



CSUCI Appoints Economics Professor to Dean of the Faculty

Camarillo, Calif., June 6, 2006 - California State University Channel Islands has appointed Dr. Ashish Vaidya, CSUCI professor of economics, as its new dean of the faculty, a position that provides leadership for faculty, ensures the efficient operations of existing programs, and oversees the development of new programs and curricula.

Vaidya, who was previously the University's interim dean of the faculty, director of the MBA program, and interim director of the Center for International Affairs, succeeds Stephen Lefevre, who is now associate vice president for academic planning.

"We have chosen an outstanding individual for this important position," said Richard R. Rush, CSUCI president. "Ashish Vaidya has extensive experience in academia. He is particularly knowledgeable about our University, as one of the faculty members hired to greet our first students upon their arrival in 2002. Dr. Vaidya appreciates our mission as a student-centered University and is deeply committed to our faculty and to our academic programs. We couldn't have selected a better person for this position."

"I am pleased that Dean Vaidya was the top candidate in a field of dozens of applicants from around the state," said Ted Lucas, university provost. "He was the search committee's unanimous choice, and I look forward to his joining the academic affairs staff as we continue to grow the new university over the next several years."

The new CSUCI dean of the faculty earned his doctoral degree in economics from the University of California, Davis. Prior to CSUCI, he was a professor of economics and statistics and associate chair of the Department of Economics at California State University, Los Angeles. His fields of specialization include international trade, applied microeconomics, and development economics. He is the editor of the recently published *Globalization: An Encyclopedia of Trade, Labor, and Politics*.

Vaidya will provide leadership in support of faculty excellence in teaching, research, creative activities, and service to community. In addition, he will support and facilitate the development of interdisciplinary programs, which are a hallmark of the University, and review and assess learning program outcomes.

"The growth and development of faculty and our academic programs are critical at this stage of our expansion," Vaidya said. "I know that leadership is essential to analyze our needs, direct our resources, and to engage fully the business and community members in support of our mission."

One of Vaidya's first goals is to establish a Dean of the Faculty Leadership Council that will be charged with identifying academic priorities and creating resources to support them. In

this capacity, community leaders will work with CSUCI faculty and staff and assist in the development of the University's programs and goals for the future.

"I also want to further the University's mission to provide students with international perspectives and experiences," Vaidya said. "We want to offer opportunities for our students to study abroad and, conversely, to invite international scholars and students to our campus. I hope to facilitate a full range of programs that will create a tradition of diversity and richness for our academic programs."