

32nd Annual Pan-Afrikan  
Recognition Celebration  
Booklet

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DIVERSITY INITIATIVES  
& RESOURCE CENTERS



# Table of Contents

President’s Message	3	Tiffany Elliott	47
Message From	4	Daja Blake	48
Student Affairs	4	Jazmine Barnum	49
Student Profiles	5	Dejanae (Deja) Sturges	50
Marisa Sanders	6	Gelila Debebe	50
Sheria Cassell	7	Adriann Miller	51
Elisabeth Domond	8	Caleb Mack	52
Danielle Matthew	9	Courtney Lopez	53
Kimberly Kelley	10	Derreck Pickard	54
Brandon Landrum	11	Jalen Ward	55
Chrishelle Perez	12	Leah Montgomery	56
Gabriela Dupree	13	Charmain Taylor	57
Karon Floyd	14	Brandy Factory	58
Andrea Ricks	14	Ayreianna Armstrong	58
Alondra Hughes	15	Brandon Riffel	59
Briana Hubbard	15	Kristen Thompson	59
Kamil Hazel	16	Alexis Naucier	60
Okeoghene Lin	16	Myla Jones	60
Eriane Evans	17	Veronica Payne	61
Ashley Thomas-Williams	17	Monique Akioyame	62
Dieanna Prudholme	18	Carlos Cosio	63
Giovanni Berdejo-Gallegos	19	Nyree Holmes	64
Alvarie Anderson	20	Dyandra Pough	65
Dennzyl Green	21	Vincent Ejiofor	66
Deven Dickens	22	Alfonzo Harley	67
Patricia Knox	23	Daniel Lynch	68
Daniella Scott	24	Desiree Nwadike	69
Jordan Halili	25	Dayzhanece Edwards	70
Kimberly Hardaway	26	Jordyn Pugh	70
Carol Bluee-Walker	27	Krystal Perkins	71
Gracie Robinson	28	Margaret Macharia	71
Justina Sharp	29	Jordan Ward	72
Beylul Ephrem	30	Keegan Wilson	72
Samantha Thomas	31	Maxwell Hardy	73
Nehemiah Obidah	32	Johnathon Thomas	74
Earl Minor	33	Ariana Twyman	75
Daameonia Stokes	34	Sheridan Smith	76
Sirri Ibrahim	35	Roderick Daniels	77
Robert Black III	36	Kris Hullon	77
Kaitlon Stewart	37	Robin Crew	78
Danae Lobbenmeier	38	Nakisha Clayton	78
Luajuana Hawkins	39	Corrina LeBlanc	79
Sydney Ramos	40	Nancy Ngele	80
Diamond Byrd	41	Danielle Sawyer	80
Gabrielle Alexander	42	Yetty Okunade	81
Daniel Taylor	43	Kailah Middleton	82
Sydney Alferos	44	Jasmin Reneau	82
Mercy Maingi	45	What does Imani (faith) mean to you?	83
Michael Paskel-Flannigan	46		

# President's Message

Dear Graduates:

On behalf of Cal State Fullerton's faculty, staff, and students, it is my honor to both congratulate you and welcome you into an alumni base that is now nearly 300,000 Titans strong. You — our esteemed class of 2020 — represent CSUF's largest commencement class, and given the incredible adversity each of you overcame in your final semester, it is also safe to say that you are also the most resilient, tenacious, and gritty group of graduates in our history.



*Framroze Virjee,  
President*

As many of you know, we kicked off the semester together with a Black History Month event that addressed the systemic inequities our Black communities face through the theme, “Love Letters to the Black Community – A Night of Affirmation and Support.” Together, we vowed to strengthen our stance on the right side of history by standing even taller with all Black Titans —not just because it is the right thing to do, but also because their excellence, leadership, and activism enrich our campus and community beyond measure.

There is much evidence that illustrates the countless ways in which we have succeeded in that endeavor, but few are as powerful or poignant than all of you, the Black graduates of our Titan Class of 2020. The culmination of your academic journey is far more than a degree achieved – it is a dream realized, one that many great Black leaders before you dedicated their lives to so that one day, you could earn this education and the power that comes with it. And just as their legacy and that of so many Titan educators and leaders lives on through you, it is now your turn to reach back to support new generations of Titans who will look to you to see what is possible.

With your hard-earned Titan degree and education, anything is possible, and each of you are the reason the world is beginning to recognize what it takes to achieve excellence in our communities, diversity in our workforce, and social justice in our nation.

It takes tenacity and grit. It takes academic rigor and excellence. It takes service and civic duty.

In other words, It Takes A Titan — and YOU, Class of 2020, are the Titans it takes.

I can't wait to watch you change the world, so as you make this transition from Titan student to Titan alumni, I ask that you stay in touch, come back to campus, mentor and guide, and continue to be the light, beacon and clarion of our campus and community.

Sincerely,

Fram Virjee

# Message From Student Affairs



*Harry Le Grande,  
Vice President of Student Affairs*

African/Black Titan Graduate,

Today should be the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pan-Afrikan Recognition Ceremony. While we may not be celebrating together in-person, I want to commend you for reaching the pinnacle of your undergraduate journey in higher education. You have earned a degree from California State University, Fullerton, and I am grateful to join your loved ones and the African American Resource Center in congratulating you on this accomplishment.

Receiving an advanced degree is no easy feat. You can forever take pride in the fact that you tirelessly persisted across a number of years to find this present success. Further, you did so with grace, strength, perseverance, and faith, elevating the African/Black community voices in Fullerton and beyond, to ensure a better, more equitable tomorrow. It is inspiring, to say the least. While your degree signifies the close of the current chapter of life, it marks the beginning of the next chapter – one that should bring about great enthusiasm and optimism, even amid the present pandemic. The slate is blank, awash with possibility, and you are the author. Remember, though, that amid the opportunity lies tremendous responsibility. As Titans and learned individuals, there is an inherent obligation to make the world a better place, both for present and future generations. To that end, let your education and passion lead your aspirations, for it will take you to unimagined places. I believe in you.

