At the start of the fall 2013 semester, California State University, Fullerton’s dance team looked forward with anxious excitement to the 2013 Universal Cheerleading Association/Universal Dance Association (UCA/UDA) Collegiate National Competition. With three consecutive and eleven national titles overall, the team knew they would have to push even harder to dazzle the judges. “When we went to our UCA/UDA camp, they told us ‘You have been winning a lot and you need to step out of the box this year and bring something different to the table,’” Head Coach Jennie Volkert, the Cal State Fullerton dance coach of sixteen years and a Cal State Fullerton dance alumni herself, said, “Of course, when you are on top there is only one place to go: down.”

Refusing to be anywhere but the top, Volkert and Assistant Coach and choreographer, Kenndra Alvarez, challenged the team. Practices were frequent and rigorous. Preparation for the competition starts in November with three weeks of learning the routine and the next four weeks dedicated to fine-tuning. Once the new year begins, the full-force competition training kicks in with three weeks of 3-5 hour practices every day, including a two mile run, a full stretching routine, Pilates, and repetition of the routine.

The coaches agreed on a lyrical routine as opposed to jazz, the style which Cal State Fullerton has excelled at year after year, securing their legacy. “Jazz is an upbeat, hard hitting style with lots of energy in the song, so it is easier to express that energy in your movement. In a lyrical routine, the movement has to come from within. You have to be able to find that emotion and portray it to the audience. It can be difficult, especially when fifteen girls have to find that emotion in the same way so that they look as one,” Volkert explained.

After two and a half months and countless hours of practice, the day arrived. The 2013 UCA/UDA Collegiate National Competition was held in Orlando, Florida, the Cal State Fullerton team was one of twenty-one collegiate teams competing at the event. Cal State Fullerton was ranked third of eleven teams to continue on to the finals; between first and third place was only a difference of 0.4 points. With her team alarmed by their semi-final placing, Volkert stepped in to galvanize their spirits. “They love what you’re doing, they love the routine, you just have to nail it,” she affirmed, “We have an extremely technically difficult routine, but you still have to nail it.”

The next day was finals. The team danced to the song “I Surrender” by Celine Dion, whose...
A Few Words
From the Vice President for Student Affairs

When you join a new campus there is always a period of adjustment. Even more so in an environment that is experiencing a great deal of change. As I reflect on my first few months on campus, I am so grateful for the strong foundation that exists in our Division for serving students. I know that this is a credit to the hard work that my predecessors and the entire Division have accomplished. I am also thankful to have been welcomed so warmly into the Titan family by everyone I have met and interacted with since my arrival. I hope that we can build on our many strengths and that we can count on our many friends for help as we continue to excel in the enterprise of educating students.

Some of you may know that we recently lost a member of our Titan family. Monica Quan was an Assistant Coach with our Women’s Basketball team. Her passing was a great loss for us. I was thankful to have the opportunity to meet with the team shortly after Monica’s passing and that meeting reinforced for me the strong community of support that exists on campus.

While each loss is difficult, I am proud to be a part of a community that rallies around each other in times such as this. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Monica’s family and I appreciate all of the support that has been lent to those in our community who were affected by her passing.

Building on our strong foundation of service to students and community engagement, I look forward to undertaking change in our institution and in our division to help us meet our goals. President García has laid out three pillars for our work as a University and those pillars will form the base of a new strategic plan for the institution. The campus strategic plan will inform our work in student affairs and I look forward to sharing our progress with you as we move forward. As always we value feedback from every stakeholder. My hope is that we continue growing as partners in the enterprise of educating our students.

With Titan Pride,

Berenecea J. Eanes, Ph.D.
Vice President For Student Affairs
California State University, Fullerton

Student Affairs Mission Statement

Student Affairs enhances and supports the academic mission of the University. The Student Affairs mission encompasses the dual paradigms of student development and student services and includes building alliances between the classroom and other aspects of campus life. As a partner in the educational enterprise, Student Affairs contributes to the comprehensive educational experience of students. Through myriad services, programs and activities, the intellectual, vocational, personal, social and cultural development of all students is encouraged. Through these programs and services, students are assisted in acquiring the knowledge, skills and insights that facilitate life-long learning, a sense of personal and interpersonal competence and human understanding.

As a resource for students, administration, faculty, staff, alumni and the broader community, Student Affairs provides a wide variety of university services. These services meet the needs of students as they progress through their college experience and also include problem solving, research assistance and consultation. With a diverse and comprehensive set of responsibilities, Student Affairs contributes to the campus community a special perspective about students, their experience, and the campus environment.

