Provost’s Report

WSCUC Reaccreditation Visit (October 1 – 3)
As you are aware, we hosted the WASC Senior Colleges and University Commission (WSCUC) review team on October 1 – 3rd. The team met with a variety of representative groups while they were on campus for two and a half days. They commented on what they saw as a united campus-wide effort towards student success, as well as an integration of all our work focused around our strategic plan. They presented a summary of their commendations and recommendations (a balanced list of seven each). We will receive the full report on November 11, 2019. At that time, we can respond with any factual corrections. The report will then be given to the commission, and we will be granted reaccreditation for a certain amount of time (up to 10 years) at a meeting on February 13, 2020. President Virjee, Su Swarat, and I will attend that meeting in Berkeley.

When we receive the report, I will provide the campus with a brief summary of the commendations and recommendations. For now, you can congratulate yourselves on an excellent job in addressing the concerns of the previous WSCUC visit and moving strategically toward our goals.

Graduation 2025 Initiative CSU Symposium
This last week teams from each of the 23 CSU campuses gathered to reflect on the progress and challenges of the Graduation 2025 Initiative. System-wide there is encouraging news on increasing the graduation rate for first-time freshmen and transfer students. However, we still have work to do on eliminating the equity gap. In addition to the major presentations and workshops, awards were given to celebrate the exceptional faculty who provide extraordinary learning opportunities for our students.

Sara Johnson, professor of anthropology, was honored with a Faculty Innovation and Leadership award for her outstanding Urban-Agriculture Community-based Research Experiences (U-ACRE) program. Through this program, Sara helps to engage students in community-based research to develop a sustainable local food system. U-ACRE has had a tremendous impact on student success and their in-depth knowledge of research focuses on food insecurity, nutritional sufficiency, environmental justice, and sustainable agriculture.

On Campus This Week
National Society for Minorities in Honors Conference
National Society for Minorities in Honors Conference will be held on October 24th and 26th on our campus. This conference is hosted by CSUF University Honors Program in collaboration with the University of California, Irvine Campus-wide Honors Program. The keynote address will be given by Dr. Víctor B. Sáenz, University of Texas at Austin, a leading researcher on advancing success strategies for male students of color.
**Arboretum Mixer – Thursday, October 24**
This Thursday, The Friends of the Fullerton Arboretum will host a CSUF Faculty Mixer from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Arboretum’s Bacon Pavilion. The mixer is an excellent opportunity for faculty and staff to network and learn about faculty-student collaborations at the botanical garden. You can also visit a student-curated exhibit highlighting the first 40 years of the Fullerton Arboretum. For more information, contact Scott Hewitt at shewitt@fullerton.edu or 657-278-3689.

**Student Success Network – Friday, October 25**
This Friday, the Student Success Network will convene for one day at the Fullerton Marriott on campus. Representatives throughout the CSU system will gather to discuss equity, how growth mindset and sense of belonging can advance equitable student success, and the challenges students face. It’s also an opportunity to build relationships with our CSU colleagues. Dr. Dave Paunesku from Stanford University will be a guest speaker.

**Provost’s Social Media**

As a reminder, you can now find me on Facebook (Cal State Fullerton Provost), Twitter (@csufprovost), and Instagram (csufprovost). I will be using these platforms to highlight the important work you do. You can easily access the social media sites by visiting our website and clicking on the icons on the home page.