



California State University **Northridge**

California State University, Northridge Presidential Search

POSITION DESCRIPTION

California State University, Northridge is seeking its next president, the fifth in the 53-year history of the university. We invite an outstanding leader to participate in advancing this university's strong focus on academic excellence and student success. Cal State Northridge has earned national recognition for the intellectual, social, and cultural relevance of its academic programs and engaged centers, and for its hands-on learning and rigor and innovations in community service. The Northridge president will lead a large, vibrant university with a mission of providing high quality education to undergraduate and graduate students and applying the intellectual resources of the university to regional needs and issues.

Located 20 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, Cal State Northridge is the only public university in the San Fernando Valley, an area with a population of over 1.8 million. The University serves an area spanning much of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, and is known as the intellectual, economic and cultural heart of the region. Northridge is a comprehensive university with eight academic colleges and is among the largest universities in the California State University system. More than 36,000 students are served by our 4,000 faculty and staff. The combined 2011-12 budget is approximately \$760 million. As a Hispanic-Serving Institution in a globally diverse region, our students reflect the rich ethnic and cultural diversity of southern California. Northridge is distinguished as a national leader in preparing teachers for K-12 education and first generation college students for graduate studies. The University is proud to have a campus culture in which collaboration in problem solving is the norm. A strong tradition of dialogue and shared governance has ensured faculty, staff and student engagement in meeting challenges and fulfilling the University mission. An accomplished leader will find an exceptional opportunity at Cal State Northridge.

California State University, Northridge is at an exciting juncture in its history. The University has accomplished significant improvements in student retention and graduation rates, completed a major physical transformation on its 356-acre park-like campus, made a substantial investment in new faculty hiring, increased student interest in the University as evidenced by robust enrollment growth, launched efforts to advance and convey the reputation of the University, and garnered momentum in fundraising and alumni engagement. Our more than 200,000 alumni are active in the region, state, and nation as among the vanguard of business, civic, health, arts and entertainment, STEM, and

educational leaders. The University's visibility and community connections have been heightened by the recent opening of the Valley Performing Arts Center, which houses a 1,700-seat performance hall. As chief executive officer, the president oversees the University's human, financial, physical, and technology resources. Working with both internal and external constituencies, the president provides overall leadership and guidance, and is expected to nurture and expand the academic reputation and collaboratively plan the future of the University. A successful president will symbolize the best qualities of the institution to represent Cal State Northridge within the California State University system, with public policy leaders, with the higher education community, and with internal and external constituents in our community and region.

The executive search firm Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates has been retained to assist in this search. All applications, inquiries and nominations, which will remain confidential, should be directed to the search firm as indicated at the end of this document.

THE UNIVERSITY

www.csun.edu

Institutional Background

In fall 1956, the San Fernando Valley campus of the Los Angeles State College of Applied Arts and Sciences (later California State University, Los Angeles) was established on the present Northridge site. Soon after, the state Legislature provided for the campus to separate from its parent college. On July 1, 1958, the founding date of the present University, the institution became San Fernando Valley State College, with about 3,000 students and 104 faculty members. On June 1, 1972, the institution was renamed California State University, Northridge.

As a comprehensive public university, Northridge offers its students a broad range of educational options. The University is comprised of eight academic colleges: the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication; the College of Business and Economics; the Michael D. Eisner College of Education; the College of Engineering and Computer Science; the College of Health and Human Development; the College of Humanities; the College of Science and Mathematics; the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences; and the Tseng College of Extended Learning.

California State University, Northridge is deeply committed to using evidence to evolve its academic programs and improve the quality of student life. Over the past decade, freshman one-year continuation rates have increased from 70.3% to 74.3% (65.7% to 71.4% for traditionally underserved groups). This improvement was accomplished while nearly doubling the size of the freshman class, and more than doubling the numbers from traditionally underserved groups. The six-year graduation rate is 48%, up from 32% a decade ago. Northridge is a top choice among the area's high school students as evidenced by enrollment of nearly 5,300 new freshmen in fall 2011.

The Campus

Perhaps the most visible evidence of the University's growth and culture is in the physical transformation of the campus since the 1994 Northridge earthquake. A \$407 million earthquake reconstruction program in the 1990s was followed by more than \$450 million in subsequent capital development. Projects completed during this timeframe include a new central plant, administration building, student services facility, two facilities for the College of Arts, Media, and Communication and one for the College of Health and Human Development, two phases of renovation and

reconstruction for the University Student Union, a state-of-the-art police facility, two food service facilities, and three parking structures. In addition, the campus completed extensive reconstruction of its roadway system and significant improvements to campus site-work and landscaping.

