

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

### Our Procurement Commitment to You

Dear Chicago State University Community—


As the new president of Chicago State University, I have established a set of priorities that include an initiative to reconnect more solidly with the diverse business community. For 150 years, Chicago State has been an anchor on city's Southside. It has been a hub for economic, social and cultural activity and growth. Through CSU, education has been made both accessible and affordable for underserved families, and we have maintained an open door policy for programs and services that connect to the needs of our community. And yet, this is not enough.

Chicago State has established a collaborative Diversity Supplier Task Force that will not only assure vendors that we are in compliance with government guidelines but, through the use of concrete metrics, will also help us to extend our outreach and further diversify procurement opportunities. We aim to make sure that disadvantaged or underserved groups are recognized both in the population we serve and in those with whom we do business. We will achieve this by establishing, for the first time, a robust set of policies and procedures that incorporate best practices for identifying and addressing potential disparities and making sure the community is informed when opportunities arise. We will also use our partners to assist diverse vendors in building sustainable businesses.

This new Task Force is headed by my chief of staff, Ryan Green, and will include members of my senior leadership team along with community and civic stakeholders.

With this, we renew our commitment to economic prosperity for all.

Sincerely,



Z Scott, Esq.  
President