Enriched Sense of Community
CSUSB enhances residential life and shifts perception as a commuter campus.

The Obershaws: Nearly Three Decades of Generous Support
Philanthropists Charles and Shelby Obershaw continue to make positive impacts on the CSUSB Community.

Give Something Back
CSUSB partners with the Give Something Back organization for $1 million in scholarships for At-Risk students.

Alumni Feature: Yurida Nava
Alumna Yurida Nava made the trip of a lifetime when she visited the White House as a 2017 School Counselor of the Year Finalist.

Community Leaders Honored at CSUSB Commencement Ceremonies
CSUSB bestowed honorary doctorates of humane letters to Rabbi Hillel Cohn and alumnus Lou Monville.
PRESIDENT'S AGENDA

President Tomás Morales regularly engages with the local community, university partners, legislative representatives and educational leaders worldwide to champion CSUSB and its mission.

Students travel abroad for HACU conference

In late March, a handful of lucky CSUSB students journeyed to San Jose, Costa Rica, for an International Student Track component that is part of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) annual conference. CSUSB has been a member of HACU since 1991.

During the event, the students were able to attend workshops, learn about study abroad opportunities, network with other students and various professionals, and tour universities in Costa Rica.

While President Tomás D. Morales was unable to attend the conference, he personally greeted the students when they returned to the United States.

Meeting with legislators in Sacramento

For CSU Advocacy Day on March 14, Morales joined CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White, trustees, campus presidents, alumni, students and volunteers in Sacramento.

Morales and two CSUSB volunteer leaders (Mark Edwards, vice president of the CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation Board, and Dia Poole, CSUSB alumna and president of the CSU Alumni Council) met with members of the CSUSB's legislative delegation to ask for their support of the trustees’ funding request for 2017-18, which would help more students achieve their dream of a college education.

Morales also met with Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and other CSU presidents, and talked about Graduation Initiative 2025, closing achievement gaps, and how the CSU serves as a springboard to upward mobility for students and their families.

Vietnamese university 60th anniversary

In November 2016, Morales and Tatiana Karmanova, dean of the College of the Extended University, joined National Economics University in Vietnam to celebrate their 60th anniversary.

“Cal State San Bernardino is proud of its partnership with such a prominent and highly respected institution of higher education,” said Morales in his opening speech. “I believe the cooperation between our two universities will continue to strengthen and expand our ability to help students succeed.”

Making college a priority

As part of California State University’s 12th annual Super Sunday higher education outreach, Morales spoke during two services at Life Church of God in Christ in Riverside to encourage the college preparation, enrollment and graduation rates of African-American students from underserved communities.

“We’ve had this tradition for over a decade to really emphasize the need to increase the African-American student body, increase the number of African-American faculty and staff who are employed by the university,” Morales said.

More than 100,000 congregants, students and their families received the Super Sunday message when CSU leaders, including Chancellor White, spoke at more than 100 churches across the state in February. The outreach is showing positive results.

“This past year, we have turned around a 10-year decline in the number of students, African-American students from underserved communities,” Morales said. “Applications were up 11 percent. Admissions for freshmen is up 24 percent from 2015.”

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The evening featured presentations, performances, and awards. CSUSB alumni Lou Monville, '94, and Elizabeth Sanchez-Monville, '98, were honored for their accomplishments at the CSUSB President’s Showcase held in late April at the Riverside Convention Center. Their dedication and ongoing work with CSUSB and the community has been an inspiration to students and alumni, said President Tomás D. Morales.

Poetry Professor Juan Delgado, '83, and students representing CSUSB’s Associated Students Inc. and the Model United Nations team gave presentations. Additionally, alumnae Denise Tillman, '14, and Kaylee DeLeon, '17, performed “For Good” from the musical “Wicked.”

Although the gala has ended, the impact continues as proceeds from the event are being used to sponsor student success initiatives.

Strengthening Academic Partnerships

At the end of 2016, Morales and Dalian University President Chengsheng Pan from China signed a memorandum of understanding that will promote academic cooperation and strengthen educational, cultural, and technological ties between the universities.

The agreement promotes the continuing internationalization of the two universities by providing students the opportunity to explore different cultures and study abroad. Such opportunities will help prepare them for professional careers across cultural boundaries in an increasingly global economy.

