

(Text of email to SD Concilio Contacts and the leadership of San Diego's public colleges and universities)

January 2024

Dear Colleagues,

I am attaching a copy of the recent report by California's Campaign for College Opportunity, "Still Left Out: How Exclusion in California's Colleges & Universities Continues to Hurt our Values, Students, and Democracy." The report provides extremely valuable research on the current state of equity and diversity in our state's public institutions of higher education. It can be accessed at <https://collegecampaign.org/publication/2023-still-left-out>

This report provides an overview of representation within the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, respectively, from the highest level of governance through academic personnel to student enrollment. I am also attaching the appendix that contains a profile of representation of each San Diego County public college and university. While this report includes some indications of progress, the authors conclude:

We are disappointed to report that while some progress has been made, California continues to exclude Latinx, Black, Asian American and NHPI, and AIAN residents from its higher education leadership, hurting our people, our values, and our promise.

In addition:

Latinx faculty members are woefully underrepresented at all three public community college and university systems, comprising only eight percent of tenured/tenure-track faculty members at the UC, 10% at the CSU, and 18% at the California Community Colleges.

The recent Campaign for College Opportunity report reinforces the concerns articulated by our San Diego Chicano/Latino Concilio on Higher Education in 2023: the lack of equitable Chicano/Latino representation among faculty and campus leadership throughout our local, public institutions of higher education.

Our SD Concilio hopes to condense the content of these reports to focus on Chicano/Latino representation in San Diego's public colleges and universities, an area that must receive more attention from those institutions' leadership and our local elected officials.

Sinceramente,

Patrick Velasquez
Co-Chair, SD Concilio