

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 on August 1, 2013. He is the first Central Valley native to serve in this leadership position. Dr. Castro also serves as 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 at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) from 2006-13. During that time, he led an array of departments that served the academic needs of UCSF's talented and diverse student body.

Dr. Castro served as Professor of Family and Community Medicine in the UCSF School of Medicine, where he conducted research and taught courses on policy, leadership and diversity issues. Dr. Castro has also served in a variety of faculty and administrative positions within the UC system at the Berkeley, Davis, Merced and Santa Barbara campuses, as well as at the Office of the President.

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

Dr. Castro was selected in 2015 as an "Agent of Change" by Hispanic Outlook. In 2014, he was named Alumnus of the Year by the University of California, Berkeley Richard and Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy. He 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. In 2011, he was awarded the prestigious International Cooperation Dedication Award from the Beijing Municipal Education Commission. In 2012, the UCSF Council of Minority Organizations recognized Dr. Castro for his extraordinary contributions to advancing diversity at UCSF.

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