Meet and greet Beijing Technology

Morales met with representatives from Beijing Technology and Business (BTBU), China at CSUSB in November 2016 in efforts to strengthen and continue the partnership between the two universities, and to increase internationalization for students.

The partnership between the two schools started in 2011 when then CSUSB President Albert K. Kanrig, Rong Chen, CSUSB professor and interim associated vice president for Academic & International Programs, and Xiwen Zhang, China academic program director, visited BTBU. Since then, BTBU has sent a few students to CSUSB under the 3+1+1.5 agreement. Additionally, BTBU has been trying to apply for funds to subsidize CSUSB students for studying at the university.

International education is a priority at CSUSB with more than 1,400 international students enrolled at CSUSB, placing the university in the top 25 of all master’s degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States. CSUSB hopes to offer even more opportunities for students to study abroad.

“Many of our incoming freshmen have rarely ventured beyond the neighborhood where they grew up,” said Morales. “Their neighborhood has been their world. With our help, the world can become their neighborhood.”

Hosting Vietnamese Delegation

For the last five years, the partnership between CSUSB and National Economics University in Hanoi, Vietnam, has enabled three cohorts of students to transfer to CSUSB to complete their bachelor’s in administration.

Students enroll in a collaborative 2+2 upper division program. During their first two years at NEU, students complete part of their coursework for the degree and also take English language and academic preparation courses under the supervision of CSUSB’s resident director. After completing the last two years at CSUSB, students earn a bachelor’s degree in administration with a concentration in finance.

On May 15, CSUSB hosted a delegation from NEU in which Morales signed an agreement extending the 2+2 Cooperative Agreement for five more years.

The eight-member delegation also met with their academic counterparts at CSUSB to discuss a variety of possible future joint ventures, including online courses, faculty exchange, and a study abroad program for CSUSB students. The visit included a tour of the campus and a meeting with 2+2 students currently studying at CSUSB.
The First Fellow
Director of CSUSB Anthropology Museum First CSU Member to Serve in SIMA Fellowship Program

Out of the 23 CSU campuses across California, Cal State San Bernardino is the first to have a faculty member serve in the prestigious SIMA Fellowship program.

Anthropology assistant professor Arianna Huhn, who is director of the CSUSB Anthropology Museum, was selected to work this summer as a Smithsonian Fellow at the National Museum of Natural History’s annual Summer Institute for Museum Anthropology (SIMA), developing a course on material culture based research methods.

“To be named a Smithsonian Fellow, it’s a badge of distinction,” said Rafik Mohamed, dean of the CSUSB College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. “It’s a very selective program, and she has a tremendous academic background.”

According to Huhn, who has participated in field work in Mozambique and Ghana, Africa, she will be working as a kind of anthropologist during her fellowship.

“Anthropologists, cultural anthropology, is really about observing and seeing how things are done and learning from that,” said Huhn. “It’s such an amazing experience, going through the back halls of the Smithsonian.”

For Mohamed, Huhn’s accomplishment demonstrates the quality of the CSUSB faculty.

President Morales Startles Four CSUSB Professors with Top Faculty Awards

Each honoree was recognized at the annual end-of-the-year faculty awards luncheon and during their college’s graduation ceremony in June.

These four professors — Karen Kolehmainen, Susan Jindra, Eugene Wong and David Polcyn — were nominated by fellow faculty members and students for their exceptional, dedicated and inspiring work with colleagues, students, the university and the Inland Empire.

Physics professor Kolehmainen received the inaugural Outstanding Service Award for her dedication to the CSUSB community and surrounding area for more than 25 years.

Morales and a group of faculty and administrators surprised Kolehmainen on April 11 during a meeting for the university’s Faculty Senate, where she serves as chair and as a member of the faculty senate executive committee.

That evening, the group made its way to the College of Education where they surprised Jindra, a full-time instructor in the Educational Leadership and Technology Department, with the Outstanding Lecturer Award. One nominator described Jindra as a “kind-hearted faculty member who has long exemplified a high level of commitment to education and to the CSUSB community.”

The next day, the group surprised Wong at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences with the Outstanding Professor award, which highlights his distinguished record as a teacher as well as his impressive history of research and service to the university and community.

Twelve years earlier, the psychology professor received the Golden Apple Award, making him only the fourth CSUSB faculty member to receive both of the university’s top faculty awards.

