all SCIFTS meetings in Southern California and gives a voice to students from 6 different Universities in the area. Nina also coordinated the student volunteers for Suppliers Night, an event organized by SCIFTS. Nina is very energetic and a natural born leader. Under Nina's leadership FSA has organized meetings, field trips and food drives to benefit the CSUN food pantry. She is also a lab technician for the food science labs in FCS. Last year she completed an internship as a lab technician with Delicate Cosmetics in Sun Valley, CA. After graduation she is interested in working on quality assurance and control in the food industry while attending graduate school.

**Outstanding Service Award**  
**Sorana Black**

Sorana Black is graduating from CSUN with a B.S in Food Science and Administration. Since August 2017 she has been the Coordinator of the Peer Financial Mentor Program in FCS. She has also volunteered in preschools and elementary schools as an academic mentor for students. She has been involved in the Garden Project and other nutrition programs through the MMC. While at CSUN, Sorana has been a strong advocate for food science students, taking a stand for student rights. This Summer, Sorana will be completing her internship at Chicken of the Sea in the area of Quality Assurance.

**Outstanding Service Award**  
**Jessica Ignacio Vasquez**

Jessica Ignacio Vasquez is graduating from CSUN with a B.S in Food Science and Administration, a minor in Business Law and an additional minor in Real Estate Law. For the last year she has been the vice-president of the Food Science Association (FSA). She has also been an intern with the MMC. She is part of the GE Honors Program and has been on the Dean's list for five semesters. She is also a

## **2018 FCS Award Recipients**

from  
**FCS Education**

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### **Outstanding Graduating Senior Award**

**Lesly Dumilon**

Lesly Dumilon majored in Family and Consumer Sciences Education. She is a member of Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society that empowers future leaders to enhance the quality of life of others through research and scholarship. In the Fall semester of 2016, she took part in a student internship for the Marilyn Magaram Center. In this internship, she was placed in a program called the Garden Enhanced Nutrition Education, where students acquire a learning experience on teaching elementary students topics such as the importance of sustainability, healthy eating, and on the importance of how one can grow fruits and vegetables in their own garden. In the Fall semester of 2017, she then took part in a student teaching assistant internship where she has worked with students, received a teaching opportunity, and learned the important structures within a school, along with the functions they perform.

As she wants to continue her journey by entering the field of health education and working with children, she has decided on two options of applying for graduate school, either in Nutrition or Public Health. In doing so, she hopes to work her way up to the administrative level to take part in a field where she can make a positive impact on the education of others because taking part in a learning environment that contributes to helping students succeed is a rewarding experience.

## **2018 Scholarship Recipients**

for the  
**Family & Consumer Sciences Scholarship**

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**Family & Consumer Sciences** The mission of Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) is to enhance the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities through education, research, creative endeavors, and public service. The Family & Consumer Sciences department is inspired by the belief that a supportive, challenging learning environment is a foundation for the personal, intellectual and professional development of our students, faculty and staff. The FCS Department Scholarships are available to all undergraduate and graduate FCS major students. This scholarships are awarded to full-time students who have a 3.0 grade point average or higher, demonstrate a financial need, and illustrate the values that of Family & Consumer Sciences.

### **Maria Teresa Beltran**

**Undergraduate Student**

Maria Teresa will graduate from CSUN with a BA in FCS Childcare and Administration option. She will then pursue a Masters in Family Services. She will be completing a internship with Miss California Latina and Miss Teen California Latina where she provides support to the representatives as they work with community organizations to empower young woman to embrace their culture and have a voice in social issues and politics, as they make a difference in their community. She also works at the Safe project which provides support and advocacy for family empowerment. Maria is a Millennium Momentum Graduate where she received a certificate of appreciation from the City of LA for activities enhancing community betterment. She is a KON student honor society member, a Golden Key Honor Society member. She is part of the board for the Tau Sigma Honor Society for Transfer Students where she hold the Executive Directors position. Maria hopes to work not only as part of administration for Childcare Centers but also provide and empower surrounding communities with infant and child development classes in the hopes of reducing family crisis in the communities.

# 2018 Scholarship Recipients

for the  
KON Omicron Beta Epsilon Scholarship



**Kappa Omicron Nu (KON), *Omicron Beta Epsilon Chapter*** of KON at CSUN is a national honor society that was established in 1990. KON's full story appears at a later section in this document, as the 2018 KON Honors Cords Recipients for Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society.

Each scholarship is awarded on a competitive basis to an active Kappa Omicron Nu member who has demonstrated scholarship, research, and leadership potential.

