



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO
Office of the President

*PRESIDENT'S REPORT
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY – MARCH 9, 2022*

As our spring semester moves forward, we welcomed our students back onto campus on February 22nd to resume an in-person educational experience, while implementing COVID health protocols. I wish again to express my appreciation and gratitude to all members of our CSUSB community for your adaptability and resiliency as we grapple with the ongoing effects of a virus which continues to evolve into challenging variants.

- **Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Shari McMahan:** On February 24, our provost and vice president for academic affairs, Shari McMahan, was unanimously voted as the new president of Eastern Washington University by its Board of Trustees. The board will be voting this month on her employment contract, which will then formally appoint her as Eastern Washington's 27th president. She will succeed the former president, Mary Cullinan.

After a university's president, its provost serves as a key campus leader, overseeing the operations of the university's academic heart. Shari has done this superbly for Cal State San Bernardino since 2016, with an exemplary dedication to our faculty's success while keeping her passion for student success at the forefront. Her most recent accomplishment was successfully shepherding CSUSB through our reaccreditation process, which we passed with flying colors.

Please join me in congratulating Shari on this news. Our impending loss will be Eastern Washington's gain. As the spring progresses, I will follow up with CSUSB's succession plan. In the meantime, let us take this moment to applaud Shari on achieving this next step in her impressive career in higher education.

- **Grants and Contracts Report:** I am proud to be able to share with you the latest information on our grants and contracts efforts:
 - **Mid-year Figures:** Our July-December 2021 proposal submissions were 61, totaling \$69,830,453; our grant awards over the same period were 96, totaling \$27,794,541.
 - **Five-Year Overview (2016-2021):** while the numbers of submissions and awards are similar in 2016-17 and 2020-21, the total dollars involved tell a remarkably different story. Total funds requested in 2016-17 were \$28,268,282; in 2020-21, they were \$87,554,378. In terms of awards, total funds awarded in 2016-17 were \$33,980,573; in 2020-21, they were \$41,219,026.

My congratulations to our faculty for their outstanding research work, along with my appreciation for the Office of Academic Research (OAR), the Office of Research Development, the Office of

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Research and Sponsored Programs and the Office of Sponsored Programs Administration. My additional thanks, for their leadership, to Dorota Huizinga, associate provost for research and dean of graduate studies, and Cynthia Crawford, OAR's faculty director.

- **CSUSB Social Mobility Data:** CollegeNet's Social Mobility Index has tracked CSUSB on a steep upward trajectory. For example, in 2015 we were at 58, at 39 in 2016, and 6 in 2021! This is spectacular. Per the website, "The Social Mobility Index (SMI) measures the extent to which a college or university educates more economically disadvantaged students (with family incomes below the national median) at lower tuition and graduates them into good paying jobs." For more information, you can go to: <https://www.socialmobilityindex.org/>. We could only have achieved this through a cross-campus effort, comprising all members of our CSUSB community. Thank you for supporting our students in this outstanding way.
- **CSUSB Designation Raised to an R2 Doctoral University for High Research Activity:** My congratulations to the College of Education which, with the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership Program, has recently advanced CSUSB to the category of Doctoral University: High Research Activity (R2), raising the university's status to a "national university" from a "regional university." Well done, Dean DomNwachukwu, along with the doctoral leadership team and the entire doctoral faculty.
- **Palm Desert Campus Updates:**
 - In the interest of creating dialogue and bridging gaps in understanding, undergraduates (aka Generation Z) and members of the PDC's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute have come together through a communication studies internship program. The first cohort planned an intergenerational forum with the goal of gathering Generation Z (born 1997-2012) and Baby Boomer (born 1946-1964) students in conversation. The interns produced, edited and published a podcast based on their findings. The initial podcast on the Intergenerational Forum aired on campus radio stations in February.
 - During the fall 2021 semester, PDC kinesiology students attended the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research and the Southwest American College of Sports Medicine Conference to present their scholarly projects.
 - The PDC will offer twenty-five \$10,000 fellowships for students completing a year of service in their communities starting in fall 2022. The program is part of a new statewide initiative to create a volunteer college corps with 6,500 fellows. CSUSB was selected as one of 45 colleges as inaugural partners to implement the college corps on their campuses in fall 2022. The list includes some private schools as well as several each of University of California campuses, California State University campuses and community colleges.
- **Annual Super Sunday Initiative:** I participated again in the CSU's annual outreach effort to the Black community known as Super Sunday. I encouraged college attendance and promoted the opportunities offered by CSUSB. Super Sunday is not simply about recruiting Black students to CSUSB and the CSU, it is also about social justice, addressing racial inequities, and being present with our fellow Americans at a time exemplified by the numerous bomb threats received by many of our nation's historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) since the start of 2022.
- **Grand Opening of the SMSU Expansion:** The official opening of the Santos Manuel Student Union Expansion is scheduled for March 17th, with a ribbon cutting and a celebratory VIP luncheon. Not

only will we be formally recognizing an outstanding building, which will serve as the living room of our students, we are recognizing the person and history of an incredible Native American leader, Santos Manuel (Paakuma' Tawinat), by honoring him with the largest building in the CSU named after an Indigenous Elder and Tribal Leader.

- **Womxn's History Month:** March is Womxn's History Month here at CSUSB. I strongly encourage you to visit the website for the substantive collection of events and opportunities on offer throughout the month: <https://www.csusb.edu/womxns-history-month> .
- **Chancellor Castro Resignation:** Finally, as I shared with the campus in February, on February 17, 2022, Chancellor Joseph Castro notified the CSU Board of Trustees of his resignation, effective immediately. In their March meeting, the Trustees intend to vote on initiation of a comprehensive systemwide assessment of the CSU's Title IX policies and practices to strengthen institutional culture, response and accountability.

Here at Cal State San Bernardino, we are a higher educational community committed to providing a healthy and welcoming space within which to study and to work. As part of that commitment, we have active policies and practices in place to prevent, address and stop discrimination, harassment and retaliation, including all forms of sexual misconduct. CSUSB supports the prompt reporting of sexual misconduct, and encourages individuals not to be afraid to do so, to the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance. All matters reported are diligently assessed by trained Title IX professionals.

I reiterate: at CSUSB, our goal as a university is to provide a learning and working environment which protects the well-being of everyone. It is therefore incumbent upon all members of the campus leadership to undertake this responsibility with the thoughtfulness and seriousness it requires. Know that I am committed to this. And it also calls upon each of us, as individual members of our community, to practice inclusivity and caring in all that we do. That is how we secure a healthy future for Cal State San Bernardino.