
Mission, Purpose, and Values Statement

MISSION OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

California State University, Northridge (CSUN) exists to enable students to realize their educational goals. The University's first priority is to promote the welfare and intellectual progress of students. To fulfill this mission, we design programs and activities to help students develop the academic competencies, professional skills, critical and creative abilities and ethical values of learned persons who live in a democratic society, an interdependent world and a technological age; we seek to foster a rigorous and contemporary understanding of the liberal arts, sciences and professional disciplines, and we believe in the following values. www.csun.edu/president/mission

THE PURPOSE OF CSUN'S TSENG COLLEGE WITHIN THE CSUN MISSION

- ❖ The purpose of the *Tseng College: Graduate, International and Midcareer Education* (the College) is to create, support and continuously improve CSUN's self-support programs as well as the College's services and partnerships that expand inclusive access to, and enhance the influence of CSUN faculty's teaching, research/scholarship and creative activities and to broaden the understanding and appreciation of humankind's full and shared intellectual heritage across time and cultures, in which the CSUN learning community is deeply rooted, and to which the College is deeply committed.
- ❖ Guided by CSUN's academic mission, current and emerging academic strengths, leadership principles and planning priorities, the College is dedicated to working with CSUN faculty – who have full responsibility for the curricula in all CSUN degree and certificate programs – from all CSUN academic colleges, departments and CSUN's extended regional, national and international networks of relationships and links within and across disciplines and fields of practice to find highly effective educational responses to the challenges and opportunities facing those CSUN serves regionally, nationally and internationally.
- ❖ The College engages the important diversity of minds, spirits, hearts, experience, abilities and innovative insights that the College comprises to develop, sustain, and deploy important versatility and creative capacities that allows CSUN and its faculty to respond effectively to the changing educational needs of midcareer professional/working adults, employers, communities, professional associations, economic and community development organizations and international students and partners. Working collaboratively with CSUN's faculty, their colleagues across institutional and national lines, leading scholars and creative professional and accomplished practitioners, the College's staff shapes responses to educational needs through data-informed creation and delivery of innovative degree and non-degree programs that are carefully crafted to allow students to achieve significant educational outcomes. ➤

- ❖ CSUN created and structured the College to work collaboratively within and outside of the University to help fulfill CSUN's broader educational mission. This includes making a significant, positive and engaged impact on the following:
 - the educational transformation of lives;
 - the future of higher education and economic development;
 - community development and the evolution of urban communities in regional and global contexts;
 - innovation across all fields and disciplines;
 - social justice, social innovation and inclusion;
 - thoughtful approaches to environmental sustainability across fields of professional practice;
 - the role of the arts in individual and community life;
 - the role of respected research on regional, national, and international decision making in public life;
 - reflective and ethical professional practice across fields and disciplines;
 - the role of the sciences in shaping our shared future;
 - ensuring the future of equitable access to education;
 - health and wellness;
 - peace and a caring human community in a diverse and interconnected world;
 - shaping the future of the extended Los Angeles urban region;
 - and protecting and expanding the ability of all individuals to realize their full potential.
- ❖ The College develops, continuously improves and supports agile administrative systems and strategies, and thoughtfully develops and implements support services focused on the success of those the College serves and makes it possible for CSUN college partners working with the Tseng College to have a larger creative space in which to craft programs and expand the educational options CSUN offers.
- ❖ The College is self-supporting and responsible for remaining financially sound, so that CSUN can offer educational opportunities in ways that might not otherwise be possible within the limits of state funding, thus allowing CSUN responsibilities to use state funding to provide programs and services for its more traditional California undergraduate and graduate students. The College also contributes to CSUN's overall financial stability and, in turn, its ability to plan for the future. ➡

THE VALUES AND COMMITMENTS THAT GUIDE THE COLLEGE

The College comprises a significant and very important diversity of minds, spirits, hearts, experience, abilities and innovative insights. The College is a co-creative and mutually supportive professional community that works in teams, units, changing project groups and other configurations, but always with the understanding that the College is an undivided whole in which each staff member plays an essential and changing role in the College's ability to be excellent, innovative, agile and future focused. The College is an explorer of ideas and possibilities – willing to try, to risk and to ask the essential questions that are the foundation of the ability to innovate over and over again. The College and those it comprises are dedicated to helping CSUN develop, deliver and support a wide and changing array of excellent and distinctive educational opportunities; to supporting other CSUN colleges, departments and units to achieve their goals whenever possible; to being an open and engaged gateway linking CSUN to the broader world close to the campus and far away; and to being a broad, open and supportive canvas that allows CSUN to explore new possibilities on the horizon of its aspirations. The College is guided by the Values of CSUN and by these essential values and commitments.

