Concluding Remarks of Chancellor Charles B. Reed
CSU Summit on Transformative Change in Teacher Preparation
February 14, 2011

• I want to close by thanking you all for your valuable participation today.

• When CSU Trustee Herb Carter first envisioned this event, he had hoped it would make important contributions in California and nationally, building on significant initiatives of CSU.

• I know he will be pleased to learn that it became such a seminal event, bringing together state and national leaders to lay out promising solutions to some of the most challenging educational issues of our times.
• From today’s summit, we can draw at least five primary conclusions that pertain to long-term educational transformation: (1) advancing a range of productive partnerships, (2) achieving systemic reform, (3) continuously expanding upon excellence, (4) connecting promising initiatives, and (5) fostering research into new approaches and innovations.

• The first conclusion of the summit is to advance teacher education partnerships across sectors of education and with key public and private partners.

• Through collaborations between higher education and P-12 schools and districts, we can attain new levels of quality in preparing teachers. Through alignment between universities and community colleges, we can make
pathways into teaching careers accessible to students of diverse backgrounds.

- And through partnerships with foundations and business and industry leaders, we can better equip teachers to prepare students for the 21st century workforce.

- The second conclusion calls for creating major impacts through systemic and comprehensive reforms. In a number of major CSU successes, including its federal Teacher Quality Partnership Grants and its Mathematics and Science Teacher Initiative, a key ingredient has been initiating bold strategies to achieve large impacts.

- As we expand best practices, we must encourage continued reforms that involve teacher recruitment, preparation, induction, and evaluation; and engaging multiple campuses in efforts that include their primary P-12 and community college partners.
• The third conclusion relates to continuously expanding upon what works. We have heard of many exemplary programs that hold promise for transformative impacts across California and nation. But replicating effective approaches can be difficult.

• The larger promise of these innovative programs can be fulfilled through analytically-based, strategic approaches for expansion. By doing this, we can take advantage of these innovative approaches and spread them to additional locations across the state.

• The fourth conclusion pertains to the connections between advancing world-class preparation of teachers and accomplishing other top education goals.
We have seen the integral connection between the development of outstanding new teachers and closing the achievement gap. These two goals contribute to one another in major ways.

Similarly, we have seen how strategies for improving students’ college and career readiness strengthen and are themselves strengthened by close connections with teacher education.

And we have seen the ways in which new pathways into teaching for students from diverse backgrounds enhance and are enhanced by the university’s access mission.

It is in aligning these priorities that the greatest promise exists for accomplishing our goals.
• The fifth conclusion relates to developing new innovations in teacher preparation.

• Studying innovations has had a great impact in informing the new directions that CSU campuses and their partners have led. We need to sustain our commitment to generating new knowledge through these important initiatives.

• The CSU in many ways represents a laboratory for the nation in teacher education. We can take advantage of our unique position to study teacher preparation techniques to learn what is most effective.

• We can develop a research agenda that takes advantage of the CSU’s distinctive potential, building on the pioneering and robust systemwide evaluation system that it established a decade ago and has continued to build.
• I am very pleased with the scope and significance of what has been accomplished today. Although Herb Carter could not be here today, I know that he also appreciates all of the work and discussions that have gone into today’s summit.

• You can be assured that we will work with colleagues inside and outside of CSU to advance the summit’s conclusions. I sincerely thank each of you for your important roles today and invite you to be our collaborators as we move forward.

• Thank you again for all of your hard work here today.