A day later, on April 13, Morales and his group presented the Golden Apple Award for teaching excellence to Polcyn, a biology professor in the College of Natural Sciences. He was chosen for his passion for teaching, commitment to students in science education and dedication to assuring K-12 students throughout the region receive quality science education.

“To have our name, CSUSB’s name, out there in front among all of these different people from all around the globe, our faculty can do really great things,” said Dean Rafik Mohamed. “We have faculty in this college like Dr. Huhn who can work anywhere.”
The college was recognized for its unique commitment to student learning, while providing opportunities for students to gain the skills required to be successful in business.

“In an effort to be more than a degree, the Jack H. Brown College seeks experiential learning opportunities for our students, and this is an excellent example of the impact such activities have on our students, community stakeholders and faculty,” said Lawrence Rose, dean of the college.

As part of the selection process, the nominations were reviewed by a panel of corporate leaders from a variety of disciplines, including venture capital, consulting and accounting. The college was recognized for its submission centered on the Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship (IECE), which supports and promotes entrepreneurship on campus and in the community through education, mentoring and startup support, business advisory services and advocacy.

“The recognition by AACSB is validation that our team of staff and faculty at IECE are delivering impactful and creative programs that support the entrepreneurial development of students and the community,” said IECE director Mike Stull.

“Winning the Graduate Research Fellowship Program is a huge shock and honor. I’m really excited about it,” said Ruddle, who lives in Riverside. “Applying for it was probably one of the hardest things I’ve ever done in my academic career. I’m really thrilled.”
LEAD VIII: Eight Years of Latino Education Projects

For the last eight years, the LEAD Organization at CSUSB has been making the effort to bring more awareness to the issues affecting Latinos and education, and ways to create positive educational outcomes for the Latino community.

The annual LEAD summit, which stands for Latino Education Advocacy Days, took place on March 30 at Cal State San Bernardino with the theme “Sin Fronteras — Education Beyond Borders.”

LEAD serves as a primary site for a set of innovative and productive programs, publications and events for Latinos and education. The free, one-day event, which averages 1,100 attendees annually, brings together an array of people, including teaching professionals and educators, researchers, academics, scholars, adminis-

trators, writers, artists, policy and program specialists, students, parents, civic leaders, activists and advocates.

This year’s keynote speakers were Eloy Ortiz Oakley, chancellor of the California Community Colleges, and Enrique Salomón Rosas Ramírez, the chief consul for Mexico in San Bernardino. Frank and Eloise Reyes were named the honorary chairs, or the padrino y madrina de honor. Frank is a CSUSB alumnus on the San Bernardino Community College District Board, and Eloise represents the area’s 47th District in the state Assembly. •

Although it may be difficult to decipher at first, much of the time, beauty can blossom after tragedy. This rang true exactly one year af-

ter the December 2, 2015 shootings at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino when the CSUSB com-
munity joined in unity for a peace garden dedication and night of re-

membrance to honor the victims and survivors of the attacks.

Months prior to the dedication, CSUSB student groups came to-
gather and sold “SB Strong” t-shirts to raise money for the garden. Thanks to their hard work, on De-
cember 2, 2016, a five-sided peace garden memorial next to the CSUSB Chemical Sciences Building was
dedicated in the memory of the 14 people killed just one year before.

Five of the victims were CSUSB alumni: Robert Adams (public health education, 2011); Juan Espinoza (biology, 2002); Shannon Johnson (environmental health sci-
ence, 2004); Yvette Velasco (envi-
ronmental health science, 2013); and Michael Wetzel (biology, 2001).

Speakers from religious organi-
zations, law enforcement, federal agencies and other programs deliv-

ered heartfelt messages during the event, while attendees placed white roses atop the memorial. In addi-
tion, a bell that hangs above the peace garden was rung 14 times, once for each victim of the attack. •

Victims and Survivors Honored One Year after Tragedy

Show your Coyote Pride – Wear Black & Blue

Join us for a day full of festivities that includes:

- Homecoming Parade,
- Homecoming Bash
- And concludes with Women’s Volleyball Homecoming Game vs. Cal Poly Pomona

CSUSBAlumni

Full listing of events at homecoming.csusb.edu
Enriched sense of COMMUNITY

New Student Housing Complex and Faculty-In-Residence Program

By Julie Bas

Enhance Residential Life, Shift Perception as a Commuter Campus

When it comes to improving student recruitment and retention while simultaneously strengthening the collegiate experience, few universities are as committed as CSUSB. For years, the university has striven to give students a more active and dynamic learning environment, while also making a bold shift to become more of a residential community. Today, that effort is advancing by leaps and bounds.

