

INTRODUCTION TO CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

History

California State University, Chico, popularly called “Chico State”, was founded in 1887. General John Bidwell, pioneer statesman and founder of Chico, donated eight acres of cherry orchard and construction began on Chico State Normal School. The campus opened in 1889 with ninety students and five faculty members. The first class of teachers graduated in June 1891. The State Normal School became Chico State Teachers College in 1921. The legislature converted its teachers’ colleges to state colleges in 1935, and Chico State Teachers’ College became Chico State College.

In 1972, Chico State College became California State University, Chico. The California State University (CSU) is a twenty-three campus, statewide system of comprehensive and polytechnic universities and the California Maritime Academy. CSU awards bachelor and masters degrees in over 200 subject areas, employs 47,000 faculty and staff, one-third of which are minorities, and serves some 450,000 students. The Board of Trustees sets policy and the Office of the Chancellor oversees system-wide management.

The California State University, Chico campus proper is 119 acres. The university also manages 800 acres of farmland and 250 acres of rangeland.

CSU, Chico – Facts

President:	Paul J. Zingg
School Mascot:	Wildcat
School Colors:	Cardinal and White
Student/Faculty Ratio:	22 to 1 (average class size – 27)
Full-Time Students:	Approximately 15,850
Average Age:	23 years old
Ethnicity:	African American 1.9% American Indian 1.1% Asian American 5.6% Filipino .8% Mexican American 8.9% Other Latino 3.4% Pacific Islander .5% White, Non-Latino 65.4% Unknown 12.3%
Gender:	Female 53% Male 47%
Top Ten Majors:	Business Administration Liberal Studies (elementary teaching) Psychology Construction Management Prenursing/Nursing Biological Sciences Art and Art History Recreation Administration Kinesiology Journalism

INTRODUCTION TO CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO – continued

Faculty and Staff: Faculty (instructional only) = 1,009
88% with doctorates or terminal degrees

Staff = 1,037

CSU, Chico has seven colleges, six schools and 14 centers

College of Agriculture
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
 School of Social Work
College of Business
College of Communication and Education
 School of Communication
 School of Education
College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Construction Management
College of Humanities and Fine Arts
 School of the Arts
College of Natural Sciences
 School of Nursing
School of Graduate, International, and Interdisciplinary Studies (Not affiliated with a specific college)

Centers for Studies

Center for Corporate Governance and Values-Based Leadership
Center for Applied and Professional Ethics
Center for Bilingual/Multicultural Studies
Center for Communication Disorders
Center for Economic Development
Center for Ecosystem Research
Center for Entrepreneurship
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching
Center for Information Systems Research
Center for Mathematics and Science Education
Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies
Center for Nutrition and Activity Promotion
Center for Regional and Continuing Education
Center for the Study of Computers in Education

- Students come from 51 nations, 45 states, and 2 U.S. territories.
- 96% of the total population comes from California.
- Students belong to more than 200 university-sanctioned clubs and organizations.
- All students are members of the Associated Students of CSU, Chico, a multi-million dollar corporation managed by the students. The AS is responsible for Student Government, the Student Bookstore, Adventure Outings, the student union (Bell Memorial Union), AS Events Programming and the Student Activity Center among other services for students.
- Student publications include *The Chico Historian*; *The Orion* newspaper; the Women's Center newsletter; and *Watershed* literary magazine.