In closing, I offer my congratulations and well wishes for you and your future endeavors. You are now an esteemed alumnus of Cal State Fullerton, and I am eager to see your story unfold.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Le Grande". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Harry Le Grande  
Vice President  
Division of Student Affairs



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

**FULLERTON**

**DIVERSITY INITIATIVES  
& RESOURCE CENTERS**

## STUDENT PROFILES

*I heard my people singing! - in  
the glow of the parlor coal-  
stove and on summer porches  
sweet with lilac air, from choir  
loft and Sunday morning pews -  
and my soul was filled with their  
harmonies.*

**- Paul Robeson**

# Marisa Sanders

EdD in Educational Leadership

Hometown: Fullerton, CA

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Keep going--even when it is hard, even when it seems like nothing is changing--keep moving forward.

# Sheria Cassell

**MS in Education**

**Minor in Elementary Curriculum and Instruction**

**Hometown: Eastvale, CA**



**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Making connections with my cohorts in the MS Education program.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Besides my God in Heaven who carried me through this entire program and my Absolutely Amazing and Supportive Family, I felt that all of my professors in the EDEL MS program were phenomenal, but I would like to give a Special Thank you to Dr. Cox-Petersen, Dr. Ivers, and Dr. Chapell they are top notch professors and true assets to the CSUF EDEL program.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

I want to say Congratulations on your accomplishments thus far. Take a moment to appreciate this impressive milestone. With that I want to encourage you to never stop learning and growing on both a personal and academic level. The world is ever evolving and we need to keep a growth mindset that will ensure the growth of our nation and solidify our place in it.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I plan to continue working as a elementary school educator

# Elisabeth Domond

**MBA in Concentration: Information Systems**

**Hometown: Fontana, CA**

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



Finally finishing my yearlong senior design project in undergrad and presenting it to my college's dean and faculty.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

God, my family and friends at CSUF

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Never take "no" for an answer. I wouldn't have made it in my graduate program if I had just accepted their rejection. I made sure I pushed administration for an answer as to why they didn't accept me even if I met all of the criteria. When they realized they didn't have an exact reason, they gave me the place I know I deserved. So my advice is to make sure you know you deserve just as much success as the next person. Don't let them count you out that early!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I'll be working full-time as a Hardware Engineer



# Danielle Matthew

MA in Communicative Disorders

Hometown: Oceanside California

## Favorite CSUF Memory

Late night study sessions in CP. They were stressful, but a memorable bonding experience with some of my classmates.



## Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

I would like to acknowledge Dr. Toya Wyatt for her much appreciated check-ins throughout my graduate school journey.

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

You are making a difference and you are making history. You have the power to make change.

## Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

Pursue my career as a speech language pathologist and potentially travel as a therapist.

# Kimberly Kelley

**MSN (School Nursing Concentration) in Nursing**

**Hometown: Santa Paula, CA**



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Dr. Rachel McClanahan has been such a solid support person. She intimately understands the struggle of nurses, school nurses, mothers and non-traditional students working a major goals. She's fantastic!

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Students, first, work hard and have fun in the process. These years go by quickly and you need to be able to remember the great times and the lifelong friendships you will make, but make sure that you put in the work on the front end so that reaping the benefits can be a sweet as it should be on the back end. Secondly, it is totally acceptable to pat yourself on the back for a job well done. Celebrate YOU!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Considering the new normal that this pandemic has created, traditional school and traditional school nursing may look different. It may be necessary 'for the powers that be' to modify the role of the school nurse so that we can continue to serve children. I'd like to be instrumental in that.

# Brandon Landrum

MS in Higher Education

Hometown: Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Connecting with my MSHE Cohort

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

My family, girlfriend, and the MSHE cohort and faculty

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Be prolific and have that Mamba Mentality going into the work force. We are the leaders of the future.

# Chrishelle Perez

**MS in Education with a concentration in Higher Education**

**Hometown:** Albuquerque, New Mexico

## **Favorite CSUF Memory**

Working DiscoverFest with Student Life & Leadership and getting to interact with so many great organizations and students.

## **What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

It's okay to be nervous about not being enough to fit into a community, but take a chance because you'll find some amazing support, memories, and people who think you are exactly where you belong.



# Gabriela Dupree

**MS in Higher Education**

**Hometown:** San Marcos, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

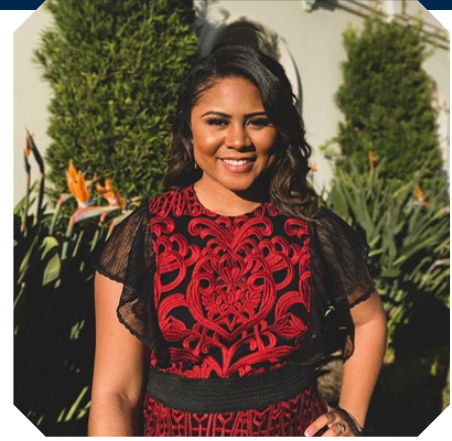
Going to get drinks with my MSHE Cohort-mates after class

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My family

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Stick together! Even if it's one other person in your class, if you feel alone, they feel it too.



# Karon Floyd

MA in American Studies

Hometown: Pomona, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Dr. Susie Woo

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Find a support system

# Andrea Ricks

MPA in Public Administration

Hometown: San Bernardino, CA

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?



Don't be afraid to seek guidance as needed. Stay organized, prioritize and complete assignments as soon as possible.

# Alondra Hughes

MA in Sociology

Hometown: Bakersfield, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Please patient and kind to yourself on this journey of academic and self-discovery.

# Briana Hubbard

MS in Kinesiology

Hometown: Sacramento, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Seeing students gather around campus during finals week.

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

My mom and grandparents

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

The journey will be challenging and you will grow through the challenge.

# **Kamil Hazel**

**MA in Education Leadership**

**Hometown:** Norwalk, CA

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

One thing that can never be taken away from you is your education!  
Keep striving!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Attending USC for my Ed.D

# **Okeoghene Lin**

**MBA in Finance**

**Hometown:** Nigeria

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Have courage to pursue your dreams.



# **Eriane Evans**

MS in Instructional Design & Technology

Hometown: Jacksonville, NC

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Communicate early and often.

# **Ashley Thomas-Williams**

MS in Higher Education

Hometown: Sacramento, CA

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Continue to reach higher and preserve because it will be worth it.

# Dieanna Prudholme

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: San Bernardino, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory



The summer I studied abroad in Greece for 2 weeks. It was the most exciting thing I've ever done in life, as I not only got to learn about the birthplace of Kinesiology, but also received the opportunity to travel across the world and experience a new culture.

## Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Sarah Hamamoto for believing in me, even when I didn't.

