



# The CSU Graduation Initiative

## Closing the Achievement Gap

**Executive Vice Chancellor Jeri Echeverria**

CSU Board of Trustees Meeting  
January 26-27, 2010

## What is the CSU Graduation Initiative?

- The CSU Graduation Initiative is part of the nationwide *Access to Success* project of the National Association of System Heads (NASH) and The Education Trust.
- The CSU is among 24 public higher education systems that have pledged to cut the college-going and graduation gaps for low-income and minority students in half by 2016.



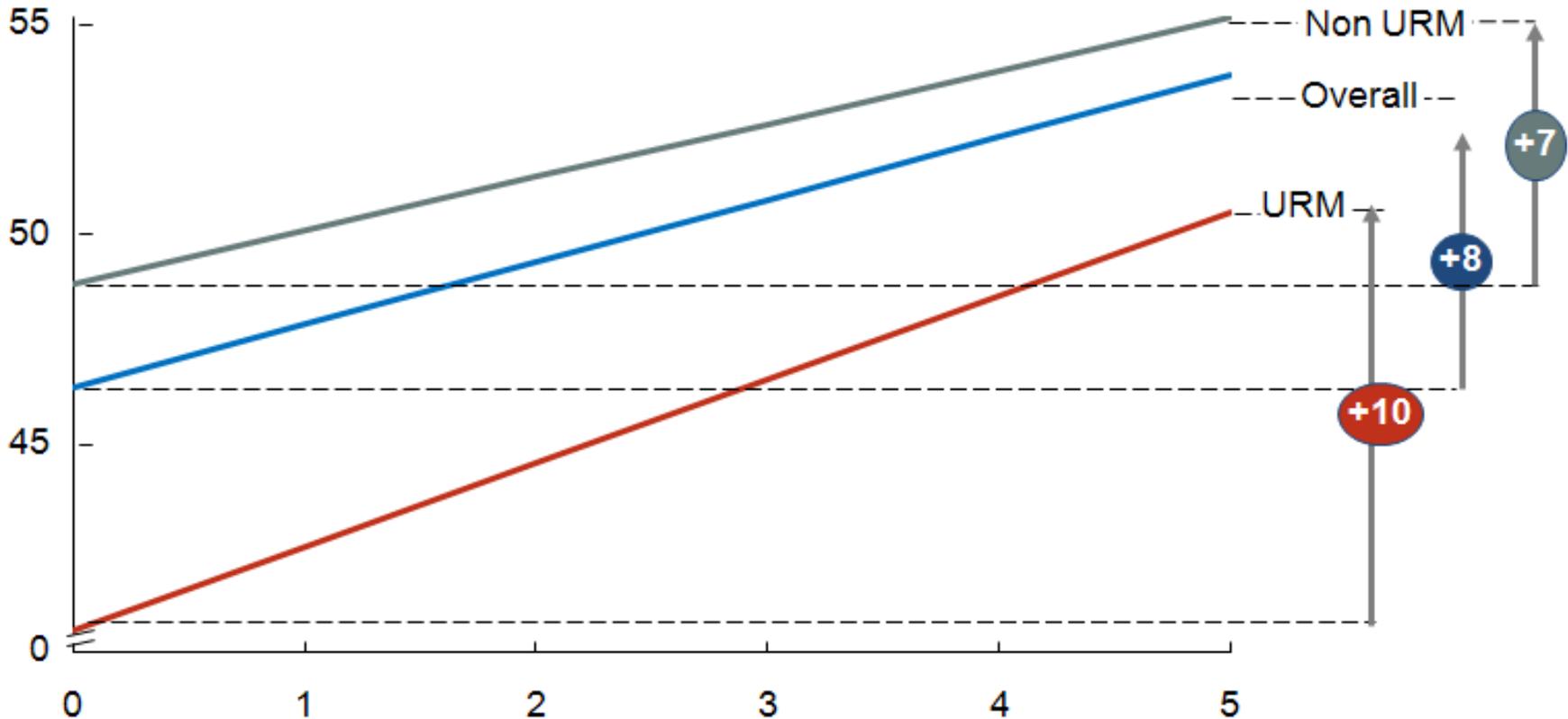
## Goals

- Raise the six-year graduation rates of CSU students to the top quartile of national averages on each campus; and
- Cut in half the existing achievement gap between under-represented CSU students (URMs) and non-underrepresented CSU students (non-URMs).

