Sac State President Gonzalez delivers Fall Address

Sacramento State President Alexander Gonzalez used his annual Fall Address on Thursday morning to discuss the changing landscape of higher education; the University’s work to protect quality, access and affordability for students; and how the University is addressing dramatic reductions in state funding.

The University Union Ballroom was filled to capacity with returning students, faculty and staff, along with supporters from the Sacramento community.

Gonzalez announced that the campus had met its annual goal for raising private funds, along with a $730,000 payout from the University’s endowment, mostly in the form of student scholarships.

“We must always remember the difficulties students are facing with the budget cuts, and every dollar that we raise can make a big difference in their lives,” Gonzalez said.

He also outlined the University’s preparations for a possible $250 million trigger cut to the California State University if Proposition 30 does not pass on the November ballot. Sac State’s share of the cut would include $11 million in baseline reductions, which officials have addressed through the campus budget planning process.

Sacramento State’s impact on the region and state, including $8 billion in economic activity between campus operations and earnings by alumni, will be a major focal point for the coming year. “We need to work together to further demonstrate our value to the community, to the students who need us as they pursue their dreams, and to the people of California who will decide our fate in November,” Gonzalez said.

He added that the University’s response to the challenges ahead will determine Sacramento State’s success.

“I truly believe that the future of Sacramento State, and of public higher education, will be defined by the work that we do to preserve quality, access and affordability.”

Other highlights of the Fall Address included:

- The Doctor of Physical Therapy program begins this semester.
• The successful reaccreditation of the University through 2018 has been accomplished.
• 180 classrooms have been updated for the Fall semester.
• New landscaping projects are using sustainable materials and plants that need less water.
• The Cimera cellular and molecular biology lab in the Department of Chemistry has been renovated, thanks to an $800,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.
• The University has enhanced its comprehensive mental health services and suicide prevention efforts for students.


For more information or media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

Sacramento State is making a difference in California’s Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their professions and communities. Our professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation’s most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

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