

September 15, 2021 #EquityChat

Dr. Thomas A. Parham(@CSUDHPrezParham), President of CSU Dominguez Hills (@DominguezHills)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Welcome back to #EquityChat sponsored by @CollegeFutures and hosted by SDMesaPrez & @lamkeithcurry. We're excited to introduce today's guest, @CSUDHPrezParham @DominguezHills. Welcome President Parham!

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Good evening! Thank you for inviting me to your #EquityChat. I bring you greeting from @DominguezHills faculty, staff, senior administration and our 17k students. I'm excited to be in this virtual space with both of you!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1 @CSUDHPrezParham. Our education, background, and experiences make us who we are. What are three things about yourself that are essential to what makes you, you? @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A1 Growing up, I was inspired by MLK and Malcolm X, and so first, I strive to be a servant leader and be of service to my campus and my community. (1 of 3)

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A1 Second. I am a psychologist, and a humanist at that, and so I understand the importance of autonomy and inviting others to exercise the full measure of their promise and potential. (2 of 3)

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A1 Third, I am always cognizant of the legacy of the ancestors and elders that I have been blessed to inherit. Consequently, I am intentionally focused on ways to fulfill rather than betray their legacy. (3 of 3) #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q2 @CSUDHPrezParham. Tell us about @DominguezHills, and your work as President @DominguezHills. @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A2 When you ask a president about their university, you should be prepared for a long answer. But, I will try to keep it brief.

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A2 @DominguezHills is committed to increasing educational opportunity to traditionally underrepresented student populations. (1 of 4) #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A2 Of our 17,000 students @DominguezHills, 86% are students of color; 52% are [#PellEligible](#); and 65% are women. (2 of 4)

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A2 So, if you want to know where your culturally diverse leaders are coming from in the future, it will be from campuses like @DominguezHills. (3 of 4) #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A2 My colleagues— faculty, staff, and senior administration @DominguezHills and I are all committed to nurturing the dreams and aspirations of our students, closing #equitygaps, and continuing to transform lives that will ultimately transform America. (4 of 4) #EquityChat

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

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A3 Equity suggests that all students are provided with a standardized set of opportunities to learn, and a platform or environment that provides the conditions where intellectual, emotional, and behavioral talents can be cultivated and nurtured. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A3 Equity provides excellence in academic and co-curricular offerings, access to internships and employment opportunities, affordability for all who attend including robust financial aid packages. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A3 Equity means a curriculum that is culturally rich, as well as instructional methodologies and systems of pedagogy that align with the learning styles of the students being served. #EquityChat

[@ContinuousLrner](#) <https://t.co/ge4nNMY7KL?amp=1>

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A3 And equity means ensuring students who enter the institution remain, and graduate as timely as possible. (4 of 4) #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q4 @CSUDHPrezParham. How has @DominguezHills applied an equity lens to their plans for reopening campus? @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A4 Looking through an equity lens, we are reminded that while everybody is seeking to recover from the pandemic, we in fact are not interested in recovering back. Recovery implies that what existed pre-pandemic was normal and healthy in the first place. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) We are on a trajectory to transform @DominguezHills into a university that more indicative of what a @CalState campus should look like. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5 @CSUDHPrezParham. As colleges are struggling with declining enrollment rates for men of color, can you tell us more about @DominguezHills' Male Success Alliance (MSA) and how this program is addressing this issue on your campus? @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A5 @DominguezHills we are cognizant that young men of color are struggling in school, in their communities, and for some, in life generally. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A5 @MSA_CSUDH is a phenomenal program designed to intentionally intervene in the lives of young men to help them push themselves towards greater levels of personal, academic, and professional success. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) I want to commend @WilliamF2015 for his vision when he created the @MSA_CSUDH program more than 10 years ago to address dropout rates and low college attendance among young men of color. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A5 @MSA_CSUDH focuses on academic support and connecting students with campus resources that improve success, retention, and graduation. I encourage people to learn more <https://csudh.edu/msa/> #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q6 @CSUDHPrezParham. How has @DominguezHills utilized HEERF dollars? Any creative ways/suggestions you can share with us? @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Q6 Dollars were used to bridge the #DigitalDivide that the pandemic truly exposed across this nation. At CSUDH, we used HEERF \$\$ to support the technology needs of students — laptops, mifi to boost signals, virtual labs to access specialty software. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Q6 The support from the federal government was critical in helping us navigate the budget challenges associated with the #COVID19 pandemic. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Q6 @DominguezHills upgraded its campus technology infrastructure, covered lost revenues resulting from the pandemic to our auxiliary enterprise, including housing, dining and hospitality, and other business operations. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Q6 @DominguezHills also sought an equitable distribution of financial relief to our students. When federal restrictions limited our ability to support our #undocumented and international students, donors stepped up and we were able to provide relief to them too. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7 @CSUDHPrezParham. This is an #EquityChat favorite - What are you currently reading and what book(s) should we consider reading? @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A7 I recommend you find what you are most passionate about and read about that. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) A7. "The Fearless Organization: Creating Psychological Safety in the Workplace for Learning, Innovation, and Growth" by @AmyCEdmondson, and @PenielJoseph's "The Sword and the Shield", a book about the lives of Malcolm X and MLK Jr. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Adding to my stack!

[@MariselaCervan](#) Those look interesting!

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q8 @CSUDHPrezParham. We're at our last question for the evening. What gives you hope?

[@SDMesaPrez](#) @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Q8 What gives me hope is the spirit of a people hungry for change, the perseverance of our students struggling with circumstance to complete their degree, and the activism of young people today. #EquityChat

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Q8 This current generation of activist youth are inviting us to engage in greater levels of self-examination about how we can make the world a better place. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY @CSUDHPrezParham for sharing the equity work being done @DominguezHills. Next week, we'll continue #EquityChat season 2 with Cecil Howard, Interim Chief Diversity Office @ucmerced! @SDMesaPrez

[@lamkeithcurry](#) @equityavengers OUT!

[@CSUDHPrezParham](#) Thank you for inviting me. It was my privilege and honor, and I want to make sure your audience understands how lucky they are to have individuals with keen intellects and elevated cultural consciousnesses managing this #EquityChat.

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Thank you so much for your deep and thoughtful response. I know I will be rereading them and soaking in your wisdom. We so appreciate your kind words. #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @equityavengers @CollegeFutures