2019 SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDS
&
GRADUATION BANQUET

Monday, May 20th, 2019
5:00 to 8:00 P.M.
Orange Grove Bistro CSUN Campus
Message from the Chair

Welcome to the annual Scholarship & Awards celebration for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, class of 2019. 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 2019!

Best wishes,

Yi Cai
Department Chair, Yi ‘Tom’ Cai
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences
May, 2019
Program

5:00pm - 6:00pm - Dinner and Reception

Welcome by
Department Chair, Yi ‘Tom’ Cai
Social Committee: Tom Cai, Hira Cho, Rodica Kohn, Annette Besnilian
Scholarship & Awards Committee: Rosalia Garcia-Torres, Dena Herman, Tracie Tung, Hessam Ghamari

6:00pm - 7:00pm - Formal Program and Presentations

Presentation of Scholarship & Awards
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences Faculty

AWARDS

Apparel Design & Merchandising
Consumer Affairs
Family Studies
FCS Education
Food Science
Nutrition & Dietetics
Dean’s Award
KON Honors Cords
Outstanding Community Partners

SCHOLARSHIPS

Besnilian Leadership Scholarship
Christine H. Smith Scholarship for NDFS
KON Omicron Beta Epsilon Chapter Scholarship
Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens KON Scholarship
Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens Scholarship for ADM
Pastor Herrera, Jr. Scholarship for Consumer Affairs
Rosalie Hilger Achievement Scholarships for Family Studies
Tom Chen Scholarship for Food Science

Closing Remarks by Dr. Yi ‘Tom’ Cai

7:00pm - 8:00pm - Dessert and Dancing with Live DJ

Congratulations to all of our Scholarship & Award Recipients!
2019 Scholarship Recipients
HHD Wolfson Scholar Nominee

Zeinab Ali Hussain

Zeinab is a Wolfson Scholar Nominee from the College of Health and Human Development. She graduated in Fall 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences/ Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Science. She was nominated for the award because her passion, thoughtfulness, inclusivity, and courage embody the characteristics of our Department and College. She is also a dreamer who wasn’t sure she could even attend college but thanks to the California Dream Act she is here. Zeinab works as a nutrient analysis team-leader collaborating with agencies across LA County to provide meals for homebound seniors.

She also volunteers providing meals five days a week to seniors among her mosque community and with the Dietary Department at Providence Tarzana Medical Center. She is poised to become a Registered Dietitian and plans to educate people at risk for diabetes in underserved communities.

2019 Scholarship Recipients
Tom Chen Scholarship for Nutrition, Dietetics & Food Science

Dr. Tungshan “Tom” Chen was a 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 short. As a tribute to her, Philip Magaram, Marilyn’s husband, and his family dedicated the Center in honor to her memory. Tom was a large influence in seeing the Center transform from concept to 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 Marilyn Magaram Center.

Jennifer White
Undergraduate Student Nutrition & Dietetics

Jennifer will be graduating in Spring 2020. She is a scholar in the Northridge Scholarship Program (NSP), a merit-based award that encourages recipients to perform scholarly activities and explore academic interests. Jennifer was the secretary of SDFSA during academic year and Legislative Ambassador for the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics providing nutrition information to a California State Senator. As a BUILD PODER scholar, Jennifer has been working in a project titled: “Effectiveness of the Patient Assistance Nutritional Supplementation Program in Dialysis Patients in Arizona” since August 2018. Jennifer aspires to become a well-rounded professional in the field of nutrition and is planning to get into a PhD program with the long-term goal of becoming a professor and higher education.
2019 Scholarship Recipients

Pastor Herrera, Jr. Scholarship for Consumer Affairs & Family Studies

Jr. 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.

2019 Scholarship Recipients

Besnilian Leadership Scholarship

CSUN has been a second home to Annette Besnilian and her family for over 27 years. She first earned her bachelor’s degree in 1994 and then completed her doctorate in Educational Leadership at CSUN in 2013. She is currently the Director of the CSUN accredited Dietetic Internship Program and a full-time faculty teaching Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Science courses to graduate students in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences since 2002. She is also Executive Director of the Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics.

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.

