THE DISTINCTION

Going Beyond the Classroom

A leading institution of the California State University system, Cal State Fullerton is an intellectual and cultural center for Orange County. CSUF is a primary driver of workforce and economic development throughout the region and a national model for supporting student success through innovative high-impact educational and co-curricular experiences, including community engagement.

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NSM) is uniquely positioned as a leader in producing STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) community programs. The College’s mission encompasses both serving today’s local communities and creating the science and mathematics leaders of tomorrow. With many existing partnerships and programs, NSM students and faculty are able to engage thousands in our county each year.

Grounded in the academic expertise of our faculty, coupled with the enthusiasm of our students and staff, the College seeks funding to expand and sustain STEM-related community programming to continually raise awareness, excitement and build opportunities to pursue a STEM-related degree and career.

The Opportunities

- Project MISS
  - MISS Scholarships
  - Endowed Program

- Cooper Center
  - Endowed Directorship
  - Education and Outreach
  - Research
  - Pre-historic OC

- NSM Symposium
  - NSM Speaker Series

- Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary
  - Take a Bus to Tucker Initiative
THE IMPACT

Increasing Community Connections

Partnering with communities at the local, regional, national and international level, offers students hands-on training while allowing the College to apply resources that strengthen our society.

In addition to the programs listed below, NSM annually supports Orange County’s Gift of History program held at Angel Stadium and the Anaheim Ducks First Flight Field Trip held at the Honda Center. These large-scale events help encourage young children to attend college and pursue STEM fields. NSM faculty and students also lead countless tours, events, speaking engagements, and community college outreach programs with the purpose of bringing people together to share information and expand educational opportunities.

PROJECT MISS

Project MISS is a unique program that seeks to narrow the gender and ethnic gap by providing an intensive month-long summer mathematics course for young women. The program is designed to help high school girls succeed in college preparatory mathematics at the Algebra II level and above, and encourage them to take and succeed in calculus. This will open the way for these young women to major in critical subjects such as biology, chemistry, engineering, geology, mathematics and physics.

PROJECT MISS SCHOLARSHIPS

$1,000 per participant

The annual cost to produce the program is $1,000 per participant. There is no cost to participating families. Each participant receives six hours of mathematical instruction per day for one month, mentorship from key STEM industry professionals, a TI-84 graphing calculator, a journal to document their experience, and a closing family celebration. Each funded scholarship allows a young woman to be more prepared and confident in mathematics.

Full funding to add one additional class to the program is $2M.

ENDOWED PROGRAM

$60,000 annual term naming

Beyond the annual funding opportunities for the current program, we need to plan for long-term and expansion opportunities. Through Cal State Fullerton’s Irvine Campus, Project MISS is considering South County expansion and a year-long program through the addition of peer mentors returning to select school sites. Endowing Project MISS would provide sustainable funding and enforce our commitment to ensure young women have access to programs that build and encourage their math skills.

The endowed funding goal for the program is $2M.
COOPER CENTER
The John D. Cooper Archaeological and Paleontological Center, a partnership between CSUF and the County of Orange, preserves the history of life in Orange County, California. The Center prepares, curates, and manages the Orange County Archaeological and Paleontological collections for scientific research, public engagement, and education for the people of Orange County and beyond. Recent advances in technology reaffirm how properly curated collections are helping us better understand population growth, food, water, nutrition and climate change. There is no doubt the collection at the Cooper Center, of which only 1% has been properly curated and catalogued, could lead to new discoveries and help solve information gaps in our pre-history.

ENDOWED DIRECTORSHIP
$2M endowed
While annual funding supports our current level of activity, the Cooper Center has the ability to increase its outreach in Orange County through sustained investment. The endowed directorship will directly influence our ability to recruit, retain and raise the academic/research profile of the Cooper Center.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
$5,000 per school or locale
While the Cooper Center is not open to the public, it still provides educational opportunities such as classroom visits, traveling exhibits, outdoor festivals, a scholastic YouTube Channel and traveling lecture series. Exposing students and our communities to our collection ensures the benefits of the collection will remain for future generations. Guided by some of our top professors and curators, Cooper Center’s education and outreach is imaginative, informative and inspirational.

The endowed funding goal for this project is $1.5M, while the annual project goal is $50,000.

RESEARCH
$50,000 annually
The foundation of the Cooper Center begins with good research. High school students, college students and volunteers all benefit from participation in research at the Cooper Center. Our goal is to curate the collection to industry standards and involve passionate youth in our discoveries. This hands on experience will encourage further study in STEM-related fields. There are three ways your support will impact research at the Cooper Center:

1. Increase the number of fossils we catalog and curate each year (Fund a Fossil)
2. Impact the number of students directly involved in research
3. Support the digitizing of fossils to make them available to an international audience in order to aid scientific discovery.

The endowed funding goal for the research project is $1.5M.

PRE-HISTORIC OC
$10,000 event sponsorship
This annual event celebrating National Archaeology Day and National Fossil Day spotlights the Cooper Center through various public engagements. Created for families and children, the Center showcases the various collections, demonstrates volcanic eruptions, hosts a Kids Science Camp, and features Native American collections and food. We also have exhibit booths hosted by local companies and various NSM faculty members. Pre-historic OC is a fun way for youth to engage and learn more about our earth's history and culture.
NSM SPEAKER SERIES

Students, faculty and the community benefit from NSM’s ability to recruit top scholars, business leaders, scientists and entrepreneurs to speak on campus. These speakers keep NSM on the forefront of scientific discovery and provide an opportunity for the community to better understand the science behind issues impacting their community.

NSM SYMPOSIUM AND SPEAKER SERIES

$10,000 - $50,000 annually

Each spring, NSM students plan and manage the NSM Symposium. In the past, guest keynote speakers included Robert D. Ballard, leader of the team that discovered the Titanic; Bill Nye, science guy and American science educator; and Anousheh Ansari, first female private space explorer. The Symposium is a celebration of student research and the individuals who inspire us. Whether NSM faculty are lecturing in the community, hosting a nationally known public figure, or bringing together subject matter experts to discuss issues impacting our local communities, NSM seeks sustainable funding to continually offer these opportunities to our students and community.

TUCKER WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary, a 12-acre, nature preserve operated by NSM, is located in Modjeska Canyon. The Sanctuary boasts a strong educational environment and plays a significant role in educating local K-12 students, Girl and Boy Scouts and various groups.

TAKE A BUS TO TUCKER INITIATIVE

$2,500 per bus

Last year, approximately 3,000 K-6 graders visited Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary. A major hurdle to exposing these young students to the educational benefits of the Sanctuary is transportation. Gifts will allow us to increase funds for bus transportation and double the number of students visiting Tucker each year. The annual funding goal for the program is $25,000.

“With your brain, you can know the cosmos, can know your place within it, know your place in space. ... With your brain, do I dare say it? You can change the world!”

– Bill Nye

2014 Explorations in Citizens Science symposium speaker

The College

2,962 students pursuing degrees

On average 350 students graduate with baccalaureate degrees each year, and 50 with master’s degrees

17 degree and credential programs

5 departments

9 academic centers

4 transfer student support programs

5 K-12 STEM education programs

7 funded programs supporting undergraduate students
THE FUTURE

Local Leadership. Public Value.

Your support of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics is an investment in our local community. As the largest university in Orange County, the scope of our impact is greatly enhanced through the private investment of donors, companies and foundations.

Join us in supporting programs that excite our youth about science and math, increase college attainment and provide life-long learning opportunities.

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