

RAISING to RISE



Staff Feature

Marina Manzano, CSUB double alumna (B.A. 2000, MPA 2019), serves as the Director and Chief Procurement Officer at CSUB. In this role, she leads procurement management and contract services and advises the CFO on procurement issues. Marina's CSUB procurement career started nearly 30 years ago when the department hired her as a student assistant.

A native of Delano, Marina attended Delano High and first visited CSUB as a participant in the Teachers of Tomorrow Summer Camp. This week-long experience introduced Marina, a first-generation college student, to our campus and a dream of attending the university was born. In the summer of 1994, Marina enrolled at CSUB as an EOP student and attended the EOP Summer Bridge Program with EJ Callahan, Liz Gamez and Tommy Holiwell. A highlight of Marina's undergraduate experience was participating in the Model United Nations (MUN) Program in New York City. Marina remarked, "it was my first time on an airplane and traveling out of state. Sitting in the Assembly Hall in the United Nations Headquarters during the MUN Opening Ceremony is an experience I'll never forget."

Marina's life has been profoundly influenced by mentoring. Her first mentor was her grandmother, who shaped her strong work ethic and inspired her to have a loving, caring and generous spirit towards others. She credits her first CSUB supervisors with providing her with meaningful job experience and training as a student worker, which allowed her to feel more connected to the campus. Marina feels that the small campus community at CSUB provides our students with unique opportunities to be connected to mentors and one another. Marina is passionate about mentoring students and colleagues, as evidenced by her involvement in CSUB's Organization of Women Leaders (OWLS).

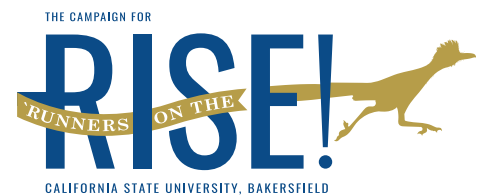
A loyal supporter of CSUB through employee payroll deduction, Marina recently decided to name CSUB as a beneficiary to her 457 retirement plan. In Marina's words, "I see my planned gift as an investment in the CSU and this campus; returning investments previously made in me. The CSU invested in me by accepting me as a student at CSUB, by providing me with a State University Grant and by accepting me into the EOP program. CSUB first invested in me by hiring me as student assistant, which eventually led to being hired as a full-time staff member," Manzano reflected. "Later, CSUB invested in me by providing a fee waiver that allowed me to earn my Master's in Public Administration. I have tremendous pride in being a double alumna of CSUB, and I hope my gift allows the university to continue to prosper after I'm gone so that people like me, a first-generation student from a small town, can have the same experiences and opportunities."



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What is "Raising to Rise?"

This faculty and staff Initiative is a collaborative effort that offers every faculty and staff member at CSUB the opportunity to make a gift to support student success and our innovative programs. It is also an opportunity to build awareness of the various programs and initiatives offered by CSUB.



No matter the size or designation of the gift can make an impact and support programs and scholarships, or any of our academic colleges focused on producing outstanding students that will go out to our community and beyond and have a positive influence on people they come in contact with.

Leave a Legacy

To learn how you can utilize your retirement assets to leave a legacy at CSUB, please contact Jane Couperus, Director of Planned Giving, at 661.654.3965 or jcouperus@csub.edu.

To learn more about the CSUB faculty and staff initiative, visit csub.edu/studentsuccess/#campaign