



Welcome Back
Fall 2026
Academic Affairs Updates



Student Success Updates



- Gustavo Menezes, PhD
- Associate Provost for Student Success
- Student Success Portfolio
 - Undergraduate Education
 - Graduate Education
 - Academic Advising
 - Center for Academic Success
 - First Year Connections



Student Success Updates: Enrollment

First-day FTES is nearly 4% higher than last year.

New first-time freshman enrollment increased by 12.5% compared with Fall 2025.

New transfer enrollment increased by 39.2% compared with Fall 2025.

First-year retention for the Fall 2025 cohort increased by 3% points compared with the Fall 2024 cohort.

Student Success: Summer

- **Orientations**
 - 5,560 students (82.1% of ECD)
- **Summer IHE Course**
 - 150 students completed the course (100%)
 - Led by Library Faculty
- **Cohorting -> focus on community building/retention**
 - 700 students in 8 majors
 - 200 Exploring Majors (Compass Program)
- **Early-Start Passing Rate (500+ students)**
 - ESM1082 81%
 - ESM1090 99%
 - ESC1011 85% -> First year that students completed 1A in Early-Start (before they would complete only 1005A)
- **uAchieve/Degree Planner & Roadmaps**
- **CPL Initiative Infrastructure**
- **Dual Enrollment with Stern MASS**





Office of Student Success: New Team Members

Interim Associate Dean for
Graduate Student Success

Dr. Ya-Chih “Jilly” Chang
Professor, Department of
Special Education and
Counseling



Interim Associate Dean for
Undergraduate Student
Success

Dr. Jessica Morales-Chicas
Professor, Department of Child
And Family Studies



Interim Executive Director
of Student Success and
Advising

Dr. Liudmila Flores
Director of Student Success and
Advising, HHS





Vision for Office of Student Success

- Shift from focusing on the transactional work to intentionally centering the office work on student success.
- Dynamic space where we research and implement initiatives that will transform Cal State LA to better serve our students
- Holistically integrating Graduate Studies to Student Success
- Making the work/experience with the Office of Student Success enjoyable for faculty and staff.
- Making processes and information accessible to students



Contact: Dr. Gustavo Menezes - gmeneze@exchange.calstatela.edu

Faculty Success Updates



- Olukemi Sawyerr, PhD
- Associate Provost for Faculty Success
- Faculty Success Portfolio
 - Office of Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities
 - Center for Effective Teaching and Learning
 - Faculty Professional and Leadership Development



Faculty Success Updates

- ***Faculty Success Strategic Briefing*** by the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
- **[Faculty Success Calendar](#)**
- **Virtual New Faculty Orientation**
 - Wednesday, August 26, 2026
 - Thursday, August 27, 2026
- **RTP consultation for 2nd year probationary faculty**
 - September 1, 2026@10-12pm
- **Admin 101: “So you're thinking about applying for an MPP position”**
 - University Library Community Room
 - September 30, 2027@10-12pm
 - Panel discussion



Faculty Success Updates

- **5 in 5 -- University Library Reading Lounge**

- Wednesday, September 30, 2026@12-1pm -- ORSCA Research Talk
- Wednesday, October 21, 2026@12-1pm, -- Teaching Innovations Talk
- Tuesday, November 10, 2026@12-1pm – ORSCA Research Talk
- Tuesday, December 8, 2026@12-1pm -- Teaching Innovations Talk

- **Launched a year-long reciprocal peer-coaching program**

- **Advancing Career Readiness at Cal State LA symposium**

- Thursday, October 29, 2026@9:30-12pm



Faculty Success Updates

- **Community Building and Design Sprints**

- Wednesday, September 23, 2026@11:30am-2pm – CBE, Education, NSS
- Friday, October 16, 2026@11:30-2pm – Ethnic Studies, HHS, Library
- Tuesday, November 17, 2026@11:30-2pm – Arts and Letters, ECST, Coaches, Counselors
- Monday, December 7, 2026@11:30-2pm – Wrap-Up

- **Winter Break 2027**

- Future Chair Professional Development
- Extramural Funding Workshop

Contact: Dr. Olukemi Sawyerr - osawyerr@calstatela.edu



Academic Affairs Updates

- New People / New Roles –
 - Heather Miller – Director of Academic Resources
 - Karen Salazar – Director of Academic Affairs
 - Mandy Hillstrom – Interim Director of Assessment and Accreditation
- Upcoming Searches –
 - Natural and Social Sciences
 - Associate Dean
 - Dean
 - Professional and Global Education
 - Dean