## **Brandi Clouet** **Graduate Student**

Brandi is currently finishing a post-baccalaureate B.S. in FCS, option Nutrition and Dietetics. Additionally, she will be completing an M.S. in Human Nutrition in 2019 and is in the beginning stages of designing her thesis project in support of nutrition education for elementary school children. She is a member of both the K.O.N. student honor society and the Golden Key Honour Society, and was a student intern with the Marilyn Magaram Center for two semesters. She currently works full-time at St. John's Hospital through Aramark as a Nutrition and Food Services Host. Brandi plans to pursue a Dietetic Internship for the 2019 match year to become a Registered Dietitian. As an R.D., she aims to work in a clinical setting, eventually applying her clinical expertise to serve vulnerable populations throughout the community.

## **Outstanding Service Award** **Daniella Arias**

Daniella Arias will be graduating this semester with a B.S. in FCS from the Family Studies option. As a student, she has shown impressive skills at balancing work, study and community engagement. With over 1,000 hours of experience as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) she has utilized her knowledge as a Family Studies scholar to understand children both individually and contextually. As a CASA she maintains direct-contact with the children and regularly communicates with the people in their life (e.g. foster parents, therapists, intensive services facilitators, and attorneys). She creates case plans that address safety, permanency, education, and well-being. She submits recommendations to the Court informing them how the system can best support the child. She also has interned with ONEgeneration which provides programs and services to seniors and their caregivers. Her roles include assisting the Director of Volunteer Services with the Meals on Wheels program and the Activities Coordinator in leading group activities. She plans to earn her Master's in Social Work degree, become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, and serve those in need through strengthening the family.

## **Outstanding Community Organization Award** **Child Care Resource Center, Non Profit**

CCRC is an organization that has a strong and positive impact on the quality of life of families and children in the San Fernando Valley. Through its various innovative and practical programs such as training programs in screening and observing children, guiding behavior, special needs, referrals to child care providers programs, it's impressive Book, Toy and Resources that has been frequented by thousands of families, its research and Evaluation services to ensure effective programs for families, it connects parents and families to quality childcare resources, and in doing so, enhance and empower families in a resource and experience rich community. Its has also strengthened the economy of families in our community through career and job training, etc.. To date it has generated about \$188 million in parent income due to employment.

For more than 6 years now years, CCRC has collaborated with the Family Studies program to provide supervision and pre-professional training to students. Students have always reported that they received excellent supervision while they were placed at CCRC. Students were able to participate actively in co-facilitating programs that enhance child development, parenting practices, and conducted family assessments during home visits. We are very proud of the relationship we have with CCRC.

## **2018 FCS Award Recipients**

from  
**Family Studies**

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### **Outstanding Graduate Student**

#### **Priscilla Gomez**

Priscilla Gomez is in the final stages of her academic pursuit for a M.S. degree in Family and Consumer Sciences. Ms. Gomez applies her studies to "real" world experiences in her current position as Lead Teacher and Center Designee at the Child Care Resource Center in Chatsworth. Her degree has been part of her overall goal as she has advanced her career from Assistant Teacher to Lead Teacher and most currently at the Center Designee where she monitors the center's program and the activities of the staff.

Even with the demands of the M.S. program in Family and Consumer Science and a growing career, Priscilla has managed to maintain the highest grade point average of 4.0. Priscilla is also involved in her community and finds time to support the parents of the children who attend her child care center. With all of her personal and professional duties, Ms. Gomez always presents a positive attitude toward all of her responsibilities.

### **Outstanding Graduating Senior Award**

#### **Esther Cho**

Esther is graduating from CSUN in May of 2018 with a B.S. in FCS Family Studies option with a 3.73 GPA. She is currently an intern at Friend of the Family in North Hills where she works as an Assistant Teacher. In her role there, she creates lessons plans, assists the lead teacher in the classroom, conducts evaluations with the children and assists her supervisor with conducting research on programs to promote family wellness. In addition, Esther has also been working as a Senior Teacher/Tutor for the CAP Academy in Granada Hills since 2015. At the CAP Academy, Esther assists students with homework, trains new tutors and communicates with parents regarding their child's progress. It is likely that Esther will continue her work with children and families upon graduation.

(Family Studies Awards continued on next page.)

## **2018 Scholarship Recipients**

for the  
**Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens**  
**Kappa Omicron Nu Scholarship**

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**Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens KON Scholarship, Nancy Owens** taught in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences for 36 years, specializing in apparel design and merchandising. She was highly involved at CSUN and has continued volunteering at the university since her retirement. Nancy served as the university's chapter advisor for Kappa Omicron Nu, the leading honor society for students in the human sciences. Nancy and her husband Joe have continued to support the society by creating this scholarship for an undergraduate and/or graduate student in the department who meets the academic requirements for membership in Kappa Omicron Nu.

