Welcome Message from Dean Barua, College of Engineering and Computer Science (ECS)

August 23, 2021

Dear Titans,

Welcome to the Fall 2021 semester. As we enter another year of transition, many of you will return to campus to attend in-person or hybrid courses, some will step foot on our University for the first time, and others eagerly await the opportunity to reconnect with friends, classmates, and professors. I enter this semester with a spirit of optimism yet recognize the equally challenging times we continue to face. The past 17 months have been nothing short of arduous and as we shift to in-person education, face-to-face co-curricular activities, and campus-wide events, we are ready to welcome and receive you with a renewed commitment toward providing exceptional academic and personal support.

Our College is working to provide you with a continued transformative educational experience. The ECS Departments are prepared to help you successfully navigate the Fall curriculum, and our Student Success Team is available to help you cope with the challenges and changes of the past months. We will be providing more tutoring hours than in the past, and our co-curricular groups are eager to surround you with community and social connection upon your return. Please rest assured that your health and safety remain the top priority of the College and that we are well prepared for your safe return to campus. The University actively monitors CDC announcements, local health agency reports, and Cal/OHSA guidelines, and ECS has implemented the necessary steps to provide the safest environment for you and your educational experience.*

ECS continues to stand in solidary with Asian American, Black, Indigenous and Latinx students, and their efforts to combat racism, sexism, and systemic injustices on campus. Our College Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee comprised of students, faculty, staff, and administrators continues to make strides into the Fall where we will finalize a mission statement as well as complete a climate survey of ECS constituents. The College is thrilled to have received continued donor support to provide scholarships for 2021-22 to promote diversity and inclusion in engineering and computer science including the *Fledhouse Rising Memorial DEI Scholarship*, *Rangan #BLM Scholarship*, and *ECS Dean's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship*. Furthermore, the ECS "Titans of Transformation: Big Ideas" initiative will provide opportunities for students to work with faculty to address real-world social problems by providing engineering and technology solutions. Utilizing such technical and research-based skills to impact social, environmental, and global needs helps students like you to develop into world-class socially engaged leaders.

Please join me in ushering in the new academic year with optimism, eagerness, and excitement toward the new opportunities that lie ahead. I wish you much success this Fall 2021 semester!

Sincerely,

Susamma (Susan) Barua, Ph.D. Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science

*Covid-19 Re-entry Resources

CSUF <u>Titans Return: COVID-19 Recovery</u> Orange County Health Care Agency (<u>OCHCA</u>)

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OHSA)

Campus Services & Support for Students

CAPS 24/7 crisis phone services: (657)278-3040 or visit https://www.fullerton.edu/caps/

YOU@Fullerton: A free and confidential wellness portal that connects students to academic, physical and mental health resources.

Visit: https://you.fullerton.edu