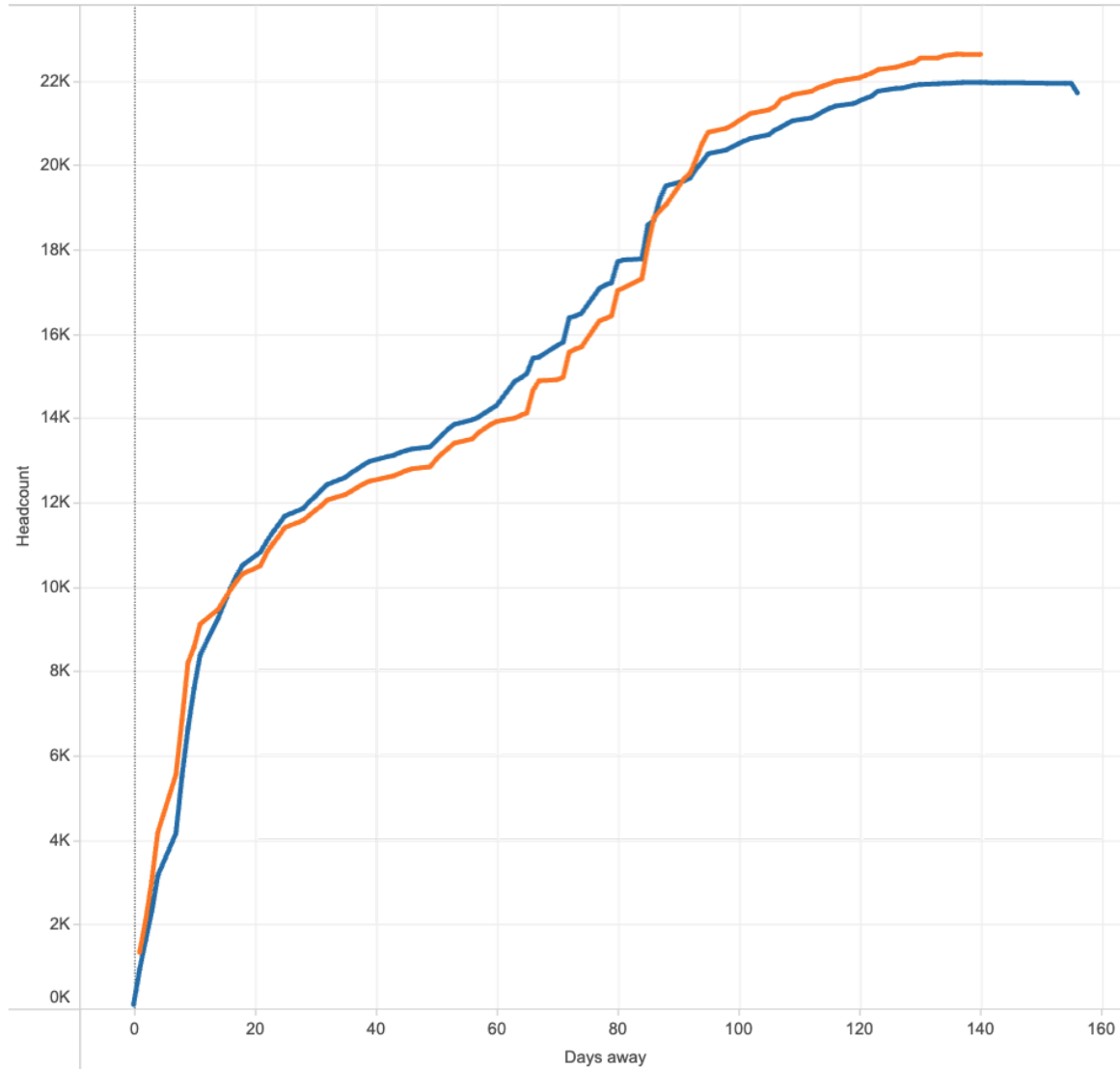
In the past 18 months:

- 15 Administrators retired or moved to new roles
- 5 Administrators continuing
- 8 Searches in 2025-26, 6 Successful Hires
- 2 Positions Eliminated
- 7 Interim Appointments with searches planned for 2026-27



Daily Headcount Trend

Note: Use the "Align the lines by" drop-down menu and adjust the year-to-year comparison by the first day of registration or the first day of instruction.



