California State University
SAN MARCOS

Office of
the President

University Cabinet

Ellen Neufeldt, President

Aswad Allen, Chief Diversity Officer

Jessica Berger, Vice President, University Advancement

Tony Chung, Chief Information Officer

Viridiana Diaz, Vice President, Student Affairs

Matt Escobar, Chair, Academic Senate

Matias Farre, Associate Vice President, Business and Financial Services

Jesus Flores, AVP Campus Safety & Chief of Police

Erika Gravett, Associate Vice President, Human Resources

Carl Kemnitz, Provost & Vice President, Academic Affairs

Kris Kirschbaum, Lecturer, Communication

Giselle Luevanos, Senior Director of Communications & Marketing

Rebecca Lush, Director, Faculty Center

Octavio Martinez, President & CEO, ASI

Kathryn McFarland, Interim AVP, Enrollment Management

Carmen Nava, Associate Dean, CHABSS

Domenica Pearl, Staff Representative

Patricia Prado-Olmos, Chief Community Engagement Officer

Ron Ramirez, Dean, CoBA

Jason Schreiber, Dean of Students

Sarah Villarreal, Chief of Staff

Leon Wyden Jr., Chief Financial Officer & Vice President, FAS

PRESIDENT'S UNIVERSITY CABINET
Thursday, October 3, 2024
10:30 a.m. – Noon
President's Boardroom or Zoom
MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome/Updates (President Neufeldt)

- CSUSM earned the Seal of Excelencia, achieved for meeting rigorous standards in serving Latinx students.
- Please save the date for the in-person National Social Mobility Symposium to be held at California State University San Marcos on February 20-21, 2025.

II. Student Success *(Natacha Cesar-Davis – Senior Director, Student Life Cycle)*

- Dr. Cesar-Davis presented on the Cougar Life Cycle.
- CSUSM has formal and informal programs that provide peer support**.**
- We all have a role in student success.

III. Budget

- CSUSM grew enrollment this fall by 6%.
- If we hadn't grown this year, we would have nearly $18M dollars fewer.
- That's not to take away from the challenge of moving work forward with constricted budgets.
- Our budget is fundamentally guided by the priorities outlined in our Strategic Plan, with a mission of student success.
- President Neufeldt stated that on budget, she consults with the President's Advisory and Budget Committee, known as the University Cabinet.

- Additionally, the Provost and Finance & Administrative Services meet regularly with the Academic Senate's Budget and Long-range Planning group.
- To keep our campus community informed and engaged, we regularly host University Budget Campus Open Forums.
- 2025-2026 on the horizon will be an even more challenging budget year.
- In preparation for an anticipated 8% budget reduction next year and following a one-time reallocation of $7 million from divisional reserves to cover unfunded compensation, CSUSM set aside an additional $5 million from the division's recurring funds.
- In tandem with these efforts, CSUSM implemented a hiring chill for staff and non-represented employees, which is expected to remain in place throughout the fiscal year.
- President Neufeldt reiterated that she do everything in her power to avoid layoffs.
- At the Board of Trustees meeting, President Neufeldt discussed the impact the 8% reduction will have on campus. She said that CSUSM needs more essential staff to support its mission of student success—more advisors, success coaches, tutors, financial aid specialists, and counselors to assist students. Moreover, CSUSM is not hiring the number of faculty needed, and tenure is around 50%.
- President Neufeldt also highlighted the need to seek additional alternative funding sources like the partnership with Price Philanthropies Foundation, which has entrusted CSUSM with $10 million to develop a first-of-its-kind accelerated bachelor's degree and workforce pipeline in behavioral and mental health.
- There was a discussion on how to allocate additional dollars received from tuition above flat enrollment. Cabinet members agreed to allocate those dollars to class sections and enrollment. Cabinet members advised that investments in personal outreach, Cougar Blue Days, Discover CSUSM, identity events, and family events and communications were critical to bringing in helping students find their way to us and creating a sense of

belonging (all of which leads to retention and student success). Cabinet also agreed that these dollars should be treated as one-time.

IV. Closing (President Neufeldt)