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/ CSU Trustees Appoint Judy K. Sakaki as President of Sonoma State University

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The California State University Board of Trustees has appointed Judy K. Sakaki, Ph.D., as president of Sonoma State University. Sakaki currently serves as vice president, Student Affairs, at the University of California, Office of the President. She succeeds President Ruben Armijana, who is retiring in June and has served as president since 1992. Sakaki will be the campus' seventh president

and the second female president in its 55-year history. She is expected to begin her new position on July 1.

“I am incredibly honored that the CSU Trustees have appointed me as the next president of Sonoma State University, and I am excited to join a university as outstanding as this one,” said Sakaki. “Dr. Ruben Armiñana has been successful in leading Sonoma State over the last 24 years. I look forward to engaging with faculty, staff and students at the university and with alumni, community leaders, and friends throughout Sonoma County and beyond to build on the strong foundation and to guide Sonoma State to new heights of success.”

“Dr. Sakaki’s combination of demonstrated achievements, leadership skills and academic credentials make her the ideal person to serve as the president of Sonoma State,” said CSU Trustee Lupe Garcia, chair of the Trustees’ Committee for the Selection of the President. “Her commitment to academic excellence and her knowledge and experience in California public higher education makes her a tremendous asset to Sonoma State, the community, and the CSU. Her extensive and stellar work in student affairs complements the university’s mission of improving student retention and graduation rates.”

For the last nine years, Sakaki has been responsible for policies, services and initiatives relating to student access, affordability and success for all 238,000 UC students on 10 campuses. The division includes undergraduate admissions, student financial support and student services. She served on the President’s cabinet and Academic Affairs cabinet and collaborated with UC Regents, Academic Senate, Staff Assembly, UC Student Association and Federal and State Governmental Relations. She led fundraising efforts for scholarships, programs and initiatives and represented the university in community and alumni relations efforts.

Previously, Sakaki served as vice chancellor of Student Affairs at UC Davis, and vice president and dean of student affairs at Fresno State. She has dedicated her career to higher education and to developing, leading and implementing best practices in access, affordability, inclusion and diversity, and student success.

Sakaki is a double alumna of the CSU, having earned both a bachelor’s degree in Human Development and master’s degree in Educational Psychology from CSU Hayward now CSU East Bay. She holds a Ph.D. in Education from the UC Berkeley.

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About the California State University

The **California State University** is the largest system of senior higher education in the country, with 23 campuses, 47,000 faculty and staff and more than 470,000 students. Half of the CSU’s students transfer from California Community

Colleges. Created in 1960, the mission of the CSU is to provide high-quality, affordable education to meet the ever changing needs of California. With its commitment to quality, opportunity, and student success, the CSU is renowned for superb teaching, innovative research and for producing job-ready graduates. Each year, the CSU awards more than 100,000 degrees. One in every 20 Americans holding a college degree is a graduate of the CSU and our alumni are 3 million strong. Connect with and learn more about the CSU at [CSU Social Media](#).

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