As the 2016 fall term began last September, CSUSB officially broke ground on a brand new student housing and dining facility, located at the east end of campus. It is the largest single capital project in university history, costing $95.8 million and encompassing 164,000 square feet. CSUSB expects to have the complex completed by the start of the 2018 fall quarter. Upon completion, the initial phase of the new multipurpose complex will augment housing to accommodate 416 incoming full-time freshmen and further the university’s master plan to ultimately house 5,000 students. The university presently has three student housing facilities — Arrowhead Village, University Village and Serrano Village, which combined have capacity for nearly 1,500 students. This latest construction will increase that number significantly. And as CSUSB’s enrollment grows, the new residential community will eventually serve nearly 1,200 additional students.

The new student housing and dining commons will enhance the university’s role by providing students a living and learning environment that will help them succeed academically.

Construction of the new complex, coupled with the fall 2016 launch of CSUSB’s Faculty-in-Residence (F-I-R) program, have signaled an evolution in campus life. This monumental step gives CSUSB momentum as it expands its well-rounded student living and learning community.

By Julie Bos

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Building Relationships: Living Learning Communities in Action

Another milestone toward achieving a stronger community came when CSUSB created the university’s first Faculty-in-Residence program last fall. This gave four new faculty members and their families the opportunity to live in a residential community on campus, providing both students and professors a chance to become acquainted and learn about each other on a personal level.

“Another milestone toward achieving a stronger community came when CSUSB created the university’s first Faculty-in-Residence program last fall. This gave four new faculty members and their families the opportunity to live in a residential community on campus, providing both students and professors a chance to become acquainted and learn about each other on a personal level.”

According to Jordan Fullam — one of four faculty members chosen for the 2016-17 F-I-R program — living on campus amongst students provides benefits and joys he never dreamed possible. An assistant professor of teacher education in the College of Education, Fullam currently resides in University Village with his wife, Tiana.

“The number one benefit is being able to develop really great relationships with students outside of the classroom through co-curricular opportunities, creating an environment conducive to student learning and academic success.”

To nurture those relationships, Fullam and his wife host a monthly open house in their apartment — called Socrates Café. It’s a casual time to welcome students with coffee and pastries, and process life together. Sometimes they offer informal advising. Other times, they talk through specific challenges — or the big questions of life and learning.

Fullam also hosts weekly “jam sessions.” Every Sunday night, students come to his apartment with their guitars, ukuleles, portable keyboards and hand drums and have fun as they share their love of music. It’s been a

Where the university has consistently been adding more student housing over the past decade, it is now adding new types of spaces and changing the way they will be used. That shift — combined with faculty now living among students — will profoundly affect how students experience college life at CSUSB, how well they perform academically, and the public’s perception of CSUSB as being strictly a commuter campus.

An Equation for Student Success

“We know the significance of students living on campus,” said Dr. Brian Haynes, Vice President of Student Affairs. “Research data from across the country clearly shows students who live on campus tend to do better academically, tend to graduate at higher rates, have more interaction with faculty and staff, and tend to be more engaged in campus life. We know building more on-campus student housing will enhance our retention and graduation rates. And there are additional things that can’t even be quantified — like a sense of community, a sense of belonging.”

For CSUSB, recognizing the ultimate goal helped assist in the new facility’s design. Along with new student housing, the community will have dedicated space for student advising and academic support, the Honors Program, two Faculty-in-Residence apartments, a community kitchen, and multipurpose rooms for meetings, studying and even gaming.

The new dining commons will be equally impressive — offering a two-level, multi-faceted campus dining facility. With an expected capacity of nearly 700 customers, the initial seating layout will be approximately 500. Two dining experiences are slated for this location — giving students multiple options and more flexibility.

“Our goal was to create a very modern and unique residential facility that helps students be academically successful,” said John Yaun, executive director of Housing and Residential Education. “We will offer Honors courses as well as tutoring and study groups, plus we’ll have a faculty in residence living there, too. It’s designed as a very intentional and purposeful experience, as opposed to just being a place to sleep. We’re really excited about it — and the great experience it will offer our students.”

