

College of Science and Mathematics: Access to Excellence Summary

Domain 1: Assuring Access

- College Attendance: There should be equal opportunity in pursuing college but maybe we have too many people attempting. In terms of equal access, California and the nation have let down some immigrant groups, Mexican-American in particular.
- Spend the money to make California a leader instead of a loser in education.
- Vocational education should be brought back to high schools and community colleges. Programs involving practical science and math and would serve to prepare high school students for real jobs, attract some of them to more advanced jobs requiring college, and give society a better qualified work force.
- STEM Careers: Focus on STEM careers. Put science and mathematics specialists in the elementary schools to ensure exciting and competent instruction. It all starts here.

Domain 2: Connecting to P-12 Schools and to Community Colleges

- Cal Poly has a strong teacher education program. We may not be big in numbers but we are leaders in quality.
- University Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education has begun to bring focus, direction, and unity to our programs.
- State of California should bring focus, direction, and unity to its programs to ensure desired outcomes occurs.

Domain 3: Fulfilling Commitment to Multiple Stakeholders

- Cal Poly can have a model teacher education program.
- As a polytechnic university, Cal Poly should take a lead position in encourage STEM careers through undergraduate education.
- Professional Masters Degree: Professional masters degrees can distinguish the CSU the way PhD's distinguish the UC.
- Applied research sponsored by industry.

Domain 4: Ensuring Success in Student Learning

- Focus on intellectual experience with curiosity, imagination, understanding, creative and critical thinking rather than information transfer that seems dominant by size of textbooks.
- Assessment
- Monitor student progress towards degree.
- Global language and ethics requirement.

Domain 5: Faculty/Staff Excellence to Promote Student Success

- Establish a more collegial environment in the CSU. Cut the crap with postponed and manipulated GSI's, SSI's etc.

- Recognize that the CSU is requiring faculty professional development with external validation and to do so research space, offices for replacement faculty members are needed.
- Emphasize system and campus flexibility on how individual faculty members pursue careers.
- Encourage community and student-faculty partnerships.

Domain 6: Now and in the Future: Campus System Identity

- CSU: This is the largest system of higher education in the United States, possibly the world. We are not sufficiently respected internally or externally. We need to be national leaders in higher education, not a struggling system.
- System identity: largely undergraduate, student centered, faculty professional development and student research/projects are in partnerships, graduate programs are professional and career oriented etc etc.
- Campus identity: Campuses establish own identity within broad brush of CSU identity with great flexibility.
- Cal Poly: polytechnic, learn by doing, community, student-faculty partnerships, big university with the values and feel of a small close knit college etc.