

Dear Colleagues—

Today is a wonderful day for Cal State San Bernardino. CSUSB has long benefitted from the support and gifts provided to our campus by James and Judy Rodriguez Watson. They are committed to our campus' growth and success because of what CSUSB has done and continues to do for the students who choose to receive their education here. Over the years, they have also demonstrated a key interest in the role our College of Education plays in preparing teachers and educational leaders in the Inland Empire. Today, I am grateful and deeply appreciative to be able to share with you all that Jim and Judy Rodriguez Watson have made a transformative gift of **\$8.4 million dollars** to name our College of Education the

James and Judy Rodriguez Watson College of Education

This will be the 4th College of Education to be named in the CSU System and it will be CSUSB's second named college after a supporter (the first was the Jack H. Brown College of Business and Public Administration). Let me highlight a few programs that this transformative gift will support, including student scholarships:

- The college will establish a new Center for STEM Education. The center will be the hub for outreach to underserved populations in the region through our teacher preparation program, with investment in career training and career readiness in the STEM fields for K-12 students in the region. The STEM Center will include a Model STEM Exploratorium and a Teacher Residency program.
- The gift will also support Project Impact, a new program in the college to recruit and prepare underrepresented teachers in K-12.
- Funds will also be used to enhance the Watson Literacy Center's efforts in the Inland Empire by adding to the existing endowment.
- The gift will also create a Dean's Endowed Fund to be used to support special projects and requests by faculty and students. This dean's endowed fund will be the **first** for our campus.

The proposed naming of the college is contingent upon the review and the approval of the CSU Trustees early next year. This is a transformative gift, which will positively impact our campus for many generations of students. I am incredibly grateful for the Watsons' generosity, foresight and commitment to the future of CSUSB and our College of Education.

Sincerely,

Tomás D. Morales
President