

## Rachel A. Beech, Ed.D.

---

Dr. Rachel A. Beech serves as Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management at California State University, San Bernardino. Her over twenty-year career in higher education has centered on the structures of student transition and community building. Dr. Beech sees her work in enrollment management and student affairs as critical to student access and degree attainment, positioning her to remove administrative barriers to establish a strong foundation for student engagement and success on campus. In her current portfolio, Dr. Beech has oversight of Outreach & Student Recruitment, Admissions Operations & Systems, Financial Aid & Scholarships, Office of the Registrar and Orientation & Transition Programs which includes First Year Experience and Transfer Student Success. Prior to working at CSUSB, Dr. Beech held leadership roles at the University of Arizona as Senior Director of International Admissions & Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Director, New Student Services (Orientation, Early Alert, Commuter Student Engagement and First Year Experience). Additionally, she served at Arizona State University in Orientation, Student Engagement and Academic Advising Roles.

The experience of witnessing the power of connection in a student's academic journey influenced Dr. Beech's career in student affairs. Working one-on-one with students helped her to set a foundational belief that with the right opportunities, those which are reflective of the student as a whole person representative of all their identities. She has done work to understand how the bureaucracies of higher education disproportionately impact students who come from marginalized identity groups and has built engagement opportunities that support students in recognition of these identities. Under her leadership CSUSB developed the Coyotes Rising Program, an institute for rising high school seniors which builds community with current students, staff, and faculty for African American and Native American students prior to enrollment. These programs are specifically created to welcome students to the campus, to have honest conversations about the institution, and to connect them with the community that experience the institution in similar ways. The work has been recognized with awards from ACPA – College Student Educators International.

Dr. Beech has experience in teaching first year success courses, developing train-the-trainer programs for student peer leaders, and program development for master's level higher education programs. She has presented at national and international conferences utilizing her expertise in her disciplinary area and in leadership in student affairs. Engagement in professional development is critical to the ways Dr. Beech leads. She brought the All-Campus Membership program for ACPA – College Student Educators International to CSUSB, and supports individual team members to not only attend but to actively participate in various higher education professional organizations. Dr. Beech has been an active member leader in ACPA and is currently serving as the ACPA24 Convention Chair. Her leadership in the organization was recognized by the ACPA Educational Foundation as a class of 2021 Diamond Honoree.

Dr. Beech earned her Doctorate of Education in Higher and Postsecondary Education in 2011 from Arizona State University; her dissertation focusing on support of staff in their professional transitions within student affairs. She holds a M.Ed. from the same program at ASU and Bachelor of Arts degrees in History and Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.