Long Beach Education Partnership
“Seamless Education at Its Best”
SEAMLESS EDUCATION AT ITS BEST:
Extending the Promise of Higher Education to the Greater Long Beach Community

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
A public, urban, comprehensive university, California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) provides exceptional educational experiences for its diverse students through nationally recognized academic programs and extensive support services. With a focus on student success measured by retention, progress toward degree and graduation, the university cultivates a campus environment that is student-centered, service-oriented, data-driven and globally engaged. During its 2009-10 academic year, CSULB graduated the largest, most diverse and most successful graduating class in its 60-year history, with more than 8,000 students receiving over 9,000 degrees.

A SEAMLESS EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
In the early 1990s, the Seamless Educational Partnership was formed among CSULB, Long Beach City College and Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) to ensure that more students would graduate from high school prepared for college. The partnership encouraged and supported ongoing collaboration and reciprocal learning between the institutions.

Characterized by commitment from the leadership of CSULB President F. King Alexander, Long Beach City College President Eloy Oakley, and LBUSD Superintendent Chris Steinhauser, the Seamless Partnership continues to thrive.

Data are shared among the three institutions and utilized to identify, prioritize and promptly address needs of freshmen and transfer students. Equitable student access, retention, progress toward degree and graduation are hallmarks of the partnership agenda.

CSULB continues to receive national recognition for academic excellence and university impacts. Recent university distinctions include:

• Named one of the nation’s top 50 “Best Value” public colleges by the Princeton Review.

• Among the nation’s top 10 annually in conferring bachelor’s degrees to students of color and fourth in the nation for awarding mathematics and statistics graduate degrees to minority students, according to Diverse Issues in Higher Education.

• Annually recognized for having the lowest percentage of students graduating in debt, according to the U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges Guide.”

• Named annually among the top best public master’s universities in the West by U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges Guide.”
SEAMLESS EDUCATION AT ITS BEST:
Preparing Teachers and Other Educational Leaders for Today’s Schools

MAJOR CHANGES IN PREPARATION OF NEW TEACHERS
California State University, Long Beach and Long Beach Unified School District, along with area community colleges, have worked together through the Seamless Education Partnership to reform the teacher preparation program so that teachers who graduate from CSULB are better prepared to meet school districts’ needs. A few examples of enhanced features include:
• Highly structured early field experiences in diverse, urban classrooms
• Teachers and administrators from Long Beach Unified School District teach education courses
• For elementary teachers
  o Strengthened science and math instruction
  o Full year of student teaching

Already, this collaboration has reaped benefits with Long Beach Unified School District now serving as the largest employer of teachers who graduate from CSULB.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU) SYSTEMWIDE EVALUATION OF TEACHER PREPARATION:
NEW TEACHERS ARE SUCCEEDING IN DIVERSE CALIFORNIA CLASSROOMS
At the end of their first year in the classroom, new teachers complete a survey evaluating their preparation to teach in real world classrooms. Their perceptions of their own performance and readiness to teach are compared to the professional judgments of their supervisors. The California State University Systemwide Evaluation, begun in 2001, is the longest running initiative of its kind in the history of American teacher education. California State University, Long Beach teachers show sustained, accelerating progress, supporting Long Beach Unified School District Superintendent Chris Steinhauser’s observation that: “New teachers from CSULB are getting better every year!”

NEW TEACHER WARRANTY
CSULB has taken the bold step to extend a New Teacher Warranty for their graduates during their first year of teaching. If any new teacher or employer of a new teacher contacts the university to express concerns, the university will provide assistance at no cost.

CSULB: AMONG THE NATION’S LARGEST TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
The university prepares over 1,000 professionals a year, including teachers, principals, school counselors, school psychologists, as well as community counselors and leaders.

MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMS: CSULB PREPARES SCHOOL LEADERS FOR K-12 AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES
CSULB is a university of choice for people who prepare to become leaders in area schools, such as principals and superintendents. The master’s degree program has a long-standing tradition of graduating future leaders in Long Beach and surrounding communities.

DOCTORAL PROGRAM FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS
CSULB was one of the first California State University campuses to award doctoral degrees—Ed.D.s in educational leadership. The program is designed for working professionals who seek to further influence educational policy and decision making. Over 20 educational leaders for public schools and higher education settings graduate each year.
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SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Long Beach College Promise: Under this initiative, three education sectors promise all Long Beach students the opportunity to receive a college education. The Promise provides a variety of educational benefits and services, including:

- Early and continued outreach for students and families
- Tuition-free first semester at Long Beach City College for LBUSD graduates beginning in 2011
- Guaranteed admission at California State University, Long Beach for students who complete minimum college preparatory or community college transfer requirements

Early Assessment Program (EAP): The California Early Assessment Program is administered in conjunction with the state standards test. Its purpose is to provide early feedback on potential remedial needs so that students can address those needs before they leave high school.

- Long Beach Unified School District was the first California school district to mandate the EAP for all 11th grade students.
- Long Beach City College became one of the first community colleges to accept the EAP as a measure of student proficiency.
- EAP courses are jointly designed by school district teachers and university faculty.

Distinguished Faculty in Residence: CSULB appoints select teachers and educational leaders from our partner school districts and community colleges to serve as Distinguished Faculty in Residence. These exceptional practitioners infuse new ideas and enrich the educational programs at CSULB.