May 1, 2013

To: The Campus Community

Somehow, April is over and we are already into May. Here are three quick updates about commencement, emergency communications and well-deserved recognition as we enter the homestretch.

**Commencement Ceremonies**

The campus has moved to three commencement ceremonies this year. Thursday, May 30, at 6 p.m., we begin a new ceremony to celebrate our graduate and credential students, and bring more attention to our post-baccalaureate programs. Friday, May 31, undergraduate commencement ceremonies will be held in the morning and afternoon. At 8:30 a.m., we will honor bachelor’s degree students from the College of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and the College of Education, and at 12:30 p.m., we will confer undergrad degrees to graduates from the College of Business Administration and College of Science. I encourage everyone to attend at least one ceremony — commencement is a significant milestone for our students and an important affirmation of the commitment of the entire campus community to student success.

**StanAlert: Emergency Communications**

The sad news events of recent weeks serve as a reminder that we must be prepared in the event of a crisis or emergency on our campus.

I hope by now you are aware of StanAlert, our university’s emergency alert system, which uses email, text messaging and voice calls to notify the campus about the status of a crisis and safety actions recommended by police and other responders.

A system like StanAlert only works when a critical mass of faculty, staff and students are able to receive these timely messages, and thus are able to notify others nearby who might not have gotten the
message. To that end, I need your help:

• **Faculty, Staff, Administrators and ASI Leadership**, please take a moment right now to ensure that your contact information in StanAlert is accurate, complete and up-to-date. You can access your information using your standard CSU Stanislaus login here: [http://www.csustan.edu/emergency/ens/](http://www.csustan.edu/emergency/ens/). (Your information will only be used for emergency notifications and occasional system tests).

• Faculty and ASI Leadership, please explain to students in your classes, meetings and events about StanAlert and its importance and provide the above URL so they can update their information, as well.

• Staff and Administrators, please ensure that your coworkers and any students you interact with are aware of StanAlert and have updated their information in the system.

• For more information about StanAlert and how it works, please refer to [this article](http://www.csustan.edu/emergency/ens/).

**Congratulations to Students, Student-Athletes and Faculty**

Please join me in a round of sincere congratulations for the following achievements that bring the campus considerable pride:

• Research papers from students in the Department of History captured four of six overall excellence awards at the 2013 Northern California Phi Alpha Theta (history honor society) regional meeting.

• Faculty and students from the Department of Music gave an outstanding performance at a Gala Concert sponsored by the Turlock Concert Association on April 25, 2013.

• Three members of the golf team received honors from the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA). Coach John Cook was named the Coach of the Year; Trevor Clayton was voted Freshman of the Year, and Rob Damschen was named Most Valuable Athlete.

• Nearly sixty student athletes were honored for achieving a GPA of 3.25 or higher at an annual academic awards breakfast organized by Kim Duyst and Raichelle Grays of the Athletics Department.

Thanks for reading and for your continued hard work. I look forward to sharing more news with you soon.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Sheley