CSUB Makes TIME Magazine’s Top 100 Colleges and Universities

CSUB has been selected as one of the 100 universities listed in TIME Magazine’s top colleges and universities based on new criteria proposed by the White House that emphasizes accessibility, affordability, and completion. The publication issued its rankings in its April 23, 2014 issue after collecting data from 2,500 higher education institutions and assessing the value of each institution based on metrics such as graduation rates, tuition, and the percentage of Pell Grant recipients.

CSUB is one of seven CSU campuses that made the list, coming in at #39. The others include Cal State Long Beach (#10), Fresno State (#21), CSU Stanislaus (#22), CSU Dominguez Hills (#29), CSU San Bernardino (#30), and Cal State Northridge (#59).

Our ranking speaks to the accessibility and excellence that are top strategic priorities for our university. Having sufficient financial aid is essential to access and making it possible for our students to succeed in their educational aspirations. Because of the availability of federal Pell Grants, Cal Grants, CSU State University Grants and other support, coupled with financial aid professionals who work diligently on students’ behalf, more than half of our students are able to graduate with an undergraduate degree with very little or no student loan debt. The importance of that for our alumni, our economy, and our region cannot be overstated.

In 2012-13, approximately $3.8 billion in financial aid was distributed to 319,000 CSU students – nearly 76% of the total student population. Of this, $78.2 million was allotted in the form of Pell Grants.

The rating system proposed by the White House is intended to provide prospective students and their families with information that will allow them to select higher education institutions that provide the best value. The Obama administration plans to link the institution’s performance with federal financial aid disbursements.

To view TIME’s full ranking, visit http://time.com/71782/make-your-own-college-ranking. For more information on CSU Facts, including financial aid, visit http://www.calstate.edu/PA/2014Facts/.

Commencement 2014

Tassels will turn, caps will fly, and gowns will flow at Spring Commencement 2014 on June 13th and 14th. Commencement is a tradition-filled rite of passage that signals the end of the first phase of academic studies and the beginning of advanced studies or entry into careers. This year, we recognize and celebrate 1,676 undergraduates and 398 master’s students who have completed their academic degree programs. We acknowledge the faculty who have taught and mentored them, and the staff who have supported them along the journey. The commencement schedule is as follows:
Tuesday, June 10, 2014
The graduate and hooding ceremony will take place on **Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Icardo Center**. As has been the tradition, I am pleased to address our master’s and doctoral students at this ceremony.

Friday, June 13, 2014
The Schools of Arts and Humanities, Business and Public Administration, and Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering will hold a joint ceremony on **Friday, June 13, 2014 at 7:00 a.m. in the Amphitheatre**. The Honorable Harvey Hall, Mayor of Bakersfield, is the commencement speaker. Maestro John Farrer, Bakersfield Symphony Music Director (ret.), will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from the School of Arts & Humanities. Gail Brooks, CSU Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, will represent the CSU in awarding the honorary doctorate.

Saturday, June 14, 2014
The School of Social Sciences and Education will hold its ceremony on **Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 7:00 a.m. in the Amphitheatre**. The commencement address will be given by Ruben Mendoza, Professor of Social, Behavioral, and Global Studies at CSU Monterey Bay.

Tickets
As increasing numbers of students complete their degrees, our commencement venues are at capacity. To ensure public safety by staying within capacity and to afford adequate seating at each ceremony, we must limit the number of guests. Each graduating undergraduate student initially receives six tickets. Graduate students initially receive nine tickets. Guests must have a ticket to be admitted to the commencement ceremonies. Graduating students do not require tickets. Additional tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis Friday, May 30, 10am-2pm at the Runner Bookstore. For specific information regarding ticket distribution, dates, and times, please visit [http://www.csub.edu/commencement](http://www.csub.edu/commencement).

Honors Recognitions
Each of the schools will recognize their honors students at invitation-only receptions, as follows:

**Thursday, May 29, 2014**
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering
Stockdale Room
5-7pm

**Friday, May 30, 2014**
Business & Public Administration
Stockdale Country Club
7001 Stockdale Highway
6pm

**Monday, June 2, 2014**
Arts & Humanities
Student Union, Multipurpose Room
6:30pm

**Wednesday, June 4, 2014**
Social Sciences and Education
Student Union, Multipurpose Room
6pm

Additional Recognitions
Recognitions continue for our Antelope Valley Center, credentials students, and cultural celebrations:

**Antelope Valley Center Reception**
Sunday, June 8, 2014
Hellenic Center
43404 30th Street West
Lancaster, CA
3pm

**Black Graduates Recognition Ceremony**
Saturday, May 31, 2014
Student Recreation Center
3pm
Upcoming Events

Whether you are looking for academic, alumni, arts & culture, campus life, community, sports, or a calendar of highlight events, find them on RunnerCal.

University Council

University Council is an open forum for members of the campus community to voice concerns or make suggestions for continued improvement. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. Meetings are held during the academic year every third Friday at 10:00 a.m. in the Albertson Room. The next meeting will take place October 17, 2014.

I look forward to seeing you during the pomp and circumstance of commencement and our honors and recognition celebrations, around campus, or at an upcoming University or community event. Take care.

Horace Mitchell
President