Divjot Kaur
Undergraduate Student
Consumer Affairs

Divjot will be graduating in Spring 2020. She has a B.S in Family and Consumer Sciences/Consumer Affairs – Business, and a double minor in Management and Marketing with distinction Cum Laude from CSUN. She was the recipient of the FCS Outstanding Graduating Senior Awards from Consumer Affairs last year. She was also awarded The President’s Volunteer Service Award by the Corporation for National and Community. She grew up in a tiny village in India and immigrated to the United States at a young age. Besides academic commitment, Divjot enjoys giving back to the community, accumulating over 400 service hours at local hospital, non-profit organizations, a community kitchen, and Khalsa Care Foundation. She has been an intern at the US Federal Trade Commission (LA Regional Office) where she worked on consumer protection investigations. Divjot’s goal is to provide all consumers, regardless of their occupation, adequate education about their rights and bring awareness to avoid unsafe services.

Madeleine Hoeks
Graduate Student
Nutrition & Dietetics

Madeleine is currently completing her dietetic internship and will be graduating in Spring 2020. She has been a volunteer, intern, and student leader at the MMC. She has worked on various projects including health fairs, wellness workshops, gardening programs and the Summer Culinary Camp for Kids. Madeleine has been inducted into the of the National Society of Leadership and Success. She has also been the Vice President of the Food Recovery Network and Co-secretary of SDFSA. After graduation, Madeleine’s goal is to become a certified diabetes educator.
2019 Scholarship Recipients
Nancy J. & Joseph N. Owens Scholarship
for Apparel Design & Merchandising

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.

Kelly Townsend
Undergraduate Student
Apparel Design & Production

Kelly will be graduating in Fall 2020 from the Apparel Design and Production program with a minor in Entrepreneurship. Kelly has a diverse work experience in the Fashion Industry. She has worked with a designer for a fashion runway during Los Angeles Fashion Week in 2018. She has interned at a design studio and assisted a stylist on trend forecasting. After graduation her goal is to start a business that promotes environmentally friendly garments. Her research interests are to eliminate fabric waste and create more sustainable/biodegradable textiles.

2019 Scholarship Recipients
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.

Bertha Flores
Undergraduate Student
Interior Design

Bertha is graduating in Spring 2020, as a first-generation student. While at Mission Community College she was the recipient of a number of Dean and President’s awards. She is the mom of two children, Sophia and Jacob. Bertha is interested in creating environmentally friendly designs that will help the planet. Bertha has displayed a genuine interest in the pursuit of knowledge and excellence.

Brian Mitchell
Undergraduate Student
Nutrition & Dietetics

Brian will be graduating in Spring 2020. He is the coordinator of the Food & Nutrition Lecture Series, in this role he has organized seminars that host practicing clinical dietitians and community nutrition educators. Brian is the culinary lead for the CSUN Pop-Up Food Pantry. He is a current active member of SDFSA and has acted the Secretary for 2018 –19 academic year. He participates in the LAPD Youth Nutrition Program Volunteer through the MMC’s professional experience programs. He is also a peer educator through Joint Advocates for Disordered Eating (JADE). Brian is interested in providing compassionate counsel to patients struggling with finding a healthy lifestyle and suffering from low body image.
2019 Scholarship Recipients

Christine H. Smith Scholarship for Nutrition, Dietetics, and Food Science

The late Dr. Christine “Chris” 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 and served as the director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Chris was instrumental in guiding students into becoming registered dietitians and she remained a large part of the DPD program after her retirement. Chris 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.

Marie Gabrielle Eamiguel Undergraduate Student Nutrition & Dietetics

Marie will be graduating in Spring 2021. She is an intern at the MMC and has worked in projects such as the child nutrition – Lab School, the lactation program and the MMC’s lecture series. While in high school, Marie volunteered in caregiving facilities preparing food for elderly patients. Marie is passionate about nutrition, food and cooking.

Tatum Vedder Undergraduate Student Nutrition & Dietetics

Tatum will be graduating in Spring 2020. She is currently an intern at the MMC and has worked on projects such as Let’s Grow Healthy and Health Assess Internships. She is a diet technician at the Center for Discovery (an eating disorder treatment center). Tatum is also the Chief Communications Officer for SDFSA for 2018 – 19 academic year and the treasurer of the CSUN Women’s Club Volleyball team. After completing her BS in Nutrition and dietetics, Tatum plans to complete a dietetic internship while working toward a Master of Science degree in Public Health or Human Nutrition. Tatum is interested in improving people’s health and well-being through community-based programs.

