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REPORT



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BAKERSFIELD™



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At California State University, Bakersfield, we prepare our Roadrunners – the leaders of tomorrow – to anticipate, embrace and effect change in a world that runs on new ideas and bold vision. This year, our entire community experienced that lesson in a deeply personal way with the retirement of President Lynnette Zelezny, a champion of our students, advocate of this incredible region, and a selfless mentor to so many, including me.

As the first woman to lead this great university, President Zelezny broke a barrier that existed for nearly half a century and, in doing so, she demonstrated that CSUB not only prioritizes the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion but lives by them.

One of the first things President Zelezny did during her tenure was launch the development of a strategic plan to emphasize CSUB's insistence that students come first and that faculty and staff are the soul of our university. But the strategic plan went much further. This living document codified a new electricity we sensed here on campus, a feeling that we were on the verge of an unprecedented era of excellence and innovation and that CSUB had both the honor and obligation to be an agent for good in this region and beyond.

President Zelezny helped us expand our role in the community and dared us to dream bigger, and we will honor her legacy in the way she would want: By continuing to champion our students and region.



VERNON HARPER JR., PH.D.
INTERIM PRESIDENT, CSU BAKERSFIELD

As you look through these pages, you will find a number of achievements that have distinguished CSUB during the 2022-23 academic year.

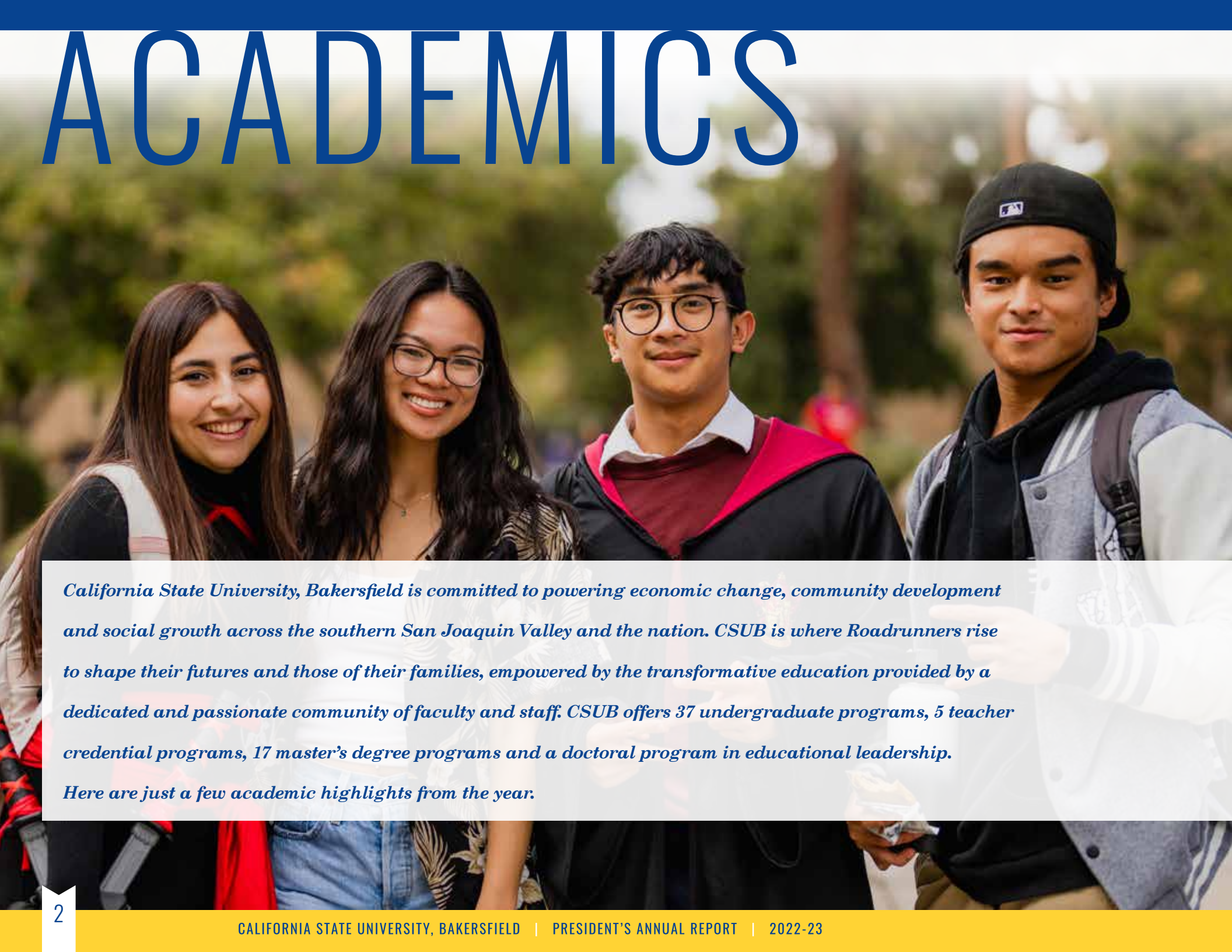
But one pride point is too important not to mention here: CSUB continues to receive top rankings for many of our programs, the affordability of our degrees and the social mobility of graduates, the most important category of all. Why is that category so important? Because when the parents of our students work their entire lives to send their children to this university, they do so with the hope that a college degree will provide the choices and opportunities that perhaps they themselves did not have.

