

**THE OFFICE OF  
GRADUATE STUDIES  
RECOGNIZES  
GRADUATE STUDENTS  
AND FACULTY  
MENTORS  
2019 – 2020**



Office of Graduate Studies  
Graduate Resource Center  
Library North AI24  
[gradstudies@calstatela.edu](mailto:gradstudies@calstatela.edu)  
[GRC@calstatela.edu](mailto:GRC@calstatela.edu)

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## Letter from the AVP & Dean of Graduate Studies

Dear Graduate Students,

I am uplifted and inspired every spring when I have the opportunity to review the innovative research and creative projects you produce each academic year. This year your time with faculty mentors and each other in your labs, studios, classrooms and in-person meetings was suddenly cut-off when the Safer at Home Order required all of us to shelter separately to protect our health against the threat of the COVID-19 virus. Regardless of this unexpected challenge, your excellent work continued and the scholarship you produced this year was exceptional. Although we were unable to hold our annual Graduate Student and Faculty Mentor Recognition reception, we in the Office of Graduate Studies did not want the academic year to end without acknowledging your tremendous achievements. It is clear that graduate programs at Cal State L.A. play a valuable role in the development of scholars across academic disciplines. This year, department chairs and faculty recommended for acknowledgement 246 graduate students who have published or presented their work at professional conferences, performances, and exhibitions across the country and internationally.

So many of you have received research grants, summer research fellowships, academic scholarships and awards for excellence in your individual disciplines and for your professional service to the larger community of Los Angeles. We are proud that you have developed as professionals and are prepared to take on leadership roles in industry and public service in the fields of business, education, nursing, social work, public health and engineering, to name a few.

I am grateful to my faculty colleagues for the unwavering support they provided you and for their outstanding mentorship. I have a renewed sense of hope about the future of our nation knowing that you are well prepared to serve the greatest good in our communities, as scholars, professionals and leaders in your careers of choice.

Although we are unable to exchange hugs and take pictures to capture your well-deserved joy for completing significant scholarship, I applaud you for your impressive work. This year, more than ever, your scholarship reflects tenacity and an ability to thrive during unprecedented circumstances. As you review this recognition program that seeks to capture your successes, be proud of yourselves and thankful for your faculty mentors and supportive families. You are our Golden Eagles and we are gratified to watch you soar as you pursue new adventures.

Thank you and be well,

Karin Elliott Brown

## LSAMP Participation - Bridge to The Doctoral Two Year Fellowship

The NSF- Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation- Bridge to the Doctorate Program (also known as LSAMP-BD) is a two- year fellowship program designed to enhance the fellow's preparation for PhD studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Program activities are designed to ensure that each LSAMP-BD fellow (1) pursues a rigorous curriculum of graduate study leading to a MS degree in a STEM discipline in two years; (2) participates in a project of original research and acquires the skills required to communicate the outcomes in written and oral formats; and (3) receives intense advising, mentoring and academic support necessary to become a confident and successful graduate student to support acceptance into a high quality PhD program.

### Beatriz Aguirre

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Alexander Wright

### Krishna Algosgo

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Patrick Krug

### Manuela Davila

Mathematics  
Faculty Mentor: Michael Krebs

### Ugbad Farah

Environmental Sciences  
Faculty Mentor: Kristen Fisher

### Amber Jolly

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Christine Scoffoni

### Imelda Lopez

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Amelia Russo-Neustadt

### Francisco Martinez

Mathematics  
Faculty Mentor: Vladimir Akis

### Neil Poole

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Edward Eivers

### Tyler Powell

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Edith Porter

### Cynthia Ramirez

Mathematics  
Faculty Mentor: Melissa Hendrata

### Yasmeen Solano Rodriguez

Biochemistry  
Faculty Mentor: Xin Wen

### Chad Thomas

Biology  
Faculty Mentor: Robert Nissen

The California Pre-Doctoral Program is designed to increase the diversity of the pool from which the California State University draws its faculty. A special emphasis is placed on increasing the number of CSU students who enter graduate programs at one of the University of California campuses. Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholars work closely with a CSU faculty sponsor to develop an overall plan that ultimately leads to enrollment in a doctoral program. The California Pre-Doctoral Program provides travel funds for students and faculty sponsors to visit U.S. doctoral-granting institutions and to attend a professional meeting. It also funds summer research internships at University of California campuses and other major research universities.

### Maria Cecilia Azar

English

**Faculty Mentor: Maria Karailis**

**Bio:** Maria Cecilia's research examines how vulnerability is read and inscribed onto various racialized and gendered bodies in American literature and culture. Her master's thesis, "Literary Tourism," focuses on nineteenth-century periodicals and theorizes the movement of narratives as discursive tours that borrow spatial strategies from tourism in order to gain ostensibly direct and unmediated information about oppressed bodies. She has developed her interdisciplinary approach by presenting at numerous conferences and her work is forthcoming in Palgrave MacMillan's collection of essays titled *Dark Tourism of the American West*. In a doctoral program, she plans to extend her studies in performance studies, affect, queer, and race theory to explore tropes of vulnerability in contemporary queer and diasporic bodies, vulnerability and passing, and the moments when their interplay challenges the status quo, revealing often-masked cultural tensions.

### Alejandro Guardado

History

**Faculty Mentor: Enrique Ochoa**

**Bio:** Alejandro's studies focus on the impact of liberation theology in Mexico by illuminating the roles and contributions of progressive theologians who organized grassroots movements during Mexico's New Left era. His studies aim to complicate the current historiography on Mexico's student and guerrilla uprisings during the 1960s and 1970 by interconnecting progressive religious action and ideology. In doing so, he will specifically look to research the life of Mexico's most prominent liberation theologian, Sergio Mendez Arceo. Mendez Arceo is a key figure in highlighting how progressive Catholics battled traditionally conservative interpretations of Catholicism. However, the work of Mendez Arceo and many grassroots lay organizations went beyond Catholic churches and were in solidarity with student and labor movements while also actively criticizing political violence directed towards poor people. This research aims to determine if the progressive wing of the Church was a significant element of Mexico's New Left.

### Wendy Layco

Anthropology

**Faculty Mentor: James E. Brady**

**Bio:** Wendy specializes in the archaeology of religion. She utilizes a sacred landscape approach in the examination of artificial subterranean spaces in the Maya area. Informed by the sub-discipline of cave archaeology, Wendy shows that subterranean features, previously thought to be utilitarian, had a purely religious function. She has carried out research in Belize and at Chichen Itza in Yucatan, Mexico. Wendy has presented the results of her field research at the last two Annual Meetings of the Society for American Archaeology. She also has a co-authored publication, *Maya Cultural Landscapes and the subterranean: Assessing a Century of Chultun Research*, in the *International Journal of Archaeology*.

### Amir Neal

Mechanical Engineering Faculty

**Mentor: Krishna Foster**

**Bio:** In combustion chemistry, it is generally understood that species formation involves numerous collisions that come to thermal equilibrium before decomposition. Recent theoretical studies have shown that radicals with weak bonds can quickly dissociate at high temperatures and therefore impede the collisional internal energy relaxation process. Currently, there are few experimental measurements of the methoxy ( $\text{CH}_3\text{O}$ ) radical decomposition reaction at temperatures above 1000 K. Thus, Amir's research is focused on investigating the effects of prompt dissociation on methoxy radical decomposition at temperatures greater than 1000 K. Amir is eager to utilize modern kinetic models to reanalyze the most current methoxy radical decomposition in literature from over 30 years ago.

## Graduate Students Admitted to Doctoral Programs

We have seventeen graduate students who have been accepted to PhD programs. These PhD programs include Environmental systems, Ethnic Studies and Literature, Biological Sciences, Literature, English, Pharmaceutical and Translational Medicine, Climate Sciences, Anthropology, Immunology, Cancer and Cell Biology, Electrical Engineering, Theology and Education.

