Subject: Welcome to the 2025-26 Academic Year
Date: Monday, August 25, 2025 at 2:01:07 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Office of the President
To: Christine Paik

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Dear CSUSM faculty and staff,

Welcome to the 2025 fall semester! I have loved seeing all of the activity as our campus comes alive again with students! As I walk around, I have seen so many of you helping with move-ins, preparing the campus grounds or supporting the start of the academic year and Weeks of Welcome. Thank you for the many ways you've helped our students feel seen, supported and ready to learn.

At last week's Employee Convocation, I reflected on the incredible momentum we've built together – and the challenges we continue to face with courage and care.

I invite you to watch the video of my remarks, in which I shared:

- the upcoming launch of our historic $200 million campuswide campaign to expand programs, scholarships and research;
- record-breaking enrollment this fall, with more than 17,000 students;
- the launch of new academic programs including public health, clinical counseling psychology and our first Doctor of Nursing Practice;
- our continued expansion into the region through partnerships in Temecula and Chula Vista;
- national recognitions for our library, faculty and staff – including our status as the only CSU campus to earn the Military Friendly School designation this year;
- and the reaffirmation of our commitment to inclusive excellence, student success and social mobility.

Remember that hope lives here at CSUSM! Thank you for all you do for CSUSM, our students and our region. I wish you a year filled with purpose, connection and the

unshakable belief in the Power of Us.

Best,
Ellen Neufeldt
President