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Statement from Interim Chancellor Jolene Koester

(May 24, 2023) – On Sunday, May 21, 2023, the Los Angeles Times publicized reports about California State University’s Title IX procedures. We think the story was unfair and misleading. The article included descriptions of intake reports involving California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) President Framroze (Fram) Virjee that were filed by third parties, not the individuals who were involved in the incidents. These reports were never fully investigated, substantiated or even verified. When we learned late last year that the Times’ reporters wanted to obtain copies of these reports, I communicated with the Times that we were concerned that publicizing unverified and unsubstantiated reports against President Virjee could unfairly cause irreparable reputational damage to him, his family and to CSUF.

President Virjee and the CSU take these matters very seriously. We want the public and our CSU community to have an accurate picture of the surrounding facts and circumstances. I would underscore four key points:

- (1) These reports were properly processed pursuant to CSU policy and the requirements under Title IX;
- (2) None of the potential complainants, after prompt and confidential outreach by the Title IX officer who informed them of their rights and offered them assistance, chose to file a complaint that would have triggered an investigation by the Chancellor’s Office;
- (3) The Title IX officer evaluated these reports based upon the information provided and did not find any information that warranted an investigation under university policy; and
- (4) Pursuant to CSU policy, and to protect confidentiality, neither these intake reports nor their content were shared with President Virjee at the time they were filed, so he was not able to provide any clarification or input into the validity of the reports or their content. Instead, he did not learn about the reports or their content until years later, when they were provided to the Times.

As a university leader, President Virjee has excelled. Based on our nine years of experience and all information known to us, President Virjee has always conducted himself with integrity. I have confidence in his leadership and the transformational progress he has made for CSUF and the CSU.



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About the California State University

The [California State University](#) is the largest system of four-year higher education in the country, with 23 campuses, nearly 460,000 students, and 56,000 faculty and staff. Nearly 40 percent of the CSU's undergraduate students transfer from California Community Colleges. The CSU was created in 1960 with a mission of providing high-quality, affordable education to meet the ever-changing needs of California. With its commitment to quality, opportunity and student success, the CSU is renowned for superb teaching, innovative research and for producing job-ready graduates. Each year, the CSU awards nearly 130,000 degrees. One in every 20 Americans holding a college degree is a graduate of the CSU and our alumni are 4 million strong. Connect with and learn more about the CSU in the [CSU NewsCenter](#).