Recognized as a leader in community service learning, the liberal arts, the sciences, and international education, SF State is also a major civic force, partnering with government, business, and educational leaders to advance both the University and the region. The campus houses one of the nation’s top film schools, and its creative writing department is one of the most respected in the country. The excellent science programs at SF State include cutting-edge stem cell biology training, a premed program that enjoys an 85 percent medical school acceptance rate, and a model science enrichment mentorship program that was recently honored by President Barack Obama.

High Magnitude Economic Impact
San Francisco State’s annual impact on the Bay Area region and the State of California is enormous:

- Annual spending related to San Francisco State ($617 million) generates a total impact of $930 million on the regional economy, and more than $1 billion on the statewide economy.
- This impact sustains more than 7,000 jobs in the region and statewide nearly 9,000 jobs.
- Per year, the impact generates more than $55.4 million in local and $62 million in statewide tax revenue.
- Even greater—more than $3 billion of the earnings by alumni from San Francisco State are attributable to their CSU degrees, which creates an additional $6 billion of industry activity throughout the state.

San Francisco State University improves California’s economy with research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

- CSU has responded to the challenge of providing sufficient graduates in the fast-growing fields of health care and life sciences. San Francisco State University ranks first among the CSUs in the number of sciences graduates who subsequently earn a University of California doctorate.
- Named by *Entertainment Weekly* as one of the nation’s top film schools, SF State counts more than 13 Oscar wins among its alumni, including screenwriter/director Steve Zaillian (*Schindler’s List*). On screen, SF State-trained actors include Danny Glover, Annette Bening, Jeffrey Tambor, and Alex Borstein.
SF State has one of the oldest and most respected creative writing departments in the nation. Alumni include Pulitzer-winning poets Philip Schultz and Rae Armantrout; best-selling authors Anne Rice, Po Bronson, Frances Mayes, and Ernest Gaines; and California’s poet laureate, Carol Muske-Dukes.

SF State is a major training ground for lawyers and lawmakers in California. It ranks 18th among the top 20 undergraduate schools whose alumni go on to be admitted to the State Bar. Many attorneys who trace their undergraduate years to San Francisco State have advanced to holding public office.

SF State’s Student Enrichment Office is a nationally respected model for helping students succeed in the life sciences. It helps send 20 to 25 underrepresented minority students into doctoral programs each year. Founder Frank Bayliss’s mentoring work has earned him a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring from President Barack Obama.

SF State is a new training ground for future stem cell researchers, with support from a $1.7 million grant from the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM). The University’s new stem cell biology training program prepares a skilled workforce that will keep California on the leading edge of stem cell research.

San Francisco State University enhances the quality of life in the Bay Area through research, arts and community service.

- In academic year 2008–2009, 38 percent of SF State students enrolled in community service learning courses, contributing more than 506,760 hours to the surrounding community—equal to nearly $5 million in services, if paid at the San Francisco minimum wage.

- The Willie L. Brown, Jr. Leadership Center at San Francisco State University provides students with an opportunity to gain professional experience working in the public sector, while preparing a diverse, qualified, and well-educated workforce for Bay Area public agencies. The center also offers a speaker series and leadership programs for working professionals in the public sector.

- The SF Promise program at San Francisco State University received the Champion for College Opportunity Award for its efforts to promote a college-going culture in the city’s public schools. In presenting the award, the Campaign for College Opportunity recognized SF Promise for the sense of hope that it instills in public school students, beginning in middle school, that attending college is possible for them. A partnership among SF State, the City of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Unified School District, SF Promise guarantees access to a college education for all San Francisco public school graduates who meet eligibility requirements.

“I knew I loved acting, but at San Francisco State I got the chance to develop that love. I am grateful for the safe, challenging environment I had in which to educate myself, develop my aspirations and, most importantly, a place where I could practice and learn to trust and value my own individual creative instincts.”

Annette Bening
Actress and Academy Award nominee