And in keeping with President Zelezny's tradition, I would like to close by expressing the gratitude of the entire CSUB community for the support of Thomas Hardt, the recipient of the 2023 President's Medal, bestowed upon the most dedicated champions of this university.

A distinguished alumnus, Tom has been part of the Cal State Bakersfield family from the early days of our history and is the unofficial father of CSUB baseball. In December of 2022, Tom pledged even more support to the university, improving the experience for fans and players at Hardt Field and enhancing CSUB's reputation as a major competitor in the Big West Conference.

Thank you to Tom and all the CSUB supporters who believe, as we do, that the best hope of our region is found in the eyes of our students.

ACADEMICS



California State University, Bakersfield is committed to powering economic change, community development and social growth across the southern San Joaquin Valley and the nation. CSUB is where Roadrunners rise to shape their futures and those of their families, empowered by the transformative education provided by a dedicated and passionate community of faculty and staff. CSUB offers 37 undergraduate programs, 5 teacher credential programs, 17 master's degree programs and a doctoral program in educational leadership.

Here are just a few academic highlights from the year.

NATIONAL RANKINGS

NO. 1

Nursing Schools in California
Nurse.org, 2023

NO. 7

Best Hispanic-Serving
Institutions in California
Degree Choices, 2024

NO. 10

Best Bang for the Buck: West
Washington Monthly, 2023

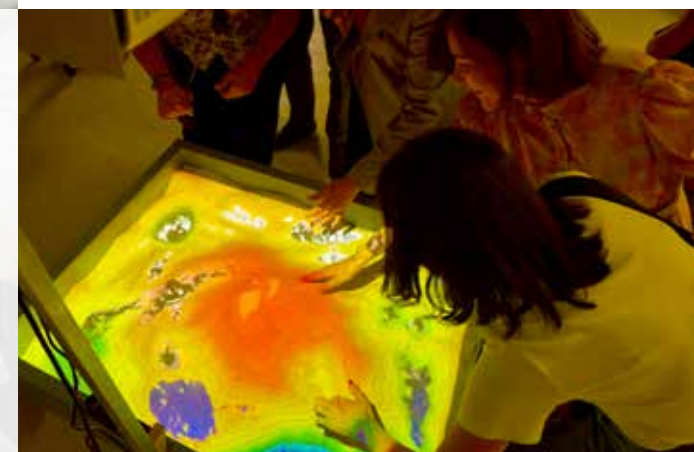


PRESIDENT ZELEZNY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

President Lynnette Zelezny — who made history as the first woman to lead California State University, Bakersfield — announced in June 2023 that she would retire on Dec. 31. Her five-and-a-half-year tenure brought unprecedented growth in student success, philanthropy and financial support as well as deeper involvement with the community and educational partners. CSUB emerged as a regional leader in workforce development, research and innovation during her time here. Dr. Zelezny also guided CSUB through the COVID-19 pandemic, the most profound challenge to students and educators in recent history. “It has been the honor of my career to serve the families of this community and to join hands as we work, dream and strive together for a brighter tomorrow,” she said.

