



THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

BAKERSFIELD

July 1, 2024

CHANNEL ISLANDS

CHICO

Dear Tribal Leaders,

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

The California State University (CSU) is taking a comprehensive approach to developing a systemwide policy to ensure that each of our universities fully and in a timely manner complies with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (CalNAGPRA). The commitment to meaningful consultation and collaboration with California Tribes and the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) is critical to our policy development process and compliance with AB 389. The Assembly Bill, sponsored by Assembly member James Ramos, requires that the CSU employ immediate actions to comply with the NAGPRA laws and prioritize repatriation.

EAST BAY

FRESNO

FULLERTON

HUMBOLDT

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

This letter is to notify you of our intent to initiate and conduct meaningful consultation with California Indian Tribes during a 90-day period between September 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024. During this time, we would appreciate your feedback on the enclosed Working Draft Policy for Consultation Purpose. The draft is also available on our [website](#) where you may leave feedback at any time and request follow-up and/or schedule consultation.

MARITIME ACADEMY

MONTEREY BAY

NORTHRIDGE

Earlier this year, we established a working group to lead the systemwide policy development process. The working group members have expertise in NAGPRA/CalNAGPRA laws and regulations and in the development, implementation, and the execution of repatriation policies. Ten listening sessions were conducted across California this past spring and more than 50 tribes were represented at the various events. If you were able to attend a session, I want to thank you for your time and your highly valued contribution to this process. Throughout the listening sessions, a number of common concerns and suggestions were raised. Whenever possible, those issues have been acknowledged and incorporated into the policy development process.

POMONA

SACRAMENTO

SAN BERNARDINO

SAN DIEGO

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSÉ

To schedule a consultation with officials from the CSU Chancellor's Office between September 1 and November 30, 2024, please contact Michelle Hansen, CalNAGPRA/NAGPRA administrative support coordinator, at (562) 951-4115 or mhansen@calstate.edu. Consultations can be held in person, by phone or virtually.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

SAN MARCOS

SONOMA

STANISLAUS

Tribal Leaders

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On behalf of the entire CSU, I offer you my heartfelt apologies that we have failed in our legal and moral obligation to repatriate Native American ancestors and cultural items in a timely manner. I recognize that this inaction has caused great harm to many. We hope that our approach to crafting a systemwide policy reflects our redoubled effort to uphold the principles and provisions of NAGPRA and CalNAGPRA, while prioritizing consultation and respect for Tribal rights, perspectives, culture and heritage.

With your consultation, we look forward to implementing a systemwide policy that will ensure the expeditious and respectful return of Native American ancestors and cultural items.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mildred García". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mildred García, Ed.D.
Chancellor