

## Special Message from the Office of the President and Office of the Provost regarding Academic Program Planning

CTState-Announcement <CTState-Announcement@ct.edu>

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**October 2, 2023**

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

We hope this message finds you well.

At CT State, there is a sense of pride as we enter the 2023-2024 academic year as the largest community college in New England. As a college, we are committed to elevating the work associated with our mission which includes, but is not limited to, providing access to academically rigorous and innovative education and training focused on student success. This will take focus, strategic thinking and planning, data-informed decision making, and feedback from talented faculty and staff. In addition, it will cause us to take a deeper look at how we best position our academic portfolio to meet the student and workforce demands both now and in the future. One strategy that will assist us in providing innovative and relevant academic programs and training is a comprehensive institution-wide Academic Program Planning (APP) process.

On June 28, 2023, CSCU Board of Regents passed a resolution charging the CSCU Chancellor to lead all CSCU institutions in an urgent and comprehensive effort to review academic and student support programs to ensure that they meet the mission of CSCU in a cost-effective manner.

The purpose of the APP process is to assess the effectiveness, relevance, and alignment of our existing academic programs and support services with the rapidly evolving demands of our society and the needs of our students. Such analysis will provide us with valuable insights into the strengths and areas for improvement within each academic program, providing benchmarking data for alignment with higher education trends, and allowing us to make informed decisions on curriculum enhancements and resource allocation. Given the projected budget deficits, this program planning process will give us an opportunity to gather data and review our program portfolio and provide valuable context for informed decision-making within our governance structure.

In the coming month, we will be gathering input from our academic leaders, faculty, cabinet members, governance groups, and other key stakeholders. Based on the insights received, we will improve our academic plan that outlines programs to modify, monitor, and (new program opportunities) to pursue. CT State is committed to shared governance in this process; there will be communication with and participation from governance bodies on recommendations. Furthermore, we want to use this as an opportunity to maximize programs at CT State.

We believe that by collectively engaging in this academic program planning process, we can elevate the quality of

education we offer, better align our programs with higher education trends, and ensure that our graduates are well-prepared to excel in their chosen career in the marketplace. Further, we can leverage our partnerships with 4-year institutions, and the state business and industry workforce. With a focus on academic and student support programming, we continue to position CT State to meet students for years to come.

The APP process is important for ensuring that our curriculum and services are impactful, meet market demands, and are sustainable. Thank you for all you do to impact our students and the state. We look forward to your engagement, ideas, and support in this endeavor. We are not soliciting volunteers currently. However, we will soon. As we form the formal team, volunteers will be solicited through statewide shared governance. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact either of us.

Best regards,

John Maduko, MD, President  
CT State Community College

Dr. Levy Brown, Provost  
CT State Community College



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