### **Victoria Ayala**

#### **Undergraduate Student**

Victoria is graduating from CSUN in spring 2019 with a B.S. in FCS Nutrition and Dietetics option and a minor in Sustainability. Following this, she plans to pursue a Masters' degree and dietetic internship as her goal is to become a registered dietitian. She is a project leader for the Marilyn Magaram Center and a research assistant for FCS Nutrition and Dietetics faculty. Victoria is a KON student honor society board member as well as student member for SDFSA and FSA. She is also the Vice Chair for AS Sustainability Committee and a Service Learning Student Scholar in Community Engagement. As an RD she hopes to work within a clinical setting as well as continuing being engaged with the community to promote nutrition education, health and wellness while doing research to address health disparities, and find solutions to the obesity epidemic and preventable chronic diseases.

(Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens KON Scholarship continued on next page.)

**Mai Spaulding  
Undergraduate Student**

Mai is an undergraduate student, majoring in FCS with the option of nutrition and dietetics. Mai started her academic study at CSUN in Fall 2016. She is seeking to become a Clinical Registered Dietitian and a researcher with a doctoral degree in Nutrition after graduating from CSUN in Spring 2019. She currently serves her community as the treasurer of Kappa Omicron Nu (K.O.N.) National Honor Society of the Human Sciences. In the past, she was a member of the SDFSA and served as its morning committee, where she prepared healthful breakfasts for the members at club meetings. She also interned at the Marilyn Magaram Center (MMC) as a Community Educator, where she provided nutritional education and services offered by the MMC, promoting healthful eating and lifestyle to the students, faculty members, and community at the CSUN Farmers Market every Tuesday. She will strive to broaden her understanding of the field and become an expert in nutritional science through doctoral study, so that she can become a mediator who can translate the evidence-based nutritional information into easily accessible resources for the general public.

**2018 FCS Award Recipients**  
from  
**Consumer Affairs**

**Outstanding Graduating Senior Award**  
**Divjot Kaur**

Divjot will graduate from CSUN in May 2018 with a B.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences, Consumer Affairs option, and Minors in Management and Marketing. She grew up in a tiny village in India and immigrated to the United States at young age. Besides academic commitment, Divjot enjoys giving back to the community, accumulating over 400 service hours at local hospital, non-profit organizations, community kitchen, and Khalsa Care Foundation. She was awarded The President's Volunteer Service Award by the Corporation for National and Community. After graduating, Divjot plans to earn a job opportunity in the Los Angeles County to provide all consumers education as their rights and bring awareness of avoiding unsafe services. This will promote a more fair and secure market for everyone.

**Outstanding Service Award**  
**Frida Endinjok, Peer Financial Mentors**

Frida is graduating from CSUN in 2018 with a B.S. in FCS Nutrition and Dietetics option and is pursuing a Masters in Public Health combined with her dietetic internship at CSUN this Fall. She has been active throughout the department and campus community. She is a project leader for the Marilyn Magaram Center and Associated Students Chair of Sustainability. In the past, she helped the FCS department by coordinating the Peer Financial Mentoring program. Currently, Frida serves as the Kappa Omicron Nu co-president, Food Recovery Network president, and member of the Student Dietetic and Food Science Association. Her ultimate goal is to obtain a doctorate degree and dedicate her career to academia and research. She looks forward to working on sustainable public health campaigns that help the community, students, and the body of knowledge.

## **Outstanding Graduating Senior Award**

### **Jessica Tamboline**

Jessi is graduating from CSUN in 2018 with a B.S. in Family Consumer Sciences and an option in Apparel Design and Merchandising. Jessi is a makeup artist at Sephora and a styling intern for Media Playground PR. She will be graduating as part of the Summa Cum Laude honors program. Jessi hopes to become a stylist for the television and film industry as well as work with community fashion programs to help instill confidence in the individuals that she works with. Her overall goal is to promote body positivity, creativity, and acceptance in the work that she does.

## **Outstanding Service Award**

### **Estefany Gallegos**

Estefany Gallegos is a graduating senior working towards an FCS Bachelor of Science degree in Apparel Design and Production. Currently, Estefany is working on her senior collection, interning with Ivan Bitton Style House, and is president of CSUN's only fashion club, TRENDS. Through the club, students are able gain the knowledge and preparation needed to work in the fashion industry. For Estefany, both CSUN and TRENDS have been memorable parts of her life that helped her achieve many of her goals. As a soon to be CSUN alumna, Estefany hopes to continue supporting TRENDS, have a career within the fashion industry and pursue knowledge everyday of life.

