

What's Happening

Campus News

President Rich Yao stepped down as CI president on August 1 after leading the campus through a challenging time. Rich will assume the presidency of DataPhilanthropy, the giving arm of the Jeff T. Green Family Foundation. We are grateful for Rich's active support for the establishment and development of the retiree association.

While we say farewell to President Yao, we welcome Sue Andrzejewski as the interim campus President. Sue came to the campus as a faculty member in the MVS School of Business and Economics in 2014 and served as its dean since 2018.



September Event



Instead of Tortilla Tuesday in September, we will have an insider's tour of the Port of Hueneme on Tuesday, September 9, from 10 am to noon. This tour is thanks to Harbor Commissioner and CSUCI Executive Director of Community & Government Relations, Celina Zacarias. Please RSVP with the name of each person attending by September 5. A roster of attendees is required. Meeting details will be provided when you RSVP. For questions about the tour or to RSVP please email dan.wakelee@csuci.edu.

Where Are They Now?

Jane Sweetland was an influential leader in the fledgling CSUCI. As a teacher in 2001, she looked forward to the opening of Ventura County's first public university and, with a Masters in Counseling and an MFA in Creative Writing, she applied. VP of Student Affairs, Greg Sawyer, hired her the day Dick Rush was inaugurated as CI's President, and she joined a tiny staff of Student Affairs professionals. With children who were in college themselves, Jane brought a parent's perspective to discussions about how to help students succeed.

When Ted Lucas became Provost, Jane took his place as Special Assistant to the President, which gave her a bird's eye view of building a university. Jane embraced Dick's laser focus on solving issues by always asking what was in the best interests of students. After

serving in the president's office, Jane became the first Dean of Enrollment, with responsibilities for Admissions, Recruitment, Records, Registration and Financial Aid.

As dean, Jane had the pleasure of working with dedicated front-line staff, all of whom wanted to help students through the process of enrolling as well as succeeding at the University. In those years, from 2006-12, the university's goal was to meet, but not exceed, the Chancellor's enrollment targets while also working to replicate the demographics of the county. CI was the only campus to come in on target every year while becoming a "Hispanic Serving Institution."

Jane worked closely with personnel from Academic Affairs as well as Finance and Administration. Together they contributed to the design of what would eventually become Gateway Hall, with a "one-stop-shop" that would provide easily accessible assistance to help prospective, as well as admitted, students to succeed in achieving their university goals.

After a dozen years at CI, Jane retired to pursue her second career as a writer. Her first book, funded by Kresge Foundation, was "The Other College Guide", with chapters on finding the best-fit schools and insight into money, loans, and preparing for the world of work. It also highlights things to look for, and watch out for, in online programs and for-profit colleges. Her second book, is non-fiction about two young fighter pilots, one American (uncle Ted Sweetland), the other German who killed each other in aerial combat over Libya in WWII. Her third book "Boxcar Diplomacy: Two Trains that Crossed an Ocean" is about the "Friendship Train" that brought food to Europe in 1947; and France's "Merci Train" response.

Since retiring in 2012, Jane & husband, Lee, have enjoyed traveling to Europe, Africa, Japan, New Zealand, Central & South America. She gets greatest delight from her family: her husband, their children and partners, and their four grandchildren.



CSU ERFSA News

At the recent State Council meeting Ira Schoenwald was elected as ERFSA treasurer and Dan Wakelee was elected as a statewide delegate at large.

CSUERFSA's Fall State Council Meeting will be Saturday, October 25, 2025, at the Orchard Conference Center at CSU Northridge. Each affiliate is invited to send one delegate to represent their campus group. Since Ira and Dan are already elected officers of the organization there is an opportunity for our campus to send one additional representative as our campus delegate. If you are interested, please contact either Ira (ischoen@me.com) or Dan (dan.wakelee@csuci.edu).



Our association will have elections in the fall for the following year campus offices: President, Secretary and Treasurer (Dan will be happy to campaign for anyone seeking to take over as President for 2026). If you are interested, please contact Dan.

Annual Grants Available

Applications are now open for all paid CSU ERFSA members to apply for their annual grants program. Grants are available to support the following:

1. Scholarly research on issues important to the retiree as a continuing member of an academic discipline or community.
2. Research and scholarly projects that contribute to the quality of life of the retirees in the University system.
3. Research and creative projects that contribute to a given academic discipline.
4. Research pertaining to the retirement concerns of faculty and staff within the California State University System.

Additional information and applications are available at

<https://www.csuerfsa.org/index.php/grants>

If you want to know more about what is happening with CSU retirees statewide, please check out the most recent CSU ERFSA newsletter

<https://www.csuerfsa.org/view/download.php/news--views/the-reporter/june-2025-reporter>