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As CSUSB continues its exciting housing and expansion efforts, the real winners are students, who can now experience college life in a whole new way.

Cassandra Butcho, who supervises the Resident Assistant for Black Residential Scholars in Arrowhead Village, especially enjoys feeling like she fits in with a community that challenges her, while also offering tremendous support.

“I love being able to live with individuals who are similar to me, and I love the programming put on specifically for my community,” said Cassandra. “The support system is one of a kind, and I feel as if my identity really matters. I feel like I’m at home.”

Meanwhile, in other Living Learning Communities, some students get the chance to interact with their professors. Nadia Baez, a sociology student, is also an RA living in University Village alongside members of the Faculty-in-Residence Program.

“It’s been incredible to see what these professors are like when they’re ‘off duty,’” said Nadia. “Many students think of university professors as people to put on pedestals, who are somehow only professors; when in reality, the professors are also fathers, mothers, wives, husbands, musicians, chefs and so much more. The best part of living here has been getting to know the FIrS personally.”

Alex Gutierrez, in his role as CSUSB’s former student body president, has seen the power of Living Learning Communities in the lives of many students he knows. And he knows what that power can mean for their academic success.

“Living learning communities enable rapid educational success because of the support system that surrounds you,” said Alex. “The people around you become your new family who push your academic and professional standard to a new limit. Plus, LLCs provide lifelong friendships, and the skills you learn while living on campus are the skills you carry and embody for the rest of your life.”

Great Things Ahead
Going forward, CSUSB expects good things to come from its intentional commitment to Living Learning Communities.

“We’re excited for this new housing complex to come on line and allow us to offer an all-new living/learning community for our students,” said Dr. Haynes. “We expect to see some immediate results in student retention and over the long term. We believe we’ll see some exciting improvements in graduation rates, too.”

When Rosyli Reveron-Thorton begins medical school at Stanford University this fall, she’ll go there with a solid foundation she built while a student at Cal State San Bernardino.

With undergraduate (2012) and graduate (2014) degrees in biology, and a strong solid background in research, Reveron-Thorton says, “CSUSB really prepared me for the future in a number of ways.”

The faculty, she says, pushed her to excel. “(They showed me) ‘This is what the world is, this is what medicine will be like. You have to learn how to perform in your top level.’ I really got into the habit of doing that.”

The diversity of the students at CSUSB gave her the opportunity to work and communicate with people from different backgrounds, she says. “I think that was one of the things that helped me in my (medical school) interviews, that I can talk to a variety of people, whether they be doctors or students, or high school students.”

And the research opportunities available to her and other students provided valuable experience that will serve her well in medical school, primarily her internship at the City of Hope, a premiere cancer treatment and research center, through the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine Bridges to Stem Cell Research Grant.

“My research here, particularly in the CRIM Bridges Scholar Program, took me to another level, and really prepared me to get into places like Yale and Stanford,” Reveron-Thorton says.

One of her CSUSB biology professors, Nicole Bournais-Vardabasis, recalls that Reveron-Thorton initially questioned whether she belonged, but quickly outgrew that. And after she went to the City of Hope, the professor saw a dramatic change in her student, that she was determined to achieve her goals and would not let anyone keep her from them.

“It is obviously tough to use just one word that represents a human being,” Bournais-Vardabasis says. “But I would say that Rosy is driven, and that will allow her to have the greatest success.”

An immigrant who came to the U.S. as an infant, Reveron-Thorton says her motivation to succeed stems from the sacrifices her parents made. “The fact that they sacrificed so much, I really have to make the best of my situation, and really accomplish whatever I can to let them know that their sacrifices meant something.”

And CSUSB was the best place for her to begin that journey.

“What you can get here is very, very unique,” she says. “And if you really have a drive to do something or go somewhere, this is the perfect place for you to come. There’s so much diversity here, there’s so much education here, and the opportunities are endless.”
Feature: Al Karnig

It was with care, dedication and determination that Karnig helped mold CSUSB into a university ready to meet the needs of the region’s growing population, diversity and demand for higher education in an area where less than 20 percent of the residents had college degrees.

Under his leadership, the university saw records in enrollment, diversity of faculty and students, grant and contract funding, fundraising and international program development. African-American and Latino enrollments were each the second highest of any California public university and it also had highest or second highest African-American and Latino retention rates among the 23 CSU campuses.

