

BestOfEquityChat - November 24, 2021 #EquityChat
Dr. Joseph I. Castro (@JosephICastro), CSU Chancellor (@calstate)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Welcome back to #EquityChat sponsored by @CollegeFutures and hosted by @SDMesaPrez & @lamkeithcurry. This holiday week, we're bringing back #BestOfEquityChat to reshare our chat w/our first season 2 guest, @calstate Chancellor @JosephICastro. Enjoy the walk down memory lane!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) EC1 We started the chat by learning more about @calstate from @JosephICastro. @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #BestOfEquityChat
<https://twitter.com/SDMesaPrez/status/1435756084615163907?s=20>

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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1 [@JosephICastro](#). Tell us about [@calstate](#), and your work with [@calstate](#). [@lamkeithcurry](#) @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) I am focused on making the [@calstate](#) stronger and more equitable for our students, faculty, and staff. We serve almost 500,000 diverse students and have over 50,000 faculty and staff. #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) The [@calstate](#) is the largest and most diverse public university in our nation!

[@JosephICastro](#) We have 23 incredible campuses from [@humboldtstate](#) in the north to [@SDSU](#) in the south!

[@JosephICastro](#) The [@calstate](#) serves students from all backgrounds and provides them with a quality degree at an affordable price. #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) I love that over half of our students come to [@calstate](#) from our incredible community colleges throughout California! #EquityChat

[@carmelnikki](#). I'm a proud graduate of [@SFSU](#), birthplace of Ethnic Studies! So grateful for my experience there!

[5:12 pm] Keith

[@lamkeithcurry](#) EC2 We love getting to know the non-resume side of our guests. Here are three things @JosephICastro shared about himself during our chat. @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #BestOfEquityChat
<https://twitter.com/lamkeithcurry/status/1435757846000541697?s=20>

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[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q2 [@JosephICastro](#). Our education, background, and experiences make us who we are. Please tell us three things about you that are not on your resume. [@SDMesaPrez](#) @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) I am first and foremost a father to three wonderful children, two of whom are adults now and attended [@calstate](#). All have attended public schools. #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) Second, I am absolutely committed to our Golden State of California. I was born and raised here and love it, warts and all! #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) Third, I was the first in my family to attend and graduate from a university. Higher ed transformed my life. I have dedicated my career to paying it forward. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Me too! Proud alum of [@SJSU](#) & now teach [@SDSU](#) @SDSU_CCLead

[5:19 pm] Pam

[@SDMesaPrez](#) EC3 Here's how [@JosephICastro](#) defines equity and how equity-minded practice is embedded in his work. [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat #BestOfEquityChat
<https://twitter.com/SDMesaPrez/status/1435759607578644480?s=20>

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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3 [@JosephICastro](#). What is your definition of equity? How is equity-minded practice embedded in your work? [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) True equity exists when all of us have the opportunity and support to thrive. That is what I aspire to create with my [@calstate](#) colleagues. #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) Equity-minded practice presents differently based on setting. It may be significant policy changes at the macro level and it may be interventions at the micro level. Advancing equity has to occur at all levels and decision points. #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) Equity-minded practices also entails the examination of student outcomes by looking not only at the whole, but of multiple disaggregations of student populations and then responding — to the best of our ability — to the needs of different populations. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) This is my approach too-levers than are pushed and pulled at the micro and macro level leading to equitable policies and practices. Culture of risk taking & relationships are key #EquityChat [@JosephICastro](#)

[5:26 pm] Keith

[@lamkeithcurry](#) EC4 We learned about what [@calstate](#) programs [@JosephICastro](#) is most proud of, along with some newer programs implemented for student success. [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat #BestOfEquityChat
<https://twitter.com/lamkeithcurry/status/1435761369198907396?s=20>

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[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q4 [@JosephICastro](#). Many [@calstate](#) institutions have implemented many student success strategies. Which one are you most proud of? [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) That's a tough one. I was an EOP student at Berkeley and it made a huge difference in my life. I love the EOP programs across the [@calstate](#). #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) We also have newer programs like summer enrollment mini grants to get students across the finish line and focused student success programs like the Male Success Alliance at several [@calstate](#) campuses. #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) We established the DISCOVERe Program [@Fresno_State](#) while I was there. It provided technology access to over 18,000 students. This Fall, we launched CSUCCESS, which is serving students at eight [@calstate](#) campuses. #EquityChat

[5:33 pm] Pam

[@SDMesaPrez](#) EC5 [@JosephICastro](#) told us more about the [@calstate](#) Global HIS Equity Innovation Hub, which was established in partnership with [@Apple](#) and [@CAGovernor](#). [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat #BestOfEquityChat
<https://twitter.com/SDMesaPrez/status/1435763130857099265?s=20>

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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5 [@JosephICastro](#). Tell us more about the [@calstate](#) Global Hispanic Serving Institution (HIS) Equity Innovation Hub, established in partnership with [@Apple](#) and [@CAGovernor](#) [@GavinNewsom](#). [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) The Hub will be a resource to help strengthen the pathway from K-12 to community colleges and then to [@calstate](#). #EquityChat

