



Presidential Investiture
of Cynthia Teniente-Matson, Ed.D.

February 22, 2024
Hammer Theatre Center



Investiture

The investiture of Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson as San José State University's 31st president, and first Latina president, celebrates the university's storied 167-year history and SJSU's bright future as the anchor institution of the epicenter of the future.

President Teniente-Matson was appointed by the California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees on November 16, 2022, and began her new role on January 16, 2023. Through the investiture ceremony, the CSU Board of Trustees formally invests in President Teniente-Matson the authority of the presidency at SJSU.

An investiture is defined as the "formal ceremony of conferring the authority and symbols of high office." One of the oldest traditions in academia dating back to the Middle Ages, the word investiture comes from the Latin phrase for "dress in robe." The investiture ceremony includes many academic traditions and protocols.

The medallion presented to President Teniente-Matson was designed by Yvonne Escalante, '13 MFA Spatial Arts, and includes a silver weaving to represent SJSU as a tapestry of innovation, an image of Tower Hall and the number 1857, the year San José State University was established.

An investiture serves as an opportunity to bring the community together to welcome a new era. SJSU appreciates the members of the community who are in attendance today to commemorate this momentous occasion.



About SJSU

In many ways, SJSU is the original Silicon Valley startup, the birthplace of what would become the 23-campus CSU system. Established in 1857, SJSU is the oldest public higher education institution in California. More than 160 years later, we are a vibrant and diverse urban campus in a world-renowned location driving innovation that touches every corner of the globe.

With approximately 36,000 students and nearly 4,300 employees, SJSU is an essential partner in the economic, cultural and social development of Silicon Valley and California. Offering bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in 250 areas of study through nine colleges, students at SJSU engage in meaningful, hands-on learning as early as their first semester on campus. A growing research powerhouse, SJSU students can develop methods to track wildfires and predict their behavior at the Wildfire Interdisciplinary Research Center, explore marine life at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, learn to fly at the only aviation school on the West Coast, work with Nobel Prize-winning scientists, push the performing arts to new heights at the Hammer Theatre, and much more.

The only public university in Silicon Valley, SJSU has more than 350,000 alumni who are innovators and leaders in the region, state, nation and around the world. Companies in Silicon Valley employ more graduates from SJSU than from any other university in the U.S., and we are the number one source of graduates in education, engineering, computer science and business in the Valley.



Biography of Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson

Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson serves as the 31st president of San José State University. An internationally-recognized Latina leader, President Teniente-Matson is a champion of student success initiatives; diversity, equity and inclusion; civic engagement; and experiential learning.

Throughout her career that spans more than 30 years in higher education, President Teniente-Matson has always put students first, engaging in strategic partnerships and serving on numerous national educational-governing and civic boards geared toward enhancing the student experience. This is a return to the California State University system for President Teniente-Matson, who served as Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer at California State University, Fresno from 2004 to 2015.

Prior to her appointment at SJSU in January 2023, President Teniente-Matson led Texas A&M University-San Antonio from 2015 to 2023. As the second president in the university's history, President Teniente-Matson spearheaded the growth of the campus into a comprehensive master's university while earning the U.S. Department of Education Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) designation and the Seal of Excelencia, awarded to 24 universities nationwide. She established several key initiatives for the university, including the Mays Center for Experiential Learning and Community Engagement, Cisneros Institute for Emerging Leaders, Institute of Water Resource Science and Technology, Cyber Engineering Technology & Cyber Security Research Center, the



NSA Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education and the sole Texas Facebook CyberSecurity University Program.

President Teniente-Matson is a renowned public speaker and has delivered keynotes at national conferences regarding contemporary issues in higher education, risk management, women's leadership, and Latina/Latino leadership. In 2022, the White House Office of Presidential Personnel appointed her as Commissioner to the Japan U.S. Friendship Commission and a panelist to CULCON, a State Department Japan-U.S. Binational Governance Commission. Currently, she serves as past chair of the Board of Directors for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), a university presidents and chancellors membership association; is a board member of the American Council on Education and the Girl Scouts USA National Board; and is a member of the HSI-Educational Testing Service (ETS) Steering Committee and LiftFund.

President Teniente-Matson earned her Bachelor of Arts in Management from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, her Master of Business Administration from the University of Alaska Anchorage and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fresno. She and her husband Mike have two sons: Phillip and Wyatt. She enjoys writing, traveling, and outdoor activities such as biking and boating.

