Mission of California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

The University exists to help students realize their educational goals. CSUN’s first priority is to promote the welfare and intellectual progress of its students.

The Purpose of The Tseng College within the CSUN Mission

The purpose of The Tseng College is to expand the access to and enhance the influence of the exceptional scholarship, applied research, and teaching that defines CSUN.

The programming and relationship building foci of The Tseng College are educational pathways and alternative access, post-degree and credit certificate programs for professionals (from post-associates through the doctorate), international programs and partnerships, and midcareer education for working adults and their employers.

Guided by CSUN’s academic mission and planning priorities, The Tseng College develops and supports financially sound, academically excellent and distinctive educational programs rooted in the teaching excellence and scholarship/applied research of CSUN faculty. These programs are designed to ensure that the individuals, communities, and organizations served by CSUN through The Tseng College to achieve their advanced learning goals across the career span as well as the life span.

The Tseng College is designed to be a forward-looking, imaginative, effectively innovative, and agile academic college of CSUN that works collaboratively within and outside of the University in ways that help fulfill CSUN’s broader mission and ensure its future in ways that might not otherwise be possible within the limits of state-funding and the press of responsibilities for current, more traditional programs and services.

The Values and Commitments that Guide the Work of The Tseng College

The Tseng College faculty and staff are dedicated to the following values and commitments:

- Education has the power to transform lives. It plays a central role in creating and sustaining free, open, and caring societies and the viable economies needed to provide a better life for all in our globally interconnected and interdependent world.

- Those who take the important step to seek additional education move closer to realizing their full potential to enhance their own lives and careers, enrich and refine their organizations and communities and, ultimately, to make a meaningful, positive difference in the world we share.

- Because education means so much to individuals and our shared world, those who come to CSUN and its Tseng College are entrusting much to us. Most importantly, they trust us to provide the best possible educational opportunities in their field – best possible from the perspectives of scholarship, the forefront of professional practice, and the ability of the Tseng College program they have chosen to pursue to foster high levels of student achievement. We in The Tseng College are dedicated to honoring their trust.

(continued on reverse)
How The Tseng College Implements Its Purposes, Values and Commitments

• The Tseng College offers a rich and changing portfolio of programs for midcareer adults and their employers – credit and noncredit, degree and non-degree – all designed to meet the changing educational needs of the constituencies served by the University across their career and life spans. The Tseng College’s emphasis is on excellence in program design and instructional strategy, a focus on student learning, and a commitment to ensuring the educational effectiveness of all programs.

• The Tseng College develops long-term, mutually beneficial and supportive relationships with the University’s academic colleges, departments and support units. These relationships increase the number and quality of programs offered by the University to external constituencies and provide a sustained financial return to partner departments and colleges that allows them to further develop their faculty and areas of expertise so that the University has more to offer individuals and communities it serves.

• The Tseng College encourages and supports an increase in scholarship and teaching across disciplinary lines and its application to professional practice and the challenges of the developing urban community.

• The Tseng College expands access to the University by developing and offering programs and services to individuals and organizations that otherwise may not be able to take advantage of its resources.

• The Tseng College develops productive partnerships with key regional, national and international organizations and institutions that expand the scope and quality of the University’s programs for external constituencies and provide links between the University and organizations with complementary educational missions and goals.

• The Tseng College engages University faculty members, faculty from sister institutions, noted national and international scholars, and accomplished practitioners – working individually or in teams – in the development of new programs, teaching strategies and educational technology applications that will expand the reach and influence of their scholarship and teaching and strengthen the University’s programs for external constituencies.

• The Tseng College, through its programs and practices, provides, an innovative and influential model for the future of advanced professional preparation in the context of a global economy and as an exemplar for lifelong higher education regionally and nationally.

• The Tseng College provides the organizational abilities and services needed to create and sustain top-quality, lifelong learning programs. These include excellent client/student services for all nontraditional students, on-site program support services management, transparent financial management, innovative instructional design, assessment of program effectiveness, instructor support and training, creative and sophisticated marketing and public relations, forward-thinking and collaborative leadership, and a comprehensive range of educational technologies and related technical support services.

• The Tseng College ensures its continuing ability to do all of the above through responsible management of the organization and by achieving key fiscal goals.