

## **Carnegie Community Engagement Feedback Report California State University, Sacramento**

The following report is based upon an evaluation of evidence provided by the participating campus through the reclassification documentation framework of the 2026 Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement.

### **Individual Report**

California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) is to be commended for the effort put into this application. The institution showcased a highly diverse campus and its role as an anchor institution through specialized community-serving initiatives. The comprehensive campus involvement in defining community engagement highlighted the effective use of the centralized Ellucian Advance tracking system, leadership listening sessions with the President and Provost, and a strong recommendation process to enhance student access to curricular internships. The establishment of the Carlsen Center in 2017 as a regional entrepreneurship hub exemplifies a commitment to bridging and empowering campus, regional, and global communities. While CSUS promotes community engagement through a decentralized process, reviewers encourage the development of clearer pathways and frameworks to better coordinate efforts across centers and programs.

### **Strengths**

CSUS demonstrates a strong commitment to community engagement through a wide range of sustained and impactful partnerships, many of which are directly tied to academic programs and research. The use of long-term MOUs and faculty training initiatives fosters deep, reciprocal relationships, while unique community-focused efforts such as the Counseling Consortium and Network Cafe highlight an ability to extend collaboration beyond campus boundaries. The institution's dedication to faculty and staff engagement is evident in regular workshops, embedded community engagement hiring language, professional development opportunities, and revised tenure and promotion criteria that prioritize community engagement and anti-racism work. Additionally, the innovative use of data from the First Destination Survey and NSSE to track post-graduation impact, along with diverse co-curricular offerings, including service requirements for athletics, Greek Life, and the IMPACT Program, showcase a comprehensive approach to integrating community engagement across both curricular and co-curricular domains.

### **Feedback for Reclassification Application**

The reviewers noted that the following areas should warrant some attention and effort to strengthen the application for reclassification:

- 1) Integrate additional detail regarding institutional leadership roles and offices involved in community engagement to clarify the articulation of reciprocal community partnerships and the co-creation of programs.
- 2) Provide deeper insight into the evolution of community engagement training utilization and outcomes, particularly considering reported challenges with faculty engagement in the current available resources. The institution should explore the reasons for limited faculty utilization and outline plans to improve engagement. Most faculty scholarship examples came from a small number of events, and the accessibility and impact of ethical engagement training across colleges should be expanded and clarified.
- 3) Add detail regarding the decline in student participation in community engagement designated courses. There was little evidence that assessment data is being used to adapt coursework, suggesting a missed opportunity for continuous improvement by clarifying how this information is integrated and used to inform institutional decisions in preparation for the next classification cycle.
- 4) Elaborate on specific civic learning initiatives and provide evidence of their impact, given the absence of a central civic learning framework and the limited assessment of civic learning outcomes.