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Stay connected, even if you don't find friends who will be there with you every step of the way, still make it your business to reach out to others, try new things, network, etc. Networking and making connections will likely be one of the smartest things you'll do in college. Remember, sometimes it's WHO you know, not what you know.

## Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

I plan on returning to CSUF in Fall 2020 to begin my first year of graduate school, majoring in Kinesiology with a concentration Strength and Conditioning.

# Giovanni Berdejo-Gallegos

BA in Business Administration

Hometown: Anaheim, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



The friendships I've built through the Veteran Resource Center.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

The staff of the Veteran Resource Center (VRC) has made going to school much easier and more enjoyable for me. The staff at the VRC has created a home for veterans where we can come together as students and share our glory days as service members. Without the VRC, I don't think I would have had such an amazing time at CSUF.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Don't take going to class for granted, try your best and enjoy your time at school. You don't have to take 18 units a semester, take your time and relish in the college experience.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Find employment in either higher education or information systems; while I continue to market my published book, *One Angry Veteran*, available on Amazon.

# Alvarie Anderson

**BS in Kinesiology**

**Hometown: San Bernardino, CA**

## **Favorite CSUF Memory**

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## **Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

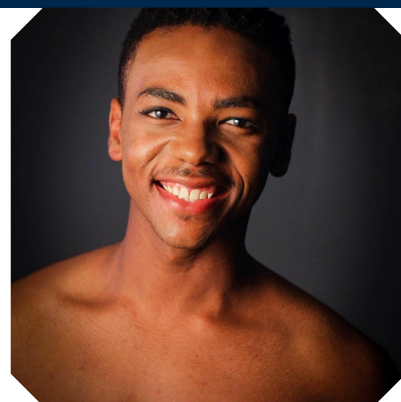
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# Dennzyl Green

**BA in Dance**

**Hometown:** Anaheim, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



Being able to relate to my fellow dance artists inside the CPAC hallways. From talking, dancing, acting silly, catching up on last minute assignments, or simply catching up on sleep. These memories are my favorite because we were all on the same journey, supporting each other to ensure we will all be successful.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

The Dance Faculty are all wonderful people I will cherish for the rest of my life. Muriel Joyce, Alvin Rangel, Debra Noble, Lisa D. Long and Gladys Kares, have all impacted my educational career in more ways than I can imagine. Thank you for your love and support and the countless opportunities you have provided me for. I love you all very much.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Advice I would employ is to never be afraid to go the extra mile to achieve your goals. All the late night studying, rehearsals, and missing out on outside events will make all the difference post undergrad. Because you have made the sacrifices then, once you graduate, there is nothing you cannot handle because you have developed techniques to persevere the trials and tribulations. Though you may not see it now, undergrad is preparing you for post grad and all the paths you will take. Take a breath and focus and you will succeed in more ways than one.

# Deven Dickens

BA in Communications and Journalism

Minor in Marketing

Hometown: San Diego, CA



## Favorite CSUF Memory

The first time I stepped foot on the CSUF campus is my favorite memory. At the time, I was a senior in high school taking a college trip around Southern California. While touring CSUF, I remember telling my class in confidence that I would go to and graduate from CSUF which is now my reality. As a senior graduating debt-free, I have a strong belief in positive affirmations and most importantly, in my ability to succeed.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Professor Bonnie Stewart and Professor Mei-Ling Malone

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

For future Black graduates of CSUF, I would advise them to stay grounded by one important goal they hold for themselves. Without something to strive for on a journey, it will be easy to give up and not follow through. But a promise made to yourself is hard to break.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will start my own business and use my marketing skills to promote myself and my business online.

# Patricia Knox

**BA in Communications and Journalism**

**Minor in Marketing**

**Hometown: San Diego, CA**



## **Favorite CSUF Memory**

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## **Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will start my own business and use my marketing skills to promote myself and my business online.

# Daniella Scott

**BA in Criminal Justice**

**Minor in African American Studies**

**Hometown: Santa Ana, CA**



**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Living in the dorms, right next door to my bestfriend

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Professor Monishia Miller was my first criminal justice professor and first black professor

Professor Mei-Ling Malone supported every one of my decisions—both in my academics and my personal life

Dr. Edward Robinson was my rock my last two years at CSUF, he kept me grounded and focused

And of course my friends and family who were and continue to be my most prized support system

I LOVE YOU ALL. THANK YOU.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Get connected! Stay focused and push yourself...hard— but don't forget to have fun and enjoy the process



# Jordan Halili

**BA in Communicative Sciences and Disorders**

**Hometown: Placentia, CA**



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My family and friends for supporting me and always being there, especially, my mother who is my mentor and role model.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Enjoy the years were you go to school at a university were people of minority backgrounds are valued.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will be attending graduate school in the Fall at CSUF to become a Speech-Language Pathologist.

**What does Imani mean to you?**

I relate faith/ hope to my school experience; to me it means that I will be a better person and do something of value to better myself.

# Kimberly Hardaway

BS in Human Services

Hometown: West Covina, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Being acknowledged for who I am.



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

McNair and Titan Scholars Programs, as well as my mentors.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Stay focused on your goals and never give up.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Pursuing Graduate School

# Carol Bluee-Walker

BA in Sociology

Hometown: Gardena, California

Favorite CSUF Memory



The wonderful individuals in my cohort group.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

I would like to thank all of the Distance Learning Teachers.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

It is important to stay in School. I dropped out of college in my early 20's and it took over 33 years for me to go back to school and earned my Bachelor Degree. It was very difficult to juggling being a parent, full-time employee and student.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I plan to retire from my current job and start a teaching career in South Central Los Angeles.

# Gracie Robinson

BA in Criminal Justice

Hometown: Irvine, California

Favorite CSUF Memory



Studying under the greatest minds of Senior Deputy District Attorneys, and one Public Defender

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Professor John Anderson

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

You deserve the same quality education than non-blacks. You will find it at CSUF.

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

I am preparing for law school to earn a Juris Doctorate which will qualify me to take the California and New York's state bar examination.

# Justina Sharp

**BA in Communications: Public Relations**

**Minor in African American Studies**

**Hometown: Sacramento, CA**

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Deciding to declare my minor in AFAM

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Professor Gwendolyn Alexis and the entire AFAM department.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Ask for help when you need it - not just about academics, but about life.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will be working in creative consulting, and traveling!



