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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**CSUSB Palm Desert Campus to award highest number of degrees in campus history**

PALM DESERT, Calif. – Cal State San Bernardino’s Palm Desert Campus will award the highest number of degrees in its history - 394 bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees - at its annual commencement ceremony on Thursday, June 13.

Last year, the Palm Desert Campus awarded 369 degrees at its commencement ceremony. That number is expected to grow each year due to the continued popularity and growth of the campus.

“Increasing the college-going and college-completion rates of the Coachella Valley is at the very core of our mission,” said Ron Fremont, interim dean of the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus. “Nearly 4,000 graduates have already benefitted from the Palm Desert Campus since its inception 33 years ago in pursuit of their educational dreams. June’s newly-minted graduates

will join an ever-growing community of CSU San Bernardino alumni who are transforming communities across the valley and beyond. We could not be more proud.”

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at The Show at the Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa in Rancho Mirage.

This year’s candidates, many of whom are first-generation college students, include undergraduate and graduate students who will be joined by university administrators, faculty, California State University trustees and community leaders.

Special awards will be given to Michael Muela for Outstanding Undergraduate Student and Nicole Phillips for Outstanding Graduate Student.

Muela, who lives in La Quinta, will receive a bachelor’s degree in nursing, and is graduating with honors.

Phillips, who lives in La Quinta, will receive a master’s degree in special education, as well as a teaching credential in mild/moderate special education.

Both will speak at the ceremony.

The CSUSB Palm Desert Campus offers bachelor’s and master’s degrees, a doctorate in educational leadership, and teacher credentials and certificates. With more than 1,400 students, it is the Coachella Valley’s four-year public university and plays a vital role in educating and training the region’s growing population.

For more information about the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, contact Mike Singer in the Office of Public Affairs at [msinger@csusb.edu](mailto:msinger@csusb.edu) or (760) 341-2883, ext. 78107, or visit the campus website at [pdc.csusb.edu](http://pdc.csusb.edu).