**Beatriz Aguirre**

UC Merced  
Environmental Systems  
Merced, CA

Cornell University  
Ecology and Environmental  
Biology Ithaca, NY

**Maria Cecilia Azar**

UC San Diego  
Ethnic Studies and Literature  
San Diego, CA

UC Santa Cruz  
Literature  
Santa Cruz, CA

UC Davis  
English  
Davis, CA

University of Maryland  
Women Studies  
College Park, MA

University of Illinois, Chicago  
English  
Chicago, IL

University of Illinois, Urbana-  
Champaign English  
Champaign, Illinois

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee  
English  
Milwaukee, MI

**Mariam Ayad**

UC Merced  
Environmental Sciences  
Merced, CA

**Brent Beadell**

University of Southern California Pharmaceutical and  
Translational Medicine  
Los Angeles, CA

U. Missouri  
Mathematics  
Columbia, MO

**John Deacon**

University of California, Irvine  
Ph.D. in Political Science  
Irvine, CA

**David Fonth**

Ph.D. in Philosophy  
Rutgers  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of Southern California  
Yale  
Cornell

**Christian Manuel Flores**

California State University, Los Angeles  
Doctoral in Education  
Los Angeles, CA

**Marc Anthony Garcia**

UC Santa Barbara  
Phd in Political Science  
Santa Barbara, CA

**Jaxon Haug**

Southern Methodist University Anthropology  
Dallas, TX

**Sara Johnson**

Ohio State University  
University of Florida  
Geography

**Jessica Kromer**

University of California, Los Angeles  
Pennsylvania State University  
CU Boulder  
Geography, PhD

**Wendy Layco**

Florida Atlantic University  
Comparative Studies Program  
Boca Raton, FL

**Christian Pelayo**

University of California, San Diego PHD in  
Climate Sciences  
San Diego, CA

**Stephanie Perez**

University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign  
Doctoral program in  
Media and Cinema Studies Champaign, IL

**Tyler Powell**

UC Riverside  
PhD Immunology

Riverside, CA

UC Davis  
PhD in Immunology  
Davis, CA

**Cynthia Ramirez**

UC Merced  
Applied Math  
Merced, CA

UC Santa Cruz

Applied Math  
Santa Cruz, CA

Utah State University  
Math & Statistics  
Logan, UT

## Admitted to Doctoral Programs

### Edward Ramirez

University of California San Diego  
Ph.D. program in  
Electrical Engineering  
San Diego, CA

Cornell University

Ecology and Environmental  
Biology  
Ithaca, NY

### Jocelyn Rodriguez

University of California, Los Angeles  
Molecular Biology  
Los Angeles, CA

Brown University

Molecular  
Pharmacology  
Providence, RI

Baylor College of  
Medicine Cancer & Cell  
Biology  
Houston, TX

University of Pauda  
Italy Cell Biology  
Pauda, Italy

### Brandon Sanchez

Penn State University  
PhD in History  
Centre County, PA

### Chelsy Salas

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)  
Geography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)  
Urbana and Champaign, IL

### John Salguero

Arizona State University  
PhD in Sustainability  
Tempe, Arizona

### Nicole Sanfilippo

Boston College  
Ph.D. in Theology and Education  
Boston, MA

Graduate Theological Union

Ph.D. in Historical and Cultural Studies/Sociology of Religion  
Berkeley, CA

Claremont Graduate University

Ph.D. in Religion/Women's  
Studies Claremont, CA



### Juan Alejandro Leal Doblado

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cecilia Zurita-Lopez

UCLA, PhD Program in Physics and Biology in Medicine

### Jocelyn Diane Rodriguez

NIH Bridges to the PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cecilia Zurita-Lopez

UCLA, PhD Program in Cell and Developmental Biology

### Fernando Cano

NIH Bridges to the PhD

Faculty Mentor: Amelia Russo-Neustadt

UC Santa Barbara, PhD Psychological and Brain Sciences

### Natalia Neris

NIH Bridges to the PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Frank Gomez

UC Santa Barbara, PhD Program in Chemistry

### T'awna Williams

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mitchell Eisen

John Jay College, CUNY Graduate Center, PhD Program in Psychology and Law

### Mary Villareal

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cecilia Zurita-Lopez

University of Michigan, PhD Program in Chemical Biology

### Paola Santibañez

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Michael Hayes

Baylor University, PhD Program in Genetics and Genomics

### Amy Valentina Vasquez

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Eric Wood

Johns Hopkins University, PhD Program in Earth and Planetary Sciences

### Katia Salgado

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Hyunsook Park

UC Riverside, PhD Program in Microbiology

### Vanessa Ramírez

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kaveri Subrahmanyam

University of Vermont, PhD Program in Clinical Psychology

### Karl Liboro

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Hyunsook Park

UC Riverside, PhD Program in Molecular Biosciences

### Gloria Marquez

RISE MS-to-PhD

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kaveri Subrahmanyam

University of Central Michigan, PhD Program in Clinical Psychology

## Graduate Equity Fellowship Recipients

The Graduate Equity Fellowship grant is designed to increase the number of graduate degrees awarded to economically disadvantaged CSU students, especially those graduate students that are underrepresented among graduate degree recipients in their discipline and to those who are disabled. This year, thirty-one (31) graduate students received a Graduate Equity Fellowship. These students have demonstrated potential to succeed in graduate school and to complete a graduate degree program in no more than two years.

**Rebecca Amavizca**

Social Work

**Brenda Amaya**

Latin American Studies

**Mariam Ayad**

Environmental Sciences

**Annabel Baltazar-Zarate**

Social Work

**Nicole Buenquechea**

Psychology

**Albert Jr. Dabney**

Information System Professional

**Sophia Dawidoff**

Social Work

**Ana Diaz**

Social Work

**Michelle Fanara**

English

**James Kenneth Feuer**

TVFT/Acting

**Paulette Hacopian**

Psychology

**Christina Iglesias**

Anthropology

**Neil Kohanski**

Anthropology

**Gilberto Lopez**

Industrial Technology

**Veronica Monarrez**

Forensic Psychology

**Marlen Pomposo**

Social Work

**Sandy Powe**

Accounting

**Michael Reyes**

English

**Chelsy Salas**

Environmental Sciences

**John Salguero**

Environmental Sciences

**Samantha Santamaria**

English

**Dinh Truong**

Economics

**Amy Vasquez**

Environmental Sciences

**Alexandria Vickery**

Educational Foundations

**Brian Waldo**

Anthropology

## Non-Resident Graduate Student Fee Waiver

Non-resident tuition fee waivers are granted to non-resident graduate students who are either domestic non-resident students or citizens of a foreign country. Awardees must demonstrate exceptional scholastic ability and prior scholastic achievement, as well as financial need. Recipients receive a non-resident tuition fee waiver of up to 20 units within an academic year. Recipients must enroll in at least 10 semester units per term or be employed by the CSU for 20 hours or more a week, but less than full time. To maintain eligibility, awardees must remain classified as an International or non-resident student. This year eighteen (18) students received the Non-Resident Graduate Student Tuition Fee Waiver.

**Nilla Dahlgren**

English

**Giorgia Florentino**

Archaeology

**Qais Waddah Ahmad Gabi**

Healthcare Management

**Anuveer Kaur**

Computer Science

**Yilei Liu**

Multicultural/Multilingual

**Joao Machado**

Civil Engineering

**Nanjesh Gowda Mandya Ramesh**

Information System

**Chantel Mason**

Education: Reading

**Aaron Matthews**

Kinesiology

**Monika Mishra**

Information System

**Kristen Powell**

Communication

**Pandian Rajaram**

Computer Science

**Matthew Stepan**

Television and Film Studies

**Sarah Tabassum**

Electrical Engineering

**Keith Taylor**

Community Health and Wellness

**Amy Vasquez**

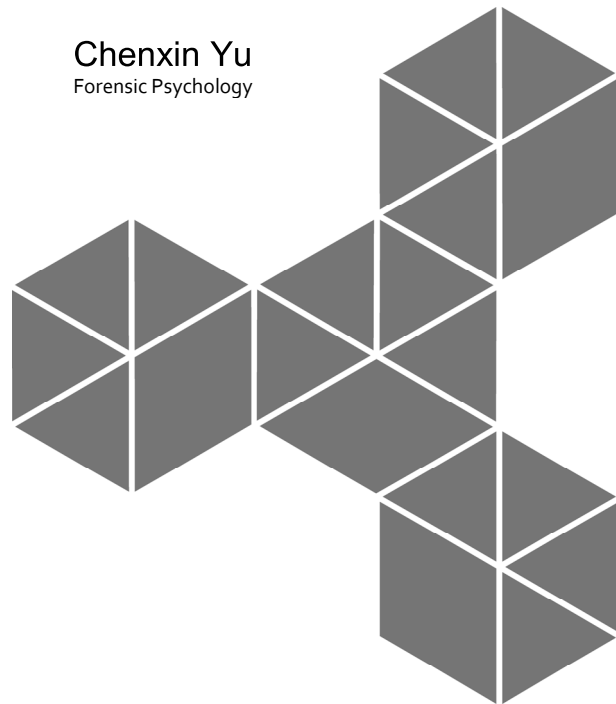
Environmental Sciences

**Shadia Weeks**

Television and Film Studies

**Chenxin Yu**

Forensic Psychology



## Travel & Professional Development Grant

This year, forty-two (42) graduate students received travel support through the Office of Graduate Studies (Student Success Fee funds) to present their work at conferences and for professional development purposes. The Travel Support for Student Presentations is a reimbursement program designed to encourage and assist Cal State LA graduate students whose work has been accepted for presentation at a professional or academic conference. Students funded through the program will receive partial reimbursement (up to 70%) of costs for travel, lodging, and conference registration in support of their presentation.

Graduate students also received partial reimbursement (up to 50%) of costs for travel, lodging, and conference registration to attend conferences, conventions and festivals to support their professional development. Examples of travel funds to support professional development include American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference; Society for Neuroscience; National Communication Association Annual Conference; South Central Conference on Mesoamerica; CSCI 2019 International Conference; 2020 Joint Mathematics Meeting; and the 9th Annual Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Graduate Student Conference.

**Mariam Ayad**  
Environmental Science

**Jose Cubias**  
English

**Jose Benavidez**  
Kinesiology

**Dalyapraz Dauletbak**  
Information System

**Sabrina Bensimon**  
Communication Studies

**Angie Enriquez**  
Geography

**Selene Castillo**  
Communication Studies

**Emilio Estrada**  
Spanish

**Herbert Castillo**  
Biochemistry

**Tanvi Gawade**  
Information System

**Amy Chan**  
Anthropology

**Alfredo Gonzales**  
Sociology

**Daniel Chang**  
Computer Science

**Hitoshi Horiuchi**  
Education

**Angel Chavez**  
Mathematics

**Christina Iglesias**  
Archaeology

**Jorge Cruz**  
Latin American Studies

**Christina Iglesias**

Archaeology

**Te'Juana Johnson**

Television Film and Theatre

**Sara Johnson**

Geography

**Carina Kaainoa**

Engineering

**Jessica Kromer**

Geography

**Antonio Magana**

Mechanical Engineering

**Eduardo Martinez**

Engineering

**Patricia Miramontes**

Chicano/Latino Studies

**Miguel Navarro**

Engineering

**Bea Joyce Parcutela**

Biology

**Christian Pelayo**

Geological Science

**Gabriela Perez**

Psychology

**Lucinda Perez**

Applied & Advanced Studies in Education

**John Reid**

Music

**Hedi Rezai**

Sociology

**Chelsy Salas**

Environmental Science

**John Salguero**

Environmental Science

**Tatev Sarkissyan**

Psychology

**Saar Shahar**

English

**Taylor Stickle**

Communication

**Aakansha Tagsaonkar**

Information System

## Culminating Project Grant

The Culminating Project to Support Completion of Thesis, Creative Activity, or Dissertation grant is a reimbursement program designed to support Cal State LA graduate student research or scholarship conducted towards completing a thesis, project, creative activity or dissertation. Students funded through this award will receive reimbursement for approved supplies, equipment, and services. This academic year, fifteen (15) culminating projects were funded to support a wide range of topics, such as:

“Seasonal plasticity of leaf functional traits of non-perennial stream in Southern California”; “Using NMR spectroscopy to elucidate the presence of a salt-bridge in the RKS motif of histone 3”; “Parental involvement and the trajectory to mental health consequences”; and “Superman’s Interview “(a Short Parody Comedy Film).

### Jolly Amber

Biology

*Seasonal plasticity of leaf functional traits of non perennial stream in Southern California*

### Rasem Alrashdi

Engineering

*Process optimization for 3d printing cementitious materials*

Faculty Mentor: Mosen Eshragi

### Nicole Benquechea

Psychology

*Religiosity, Sexism, & Self-Esteem*

Faculty Mentor: Heidi Riggio

### Hektor Gusha

Psychology

*Relationships and sexuality attitudes and beliefs*

Faculty Mentor: Heidi Riggio

### Jonas Kulikauskas

Fine Arts

*After Jesus*

Faculty Mentor: Robert Martin

### Juan Leal Doblado

Physics

*Using NMR spectroscopy to elucidate the presence of a salt-bridge in the RKS motif of histone 3*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Claudia Kouyoumdjian

### Fernando Hernandez

Music

*Making a Record, "Wher do All These Pieces Go?": The Blending of Electronic and Acoustic*

Faculty Mentor: Cecilia Zurita-Lopez

### Morgan Oyler

Economics

*Building a 21st Century Los Angeles*

Faculty Mentor : Amelia Russo- Neustadt

### Demi Kourtesi

Psychology

*Examining Personality Traits Across Cultures*

Faculty Mentor: Miles Finney

### Daisy Puga

Environmental Science

*Models of Nutrient Biogeochemical Processes Derived from Hyporheic Zone Studies in Coastal California Watersheds*

Faculty Mentor: Barry Hibbs

## Supasiri Rittiron

Geosciences and Environment

*Potential Impacts of Wildfires on Soil and Water Chemistry in the San Gabriel Mountains, California*

Faculty Mentor: Andre Ellis

## Jason Sanchez

Social Work

*Parental involvement and the trajectory to mental health consequences*

Faculty Mentor: Anh-Luu Huyn-Hohnbaum

## Mary Villareal

Chemistry

*Solid-Phase Synthesis of Peptides based on PGC-1alpha, a Regulator of Cellular Metabolism*

Faculty Mentor: Cecilia Zurita-Lopez

## Alex Tzarax

Biology

*Role of Yeast CAsein Kinase 2 in the Governing Hyphal Formation of Candida Albicans*

Faculty Mentor: Hyunsook Park

## Weishan Xiao

Television, Film, Theatre

*Superman's Interview (Short Parody Comedy Film)*

Faculty Mentor: Meredith Greenburg

## Authors on Publication

This year, department chairs and faculty recommended for acknowledgement nine (9) graduate students who have published their work.

### Maria Cecilia Azar

"Recycling Death: Post-Apocalyptic Tourism in the American West." *Dark Tourism of the American West*. Edited by Jennifer Dawes. New York: Palgrave MacMillan. September 2019. 157- 178

### Claudia Barrulas Yefremian

Yefremian, C.M.B., Arvayza, J. & O'Brien, N.F. (2020). Talk to Amber. *Case Research Journal (Special Issue on Women Entrepreneurs)*.

### Brent Beadell

(Parducho, Beadell, et al. The Antimicrobial Peptide Human Beta-Defensin 2 Inhibits Biofilm Production of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* without Compromising Metabolic Activity. Manuscript ID 510094)

### Geoffrey Clifford

Clifford, G., and Hibbs, B., 2020, Evaluation of water isotopes and nutrient loading in urban runoff at a Southern California residential site: in Ahmad, S., ed., *Be Smart and Sustainable: Don't Gamble with your Infrastructure: American Society of Civil Engineers, Reston, VA.*, in press (early June publication date).

### Joshua Garrido

Preliminary Evaluation of Using Intelligent Compaction for Life Cycle Assessment and Life Cycle Cost Analysis of Pavement Structures in press by CRC Press / Balkema, Taylor & Francis Group

### Anabela Kim

"Nutritional Aspect of Sex-dependent Difference in Heart Disease" by Anureet Kaur Shah, Anabela Kim and Carrie Adase for the book "Sex differences in Cardiovascular Disease" by Springer.

### Carol Peralta

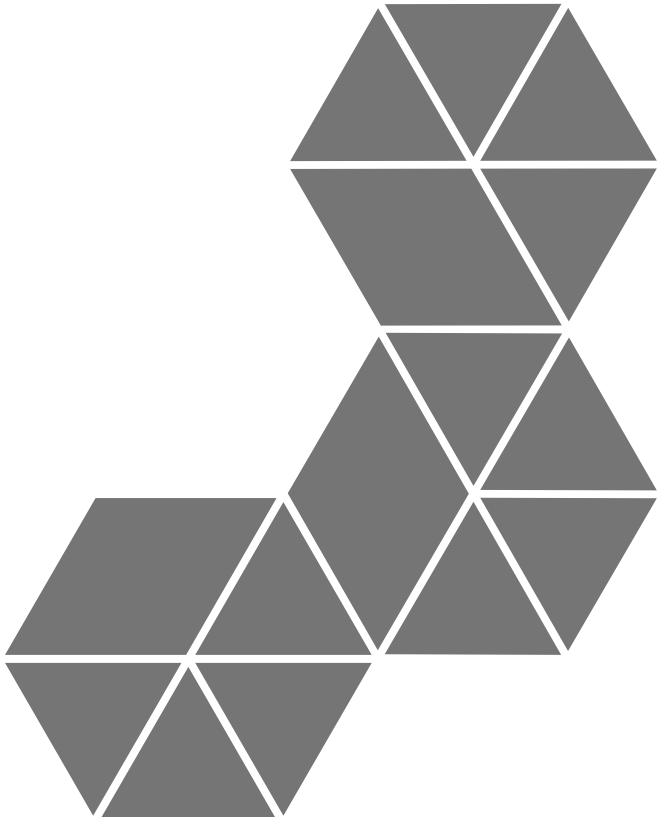
Comparison of bacteria and nutrient loading in subsurface storm drains receiving flows from groundwater seepage and dry weather urban runoff: in Ahmad, S., ed., *Be Smart and Sustainable: Don't Gamble with your Infrastructure: American Society of Civil Engineers, Reston, VA.*, in press (early June publication date)