## **Outstanding Community Organization Award**

### **Kimberly Goodnight, Media Playground PR, For Profit**

Kimberly Goodnight is a 1991 graduate from neighboring Woodbury University, Burbank Ca. Her major was Fashion Marketing with an emphasis on International Business. She has stayed within the fashion industry for the past 26 years from interning at I.Magnim studio department in Beverly Hills to Southern California District Manager for Kenneth Cole Productions NYC managing retail and outlet stores. Today Goodnight co-owns a PR firm located in the heart of Los Angeles Fashion District, Media Playground PR. She started her first PR company in 2003 PUREconsulting.

## **2018 Scholarship Recipients**

for the

### **Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens Scholarship for Apparel Design & Merchandising**

**Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens Scholarship for Apparel Design & Merchandising (ADM), Nancy Owens** taught in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences for 36 years, specializing in apparel design and merchandising. She was highly involved at CSUN and has continued volunteering at the university since her retirement. Nancy and her husband Joe continue to support the university through their scholarship endowments that help students achieve their academic and career goals. This scholarship provides support to a student in the apparel design and merchandising program.

### **Jessica O'Connell**

#### **Undergraduate Student**

Jessica is graduating from CSUN in Spring 2019 with a B.S. in FCS Apparel Design and Production option. This Spring 2018 she took on the role of Director for the TRENDS 39th Annual Fashion Show. Jessica is also the current President of the Family and Consumer Sciences Student Association Club (FCSSA). Her aspirations after graduating are to become a costume preservationist and create her own line for men and women who have trouble with ready-to-wear garments.

## 2018 Scholarship Recipients

### for the Tom Chen Scholarship *for Nutrition, Dietetics & Food Science*

**Tom Chen Scholarship for Food Science,** **Tom Chen** is an emeritus professor in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department and the founding director of the Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics. Marilyn Magaram met Dr. Chen while she was a master's student and considered him a great mentor and friend. Unfortunately, Marilyn's life was cut too short. As a tribute to her, Philip Magaram, Marilyn's husband, and his family dedicated the Center as an honor to her memory. Dr. Chen was a large influence in seeing the Center transform from a concept to a reality after it opened in 1991. This scholarship is awarded to a full-time student and member of the Student Dietetic and Food Science Association (SDFSA) who is actively involved in programs and services hosted by the Center.

#### Lani Rausa Undergraduate Student

Lani will be graduating from CSUN in Spring 2019 with a B.S. in FCS Nutrition and Dietetics. She is currently working as a Nutrition Assistant at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital and as a Dietetic Technician at Center for Discovery in Woodland Hills, an eating disorder outpatient facility. While currently one of the Co-fundraising treasurers for the Student Dietetics and Food Science Association (SDFSA) at CSUN, she looks forward to her role as Vice President of the club this coming Fall 2018. Lani has culinary background and has been teaching the Summer Cooking Camp for children at the Marilyn Magaram Center. As an RD, Lani hopes to satisfy her many interests in the nutrition field. Some of her interests include offering dietetic guidance to help optimize the performance of collegiate and professional athletes, working clinically to help clients and patients reach their nutritional wellness goals, conducting and evaluating research around nutrigenetics and nutrigenomics, and promoting nutrition education programs.

## 2018 FCS Award Recipients

### from Apparel Design & Merchandising

#### Outstanding Graduate Student Award Madelynn Esquivias

Madelynn is graduating with Distinction (maintaining a 4.0 GPA on all formal Master's degree program work) from CSUN with a Masters in FCS focusing in Apparel Design & Merchandising. Madelynn has had the privilege of playing many roles within FCS, including student lab assistant for the ADM Open Sewing Lab, student assistant for the FCS Department Office, and now the Instructional Support Assistant for the apparel and interior design programs within the FCS major. She has also had the opportunity of being selected to be the Graduate Student Scholar for the FCS 471: Apparel Draping course for Dr. Jongeun Kim, which focuses on community engagement and leadership. She is also an active member of the Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society for the Human Sciences (KON) on campus, and was awarded with Honors Cords to indicate KON achievement. And most notably, her graduate project, " Functional Fashion: Childrenswear for Insulin Pump Therapy," concentrated on developing and producing a childrenswear line that acknowledges the wants and needs of children using insulin pump therapy, which has garnered her many awards and much recognition, including the 2017 Association of Retired Faculty Graduate Project Award (which has not been awarded to a student in FCS or Apparel Design in over a decade). Madelynn is extremely proud and honored by all her accomplishments and the people who have supported her through it all. Madelynn hopes to continue her work in functional fashion design for children to improve quality of life, one stitch at a time.

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior Award Lorena Cortez

Lorena is going to be graduating with a Bachelor's in Apparel Design and Production. She has been involved in many extra curricular activities including the TRENDS fashion club and has been working as the sewing lab assistant tutoring students in sewing all while maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or above. She hopes to one day work along side a designer or be a designer herself but is open to all the possibilities the fashion industry offers.