

Date: May 13, 2016

To: Campus Community

From: Karen S. Haynes
President

Subject: Appointment of Interim Chief Diversity Officer and AVP for Diversity, Educational Equity and Inclusion

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Cynthia Chavez-Metoyer as the interim Chief Diversity Officer and Associate Vice President for Diversity, Educational Equity and Inclusion. Dr. Chavez-Metoyer will assume the role on June 1, 2016 and work through the fall semester continuing to move key diversity and inclusion initiatives forward, including the Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan, and providing leadership and oversight to the Office of Diversity, Educational Equity and Inclusion. She will provide this leadership, reporting directly to me, simultaneous as we relaunch in the fall our national search utilizing the same search committee.

Dr. Chavez-Metoyer joined Cal State San Marcos in 1994 and is a professor of Political Science in the College of Humanities, Arts, Behavioral and Social Sciences. She has held a number of administrative roles, including department chair and faculty director for the Office of Internships. In 1996-1997, Dr. Chavez-Metoyer served as the President of the Latino Association of Faculty and Staff, and headed the campus project to honor the legacy of César E. Chávez with a statue and plaza naming; she is currently leading a campus project to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the statue installation next spring. In 2009-2010, she led phase III of the Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) taskforce, which completed the steps necessary for CSUSM to apply for and receive Hispanic Serving Institute designation from the U.S. Department of Education. The HSI taskforce developed a structure and process for our Title V grant application, which included development of a process to ensure proposals submitted were culturally inclusive and promote a welcoming environment, and address educational equity and diversity. CSUSM was awarded the HSI grant in 2015.

Dr. Chavez Metoyer holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Northern Arizona University and is recognized for her research and teaching in Latin American politics, comparative politics, and gender and development.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Patricia Prado-Olmos for stepping into the Interim Chief Diversity Officer role this spring. She has assured continued progress on several important diversity activities, not the least of which has been the continued vetting of our Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan.