



Office of the
President

May 16, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

As the semester ends and the excitement across campus increases, the pinnacle of the season is always Commencement. I look forward to seeing you as we celebrate our students' remarkable achievements on Friday. It is truly the highlight of each year to see all the happy families celebrating alongside our students.

What makes it even more special is that this year, Cerritos College will once again celebrate our largest graduating class ever. **We are poised to award over 6,200 degrees and certificates in 2022-2023.** For those keeping track, that's over 1,000 additional degrees and certificates than last year. The numbers will continue to fluctuate a bit until final grades are entered by May 26, but we can say with certainty that this is another academic year for the record books.

Word continues to spread about the successes of our students. As we conduct finalist interviews for faculty and management positions, time and time again, our applicants are asking, what is the secret to our success? We at Cerritos College know that there is no secret – the success lies in our student-centered approach to education. We work together to address challenges, remove barriers, and provide high-quality instruction so that our students are able to persist and complete. We attract and retain the very best talent within and outside the classroom. We set ambitious goals, and then we work together to reach them.

The number of degrees and certificates awarded is an incredible achievement for our students and for the communities that we serve, and each one contributes to the upward social mobility of this generation and those to come. **Congratulations on another year well done.** I appreciate each of you for working together for our students. What do you think the 2023-24 academic year has in store for Cerritos College? Please take a moment to let me know. I am already looking forward to another academic year of collaboration and student achievement.

Thank you for a brilliant spring semester,

Jose

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