March 6, 2015

To: The Campus Community

Amid the rush and pressure of all we do in pursuit of excellence at CSU Stanislaus, we need to take a moment to congratulate colleagues who hit the proverbial home run:

Thank you, Nursing colleagues. The CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing has been ranked 26th (only 9 points from first place) among 442 Nursing programs in the western United States by NurseJournal.Org in its "Best Nursing Schools, 2015" rankings.

Nursing’s showing reflects how well the University is doing generally. For example, we have tied for second place and in the top 18 among 233 western universities in the Washington Monthly's "Best Bang for the Buck" rankings.

Individual employees are drawing important attention to CSU Stanislaus as well. The Department of Social Work's Dr. Kilolo Brodie, for instance, will be among the honorees at a reception this month for Governor Brown’s African American appointees (Dr. Brodie was appointed to the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities in 2014). Noelia Gonzalez, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, has been asked to present at the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) hearing this April. And you likely read about Dr. Viji Sundar's receipt of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award by the San Joaquin Engineers Council. Congratulations to each of them and to all of you who make such a difference in our students' and colleagues' lives.

Our Office of University Advancement achieved distinction recently. The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), District VII (western states), chose CSU Stanislaus for a gold award in "Best Practices in Fundraising: Campaigns" and a bronze award in "Targeted Campaigns" for the University's highly successful One Purpose campaign. Congratulations on two well-deserved awards!
Hats off too to the many staffers, administrators and students who produced and facilitated one of the best conferences ever held at CSU Stanislaus. Last Saturday's Education Technology Conference attracted nearly 1,200 participants from the region and beyond. It went off without a hitch and spawned a long list of notes of congratulations and gratitude.

Not to be outdone, our College of Science faculty, staff, and students again put together a great Science Day for regional youth. Their impact on the future of science in the region was underscored last week at the annual Dinner with a Scientist event at which our faculty members and regional scientists hosted dozens of aspiring young science students for dinner on campus.

Perhaps these successes help explain why our proud alumni have moved us into second place among 23 CSU campuses in postings on the CSU "3 Million Alumni" website yearbook. That's right ... second place and closing in on number one. Thanks to all of you who have posted and spread the word to family and friends, and to all of you who soon will.

Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Sheley, President