

## Fresno State gets \$211K for Asian student research

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Fresno State was awarded two new research grants to fund projects studying how best to gear higher education toward Southeast Asian-American students.

The awards, from the California State University Chancellor's Office, total \$211,000.

"The goal of Fresno State is to become a national model of best practices as an AANAPISI (Asian American, Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution)," said Fresno State Provost Dr. Lynnette Zelezny, who is leading the grant work.

One of the grants will fund the "Action Research Project" being co-led by Zelezny and Dr. Yoshiko Takahashi, associate professor in the university's Department of Criminology.

The project builds upon findings Takahashi and other faculty members presented during the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education conference earlier this year on the challenges of mobilizing Asian American students in the Central Valley.

The team was late sponsored by Fresno State's Asian Faculty and Staff Association to conduct a more detailed study titled "[The Academic Challenges of Southeast Asians at Fresno State](#) ."

Another grant will support the Campus Data Readiness Project co-led by Dr. Angel Sanchez, associate vice president for Institutional Effectiveness at Fresno State.

As part of the project, Sanchez will collect and analyze data throughout the campus that support methods to boost the success of Southeast Asian students.

That data will be used to guide more effective planning and decisions as Fresno State scales operations with proven effectiveness across the university's colleges and student support services programs.

Fresno State was recently invited to be a partner in the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders, a coalition that will work with partners on strategies and practices to increase the number of Asian American and Pacific Islander college graduates in the next decade.

More information about the grants and projects can be found by contacting Dr. Gil Harootunian, director of university initiatives, at [gharootunian@csufresno.edu](mailto:gharootunian@csufresno.edu) or (559) 278-4850.

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