JOURNALISTS FROM CENTRAL ASIA VISIT CSUB TO LEARN ABOUT ENERGY

Over the years, California State University, Bakersfield has had many journalists come to its campus to cover a variety of stories, from research to major gifts to student profiles. Usually these journalists are local, but when the work the university is doing has a wider reach, it catches the eye of those outside of the region — or even the country. On June 5, 2023, CSUB hosted nine foreign journalists, coming from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The tour, which was organized by the Central Asia Media Exchange program, focused on energy security and covered topics like wind and solar energies and carbon management.



NATIONAL RANKINGS

NO. 16

Top Public Schools in the West
US News and World Report, 2023

NO. 22

Top Performers on Social
Mobility in the West
US News and World Report, 2023

NO. 23

Social Mobility Index
CollegeNet, 2023



CSUB RANKED AMONG TOP SCHOOLS FOR SOCIAL MOBILITY

California State University, Bakersfield was recognized as one of the top four-year institutions in the nation that help students from low-income households graduate and transition into successful careers. Nonprofit think tank Education Reform Now ranked CSUB No. 20 out of over 1,400 colleges and universities in its 2023 Social Mobility Elevator rankings. CSUB also ranked third among midsized institutions with up to 10,000 undergraduates.

CSUB AWARDS FIRST PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE

When Karla Herrera decided to change her major from pre-nursing to public health, it was a leap of faith that the brand-new program would be a good fit for her. She had to believe not just in herself but in her university. Herrera was among the first students to enroll in California State University, Bakersfield's public health program when it first launched in the fall of 2021. In May 2023 Herrera became CSUB's first public health graduate just two years after starting the program.



CSUB RECEIVES \$3 MILLION GRANT TO SUPPORT HISPANIC STUDENTS

California State University, Bakersfield received a \$3 million grant in 2023 aimed at transforming the campus experience for Hispanic students. The five-year grant — provided by the U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program — allowed the university to provide new transfer pathways, expand dual enrollment offerings, create new internship opportunities as well as provide a summer program exclusively for transfer students. The goals of the project — titled "Puedes! Caminos, Cariño y Carreras in a Post-Pandemic Era" — are to increase regular and dual enrollment as well as retention and graduation rates among Hispanic, or Latinx, students.



STUDENTS



Nearly 10,000 students are educated at CSUB's main campus and the Antelope Valley campus. The majority are first-generation college students. They represent a wide array of backgrounds, cultures and ambitions but are united by a singular mission: the quest to graduate and use their CSUB education to improve their lives, the lives of their families, and the future of their communities. Here are a few of their stories.

9,399

STUDENTS



UCHECHI OKEY-DIKE AND MINAYA VALENTINE

Uchechi Okey-Dike (above, left) and Minaya Valentine were honored by the Kegley Institute of Ethics at California State University, Bakersfield for their commitment to ethical leadership and their actions to improve the lives of others in our community as part of the 2023 Wendy Wayne Ethics Award.

Okey-Dike graduated in Spring 2023 as a biology major and was a student leader in the Chemistry Club and made impactful contributions to the African Student Association, the Black Student Union and CSU Students for Quality Education.

Valentine is a junior majoring in environmental resource management and worked to support fellow students as a student assistant for the CSUB Food Pantry, the Basic Needs Department and the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship.

"Winning the Wendy Wayne Ethics Award was a surprising way to end the year," Okey-Dike said. "Beyond that, it was a confirmation I am living and acting according to a God-given purpose, surrounded by people who foster my talent and passion for leadership and service."

60%

STAY IN THE REGION
AFTER GRADUATION



2,500+

DEGREES CONFERRED ANNUALLY

DYLAN JONES

Dylan Jones was awarded the 2022 CSU Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement. Of the 500,000 students enrolled in the largest, most diverse system of public higher education in this country, Jones is one of only 23 throughout the CSU to receive the honor.

"Dylan exemplifies the Roadrunner spirit of hard work and determination and the belief that the only way to move forward is by putting one foot in front of the other, day after day," said CSUB President Lynnette Zelezny. "With this award, Dylan is recognized as one of the most accomplished college students in our state and nation. We are so incredibly proud of him."



