



April 11, 2019

Dear Central Family,

I am very pleased to announce that a nationally recognized expert in diversity, equity, and inclusion in higher education has been hired to lead the Office of Diversity and Equity on an interim basis.

Dr. Nancy “Rusty” Barceló will be joining us this summer after wrapping up her most recent work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As a diversity consultant, she led an external review and worked with the University’s chancellor to, among other initiatives, overhaul its sexual harassment policies and implement a new diversity plan.

Dr. Barceló’s 30-year career in higher education began at the University of Iowa and has included various positions as a diversity administrator at the University of Washington and the University of Minnesota. She also served as president of Northern New Mexico College for five years.

She earned her B.A. in Social Work from Chico State University, M.A. in Recreational Education from the University of Iowa, and became the first Mexican-American to earn a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

I am confident Dr. Barceló will be an excellent agent for change at Central as we implement our 15-point Action Plan to Change CCSU Campus Culture. We will work together to do what is necessary to transform our campus into a safe environment for all and to restore faith and pride in Connecticut’s oldest public institution of higher education.

Sincerely,

Zulma R. Toro  
President