



45th Annual Spring Commencement

In just a few weeks, I will confer degrees on the Class of 2015 in three ceremonies at our 45th annual [Spring Commencement](#) on **Tuesday, June 9; Friday, June 12; and Saturday, June 13**. Almost 2,100 students have applied for graduation, including 1,719 undergraduates and 355 master's students.



Schedule

On **Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 6:00 pm**, **master's degree candidates** will be hooded and graduates of the collaborative Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership with Fresno State will be presented at the Graduate and Hooding Ceremony in the Icardo Center.

On **Friday, June 12, 2015, at 7:00 am**, the **School of Social Sciences and Education (SSE)** will hold its ceremony in the CSUB Amphitheatre.

On **Saturday, June 13, 2015, at 7:00 am**, the schools of **Arts and Humanities (A&H); Business and Public Administration (BPA); and Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering (NSME)** will hold a combined ceremony in the CSUB Amphitheatre.

Tickets

Complimentary [tickets](#) are required to ensure adequate seating at the degree-conferring ceremonies. Undergraduate students are allotted a maximum of eight tickets, and graduate students are allotted up to ten. All tickets are sent to students electronically via

email. Electronic ticket distribution will continue through May 28.

Speakers

I look forward to serving as keynote speaker at the Graduate and Hooding Ceremony June 9.

SSE will welcome as keynote speaker **Dr. Joseph Hamill**, Professor of [Kinesiology](#), Director of the



Biomechanics Laboratory, and Associate Dean of the School of Public Health and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His research focuses on human locomotion. His latest research investigates how changes in running patterns in football change running injuries.



Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, III, [President](#) of The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), will speak to the graduates at the combined ceremony on Saturday. U.S. News & World Report named

President Hrabowski as one of *America's Best Leaders*, and ranked UMBC the nation's #1 "Up and Coming" university the past six years (2009-14). *TIME* magazine named him one of *America's 10 Best College Presidents in 2009*, and one of the "100 Most Influential People in the World" in 2012. His area of research is science and math education, with an emphasis in the participation and performance of students of color.

CSU Board of Trustees Representatives

Student Trustee **Kelsey Brewer**, CSU Fullerton political science major, will represent the Board of Trustees at the June 12 ceremony. Trustee **Lillian Kimbell, J.D.**, general counsel and business manager for the Center for the Studies of Democratic Institutions, will join us on June 13.

Honors and Recognition Ceremonies

Several [additional celebrations](#) will take place to recognize achievement and allow for cultural and family expressions.

Instructions and Frequently-Asked Questions

Students should check the commencement website for [instructions](#) regarding when and where to assemble for the Icardo Center and Amphitheatre ceremonies, and for answers to frequently-asked questions. For additional information or to request additional tickets, please email commencement@csub.edu or the Office of University Events at 654-6034.

CSUB Professor Selected as Fulbright Alumni Ambassador

The U.S. Department of State's Fulbright Scholar Program has chosen **Dr. Mahmoud Suleiman**, Professor and Department Chair, Advanced Educational Studies Department, as a Fulbright Alumni Ambassador. The highly competitive alumni leadership program selects Fulbright Scholars to present their [experiences](#) in the program at academic conferences and campus events over a two-year period. The program is designed to increase the diversity of scholars and the range of participating colleges and universities. Ambassadors travel to promote Fulbright grants to other faculty and campus administrators to encourage them to teach or conduct research in any of 125 countries.



CSUB Faculty Member is First in the CSU



Dr. Marit MacArthur, Associate Professor of English, has been awarded an American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Digital Innovations (DI) Fellowship for her [project](#), *Poetry Performance and Pitch Tracking: Tools for Sound Studies*. She is the first CSU faculty member to receive the DI fellowship, and only the sixth CSU faculty member ever to receive an ACLS fellowship. Just seven Digital Innovations Fellowships were awarded in the U.S. for 2015-16. The \$85,000 award includes \$25,000 for project costs.

Teacher Credentialing Receives Confirmation of Accreditation

Please join me in congratulating **Dr. Kathleen Knutzen**, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Education, on the school's six-year confirmation of its accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing's (CTC) Committee on Accreditation. Not only did all of the school's [teacher credentialing programs](#) meet all of the state and national credentialing standards, but **the school also met the criteria with excellence**, receiving "special congratulations" as no areas within any of the 126 standards were found as needing improvement.