# Beylul Ephrem

BFA in Acting

Hometown: California

Favorite CSUF Memory

Living on campus



Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Yohanna Sahle

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Be involved

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

Staying home

# Samantha Thomas

BS in Health Science

Hometown: Bakersfield, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory

My favorite memory is living in the dorms freshman year and making so many friends.

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

My family, my resident advisor Tanner Diaz

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Take advantage of the resources the school offers and go to the events ASI puts on.

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

I am going to sit for the CHES exam to become a certified health education specialist.



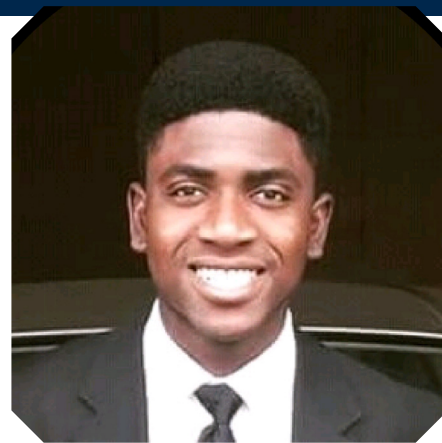
# Nehemiah Obidah

BA in Business Analytics

Hometown: Anaheim, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory

My time at the Mihaylo Student Advisory Board and working out at the Titan Recreation.



Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

All my professors and advisors all assisted me.

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Find your goal, stay focused and make that dream/goal a reality. Anything can be achieved as long as we keep working towards it.

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

I plan to go to grad school, work, and start my own business.



# Earl Minor

**BS in Child and Adolescent Development**

**Hometown:** Hawthorne, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



When I first arrived on campus, I felt relieved like I accomplished something.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My girlfriend Samantha, my counselor Diana Robles, my Uncle Kent, and all my friends that supported me.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Stay strong, but most importantly focus on your mental health, because the mind is your strongest tool.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Just relax for the moment and take a year off

# Daameonia Stokes

BA in Psychology

Minor in African American Studies

Hometown: La Verne, CA



## Favorite CSUF Memory

My whole freshman year experience of being free and naive

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

All the Black staff on campus to be honest

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Don't be discouraged. There are wonderful black staff here that understand your struggle and who want to help. Visit the AARC and you'll meet some of nicest people ever.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will be attending grad school fall 2020 for my masters in counseling Psychology back at CSUF

# Sirri Ibrahim

**BA in Business Administration**

**Minor in Accounting**

**Hometown: Harbor City, California**



**Favorite CSUF Memory**

The first day at CSUF, the orientation day and CSUF tour

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My Wife

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Don't give up

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Taking CPA exam

# Robert Black III

**BS in Human Services**

**Hometown:** Victorville, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



Welcoming new students to their first day on campus at orientation.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Without Laura Hooks, Julianna Hernandez, Isabel Rangel, and my Mom this could not have been possible.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Find your way! There is a place for each and every Titan, but you have to seek it out and make it your own.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Just got hired to work with homeless college students in the LA county!

# Kaitlon Stewart

BA in Psychology

Minor in Criminal justice

Hometown: San Diego, California



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Professor Moe Miller

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Take advantage of the career center, do your internship early, and make as many friends as you can (be involved)

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Gap year then grad school

# Danae Lobbenmeier

BA in Business Administration

Minor in Finance

Hometown: Mission Viejo, CA



## Favorite CSUF Memory

Learning from professors who genuinely cared and making so many friends

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My mom Deborah and dad Dirk. Also my brother Dirk

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

When someone doubts you based on the color of your skin and you prove them wrong, it's an incredible feeling but sad that racial prejudice still defines me

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

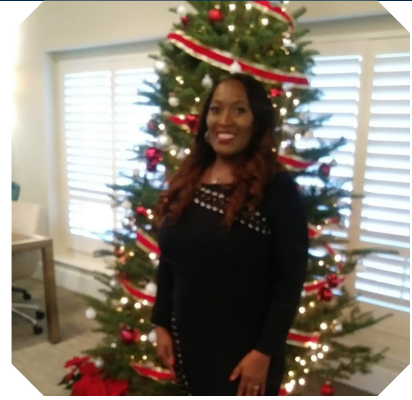
I'll be coming back in the spring to get my Masters

# Luajuana Hawkins

BS in Human Services

Hometown: Lake Elsinore, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



My favorite memory at CSUF has been successfully completing my BS degree at CSUF-5/20

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Ramona Perez-Academic Advisor, and Rodney Anderson - EOPs Counselor

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

My advice to future Black graduates is to remain resilient, stay strong and remain focused.

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

Yes, I have began to actively pursue my plans to start a business, and will pursue my Master's degree in Social Work.

# Sydney Ramos

BA in Communications Studies

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Being at the AARC!

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Professor Gwendolyn Alexis & Professor Elise Assaf

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

To always pursue your dreams and never give up. Make sure to get involved and join BSU and the activities. Utilize the ARC resources even if you just want to meet new people or chill, it's a great spot to kickback at.



# Diamond Byrd

BS in Child and Adolescent Development

Minor in Spanish

Hometown: Chino Hills, CA



**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Teaching children during a study abroad in Thailand

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

I want to thank my mom and stepdad for the consistent love and support, my sister currently serving in Korea for being my biggest inspiration and favorite soldier, and my boss at the Veterans Resource Center, Cameron Cook for seeing things in me that I didn't see in myself and for all the encouragement.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

There are few of us, but we are strong. You matter, you are valuable, you are remarkable.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will be pursuing my Masters of Social Work

# Gabrielle Alexander

BA in Business Administration

Hometown: California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Meeting lifelong friends



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My Son Liam, Mother, Aunt Lolo, Aunt Yass, Cassidy, Brooke, Andrew, Uncle Bart, Haley, Erin, Adeana, David. All of my friends and family who watched my son so I could attend class. To my family who helped support me throughout my college career.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Stay focused on your studies and utilize all resources offered by CSUF. Try not to get too distracted and if you need help don't ever be too proud to ASK!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Look into earning a Masters Degree. TAKE A VACATION!

# Daniel Taylor

**BS in Businesses Administration: Entrepreneurship**

**Hometown: GARDEN GROVE**

## **Favorite CSUF Memory**



My favorite memory at CSUF was one day when I got to school, and I was beginning to learn how to skateboard; I fell face first into the pavement. Everybody saw me and laughed. That day, I knew I attended the right university.