- ❖ The College and those it comprises are guided by our understanding that each individual is distinctive and brings unique abilities and insights to the broader human community which needs each such singular individual to be supported and cared for so that each can realize their full potential. The College and all it comprises is dedicated to helping each individual realize their full potential and, in turn, to make their full positive contribution to our shared future.
- ❖ The College and those it comprises believe that education has the power to transform lives. Inclusive education plays a central role in creating and sustaining free, open and caring societies. It is also an essential component of creating and sustaining the viable and inclusive communities and economies needed to provide a better life for those CSUN serves in our interconnected and interdependent world. The College and those it comprises understand that those diverse individuals who seek additional education move closer to realizing their full potential and, in so doing, are better able to enhance their lives and careers, enrich and to refine their organizations and communities, and to make a meaningful and positive difference in our shared world.
- ❖ The College and those it comprises understand that because education has such life-transforming power, those who come to the College are entrusting us with their future. They trust CSUN, through the College, to provide the best currently possible educational opportunities in each field from the perspectives of scholarship in the field and expectations of professional practice in a contemporary context. They trust that CSUN through the College does all it can to ensure that programs foster the highest possible levels of student learning/achievement. The College and those it comprises are dedicated to honoring that trust placed in CSUN and the College by ensuring that all aspects of our work are focused on making data-informed choices and investing resources purposefully to develop and offer the best possible educational opportunities and to support the success of each unique student. ➡

- ❖ The College and those it comprises understand that at every turn the world as we encounter it each day needs far more kindness, understanding, forgiveness and mutual support of the best and full potential in others. The College and those it comprises work each day to add those important factors to our working world and to the lives we touch.

HOW THE COLLEGE IMPLEMENTS ITS PURPOSE AND VALUE IN ITS WORK

- ❖ The College engages CSUN faculty members, faculty from other well-respected institutions, noted national and international scholars and accomplished practitioners to develop new programs that use innovative and effective instructional strategies and assignment design as well as educational technology applications to expand the reach and influence of CSUN's programs and research to advance professional education and post-degree workforce education.
- ❖ The College encourages, supports and brings together scholarship and teaching across the disciplines to develop and deliver programs that respond to the educational needs of those called upon to address current and emerging challenges and opportunities that will shape the future of the extended Los Angeles urban region and beyond.
- ❖ The College expands access to CSUN by working with CSUN faculty and leading professionals to develop CSUN programs and services and to offer/deliver those programs in cohort formats with integrated curricula that foster engaged learning communities. The College offers accessible schedules (evenings, weekends, asynchronous), in innovative modes (online, off-site), and provides specialized and responsive support services for midcareer/working adults and organizations that otherwise may not have access to CSUN.
- ❖ The College develops productive partnerships with key regional, national and international organizations, communities and institutions that expand the sustained educational impact and influence of CSUN programs and provide mutually beneficial links between CSUN and organizations with complementary educational and/or research missions and values.
- ❖ The College develops long-term, mutually beneficial and supportive internal relationships with CSUN's academic colleges, departments, centers and institutes and support/administrative units. These relationships increase the number and quality of self-support programs offered by CSUN through the College and provide a sustained financial return to internal partners, allowing them to increase full-time faculty in fields related to current and planned self-support programs. It allows them to invest in the professional development of faculty who are teaching in current or planned self-support programs; to enhance support services for students in CSUN self-support programs; and to build additional capacity relevant to the continuous improvement of ongoing self-support programs and the development of new programs. ➡

- ❖ The College has developed the organizational capacities and abilities needed by CSUN to create and sustain excellent, distinctive, and successful (in terms of student achievement and financial stability) international, career-long, and lifelong learning programs and services in a competitive marketplace. These capacities and abilities include but are not limited to: excellent client/student support services for working adults, organizations and international students; on-site and online program support services management; transparent financial management; innovative instructional design; information systems/services and data reporting and analysis; assessment of program effectiveness; instructor support and professional development; creative and sophisticated data-driven marketing and public relations; financial aid services; external relations and partnerships development; online program production and technical support; applications, admissions and registration services; international student application and registration services and forward-thinking, international educational partnership, and collaborative College leadership with a CSUN perspective.
- ❖ The College, in keeping with CSUN principles and values and those of the broader world of higher education, ensures its ability to do its work through responsible, inclusive and innovative management of the organization through the development of a co-creative and agile College working culture focused on innovation and creative responses to educational needs guided by the College's purpose and values.
- ❖ The College works in compliance with all relevant CSU, CSUN, state and federal policies and achieves key financial goals that allow the College and its partners with CSUN to reinvest in expanding CSUN's self-support programs and services and enhancing their educational impact.
- ❖ The College creates innovative and influential models that inform the future of advanced professional preparation in the context of a global economy for lifelong higher education, enhancing CSUN's reputation as a preferred innovative educational partner committed to excellence and purposeful and high levels of student success regionally, nationally and internationally. 🌱