Allison Kramer Undergraduate Student Food Science

Allison will be graduating in Fall 2019. She is currently completing a food science internship with the Marilyn Magaram Center. She is an active member of Food Science Association. Professors describe her as demonstrating good critical thinking and problem-solving skills, being a quick learner and having excellent communication skills. Allison has participated in the CSUN Bull Ring, which is a competition put on by the Business department. She and a fellow student developed a line of meal replacements in the form of nutrition bars and drink powders to help food insecure students on campus.
2019 Scholarship Recipients

Rosalie Hilger Achievement Scholarships

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.

Rosario Felix
Undergraduate Student
Interior Design

Rosario will be graduating in Fall 2019. She has participated in the Haunt Couture fashion show with the IIDA campus center hosted by the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and the LA Student Design Expo + Panel Discussion hosted by IIDA Southern California. Rosario is the President of the IIDA campus center at CSUN. Also thanks to Rosario’s efforts on keeping social mediapresence of the Interior Design program, students and alumni are more engaged with the program and IIDA at CSUN. Rosario has worked on a literature review project on the impact of nature on health and well-being from the interior environmental design perspective.

Divjot Kaur
Undergraduate Student
Consumer Affairs

Divjot will be graduating in Spring 2020. She has a B.S in Family and Consumer Sciences option Consumer Affairs – Business, and a double minor in Management and Marketing with distinction Cum Laude from CSUN. 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. Divjot’s goal is to provide all consumers, regardless of their occupation, adequate education about their rights and bring awareness to avoid unsafe services.

2019 Dean’s Award Recipients

College of Health and Human Development

Brianna Newitt
Undergraduate Student
Family Studies

Ms. Brianna Newitt is expected to earn her B.S degree in May 2019. Brianna transferred to CSUN in fall 2017 with a legacy of outstanding academic performance and extensive service to her community. At Sacramento City College she had a 4.0 GPA and earned her A.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences. Her services include teaching and coordinating camp activities for 200 children as well as coordinating a Mothers of Preschoolers program that weekly served 10-15 caregivers and 80 children. Having transferred 23 courses to CSUN, she continued the highest of standards to have a 4.0 GPA in her coursework here. Her service since moving to Southern California includes various roles with Keep Youth Doing Something. These included teaching elementary school children music theory and concepts, directing educational activities, and coaching. At M.E.N.D she engaged clients regarding eligibility requirements and worked with confidential information in their computer system. At Sacramento City College she was the Chapter President for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and served in the same role here in the CSUN Chapter. For this same organization she served as the Los Angeles Urban Program Assistant Site Coordinator.

Manpreet Panesar (aka Preet)
Graduate Student
Consumer Affairs and Family Studies

Manpreet is a graduate student in the CAFS Graduate Program in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. She graduate with a B.A. in Child and Adolescent Development at CSUN in 2015. She is planning to graduate this spring 2019 semester from the CAFS Program and currently has a 4.0 GPA. In addition to being an outstanding student, Manpreet has over 10 years of experience working with children and families in the community. For the past three years, she has been a Teacher’s Assistant at a Montessori School in the community. In addition, she has been actively involved with our Child and Family Studies Center on campus since 2013 where she served as a CHIME Assistant at the Center in her final year there.
2019 FCS AWARD Recipients for Apparel Design & Merchandising

Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Kaixi Wang

Kaixi is a graduate student majoring in apparel design and merchandising. She enrolled at the university in Spring 2018 and has completed 7 courses so far. She is taking 3 courses this semester. She has a very positive attitude towards each course and studies hard. Her GPA has remained at 4.0/4.0.

Outstanding Graduating Senior Award
Sandra Dahlgren

Sandra has a GPA of 3.96. She is always determined to be one of the top students and do well in classes. Sandra was honored as a R.I.S.E scholar, being among the top 9 international students with the highest GPA at CSUN. She takes leading positions in group, such as FCS 453 and 460. She has been tutoring peers in writing formats and related projects. She is a member of Kappa Omicron Nu (KON) since last year; helped out for the Thanksgiving food drive in which groceries were collected to donate to less fortunate families in order to help them celebrate Thanksgiving.