## **Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

I would like to acknowledge my family and friends who supported me. My mother is such an inspiration and I love her and my brothers and sisters. I am very blessed.

## **What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

The world is a cold place, but let your WILL OF FIRE burn bright. My advice is to acknowledge the fact that the world doesn't favor us, but do not let that get to you. Prove them wrong, yes, but prove your self right that you can do all things.

## **Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

M.B.A. at CSUF

# Sydney Alferos

BA in English

Hometown: Buena Park, California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Meeting my partner



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My mother

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Crying and dying are just of symptom of trying. So keep on trying!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Accepted into teach for america to be an english teacher

# Mercy Maingi

**Bachelors in Nursing**

**Hometown:** Born in Kenya, lives in California,US

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Interaction with multiethnic diverse scholars

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My family especially my father Fredrick Wachira

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

The sky is the limit, and don't take "NO" as your final answer, be persistent!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Continue practicing as a Registered Nurse, later pursue masters with specialty in Cardiology



# Michael Paskel-Flannigan

BA in Psychology

Hometown: Los Angeles California

Favorite CSUF Memory



The assistance that the faculty provided me in terms of financial aid! It really made my college dream possible!

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Professor Joseph Wagoner. He really took the time out to help me with my final project. His patience and dedication as an educator motivated and brought the very best out of me!

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Stay committed to your dreams no matter what!

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

I plan on going into probation to show other brown and black males that anything is possible when you put your mind to it.

# Tiffany Elliott

**B.A. in Human Communication Studies**

**Hometown: Camarillo, CA**

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



Getting involved with the BSU, and joining/  
being on the E-board for Sistertalk

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My parents, and my sister

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

You are meant to be where you are! Keep pushing through, there is a greater reward than your current circumstance.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I am planning to work in the nonprofit realm, with a focus on community development

# Daja Blake

**BS in Criminal Justice**

**Hometown: San Bernardino, CA**

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

AARC



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

I would like to acknowledge all my positive black fellow students who help keep everyone accountable and scholarly.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Never give up even when it seems impossible, you got this. Don't let the success of others pressure you, we all work at our own pace.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Well I graduated a year early so I will be getting a job in my field which will pay for graduate school.



# Jazmine Barnum

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: Hayward, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Meeting all of the amazing people.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

All of my major teachers.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Don't let anyone define you or your journey.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Plan on going to Physician Assistant School.



# Dejanae (Deja) Sturges

BA in Business - Marketing

Hometown: Hawthorne, California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Being apart of the ABC Committee



**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Get involved in the black community sooner than later. You will not regret it.

# Gelila Debebe

BA in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing

Hometown: Rancho Cucamonga, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

ABC Conference



**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Create a balance. Balance out your school work, social life, and extracurricular activities. Don't give too much time to one or the other.

# Adriann Miller

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: Twentynine Palms, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Participating in research labs

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Melissa Montgomery - she was literally the best professor I've ever had.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Keep going. Don't give up when it gets tough and when odds are against you.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I'm applying to graduate school to be an Athletic Trainer.

# Caleb Mack

BA in Political Science

Minor in Spanish

Hometown: South Carolina



**Favorite CSUF Memory**

All the memories with the friends I've made

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Get involved in the community and continue to strive for excellence

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

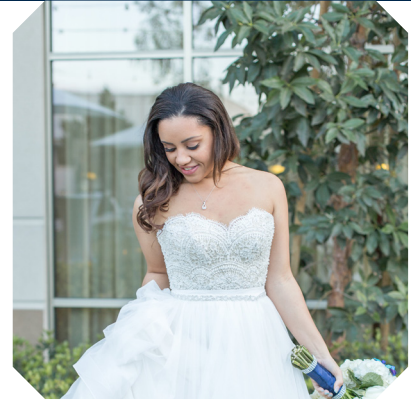
Law School and Real Estate here I come!

# Courtney Lopez

BA in Communication

Hometown: Orange County, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**



Meeting life-long friends and getting married.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My father, for always reading my papers and helping me edit. My husband for sticking by my side when I was stressed, and putting up with my junk food ritual during finals week.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

You should be very proud of what you are going to accomplish, a degree of any kind is something to be proud of. I lost sight of that a few times and remembering that will help you to push through it and continue working for it.

# Derreck Pickard

BA in Communication

Hometown: Spokane, Washington

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

All the PRSSA events



**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

All the wonderful professors I had the great honor of being taught by!

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Keep your head up, be proud, keep learning and improving yourself and no one can hold you back!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will be applying to work at Edelmens PR Firm

# Jalen Ward

BA in Psychology

Minor in Political Science

Hometown: Laguna Hills, CA



**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Late nights at Pollak during finals week

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Dr. Trisha Miller, Dr Carrie Carmody, Prof. Jose Zamora, Dr. Joseph Wagoner, Dr. Justin Tucker, Dr. David Traven,

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Please explore your talents, nothing comes easy without investment.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Pursuing a graduate degree in political science

# Leah Montgomery

BFA in Entertainment Art/Animation

Hometown: Gardena, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory

Singing along with my classmates in my Animation class.



## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Keep pushing through and don't mind the haters.

## Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

Traveling around the world.



# Charmain Taylor

BA in Criminal Justice

Hometown: Orange County California

Favorite CSUF Memory

Being accepted!

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

My fiance!

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Keep pushing. Anything is possible!



# Brandy Factory

BA in Dance

Hometown: Compton, CA

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?



Prof. Alvin Rangel

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

The first step of accomplishing any goal you set is believing that you can do it.

# Ayreiana Armstrong

BS in Public Health

Hometown: Moreno Valley, CA

Favorite CSUF Memory



Partying

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Finish work before the due date.

# Brandon Riffel

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: San Jose, CA

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?



Always grind, attend classes, and never let anyone tell you that you can't do it.

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

Going to graduate school

# Kristen Thompson

BA in Psychology , Early Childhood Development

Hometown: United States

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?



Follow your dreams and never give up.

# Alexis Naucner

BA in Communications (Advertising concentration)

Hometown: Moreno Valley, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory

One of my favorite memories at Cal State Fullerton would be getting on the Dean's List for the Spring 2019 semester. I felt so proud and learned to never doubt myself. I can do anything I set my mind to!

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Your words have power. Speak and think positively of yourself and your capabilities and good things will come your way.