### Arielle Steimer-Barragán

Steimer-Barragán, Arielle D. "Las viudas de las letras: Woman Printers in Colonial Mexico." In "Lineage. Fragments. Futurity." *Significations*, English Department and the English Graduate Student Association, 2020

### John Tamkin

R. De Salvo, M. Becker, T. Bennett, J. Blow, C.-L. Chang, S. Chao, F. Daneshgaran, L. Daneshgaran, L.-C. Kuo, S. Linker, M. Milovich- Goff, M. Mondin, B. Nayak, J. Neilson, H.-W. Pan, I. M. Pinto, M. Principe, E. Robinson, J. Tamkin, H. Themann, D. Zapata, "Problems Connected with Femptoscatterers in Dielectric Coating Mirrors for Gravitational Wave Detectors", *Proc. of the 41st PIERS, Rome, Italy, June 17-20, 2019.*





One hundred forty-seven (147) graduate students have presented their work at professional and academic conferences this year. Graduate students presented their scholarship at locations across the state and country, including: Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; College Park, MD; Waikoloa, HI; Chicago, IL; Baltimore, MD; Seattle, WA; Baton Rouge, IL; Denver, CO; Phoenix, AZ ;and Las Vegas, NV. One graduate student (John English) presented his paper entitled “Microclimate amelioration and environmental gradients in Los Angeles, CA” in Belfast, Ireland.

### Beatriz Aguirre

*Plant physiological responses to experimental drought stress*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Josthin Amado Hernandez

*Neoliberalism and the Weakening of Unions: The US, Guatemala, and the Central American Free Trade Agreement*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jabran Amanat-Lee

*The evolution from Classical Physics to Quantum Mechanics and an epistemological critique on the Many-Worlds Interpretation*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Oscar Armando

*The Influence of Parental Socio-Emotional Support on Latino Students' Transition to Postsecondary Education*

American Educational Research Association San Francisco, CA | April 18, 2020

### Mariam Ayad

*Identifying Stormwater Runoff Plumes and Sewage Spills in Tijuana River using Remote Sensing Observations*

*Remote sensing Analysis and Classification of Stormwater*

*First International Operational Satellite Oceanography Symposium*  
College Park, MD | June 18-20, 2019

*American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference*  
San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019

*American Geophysical Union Ocean Science 2020*  
San Diego, CA | February 16, 2020

*The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities*  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Paula Ayala

*Quetzal Beats: Centroamerica and the Dialectic Dissent in Globalized Black Sound- A Hip Hop Study*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Norman Bautista

*"BevMo: Taking Credit for your own Success?" "Humanize: Behavior and Strategy Under Surveillance?"*

Western Casewriters Association 2020 Waikoloa, Hawaii | March 19, 2020

### Claudia Barrulas G Yefremian

*Attitudes Toward Corporate Social Responsibility and The New Ecological Paradigm among Business Students in Southern California*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

*Talk to Amber*

Western Casewriters Association  
Waikoloa, Hawaii | March 19, 2020

### Brent Beadell

*Inhibition of Biofilm Formation of Pseudomonas aeruginosa by Human  $\beta$ -Defensin 2 and Cholesteryl Linoleate is Accompanied by Ultrastructural Lesions of the Bacterial Surface*

*The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities*

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jose Benavidez

*Can EEG explain obesity-related cognition during exercise?*

*Society for Neuroscience*  
Chicago, Illinois | October 19-23, 2019

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Presentations at Professional Conferences

### Sabrina Bensimon

*Uncertainty in the Context of Disability Services*

National Communication Association Annual Conference  
Baltimore, MD | November 14, 2019

### Nicole Benquechea

*Religiosity: Links with Sexism, Self-Esteem, and Self-Efficacy among Women and Men*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May 21-24, 2020

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Denia Bradshaw

*Proactive Design and Inclusive Practice: Understanding Universal Design for Learning*

American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2020 San Francisco, CA | April 20, 2020

### Sushant Burde

*Deep Reinforcement Learning to Navigate Autonomous Driving using Open Source Simulator Model*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jayden Butler

*Spectral Line Identification in the Class o Protostar IRAS 16293-2422*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Laura Castaneda

*Using Progress Monitoring to Inform Academic Intervention in Reading Fluency*

California Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference Palm Springs, CA | October 29, 2019

### Herbert Castillo

*Exploring the Chemoresistant Mechanistic Pathways of High Molecular Weight Darpp-32/t-Darpp Complexes*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Nayely Castrellón

*An Archive of Muxer Resistance: Movidas, Activism, and Wisdom of Elders in the Old Timers of Southern California*

National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Conference Seattle, WA | April 16, 2020

### Amy Chan

*Analyzing Vertebral Osteoarthritis in Maya Sacrificial Victims*

South Central Conference on Mesoamerica Baton Rouge, Louisiana | October 18, 2019

### Daniel Chang

*Risk Prediction of Critical Vital Signs for ICU Patients using RNN*

6th Annual Conf. on Computational Science & Computational Intelligence (CSCI)

Las Vegas, Nevada | December 5-7, 2019

### Angel Chavez

*Optimal Radio-k-labeling of trees*

2020 Joint Mathematics Meeting (JMM) Denver, Colorado | January 15-18, 2020

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

Minimal Risk Strategies for Poker Tournaments

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Yazmin Chavez

*ASD, Parent and Students Participation, and Transitional Services*

National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention Baltimore, MD | February 18, 2020

### Danny Clemons

*Numerical Simulations of Paper-Based Fuel Cells*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Dyan Collings Ralph

*Grownups Teaching Grownups: The Unique Characteristics and Challenges of the ADULT Teacher-Student Relationship in Second Language Acquisition*

CATESOL 2019

San Jose, California | March 2, 2019

TESOL 2020

Denver, Colorado | March 31, 2020

### Josiah Collins

*Detection of Crystallite Formation in LIGO Dielectric Mirror Coatings Using Microscopy and Image Processing*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities

Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jose Corado

*High School Counseling Practices to Support Latino Gay First-Generation College Students Pursuing Postsecondary Education, The Brown Rainbow*

Association for Jotería Arts, Activism and Scholarship Conference Portland, OR | October 12, 2019

### Jorge Cruz

*Reimagining Masculine Mexican Revolutionary Figures from a Queer Lens*

9th Annual Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Graduate Student Conference  
Bloomington, Indiana | February 28-29, 2020

*Queer Activism in Chile*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jose Cubias

*Developing an English Studies Department*

Imaging America 20th Anniversary National Gathering Albuquerque, New Mexico | October 18-19, 2019

### John David Hope Dang Oen

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*

Rotary World Peace Conference, 2020.  
Ontario, CA | January 17, 2020

### Manuel Davila

*A Kazhdan Constant Inequality With Isomorphic Graph Pairs*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Dalyapraz Dauletbak

*Traffic Analysis in LA County using Big Data and Predictive Analytics*

Teradata Universe Conference 2019  
Denver, Colorado | October 20-24, 2019

### Sophia Dawidoff

*Impact of Sexual Violence on Female Survivors' Mental Health*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Laura Dickinson-Turner

*Using Performance to Examine Performative Social Constructs: THRESHOLD*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Frank Diemel

*An isotopic investigation of the sources of recharge in the Coachella Valley aquifer system, Riverside County, California*

2019 Annual National Meeting, Geological Society of America  
Phoenix AZ | September 22, 2019

### John English

*Effect of Urban Temperature Gradients on Grassland Microclimate Amelioration and Diversity*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

*Microclimate amelioration and environmental gradients in Los Angeles, CA*

British Ecological Society Annual Meeting Belfast, Ireland | December 10, 2019

### Angelica Enriquez

*The Impact of Deforestation on Carbon and water resources in the Island of Borneo*

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019  
28th Annual Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
California State University, Los Angeles

### Isabel Escobar

*Wildfire impacts on hydrologic components in Southern California using ParFlow-CLM*

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019

*Modeling wildfire impacts on hydrological processes using ParFlow-CLM*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Emilio Estrada

*"Cavando en las entranas de la verdad: Bernal; hombre de Pluma y buena memoria"*

5th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference in The Humanities  
Sacramento, California | October 26, 2019