In 2006, the University completed a major campus Master Plan update that raised its enrollment ceiling to 35,000 full-time equivalent students and set the stage for sustainable development over the next 30 years. In 2009, the campus completed construction of a 90,000 square foot science facility and a 400-bed student housing project for freshmen. In January 2010, the campus opened the world-class Valley Performing Arts Center, a \$125 million facility with a 1,700-seat performance hall, 180-seat flexible theatre, 225-seat lecture hall, and multiple academic laboratory spaces. A 120,000 square foot student recreation center will open in January 2012. Northridge recently completed a campus digital master plan which establishes a five-year vision for the University's information technology and guides annual project planning and prioritization. The campus recently completed a multiyear technology upgrade in its approximately 200 classrooms.

Academic Excellence

Cal State Northridge prioritizes academic excellence and is home to numerous top-ranking academic programs. Northridge students can choose from 69 baccalaureate majors, 57 master's degree programs, 28 teaching credential programs, and one existing and one forthcoming applied doctoral degree program. The University has a strong history of adding academic programs to meet the changing needs of the region. In 2011, the University graduated its first doctoral cohort in educational leadership. A doctoral program in physical therapy will be launched in 2012.

The University produces over 8,000 graduates each year. A large percentage of these alumni stay in the Los Angeles area, making Cal State Northridge a primary provider of the region's professional work force, as well as a leader in expanding access to higher education. Committed to serving the richly diverse region, Cal State Northridge ranks among the top universities nationwide in terms of the ethnic and racial diversity of its student body, as well as the number of bachelor's degrees conferred upon students of color. The University has been commended for narrowing the gap between the graduation rates of traditionally underserved and better served students. Cal State Northridge was named by *Forbes* magazine as one of the best U.S. undergraduate institutions for quality, affordability, graduation rates and career prospects for graduates.

In fall 2011, Northridge completed the final phase of Western Association of Schools and Colleges accreditation and received commendation for improved retention and graduation rates, reduction in the graduation rate gap between the general student population and underserved populations, and use of outcomes assessment to benefit student learning in both academic and co-curricular areas. The University was further commended on its culture of visionary pragmatism, collaboration, and problem solving; prudent fiscal management; and investment in faculty and staff in ways that contribute to student success.

The Faculty

The Northridge faculty, which includes more than 900 full-time faculty members, takes great pride in the academic excellence of the University, which is derived from their extraordinary teaching, research and service productivity. Faculty members are committed to student engagement in learning, innovative pedagogy, and curricular improvement driven by evidence. The faculty is similarly committed to disciplinary research, scholarship, and creative activity. Applied research that

directly benefits the region is a particular point of pride. Large numbers of both undergraduate and graduate students are involved in original research under faculty supervision. The faculty is further committed to professional development. The Center for Innovation and Engaged Learning Opportunities provides faculty-led support to peers in the form of sharing knowledge, skills and values; engaging in and sharing research on student learning; and building faculty cohort-based learning communities. The University culture greatly values its strong tradition of shared governance through the Faculty Senate.

The Students

Cal State Northridge students come from a variety of backgrounds and seek a diverse set of programs leading to many different career goals. New students enrolled in fall 2011 included nearly 5,300 new first-time freshmen, approximately 4,900 new undergraduate transfer students, and nearly 1,800 new graduate students. Overall the University has a fall 2011 headcount enrollment of more than 36,900 students (nearly 29,700 full-time equivalent students). The student population is extraordinarily diverse in every sense of the word, including race/ethnicity, nationality, age, religion, veteran status, disability, and more. About 70% are people of color and about 35% are Latina/o. The University is particularly proud to educate a large population of deaf and hard of hearing students.

Cal State Northridge offers more than 270 different student organizations ranging from recreation, honors societies, cultural groups, and professional development organizations, to a wide range of special interests and fraternities and sororities. The Matador Involvement Center promotes student growth and leadership development and facilitates opportunities to connect and engage in the campus community and participate in volunteerism and community service.

Student Housing currently accommodates approximately 2,700 residential students. For the longer term, the campus Master Plan calls for increasing campus student housing to approximately 5,000 beds. A particular point of pride is the availability of Living/Learning Communities and Themed Learning Communities where students live with others who share their academic majors, interests, or defining life experiences. Each features a resident advisor who is a member of the community and a steering committee of students, faculty, and staff. In this highly collaborative structure, students drive their communities and activities and identify opportunities for academic and personal growth.