Align the lines by:

First day of registration ▼

Academic Career:

(All) ▼

Academic Level:

(All) ▼

College:

(All) ▼

Department:

(All) ▼

Plan:

(All) ▼

Subplan (or option):

(All) ▼

Term Year

(Multiple values) ▼

Term Year

Fall 2026

Fall 2025

[Cohort Comparison](#)[First-Time Freshman Cohorts-Detail](#)[New Transfer Cohorts-Detail](#)[All Cohorts View](#)[Student Search](#)[FTF Summary](#)[Transfer Summary](#)

FTF Summary

Data Refreshed as of 08/31/2026

[Graduate365 Training Guides and Videos](#)

View By

Institution

Ethnicity

Parents Education

Institution Description

All

All

All

Institution Description	fa25 cohort as of today	fa24 cohort as of today	fa23 cohort as of today	fa22 cohort as of today	fa21 cohort as of today	fa20 cohort as of today	fa19 cohort as of today
	Enrollment %	Enrollment %	Enrollment %	Graduation %	Graduation %	Graduation %	Graduation %
Cal Poly Humboldt	74.7%	66.2%	59.3%	27.8%	44.7%	45.7%	45.6%
Cal Poly Pomona	88.2%	80.7%	73.7%	36.5%	57.0%	64.0%	70.1%
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	94.6%	90.9%	84.3%	68.2%	82.1%	85.5%	88.5%
California State University Channel Islands	79.0%	65.8%	55.3%	27.6%	46.5%	50.2%	57.1%
California State University East Bay	76.5%	64.4%	53.7%	25.1%	43.4%	49.9%	50.8%
California State University Long Beach	88.1%	80.0%	73.2%	37.1%	63.4%	69.2%	72.1%
California State University Maritime Academy	78.7%	67.9%	63.4%	39.3%	58.5%	58.6%	60.0%
California State University Monterey Bay	74.4%	59.8%	58.1%	42.9%	57.9%	56.4%	63.6%
California State University San Marcos	79.1%	67.5%	60.3%	30.1%	45.3%	50.4%	57.8%
California State University, Bakersfield	80.6%	68.4%	54.9%	35.0%	45.7%	46.6%	50.0%
California State University, Chico	82.6%	72.5%	67.3%	34.1%	54.3%	55.0%	62.2%
California State University, Dominguez Hills	76.7%	66.0%	54.7%	15.3%	30.8%	39.0%	44.6%
California State University, Fresno	83.0%	71.7%	60.3%	30.5%	46.1%	51.9%	61.4%
California State University, Fullerton	85.7%	74.5%	70.5%	39.5%	62.1%	65.7%	70.3%
California State University, Los Angeles	77.9%	62.7%	54.9%	24.2%	42.8%	49.3%	57.1%
California State University, Northridge	73.6%	64.6%	58.5%	25.3%	44.6%	55.7%	59.4%
California State University, Sacramento	80.7%	69.4%	60.9%	28.3%	48.0%	53.6%	57.5%
California State University, San Bernardino	82.3%	67.4%	57.6%	27.7%	46.3%	51.3%	56.2%
California State University, Stanislaus	83.3%	76.8%	64.9%	32.4%	50.8%	53.3%	55.3%
San Diego State University	91.3%	83.6%	76.9%	66.7%	76.2%	79.4%	79.4%
San Francisco State University	85.7%	69.9%	59.3%	32.3%	47.8%	51.6%	53.6%
San Jose State University	86.8%	75.9%	70.8%	36.1%	58.6%	67.3%	70.0%
Sonoma State University	76.0%	59.2%	50.3%	33.3%	51.1%	59.7%	56.4%
Grand Total	84.4%	74.2%	66.6%	38.2%	55.7%	60.8%	64.3%

NOTE : Data on this page contain student record level information that is protected by FERPA regulations. All data on this page should be treated as confidential.

Information shown on this dashboard is updated daily.