### Maya Evashkovsky

*Strengthening Special Education Teams: Teachers and Paraeducators Supporting Each Other*

CA Council for Exceptional Children Conference San Francisco, CA | October 12, 2019

### Marlene Figueroa

*Ethnic Differences and Similarities in Masturbation Experiences and Attitudes*

2020 Annual Global Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference Stanford, CA | March 2, 2020

Western Psychological Association  
San Francisco, CA | April 30- May 3, 2020

## Presentations at Professional Conferences

### Luis Flores

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*

Rotary World Peace Conference, 2020. Ontario, CA | January 17, 2020

### Kerry Fogarty

*Developing A Needs Analysis for a Community-based ESL Program*  
CATESOL 2019

San Jose, CA | October 3-6, 2019

TESOL 2020 International Convention and English Language Expo Denver, Colorado | March 31, 2020

### Adaly Garcia

*Plasmonic-Based Imaging of Electrochemical Reactions at Individual Prussian Blue and Gold Nanoparticles*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Faviola Garcia

*Knowledge of and attitudes toward the Bible: Links with Social Dominance Orientation and religiosity.*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

### Rosendo Garcia

*Detection of Crystallite Formation in LIGO Dielectric Mirror Coatings Using Microscopy and Image Processing*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Bridget Garcia Vera

*Half a Century of Chicana/o Studies at Cal State LA: Who We Are, Where We Came From, and Where We are Going*

National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Annual Conference  
Seattle, WA | April 16, 2020

### Joshua Garrido

*Improving the Construction Quality of Unbound Pavement Layers using Intelligent Compaction Technology*

Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting Washington, DC | January 12-16, 2020

### Tanvi Gawade

*A machine learning approach for prediction of length of stay for KID's inpatient database*

IEEE Big Data 2019 Los Angeles, CA

### Levon Ghabuzyan

*Quantifying the Effects of Convective Heat Transfer on Photovoltaic Performance and Optimal Tilt Angle*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Bridget Garcia Vera

*Critical Race Feminista Praxis: Working In-Community within Los Angeles Neighborhoods*

Presented at: National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies  
Albuquerque, NM | April, 2019

### Ron Glickman

*Preparing Latinx College Students for Leadership in California*

American Educational Research Association San Francisco, CA | April 18, 2020

### Rohan Goel

*Linked Learning Communities of Practice (CoP): Creating Sustainable Change*

California Higher Education Sustainability Conference, 2019. Santa Barbara, CA. | July 8, 2019

### Alfredo Gonzales

*Paradigm Shifts in Chicano and Latino Education*

California Sociological Association Conference  
Sacramento, California | November 15-16, 2019

### Alfredo Gonzales

*Detection of Crystallite Formation in LIGO Dielectric Mirror Coatings Using Microscopy and Image Processing*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Chantal Gossling

*ASD, Parent and Students Participation, and Transitional Services*

National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention Baltimore, MD | February 18, 2020

### Romy Griep

*Queering Young Adult Literature: Heteronormativity and Homonormativity in Modern YA Novels*

Far West Popular Culture Association conference Las Vegas, Nevada | February 21, 2020

*The Crisis of Mental Health in Higher Education: How Faculty and Administration can Improve Cal State LA Students' Coping Mechanisms and Emotional Well-Being*

Southwestern Social Science Association conference San Diego, CA | May 30, 2019

## Hektor Gusha

*The Sexual Shame Scale: Links with sexual outcomes among LGBTQ+ individuals*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May 21-24, 2020

*Sexual Shame Among LGBTQ Adults*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Mike Harrison

*Comparison of water chemistry issuing from springs in lined and unlined channels in urban areas, implications for stream restoration*

2019 Annual National Meeting, Geological Society of America Phoenix AZ | September 22, 2019

## Theresa Harvey

*Knowledge of and attitudes toward the Bible: Links with Social Dominance Orientation and religiosity. Partnerships*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

## Alexandra Hernandez

*Chemistry of Singlet Oxygen with Metal-Sulfur Nanoclusters Physical Quenching versus Chemical Reaction*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Zaide Hernandez

*Political party, strength of identification, and knowledge of and attitudes toward Donald Trump.*

*Knowledge of and attitudes toward Donald Trump: Links with authoritarianism and related qualities.*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

## Irene Hernandez De La Cruz

*Personality and Psychosocial Correlates of Happiness*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Brandon Hilliard

*Unveiling the Origins of Dust Gaps and Ring Structure in Protoplanetary Disks*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Hitoshi Horiuchi

*Developing a Needs Analysis for Community-Based Programs*

The CATESOL Annual Conference  
San Jose, California | October 3-6, 2019

## Christina Iglesias

*Recontextualizing a Sacrificial Ossuary at Chichen Itza*

South Central Conference on Mesoamerica Baton Rouge, Louisiana | October 18, 2019

## Cody Ising

*Computational design of sensitized combustion chemistry experiments*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
February 28, 2020

## Fernando Jauregui

*The Hidden Voices: Early European Writings of Brazilian Indigenous Voices*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Manson Johnson

*A Collaborative Exploration of Power, Access, and Resource Distribution in Higher Education*

Presented at the The 8th ACM MobiHoc2018 Workshop on Pervasive Wireless Healthcare Workshop  
Vancouver, Canada | November 24, 2019

## Sara Johnson

*Relationship between AIRS and SSM/I Water Vapor and TRMM*

Presented at the CSUPOM 2019 Conference San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019

## Amber Jolly

*Morphological and physiological variation in Yucca brevifolia and Hesperoyucca whipplei growing across different microhabitats in the Mohave Desert*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Jayden Joshi

*Lung Cancer Nodule Detection Using Convolutional Neural Networks*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Presentations at Professional Conferences

### Suk Jung

*Detection of Crystallite Formation in LIGO Dielectric Mirror Coatings Using Microscopy and Image Processing*

2020 36th Jim Isenberg PCGM (Pacific Coast Gravity meeting) Santa Barbara, CA | March 14, 2020

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Carina Kaainoa

*Foundational Challenges and Opportunities with Turning Data into Information for Grid Modernization*

International Energy and Sustainability Conference 2019 Long Island, NY | October 18, 2019

### Neil Kohanski

*Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Space*  
South Central Conference on Mesoamerica Baton Rouge, LA | October 18, 2019

### Jessica Kromer

*Determining the impact of precipitation biases on the surface mass balance over Greenland*

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019

### Lok Sang Lam

*Designing a Curriculum for a Community-Based English-Learning Program*

CATESOL 2019 Annual Conference  
San Jose, CA | October 3-6, 2019

TESOL 2020 International Convention and English Language Expo Denver, Colorado | March 31, 2020

### Sharon Lanre-Orepo

*"It's the Climb!": Academic and Social Burden Impacts Academic Self-Efficacy and Persistence in First-Year College Students*

APS Annual Convention Chicago, IL | May 21-24, 2020

### Wendy Layco

*Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Space*

South Central Conference on Mesoamerica Baton Rouge, LA | October 18, 2019

### Sara Lee

*Understanding early career teachers' psychosocial well-being*

National Association for School Psychologists  
Baltimore, MD | February 18, 2020

### Reilly Loayza

*The Garden of Music*

American Anthropological Association Vancouver, Canada | November 24, 2019

### Samantha Lopez

*The Sexual Shame Scale: Various Facets Linked with Sexuality Outcomes*

A Collaborative Exploration of Power, Access, and Resource Distribution in Higher Education  
Vancouver, Canada | November 24, 2019

### Joann Ly

*Data Analytics on Simulation Game Presenters*

Self-efficacy as a romantic relationship partner: Links with sexual behaviors and outcomes.  
San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

### Erika McMullin

*Determination of Sex Ratios from Midnight Terror Cave: A Commingle Skeletal Deposit*

South Central Conference on Mesoamerica Baton Rouge, LA | October 18, 2019

### Joao Machado

*Comparison of Advanced Hydraulic Properties between Treated and Untreated Bauxite Residue*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Kathryn Joy Mak

*A Big Data Application Model to Track Coronavirus Infected Patients: A Social Network and Spatial Analysis Approach*

National Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers  
Phoenix AZ | October 3- November 3, 2019

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Eduardo Martinez

*Competitive Adsorption of Nitrate and Phosphate on Iron Hydroxide Metals for Wastewater Treatment*

National Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers  
Phoenix AZ | October 3- November 3, 2019

### Aaron Matthews

*High-intensity interval exercise while wearing a sauna suit increases Energy Expenditure*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020



### Akilah Miller

*Detection of Crystallite Formation in LIGO Dielectric Mirror Coatings Using Microscopy and Image Processing*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Joelyn Mims