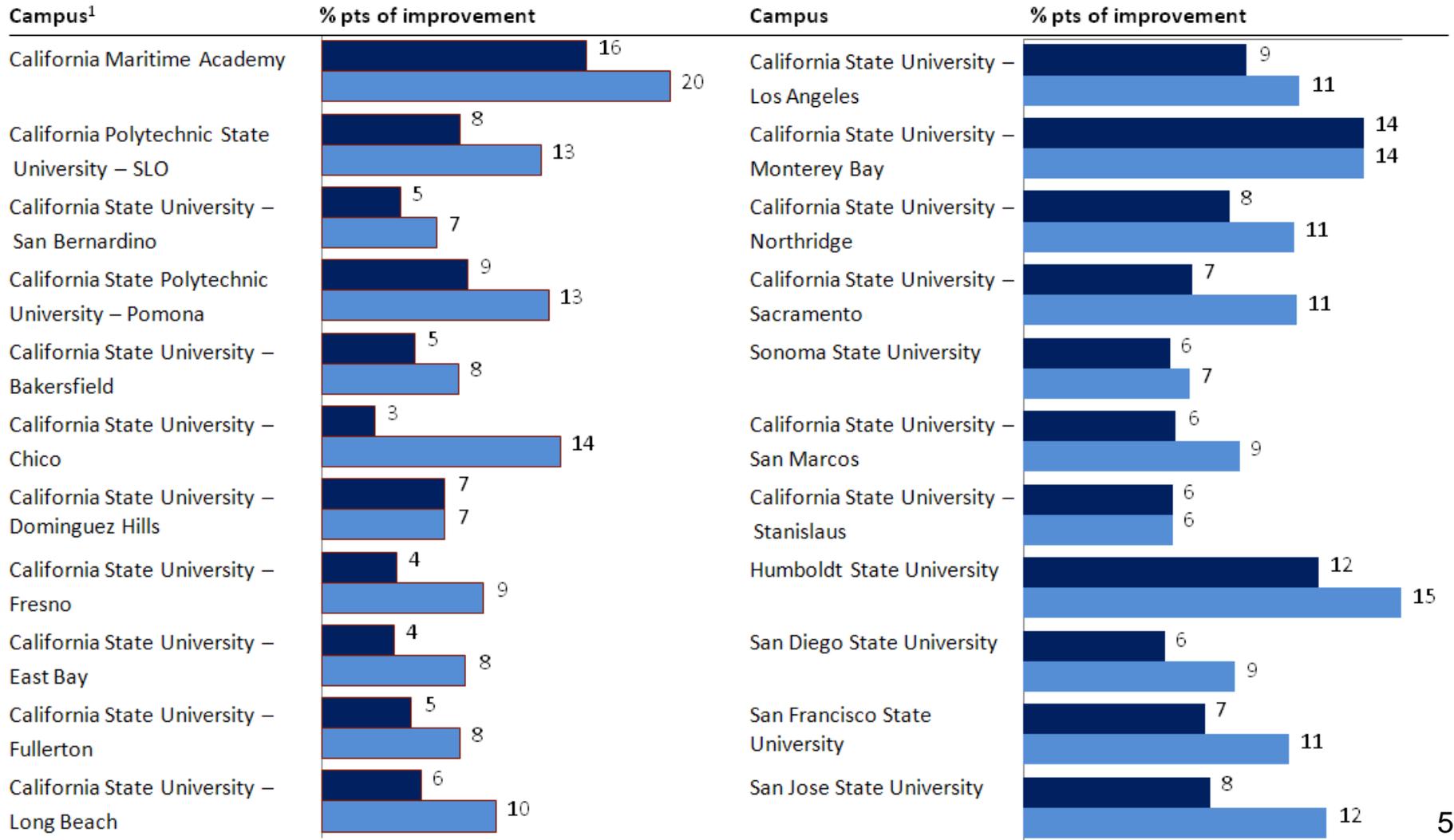


## Systemwide Graduation Rate Improvement Targets

By the end of the 2015-2016 year, improve CSU graduation rates by 8% systemwide and halve the achievement gap.



