



Twenty fifteen (2015) has been a year of great achievement and accolades for CSU Bakersfield. The President's Cabinet joins me in saying "Thank You" to all of our faculty and staff for your contributions over the year. As I have said before, it takes all of us doing our respective jobs with excellence that will lead to realization of our vision to extend the excellence and diversity of our faculty and academic programs, enhance the quality of the student experience, and strengthen our community engagement. We wish for each of you and your families a healthy, prosperous and Happy New Year.

We also say "Thank You" to our alumni, CSUB Foundation Board members, President's Community Advisory Council members, other support groups, and all community supporters who have evidenced their strong support for the University through their engagement, advocacy, and/or philanthropy. Our New Year wishes are also extended to you.

We have been fortunate over the years to have very engaged students (now numbering more than 9,500) and outstanding student leaders. Our New Year wishes are extended to each of you, as well.

Happy New Year!

Alumni Association Selects 10th Anniversary Hall of Fame Inductees

The Alumni Association will induct five distinguished alumni into the CSUB Alumni Hall of Fame at a 10th anniversary black-tie gala on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at the

Bakersfield Country Club. A committee of university representatives and Alumni Association board members selected the inductees from nominations received from the University's four schools, the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and the President's Cabinet. Congratulations to the 2016 inductees:

Greg Colson ('78): Greg Colson is an accomplished artist with public collections all over the world including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; The Panza Collection, Varese, Italy; The Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Sammlung Rosenkranz, Berlin and more. Greg's exhibitions bring acclaim to our Department of Art, University, and community.

Shanna Treanor, M.D. ('94): Dr. Treanor is a pediatrician specializing in Pediatric Dermatology at Kaiser Permanente here in Bakersfield. She has won numerous awards and recognitions and served on the 2014-15 Kern County Special Olympics-Host Town Committee for the 2015 Special Olympics World Games. While a senior at CSUB, she served as President of Associate Students, Inc. and was instrumental in the design and completion of the CSUB Student Union.

Jeff Colson ('79): A commended artist, Jeff Colson has had the honor of showing his work in many acclaimed institutions such as The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles,

CA; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; The Rosenkranz Foundation, Berlin, Germany and more. A 2012 Guggenheim Fellow, Fine Arts and City of Los Angeles Fellowship 2015 Cola Award winner, he has made a significant contribution to the art community.

Mike Maggard ('78): Kern County Supervisor 3rd District, Mike Maggard is a Certified Public Accountant and founder and owner of Maggard & Company, CPAs. He was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2006 prior to which he served as a Bakersfield City Councilmember from 1998-2006. Mike has received multiple recognitions for his civic and community involvement and was inducted into the Bakersfield City School District's Hall of Fame in 2012.

Tom Hardt ('73): When we added baseball as an intercollegiate sport in 2007 and built our baseball program from the ground up during our transition to NCAA Division I competition, a \$1 million donation from Tom and Barbara Hardt in 2008 made it possible for us to construct our baseball facility. Tom served as the general contractor for the baseball competition and training facility, aptly named Hardt Field. The Hardt Family Foundation funds local, social, religious, art and education organizations throughout Kern County. The Hardt family has served our community for more than 60 years.

For more information about CSU Bakersfield or the CSUB Alumni Association or Hall of Fame, please visit www.csub.edu/alumni. For ticket and sponsorship information, call (661) 654-3211 or email alumni@csub.edu.

Vernon Harper Named Associate Vice President for Academic Programs

Dr. Jenny Zorn, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and I are pleased to

announce the appointment of **Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr.**, as the new Associate Vice President for Academic Programs, effective April 1, 2016. He will succeed **Dr. Carl Kemnitz**, who accepted a position at San José State University in May, 2015. Dr. Harper brings over 16 years of higher education experience to the position. He has served as an Associate Vice President for Academic Administration, Associate Provost, Associate for Academic Affairs, and a Communication Studies Professor. He holds a Ph.D. in Human Communication from Howard University, M.A. in Rhetoric and Communication from West Chester University, and a B.A. in Communication from Penn State. We extend our thanks to the search committee chair and members: **Dr. Jackie Kegley**, Chair; **Dr. Monica Ayuso**; **Dr. Steven Daniels**; **Dr. Kathleen Knutzen**; **Dr. Rebecca Larson**; **Dr. Jacqueline Mimms**; **Paula Miser**; **Anish Mohan**; **Dr. Luis Vega**; and **Dee Renguil**. Please join us in welcoming Vernon Harper to the CSU Bakersfield leadership team.

Vikash Lakhani Appointed Assistant Vice President for Student Success

Provost Jenny Zorn, Dr. Jacqueline Mimms, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, and I are pleased to announce that **Vikash Lakhani** has accepted the position of Assistant Vice President for Student Success, Retention and Graduation Initiatives. Vikash currently serves as the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at Humboldt State University. He returns to CSU Bakersfield not only with his wealth of knowledge of the CSU but also with a breadth of experience at both the system-wide and campus levels on high impact practices and initiatives related to student success, retention and graduation. Vik will join us on January 16, 2016 and will assume the important responsibility of developing, implementing and coordinating programs

designed to support student academic success and improving retention and graduation rates. We extend a special thank you to the members of the search committee: **Dr. Kathleen Knutzen, Dr. Paul Newberry, Garo Kalfayan, JD., Dr. Kris Krishnan, Terran Felter, Dr. James Drnek, and Dr. Kim Flachman.**

Michelle Lyday Named Interim Director of Public Affairs and Communication

Vice President for University Advancement **David Melendez** and I are pleased to announce that **Michelle Lyday** joined us this month as Interim Director of Public Affairs and Communication. Michelle comes to us most recently from US Computers, a Chevron business partner, where she produced marketing, communication, and training videos for Chevron which are shown worldwide through Chevron TV. A CSUB alum, Michelle earned a BA in communications with a minor in business administration from CSUB in 1990.

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](#). Access the calendar on our website by clicking the “Events” link at the bottom of the home page.

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. The next meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m., Friday, January 15, 2016 in the Albertson Room.

I look forward to seeing you around campus or at an upcoming University or community event. Take care.


Horace Mitchell
President