Outstanding Service Award
Maria Juarez

Maria will be bestowed a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in Apparel Design and Production this spring 2019. She currently upholds the presidency in CSUN’s one and only fashion club, TRENDS. Maria has always been involved with TRENDS since she joined back in the Fall of 2016. During her term as President of the fashion club, she not only stepped out of her comfort zone, but she also improved her leadership skills.

Outstanding Community Organization Award
United Leather

United Leather, established in 1986, is one of the largest, most reputable leather suppliers in the United States. Headquartered in Los Angeles and with a New York City showroom, United Leather supplies domestic and international fashion and interior design markets with high-quality South American and Italian Leather. This organization has provided great support to FCS interns and industry tours.

2019 FCS AWARD Recipients for Family Studies

Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Manpreet Panesar

Manpreet graduated with a B.A. in Child and Adolescent Development at CSUN in 2015. She is planning to graduate this spring 2019 semester from the CAFS Graduate Program and currently has a 4.0 GPA. In addition to being an outstanding student, Manpreet has over 10 years of experience working with children and families in the community. For the past three years, she has been a Teacher’s Assistant at a Montessori School in the community. In addition, she has been actively involved with our Child and Family Studies Center on campus since 2013 where she served as a CHIME Assistant at the Center in her final year there.

Outstanding Graduating Senior Award
Brianna Newitt

Brianna is expected to earn her B.S degree in May 2019. Brianna transferred to CSUN in fall 2017 with a legacy of outstanding academic performance and extensive service to her community. At Sacramento City College she had a 4.0 GPA and earned her A.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences. Her services include teaching and coordinating camp activities for 200 children as well as coordinating a Mothers of Preschoolers program that weekly served 10-15 caregivers and 80 children. Having transferred 23 courses to CSUN, she continued the highest of standards to have a 4.0 GPA in her coursework here. Her service since moving to Southern California includes various roles with Keep Youth Doing Something. These included teaching elementary school children music theory and concepts, directing educational activities, and coaching.

Outstanding Service Award
Elizabeth Contreras

Elizabeth is graduating this May with a 3.4 GPA in Family and Consumer Sciences. She is currently a career guidance counselor for Los Angeles Mission College and volunteering at various community organizations, such as Grassroots, and Sylmar Neighborhood Council Volunteer. Starting this fall, Elizabeth will be attending the University of Southern California where she has received two scholarships.
Outstanding Service Award
Destiny Chapron

Destiny is graduating with a B.S. degree in Family and Consumer Sciences in the Family Studies option with a GPA of 3.4. Destiny is actively engaged in community services on campus as well as in the wider community. As a Student Assistant with the CSUN Educational Talent Search program and an Academic Mentor with Fem Scholar, a non-profit organization, she provides pre-college advisement to middle- and high school students, leads financial aid awareness, career exploration, research and study skills, personal mentorship and informational parent workshops. She advocates for student rights as the Lead Council Facilitator across 25 Black campus organizations.

Outstanding Community Organization Award
Friends of the Family

Friends of the Family is a comprehensive family resource center known for pioneering innovative, practical programs where families are recognized as central to a child’s well-being. Founded in 1972, the organization which is based in North Hills, is a safety net of support for over 5,000 community members each year. The agency serves individuals, families, children and youth from disadvantaged families as a support and care network through a range of programs aimed to build skills, as well as to enhance and empower families in a resource and experience rich community. These programs are provided to more than fifty community sites, including schools, churches, and community centers in order to ensure maximum access for all families. All community-based programs are provided free of charge to participants.

For the past eight years, Friends of the Family 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 Friends of the Family. Students were able to participate actively in planning, designing and implementing family wellness programs such as parenting workshops, family relationship building exercises with parents and children, father-daughter dance, creating Family Story/Memories Scrapbooks, and teaching stress and time-management and coping skills to children and families.

The Family Studies option is very proud of the relationship they have with Friends of the Family and are thankful for giving Family Studies students the opportunity to apply the knowledge they have gained in their coursework to programs serving families and communities. Family studies extends a thank you for making students see what active agents of change they can be in the community. Most of all, thank you for the services provided to the community to improve the lives of individuals and family.