[@JosephICastro](#) I am ecstatic about this new initiative. The [@calstate](#) Equity Innovation Hub [@csunorthridge](#) is pathbreaking! It will help to unleash the talent that exists throughout CA and the nation by supporting underrepresented students to go into STEM careers. [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephICastro](#) The Hub will work in collaboration with other [@calstate](#) campuses and HSI's across CA and the nation to accelerate educational equity while ensuring students have the skills to succeed once they have earned their degrees. [#EquityChat](#)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) This sounds like a great opportunity to partner across HSI's like [@sdmesacollege](#)

[@JosephICastro](#) Yes! Let's do it!

[@ahandsintheair](#) I'm so glad this comment has been captured in this public setting :). We'd love to partner.

[@TophamSusan](#) I want in! Let me know how I can help make this happen! :)

[@JosephICastro](#) Initial funding for the Hub comes from Apple and the State of California. Thank you [@GavinNewsom!](#)

[@rossbiology](#) With this project, and also [#CSUCCESS](#), I advocate for engaging California's Apple Distinguished Educators to support the integration of technology and instruction, inclusion, engagement and outreach. An effective program hinges on instructors!

[5:40 pm] Keith

[@lamkeithcurry](#) EC6 [@JosephICastro](#) shared how [@calstate](#) has responded to student needs around affordability, food & housing access during the pandemic. [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) [#BestOfEquityChat](#)
<https://twitter.com/lamkeithcurry/status/1435764892376567808?s=20>

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[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q6 [@JosephICastro](#). How has [@calstate](#) responded to students' needs related to affordability, food & housing Access during the COVID-19 pandemic? [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephICastro](#) Technology has helped to bridge the digital divide and the [@calstate](#) responded during the pandemic with broad delivery of devices and hotspots to students. We provided about 18,000 devices alone [@Fresno State](#) when I was there. And now we have launched CSUCCESS! [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephICastro](#) The [@calstate](#) has responded aggressively to basic needs both before and since the pandemic started. I led the establishment of one of the first comprehensive food security initiatives in 2014 with [@StudentCupboard](#) [@Fresno State](#). [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephICastro](#) Basic needs programs across the [@calstate](#) adopted creative strategies to deal with food, housing and technology insecurity.

[@JosephICastro](#) Campuses established mutual aid agreements in which students could access the food pantry at a sister [@calstate](#) campus if it was near their home.

[@JosephICastro](#) Funding from the legislative rapid rehousing allocation was utilized to support on-campus housing for students who were homeless. [#EquityChat](#)

[5:47 pm] Pam

[@SDMesaPrez](#) EC7 See what gives [@JosephICastro](#) hope. [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) [#BestOfEquityChat](#)
<https://twitter.com/SDMesaPrez/status/1435766653854396419?s=20>

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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7 [@JosephICastro](#). What gives you hope? [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephICastro](#) I also have hope because we live in the Golden State of California! We lead the way for our nation and world. I am excited about our future work together with K-12 and community college leaders like both of you! Thank you!

[@JosephlCastro](#) The 500,000 students I serve give me great hope for the future. They are strong, bold and resilient. So do our 50,000 faculty and staff, who are passionate about our mission. [#EquityChat](#)

[@ahandsintheair](#) Great answer!

[@JosephlCastro](#) I also have hope because our elected officials in Washington DC and Sacramento are aligned in their vision for higher education. We need to double the maximum Pell Grant and ensure that DACA students get Pell Grants to help them succeed. [#EquityChat](#)

[@ahandsintheair](#) This gives me hope, too!

[@ahandsintheair](#) Great question!

[5:54 pm] Keith

[@lamkeithcurry](#) EC8 Of course, [#EquityChat](#) wouldn't be complete without some book recommendations. Here's what [@JosephlCastro](#) said he was reading, along with some listening recommendations. [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#BestOfEquityChat](#)

<https://twitter.com/lamkeithcurry/status/1435768415587799045?s=20>

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[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q8 [@JosephlCastro](#). We've been compiling an ever-growing list of book recommendations from our guests. What are you currently reading and what book(s) should we consider reading? [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephlCastro](#) I love to read and to listen to podcasts. I listen to The Daily each morning and I love to read. In the last few months, I've read A Promised Land by President Obama, Johnathan Alter's book on Jimmy Carter (His Very Best) & Jon Meacham's book about John Lewis. [#EquityChat](#)

[@JosephlCastro](#) And the Spotify series of discussions between President Obama and Bruce Springsteen is really wonderful, especially the parts about being a good father.

[6:00 pm] Pam

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY for joining us for [#BestOfEquityChat](#)! We're so grateful for all our [#EquityChat](#) guests & followers for your continued support. Next week, we're back with a new guest - [@PrezJunn](#), President of [@stan_state](#). Have a safe holiday! [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@equityavengers](#) OUT!