*Beyond a Pretty Face: The Cultural Significance of Ancient Egyptian Cosmetics*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Patricia Miramontes

*Association for Joteria Arts Activism & Scholarship*

Association for Joteria Arts, Activism and Scholarships Portland, Oregon | October 10-12, 2019

### Alicia Moseley

*"Invention/Invasion of Spaces"*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Angela Navata

*Colorism and colonial mentality among Filipinos and Filipino Americans.*

Western Psychological Association Annual Convention Pasadena, CA | April 25-29, 2020

### Bhavna Nayak

*Characterizing Crystallization at Higher Temperatures in Nanolayered Dielectric Coatings to Improve Mirrors in Gravitational-Wave Detectors*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Irene Ng

*"BevMo: Taking Credit for your own Success?" "Humanize: Behavior and Strategy Under Surveillance?"*

Western Casewriters Association 2020 Waikoloa, Hawaii | March 19, 2020

### Michael Oropollo

*"Building Positive Self-Concept and Prosocial Relationships Among Diverse At-Risk Adolescents"*

CA Council for Exceptional Children Conference San Francisco, CA | October 12, 2019

### Daniel Osoy

*Flirting with Supremacy: Understanding Gay Attractions to White Nationalism*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Bea Joyce Parcutela

*The Effects of Adenylate Kinase 4 in the Localization of AMPK and mTOR Pathways*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Pratik Parmar

*Data Analytics on Big Data from Chicago Divvy Bike Sharing Programme*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Christian Pelayo

*Modeling PM<sub>2.5</sub> Speciation Concentrations over California Using the MISR V23 Aerosol Product*

American Meteorological Society 2020 Annual Meeting  
Date of Presentation: Jan 15th 2020

*From MISR to MAIA: Applications of NASA Satellite Data to Airborne Particulate Matter Exposure and Human Health*

American Geophysical Union Fall 2019 Meeting  
Date of Presentation: Dec 10th 2019

### Lucinda Perez

*The Importance of Popular Culture & Literacy Outside of School*

International Literacy Association  
New Orleans, Louisiana | October 10-13, 2019

### Nancy Perez

*Understanding the Intersectional lived realities of 1.5 and 2 generation immigrants navigating higher education*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Tyler Powell

*The antimicrobial peptide Human Beta-Defensin 2 is highly effective against Mycobacterium smegmatis.*

SACNAS 2019  
Santa Clara, CA | January 16-18, 2020

*Determining the mode of action of Human Beta-Defensin 2, an epithelial antimicrobial peptide, against Mycobacterium smegmatis*

CSUPERB  
Honolulu, Hawaii | October 29, 2019

## Presentations at Professional Conferences

### Daisy Puga

*Groundwater loading of toxic trace elements to streams due to oxidation of Miocene marine strata*  
2019 Annual Meeting of National Groundwater Association Las Vegas, NV | December 3-5, 2019

### Cynthia Ramirez

*Continuous Mathematical Model of Tumor Growth*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### John Reid

*Polytonality in Early Nineties Hip-Hop*

2020 College Music Society Pacific Southwest Conference Flagstaff, AZ | March 13-15, 2020

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jacqueline Reyes

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*

Rotary World Peace Conference, 2020. Ontario, CA. | January 17, 2020

### Hedi Rezai

*Does Parental Income and Parental Education Affect Respondents Education*

Southwestern Social Science Association  
San Diego, CA | October 31- November 2, 2019

### Jennifer Robles

*Unpacking Colonial Mentality in Relation to the Ethnic Identity of Filipino Americans*

Western Psychological Association Annual Convention San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

### Gil Rodriguez

*The Influence of Parental Socio-Emotional Support on Latino Students' Transition to Postsecondary Education*

American Educational Research Association; San Francisco San Francisco, CA | April 18, 2020

### Audra Whaley Ruben

*Linked Learning Communities of Practice (CoP): Creating Sustainable Change*

California Higher Education Sustainability Conference, 2019. Santa Barbara, CA | July 8, 2019

### Chelsy Salas

*Sensitivity of Regional Land-Atmosphere Coupling to Human Activity*

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### John Salguero

*Wildfire Trends over 30+ Years and its Relation to Climate Indices in the Western US*

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Conference San Francisco, CA | December 9-14, 2019

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Ivan Salladay-Perez

*How Does AK4 Regulate Bioenergetics in Cancer?*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jason Sanchez

*Biological Father vs. Father Figure Involvement: Mental Health Implications*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Nicole Sanfilippo

*Traditional Schools, the Juvenile Justice System, and the Experiences of LGBTQ/GNC Identified Individuals*

American Educational Research Association San Francisco, CA | April 19, 2020

### Tatev Sarkissyan

*Examination of Impression formation of Victims of Child Abuse*

American Psychological Association  
Chicago, Illinois | August 1, 2019

*Perceptions of Victims of Childhood Physical and Sexual Abuse*

Western Psychological Association Annual Convention San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Lucia Serio

*Understanding early career teachers' psychosocial well-being*

National Association for School Psychologists  
Baltimore, MD | February 18, 2020

### Saar Shahr

*The Fraught Enjoyment of Suffering in Cleanness and The Siege of Jerusalem*

Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association San Diego, CA | November 14-17, 2019



### Shradha Ashokrao Shinde

*New York Times Data Analysis Using Hive*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research,  
Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Abdulrahman Fahad Sindi

*Linked Learning Communities of Practice (CoP): Creating Sustainable Change*

California Higher Education Sustainability Conference, 2019. Santa  
Barbara, CA. | July 8, 2019

### Shiroya Smit

*Deep Reinforcement Learning to Navigate Autonomous Driving using Open Source Simulator Model*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research,  
Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Yasmeen Solano Rodriguez

*Effects of Charged Residues on the Stabilization Role of Antifreeze Proteins on Alcohol Dehydrogenase*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research,  
Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Linray Song

*Data Analytics on Big Data from Chicago Divvy Bike Sharing Programme*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research,  
Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Billy Bodin Sooksavath

*Using ClassroomScreen to Engage Student & Facilitate the Classroom*

TESOL 2020 Convention  
Denver, CO | March 31, 2020 - April 3, 2020

### Michiko Soto

*Erasure and Resistance in Post-Maria Puerto Rico*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research,  
Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Arielle Steimer-Barragan

*"Las viudas de las letras: Women Printers in Colonial Mexico"*

Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies  
Las Cruces, NM | April 15-17, 2020

34rd CSU Student Research Competition  
Hayward, CA | April 24-25, 2020

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research,  
Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

## Presentations at Professional Conferences

### Taylor Stickle

*Surviving the Speech Situation: Applying Audience Analysis*

National Communication Association 105th Annual Convention Baltimore,  
MD | November 14-17, 2019

### Bitra Sadat Faraji Tabrizi

*New York Times Data Analysis Using Hive*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship  
and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Aakansha Tagsaonkar

A machine learning approach for prediction of length of stay for KID's  
inpatient database

IEEE Big Data 2019  
Los Angeles, CA | December 9-12, 2019

### Hector Teran

*Understanding early career teachers' psychosocial well-being*

National Association for School Psychologists  
Baltimore, MD | February 18, 2020

### Scarlette Tovar

*Elucidating source waters and hydrochemical processes in a  
protected ecological habitat*

2019 UCOWR/NIWR Annual Water Resources Conference  
Snowbird, UT | June 11, 2019

### Hai Tran

*Silver Brain: Forget bingo, start virtual cardio*

Society for Neuroscience  
Chicago, Illinois | October 19-23, 2019

*Brain and muscle: the competition is on during exercise and virtual reality*

*Exercise as a New Strategy to Change Brain Oxygenation in Obese Individuals*

*You Better Be Active Even If You Play Virtual Reality Games*

*Virtual Reality Gaming as a Way to Increase Exercise-Induced Brain and  
Muscles Oxygenation for Young and Elderly individuals.*

South West ACSM  
Newport Beach, CA | September 1, 2019

*Brain oxygenation in response to virtual reality and exercise in aging*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship  
and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Diana Trujillo

*Spanish in the United States*

5th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference in The Humanities Sacramento, California | October 26, 2019

### Ambria Vasquez

*Design Considerations for an Urban Intersection to Improve Safety and Reduce Congestion Using Diverging Diamond Interchanges*

Presented at the "Migratory Poetics: Literature, Theory and Visual Cultures in Translation" Conference  
Washington, DC | January 12-16, 2021

### Melissa Venegas

*Self-efficacy as a romantic relationship partner: Links with sexual behaviors and outcomes.*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

### Victoria Umana

*Knowledge of and attitudes toward the Bible: Links with Social Dominance Orientation and religiosity.*