Transfer Summary

Data Refreshed as of 08/31/2026
[Graduate365 Training Guides and Videos](#)

View By

Institution

Ethnicity

Parents Education

Institution Description ▼

All ▼

All ▼

All ▼

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Cal Poly Humboldt	86.1%	42.6%	65.5%	74.8%	80.4%
Cal Poly Pomona	93.7%	32.1%	64.7%	77.6%	80.8%
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	95.1%	60.9%	85.6%	90.0%	91.3%
California State University Channel Islands	85.8%	49.0%	70.7%	75.7%	74.3%
California State University East Bay	83.1%	43.5%	66.5%	76.7%	76.8%
California State University Long Beach	90.1%	42.8%	74.2%	83.5%	82.9%
California State University Maritime Academy	80.0%	2.8%	34.5%	44.4%	55.3%
California State University Monterey Bay	86.7%	55.8%	81.9%	85.9%	81.6%
California State University San Marcos	86.1%	37.4%	69.7%	78.9%	73.6%
California State University, Bakersfield	83.6%	48.1%	70.4%	75.7%	76.5%
California State University, Chico	85.0%	43.8%	73.2%	78.7%	80.7%
California State University, Dominguez Hills	84.2%	36.6%	66.3%	71.7%	69.2%
California State University, Fresno	89.3%	40.6%	71.8%	77.7%	77.6%
California State University, Fullerton	91.3%	41.7%	72.1%	79.8%	82.7%
California State University, Los Angeles	87.0%	42.0%	69.8%	78.8%	76.9%
California State University, Northridge	87.1%	41.6%	70.5%	78.3%	78.4%
California State University, Sacramento	83.8%	40.1%	70.6%	78.8%	77.6%
California State University, San Bernardino	87.6%	51.2%	73.8%	77.6%	78.4%
California State University, Stanislaus	83.0%	45.6%	69.6%	74.6%	77.0%
San Diego State University	90.7%	65.2%	82.3%	85.9%	87.5%
San Francisco State University	89.0%	46.4%	69.8%	79.0%	75.9%
San Jose State University	90.3%	35.7%	69.2%	77.2%	79.2%
Sonoma State University	84.2%	57.1%	78.0%	80.8%	80.9%
Grand Total	88.1%	44.4%	72.1%	79.2%	79.1%

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Academic Affairs Updates

Cal State LA | Academic Plan 2026 Quick Reference

Transformational Learning, Career Readiness, and Community Uplift



Priorities

Provide all students with mentored, degree-embedded opportunities for **career exploration, purpose development**, and community engagement.

Deepen and expand **regional partnerships**.

Invest in **culturally responsive learning** that uplifts and reflects our students' identities and lived experiences.

Align with CSU systemwide and campus initiatives to **close equity gaps**.

Metrics

- 100% of undergraduate and graduate students complete at least one mentored, career-relevant, high-impact learning experience.
- 100% of colleges build deep and sustained partnerships with LA-based employer or community partners.
- 90%+ of graduating students report increased agency and readiness to make meaningful impact in communities, careers, or advanced study.

Flexible Pathways that Serve Expanded Audiences



Priorities

Launch **degree pathways** that respond to evolving student demand.

Strengthen **credit mobility** for transfer and returning students.

Develop a robust **credit for prior learning** infrastructure.

Expand partnerships, pathways, and programs that support **adult learners**, justice-impacted communities, veterans, and mid-career professionals.

Metrics

- 10+ new or redesigned pathways launched.
- 25% of new mid-career learners earn Credit for Prior Learning.
- State and/or national recognition for serving adult learners, justice-impacted communities, and veterans.

Strong Foundations for Operational Success



Priorities

Streamline and integrate curricular, administrative, and support systems.

Strengthen **pro-active advising**, enhanced tutoring support, information and technology literacy, and early interventions.

Increase support for **faculty-led research**, scholarship, and creative activity.

Sustain balanced and manageable workloads and grow **professional development** for faculty and staff.

Metrics

- Retention rates increase 3%+ each year for Fall 2026-2028 cohorts.
- Student, faculty, and staff surveys indicate 90%+ satisfaction.
- Scheduling, advising, and budgeting systems are integrated to support data informed decision making.

