

Dear Coyotes and Colleagues,

Back in July, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Rafik Mohamed announced he was resigning from the provost and vice president role and will be retreating to the faculty at the end of December 2026. I am grateful to Provost Mohamed for his many years of leadership at CSUSB, first as dean for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (2015), as interim provost (2022) and as provost (2023).

Therefore, I write today that I am launching the search for CSUSB's next provost and vice president for academic affairs. As a key member of my leadership team, the provost will play a pivotal role in ensuring CSUSB's continued success along with guiding the university through a shifting higher educational landscape.

I have retained the services of SP&A to work with the campus on this critical project. SP&A is a renowned executive search firm, with 19 years of experience specializing in higher education and non-profit sectors. They have worked extensively with CSU campuses and other universities throughout the country to recruit executive positions, including presidents and provosts. I am confident their expertise will support our search for a dynamic, strategic and tireless champion dedicated to achieving CSUSB's vision and goals for academic excellence and student success.

A campus search committee is in the process of being formed. I invite you to participate in the listening sessions, stakeholder engagement, and open forums with the finalists, which we expect in early December.

I look forward to your active engagement in this important search.

Terri Gómez, Ph.D.

President