

Hello & Welcome Fellow DLB Members, Faculty & Staff:

I hope that this message finds you well and ready to begin a new chapter in the California State Polytechnic University, College of Engineering, Deans Leadership Board Chronicles. As I write this note I am reminded of all the time that has passed since we last saw each other in person and how, with assistance from above, we may one day soon, be able to reconnect again.

Let me begin by saying that it has been, and continues to be my distinct honor and pleasure to work with each member of this illustrious board, and to pay tribute to all of the accomplishments each of you have achieved over your years, since graduating from college many years ago. As I reflect on the many initiatives that we have developed and deployed, the many students lives that we have in some way touched, and the support that each of our generous donations has provided to this university, I am overwhelmed with joy and appreciation for all that we do.

As you are aware, over the years we have embarked on several initiatives to support Cal Poly and last year was no exception. In the midst of a COVID Pandemic, our DLB was able to initiate and deploy three key student focused initiatives across the Cal Poly campus:

- ***Mini Seminar Series***

A series of four 1-hour seminars entitled *Stuff they Don't Teach You in School*. To be repeated in the Fall 2021, it was a series of courses on the subjects of resume development, preparing for an interview, interview follow-up, and salary negotiation strategies. Students who attended all four seminars earned an electronic badge.

- ***Virtual Tours***

One-hour virtual workplace tours that will be offered each semester to provide students information about workplace values, environments and most importantly, what a day in the life of a professional engineer looks like.

- ***Mentorship Platform***

A platform set up to assist/support students in need of developing mentoring relationships with professionals in their field. The program required minimal board support moving forward as it is primarily focuses on engaging professionals to sign up and seek a mentee. As the program continues into the fall and beyond, the DLB will re-distribute flyers to members and have companies encourage employees to enroll as mentors. Lastly, the CPP CoE will promote The Bronco Mentoring Network among students (syllabus, during classes, on website).

Each of the initiatives that were initiated by the DLB last spring made an impact on the student populace and enhanced the DLBs presence on the campus as an organization of **action** and **results**. So I thought, this year – How can we top what we have already done? The answer became evident as soon as I received my first email communication from a student that attended each of our activities last year asking – **Are we going to do it again?** We set a high bar last year and I feel honored and privileged to try and add to it in this 2021-2022 school year. Looking forward, I foresee opportunities for us to build on what we began in 2021 by adding an additional class or two in our mini-series, by continuing our virtual tours program and capture virtual tours from additional companies, and certainly by enhancing/growing our student mentoring program - adding new mentors from each of our companies. I will close by

adding that there are always opportunities for us to continue our financial support to the College of Engineering and each of its many programs. All we have to do is seek them out!

I am both excited and invigorated about what new and challenging experiences this new school year will bring and I look forward to sharing that excitement with each of you throughout the 2021-2022 school year. **Let's make it the best ever!**

With all due respect to my CPP CoE DLB Colleagues & Best Wishes to our Students for a productive & successful 2021-2022 School Year!

GO BRONCOS!

Clark Rucker
2019 – 2022 Chair, CPP CoE Deans Leadership Board
Director, Phantom Works Quality
The Boeing Company