His accomplishments included:

- the creation of the President’s Academic Scholars Program;
- the launching of its first doctoral program, MFA and engineering programs; the initiation of year-round schedule of classes at the same cost as school-year classes; and holding winter commencements.

CSUSB also grew physically with the construction of 13 new buildings. Student housing also increased with the acquisition of property across the street from the campus that is now University Village.

His commitment to the higher education needs of the Coachella Valley led to the university raising more than $40 million toward the construction of the four-building, non-state funded Palm Desert Campus.

Karnig also formed partnerships with educational, business, community and civic leaders to benefit the region especially future generations of students and residents.

Karnig was not a one-man operation. He was the first to admit that his success in leading CSUSB and in the community was also due to his wife Marilyn, who served as an outstanding advocate to the university. She was also very active on campus serving on the university’s scholarship campaign board and the CSUSB Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art board.

Perhaps his greatest contribution in his 15 years of leading the university was as an enabler in that CSUSB played a vital and highly successful role in educating students through the care and dedication of faculty and staff who don’t just teach, but who teach so that students actually learn.

In 1997, Albert K. Karnig became Cal State San Bernardino’s third president. The university was poised for dynamic growth and achievement as one of the leading institutions of higher education in the region academically, physically and in its outreach to the community.

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Hundreds of CSUSB Students, Faculty and Staff Volunteered Through the IE Region for Coyote Cares Day

Clean-up … Beautification … Restoration …

Numerous volunteers pampered and renewed designated areas in the local community as part of Cal State San Bernardino’s Fifth Annual Coyote Cares Day on April 29.

Coyote Cares Day, which is part of National Volunteer Week, is a day of volunteer service that provides CSUSB members with an understanding of the work of nonprofit organizations, and gives them the opportunity to provide services to disadvantaged residents. Hundreds of volunteers work at various nonprofit agencies, schools and neighborhood associations throughout the region as well as the university campus.

“Members of the CSUSB family — students, faculty, staff and alumni — come together as volunteers to complete projects that benefit local nonprofit organizations and community agencies as our way of thanking the community for their support of our university,” said Diane Podolske, director of the university’s Office of Community Engagement.

More than 700 CSUSB students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni registered to participate and completed more than 3,000 hours of service work. Numerous areas in the city of San Bernardino were improved, including Central City Lutheran Mission, SOAR Charter Academy, Pioneer Cemetery and more.

The university’s Office of Community Engagement, Associated Students, Inc., Office of Student Engagement, Recreation and Wellness, the Office of Special Events and Guest Services, and Sodexo supported the annual event.

“Students are more energized and motivated since we established the Community section. They are eagerly pitching new topic ideas from San Bernardino and surrounding cities,” said Mariam Betlemidze, assistant professor in the communication studies department and the faculty advisor of Coyote Chronicle. “The support from the Los Angeles Times is helping our journalism students expand and develop their sense of community.”

The Inside Scoop: Veteran Journalist Speaks to Students

Cal State San Bernardino journalism students had the opportunity to get inside information and tips from Davan Maharaj, then editor-in-chief and publisher of the Los Angeles Times, when he visited the CSUSB campus in early February.

The free event, which was also open to the rest of the campus community, was conducted as part of the newspaper’s support of student journalism programs at the university and in the community.

Maharaj spoke to editors and reporters from the Coyote Chronicle, the university’s student newspaper, along with CSUSB students in print, online journalism, nonfiction reporting and media classes. He discussed new perspectives for journalism in 2017, the role of social media in journalism and ways to help readers see the stories and people behind the statistics in today’s data-rich media environment.

Maharaj’s lecture was part of the newspaper’s commitment to a new community journalism initiative in San Bernardino. In October 2016, the Times donated its $10,000 cash prize from the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking New Reporting it received for its coverage of the Dec. 2, 2015, terrorist attack in San Bernardino to journalism programs at the university and nearby Cajon High School.

The donation is funding a new community journalism initiative at the Coyote Chronicle, including a student editor dedicated to on-the-ground reporting on and off campus.
Making a Difference

CSUSB Partners with Give Something Back for $1 Million in Scholarships for At-Risk Students

Imagine how much of an impact $1 million can make. Cal State San Bernardino helped make a million-dollar difference by partnering with Give Something Back, an organization that provides scholarships and mentoring to low-income students in five states. This partnership established a statewide $1 million college scholarship program to change the lives of students who have faced extreme hardship, particularly those with an incarcerated parent or those who have spent time in foster care.