2019 FCS AWARD Recipients
for Food Science

Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Jennifer Cardona

Jennifer is a graduating senior in Food Science. She has been an active member of FSA, SCIFTS and IFT. She has held leadership roles in FSA being the communication chair last year and the current president. Moreover, she is a member of the team representing CSUN in the Pacific Southwest Regional IFTSA college bowl this year. Jennifer has also been a recipient of the SCIFTS’ Phil Bates Scholarship.

Outstanding Service Award
Angela Flores

Angela is a graduating senior in Food Science. She has been an active member of FSA, SCIFTS and IFT. Currently she is the vice president of FSA and has organizing field trips and food demos for FSA. Angela is also a member of the team representing CSUN in the Pacific Southwest Regional IFTSA college bowl this year.

Outstanding Community Organization Award
Carlos Ovalle

Carlos is a graduating senior in Food Science with a minor in Quality Management and Assurance. He’s been on the Dean’s list for the last 2 ½ years and has been a recipient of SCIFTS’ Phil Bates Scholarship. Carlos has been an active member of FSA, SCIFTS and IFT. He’s been an officer with FSA acting as the liaison with IFT for the last 1 ½ years. He is currently completing an internship in Quality Assurance with Kor Shots in Oxnard, California. Carlos has been a volunteer at many FSA and FCS activities.

2019 FCS AWARD Recipients
for Consumer Affairs

Outstanding Community Organization Award
LA Department of Business and Consumer Affairs

The Department of Consumer and Business Affairs has a mission to promote a fair and vibrant marketplace, they serve consumers, businesses, and communities through education, advocacy, and complaint resolution.
2019 FCS AWARD Recipients for Interior Design

Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Isabella Piña

Isabella was born and raised in East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights. She is currently a senior pursuing a Bachelor’s of science degree in Interior Design and minor in Sustainability. In 2018 she was selected to participate in the IIDA Student Design Charette, along with some students from other universities—they got second place. They had three hours to develop a design concept, floor plan, renderings, and anything that may help convey their idea for a work space. Their final concept was The Park on Broadway where people can come together to work and play. Outside of school, she has been involved in set building for a production company. This past spring, she designed and fabricated a posh New York hotel suite theater set, it sold out every weekend and received several compliments on the set. Isabella proudest accomplishment will be graduating in this upcoming May with a 3.74 GPA in her upper division courses. She is the first person to graduate from university in her family. This accomplishment represents the unique challenges that she was able to overcome, more importantly She is passing the value of education to her younger cousins and this bring her happiness.

Outstanding Community Organization Award
International Interior Design Association (IIDA), Southern California Chapter

The International Interior Design Association IIDA Southern California believes in the advancement of education and supports interior design students throughout the region with student exhibitions and award programs. One of those programs is the student charrette. Students from different schools come together each year to collaborate in a fast-paced, hands-on design charrette. Teams are challenged to work together to develop a design presentation based on a program assigned at the beginning of the day. Winners are chosen by a panel of esteemed interior design professionals. First Place winning team is awarded $10,000 and the Second Place team receives $4,000. The first place team participates in the West Coast Student Charette each year. Our own Isabella Pina was on the Second Place winning team this year.

2019 FCS AWARD Recipients for FCS Education

Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Heather Olson

Heather had been on her way to pursuing a B.S. degree in FCS with an emphasis in Nutrition and Dietetics. Then, on her own, she left CSUN, went to Southeast Asia for almost 2 years and continued learning through service to people in Cambodia, Vietnam, and Thailand. She built homes and helped provide clean water and meals for communities. She applied all of her knowledge to her work for others. She taught children English in Cambodia and Vietnam, she built structures for a retreat for Veterans in Cambodia, raised money to distribute food for a small community in Cambodia, and raised almost $3000 to rebuild a village in Lombok after a major earthquake (the largest in their recorded history, about 7.0 with over 100 aftershocks) hit in August 2018. She clearly lived our mission to be of service to individuals, families, and communities. However, she did realize that completing her degree was important. When Heather returned to CSUN, she did change her area of emphasis. Her strong academic record (3.6 GPA) and her involvement at CSUN with the Food Recovery Network and the Peer Mentor/Mentee Program (PUENTE) along with volunteering for the American Cancer Society continue to show her dedication to the values she holds. Heather embodies ideals of FCS, health, and wellness for everyone.
2019 FCS AWARD Recipients for Nutrition & Dietetics

