

Appendix 6

A Special Message to the CSUSB Community:

CSUSB stands as a community that values diversity, equity and inclusion. Today, the United States is a country reaching for common ground. Last week's election has some feeling satisfied, while others are angry and scared, fearful that campaign rhetoric will be realized. The anguish that many groups are experiencing is real.

Your voices should be heard, with each of us recognizing that colleagues and fellow students have individual political preferences. That is everyone's right and privilege, and no one should ever feel pressured by the choices of democracy. CSUSB must be a community that embraces all members of society, and which fully supports the civil exchange of ideas and mutually respectful discussion.

As part of our commitment to free speech, members of the campus community must understand that they will periodically come into contact with expressions that are controversial, uncomfortable, and occasionally offensive to their individual beliefs. Exposure to these opinions allows each of us to carefully reflect and evaluate our personal stands on issues. In some cases, hearing different thoughts will only strengthen our personal beliefs. While in other cases, we may actually modify them after some personal reflection.

This university can be a model by showcasing how peaceful and ongoing dialogue, in and out of the classroom, can both educate and bridge our common goals. The freedoms we enjoy come with a responsibility, so let's ensure that our individual actions reflect those values as we help the country move forward.

Tomás D. Morales
President