



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
CRAFTON HILLS COLLEGE

A Campus of the San Bernardino Community College District

January 8, 2015

California State University San Bernardino
Dr. Tomás D. Morales, President
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407-2393

Re: CSUSB's proposal for the Governor's Innovation in Higher Education Award

Dear President Morales:

As the CEO Representative of the Inland Empire Community Colleges, and President of Crafton Hills College, I would like to extend my support for California State University San Bernardino's selection as an Innovation Award recipient. CSUSB is a long-time collaborator with our local community colleges and the San Bernardino Community College District in developing innovative and impactful programs to assist our students in achieving their goals of transferring to the university and attaining a four-year degree. With nearly half of CSUSB's students coming from our local community colleges, the importance of the transfer pathway between our institutions is critical for helping close the educational achievement gaps that exist between our region and other parts of California and the rest of the country.

The involvement of our local community colleges in the regional collaboration through membership in FACE and the Education Council is of paramount importance to overcoming the challenges our institutions and citizens face with regard to educational attainment and employability. These forums have helped build the trust necessary to take bold steps together to create and undertake new projects such as:

- **Early Assessment Program:** Crafton Hills College participates in the EAP Program with CSUSB
- **CHC Transfer Center:** As part of Crafton Hills College's HSI Title V Grant, CSUSB has served in an advisory capacity to establish and develop our Transfer Center. CHC continues to utilize the innovative Transfer Center as a hub for increased access, increased throughput rates for students who are underrepresented in higher education, improved course success rates and increased degree and certificate completion rates.

- **AAT/AST degrees:** In an effort to ease transfer to CSUSB, Crafton Hills College has developed 17 AAT/AST degrees to help ensure student readiness for upper division work.
- **STEM Programs:** As a result of Crafton Hills College's HSI STEM Grant, a partnership with UCR has resulted in increased transfer to STEM related programs the University. Joint projects have included a wind turbine competition for community college students and regular visits to the UCR campus.

The coordinated work that has been occurring is helping Crafton Hills College students transfer more easily to four year institutions and attain their BA. On a larger scale, the collective impact our institutions are creating together holds great promise for transforming our region through this coordinated cradle-to-career model. As President of Crafton Hills College and the CEO Representative for Region 9, I extend my strong support of this proposal and of our continued collaboration with CSUSB and UCR in helping the citizens of our region have the educational opportunities and support necessary for academic and professional success.

Sincerely,



Cheryl A. Marshall, Ed.D.
President