

May 2022



SCAN ME



FOR FULL REPORT

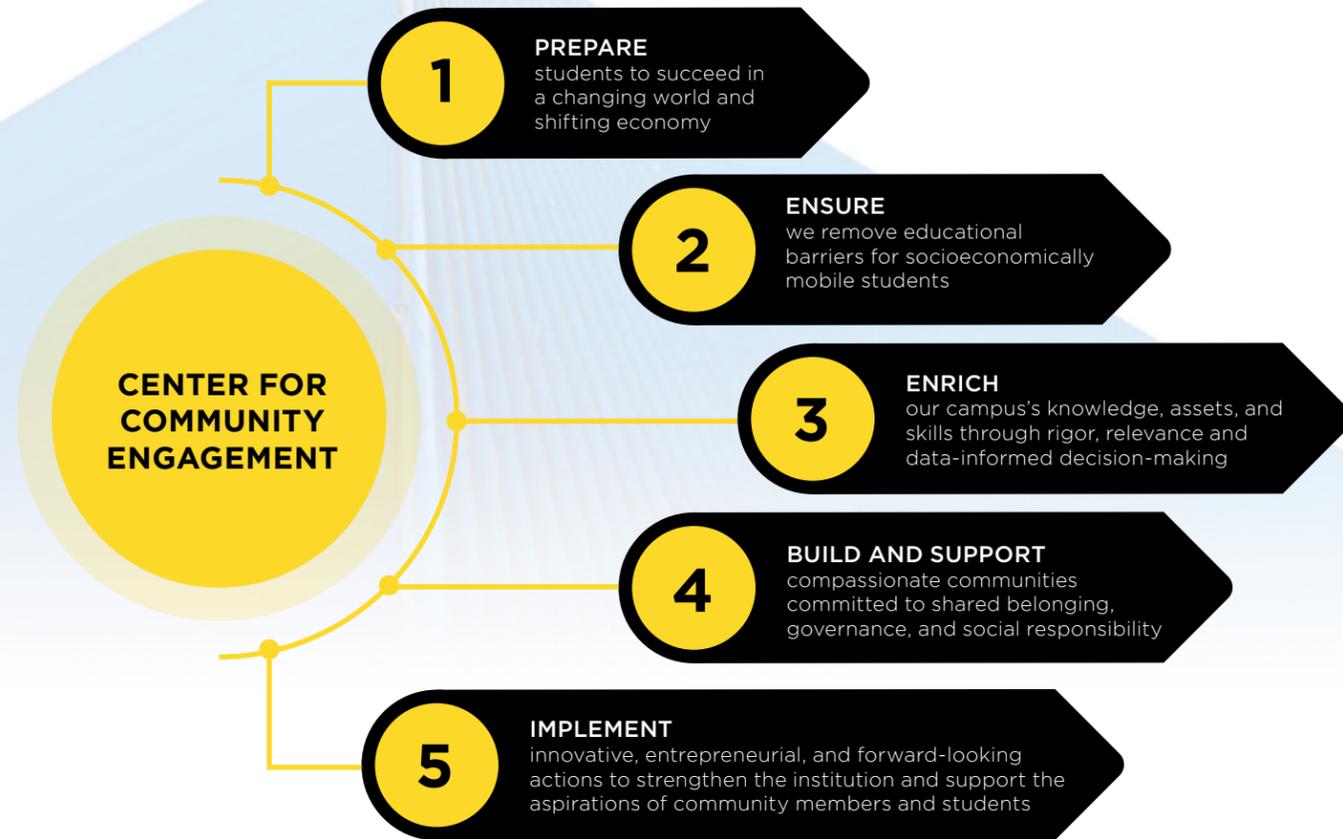
ADVANCING BEACH 2030 THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

A Comprehensive Review of
Community Engagement
Programs and Practices



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

It is with great enthusiasm that I share this summary of the recent comprehensive review of the Center's practices and programs. The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) is helping to advance CSULB's Beach 2030 Strategic Priorities through a broad range of programs, initiatives, research, projects and practices that:



We achieve this through our commitments to equity, inclusion, diversity and excellence that are reflected in all of our efforts epitomized by mutually beneficially and reciprocal relationships/partnerships around equity, social justice and the public good. On behalf of the CCE team, I am pleased to share a few highlights from the report about our keys to success; the impacts of our work on students; and recommendations for strengthening our efforts.

- Juan M. Benitez, PhD - Executive Director

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Community engagement prepares students to be a force for the public good. Faculty members shared, "students need this first-hand experience to acquire real-life knowledge that is deeply embedded in a course and the community." Faculty find that community-based learning is life-changing for students, helping them to determine what to do with their majors and careers, and allowing them to create deeper understanding about themselves and their role in society.

THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, STUDENTS:

- Develop an understanding of local, regional, and/or global social issues, needs, strengths, problems and resources.
- Develop an understanding of the intersectionality of race, gender, and social class as they relate to community resources.
- Develop personal and professional skills (e.g., communication skills, analytical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, interpersonal skills, adaptability, leadership skills) that are transferable to academic classes and impact career preparation and personal development.
- Demonstrate, through purposeful reflection, an understanding of the value of community engagement and of their own abilities and limitations to impact local, regional, and/or global social problems.
- Explore similarities and differences of values and social identity between students and community members with whom they serve, as well as among members of the community.
- Synthesize personal knowledge, course content, and community-based experience(s) to deepen learning.

HOW DO WE ADVANCE BEACH 2030?

KEY AREAS OF SUCCESS:



A SHARED VISION

The Center for Community Engagement advances the vision of California State University, Long Beach by striving to be a force for good at the forefront of public education in California and the world.

EXAMPLE: The CCE led a campus-wide self-assessment of community engagement, documenting important aspects of institutional mission, identity and commitments, institutional values, learning outcomes, finances, curricular practices, co-curricular activities, assessment, and partnerships. As a result, CSULB has received the Carnegie Elective Classification on Community Engagement in 2008 and again in 2015 and is gearing up for our upcoming reapplication within the next few years.



COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

The CCE builds and nurtures mutually beneficial, reciprocal partnerships between community organizations, students, faculty, and staff invested in social equity, social justice and the public good, to address critical issues such as climate action, K-12 education, racism, and poverty.

EXAMPLE: Since 2018 the CCE and Department of Economics have partnered with Long Beach Economic Development Department and one of Long Beach's leading non-profit organizations supporting the Latino community, Centro CHA, Inc. to collect, analyze, and report on the economic status of the Latinx communities of Long Beach. The *Long Beach Latino Economic Report* provides an invaluable resource to Long Beach non-profits, business communities, and policy makers and is considered by Centro CHA as its "most valuable asset."



CAMPUS-LEVEL SOLUTIONS

The CCE initiates and sustains efficient, collaborative campus-wide systems that facilitate community engagement activities.

EXAMPLE: The CCE introduced *S4 @ The Beach* (S4) to CSULB in 2016. This Chancellor's Office online tool supports high-impact experiential learning by streamlining administrative processes, improving student access, and facilitating experiences relevant to students' academic and personal development and future careers. The CCE provides support to other programs seeking effective ways to document and manage community-based learning. S4 is used at CSULB for Service Learning, College of Education clinical placements, and is being adopted by four academic internship programs.



ENGAGED STUDENTS AND COLLEAGUES

The Center for Community Engagement supports faculty and academic program staff in connecting community engagement experiences to coursework, research, and programs

EXAMPLE: Through its premier Service Learning Program, the CCE has been a driving force in the engagement of thousands of students and hundreds of CSULB faculty with the community. Since 1998, the program has engaged students from a wide variety of disciplines representing every college in robust service learning, faculty-mentored research, and hands-on learning experiences in and out of the classroom. One faculty member shared that "service learning is some of the best work I have done as a professor and as a human."

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for Advancing Beach 2030 Through Community Engagement are presented below. To view the full list of recommendations and their implementation, go to: www.csulb.edu/cce

- ▶ Engage in university and community dialogue to promote and share a deeper understanding of the CCE's mission and impact.
- ▶ Strengthen university support for CCE's campus-wide work.
- ▶ Establish a campus definition and framework of "Community Engagement" and "Community Partnership."
- ▶ Create an Advisory Board to support future planning and champion the work of the CCE.
- ▶ Develop a multi-year, university aligned marketing and communications plan.
- ▶ Expand strategies for supporting community-based participatory action research.
- ▶ Leverage university resources and incentives for campus community to build authentic, sustainable community partnerships.
- ▶ Streamline the implementation of the CSU Long Beach Policy on Service Learning (19-13) and the Chancellor's Office data collection efforts through the Community Engaged Learning Initiative.
- ▶ Develop a plan to engage CCE Alumni.
- ▶ Establish university protocols and support that accommodate external funding opportunities that promote community engagement and partnerships.
- ▶ Secure appropriate and reliable funding and staffing to effectively implement CCE's mission.

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GRATITUDE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Center for Community Engagement would like to extend our greatest gratitude for our community and campus partners who contributed to the report through focus groups or interviews. The meaningful work we do would not be possible without the support, participation, and assets of all of our partners. Thank you for all that you do every day in contributing positively to educating CSU Long Beach students and to the overall health of our community!