“These are students who could use a break,” said Robert O. Carr, the founder and chairman of Give Something Back. “Cal State San Bernardino has demonstrated remarkable success in working with students who might otherwise not have the opportunity to go to college, and we are very proud to partner with them.”

Carr introduced the program and presented the $1 million check to university officials on May 9 in the CSUSB College of Education atrium.

The funds will create the Charles and Shelby Obershaw Endowment for Student Success, a fund that will support the social and academic success of students in CSUSB’s Education- al Opportunity Program (EOP) Renaissance Scholar program, the DHS Food Pantry in the Office of Community Engagement, and the entrepreneurship program in the Jack H. Brown College of Business and Public Administration.

“Chuck and Shelby are two extraordinary people, from their visionary business leadership to their philanthropy and generosity,” said university President Tomás D. Morales. “This gift will make a remarkable difference in the lives of students across campus and help us propel the economic growth of San Bernardino.”

The couple, who were awarded honorary doctorates in 2006, said in a joint statement: “This commitment is not only for scholarships but to help keep students in school, especially foster youth, many of whom lose their support system at age 18. They may need help to pay for housing, food and clothing, as well as for books and supplies.”

The Obershaw’s endowed scholarship programs have touched 161 students to date, with 87 percent earning at least one degree in the areas of business, athletics and education.

“Their generosity and support of CSUSB have had a profound impact on the lives of students who could have otherwise not have the opportunity to go to college,” said President Tomás D. Morales. “We are deeply honored to partner with Bob Carr and Give Something Back in this truly remarkable program.”

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Robert O. Carr, founder and chairman of Give Something Back

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The Obershaws
Nearly Three Decades of Generous Support

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In mid-May, CSUSB celebrated its Hall of Fame Class of 2017, which included Laura Beeman, basketball; John Major, baseball; Jackie Powers Knopke, soccer; and Larry Reynolds, basketball.

Beeman played two record-setting years as point guard for CSUSB in 1989-91. Major played baseball at CSUSB in the mid '90s with his senior season becoming the best ever by a Coyote. After 25 years, Knopke, who earned her bachelor's in kinesiology, remains CSUSB's all-time leader in all nine offensive categories in soccer.

Reynolds coached men's basketball at CSUSB from 1997 to 2002. Within his five seasons, his teams won two NCAA Regional titles, three straight CCAA titles and earned four consecutive NCAA Tournament berths.

After 26 years of coaching the CSUSB volleyball team, Kim Cherniss continues to mold great volleyball players into outstanding ones with a proven track record of 600 wins. In March, Cherniss was honored for bringing so many victories to the CSUSB athletic family.

For years, Cherniss has been praised for her impressive coaching skills and winning streaks. After 26 seasons, she was honored as the Coyote of the Week in the Coyote Chronicle for her hitting her 400th win.
Cal State San Bernardino honored two exemplary community leaders with doctorates of humane letters at the university’s 2017 Commencement ceremonies in June: Rabbi Hillel Cohn and Lou Monville.

RABBI HILLEL COHN
For over 50 years, Cohn has guided the Jewish community in the greater San Bernardino area and has been a leader in a number of civic and charitable organizations and committees.

Cohn, an immigrant from Germany whose family fled to escape Nazism, served as rabbi of Congregation Emanu El in San Bernardino from 1963 to 2001 and was named rabbi emeritus of the synagogue. From 2014 to 2015 he returned to lead the congregation, which is now located in Redlands. In his retirement, he has served congregations in Las Vegas and Palm Desert, and currently serves as rabbi of the Sun City Jewish Congregation in Palm Desert.

Cohn was honored at the university’s College of Social and Behavioral Sciences commencement.

“It is a truly deep honor to be awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by California State University, San Bernardino, an institution that I have watched grow from its very beginnings into the fine educational institution it is today,” Cohn said.

LOU MONVILLE
Lou Monville, a CSUSB alumnus and former chair of the CSU Board of Trustees who served 10 years, was awarded at the university’s College of Arts and Letters graduation ceremony.