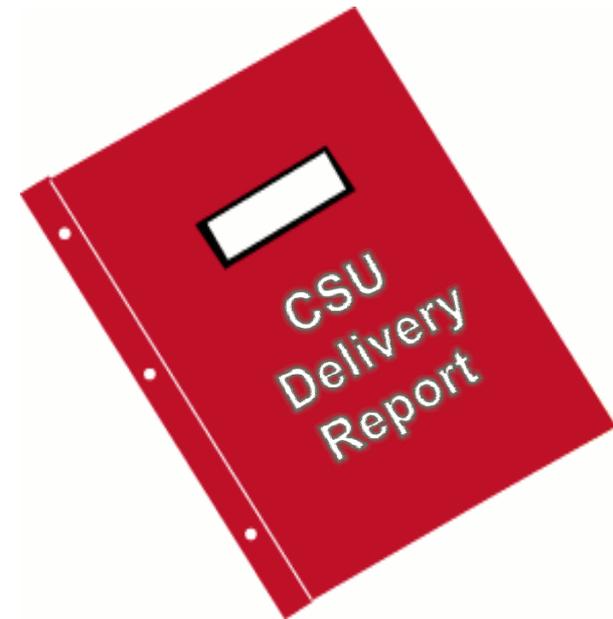
# Campus Graduation Rate Improvement Targets (by 2016)



## How Do Campuses Intend to Hit Their Targets?

**Presidents and provosts submitted “Delivery Reports” to the CO in late December with the following:**

- Six-year graduation rate targets and trajectory charts for:
  - All students
  - URM freshmen
  - Transfer students
  - URM transfer students
- Project plans stipulating action steps to be taken in the near, middle, and long term
- Identification of campus Delivery Team members



## Highlights of Campus Delivery Reports

- Reports are closely aligned with campus strategic plans and with *Access to Excellence*
- Campus presidents and provosts along with their Delivery Teams are providing the leadership needed for success
- A variety of creative solutions demonstrate campus commitment
  - Early Start and Summer Bridge Programs
  - Learning Communities
  - Degree Audit and Early Warning Advising
  - First Year Experience Programs
  - Roadmaps to Graduation



## Tracking and Reporting

**Consistent evaluation of project results is a critical component of this initiative.**



- Monthly campus reports on last Friday of the month
- Quarterly updates at Executive Committee Meetings and at Academic Council Meetings
- Two updates per year to the Board of Trustees

## Timeline and Next Steps

	<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chancellor hosts <i>Raising Overall Achievement and Closing Gaps</i> workshop for campus presidents and provosts	October, 2009
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Campuses submit Delivery Reports to CO	December, 2009
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CO Delivery Team reviews campus reports and provides feedback	January, 2010
<input type="checkbox"/>	Campuses submit revised Delivery Reports and begin sending monthly progress reports to CO	February, 2010
<input type="checkbox"/>	CO Team completes CO Delivery Report and posts it online alongside Campus Delivery Reports summaries	Feb-March, 2010
<input type="checkbox"/>	CO Delivery Team conducts campus visits	March-June, 2010
<input type="checkbox"/>	CO Delivery Team works with campuses to track progress, encourage sharing of best practices, and facilitate use of systemwide innovations when appropriate	Ongoing

## Chancellor's Office Delivery Team

**Jeri Echeverria**

Executive Vice Chancellor



**Jeff Gold**

Director of Academic Technology Services



**Ken O'Donnell**

State Associate Dean for Academic Programs



**Robyn Pennington**

Director of Quality Initiatives



A large crowd of graduates in black gowns and caps celebrating with confetti. The graduates are wearing black gowns with yellow stoles and black mortarboard caps. They are surrounded by falling yellow and black confetti. In the foreground, a male graduate on the left wears sunglasses and a purple lei. A female graduate in the center has her mouth open in a shout and is holding a water bottle. Other graduates are smiling and holding their caps. The background is filled with more graduates and spectators.

**CSU**

**Graduation  
Initiative**

**Accelerating our students  
toward graduation!**