

A MESSAGE FROM  
President Guiyou Huang



Dear Students and Colleagues,

A short time ago, Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education's Board of Governors affirmed the ongoing integrations process, authorizing Chancellor Dan Greenstein to proceed with development of plans for the Board's review in 2021. This means that Edinboro, California and Clarion universities will formulate a plan to integrate.

The unanimous affirmation is another step forward for the System's Redesign, which is aimed at best serving students by offering a quality education at an affordable price. Savings realized through this affiliation and a second System integration – Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield universities – will be invested to enhance the student experience.

Like Edinboro, Cal U and Clarion bring tremendous strengths to this venture, which will expand opportunities for students while increasing our collective contributions to western Pennsylvania – from the southwest to the northwest, from the I-79 to the I-80 to the I-70 corridors.

This new alignment will be true to the mission of the State System by making more programs accessible to more students through both in-person and online offerings at a time when higher education and career preparation have never been more important.

Imagine the synergies to be found by combining our resources, the interdisciplinary programs that might be possible and the clusters of course offerings that may be configured to create an innovative, self-designed major.

Envision the doors to be opened through new experiential learning opportunities, while introducing students to an increased range of faculty expertise.

Consider the powerhouse that will be Western Pennsylvania's second-largest university as collectively we partner with economic development groups to create jobs for our regions and then prepare students for those jobs.

While the integration will bring change to Edinboro, Cal U and Clarion, the mission we serve will remain the same. As has been true for more than 160 years, Edinboro students will continue to prevail in the midst of sometimes blustery headwinds, both literal and figurative. Late nights spent creating art will go on. Reflections of fall, in all of its splendor, will be seen in the ripples of Edinboro Lake in the years ahead. And yes, the sounds of bagpipes will linger...

Over the coming months, we will work with our sister institutions to bring clarity to exactly what integration will look like. There will be an opportunity for input as plans progress. We look forward to hearing your thoughts as we adapt, evolve and grow, just as we have done at other critical junctures throughout our 163-year history.

The mission we serve is critical. What a tremendous privilege it is to help students find their vocations, their passions and their voice. Together we will work with our neighbors to the south and east to draw from the richness of our pasts, shifting the prism a bit to create a vision for a different future.

Sincerely,

Guiyou Huang, Ph.D.  
President

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY

