

Joseph I. Castro, Ph.D., M.P.P.
President, California State University, Fresno

Joseph I. Castro was appointed as the eighth president of California State University, Fresno in 2013. He is the first Central Valley native to serve in this leadership position. Dr. Castro is also Professor of Educational Leadership in the Kremen School of Education and Human Development.

Prior to his appointment at Fresno State, he served as Vice Chancellor, Student Academic Affairs, and Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) from 2006-13. Earlier in his career, he held faculty and/or administrative leadership positions at four other University of California campuses – Berkeley, Davis, Merced, and Santa Barbara.

He received a B.A. in political science and M.P.P. in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley and Ph.D. in higher education policy and leadership from Stanford University.

In 2016, Dr. Castro received the Alumni Excellence in Education Award from the Stanford University Graduate School of Education and the Ohtli Medal, which is the highest honor granted by the Government of Mexico to leaders in the United States. He was selected as the 2014 Alumnus of the Year by the University of California, Berkeley Richard and Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy. Dr. Castro is also the recipient of the 2010 Martin Luther King, Jr. Award at UCSF and the 2010 University of California Student Association's Administrator of the Year Award.

Dr. Castro is the grandson of farmworkers from Mexico. He was born and raised in Hanford, CA and is the first person in this family to graduate from a university. He and his wife, Mary, have three children, Isaac, Lauren and Jess.

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