

Monday's Message – April 11, 2011

Greetings everyone

Universities around the world consider accreditation among their most distinguishing characteristics. Accreditation is designed to evaluate the university or program's mission and objectives to ensure students receive a quality education. The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – or AACSB International – is the governing body that recognizes worldwide excellence in management education. It is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees in business and accounting.

I am proud to share that our [College of Business Administration has maintained its accreditation](#) in this prestigious organization. Only 607 schools of business, or less than 5% worldwide, maintain accreditation. A business program must undergo a rigorous internal review every five years. The program must demonstrate its continued commitment to the 21 quality standards relating to faculty qualification, strategic management of resources and interactions of faculty and students. The program must also exhibit a commitment to continuous improvement and the achievement of learning goals in degree programs.

Congratulations to Dean Richard Lapidus and all of the faculty, staff and students in the CBA for this important accomplishment.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to senior track athlete [Lance Walkington](#), who qualified for the NCAA Track and Field Championships in the javelin. Lance will advance to nationals after a throw of 222 feet on March 26 at the Cal Nevada Invitational. We also have some provisional qualifiers, including the men's 4 x 400 relay team, 5,000-meter distance runner Tiffany Dinh, and Mia Moreno in the 400-meter hurdles.

Our [Bronco baseball team](#) is in the hunt for a CCAA conference playoff spot. College baseball on a warm Saturday afternoon is great family entertainment. Cal Poly Pomona will return home to Scolinos Field this Saturday, April 16, at 11 a.m. when we host Cal State San Bernardino in a doubleheader.

[Disability Awareness Day](#), an annual event on campus and across the country, celebrates the ABILITIES of people with disabilities. Our community is coming together this Friday, April 15, with a series of lectures and presentations in the Bronco Student Center. The keynote address will be delivered by Chad Crittenden, a triathlete and amputee, starting at noon. For more details and registration information, visit the website on your screen:

<http://dsa.csupomona.edu/ada/programs.asp>

The California State University Executive Council, made up of every CSU President as well as the Chancellor and his senior leadership team, will be convening this week in Long Beach. Discussions will certainly focus on how we plan to mitigate a potential cataclysmic cut to our general fund budget.

The Chancellor and presidents will likely focus on what percentage could be offset centrally, the likelihood of an additional fee increase, how enrollment could be impacted, and a common understanding that would enable each campus to manage its unique budget. To say this is complicated would be an extreme understatement. But this is the job at hand if we are going to maintain the integrity of our academic programs and give our students a fighting chance to graduate in a reasonable window of time. Cal Poly Pomona has made it a priority this year to offer courses that allow our committed students to maintain a full course load if they desire. Our students will average around 13 units this year. 12 units is classified as full-time.

When we talk about the 2011-12 academic year, I have grave concerns about our ability maintain that level. If we enroll too many new students, we won't be able to give everyone a realistic series of course offerings. But limiting enrollment means that many students in our region would be turned away, forced to fight for narrowed opportunities at a community college, or risk substantial debt at a private or out-of-state university. For some, there are no real options. The foundation of the CSU's mission is access. That value is at risk today.

We are roughly a month away from the Governor's May Revise, which will hopefully give the CSU system and other state agencies greater clarity on what we can expect for 2011-12. The work that we do right now will better prepare the university for whatever outcomes occur.

I'll see you next week.