

Dear Coyotes and Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that Robert J. Nava, vice president for university advancement and executive director of California State University, San Bernardino's Philanthropic Foundation, will retire from CSUSB, effective September 1, 2025.

Robert's career in education spans 40 years in university advancement, during which he has served in leadership roles at the University of California Riverside, the University of Texas at El Paso, San Francisco State University and here at CSUSB.

I am deeply grateful to Robert for his outstanding leadership both on campus and in the community. During his time serving our university, his work has been widely recognized across the CSU system and by national organizations for his innovative efforts in fundraising, government relations, and building strong Town-Gown relationships in the Inland Empire and Coachella Valley.

Robert's leadership has resulted in several significant CSUSB milestones, including securing state funding for the Student Success Center at the Palm Desert Campus, launching the university's \$200 million blended comprehensive campaign and establishing the Alumni Center. Under his guidance, his advancement team has secured several transformational gifts, such as the naming of the James R. and Judy Rodriguez Watson College of Education, the creation of the Stater Bros. Markets Degree Completion Program and, most recently, the gift establishing the Randall W. Lewis School and Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

With the support of our foundation directors, the CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation's portfolio and funds managed has grown to \$70 million, enabling us to award over \$3 million in scholarships and program support to the campus community.

As Robert prepares for his well-earned retirement, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ray Watts, associate vice president for philanthropic giving, as interim vice president for university advancement and executive director of California State University, San Bernardino's Philanthropic Foundation. Ray will continue to move our high-performing advancement team forward.

Please join me in extending thanks to Robert for his service and best wishes for his retirement, along with congratulations to Ray as he shepherds university advancement through this transition.

Sincerely,

Tomás D. Morales
President