

President Soraya M. Coley
Campus Update Video Message
April 26, 2018

CSU TUITION

I recently shared with the university community a message from Chancellor Timothy White, announcing that the CSU will not raise tuition in the 2018-19 academic year.

While this is very good news for our students, the Chancellor did not make his decision lightly, and here's why:

Governor Brown's budget proposal for the new fiscal year falls 171 million dollars short of full funding for the CSU. If the Governor's budget is approved, the CSU will face difficult financial decisions.

The CSU is fulfilling its educational mission – enrolling and graduating students in record numbers. The CSU is an economic engine for the state, providing tens of thousands of skilled professionals annually.

As our elected officials move closer to adopting the 2018-19 budget, CSU leaders will continue to make their voices heard in the state Capitol. I encourage you to make your voices heard as well.

DIFFERENCE MAKERS

I'm introducing a new feature in this message, which I'm calling Difference Makers. So many people and programs play a role in helping to ensure that our students have a successful and fulfilling time at Cal Poly Pomona.

One of the most important things we can do is to be there for our students in a time of need. Dr. Leticia Gutierrez-Lopez is the associate vice president for Campus Health and Well-Being in the Division of Student Affairs, which provides an array of services, from stress management to nutrition advice to peer counseling. Sometimes things can be resolved quickly ... and sometimes they require ongoing, individual attention.

If you do not already know her, I am pleased to introduce you to Dr. Leti, as she is known to colleagues and students alike.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT

When I entered college at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, I felt a tremendous sense of freedom. Freedom to choose a major, freedom to plan my future, freedom to try new things and make new friends.

Students today experience the same freedoms, but for many, especially those who are the first in their family to attend college, life at a university can be a maze of contradictions.

Cal Poly Pomona and most other universities highlight inclusion among their cherished principles, and they strive to make sure that *everyone* in the community feels a sense of belonging. Regardless of your

background, your circumstances, you are ALL part of this great university and I care deeply about each one of you and your development, your success, and the attainment of your goals. As my journey was, your journey will not be without challenges – and sometimes those challenges will test your resolve.

As you have seen across the country, there are individuals who are speaking at universities whose views are antithetical to, or in conflict with the institutions' espoused core values. Indeed, as a public university, we are *required* to open our doors to speakers who espouse views on a variety of topics and from any number of perspectives. I'm not talking about perspectives that may result in reasonable disagreements and varying viewpoints which, in fact, can contribute to one's learning. I'm talking about offensive and perhaps even hateful views that make a mockery of inclusion and diversity, or other principles that we hold dear.

Some might ask, "Why should we *allow* the public expression of views that violate our university's core values?"

It gets back to our individual freedom – in this case *the right of* freedom of expression which is bestowed upon and protects all of us through the First Amendment of our country's Constitution. The First Amendment, which reinforces many other human rights, allows not only candid debate and civil dialogue on college campuses and in society, it protects speech that some of us find highly offensive or even consider hateful.

But we are not victims in this process. First, we need to make clear that *protecting* the right of abhorrent speech does not mean *endorsing* abhorrent speech. As a university community, we stand together in support of each other – in support of our core values of diversity and inclusivity.

I believe that the best way to counter abhorrent speech is not by attempting to silence it, but by vigorously defending unity over division. You don't win the argument by shouting down the bad – you win by holding up the good. While we do not defend the content of every opinion expressed by every member of our community, or of speakers who are invited to our campus, we will defend their right to speak freely. That freedom is fundamental to Cal Poly Pomona and our nation.

At the same time, we differentiate between protecting free speech and addressing harmful or destructive behavior. Behavior that violates the law or our university's code of student conduct will be addressed.

Ultimately, the best way to triumph is to earn your degree – succeed in life – and vigorously support the causes you believe in. That gives you power and makes you an agent of change.

NEW STUDENT SERVICES AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

The new student services and administration building, with its distinctive roofline and student-focused design, is really starting to take shape. Some of you who will be moving there are probably wondering what your new environment will look like.