BIVIANA RUIZ LOPEZ

CSUB's High School Equivalency Program (HEP) helps farmworkers soar and empowers the dreams of runners like Biviana Ruiz Lopez.

Lopez was told about HEP as a high school student, and that information set her on a path to success. Ruiz Lopez's GED helped her get into Taft College and eventually transfer to CSUB, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Spanish in 2021 with a minor in child, adolescent and family studies.

She's now pursuing a master's degree in Spanish at CSUB while working as a program specialist in the university's HEP office, the same place that provided a start for her when she came to the country nine years ago.

ANNIKA GONZALEZ

Annika Gonzalez, a CSUB nursing student, grew up in an underserved community and understood that she wanted to provide those services to others which were accessible to her. She began her volunteer work at Adventist Health Bakersfield's surgical floor waiting room.

Nursing has since opened several doors for community service, including her work as a member of the Community Preventative Health Collaborative Club. This group primarily focuses on volunteer efforts at local community events and provides free health screenings, education and resources, as well as blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose assessments. Gonzalez plans to work in Kern County as a community health nurse after graduating from CSUB.

BERNARDO GARCIA

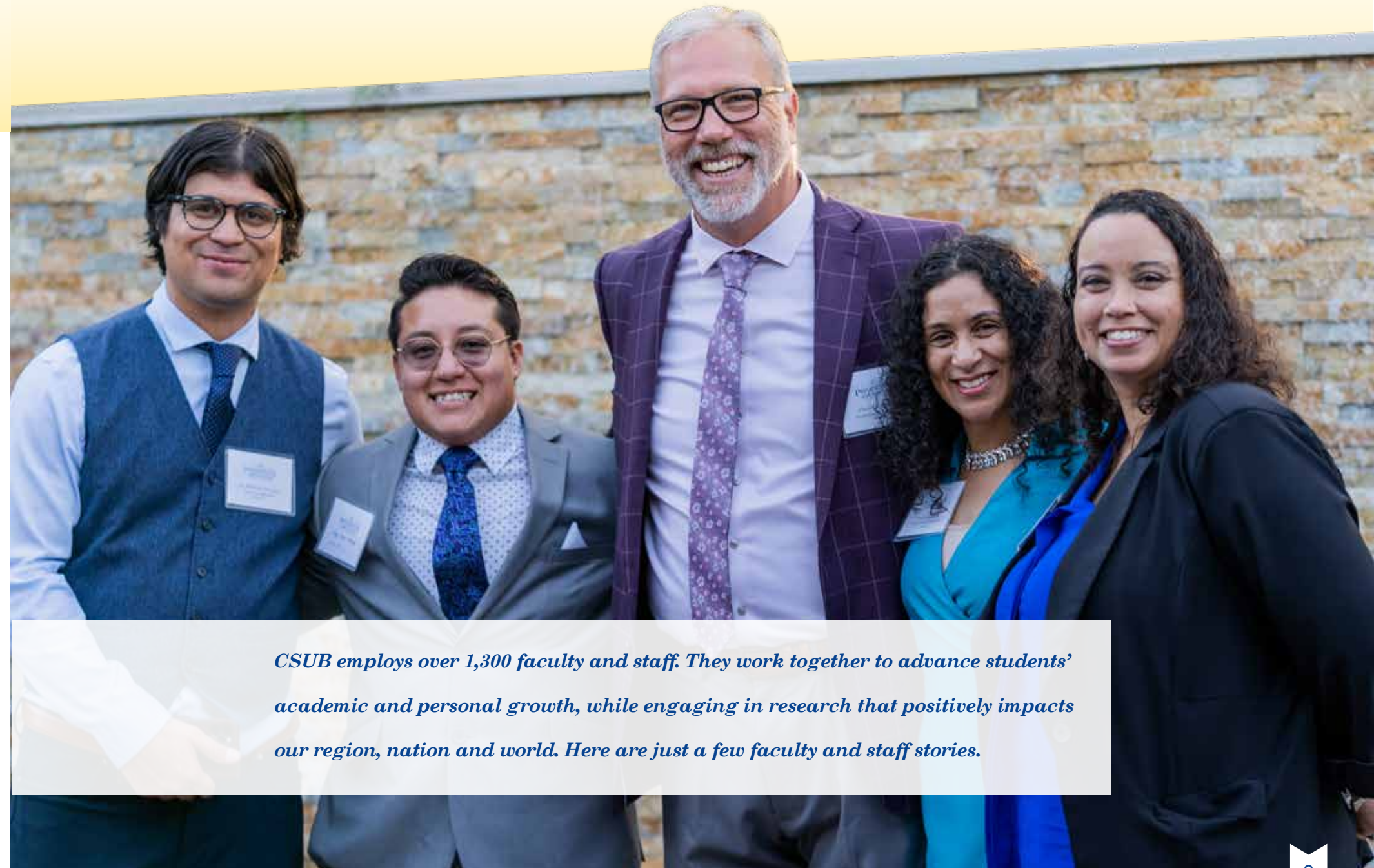
Bernardo Garcia didn't intend to pursue a career in counseling. But growing up in a traditional Hispanic household, Garcia said he saw firsthand how families struggle to understand the importance of mental health.