# Myla Jones

BA in Business Administration Concentration in Marketing and Information Systems

Hometown: United States

## Favorite CSUF Memory

Meeting up with friends in between classes

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

To get involved, reach out and don't be afraid. A lot of people could be in the same boat as you and dealing with personal struggles as well, don't have to struggle alone.



# Veronica Payne

**BS in Double Major: (1) Cinema and Television Arts (2) Philosophy**

**Minor in African American Studies**

**Hometown:** Straight Outta Ontario, California

## **Favorite CSUF Memory**

I have so many amazing memories at CSUF. I loved the college experience overall: meeting diverse people, being spontaneous, college parties, CSUF events, living on campus, learning about myself, falling in love, traveling, new experiences, being independent, completing goals, overcoming challenges, and becoming an adult. What a journey!

## **Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Thank you to my family and friends that have assisted me through this long journey and never gave up on me. Thank you to the resource centers that were there when I needed them. Thank you to the Children's Center for taking good care of my son and teaching him in the process. Thank you to my professors that have been a great joy in my learning experience. Thank You to my son who reminded me what I'm capable of. Thank you to GOD who helped me get back up every time I fell.

## **What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

It's a great experience being a college student. My advice to future Black graduates of CSUF is to balance the work load and fun because too much of one or the other will ruin the college experience as a whole. Reach your goals and don't give up. Lastly, don't leave college without taking an African American course, it will teach you about the necessary things you need to be aware of within yourself and your community.

## **Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I am happy to announce that post-graduation I will be surviving Corona.

# Monique Akioyame

**BA in Theatre Arts**

**Minor in Sociology**

**Hometown:** Carson, CA

## **Favorite CSUF Memory**

My favorite memory at CSUF would have to be my years at titan radio having a radio station with one of my best friends, Victoria Montoya. It was the best turning up once a week to playlists we made and just talking about life on a platform! We also always wanted to do college radio!

## **Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

I would like to acknowledge my family for their endless support. For all the friends I've met and had along the way for helping me during my most formative years and being friends I'll have for a lifetime. To the professors who really challenged me and made me work for this degree! To my EOP counselor Jennifer Bauldary for supporting me since day one. To my boyfriend Gyromee for never letting me give up on this degree. And honestly, to myself for all the hard work I put in when I wanted to give up a lot throughout these five years.

## **What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

You are capable of so much more than you think you are. You will surprise yourself with how much strength you have hidden inside you. Never doubt yourself and don't be afraid to speak up in a lecture full of 200 students if you have an opinion that needs to be heard. Try new things, there is so much on campus to be a part of. There is always a place for us if you feel isolated. You make your experience!

## **Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I'm going to take a year of from schooling to focus on acting/theatre. I plan to get my masters in sociology. My long term goal is to open a non profit for teens in need to have counseling as well as have a place to express themselves in the arts.

# Carlos Cosio

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: Lancaster, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory

During my last semester, I got to be a part of history at CSUF when we hosted a BSU conference. We got on stage in front of like 15 schools and remixed “last time that I checked” out of homage to Nipsey Hustle and to showcase that the road to black success and is a marathon. I loved the people that I got to volunteer and serve food with. I really enjoyed the laughs that we shared during those three days! Even though I didn’t get to go to any workshops or get to enjoy the conference, I was still happy to be able to represent CSUF and to be a part of other students’ experience at the conference. I was elated to see that everyone was enjoying themselves and hear that it was one of the best conferences that have every been hosted by a school.

## Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

I want to acknowledge my really amazing professors that I have had in my upper division Kinesiology courses, Dr. Debbie Rose, Dr. Matthew Llewellyn, Dr. Pablo Costa, Jaime Potter, Dr. Scott Lynn, Dr. Daniela Rubin, Warren Ondatje, and Kristine Boyle-Walker. They a really great job at explaining the material and keeping me engaged during lecture.

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

You’ll get through whatever you’re going through as long as you keep adapting and manage your distractions.

## Any post-graduation plans you’d like to share?

I plan on being an athletic training assistant, maintain my knowledge in anatomy, athletic training principles, and therapeutic rehabilitation to get ready to apply for a master’s program next fall.

# Nyree Holmes

**BA in African American Studies & Cinema and Television Arts**

**Hometown:** Sacramento , California

## **Favorite CSUF Memory**

Deciding to become a double major.

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Dr. Edward Robinson & Professor Gwendolyn Alexis

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

I would say to stay grounded in who you are and rely on your roots to strengthen you.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I will be attending the master's program at Georgia State University in their African American Studies department with an emphasis on culture and aesthetics.



# Dyandra Pough

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: Hayward, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory

Being able to do the Kinesiology department's study abroad in Greece in the summer of 2019.

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

As you continue to grow and experience the world you will start to notice repeated injustices in the world for blacks. However, know that life is a never ending fight to show the world how strong we are as a community and we will continue to rewrite the narrative that people think they have written for us. Remember that we are more than the negative images the media makes us out to be, and being a college graduate is one of the biggest notions of that.

## Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

After graduation, I plan on finishing the prerequisites for my grad program this year and then applying to grad school for athletic training.

# Vincent Ejiofor

BA in Art Studio General

Hometown: California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Breaks in between classes at the library with colleagues

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My sister Cynthia

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Keep believing and keep pursuing your goals

# Alfonzo Harley

BA in CIS

Hometown: United States

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Dorm Life

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Dannaca Daniel

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Get involved early on

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Travel

# Daniel Lynch

**BA in Criminal Justice**

**Hometown:** Los Angeles, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

David Silva III

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Study what you are genuinely passionate about. You are going to school and putting in all the hard work to better your knowledge for your goal or objective. Honestly, pick a major or minor to help you in achieving your goal.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Hopefully, to get hired by a police department

# Desiree Nwadike

BS in Health Science

Hometown: Hayward, CA

## Favorite CSUF Memory

Connecting with people from different walks of life.

## Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

I am thankful for my mother, I truly could not have completed my collegiate journey without her support.

## What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Never believe that you are not enough, you are more than enough.

## Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

I plan to further my education and get a Master of Science in Nursing degree.

# **Dayzhanece Edwards**

**BS in Health science**

**Hometown:** Victorville, California

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

No matter what keep pushing forward, you got this!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I plan to take a year off to spend more quality time with my son. Then I will go and obtain my masters, and eventually medical school to become a neonatologist.

# **Jordyn Pugh**

**BA in Business/Finance**

**Hometown:** Fontana, CA

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Join clubs and get involved to meet tons of people to make lifelong friendships!

