More than 200 students, faculty, staff and guests were on hand to celebrate the Wednesday, April 23, grand opening of Cal State Fullerton's Titan Dreamers Resource Center.

"Undocumented students continue to face struggles attaining a higher education. Today marks an important moment in the history of Cal State Fullerton as we become the first campus in the CSU system to provide a dedicated resource center to serve these students," said Berenecea Johnson Eanes, vice president for student affairs. "More importantly, it marks an even more significant moment in the lives of our Titans — students who deserve the best of what we have to offer in supporting their dreams and aspirations for the future."

CSUF President Mildred García, who spoke following a video presentation where students discussed what it was like to be undocumented in America, said: "Seeing those student stories reminds us of who we represent. These are our students, and I want to thank all of you who have helped make this center a reality. This is a true example of Titans reaching higher. They aren't just words. This is a testament to who are. We want our students to know that we are with them every step of the way on their journey."

Senior kinesiology major Ana Celís Luna and Bupendra Ram, a graduate student majoring in human communication studies, detailed some of the hardships that "dream act" students face.

"As I look back over the challenges I faced," said Celís Luna. "I felt like I was always hiding. My undocumented identity prevented me from asking for help. When it was time for me to apply for an internship, I finally had to admit that I didn't have a social security number. I asked for help and finally found the right faculty and staff. This center represents those who helped guide me. I am so glad that the Titan Dreamers Resource Center is here to help other students in the same situation."
"I remember my first day at Cal State Fullerton — Aug. 22, 2005," said Ram. "I had to leave home at 6 a.m. and take three buses and two trains to get to my first 8 a.m. history class. I didn't want to tell people I was undocumented because I was afraid that would put me at risk of being removed from the only place I called home.

"I am thrilled to see students receiving needed support and having this center available to them. It demonstrates that people who lack privilege are not barred from pursuing an education."

"The work of providing cultural spaces for all of our students has only just begun," said Eanes. "We are committed to providing resources to our diverse student body. Providing resources to our students is an example of what it means to be a global citizen and a Titan."