Investiture Ceremony Order

Processional

SJSU Spartan Marching Band

Welcome Remarks

Vincent Del Casino, Jr., SJSU Provost
and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs

Land Acknowledgement

Joseph Torres, Ambassador, Muwekma Ohlone
Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area

National Anthem and Presentation of Colors

SJSU Choraliers and ROTC

Introduction of Platform Party

Century of Spartans Poem

Keith Sanders, '81, Radio, Television & Film

Greetings

Karthika Sasikumar, Chair, SJSU Academic Senate
Harish Chandar, Chair, SJSU Staff Council
Janikke Klem, President,
SJSU Alumni Association Board
Sarab Multani, President, Associated Students

Performance

SJSU Choraliers

Greetings

Soraya M. Coley, President, Cal Poly Pomona
Dominic Treseler, President, California
State Student Association
Susan Ellenberg, President, Santa Clara
County Board of Supervisors
Cindy Chavez, '87 Political Science,
Santa Clara County Supervisor

Remarks

Wenda Fong, Chair,
California State University Board of Trustees

Chancellor Remarks and Presentation of Medallion

Mildred García, Chancellor,
California State University

Investiture Address

Cynthia Teniente-Matson,
President, San José State University

Alma Mater and End of Ceremony

SJSU Choraliers and SJSU Spartan Marching Band

Platform Party

CSU Board of Trustees

Larry Adamson
Diana Aguilar-Cruz
Jean Picker Firstenberg
Wenda Fong, Chair
Jonathan Molina-Mancio
Yamilett Rodriguez
Darlene Yee Melichar

CSU Chancellor's Office

Nathan Dietrich, Assistant Vice Chancellor,
Advocacy and State Relations
Nathan S. Evans, Deputy Vice Chancellor,
Academic and Student Affairs,
Chief Academic Officer
Leora Freedman, Vice Chancellor,
Human Resources
Danielle Garcia, Associate Vice
Chancellor and Chief of Staff
Dr. Mildred García, Chancellor
Andrew Jones, Executive Vice Chancellor
and General Counsel
Dilcie Perez, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic
and Student Affairs, Chief Student Affairs Officer
Greg Saks, Vice Chancellor, External Relations
and Communications

CSU Presidents

Sylvia Alva, Cal State Fullerton
Jeffrey Armstrong, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Soraya Coley, Cal Poly Pomona
Adela de la Torre, San Diego State University
Michael Dumont, Cal Maritime
Vernon Harper Jr, CSU Bakersfield
Tom Jackson Jr, Cal Poly Humboldt
Saul Jimenez- Sandoval, Fresno State
Ming Tung (Mike) Lee, Sonoma State University
Tomas Morales, Cal State San Bernardino
Lynn Mahoney, San Francisco State University
Ellen Nuefledt, CSU San Marcos
Cathy Sandeen, Cal State East Bay
Vanya Quinones, CSU Monterey Bay
Richard Yao, CSU Channel Islands
Leroy Morishita, President Emeritus,
CSU East Bay

Community College

Beatriz Chaidez - Interim Chancellor, San Jose
Evergreen Community College District
Bradley Davis - Chancellor, West Valley-Mission
Charles Sasaki - President and Superintendent,
Ohlone Community College District
Community College District

SJSU President's Cabinet

Mohamed Abousalem, Vice President
for Research and Innovation
Vincent Del Casino, Jr., Provost and Senior
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Kristin Dukes, Chief Diversity Officer
Charlie Faas, Vice President for Administration
and Finance
Mari Fuentes-Martin, Interim Vice President for
Student Affairs
Jeff Konya, Athletics Director
Bob Lim, Vice President for Information
Technology and Chief Information Officer
Judy Nagai, Vice President for University
Advancement and CEO for Tower Foundation

Members of SJSU Community

Harish Chandar, Chair, Staff Council
Janikke Klem, President, SJSU Alumni
Association Board
Sarab Multani, President, Associated Students
Karthika Sasikumar, Chair, Academic Senate
Dominic Treseler, President, Cal State Student
Association

Past Presidents

George W. Minns, Principal (1857-1862 and 1865-1866)
Minns' Evening Normal School

Ahira Holmes, Principal (1862-1865)
California State Normal School

Henry P. Carlton, Principal (1866-1867 and Feb.-May 1868)
California State Normal School

George E. Tait, Principal (July 1867-February 1868)
California State Normal School