Western Psychological Association San Francisco, CA | May, 2020

### Alexandria Vickery

*Towards a Pedagogy of Critical Joy: Assessing the Impact of a Joy-Based Education Program in its First Year*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Brian Waldo

*Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Space*

South Central Conference on Mesoamerica  
Albuquerque, New Mexico | October 18, 2019

### Hassan Walukonde

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*

Rotary World Peace Conference, 2020. Ontario, CA | January 17, 2020

### Paige Weiss

*Disruption in the Nursery: Chemical defense of Californian sea slugs alters estuarine food webs*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Emerald Williams

*Racialized experiences and knowledge of Black and Latinx students studying abroad and at an HSI*

American Educational Research Association San Francisco, CA | April 20, 2020

### T'awna Williams

*Biasing Effects of Exonerated Identification on Perceptions of Innocence and Responsibility*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Yuanxi Ye

*Understanding the Unique Needs of Children with Visual Impairments and Autism Spectrum Disorder*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Rebecca Ying

*Using a field-simulation approach to compare eyewitness performance when using showups vs. lineups under real world conditions.*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Joseph Zailaa

*Contrasting physiological strategies to drought and salt stress in African and Asian rice.*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Lei Zhao

*Cell cryopreservation by using antifreeze protein formulation*

The 28th Annual Cal State LA Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities  
Los Angeles, CA | February 28, 2020

### Jiabin Zhou

*Using body weight support over ground training system to improve locomotion following contusion spinal cord injury.*

Society for Neuroscience  
Chicago, Illinois | October 19-23, 2019

### Houhou Kevin Xu

*"BevMo: Taking Credit for your own Success?" "Humanize: Behavior and Strategy Under Surveillance?"*

Western Casewriters Association 2020 Waikoloa, Hawaii | March 19, 2020

## Special Presentations, Performances & Exhibits

This academic year, eighty-seven (87) graduate students showcased their talents through dance, music and theatre performances, art exhibits and other special presentations.

### Aldo Adame

*Design, Development and Implementation and Testing of a millimeter wave phase antenna array channel sounder for 6th generation cellular networks employing drone-based communications*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Nikita Aggarwal

*Capturing Celestial Morphologies*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Daisy Aguirre

*Cryoprotection of Model Enzymes using Beetle Antifreeze Protein from *Dendroides canadensis**  
Los Angeles, CA

### Martha Allison

*Predicting Soil Structure And Condition Using Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) at UTC-UTI Workshop*

### Rasem Alrashdi

*Design, Development and Implementation and Testing of a millimeter wave phase antenna array channel sounder for 6th generation cellular networks employing drone-based communications*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Maira Anaya Lopez

*The Association Between Single Motherhood and Health in Women of Color*  
Cal State LA Library

### Christopher Aono

*Community Organizing and Advocacy: A Look at Clean Air: Purple Air Sensors*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Ruben Aurdra Whaley

*Linked Learning Communities of Practice (CoP): Creating Sustainable Change*  
Santa Barbara, CA

### Maria Cecilia Azar

*Emotional Weight Performance*  
Pittsburgh, PA

### Isaac Cano

*Quality Assurance for Web Systems*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Sarah Carlton

*Voces Bilingües: Escritura Persuasiva y estudios étnicos*  
San Francisco, CA

### Heidy Castellon

*The generation of markerless gene knock-out mutants in bnfA and bnfE genes in hypervirulent *Acinetobacter baumannii* LAC-4*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Amy Chan

*Analyzing Vertebral Osteoarthritis in Maya Sacrificial Victims*  
Baton Rouge, LA

*Strontium Isotope Testing of Deciduous Molars from Maya Sacrificial Victims*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Yazmin Chavez

*ASD, parent and student participation, and transitional services*  
Baltimore, MD

### John David Hoe Dang Aoen

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*  
Ontario, CA

### Manuel Davila

*Inequalities of Kazhdan Constants on Isomorphic Graph Pairs*  
Denver, CO

### Kevin Delao

*Improving Machine Learning Accuracy for Prosthetic Devices*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Jose Diego

*Evaluation of NASA soil moisture measurements with in situ data in the Western United States*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Weston Ding

*Skills for the College Experience*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Keyur Dhawan

*Use of Recycled Tire in Cementitious Materials for Additive Manufacturing of Concrete Infrastructure*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Angelica Enriquez

*Impact of Deforestation and Peatland Drainage on Borneo's Water Resources using Remote Sensing Products*  
Los Angeles, CA

## Special Presentations, Performances & Exhibits

### Abdulrahman Fahad Sindi

Linked Learning Communities of Practice (CoP): Creating Sustainable Change  
Santa Barbara, CA

### Marlene Figueroa

Ethnic Differences and Similarities in Masturbation Experiences and Attitudes  
Stanford, CA

### Lizbeth Flores

Effect of d- $\delta$  Tocotrienol on HER2+ Breast Cancer – Mevalonate Suppressive Effect  
Los Angeles, CA

### Luis Flores

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*  
Ontario, CA

### Faviola Garcia

*Knowledge of and Attitudes toward the Bible: Link with Social Dominance Orientation and Religiosity*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Joshua Garrido

*Improving the Construction Quality of Unbound Pavement Layers using Intelligent Compaction Technology*  
Washington, DC

### Rohan Goel

*Linked Learning Communities of Practice (CoP): Creating Sustainable Change*  
Santa Barbara, CA

### Annjanae Gonzales

*14th Annual Los Angeles Women's Task Force HIV/AIDS Treatment Summit*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Chantal Gossling

ASD, parent and student participation, and transitional services  
Baltimore, MA

### Paulette Hacopian

The Associations among Trauma, Health, and Mental Health Therapy  
Los Angeles, CA

### Jaxson Haug

*Gendered Faces: Male-to-Female Transgender Facial Feminization Surgeries as Applied to Sex Estimation in Forensic Anthropology*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Christina Iglesias

Interpreting a Subterranean Feature at Chichen Itza. Paper to be presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, Texas, April 10-14, 2020.  
Austin, TX

Recontextualizing the Osario Infantil at Chichen Itza  
Baton Rouge, LA

### Sergio Iglesias Jimenez

Incorporation of Bipyridine-Ruthenium based Metal-Organic Frameworks in Photovoltaic Cells  
Los Angeles, CA

### Amel Kebir

Strengthening Community Engagement and Emotional Support in the Latinx Community through the use of the Promotor/a Model  
San Francisco, CA

### Neil Kohanski

Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Sascaberas  
Baton Rouge, LA

### Sharon Lanre-Orepo

"It's the Climb!": Academic and Social Burden Impacts Academic Self-Efficacy and Persistence in First-Year College Students  
Chicago, IL  
Los Angeles, CA

### Wendy Layco

Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Sascaberas  
Baton Rouge, LA

### Anna Larionova

Choose an opsin: natural selection and compressibility of opsins in Lake Baikal sculpin  
Ontario, CA

### Beverly Lee

Incorporation of Bipyridine-Ruthenium based Metal-Organic Frameworks in Photovoltaic Cells  
Denver, CO

### Joann Ly

Self-Efficacy as a Romantic Relationship Partner: Links with Sexual Behaviors and Outcomes  
Los Angeles, CA

### Eduardo Martinez

Binary adsorption of nitrate and phosphate on iron hydroxide minerals for wastewater treatment  
Los Angeles, CA

### Erika McMullin

Determination of Sex Ratios from Midnight Terror Cave: A Commingle Skeletal Deposit  
Baton Rouge, LA

Determination of Sex Ratios Using the Proximal Femur from Midnight Terror Cave, A Commingle Skeletal Deposit.  
Los Angeles, CA

### Claudia Ocholski

Psychosocial Correlates of Substance Use in a High-Risk Sample of Adolescents,  
Los Angeles, CA

### Akilah Miller

MOF Derived Porous TiO<sub>2</sub> for the Use of Highly Efficient Photovoltaics  
Los Angeles, CA

### Alicia Mosely

Dances of Protest  
Los Angeles, CA

Artnight Pasadena: Dance Alumni Showcase  
Pasadena, CA

### Volodia Muradyan

pSmad2 (SMOX) and the TGF- $\beta$  Pathway  
Zoom Meeting

### Daniel Olivares Zambrano

*Finding the right home: Depth as a driver of adaptive evolution in the genus *Sebastes**  
Los Angeles, CA

### Cristi Perez

*Comparing Parent and Teacher Responses of Multilingual Child Literacy Performances*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Christian Pelayo

*Estimating PM<sub>2.5</sub> speciation concentrations over California using MISR V23 data" at the MISR*  
MISR Science Team Meeting  
Feb 12th 2020