Monville, who graduated with a bachelor’s in communication, served as president of the CSUSB Associated Students, Inc. as an undergraduate, and continued to serve the university after graduation. He participated in the Coyote Athletics Association; the CSUSB Alumni Association board, including serving as president; the Ambassadors for Higher Education; the CSUSB Philanthropic Foundation Board of Directors; and the CSUSB Advisory Board. He currently serves on the CSUSB President’s Advancement Council and Communications Studies Department Advisory Board.

“I am humbled; there is no greater honor one can receive than an honorary doctorate from your alma mater,” Monville said.
CSUSB Online Course Receives the University’s First Quality Matters Certification

An online course developed by public administration Professor Montgomery Van Wart in the Jack H. Brown College of Business and Public Administration has become the first online course at Cal State San Bernardino to receive Quality Matters certification, the national standard of quality in online and blended courses.

Van Wart’s course, Public Administration 662 — Human Resource Management in the Public Sector, received certification on its first review.

“While online teaching has some challenges, it can frequently lead to a better learning environment than a purely face-to-face environment with a higher level of customized teaching.” Van Wart said. “A particular point of pride for me are the high-quality lectures that I have put together for each of my online classes. Good 25 minute lectures take about 35 hours to complete. Another point of pride is the series of electronic speakers that I coordinate for each topic.”

A course candidate for Quality Matters certification undergoes a systematic and exhaustive peer-review process conducted by a team of three certified QM peer reviewers who evaluate the alignment of the course’s learning objectives to the module-level objectives, the course’s assessment process, and the quality and technological sophistication of the learning activities in the course.

Factors such as the meaningfulness of learners’ interactions throughout the course weigh heavily in the final review score. To pass the review, a course has to meet more than 85 percent of the standards.

“Congratulations to Professor Monty Van Wart on this significant accomplishment,” said Sam Sudhakar, CSUSB’s vice president of Information Technologies Services. “The ITS team is proud to foster and support quality and innovation led by our faculty!”

CSUSB Students in United Nations Program Obtain Honors in New York City

CSUSB’s Model United Nations program continued its tradition of excellence at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York City that took place April 9 through 13.

The CSUSB students represented the Republic of Ireland and Amnestiy International at the conference. This was only the fourth time that the Model UN program at CSUSB represented two separate delegations — a Member State of the UN and a Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) with consultative status at the UN.

Each team earned Outstanding Delegation and Distinguished Delegation honors. The students also earned three Outstanding Position Papers in Committee and one Outstanding Delegate(s) in Committee, an award bestowed by student peers.

Taken together, and in the context of CSUSB’s honors earned in the National Model UN and international Model UN conferences in the last 27 years, the awards place the university among the top programs in the world.

“This is highly impressive as around 75 percent of the entire delegation were brand new to Model UN. The majority of our students have never been to any MUN conference,” said Kevin Grisham, program faculty adviser.

More than 3,000 students worldwide attended this year’s conference, with delegations from American University in Cairo, Erasmus University Rotterdam and University of New Haven, and nearby institutions, such as Riverside City College and Cal State Fullerton.

Future Nurses Enter Field with Inaugural White Coat Ceremony

To celebrate their rite of passage into the medical field, about 40 Cal State San Bernardino beginning nursing students received white coats and lapel pins during the inaugural CSUSB White Coat Ceremony in late April.

“The purpose of our inaugural CSUSB White Coat Ceremony is to introduce our beginning nursing students to the concept of compassion, humanism and excellence before they enter the nursing profession,” said Claudia Davis, an associate professor in the nursing department. “The guiding principle is if they understand what compassion is now, they will practice delivering compassionate, humanistic care as students and thus will continue to do so after they graduate.”

The students took a ceremonial oath to deliver the best care to their patients, and that compassion and empathy must be the hallmark of their clinical practice.

The ceremony, and a similar event held at the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus in December, was made possible with a $1,000 grant from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation to support the Gold-AACN White Coat Ceremony for Nursing.
CSUSB Alumni is celebrating our first graduating class of Golden Grads.

50 years ago, 59 students walked across our first graduation stage.

Golden Grad Luncheon – Sunday, Sept. 17
Alumni Mixer – Retired alumni, faculty and staff – Sunday, Sept. 17
Golden Grads honored at Convocation & Campus Tour – Monday, Sept. 17

For more information, visit alumni.csusb.edu/goldengrads