Elevate your impact

Shape the future by preparing the next generation of educators.

Educators—from teachers and counselors to school psychologists and administrators—play an important role in our communities. That is why the College of Education at Sacramento State is so committed to providing Sacramento’s diverse communities with educators well-equipped with the knowledge, skills, and practical experiences needed to be highly effective in their roles.

The College of Education leads in preparing the next generation of educators who are key to making the Greater Sacramento area a livable and economically dynamic region. We conduct research and provide expertise to our preschool, K-12, and community education partners. The College’s faculty obtain significant external funding to provide cutting-edge professional development to hundreds of local educators.

The College of Education will lead the region’s efforts to close opportunity and achievement gaps, with programming to support teachers, counselors, and educational leaders pursuing goals of antiracism, social justice, equity, and inclusion. A key component to our success in achieving this goal is philanthropic support. Particularly because our intensive programs require most students to take significant time off from work, supporting them as they fully immerse themselves in their professional preparation ensures they enter the workforce well prepared on day one.

We invite you to partner with the College of Education to elevate your impact on the next generation of educational leaders as they make a difference in our region, state, and world.
Spotlight

Jacqueline Aviña Espinoza
Instilling equity in education

The daughter of Mexican immigrants, Jacqueline Aviña Espinoza struggled to learn English as a child. By middle school, she earned a spot in the federally funded Upward Bound program preparing her for high school and college.

Aviña Espinoza entered Sacramento State as an honors student, the first in her family to attend a four-year university. She considered becoming a nurse until a Child Development class changed her mind. “I realized I wanted to work in education because everyone deserves access to an education,” she said.

When Aviña Espinoza was accepted to Sacramento State, she was also accepted in the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) that helped students from farmworker backgrounds, as well as the University’s Educational Opportunity Program. Her commitment to equity in education grew from her own experience and from the classroom and beyond.

She worked on a professor’s research project that examined the experiences of undocumented youth. She returned to CAMP as a peer adviser. As a volunteer, she traveled across the country to conduct outreach to farmworker families and offered support to English learners.

Mentors were crucial to her success, said Aviña Espinoza, helping her through the daily struggles of a college student. “They helped me navigate study habits, internships and jobs, interview techniques, looking into graduate school, amongst so much more.” And her hard work paid off.

Aviña Espinoza made the Dean’s Honor List every semester and earned numerous scholarships, including endowments like the Anthony J. Leones and the Edward W. Ermet scholarships at Sacramento State.

“I remember when I struggled in school, receiving a scholarship was empowering. I was not only receiving monetary support,” she explained, “but being reassured that my dreams, aspirations, and future were valuable."

With her record of achievement, Aviña Espinoza was chosen by the College of Education as its Dean’s Award recipient, one of seven students honored as top graduates in 2020.

She returned home to the Napa Valley amid the pandemic, devoting time to what she calls her passion project to pay it forward. She’s creating online presentations in English and Spanish to help students and their families prepare for college.

“I want to serve underrepresented students, help them grow academically as well as professionally and personally,” she said. “If I help someone through my own struggles, then it was worth it.”

Campaign Priorities

Scholarships and Student Success

• Increase scholarship and endowment funds available for current and future students, making a significant and immediate impact on their lives.

• Additional scholarship support for school psychology and counselor education programs, addressing the increased financial barrier students face when considering these time-intensive programs.

• Help address the lack of diversity in teaching through expanded support for the Educational Equity Program, providing more advising and mentoring opportunities to historically underserved students, creating better pathways from local high schools to community colleges to Sacramento State.

Capital Education Institute

• Expand support for faculty and graduate student research that tackles pressing problems and will provide our region and state with vital data that informs educational policy.

• Support sustained, cost-effective, and quality professional development and operational assistance services for school districts that will improve teacher retention and help to transform the K-12 educational system in our region.

• Invest in partnerships with our local school districts to provide tangible support to mentor teachers and joint projects that result in tighter alignment between theory and practice so that future teachers are poised for instructional success on day one of their first teaching position.

How To Give

At Sacramento State, we are On the Rise and need your support to reach the next level of excellence for our students and community. Your investment will allow us to do even more for our students, our region, and the world.

GIVE ONLINE
csus.edu/campaign

CONTACT
Sarah Hodge
Director of Development

PHONE
916-278-4130

EMAIL
hodge@csus.edu

ABOUT ON THE RISE
The goal of the $225 million On the Rise campaign is to amplify Sacramento State’s impact in the region, the state, and the world by doubling our current level of private support. The campaign has three priorities: supporting students through increased financial aid and student programs; advancing knowledge through innovative learning approaches; and strengthening the larger Sacramento community through diverse, engaged and impactful teaching and research.

On the Rise campaign is committed to uplifting generations of people in an equitable and sustainable way.