Intercollegiate Athletics

The University has a strong intercollegiate athletics program with ten women's sports and eight men's sports. Teams compete within the Big West Conference and the Mountain States Sports Federation. For three decades Cal State Northridge competed within NCAA Division II then moved its athletic program to the NCAA Division I level in 1990. Cal State Northridge received NCAA re-certification in 2009.

Budget

The University's 2011-12 overall budget incorporates the general operating fund budget and several additional designated or restricted budgets. The largest single funding source is the general operating fund budget, totaling \$341.3 million, which consists of state appropriations of \$131.3 million and tuition fee and other fee revenues of \$209.9 million. Designated budgets totaling \$304.2 million include: four enterprise fund operating budgets, which are Parking (\$9.5 million), Residential Life (\$19.3 million), Extended Learning (\$30.5 million), and Health Facilities (\$.2 million); \$242.5

million for anticipated financial aid and scholarship awards; and \$2.2 million for the University-wide Lottery budget. Additionally, the University has non-profit corporations with combined revenue budgets of \$72.1 million, which are Associated Students (\$5.4 million), the University Student Union (\$10.4 million), The University Corporation (\$34.8 million), the North Campus Development Corporation (\$.5 million), and the University Foundation (\$20 million). Capital project budgets over the past decade have averaged \$45 million per year.

Alumni

Cal State Northridge is proud of its alumni family, more than 200,000 strong. Among those who call Northridge their alma mater are CNBC Television's Bill Griffeth, Ron Insana, and Sue Herera; Chuck Noski, former CFO of Bank of America and retired senior vice president of AT&T; Barbara Fairchild, former editor-in-chief of *Bon Appetit* magazine; Steve Bollenbach, former president and CEO of Hilton Hotels, former president of Host Marriott, and former CFO of the Walt Disney Company; Linda Lingle, former Governor of Hawaii; Vince Barabba, former director of the U.S. Census Bureau and former head of General Motors' Strategic Decision Division; Mike Curb, founder and chairman of Curb Records and former California Lieutenant Governor; Scott Horowitz, astronaut on three Space Shuttle missions; and Adriana Ocampo Uria, head of NASA's Jupiter Directive, named "one of the 50 most important women in science."

Situated in the entertainment capital of the world, Northridge alumni have made their mark in the arts and entertainment. Notable alums include Don Hahn, producer of some of Disney's most successful animated motion pictures including "The Lion King;" actor, producer, director and comedian Cheech Marin; Jim Berk, CEO of Participant Media, former head of the Grammy Foundation, and former president of Hard Rock Café International and Save the Planet; Carol Vaness, international opera singer with the New York Metropolitan Opera; accomplished actors and actresses including Teri Garr, Debra Winger, Richard Dreyfus, and Jenna Elfman; and Diane Warren, songwriter, composer, and multiple Grammy, Billboard, and American Music Award winner.

Interaction with the Community

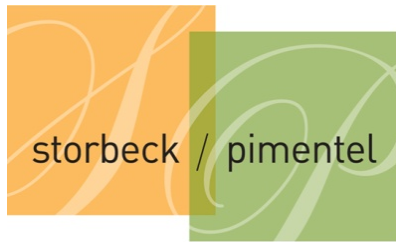
California State University, Northridge is a major influence as the intellectual, economic and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley and beyond. It is estimated that for every dollar the state invests, the University returns four- to five-fold. Throughout the years, the University has built partnerships with businesses, programs and resources in the region. Cal State Northridge is home to more than 50 engaged centers and institutes with programs that benefit the community in multiple and diverse ways. The recent construction and opening of the Valley Performing Arts Center has significantly elevated the visibility of the University among leaders and residents of the Los Angeles area.

THE ROLE

The president is the chief executive officer of the University, furthers the University's mission, and exercises broad responsibility for the academic, student, financial, physical, technological, philanthropic and all other dimensions of the institution. The president reports to the Board of Trustees of the California State University system through the system's Chancellor.

HOW TO APPLY

Résumé screening begins on November 10, 2011. Letters of interest (not to exceed two pages) with current résumés and nominations are being accepted by email, fax or mail as follows:



executive search consultants

Sharon Tanabe, Partner
1111 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 106
Monterey Park, CA 91754
323.260.7889 (FAX)

Electronic submissions are preferred

Please submit to: stsearch@storbeckpimentel.com

CODE: CSUN President

For a confidential inquiry, contact Ms. Tanabe at 323-
260-5045

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