The California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees has appointed Robert S. Nelsen, Ph.D., as president of California State University, Sacramento. Formerly the president of the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) in Edinburg, Texas (2010-14), Nelsen has most recently served in an advisory capacity for the University of Texas System. He will assume leadership of the University in July.

“Sacramento State has truly become a destination campus where students receive a transformative educational experience that prepares them for success in the future,” said Nelsen. “The opportunity to work alongside the many dedicated faculty and staff who guide students along that journey and prepare them for achievements beyond the classroom is incredibly exciting.”

Nelsen will become the eighth permanent president of Sacramento State and will succeed Alexander Gonzalez, who will retire at the end of June after 12 years as president.

“Dr. Robert Nelsen is an accomplished and visionary leader who will successfully build on the foundation President Gonzalez has established at Sacramento State,” said CSU Trustee Steve Glazer, chair of the Sacramento State Presidential Search Committee. “He has extensive experience leading a large, diverse university and a long history of always putting students first.” Read more about Dr. Nelsen here: www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/2015/03/PresidentialTransition.html
Counselor Spotlight

Kaamil Al-Hassan

Service Area: Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Santa Clara County, San Mateo County

Where were you born?
I was born and raised in Oakland, CA - shout out to the Bay Area!

What college did you attend?
I attended our wonderful University, Sacramento State! I graduated in Fall of 2013.

What degree did you receive and what did you major in?
I received my Bachelors of Arts degree in Sociology. I was absolutely in love with my major. I encourage students to major in something that they are passionate about and they will excel in it.

What is your favorite thing about Sacramento State?
My favorite things about Sacramento State are how diverse it is and the endless opportunities that are available to students (developmental workshops to speakers, on-campus jobs, studying abroad, etc.). During my Sac State journey, I’ve met students from all over - Hawaii, Indiana, London, and China!

Do you have any tips or advice for Future Hornets?
I would advise future hornets to chase their dreams and think about/plan for their future starting right now. Education is the only guaranteed way to be successful! Push themselves and never give up and your futures will be bright!

What is your favorite quote?
“Everything will turn out fine so why aren’t you smiling?”

Middle-distance runner Lea Wallace, an American record-holder in the 4x800 relay, was one of Sacramento State’s most celebrated student-athletes. And her legacy of speed lives on.

As a Hornet, she was a four-time All-American and six-time Big Sky Conference champion. Her school records include the indoor 800 meters (2:03:07), indoor mile (4:48:19) and outdoor 1,500 meters (4:11:31). And she holds the Big Sky record in the 800 (2:02.95), set April 7, 2011, at Hornet Stadium when Sac State hosted the Mondo Mid-Major Challenge.

As “the greatest 800-meter runner in Big Sky history,” she is ranked No. 11 on the conference’s 2014 list of “25 Greatest Female Athletes.”

Read more of Lea’s success story here: www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Video/2014/2014-09-26_MadeAtSac-State_LeaWallace.html
Sacramento State’s Center for College & Career Readiness (CCR) was born from the California State University’s Early Assessment Program, a long-standing early signal that informs students of additional skills needed in mathematics and/or English in order to enter college without the need for remediation. CCR’s mission is one and the same, but also works to create new pathways to college success by implementing regional partnerships with the primary goal of aligning curricula, expectations and standards between K-12, the community colleges and Sacramento State. In essence, the focus will be on students before they matriculate; those in the regional pipeline. The CCR will re-envision California’s education pipeline for our regional students. This vision will serve as a roadmap for a student’s educational journey with the expectation that a child entering preschool in 2014 should expect to graduate from high school in 2028 and receive a bachelor’s degree in 2032. This pathway also assumes that the transitional student is “ready” and can meet the expectations of the subsequent institution.

There are many benefits to being prepared for college and/or a career credential program, perhaps the most significant one being the ability to hit the ground running, feeling confident and fully ready to transition to the next level of post-secondary coursework. For those who are college-bound, this eliminates the need for costly remediation, as remedial courses require not only extra time and money, but also do not count toward the completion of a degree.

Reshaping the Transition

Graduation Channel
The Graduation Channel is a new tool designed to smooth the student experience in applying for graduation. It features personalized, step-by-step prompts, with links, to apply for graduation and Commencement ceremonies.