Geology Students Rock and Walk on Water

Our geoscience student team took second place in the Pacific regional ["Imperial Barrel Award"](#)



competition of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. This is a prestigious, long-running, and rigorous global evaluation

competition in which student teams compete to win scholarship funds and international recognition. Students analyze prospects for drilling and present their recommendations to panels of professionals. Our students won over teams from Cal Poly Pomona, CSU Long Beach, Fresno State, San Diego State, CSU Northridge, the University of California, and Portland State. Kudos to the students and their faculty advisor, **Dr. Jan Gillespie**.

Gurleen Kaur and **Lilian Rubi** presented their research on [water conservation](#) on the CSUB campus at the 2015 CSU Water Resources and Policy Initiatives conference last week. They were selected as the only student presenters for this conference, along with state-wide water resources experts and CSU faculty. CSUB students **Maryanne Bobbitt** and **Rolando De La Rosa** also assisted with the project.



Janine Roza presented her MS [Geology](#) research at the European Geological Union Assembly in Vienna last week. Co-authors are students **Brandon Jackson** and **Eric Heaton**, and faculty advisor **Dr. Rob Negrini**. Janine has just been accepted into the Ph.D. program with full support at the Scripps Institution for Oceanography at UC San Diego.

Hats off to our Employees



Our employees are among our greatest assets. At our annual Staff Service Awards [ceremony](#), held on May 12 in the Doré Theatre, we recognized staff for their years of service to the University. Celebrants included employees who have reached 5-year increments of service. Of particular note is **Frank Yap**, Contracts Administrator, who has reached the milestone of 40 years with CSUB. Congratulations to all of our 2015 Staff Service Award recipients, and thank you for your service.

Leadership Bakersfield: Rising from the Dust

Claudia Catota, J.D., Assistant to the President for Equity, Inclusion, and Compliance, joins a select membership of Leadership Bakersfield fellows. The 10-month leadership development program introduces current and promising leaders to community issues, resources, and leaders in various sectors, and tasks fellows to complete a project to address an identified community need. Her team's project, *Rising from the Dust: A Story of Faith, Courage, and Community*, is a state-of-the-art video exhibit of first-hand accounts by Kern County children of the Dust Bowl who were raised in local labor camps. A replica of a tent cabin houses the exhibit, which is on display at the Kern County Museum. The tent is set against a thirteen-foot high, hand-painted mural of the San Joaquin Valley as it might have appeared to Dust Bowl migrants in the 1930s.



Honor Flight Departs from CSUB

This Friday, May 29, at 4:00 am, Honor Flight Kern County will take 100 Vietnam Veterans and their guardians to Washington, D.C., at no cost to the veterans, to visit the memorials erected to honor their military service to our country. Veterans and their guardians will depart for the airport from the CSUB Icardo Center and return there Sunday night at 10:00 pm. Honor Flight Kern County invites community members to join the 4:00 am Friday send-off party and/or the 10:00 pm Sunday return party. They also are in need of more guardians. For more information, contact CSUB Police **Corporal Carla Johns** at 654-2677.

Campus Forum

I invite you to attend a campus forum scheduled for **Friday, May 29** at 1:00 pm in the Business Development Center, Room B153. The agenda will include updates on the 2015-16 budget, our quarter-to-semester (Q2S) implementation, leadership transitions, and strategic planning. For those of you who are unable to attend in person, you may access the forum via [Livestream](#). We look forward to your participation in the forum.

Mission Possible: Men's Baseball Wins WAC Tournament and Earns NCAA Berth

Eight years ago, baseball coach **Bill Kernen** came to CSUB to build a baseball program from the ground up as we transitioned our intercollegiate athletics program from Division II to Division I status. He set his sights to develop a team that would contend nationally. This past weekend, he coached the team to a come-from-behind victory to win the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) tournament championship and advance to NCAA Division I post-season play. During the Roadrunners' quest this season, Bill was named WAC Coach of the Year, his second in the WAC and third during his 14-year career as head coach. **Hayden Carter** was named WAC Pitcher of the Year, throwing a league-high 69 innings. **Chance Gusbeth, Joey Sanchez, Steven Gee, and David**

Metzgar were named to the 2015 All-Tournament team, with Metzgar named as MVP. Bill postponed his retirement last year to remain with the team through the 2015 season. The tournament championship is a fitting culmination of his baseball coaching career and his commitment to CSUB. The Roadrunners will play No. 1 UCLA this Friday night at Jackie Robinson Stadium on the UCLA campus.



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. Meetings will resume in the fall.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our commencement exercises, around campus, or at an upcoming University or community event. Take care.

Horace Mitchell
President