"My older sister was clinically diagnosed with major depressive disorder, and at the time this was something my family didn't really understand," he said.

His three years in the psychology program at CSUB helped Garcia find his passion for helping other people and gave him a jumpstart on his career through his two years of work in the University Counselor Training Clinic.



FACULTY AND STAFF



CSUB employs over 1,300 faculty and staff. They work together to advance students' academic and personal growth, while engaging in research that positively impacts our region, nation and world. Here are just a few faculty and staff stories.

1,323

FACULTY AND STAFF

FOUR

SCHOOLS ACROSS ALL ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES



HEATHER MACAULAY

Heather Macaulay — director of accounting and reporting services for California State University, Bakersfield’s Student Affairs Office — was selected by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) for its Emerging Leaders Program, a professional development opportunity for mid-level managers.

“I want to make sure that we’re properly serving our students and addressing their needs so that they can find success at CSUB. That’s what these conversations are about in this program. I don’t want to just always be sitting at the table listening — I want to bring solutions and help solve complex issues.”



DR. JENNIFER MCCUNE

Dr. Jennifer McCune is the university registrar at CSUB. But she walked a tough road to that position leading the admissions and records efforts at the university, starting when she walked into the career counseling center at CSUB’s Antelope Valley campus and asked for help finding her way in the educational world. In May 2023 she completed that journey, earning her doctorate degree in educational leadership at CSUB.



TWO

CAMPUSES IN BAKERSFIELD AND ANTELOPE VALLEY



KYLE CONDER

Kyle Conder was named as Director of Athletics for the California State University Roadrunners in September 2022.

Conder set himself apart during a nationwide search, which fielded dozens of top-quality candidates from around the country, and he has accepted the responsibility of becoming just the fourth Director of Athletics in CSUB’s history.

“The appointment of Kyle Conder as director of athletics launches an exciting new era for Division I Athletics at California State University, Bakersfield,” said President Zelezny. “Mr. Conder understands the critical importance of deep commitment to our scholar-athletes and the community we serve.”



DEAN JIANYU “JANE” DONG

As the new dean of the School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering, Dr. Dong sees the unique power and potential of an institution like California State University, Bakersfield.

“CSUB is really a dream place for a leader if you want to make a bigger impact on students and the community,” Dr. Dong said. “As the only four-year institution in Kern County, CSUB plays a very important role in creating education access and career development opportunities. There’s a lot of work to do in the region and there is a significant role CSUB can play, not only on the education side but also within the local community.”



COMMUNITY



CSUB enriches students' educational experiences with programs and services supported by the community. The university also works to engage alumni and supporters to enhance quality of life across Kern County and the Antelope Valley. Here are a few highlights from the year.

Photo (L-R): Kris Tiner, Cynthia Zimmer, Emily Duran, Jennifer Thurston



ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

The 2023 class of inductees into the CSUB Hall of Fame were Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer, U.S. Federal District Judge Jennifer Thurston, Bakersfield College Professor of Music Kris Tiner and Kern Family Health CEO Emily Duran.