# Krystal Perkins

BA in Sociology

Minor in Human Services

Hometown: California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Going with CSUF to the Black Panther movie premiere in Hollywood

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Always, always, always keep going. Even when it's difficult and it feels like you can't go on, keep going. You will reach your goal and once you do, you can look back on all the resilience and strength it took to bring you to this moment. You got this.

# Margaret Macharia

BS in Biochemistry

Hometown: California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Working in Dr. Linder's lab

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

All the friends I made

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Hold yourself accountable and finish what you started

# Jordan Ward

BA in Psychology

Hometown: Irvine, CA

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Professor Gwendolyn Alexis

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Take advantage of all the resources! There are so many people on campus willing to help you out should you need it. Ask your fellow students and make some good friends in the process.

# Keegan Wilson

BS in Marine Biology

Hometown: Aliso Viejo, CA

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

You don't have to be black to be a TRUE African American.



# Maxwell Hardy

BS in kinesiology

Hometown: Fullerton, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Both my Mother, Father and Brother (Yvette, Matthew, Murdoc)

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Follow your heart and don't let anyone influence you to do otherwise. You only have one life, so learn to live it by your own terms. However, consider the advice you're given from others, even when it isn't warranted.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I would like to travel the world

# Johnathon Thomas

BA in Accounting

Hometown: LONG BEACH!

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Attending the Homecoming basketball games

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Get connected, use the schools resources all over campus, associate with a variety of people

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Working Full Time in LA at Ernst & Young

# Ariana Twyman

BS in Nursing

Hometown: Pasadena, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Graduating!

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Stay the course! It gets better!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Applying to grad school!

# Sheridan Smith

BA and BS in Sociology and Public Health

Hometown: Victorville, CA

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Dr. Taylor Cruz

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Stay focused! Don't lose sight of the end goal.

Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?

Pursuing a career in minority health research.

# **Roderick Daniels**

**BA in Business Administration**

**Hometown:** San Jacinto, CA

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Network

# **Kris Hullon**

**BS in Kinesiology**

**Hometown:** Anaheim, California

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Playing intramural sports with friends

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

My mother and father

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Feed whatever fuels your light, trust your instincts, and stay true to yourself

# **Robin Crew**

BA in Sociology

Hometown: Fullerton, CA

Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?

Dr. Amir Dabirian, Vice President for Information Technology/CIO

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Don't be afraid to be great!

# **Nakisha Clayton**

BA in Sociology

Hometown: Concord, California

What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?

Breathe, you got this and always press on!

# Corrina LeBlanc

BS in Kinesiology

Hometown: Long Beach, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Fusion

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

The KNES advisors

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Build connections with the black community on campus and get involved

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Applying to graduate school for a masters in Athletic Training

# **Nancy Ngele**

BA in Psychology

Hometown: Irvine, CA

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

You can achieve anything you put your mind into. Hard work always pay off.

# **Danielle Sawyer**

MS in Nursing

Hometown: Long Beach, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Completing required homework during out of country family vacations

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Dr. Rachel McClanahan

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Never give up! You can do it!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

Pure relaxation and spending quality time with family and friends



# Yetty Okunade

**BSN in Nursing**

**Hometown:** Lake Elsinore, CA

**Favorite CSUF Memory**

Nursing clinical

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Professor Koch, I am very appreciative of all you did in making my CSUF journey a success. Thank you.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Nothing is impossible when you believe either good or bad, therefore believe good.

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

CRNA in the nearest future.

# **Kailah Middleton**

BA in Psychology

Hometown: Santa Fe Springs

**Is there anyone you want to acknowledge who assisted you in your journey at CSUF?**

Unfortunately I was a commuter student so my time was very limited on campus.

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Definitely take advantage of every resource provided on campus. Enjoy every moment of the college experience to the fullest!

**Any post-graduation plans you'd like to share?**

I'm excited that I will be soon starting my own business selling baked goods

# **Jasmin Reneau**

BA in Communication

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

**What advice do you have to future Black graduates of CSUF?**

Never feel like you have to change yourself because people that don't look like you, don't understand you. There are groups on campus that will provide you with the representation you seek.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

**FULLERTON**

DIVERSITY INITIATIVES  
& RESOURCE CENTERS

# WHAT DOES IMANI (FAITH) MEAN TO YOU?

*Faith is taking the first step  
even when you don't see the  
whole staircase.*

**- Martin Luther King Jr.**

*Having faith in that the goodness of people, will out shine the ugliness of our fearful selves.*

*Imani to me means hope that better things will come. Even if things may seem bad at the moment, there is still light at the end of the tunnel.*

*Imani means to whole heartily believe in ourselves. To have faith that I will be the best person I can be. To believe In my family, my community, my teachers.*

*Imani means to me do the possible and trust God for the impossible.*

*If you continue to work hard and pursue your dreams, one day your dreams will come true.*

*I believe that Imani means that God is in control of all things!*

*‘The great thing about obtaining a degree is that it reminds you that it is never too late to continue education . The only person who can step in the way of your success if you.’*

*Believing even when there are no visible signs*

*Be resilient!*

*Trust yourself - you wouldn't be in the position you are if you couldn't handle this.*

*Due to the recent pandemic, Imani to me means that I will be able to continue to achieve my goals and aspirations. To have faith in myself and my family to support me through this journey no matter how many obstacles I may face.*

*Trusting that thing will work out for the best even when it feels like it won't.*

*Being in touch with my intuition*

*Believing when the odds are against you.*

*Faith to me basically mean believing without seeing, and trusting that I have been giving the abilities to accomplish whatever I set my mind to.*

*Lots of times its hard to see the positive in life. Have faith that things are going the way they are for a reason. Many times I felt like there was no way out, but now I look back on those times and am thankful that I pushed through.*

*Creating goals and believing you can achieve these goals through all adversity.*

*To me, Imani means each day is a new day in Victory!*

*That we will get through this crisis together and come out on top*

*Imani is a compass that guides you throughout your life and living by that compass.*

*Imani is my source of strength. It is the fire within me.*

*Imani to me, means taking that first big step in life, knowing that whatever you seek in life can be accomplished.*

*Faith to me means believe in the outcomes you want and trust that it will happen. You may have self doubt and feel discouraged, but you have to believe that you will be okay. I personally believe in God, so my faith comes from the word itself. It's a hard concept to grasp sometimes but you'll be so much happier in the end when you*

