



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO  
*Office of the President*

*PRESIDENT'S REPORT*  
*ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL*  
*THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023*

The spring 2023 semester is in full swing, and CSUSB continues to offer a full range of classes, programs, research opportunities, extracurricular activities and community engagement for our students. We are embodying our purpose as an anchor institution here in the Inland Empire, which we are dedicated to supporting and strengthening.

- **Enrollment:** Since its founding, CSUSB has not really had to worry about enrollment. Arguably, our larger concern has been handling impaction for over-subscribed programs. But that situation has currently changed. As you may have heard, the CSU system is down in total enrollment (almost 25,000 fewer students enrolled at the CSU in the fall of 2022 than in fall 2021). While CSUSB actually saw a slight increase in enrollment in fall 2022 from the previous year, it is critical that the university stay focused on ensuring students have both access to the university and opportunity to complete their degree. The numbers tell us that we are currently 5.5% down and down \$4.7M in tuition revenue.

Everyone at the institution—faculty, staff and administrators—has a role to play in addressing this decline. The two actions with potential for the greatest immediate impact are: encouraging students to attempt more units during the academic year and increasing the yield of admitted students. I am asking all of you, as campus leaders, to partner with Enrollment Management to engage actively in ways to grow our enrollment, which will both support our students and also CSUSB. Our university has a great deal to offer, and I appreciate your involvement in how we, as a campus community, address the situation.

- **Faculty Award “Surprises”:** The spring semester is the time for what were formerly known as “ambushes” where we present our faculty members with campus-wide awards, as selected by a committee of their peers. The Golden Apple was awarded to Dr. Stuart Sumida (Biology) on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Outstanding Service recognition was awarded on February 27<sup>th</sup> to Dr. Jeremy Murray (History). Remaining awards this spring include: Outstanding Faculty Advisor, Outstanding Lecturer and Outstanding Professor. These faculty awards are a wonderful CSUSB tradition.
- **College Open Forums:** With Provost Rafik Mohamed, I am holding college open forums this spring. We met with Arts and Letters on February 8, 2023, and Social and Behavioral Sciences on February 22. The remaining schedule is currently: Brown College of Business

909.537.5002 • fax: 909.537.5901 • [www.csusb.edu/president](http://www.csusb.edu/president)

5500 UNIVERSITY PARKWAY, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407-2393

and Public Administration (March 16), Watson College of Education (March 20), Natural Sciences (April 11), Extended and Global Education (April 27) and the Pfau Library (May 3). The open forums continue to be a terrific way to applaud college achievements, answer questions and engage in dialogue specific to each college's initiatives, concerns and needs.

- **Grants and Contracts Report (July – December 2022):** I am proud to be able to share with you our grants and contracts efforts for the first two quarters of 2022-23. Our grant proposal submissions were 76 (72 for Academic Affairs and 4 for Student Affairs), totaling \$55,586,548; our grant awards over the same period were 103 (90 for Academic Affairs and 13 for Students Affairs), totaling \$35,052,920.

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 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.

- **Student Research Competition:** On February 10, 2023, CSUSB students participated in the 37<sup>th</sup> annual CSUSB Student Research Competition. Students presented their research before a panel of judges in the Watson College of Education Atrium. All of the winners will advance to the system-wide competition in San Diego on April 28-29, 2023. Besides deepening their own knowledge and research skills, the opportunity for students to work closely with a faculty member on their project is a promoter of student success. My congratulations to all the students who participated, with special congratulations to all the winners and their faculty mentors.
- **College Corps:** CSUSB hosted the Californians for All convening of the Inland Empire College Corps Fellows on our campus on February 22, 2023. We were joined by the leaders of our regional community college districts. Our CSUSB Fellows, for example, serve a large geographic region spanning from as far east as Thermal, West as Fontana and North as Apple Valley. They have already completed close to 8,000 hours of service across 38 sites, including supporting elementary, middle and high schools; a museum; and community organizations.

The College Corps states that it is a “statewide, paid service program, launched during the 2022-2023 academic year, which provides meaningful work to college students in exchange for serving their community. The program helps participants graduate on time and with less debt while gaining valuable work experience. Students will receive up to \$10,000 for completing up to 450 hours of community service.” CSUSB is proud to be able to partner with this California-wide initiative that has such positive potential impacts for the Inland Empire.

- **Student Engagement—HACU Conference Opportunities:** The Career Center continues to recruit and prepare students to participate in the annual Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities conference, where they have the ability to network and make professional

contacts. The Center suspended their post-conference Showcase event when COVID hit, and have revived it this spring. Per the Center, from 2015 through 2021, 98% of participating students at HACU have graduated or have been retained. That is definitely a sign of student success!

- **Palm Desert Campus Updates:**

- The PDC hosted the 18th annual Academic WorldQuest competition for Coachella Valley Schools. Palm Desert High School took first place at the event. It was facilitated and coordinated by Michael Karp, PDC assistant professor of history and member of the Board of Directors of the World Affairs Council of the Desert (WACD). Scholarships were awarded to each student in the top three teams. The WACD served as sponsor.
- BIGHORN Cares has donated \$5,000 to support the DEN (“Delivering Emergency Nutrition”) food pantry at the PDC. The PDC Den, which opened in 2019, exists to support the needs of students suffering from food insecurity.
- MBA student Cristina Ruiz presented her research titled, "Hospitality Employee Perceptions of Diversity Policies and Initiatives," at the 28th Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism. Cristina conducted her research under the advisement of PDC hospitality management faculty member Michelle Russen.
- The PDC Osher Lifelong Learning Institute hosted a panel discussion about reducing isolation within the senior population. On February 17, 2023, panelists (the majority were CSUSB faculty, with one outside guest) discussed their professional observations and the long-term impact on the wellbeing of this highly affected demographic post-COVID.
- The Cal State University Associates is a premier organization of PDC supporters. Members serve as goodwill ambassadors for the campus in the community and contribute tax-deductible yearly dues. Their 2023 series comprises:
  - Feb. 21: Netflix’s “Blown Away”: Behind the Scenes with CSUSB Professor Katherine Gray
  - March 14: Disney in the Desert
  - April 11: Planes, Trains and Inflation –The Economy and the Markets
  - May 9: Up in Smoke – Marijuana in the Coachella Valley – What Went Wrong, What Went Right.

- **Super Sunday 2023:** On behalf of CSUSB, I continued our university’s participation in the CSU’s annual Super Sunday Black engagement and student recruitment event. This year’s event took place on Sunday, February 26, 2023. I attended St. Paul AME Church in San Bernardino. I appreciate the warmth of the welcome each year at our area Black churches to our message of access and possibility, especially the doors that a college degree opens.

- **Coyote Cares Day 2023:** Coyote Cares Day, which ran from February 17-18 this year, partnered with U.S. Hunger to prepare and pack meals for distribution to those without access to regular food. I was pleased to be able to stop by and lend a hand. This is a wonderful event which continues to make a difference, each year, right where we live and work.

- **Womxn's History Month (March):** The Womxn's History Month Committee is preparing their calendar of events for 2023's month-long celebration. The annual highpoint is the Womxn's Leadership Conference. Please keep an eye on their website for further information: <https://www.csusb.edu/womxns-history-month/annual-womxns-leadership-conference> . I am proud to have supported this initiative, created and maintained by our womxn leaders across the campus, since 2015.