Learn more about the Graduation Channel here: www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/gradinitiative/
The Peer and Academic Resource Center (PARC)

The creation of the PARC delivers a long-awaited goal of fostering student success. Directed by Dr. Tina Jordan, overseen by Dr. Marcellene Watson-Derbigny Associate Vice President of Student Retention and Academic Success, this faculty-guided, student-led center does not only strive for helping the University increase course passage, student retention and rates to graduation, but also prepares students for their future professional success. Resonated with the Center's motto -- Successful Students Promoting Student Success, all of our major services (Supplemental Instruction; Supplemental Instruction Plus, Workshops & Individual Tutorials; and Peer Led Advising for college Experiences) are contributed by our very talented and creative Sac State Students.

PARC seeks to utilize a relatively untapped resource at the University, our own very talented students who will serve as SI leaders, peer tutors, and peer advisors. Directed by Tina Jordan, the creation of this tutorial center delivers on a long-awaited goal of fostering the academic success of Sacramento State students and represents yet another active step toward realizing the many goals pursued within Sacramento State's Graduation Initiative. These sessions are connected to the SI classes offered by PARC; these sessions are available for all students who may have conflicting schedules and missed the opportunity to register for the 1-unit SI courses.

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is an academic support program for students who are enrolled in historically challenging general education (GE) courses. It provides students credit (1 unit) to learn how to implement transferable academic learning strategies to increase grades in difficult college courses.

Supplemental Instruction (SI) Plus provides free academic review and test preparation sessions for all students. These sessions are connected to the SI classes offered by PARC; these sessions are available for all students who may have conflicting schedules and missed the opportunity to register for the 1-unit SI courses.

Peer Led Advising for College Experience (PLACE) provides peer led supplemental advising for all students on campus. PLACE’s Peer Advisors are students who are familiar with campus life and resources.

Workshops & Individual Tutorials (WIT) is a free tutoring service (group and individual tutorials) open to all students on campus. The tutorials are taught by trained tutors who are familiar with materials in historically difficult courses.

For more information on Peer and Academic Resource Center visit: www.csus.edu/parc
6-8 TH GRADES
- Take English and Algebra I or another rigorous math course and aim for good grades.
- Take a language other than English.
- Begin your student planner on www.csumentor.edu

9 TH Freshmen GRADES
- Take the “a-g” courses listed below to meet the CSU’s admission requirements: Algebra I or Geometry, college prep English, and a foreign language.
- Aim for As and Bs in all your classes; focus on homework and develop good study skills.
- Take the ACT EXPLORE exam, a tool that helps you plan for high school and college.
- Begin or update your high school course planner on www.csumentor.edu

10 TH Sophomores GRADES
- Take Geometry or Algebra II.
- Take college prep English.
- Take the PLAN and PSAT exams that help you prepare for the ACT and SAT and keep you on track for college.
- Take courses from the “a-g” course list: History, English, math, visual and performing arts, laboratory science, and a foreign language.
- Update your high school course planner on www.csumentor.edu

11 TH Juniors GRADES
- Take advanced math and college prep English: Algebra II or advanced math and English (writing and critical reading).
- Review the “a-g” classes you still need to take for CSU admission with your counselor.
- Update your high school course planner on www.csumentor.edu.
- Take the EAP exam to find out if you are ready for college-level math and English courses. Visit www.csusuccess.org/shome2
- Register for the AP exams in the spring. You can earn college credit if you score well on the test(s) and will be exempt from taking the EPT and ELM.
- Register for the PSAT if you didn't take it in 10th grade.
- Register for the SAT or the ACT at least one month before the exam. Many CSU campuses require you to take the exam by October of your senior year.

12 TH Seniors GRADES
- Complete all final “a-g” course requirements, including advanced math and college prep English. Trigonometry or Analytic Geometry/Calculus are also recommended.
- If your EAP test results indicate that you are “Ready-Conditional” for college-level mathematics, you are required to take a 12th grade math course with a prerequisite of Algebra II and earn a grade of “C” or better to maintain your exemption.
- If you are planning on transferring from a California Community College, please visit the CSU’s website for transfer pathways: www.calstate.edu/transfer/roadmaps/
- If your EAP test results indicate that you are “Not Yet Ready for college-level math or English courses,” visit www.collegeeap.org to practice your math or English skills. This may increase your chances of passing the CSU’s placement tests.

For more information visit: blogs.calstate.edu/college/