"The selection committee had their work cut out for them this year, and we are thrilled to recognize these four incredibly accomplished alumni," said Director of Alumni Engagement Sarah Hendrick. "Leaders in music and the arts, healthcare, and justice, Cynthia, Emily, Jennifer and Kris have dedicated their lives to their crafts, inspired many and positively impacted thousands of lives. We are grateful to call them members of the CSUB alumni family, some of the best and brightest to come from our great institution."



CSUB LAUNCHES OUTREACH TRIPS FOR NURSING STUDENTS

In early July 2021, CSUB nursing students and their professor traveled to Cuzco, Peru for a 10-day trip focused on providing health services to those in the town and its outlying communities. The trip was also the first-ever study abroad opportunity for California State University, Bakersfield's nursing students. At each location, students would admit patients, conduct screenings for blood pressure and glucose levels, give head-to-toe assessments, administer a fluoride dental treatment and work with a doctor onsite to get them started on any necessary medications.

"When we're here in town and in the hospital, everything is so driven by computerized charting and making sure that they are following all the policies and procedures, and I think so much of caring for the patient gets lost in that shuffle," said nursing professor Krystal Ball, who organized the trip. "When you're doing outreach, it's just about you and the patient and what you're providing for them. It's a very powerful situation where they really can key into what drives their passion to want to be a nurse."

SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE SUCCEEDS IN SECOND YEAR

As part of California State University, Bakersfield's Summer Undergraduate Research Experience, Dr. Abdelrehim led four students through a project on the security threat that thermal sensors in computers can pose to data centers. Thermal sensors affected by a malicious hardware trojan could report a temperature higher or lower than what the computer is actually experiencing, with detrimental results either way.

Through SURE, students in CSUB's School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering are able to work with faculty members on research projects over a four-week period. The program, which is sponsored by Chevron, included 12 projects this year that span topics in computer science, biology, engineering, geology and mathematics.



TOM HARDT, "FATHER OF CSUB BASEBALL," RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

California State University, Bakersfield President Lynnette Zelezny has awarded the university's highest honor — the President's Medal — to business leader, philanthropist and alumnus Thomas Hardt for his extraordinary support of CSUB students. In December 2022, Hardt pledged \$1.5 million to upgrade Hardt Field, improving the experience for fans and players, and elevating CSUB's reputation as a major competitor in the Big West Conference. This gift comes on top of nearly two decades of support for the university.



"Tom has shown his love for the Roadrunner family in countless ways since the earliest days of Cal State Bakersfield, when he was a student," Zelezny said. "His support has helped students from all corners of the university, and his passion for our baseball program transformed a dirt lot into a field of dreams."

´RUNNER BOOKSTORE RENOVATION



The university held a grand reopening in January 2023 to celebrate the renovation of the `Runner Bookstore, which added new flooring, lighting, a charging station and an expanded product line. The new store graphics and paint scheme design were completed by the Marketing and Communications team in University Advancement.



"This has been a real countdown for us, and today is the day. I hope that you will find the spirit, you will find the belonging and you will feel the pride of being a `Runner," said President Lynnette Zelezny. "The `Runner Bookstore plays a very essential role in helping our students succeed, from support with textbooks to special orders and much more. I'm very pleased with this amazing renovation."



CSUB HOSTS ENGINEERING DAY

California State University, Bakersfield's School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering welcomed 500 students from 15 area high schools in February 2023 for its annual Engineering Day.

High school students were invited to the university to learn more about engineering in general, NSME's programs specifically in the discipline and career paths they can pursue if they earn their engineering degree.

"I'm so glad to see many of you are already inspired to become a future engineer," Dr. Jane Dong, dean of NSME, told the students. "Kern County needs more local engineers. Engineers will help to build a better future economy for our communities."



PHILANTHROPY



CSUB raised approximately \$4.6 million during the 2022-23 fiscal year in its effort to support student success.

More than 1,200 generous donors supported the transformative power of a CSUB education.