*manifest and believe in the things you want.*

*I relate faith/ hope to my school experience; to me it means that I will be a better person and do something of value to better myself.*

*Blessing*

*Faith is the centerpiece to all that I do.*

*For me, Imani means believing that my own abilities and experiences are enough and trusting in the beauty and power of my community.*

*Being accepting of just letting go and letting things fall into place*

*Belief in a higher power*

*Imani means ‘God is with us,’ and I know my journey has been a very tedious journey, and I know, I never would have made it without him. To God be the glory*

*To believe with your whole heart*

*Imani means persistence. It means patients. It means to believe in yourself that you have the ability to achieve every goal of your desires. When my doubts come in strong, I depend on Imani to overcome my hardships and soon enough my blessings will follow after.*

*Everyone who ever helped me get through obstacles in my life, big or small, had faith in me. That support encouraged me to have faith in myself. Faith is the foundation of support and love, both of which are things that we as humans strive to feel.*

*Faith to me believing that things will work out even when it does not*

seem as though. Imani is a reflection of 2Corinthians 5:7 for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Imani, (faith) is important to embody. On a spiritual level, many will attribute their success to a higher being. I believe that Imani is part of the equation, but not the full story. Anyone can 'believe' they can, but we must also have the will to perform, the will to complete the tasks laid before you, and the will to finish the race...with excellence. Imani and your personal will, working in tandem, will take you from start to finish.

Imani originates from my native language Swahili, and it means having faith that my hard work will pay off

Imani to me means believe in yourself and know in your hearts of heart you can achieve anything you set your mind to.

Imani for me means to have trust that all things will eventually work out in the end. This year it felt as if my senior year was cut short due to COVID-19 but by having Imani I continue to stay optimistic. I have tried to look to the brighter side of things in stead of the negative in terms of what I'll miss regarding graduation and some of my plans changing. However, even though things are not happening under circumstances that I like, I still am happy to be a college graduate and have faith that things will get better. As I get ready to enter the real world I look forward to a having positive future full of many opportunities.

I believe Imani surrounds our community. Looking back at our ancestor's accomplishments, innovations, explorations, and struggle, they still prove victorious. I don't like to focus on negative perceptions, assumptions, or mindsets about our community. I like to focus on our positive creations, ideas, art, support, and past accomplishments because I believe our Black community can only improve and inspire others to lead by example. This is why I have faith in myself and my

*own ability. As an educated Black woman, I know that I was created for a purpose and that I am on the right path.*

*Imani means walking by faith not by sight. That these worldly senses may misjudge my perceptions, but it's all about progress over perfection.*

*Trust that God is with you throughout your journey.*

*No matter how difficult things get you will make it if you stay focused on the Most High and your goals.*

*It mean the 'Will to keep moving forward.'*

*Imani means EVERYTHING to me. It's a part of the foundation that our home is built on. Imani in God gives me strength to get out of bed everyday. Imani in family gives me purpose to create a legacy for them to keep building upon. Imani in the goodness of people keeps me humble, and Imani in a better tomorrow is the force that drives me to positively impact as many little minds as possible. Imani is Strength. Imani is Purpose. Imani is having Belief in others. Imani is Everything...*

*Faith is so important to have. Without faith I wouldn't have made it this far.*

*Imani means knowing that you will experience obstacles and finding the opportunity within those circumstances to still persist*

*Faith in myself that i can become who i dream of*

*To me, Imani gives me confidence that everything will okay at the end no matter how hard life gets.*

*Do your very best in everything you do, the rest leave it to God*



God

*Imani means believing in your purpose or goal, even if you may not see positive results in front of you. It's having faith in what you can be.*

*It means believing in yourself even when it seem impossible.*

*Imani for me is about working hard but never stressing on where life will lead.*

*Imani to me is being able to trust in what it seems I am walking in darkness. Many of times I did not know how I was going to figure out the rest of the day and its activities. Each and everyday I took one step, one activity at a time until I completed the tasks of the day. With these small doses, I was able to conquer more than if I took on the day as a whole.*

*believing that anything is possible*

*Imani means to have faith, to have belief in your community, in your teachers, in your loved ones, and most importantly in yourself.*

*Having Faith in something allows for the continuation in forward progress*

*Imani means keeping a positive attitude and staying strong even when going through struggles, never losing your faith.*

*To me Imani(faith) means, even through fear, taking on the changes and challenges that life brings.*

*Believing in something that will have a good outcome in the future.*

*Faith is believing in something you cannot see or hear in the moment. Its having hope that everything will turn out how it is meant to be.*

*Faith is something I implement in my life daily.*

*Imani means to have strong belief and trust in something, someone, or an idea regardless of any situation or obstacles that may occur*

*Imani means believing in the dream and goals you have even when it doesn't seem attainable.*

*Trusting in your abilities and that things will work out*

*Imani (faith) is hoping for things that you can not yet see, but working towards those things, believing that they will come to pass.*

*Faith doesn't have to be religious or spiritual. If you don't have either you can always have faith in yourself. With that, you can accomplish anything you set your mind on.*

*Imani is in my maternal language (Swahili). For me, faith means that you have to believe in your dreams, work hard for it and you will definitely make it. Nothing is impossible, and having faith will lead you to accomplish things you wouldn't imagine.*

*Imani means imagination the light at the end of the tunnel and being able to smile while there is darkness around me. It means pulling myself together and trusting in myself that I am able to withstand every obstacle that comes my way because every experience leading up to this moment has prepared me.*

*God is your peace! God will never steer you wrong. Trust in God even during the difficult times.*

*Faith means to believe with your whole heart whether that means in a religion, a moral, a superstition, or even in yourself. Faith gives strength to move forward in life and gives it a purpose.*

*Faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). Getting my BSN today was a substance I hoped for many years ago...fast forward today, it is evident. Hold on to your Faith!*

*It mean knowing the things will work out exactly how they were meant to*

*Faith is the complete confidence that something will come to fruition. Faith is the confidence that something will unfold and work in your favor without having any proof.*

*Surround yourself with people who will keep the faith.*

*Imani means never losing sight of the goal and always maintaining confidence that you can achieve your goals. Faith is believing that you can do anything you put your mind to.*

*Imani is believing that everything will work out for the better. Imani is knowing that GOD is working behind the scenes, even when it doesn't look like it. Imani is not giving up because ahead life is brighter.*