Outstanding Graduate Student Award
Trisha Patel

Trisha Patel is a newly minted Registered Dietitian completing her Masters of Science in Human Nutrition. With roots set deep within the CSUN community Trisha has also completed her Bachelor’s degree and her dietetic internship here at CSUN. With a passion for helping and healing those around her Trisha has experience working within the realm of eating disorders as an undergraduate student while also working to help students pursue the field of dietetics through her work at the Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics. Trisha is currently continuing her work at the center while also focusing on her love for the clinical field as a clinical dietitian at Los Robles Medical Center. It is through her work as a clinical and community dietitian that Trisha merges her two passions of helping others while paying it forward, bringing the two fields together. Trisha presently serves as a board member on the Coastal Tri-Counties district board working to continue to promote and advocate for the field. Moving forward Trisha hopes to be able to continue to educate the community and her patients on the healing powers of proper nutrition while promoting her motto “a healthy life’s a happy one”!

Outstanding Service Award
Kelsey Good

Kelsey is a Senior in the Nutrition and Dietetics program. During her time at CSUN, she has been heavily involved in student organizations and the community. Her most notable involvement includes being President of the Student Dietetic and Food Science Association, Student Project Leader for the MMC Let’s Grow Healthy internship, research coordinator for Champions for Change, and an officer of the Associated Students Sustainability Committee, all of which are organizations rooted service for others. Her motivation for being involved on campus has been to leave the program better than when she joined for her peers and community.

Outstanding Service Award
Victoria Ayala

Victoria Ayala is graduating from CSUN with a B.S. in FCS Nutrition and Dietetics option and a minor in Sustainability. She will be starting her Master’s Degree in Public Health this summer at UCLA and has been accepted to complete her supervised practice to become a Registered Dietitian with the Greater Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Healthcare System Dietetic Internship. Throughout her academic career at CSUN, she has worked as project leader for the Marilyn Magaram Center and research assistant for FCS Nutrition and Dietetics faculty. Victoria has been a Community Engagement Service Learning Student Scholar for 2 consecutive years, she has served as President for KON Student Honor Society for Human Sciences and also as the Vice Chair for the AS Sustainability Committee. In her role as Vice Chair for Sustainability she worked to increase access to fresh produce for CalFresh recipients at CSUN by promoting the acceptance of CalFresh benefits in the AS weekly farmers market. Additionally, she led the building of a community garden at the AS Children’s Center to bring nutrition and gardening education to preschoolers. Furthermore, she implemented a free cooking and nutrition education program for at risk youth at Sun Valley Recreation Center. Victoria has served the community as a gardening and culinary teacher, a nutrition and health educator and as a researcher and hopes to continue her work as she moves on to the next chapter of her academic career.
Outstanding Community Organization Award

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Outstanding Community Partners. They have been providing our students with internship, volunteer, and work experiences for over 20 years. More than 500 of our students have obtained hands on education, medical nutrition therapy counseling, and lactation education through the excellent training by all the wonderful and supportive staff and Registered Dietitian Preceptors. We are thankful for their hard work, dedication and support of our students and our programs.

Northeast Valley Health Corp (NEVHC)

The mission of Northeast Valley Health Corporation is to provide quality, safe and comprehensive primary health care to medically underserved residents of Los Angeles County, particularly in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys, in a manner that is sensitive to the economic, social, cultural and linguistic needs of the community. NEVHC opened its first health center, the San Fernando Health Center, in 1973 and celebrated its dedication with the late U.S. Senator Ted. Kennedy. Today, NEVHC has grown to become one of the largest health centers in the nation, providing over 75,000 patients with medical, dental, and behavioral health services across its 15 locations. It is a nonprofit Joint Commission accredited Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). NEVHC provides comprehensive primary health care services and has been an important CSUN community partner collaborating on several grants and projects. We are happy to acknowledge and celebrate our community partner NEVHC.