MORE THAN
1,200
GENEROUS DONORS

APPROXIMATELY
\$4.6
MILLION RAISED IN 2022-23



NOTABLE GIFTS PROVIDED DURING THE 2022-23 FISCAL YEAR INCLUDE:

- Tom Hardt gave \$1,500,000 in support of the Hardt Baseball Field.
- California Resources Corporation gave \$560,000 to create the CRC Energy Transition Lecture Series and the CRC Carbon TerraVault Scholarship.
- Chevron gave \$550,000 to support the SURE Program, Engineering Machine Shop, CSUB Fab Lab and NSME Faculty Laboratory Infrastructure Program.
- College Futures Foundation pledged \$250,000 to fund the College Futures-CSUB AV Chatbot.
- The Estate of Charles McCall gave \$121,000 to the Charles H McCall Athletics Scholarship Endowment and Charles H McCall Political Science Scholarship Endowment.
- Crankstart Foundation gave \$120,000 to support the Crankstart Scholarship Program.



In 2022-23 the `Runners on the Rise campaign continued to pursue the goal of bringing \$55 million in philanthropic support to the university by July 2024 to help elevate CSUB to even higher levels of excellence.

The campaign has three priorities: supporting future leaders, fostering academic excellence and building the community. Donor support will increase student access to higher education, support student-athletes and strengthen programs and support services.



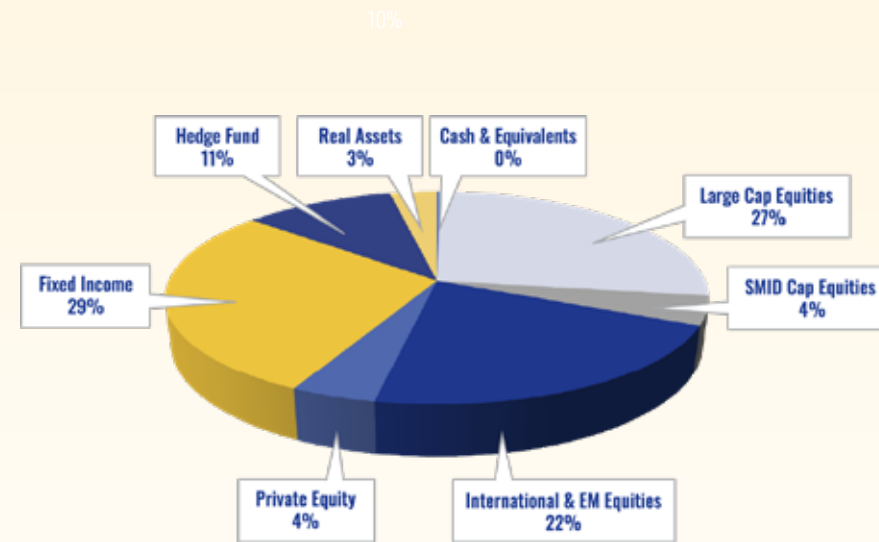
"You get a lot of one-on-one time with your professors and I think that is really important in developing your skills as a scientist. I would like to thank all of the President's Associates for their funding into the Student Research Scholar's program."

- Ryan Delmore, Biochemistry student, U.S. Navy veteran

Philanthropic gifts for endowments are critical to ensure a permanent source of support for CSUB students. Endowments create an enduring legacy for donors while transforming the lives and futures of many bright, promising students, and the exceptional faculty who teach and mentor them.

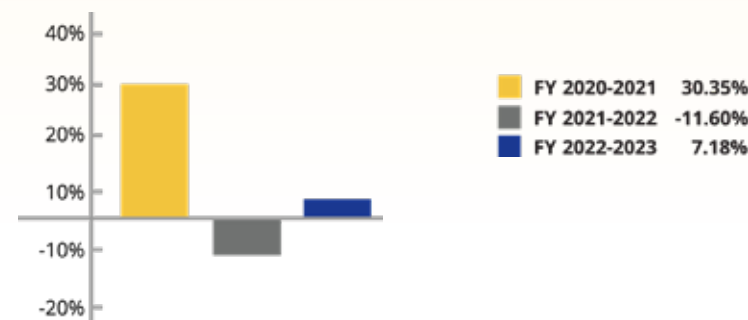
ENDOWMENT FUND ASSET ALLOCATION

The endowment pool is invested in accordance with the CSU Bakersfield Foundation's investment policy, which is designed with principal preservation and controlled growth as the main focus. With this long-term objective in mind, the portfolio is a diversified mix of investments across a broad range of asset classes, including equities (stocks), fixed income (bonds) and alternative investments. The assets are managed externally by professional investment managers hired by the CSU Bakersfield Foundation and are closely monitored by the Foundation's Finance Committee.



