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TO: CSU Teacher Recruitment Project Directors

DATE: August 22, 2005

FROM: Beverly L. Young *BY*
Assistant Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: Science and Mathematics Teacher Recruitment

The May 2004 compact between Governor Schwarzenegger and California's higher education community identified a critical shortfall in the number of K-12 teachers in science and mathematics as a problem that must be solved if the state is to realize full economic recovery and growth. Teacher supply and demand projections suggest that all segments of higher education must redouble their efforts to recruit and prepare the teachers who will be needed in the next decade to serve in California's public schools, especially in the areas of mathematics and science. In response, the CSU and the UC have both initiated efforts to dramatically increase the number of these teachers.

The CSU Teacher Recruitment Projects (TRP) provide an opportunity to address this critical need in California by shifting the focus of this very successful existing program across the state. For at least the upcoming 2005-2006 year, the CSU will ask campuses to focus the funds and resources of the TRP on the recruitment of mathematics and science teachers for the coming year. The Chancellor's Office staff will convene a meeting of the TRP directors early this fall to discuss and identify key strategies that will assist the system in fulfilling our commitment to substantially impact the numbers of math and science teachers available to our public schools.

The CSU Teacher Recruitment Projects (TRP) have focused in recent years on making California's teaching workforce more inclusive. The goal of TRP has been to attract participants from environments in which teaching has not been a common career goal, assisting these students in qualifying for entrance into the teaching profession. Participants have been recruited from the broadest spectrum possible, and have included teacher aides from K-12 schools, as well as secondary school students, community college students, and undergraduate students who are interested in teaching as a profession. Through your diligent efforts, the TRP had close to 10,000 participants in 2004, for which you are to be commended. Without your dedication and hard work, we would not enjoy this level of impact.

I thank you for your efforts to date, and look forward to hearing about your work in the coming year.

BY/ssg

c: CSU Presidents
CSU Academic Council
CSU Deans and Associate Deans of Education
Charles B. Reed
Keith O. Boyum