Kaiser Permanente

As the nation’s largest nonprofit integrated healthcare system, Kaiser has been providing high-quality, affordable health care services and improving the health of their members and the communities they serve for more than 70 years. At Kaiser, their passion is to drastically improve the health and lives of their members by pioneering preventive medicine, conducting comprehensive research, and driving innovative care. Their commitment to make lives better is a promise that goes beyond their 12 million members and more than 210,000 employees and physicians. It extends to the neighborhoods in which they live, and the communities they serve. TODAY, TOMORROW, AND BEYOND they continue their quest to advance medicine, deliver the best care, carry the medical industry forward, and improve lives! CSUN is pleased to call Kaiser a community partner, and thankful for their continuous support in our programs, helping communities thrive! We are happy to acknowledge and celebrate our community partner Kaiser.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Piloted in 1972, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, commonly known as the WIC program, serves to safeguard the health of low-income women, infants, and children younger than 5 who are at nutritional risk. By 1974, WIC was operating in 45 State, and in 1975 WIC was established as a permanent Program by legislation. Today, WIC is administered at the local level by 90 WIC State agencies covering all 50 States, the District of Columbia, 34 Indian Tribal Organizations, American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth Islands of the Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. As the third largest food and nutrition assistance program, WIC served about 6.9 million participants per month in fiscal year 2018, including almost half of all infants born in the United States. Northeast Valley Health Corporation (NEVHC) WIC program currently serves 50,000 participants, providing supplemental food, nutrition education, and referrals to health care and other social services. WIC has been a substantial CSUN community partner collaborating on several grants and projects. We are happy to acknowledge and celebrate our community partner WIC.
IN LOVING MEMORY

Professor Kyriakos Pontikis, Ph.D.

Four years ago, we lost one of our dearest colleague Dr. Kyriakos Pontikis, Professor of Interior Design at CSUN. He received his B. Arch. from Oklahoma State University and his M. Arch and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. From his association with his teacher and mentor at UCB, the renowned Christopher Alexander, Kyriakos developed his own conceptual framework for “Eco-Humane Design” which unifies ecological design with humane design in an effort to create livable and sustainable communities and building environments, aesthetics, and sustainable living.

During his tenured professor here at CSUN, Kyriakos was committed to the value of sustainability education, served as an active member of the university’s Sustainability Curriculum Committee between 2010-2012, and led the College of Health and Human Development’s Sustainability Committee. He assisted with the development and implementation of the Minor in Sustainability, which began in 2011 and was a significant step in strengthening the sustainability efforts on our campus. He taught several sustainability related upper division courses in the Family and Consumer Sciences department. He worked closely with CSUN’s architect office to give to his FCS students the experience of incorporating green design concepts and principles into the design of the USU Wellness Center and of other buildings on campus. Through coursework and research grants, he engaged students in community service-learning projects and provided design services to various public and private school in Los Angeles. He founded CSUN’s Chapter of Habitat for Humanity and worked with disadvantaged communities through local organizations such as MEND and Pacoima Beautiful. He was a true ambassador for advancing sustainability at CSUN and in the community and providing students with meaningful learning experiences.

Kyriakos was a mentor to many students, providing them with meaningful learning experiences and a dear friend to all of us. He is greatly missed by all of us who knew him.
IN LOVING MEMORY

Professor Allen Martin, Ph.D.

Dr. Allen Martin served as Professor and Chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at California State University, Northridge. Allen received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Virginia Tech University and his Doctorate from The Ohio State University.

He was a man of action who put his values to work. A gifted organizer, Allen easily recognized people’s strengths, bringing them together for successful collaborations. Allen was Director of the Consumer Resource Center for nearly fifteen years. Under his leadership, students provided much needed consumer and financial education to the local community. Over his professional career he has held multiple offices in the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals, the American Council on Consumer Interest, and the Association of Financial Counseling and Planning Educators. He was proud of his appointments by both California Governors Gray Davis and Arnold Schwarzenegger to the Commission on California Earthquake Authority. Most recently Allen was serving as president of the Los Angeles District of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and had held multiple state and national offices with the organization.

An author of many journal articles and presentations, Allen served on the editorial board of the Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences. He also served as treasurer of the Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences and was deeply involved in university faculty governance. He served as the faculty rights chair of the California Faculty Association and was skillful in negotiations between administrative and faculty concerns. Across campus and throughout the California State University system there are many who consider Allen a good friend because he cared about them, and because he defended them.

"Allen was a beloved faculty member who mentored hundreds of students through his teaching and many professional contacts," said retired Cal State Northridge Professor Alyce Akers, who preceded Martin as chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. "Allen led a life of service to others fueled by his tenacious optimism, affability and tremendous energy. He will be terribly missed."
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