William T. Lucky, Principal (May 1868-Aug. 1873)
California State Normal School

Charles H. Allen, Principal (1873-1889)
San José State Normal School

Charles Childs, Principal (1889-1900)
San José State Normal School

Ambrose Randall, Principal (1896-1899)
San José State Normal School

James McNaughton, President (1899-1900)
San José State Normal School

Morris Elmer Dailey, President (1900-1918)
San José State Normal School

Lewis Ben Wilson, Acting President (1919-1920)
San José State Normal School

William Webb Kemp, President (1920-1923)
San José State Teachers College

Alexander Richard Heron, Acting President (July-Sept. 1923)
San José State Teachers College

Edwin Reagan Snyder, President (1923-1925)
San José State Teachers College

Herman F. Minssen, Acting President (1925-1927)
San José State Teachers College

Thomas William Macquarrie, President (1927-1952)
San José State College

John T. Wahlquist, President (1952-1964)
San José State College

Robert D. Clark, President (1964-1969)
San José State College

Hobert W. Burns, Acting President (1969-1970)
San José State College

John H. Bunzel, President (1970-1978)
San José State University

Gail Fullerton, President (1978-1991)
San José State University

J. Handel Evans, Acting President (1991-1994)
San José State University

Robert L. Caret, President (1995-2003)
San José State University

Joseph N. Crowley, Interim President (Fall 2003)
San José State University

Paul Yu, President (Summer 2004)
San José State University

**Don W. Kassing, Interim President (Aug. 2004-April 2005),
President (May 2005-June 2008)**
San José State University

Jon Whitmore, President (Aug. 2008-July 2010)
San José State University

Don W. Kassing, Interim President (Aug. 2010-July 2011)
San José State University

Mohammad H. Qayoumi, President (Aug. 2011-Aug. 2015)
San José State University

Susan W. Martin, Interim President (August 2015-June 2016)
San José State University

Mary A. Papazian, President (July 2016-Dec. 2021)
San José State University

Steve Perez, Interim President (Jan. 2022-Dec. 2022)
San José State University

The Academic Regalia

The history of academic dress can be traced back to medieval European universities. It is likely that because students enjoyed the status of clerics, their dress was patterned after clerical dress. The gown appears to be an adaptation of a priest's robe, with the hood and mortarboard evolved from the cowl and skullcap worn by monks and friars.

The Gown

The gown is traditionally black, except when universities have authorized the use of color in gowns. The pattern varies with the degree held: pointed sleeves for the bachelor's degree; oblong sleeves for the master's degree; and round, full sleeves for the doctoral degree. Only the doctoral gown is trimmed with three bars of velvet on the sleeves and velvet facing down the front.

Although black velvet is proper trimming for all doctoral gowns, the color of the panels and bars is often varied to indicate the academic discipline in which the doctoral degree is earned.

The Hood

The shape and length of the hood reflect the highest degree held. The color of the velvet trim indicates the field of study and the color and design of the lining designate the college or university granting the degree. The master's hood is lined in gold, white and blue at San José State.

The Cap

A black mortarboard or tam is the accepted style in colleges and universities in the United States. Many international universities have distinctive and colorful forms of headdress.

The Tassel

An integral part of the headdress, the tassel varies widely in use and color. For doctoral degrees, a gold tassel is usually worn, although black is acceptable. At San José State, master's graduates wear a black tassel, and candidates receiving bachelor's degrees use the color associated with the college in which the degree is earned.



The Mace

An ornamental staff or scepter, the mace is carried by officials as part of formal parliamentary or academic ceremonies. The university's ceremonial mace was designed and created by Yvonne Escalante, '13 MFA Spatial Arts.

Each part of the mace represents an element of the student's journey and connection to the legacy and traditions of the university. Holding the mace together is the "spark," symbolizing the individual power of each Spartan to create their own path and to make the world a better place.

The seven parts of the SJSU mace are:

- Head
- Vessel
- Ribbons
- Coins
- Support
- Staff
- Spark



The President's Medallion

A medallion or seal of office worn by the head of an educational institution is a practice that dates back to the Middle Ages. Suspended by a chain and worn on official occasions with academic dress, it is conferred by the chancellor, investing the president with the authority and responsibility of the office. The medallion reflects the institution, the office and the holder of the office.

Fabricated and cast by Yvonne Escalante, '13 MFA Spatial Arts, in the jewelry and small metals facility, the exquisite intricacies of the medallion showcase SJSU's rich history and bright future as a tapestry of innovation.

The artwork on the medallion includes a silver weaving of a V-shape, meant to symbolize both Santa Clara Valley's historic orchards – known as “The Valley of the Heart's Delight” – and Silicon Valley, the global heart of innovation. The central woven pattern draws from the brick and tile patterns on Tower Hall and is meant to symbolize the foundation, tradition, strength, unity, and diverse community coming together for a common goal. Tower Hall is also etched into the sterling silver plate of the medallion. The 1857 on the medallion references the year San José State University was founded.

