Dear SDSU Faculty and Staff,

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Cristina Alfaro, a San Diego State University professor in the College of Education’s Department of Dual Language and English Learner Education and also Provost Chair for Latinx and Transborder Affairs, has been appointed Interim Associate Vice President for Global Affairs.

In her interim role, Alfaro will provide leadership and direction in support of advancing the university’s strategic vision related to international and global affairs. Given her foundational research and leadership in facilitating transnational and global collaborations and partnerships, Alfaro will bring vision and exceptional expertise to inform the university’s continual growth in promoting and responding to the demands for binational and global education.

Alfaro brings two decades of experience directing both local and international teacher education programs in California, Mexico, and Europe. She is highly regarded in our binational region and across the country for preparing teachers in the area of English language and biliteracy development, specifically with a global perspective. This fall, Alfaro has been involved in the launch of the first two Dual Language Public Schools in Baja California and is continuing to enhance the cultural and linguistic competencies that enable SDSU students to become inclusive and compassionate global citizens and leaders.

As a teacher-researcher, Alfaro is the Chief Specialty Editor for the Frontiers in Education Journal, overseeing the area of Global Education: Language, Culture, and Ideology launching this fall. She has been awarded grants from the U.S. Department of Education and most recently from the California Department of Education to work in collaboration with the Secretaría de Educación Pública to develop and implement a binational-bilingual teacher education curriculum, which serves as a model for other California and Mexico institutions of higher education.

Alfaro earned her doctorate degree in International Teacher Preparation for Multilingual Learners from SDSU and the Claremont Graduate University joint graduate program. She also received her master’s and bachelor’s degrees from SDSU in Policy Studies in Multilingual and Multicultural Education and Liberal Studies, respectively.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Cristina Alfaro for stepping into this critical institutional role as we continue the national search for the permanent Associate Vice President.

Salvador Hector Ochoa  
SDSU Provost and Senior Vice President