PRESIDENT'S REPORT
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
THURSDAY – MAY 7, 2026

It has truly been one of my life's great honors to serve as president of California State University, San Bernardino. I am incredibly proud of the great strides we have made in social mobility through our focus on student success in all that we do. The faculty here at CSUSB are second to none in quality of teaching, research and service. The staff and administrators care passionately about our students and this campus. Thank you for all you have done for our students during this past academic year, and my thanks to all who have served at CSUSB during my presidency. You have had a tremendous impact on a great many lives.

- **Presidential Updates:**
  - Fundraising Gala: On behalf of my wife Evy and myself, I wish to express my appreciation to all who worked on making the April 18th fundraising gala such a tremendous success. We had outstanding community support, and I was pleased to be able to feature our students and alumni during the evening. I am also proud to have established the Tomás and Evy Morales Endowment for International Experience, which will provide access to international educational opportunities for CSUSB students.
  - Black Mentors Matter Luncheon 2026 on April 21, 2026. This important initiative serves to link administrator, staff, faculty or fellow student mentors with CSUSB Black students as part of a student success push. Coordinated by the Office of Black Student Success, it continues to grow in strength and size. I suggested the mentorship idea to OBSS and signed up as a mentor as soon as it was established. I ask CSUSB leaders to consider serving as a mentor in this program and also help to launch related programs in other areas and divisions in the future. I owe so very much to those who have mentored me, and this is a wonderful opportunity to pay it back.
  - DEI Board Spring Retreat: One of my proudest accomplishments has been the creation of the President's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Board. The Board's campus-wide membership represents all CSUSB sectors as part of our effort to build the principles of DEI into the very infrastructure of the university. I was pleased to meet with the members of this year's DEI Board at their annual Spring

Retreat on Thursday, April 23, 2026. The special guest was Cal Poly Pomona President Soraya M. Coley.
    - Spring 2026 Commencement: This year's spring ceremonies will take place over May 15-16, 2026. It is the summation of many years of hard work by our students and is always a joyous occasion. Please consider attending.

- ***Our Defining Moment* Blended Campaign Update:** I am pleased to report that, as of April 27, 2026, we currently stand at $241 Million, total, 121% of our end goal of $200M. This includes (rounded numbers): $3M for Capital, $65M for Academic Support, $75M for Faculty Support and $99M for Student Support. The philanthropic total is $73M and the sponsored programs total is $168M.

- **Faculty Award Surprise Schedule for Spring 2026:** My congratulations to all this year's awardees.
    - Outstanding Lecturer, April 6th: Dr. Jessica Nerren (Communication and Media)
    - Outstanding Professor, April 9th: Dr. Vincent Nestler (Cyber and Decision Sciences)
    - Golden Apple, April 20th: Dr. Nathaniel Bodell (Kinesiology)
    - Outstanding Faculty Advisor, April 23rd: Dr. Stacy Morris (Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies)
    - Outstanding Scholarship, April 24th: Dr. Kate Liszka (History; Benson and Pamela Harer Fellow in Egyptology at CSUSB)

- **Strategic Enrollment Management & Marketing Update:** CSUSB closed the AY2025–26 enrollment cycle at 2.5% below the Chancellor's Office annualized FTES target of 16,489. Encouragingly, current trends point to meaningful forward progress. Application volumes indicate the potential for larger incoming cohorts, retention and persistence rates are on an upward trajectory, and dual enrollment continues to expand. Collectively, these factors position the university well to achieve its annualized FTES target by the end of Spring 2027.

- **Defining the Future Inaugural Conference**: Student success has served as the key goal of my presidency, informing everything that we do on campus. The success of our faculty, along with providing faculty with opportunities for research and collaboration, also supports student success. Research Week 2026 (April 8-16), with the annual Meeting of the Minds on April 15-16, was buttressed this year by the inaugural Defining the Future Conference. The juxtaposition of the Meeting of the Minds and the conference were designed to complement and enhance the impact of both events.

  The conference brought together innovators, educators, industry leaders and visionaries who share a common purpose: preparing our workforce—and our communities—for a rapidly evolving world shaped by emerging technologies. Students were able to attend for free and had the opportunity to explore career pathways in fields such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductor manufacturing and other advanced technologies. The event also included a recruitment fair where students could meet directly with companies working at the forefront of innovation.

Workforce development is no longer a parallel priority—it is central to our mission. By strengthening pathways between education and industry, investing in skills that matter and fostering inclusive access to opportunity, we can build a future that is both competitive and equitable.

- **Palm Desert Campus Updates**:
    - Student International Experience: Hospitality management students recently returned from an immersive short-term international study experience across Switzerland and Italy. Access to international education opportunities is a wonderful student success tool**.**
    - Berger Foundation Gift: The PDC received a $25,000 Impact Grant from the H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation to enhance food access for students facing food insecurity.
    - OneFuture Coachella Valley Male Student Leadership Conference: The conference took place at the PDC on March 20. The event was designed to support male high school and college students in making meaningful progress in school, career and life.
    - Annual Communication Day: Held on April 15, the event welcomed more than 50 students from CSUSB and College of the Desert. One highlight was an alumni panel, where alumni delivered insightful, inspiring perspectives on their career journeys.
    - Career Center's "Work Local: Industry Immersion Day": The event took place at the Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) on April 15. The purpose was to provide PDC students with valuable insight into applying for opportunities within the district.
    - Kinesiology "National Biomechanics Day": Hosted by the PDC Kinesiology Student Association on April 8, 2026, the event included a fundraiser. The goal is to make this an annual event on the campus.

- **Closing Note on CSUSB Students**: I am incredibly proud of CSUSB's work as an anchor institution, serving the academic needs and growing the economic prosperity and sustainability of the Inland Empire. Our students continue to excel: as student athletes, as musicians, as actors and theater technicians, as representative leaders in student government and on the CSU Board of Trustees, and as volunteers in the community. They are the reason I have worked in higher education for 50 years, and their energy, hope and achievements never cease to inspire me. Please continue to support and value them—they are our future.