



Mike Prime
2015–2016 Chair
Board of Governors

Ahmad Boura
CEO, Board of Governors
Vice President
for University Advancement

INSPIRING

SHARED VISION

BUILDING A BOLD TOMORROW

A MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION CEO AND 2015–2016 CHAIR

“The future has arrived.” When President Paul Zingg delivered his final Fall Convocation as Chico State’s president in August, his words imparted a tremendous responsibility to those who will shape the University’s legacy in the years ahead.

Boldly stepping into tomorrow is a Chico State tradition. It is the reason we have celebrated many firsts together—from partnering with our first benefactor John Bidwell in 1887 to establish the first teaching college in the North State to partnering with the today’s philanthropic and industry leaders in 2005 to create the first and only Concrete Industry Management program in the Western United States.

As the first quarter closes in the 2015–2016 fiscal year, we would like to share with you our blueprint for achieving our number one goal: building a culture of philanthropy that positively impacts Chico State’s students, alumni, faculty, and many friends.

Preparing the next generation: The Student Philanthropy Council was established this fall to nurture our future philanthropic leaders. Highly motivated students are dedicated to raising awareness of the role of philanthropy on campus and building a proud tradition of giving back. In fact, they have collected donations from nearly 900 students since September.

Growing and reshaping the board: We have added new visionary and dynamic members to our board’s ranks. They are excited to expand the traditional fiduciary role of the board to one where members truly are campus leaders who champion all aspects of philanthropy.

Increasing faculty support: Each year, students are left changed and inspired by our outstanding faculty, who impact our community and beyond with their research and publications. Faculty are frequently the primary connection between students and the University after graduation. We will prioritize increasing endowments to support talented faculty who are committed to changing lives.

Connecting with students: Few experiences are more rewarding than seeing firsthand the impact giving has on students. We are dedicated to creating new opportunities for board members and donors to meet our best and brightest students and hear their stories of transformation.

Responsible management: We will continue to represent the thousands of donors who entrust us with their money and wishes. Not only will we ensure these dollars have a far-reaching impact on the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and communities we serve, but we will also make sure we show our immense gratitude for their support of and faith in our mission.

Building a bold tomorrow: We have established the Tower Society to encourage and recognize high-level, annual giving. This is an important step in transforming private support of Chico State, and we have already seen tremendous results. These new and re-inspired philanthropic leaders help the University meet emerging challenges and give students, faculty, staff, and our extended community the most critical thing they need to thrive—support they can count on year after year.

We have learned a great deal from the leaders who came before us; most importantly, that Chico State will rise to the occasion and exceed every expectation. Thank you for being part of our proud past and for supporting an even bolder future.

Sincerely,

Ahmad Boura

Mike Prime