The CSU Bakersfield Foundation invested endowment balance as of June 30, 2023 is \$36.7 million, allocated as follows:

RATE OF RETURN



ATHLETICS



Over 300 student-athletes have excelled in competition and in the classroom. Here are 10 Roadrunner highlights from the 2022-23 year.

CULMINATED
3.20
 GPA FOR THE 2022-23
 ACADEMIC YEAR

1 Scholar-athletes continued an annual departmental GPA of 3.0 cumulative or higher, a streak that now runs for 17-consecutive terms and culminated a 3.20 GPA for the 2022-2023 academic year.

2 Renovation was completed for the women's locker room to accommodate six women's teams.

3 A \$1.5 million gift from Tom Hardt was made to to build Hardt Field Fan Center including restroom facilities and ticketing and merchandising space.

4 Athletics brought back the popular Bakersfield social event "The Spring BBQ" and welcomed over 1,500 fans and supporters to the Hall Family Plaza and Icardo Center.



5 Athletics celebrated 50th Anniversary of Title IX with Bianca Smith, first African American woman to serve as professional baseball coach, working in the Boston Red Sox organization.



6 Four separate "education field trip days" were hosted for local elementary and middle schools. Nearly 11,000 Bakersfield youth were welcomed to campus by men's soccer, women's volleyball, men's basketball and women's basketball organizations. That resulted in the largest crowd in Bakersfield history to watch women's volleyball at 2,839 on Friday, September 16, 2022.



7 Chance Rich made the NCAA Championships for wrestling as the No. 21 in the 133 weight class, making it 51 straight years of Cal State Bakersfield Wrestling sending at least one student-athlete to the tournament.

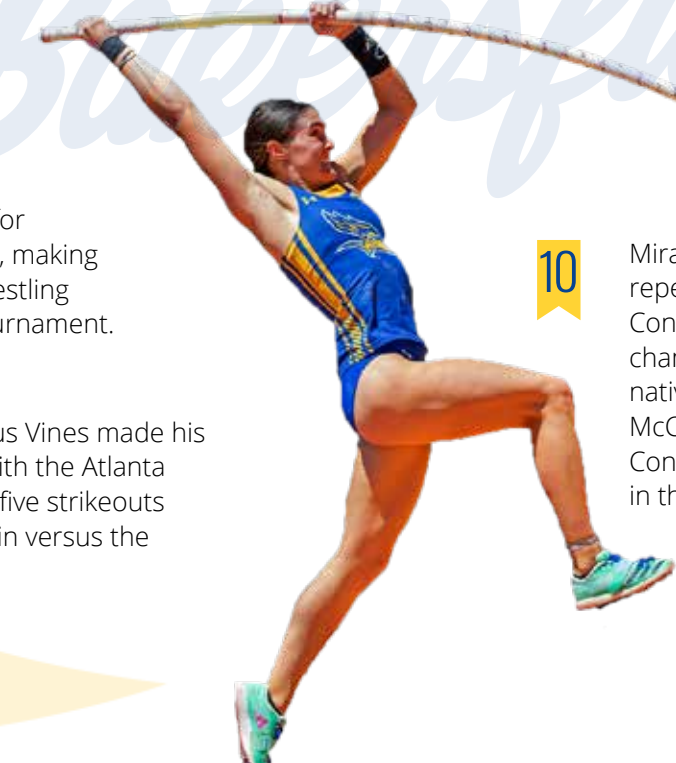


8 Former CSUB Roadrunner Darius Vines made his Major League Baseball Debut with the Atlanta Braves with six innings pitched, five strikeouts and 1 walk and picked up the win versus the Colorado Rockies.

9 Vili Sivec was the only freshman to win a 2023 individual MPSF title, taking first-place in the 200 free while earning MPSF Freshman of the Year.



Bakersfield



10 Miranda Miller repeated as Big West Conference pole vault champion. Bakersfield native Kynnedi McCall was Big West Conference Champion in the 400 meter.

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