For more information go to: fullerton.edu/sa
Student Spotlight
Kayla Neto
By: Andrea Wenzel, Sports Media Director

Kayla Neto capped her prolific volleyball career with the Titans by producing a stellar senior season in 2012. Neto became the first student-athlete in Titan volleyball history to receive the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-American honorable mention recognition twice. Neto was in consideration for All-American credentials after being named to the AVCA West All-Region team. During 2012, Neto led the Titans averaging 4.33 kills per set, a mark that ranked second in the Big West Conference. She is currently majoring in communications with an emphasis in advertising, as well as pursuing her minor in women and gender studies. In Fall ’11 and ’12, Neto was on the Dean’s List, respectively, and is presently interning at the Child Abuse Prevention Center. After being recently named the 2013 Cal State Fullerton Women’s Scholar Athlete of the Year, she plans to pursue a professional volleyball career overseas before attending graduate school for marketing and advertising.

Staff Spotlight
Kelly Ford
By: Andrea Wenzel, Sports Media Director

On Oct. 4, 2012, Kelly Ford entered her first season as the Titan Softball team’s third head coach in their 34-year history. At a Division I level, our women’s softball team has experience in its new head coach who came from Mt. San Antonio College where she lead their softball team to four California State Championships (’03, ’05, ’07, ’09) and seven South Coast Conference Championships (SCC) (’03-’08, 2011). Named SCC coach of the year on five different occasions, Ford definitely has what it takes to begin her trek to continue the CSUF Titan legacy. With our 1336-679-2 overall record, 1986 Championship, 27 postseason appearances, and 28 All-Americans our new head coach will continue our winning tradition.

“Our student-athletes are incredible players. As they have inspired me, I hope I have inspired them. I think our focus is looking at what’s in front of us – all of the opportunities and all of the excitement.”
- Kelly Ford

Program Spotlight
Cal State Fullerton Baseball
By: Andrea Wenzel, Sports Media Director

Cal State Fullerton returns to the diamond in 2013 after winning its third consecutive Big West Conference title. The Titans, who have the benefit of 22 letter winners returning from last season, have been ranked in the top-25 of several national polls including: Baseball America (22), USA Today Coaches (22), Collegiate Baseball (23), and National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (23). In addition, Fullerton was selected as the favorite to win the 2013 Big West title as selected by the 10 conference head coaches. Overall, the Titans have totaled 26 conference championships dating back to 1975, including 10 in the last 14 years. With last season’s league title, Fullerton made its 34th postseason appearance as well.

The Titans will return to the field with All-American center fielder and closer Michael Lorenzen, along with Big West First Team selections Carlos Lopez (1B) and Richy Pedroza (2B), in addition to 2012 Big West Freshman of the Year, Matt Champan (3B). Fullerton will be young on the mound with Grahamm Wiest as the only weekend starter returning, but the Titans’ 14-member freshman class – ranked 23rd in the nation by Baseball America – consists of nine pitchers that are expected to contribute.

Highlights of the 2013 schedule include Goodwin Field hosting series against Oregon (Mar. 1-3) and Texas A&M (Mar. 8-10). Nebraska will also travel to Fullerton twice, for a doubleheader on Feb. 16 and back-to-back contests on March 19-20.
Freshman Programs Receives Mentor Training Program Certification

California State University, Fullerton Freshman Programs - Peer Mentor Program was given authorization to issue certificates to mentors meeting College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) requirements for certification Levels I-Regular Mentor and Level II/Advanced Mentor. CRLA is the organization that develops standards for tutoring and mentoring programs in higher education.

Cover Story (Continued)

powerful voice inspired the team to move the audience. “We always said when you go out there on the dance floor, surrender all you got. You want everyone to stop and listen.” And that’s what happened. The team left the stage to thunderous applause, including cheers from the eleven Cal State Fullerton families who traveled to Florida to support the team, and the girls were greeted by a flood of texts from dance team alumni who had been watching the event live via streaming. “What was so amazing were the girls coming off the stage crying because they could feel the love from one another when they were on that stage performing. They felt like one, and they just knew. They just knew they did a great job. It was an exciting moment.” The Cal State Fullerton dance team left the stage with their fourth consecutive and twelfth overall first place Division I Jazz award on January 19, 2013.

“I am really proud of our program and where it is today. I am extremely thankful for the support that we get from the Athletic Department and our alumni support system. I feel lucky that talented dancers want to come to Cal State Fullerton because they want to be on a nationally ranked team. There are lots of pieces to the puzzle, you can’t just have a good choreographer or good dancers, you have to have the whole package, and I am so blessed that we have been given that over the years.” - Jennie Volkert