Delegates

The Board of Trustees of the California State University

Gavin Newsom
Governor of California

Eleni Kounalakis
Lieutenant Governor

Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly

Tony K. Thurmond
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mildred García
CSU Chancellor

Wenda Fong
Chair, Board of Trustees

Larry L. Adamson
Diana Aguilar-Cruz

Diego Arambula
Raji Kaur Brar

Jack B. Clarke Jr.
Vice Chair

Douglas Faigin

Jean Picker Firstenberg

Mark Ghilarducci

Leslie Gilbert-Lurie

Lillian Kimbell

Julia I. Lopez

Jonathan Molina Mancio

Jack McGrory

Anna Ortiz-Morfit

Yammilette “Yami” Rodriguez

Lateefah Simon

Christopher Steinhauser

Jose Antonio Vargas

Darlene Yee-Melichar

The California State University System Officers

Mildred García
Chancellor

Andrew Jones
Executive Vice Chancellor and General Counsel

Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Leora D. Freedman
Vice Chancellor, Human Resources

Vlad Marinescu
Vice Chancellor and Chief Audit Officer

Greg Saks
Vice Chancellor, External Relations
and Communications

Nathan S. Evans
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic
and Student Affairs, Chief Academic Officer

Dilcie D. Perez
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and
Student Affairs, Chief Student Affairs Officer

Michelle Kiss
Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff,
Board of Trustees

Jessica Darin
Associate Vice Chancellor,
Strategic Executive Initiatives

Danielle Garcia
Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff

President Teniente-Matson's Cabinet

Mohamed Abousalem
Vice President for Research and Innovation

Vincent Del Casino, Jr.
Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs

Kristin Dukes
Chief Diversity Officer

Charlie Faas
Vice President for Administration and Finance

Mari Fuentes-Martin
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Jeff Konya
Athletics Director

Bob Lim
Vice President for Information Technology
and Chief Information Officer

Jennifer Malutta
Interim Chief of Staff

Judy Nagai
Vice President for University Advancement
and CEO for Tower Foundation

SJSU Alma Mater

Hail, Spartans, Hail!—
Hail, gold, blue and white!
We pledge our hearts and hands to
keep thy colors ever bright.
Forward we go! We will not fail!
Sing to our Alma Mater,
Hail! Hail! Hail!



1. Hail, Spar-tans, Hail! — Hail, Gold, Blue and White! —
2. Hail, Spar-tans, Hail! — All hail to thee! —



We pledge our hearts and hands to keep thy col - ors ev - er bright.
Hail to thy clois-ter'd halls and Tow-er stand-ing straight and free.



For - ward we go! We will not fail!
Thy Gold, Blue and White! Long may they sail!



Sing to our Al - ma Ma - ter, Hail! Hail! Hail!
To thee we sing for - ev - er, Hail! Hail! Hail!

Thank You

Thank you to the following committees and teams for their tireless efforts in planning this Investiture celebration:

Investiture Executive Committee

Magdalena Barrera, Patience Bryant, Mark Carpowich, Sonja Daniels, Kristin Dukes, Michelle Frey, Amy Guerra-Smith, Doug Hupke, Sabrina-Moné Lamontagne, Khristine Lugo, Scott MacDonald, Jennifer Malutta, Ken Mashinchi, Michelle Smith McDonald, Judy Nagai, Zayna Tello

Investiture Working Group Committee

Mark Carpowich, Eric Cross, Sonja Daniels, Traci Ferdolage, Michelle Frey, Amy Guerra-Smith, Doug Hupke, Kenne Jackson, Sabrina-Moné Lamontagne, Kingson Leung, Khristine Lugo, Holly Quinones, Michael Santos, Karthika Sasikumar, Michael Smoose, Edwin Tan, Ryan M. Ward

Special Events

University Advancement

University Marketing and Communications

Thank you to those who supported this event with the generosity of their time and financial support. This event would not have been a success without you – Spartans are better together! No state funds were used for this event.

List of sponsors and partners

Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.
Barnes & Noble College
Chartwells/Spartan Eats
Danny Thomas Party Rentals
David Silver
Department of Nutrition,
Food Science and Packaging
Diaz Compean Student Union
Nox Cookies
Party Fiesta Party Decor
Peninsula Catering & Events
Signia by Hilton San José
SJSU College of Science
Stuart Event Rentals
Tom & Virginia McCarron



**Throckmorton
Partners**

**Tom & Virginia
McCarron**



SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY