

Dear Coyote Family —

As the days pass and the fall term proceeds toward its conclusion, my thoughts shift to Thanksgiving and I begin to reflect on things that have happened during the previous year.

Of course, over the past months we have been witness to a mixture of celebration and challenges, times of joyous elation and distressing sorrow. Our hearts soar with the advancement of learning, the achievements of society and progress in the name of peace. Even on dark days in the midst of tragedy and sadness, there have been encouraging rays of hope, renewing our faith in the better nature of the world. I am truly inspired knowing there is still much for which we can be grateful.

I am grateful for the firefighters who continue to grapple with the destruction and devastation afflicting nearly every county in our state. Men and women who, along with other first responders and emergency personnel, put themselves in harm's way in an effort to protect life and property.

I am grateful for the liberties afforded us in this country. Rights such as the opportunity to speak and act in defense of what we believe; the ability to protect and support the disadvantaged and the voiceless; and the chance to better ourselves and define our futures through quality education.

As always, I am grateful for our ambitious and hardworking students, and our committed and outstanding faculty and staff. I am also grateful for our more than 100,000 alumni who exemplify the importance and worth of a CSUSB degree as well as the many donors who generously support our educational mission.

Of course, I am grateful for this university and its continuing commitment to access for all who come seeking knowledge. For the many voices and differing opinions that embody a campus community engaged in new ideas and innovative thinking. And for the shared dedication to serve as a model of diversity and validate the strength it brings to all aspects of our society.

This is the promise of a university, especially a public university. I am grateful to be a part of that promise.

From my family to you and yours, have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Tomás D. Morales
President