

Dear Coyotes and Colleagues,

Greetings on the beginning of the new academic year 2024-25 at Cal State San Bernardino! We are delighted to welcome all who are new to our San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses, and also welcome back those who are returning. I know we will have a packed, eventful and transformative year ahead of us.

Construction continues on the Performing Arts Center on the San Bernardino Campus (SBC). It is scheduled to open this Spring term. Work over the summer months focused on the installation of a new fire lane and seating area at the Performing Arts Building as well as completion of utility connections for the new Center. When completed, this project will add a 500-seat state-of-the-art Performing Arts theater at the entry to the SBC.

Design development is coming to a close on the Student Services project at the Palm Desert Campus (PDC). We will be celebrating this project's groundbreaking at the end of AY 24/25. This marks an important milestone in the growth of the PDC as this project will be the first new building on the campus in 16 years and is the first state-funded project for the PDC.

Our innovative new Master of Science in Physician Assistant (MSPA) program continues moving forward. Last April, we celebrated the groundbreaking of the new MSPA facility, which is a renovation of the former Yasuda Center, and it is on schedule to be completed in May 2025. When finished, it will include clinic, laboratory and classroom instructional spaces for the program. CSUSB has applied for Accreditation-Provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant. The university anticipates matriculating its first class in August 2025, pending achieving Accreditation-Provisional status at the March 2025 ARC-PA meeting.

Our capital campaign has raised \$218 million to date, 109% of our overall goal. Philanthropic dollars raised to date are \$50 million, which is 71% of our philanthropic goal. My thanks to our outstanding faculty researchers and to those in the surrounding community who believe so strongly in CSUSB that we have exceeded our original \$200 million overall goal.

And our efforts towards growing diversity, equity and inclusion into our university's very structure have recently resulted in the creation of the Office of Tribal Relations and the Office of Black Student Success. Know that in this new academic year, our commitment to DEI and the implementation of Title IX will continue just as strongly.

In fact, we are underscoring the California State University system's comprehensive and caring approach to strengthening our Civil Rights (Title IX and Discrimination/Harassment/Retaliation) programs. The goal is to ensure that our policies and processes are easy for everyone to access; are supportive, respectful and compassionate throughout the process; and result in prompt, fair and meaningful resolutions.

We are doing this first by providing more resources and training to clearly explain our community expectations with the hope and intention of preventing harmful behavior before it occurs. And second, we are developing clearer and more effective response systems to address harmful behavior and provide support to members of our university community.

The strongest possible culture of respect and care we emphasize here at CSUSB is one that the CSU seeks to ensure across our system, and to address any concerns fairly, respectfully, and promptly. You have my commitment that we will be working every day to achieve this goal.

We are a higher education community, embedded in the cities of San Bernardino and Palm Desert and in the Inland Empire. We are a diverse community, where all who step onto our two campuses are welcome for who they are. We are also a dynamic community, with our members engaged both in what is happening on campus and out in their home communities.

Whatever stage you are in, in your academic journey, we are glad you are here at CSUSB and growing your academic, research and community engagement skills with us as we define the future for another year here at your university.

Sincerely,

Tomás D. Morales
President