Read the full Academic Plan at bit.ly/calstatela-academic-plan-26 or scan the QR code



SELECTED AWARDEES AND PARTICIPANTS

The following faculty and staff have been selected to participate in the Summer 2026 Academic Plan Implementation opportunities.

NEW DEGREES AND DEGREE PATHWAYS AWARDEES

Project Title	Lead Applicant	Department/College
Exploring the Potential for Reduced Credit Program for Assistants in SLP and Audiology	Alaina Bassett	Communication Disorders / HHS
Undergraduate Degree Completion Program for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mental Health and Addiction Studies	Kesha Gopaul-Knights	Special Education & Counseling / CoE
Developing a Forensic Biology Option within the Biological Sciences Major	Ben Vincent	Biological Sciences / NSS
Reduced Credit Baccalaureate Degree (RCBD) in Health, Wellness, and Coaching	Kathryn Hillstrom	Nutrition & Food Services / HHS
Early Childhood Education Bachelor's Degree and Credential Pathway	Ya Chih Chang	Special Education & Counseling / CoE
Arts, Media and Entertainment Technology 90 Unit BAS Degree	Kristina Hackel	TVFM / A&L
Human Centered AI and Digital Technology	Richard Dean	Philosophy Department / A&L
Designing a Minor in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science at Cal State LA	Jesus Armando Beltran Verdugo	Department of Computer Science / ECST
New MS Degree Program in Intelligent Systems and Robotics	Manveen Kaur	Computer Science / ECST
Master of Arts in Applied Arts & Humanities	Michael Willard	Liberal Studies / A&L
GLAM: Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums	Azalea Camacho	University Library
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Humanities	Patrick Sharp	Liberal Studies / A&L
PATH-IS: Pathway to Advanced Technology & Information Systems BSIS to MSIS	Arun Aryal	Information Systems / B&E
4+1 BS Engineering Technology + MS Industrial Management Program Development	Rupa Purasinghe	Technology / ECST

JUSTICE-IMPACTED AND VETERANS PROGRAM AWARDEES

Principal Investigator	Department	College	Degree	Audience
Phun, J.	AAAS	CoES	Various	Justice-impacted learners and returning adult learners
Thomas, M.J.	Technology	ECST	Fire Protection & Administration	Veterans, justice-impacted learners, and adult learners from fire service
Thomas, P.D.	CIS	CBE	Information Systems	Veterans, justice-impacted learners, adult learners, and entrepreneurs

CAREER-ENGAGED LEARNING SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS

First Name	Last Name	College	Department/Unit
Kristina	Hackel	AL	TVFM
Devika	Hazra	CBE	Economics
Marla	Parker	NSS	Political Science
Sidny	Ramirez	SA	First Flight and Writing Tutor
Alan	Soto	HHS	Advising Center
Mercedes	Chavez	AL	TVFM
Claudia	Diera	AL	Liberal Studies
Julie	Fernandez	AL	Communication
Linda	Greenberg	AL	English
Aya	Nakagoshi	AL	Liberal Studies / PGI
Michael	Willard	AL	Liberal Studies / PGI
Charles	Danso	CBE	Finance
Phillip	Thomas	CBE	Information Systems
Jose	Ortiz	CBE	Information Systems
Mauricio	Castillo	ECST	Technology
Kathryn	Hillstrom	HHS	Nutritional Sciences
Kimberly	Kisler	HHS	Public Health
Mary	Kubalanza	HHS	Communication Disorders
Maritza	Morales-Garcia	HHS	Child & Family Studies
Carlana	Orosco	HHS	Criminal Justice-Criminalistics
Wook	Yang	HHS	Child & Family Studies
Dawn	Dennis	NSS	History
Matthew	Jackson	NSS	Psychology

Academic Plan Steering Committee
College Representatives Selected by Sept. 15



Additional Engagement Opportunities

- **Ask Me Anything**

- Wednesday, 8/26, 11am-12noon, SSB L120
- Wednesday, 10/28, 11am-12noon, SSB L120
- Wednesday, 11/18, 11am-12noon, SSB L120

- **Academic Affairs Budget & Enrollment Town Hall**

- Wednesday, 9/23, 11am-12noon, SSB L120

- **University Council of Chairs**

- 9/16, 10/21, 12/9 – Library Community Room

- **College Based Luncheons**

- 10/15 – HHS
- 11/16 – CBE