Vice presidents from all divisions will receive space configuration diagrams showing which parts of the building their staffs will occupy. Those of you who will be making the move will receive information and timelines as we get closer to departing the CLA tower. Though the building will be new, it's expected that the furniture from the CLA will make the move as well.

COLLINS GIFT

It was my distinct honor at the recent Hospitality Uncorked event to announce a 10 million dollar endowment gift from Carol and Jim Collins – the largest single donation ever to The Collins College of Hospitality Management.

The gift will provide scholarships and internship opportunities for academically talented, historically underrepresented hospitality management students. It will also invest in resources for faculty and help create a Ph.D. program in hospitality management.

Cal Poly Pomona is fortunate to have such wonderful benefactors as Carol and Jim Collins, who believe in our inclusive polytechnic approach to higher education.

BRONCO BRAVO

It's always proper to say thank you when you receive a gift. Our Division of University Advancement receives a lot of gifts on behalf of the university from friends and alumni who believe in our students and our mission, and a small team in Advancement Operations works hard to make sure that we say thank you in a sincere and timely way.

Cassie Banagas, the gift processing specialist for Advancement, goes the extra mile to direct gifts to their intended place and thank donors whenever she gets the opportunity. For all that she does, I'm delighted to introduce her in our latest segment of Bronco Bravo.

SEMESTER CONVERSION

Our university home page contains a lot of valuable information, but I must confess that the first thing I look at is the countdown to the start of the fall semester on the top right of the page. Though more remains to be done, I am proud of all of the work taking place in every division as we prepare to switch from quarters to semesters in August.

I want to thank everyone who helped make the recent Pizza with the Presidents at the Bronco Student Center a success. This event provided another opportunity for students in all of our colleges to ask questions, get information, and further refine their academic roadmap.

Students who are close to graduating should consider wrapping up their studies during the summer session. General registration runs through May 23, and classes will begin on June 18.

This will be an accelerated 5-week summer session because of semester conversion. Be sure to fill out your MyPlanner, and schedule an appointment with your advisor if you are thinking of completing your graduation requirements.

I'm also pleased to announce that we reached a major milestone in mid-April when the Divisions of Information Technology and Academic Affairs collaborated to upgrade our PeopleSoft processes to operate in a semester environment. They achieved the change on time and without incident — a testament to collaboration and expertise. Many people were part of this success, and I want to close by acknowledging them.

Information Technology:

Department	Name
Enterprise Applications	Patricio Beltran
Enterprise Applications	David Chen
Enterprise Applications	May Tang
Enterprise Applications	Lee Anne Ma
Enterprise Applications	Delia Delgado
Enterprise Applications	Joaine Aguilo
Enterprise Applications	Saraswathi Kumathi
Enterprise Applications	Louis Mills
Enterprise Applications	Carla Torrance
Projects & Processes	Marcy Gates
IT Applications	Glendy Yeh
IT Security and Compliance	Carol Gonzales
Campus & Web Applications	Jonathan Tran
IT Service Desk	Anthony Mulyadi
Systems & Data Center	Dave Lyon

Academic Affairs:

Department	Name
Registrar's Office	Tina Beddall
Registrar's Office	Jennifer Andelin
Registrar's Office	Nancy Cervantes
Registrar's Office	Cynthia Chatfield
Registrar's Office	Pio Ortega
Registrar's Office	Stella Quirk
Registrar's Office	Ann Tearpak
Admissions & Enrollment Planning	Deborah Brandon
Financial Aid & Scholarships	Charles Conn
Financial Aid & Scholarships	Saul Ramirez
Academic Programs	Lina Neto
Academic Programs	Ashley Ly
Student Success	Terri Gomez
Student Success	Cecilia Santiago-Gonzalez
Student Success	Erin DeRosa
Academic Planning	Sep Eskandari
Provost's Office	Sylvia Alva

Administrative Affairs

Department	Name
Student Acct & Cashiering Services	Patricia Higuchi
Student Acct & Cashiering Services	Myvan Hua
Student Acct & Cashiering Services	Joel Santamaria