



**Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
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Dear Colleagues:

In several weeks, we will begin the 38th academic year of CSUB (formerly California State College, Bakersfield). There is much to be proud of, as we have made significant contributions to the well-being of our community and played an important role in the lives of our over 30,000 alumni. Reflecting on these years, we have also had our share of challenges, but we met each one of them with resolve and a commitment to providing the best possible education for our students.

We start the 2007-08 academic year with a new contract and much-deserved salary increases for faculty. And while invariably a campus' climate is often impacted during the bargaining process, it is incumbent upon *all* of us to work collaboratively towards the continued advancement of our university. We also are well underway with the construction of the new Mathematics and Computer Science Classroom Building and have broken ground for the student-supported Recreation Center.

As has been the case in the past several years, we will "kick-off" the academic year with our University Day Program. The theme this year is *Envisioning Our Future*. In his University Day address, President Mitchell will provide a recap of this past year and highlight the directions for the upcoming academic year. We will also officially welcome the new faculty, coaches, senior administrators, and staff. Following lunch, we hope you will continue to join us for the afternoon breakout sessions, where we will exchange ideas about future directions of CSUB and our mutual role in achieving our goals. At the conclusion of the breakout sessions, we will greet our new faculty and staff and reconnect with our colleagues.

Our focus this year will be on "envisioning our future" and developing a five year "roadmap" or action plan, informed by our institutional ethos of quality and the strategic goals outlined by the President at last year's University Day. There will be multiple ways for you to become involved during the year, and we hope that you will join us in discussing our collective ideals of teaching, working, learning, and serving our students and our community.

The University Day Program is enclosed, and we hope that you will join in the events of the day. There is also a Master Calendar of other activities during the week. We look forward to seeing you on September 4th as we begin a new chapter of the CSUB Story!

Sincerely,

Soraya M. Coley, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Jess Deegan II, Ph.D.
Chair, Academic Senate