

neighbor to neighbor

..... COMMUNITY NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF ORANGE

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY APPOINTS MATT PARLOW ITS 14TH PRESIDENT

Chapman's Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Matt Parlow to serve as Chapman's 14th president, effective Sept. 2, 2025, following the planned retirement of current president Daniele Struppa from the Office of the President. Parlow currently serves as executive vice president, chief advancement officer and the Parker S. Kennedy Chair in Law at Chapman.

"Matt exemplifies qualities of transformative leadership, with more than 20 years in higher education and strong roots and achievements at Chapman University," noted Parker S. Kennedy, chairman of the Board of Trustees. "Matt has forged strong connections with business, civic and community leaders, creating opportunities that benefit students, faculty and programs."

Vice Chair of the Chapman Board of Trustees, Jim Mazzo, who led the search committee remarked: "Chapman University has earned exceptional and transformational success over the last several decades, and we need a leader who will continue to advance its impressive track record of achievement. We are looking for the next president to take us to a higher road but not a new road. Matt will take us there and accelerate our progress even further."

"I am fully confident that Matt will manage the office of the president in an exemplary manner," said Annette Walker, Chapman Trustee and City of Hope Orange County president who served on the search committee. "His articulation of the opportunities and challenges as well as his performance in his past positions here are clear indications of future success. As a business leader in Orange County, I am very excited about him assuming this significant and important role."

Over his 12 years at Chapman, Parlow has been instrumental in propelling the institution toward becoming one of the nation's elite academic universities as a member of executive leadership and an administrator-scholar.

"To me, this is personal. I love Chapman. It's been a home for me in so many ways, and it is a community I am deeply connected to, with so many people I care so much about. Chapman is special.



Matt Parlow (left) will become Chapman's 14th president in the fall, upon the retirement of current president, Daniele C. Struppa.

I believe in our mission and the collective work that we do together that makes an impact on our students and the community. It will be my true honor to work with all of you in the role of president to elevate Chapman to help us achieve all our ambitious goals and to deepen our mission."

JIM DOTI HOSTS 47TH ANNUAL ECONOMIC FORECAST



President Emeritus Jim Doti at the 47th annual Economic Forecast.

Californians can expect a slight increase in job growth, according to Chapman University economists. During the presentation of the 47th annual Economic Forecast on Dec. 12, President Emeritus Jim Doti predicted that, nationwide, there would be slow economic growth and an inflation rate hitting 3% by year-end 2025.

"While inflation is expected to rise, the Federal Reserve will likely hold off on substantial rate cuts," Doti said. "The effects of earlier rate hikes will persist, but we anticipate a stable economic environment."

Doti said there will continue to be slow economic growth in Orange County. Advanced jobs, which pay two or three times the average wage rate, are practically flat in Orange County at .4% growth. However, one strength in Orange County is in the medical technology industry, with the county being ranked the highest of 50 different metropolitan areas that Doti's team tracked.

Doti also made a number of forecasts for Orange County's 2025 housing market, including that home sales would only slightly increase from 22,400 in 2024 to 23,100 next year. This is a steep decline from the 38,600 sales in 2021.

"People are not putting their homes up for sale and for good reason, we calculated the present value of a mortgage at 3% for 30 years versus what they are at 6%, and the present value of that asset is \$800,000," he said. "People don't want to lose that."

Doti is also projecting a slight drop in Orange County home prices.

Visit economicforecast.chapman.edu to view the entire presentation.

Did You Know?

Do you work at an organization looking for bright, talented students and graduates? The Chapman University Spring Career Fair will be held on campus on Wednesday, March 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Showcase your organization at the fair and attract motivated students and alumni ready to launch their careers.

Contact Chapman's Office of Career and Professional Development at thinkchapmanfirst@chapman.edu to learn more about hosting a booth at the event.

Need to report a concern?

- Contact Chapman University's Office of Community Relations at **(714) 289-2097** or email **neighbors@chapman.edu**.
- To report a disturbance that needs urgent attention, please call City of Orange PD dispatch at **(714) 744-7444**.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for these engaging events at Chapman.

**Beyond the Wrapper:
Exploring the Sensory Magic
of Chocolate**

Feb. 10, 6 p.m.
Chapman Crafted Beer
123 N. Cypress Street

Discover the intricate details of chocolate’s flavor and aroma as Uyen Phan, assistant professor of sensory science, reveals the science behind what makes chocolate truly enchanting. Engage in interactive discussions and taste tests that will deepen your appreciation for this beloved treat. Science on Tap is a series of casual moderated discussions featuring experts who explore the intersection of science and culture. Free to attend; beer is available for purchase for those 21+.

Juilliard String Quartet

Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.
Musco Center for the Arts

With unparalleled artistry and enduring vigor, the Juilliard String Quartet continues to inspire audiences around the world. Founded in 1946 and hailed by The Boston Globe as “the most important American quartet in history,” the ensemble draws on a deep and vital engagement to the classics, while embracing the mission of championing new works, a vibrant combination of the familiar and the daring.
Tickets start at \$38.

**Picturing Paradise: The Art of
California Orange Box Labels**

Through April 29
Hilbert Museum of California Art

Explore this exhibition of colorful crate labels dating from the 1880s to 1955. Many of the spectacular illustrations on these labels depicted the sunny paradise that was Southern California. These designs helped not only to sell oranges, but to promote the notion of California itself as a golden dream state of idyllic beauty and “paradise found.”
Admission is free.
Visit hilbertmuseum.org for hours of operation.



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LOCAL HISTORY MAKES IMPACT ON CHAPMAN STUDENTS

Assistant Professor Jorge Rodriguez grew up in Santa Ana, but it wasn’t until he returned to Orange County to teach at Attallah College of Educational Studies that he learned about the significant role that the local community played in the history of school desegregation.

Now, he has incorporated that history into his courses by leading students in his classes on a community walk focusing on the geographic histories of Orange and its impact on educators and community organizers. Students learn about the local landmark case Mendez v. Westminster, the desegregation histories in Orange County and tour historical landmarks within the Cypress Street Barrio Neighborhood, including the Cypress Street Schoolhouse and the Lydia D. Killefer School.

“What better way to expose students to this concept of making the familiar strange than to actually walk the neighborhood that they walk on the way to school?” says Rodriguez, noting that students get to experience not just coming to Chapman, but actually living within an environment that has historical significance. “But not just any historical significance... the birthplace of desegregation is right there.”

Participants regularly list the neighborhood walks as a highlight for the course, says Rodriguez. “They say, I can’t not see this neighborhood as a historical landmark or see the value in this neighborhood. Because of the history and the legacy that exists here, I now see my campus from a different light.”



Students in Assistant Professor Jorge Rodriguez’s IES 102: Social Constructions of Difference classes learn about the lasting impact of local history while on a tour of the Cypress Street Barrio neighborhood in Orange.

More inside!