### Leslie Plesetz

*Comparing Parent and Teacher Responses of Multilingual Child Literacy Performances*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Neil Poole

*Investigating the involvement of *Drosophila Smad2* in wing growth and development.*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Dilip Prajapati

*Development of Pervious Concrete Pavements by using Recycled Plastic Fiber (Polyethylene Terephthalate)*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Michael Prout

Recontextualizing the Osario Infantil at Chichen Itza  
Baton Rouge, LA

### Cynthia Ramirez

Continuous Mathematical Model of Blood Vessel Formation  
Denver, CO

Mathematical Model of Blood Vessel Formation  
Big Bear, CA

### Jesse Ramirez

*Voces Bilingües: Escritura Persuasiva y estudios étnicos*

### Jacqueline Reyes

Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology  
Ontario, CA

### Supasiri Rittiron

Potential Impacts of Wildfires on Soil and Water Chemistry in the San Gabriel Mountains, California

### Kraig Saito

Prospectus: The Association Between Health Behaviors, Patient-Provider Quality, and Mental Health Outcomes in Young Adult Men of Color Los Angeles, CA

### Jason Sanchez

Father vs. Father Figure Involvement: Mental Health Implications  
Los Angeles, CA

### Liliana Sanchez Coronado

First Language Development and Attrition in Young Children Attending a Head Start Center  
Los Angeles, CA

### Lorraine Sandoval Ascencio

Gas Dynamics in the Outer Disk Regions and Flow of Accreting Material  
Los Angeles, CA

### Joshua Sosha

Terpyridine-Ruthenium based Metal Organic Frameworks and their Application in Photovoltaic Cells  
Los Angeles, CA

### Arielle Steimer-Barragán

Women Printers in in Sixteenth-Century Mexico  
Los Angeles, CA

### Chad Thomas

Analysis of Casein Kinase 2 for a Potential Role in Craniofacial Development  
Los Angeles, CA

## Special Presentations, Performances & Exhibits

### Cindy Toscano

Manipulating the Antimicrobial Effector Molecule Response of Alveolar Type II Cells through Pro-inflammatory Cytokines  
Los Angeles, CA

### Victoria Umana

Knowledge of and Attitudes toward the Bible: Link with Social Dominance Orientation and Religiosity  
Los Angeles, CA

### Eduardo Vargas

Data Quality Assurance for Data Mining and Systems Health  
Los Angeles, CA

### Amy Vaquez

The influence of urban park features and the surrounding cityscape on biodiversity across a socioeconomic gradient  
Los Angeles, CA

### Melissa Venegas

Self-Efficacy as a Romantic Relationship Partner: Links with Sexual Behaviors and Outcomes  
Los Angeles, CA

### Brian Waldo

Acknowledging a Teeming Sacred Landscape: Rethinking Sascaberas  
Baton Rouge, LA

A GIS Approach to Assess the Water Resources at Chichen Itza  
Austin, TX

### Hassan Walukonde

*Positive Peace and Service Learning in Education: Through the Lens of Educational Technology*  
Ontario, CA

### Justine West

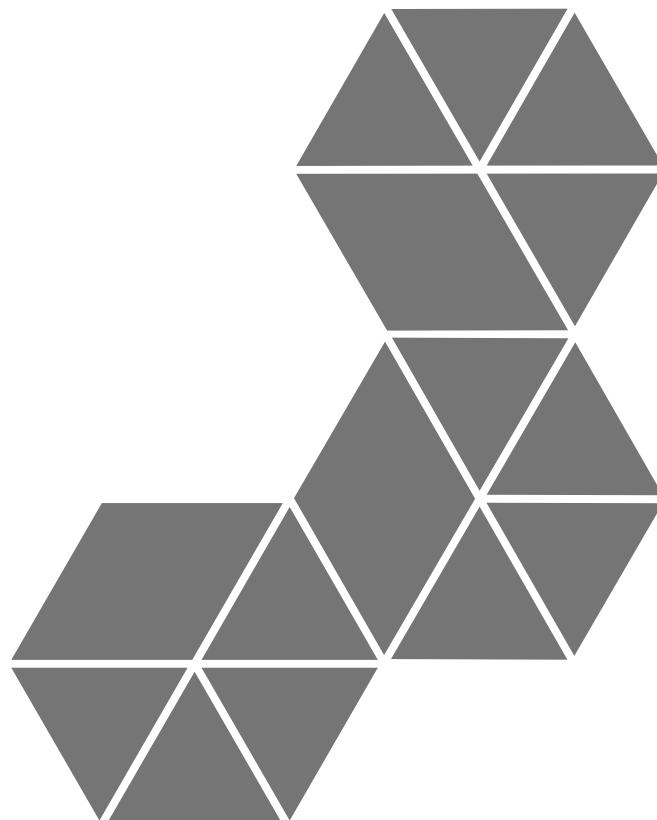
*Capturing Celestial Morphologies*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Gravesteijn Wouter

*Magnetic properties of a Metallic organic framework (MOF) via NMR*  
Los Angeles, CA

### Amanda White

*Examining DYRK1B's Involvement in Craniofacial Development via Conditional Knock-out*  
Los Angeles, CA



Seven (7) graduate students were selected to represent Cal State LA at the CSU system-wide Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities competition. The Competition was held virtually, on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at CSU East Bay. The event is held annually to recognize student accomplishments in research, scholarship, and creative activities, and to provide a forum for our students to gain experience in delivering a professional presentation. Our graduate student scholars presented research across a range of disciplines including Biology, Social Work, Latin American Studies, Television, Film, and Theatre, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Psychology.

Congratulations to Tatev Sarkissyan who won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Behavioral and Social Sciences. Her research examined Perceptions of Victims of Childhood Physical and Sexual Abuse. Her faculty mentor is Dr. Heidi Riggio.

We also congratulate Arielle Steimer-Barragan who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Humanities and Letters. Her research was entitled “Las viudas de las letras: Women Printers in Colonial Mexico.” Her faculty mentor is Dr. Kittiya Lee.

## Behavioral and Social Sciences

### Jason Sanchez

Master of Social Work  
*Biological Father vs. Father Figure Involvement: Mental Health Implications*  
Faculty Mentor: Anh-Luu Huynh-Hohnbaum

### Tatev Sarkissyan

M.A. Psychology  
*Perceptions of Victims of Childhood Physical and Sexual Abuse*  
Faculty Mentor: Robert Weide

### Daniel Osoy

M.A. Interdisciplinary Studies  
*Flirting with Supremacy: Understanding Gay Attractions to White Nationalism*  
Faculty Mentor: Heidi Riggio

## Biological and Agricultural Sciences

### Brent Beadell

M.S. Biology  
*Inhibition of Biofilm Formation of Pseudomonas aeruginosa by Human  $\beta$ -Defensin 2 and Cholesteryl Linoleate is Accompanied by Ultrastructural Lesions of the Bacterial Surface*  
Faculty Mentor: Edith Porter

### John English

M.S. Biology  
*Effect of Urban Temperature Gradients on Grassland Microclimate Amelioration and Diversity*

## Creative Arts and Design

### Laura Dickinson-Turner

M.F.A. Television, Film, and Theatre  
*Using Performance to Examine Performative Social Constructs: THRESHOLD*  
Faculty Mentor: Tanya Kane- Perry

## Humanities and Letters

### Arielle Steimer-Barragan

M.A. Latin American Studies  
*“Las viudas de las letras: Women Printers in Colonial Mexico”*  
Faculty Mentor: M. Kittiya Lee

A special thanks to the Office of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity for supporting our graduate students.



## Special Awards and Recognitions

Faculty were invited to nominate graduate students to be recognized for receiving special awards or recognition in their discipline. Graduate students were acknowledge for their academic excellence and won fellowships from various institutions to further their re-search and professional experience in their fields. Graduate students also won academic and artistic competitions and represented Cal State LA in different competitions such as the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings, and the International Colle-giate Business Strategy Competition.

### Diana Aghaward

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Mariam Ayad

NASA JPL Internship Award  
Faculty Mentor: JingJing Li

### Paula Ayala

Current Semi-Finalist for Fullbright US Student Program – English  
Teaching Assistant Award in Brazil Faculty  
Mentor: Ericka Verba

### Brent Beadell

First Prize oral presentation during the 28th Annual Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities Faculty Mentor: Edith Porter

### Claire Berstein

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Nicole Bixenman

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### David Cardiel

International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (April 2020)  
Faculty Mentor: Laura Whitcomb

### Nayely Castellón

2019-2020 CLS Department Mentoring Fellowship  
2020 NACCS Chicana Caucus Student Conference Scholarship Faculty Mentor: Dolores Delgado-Bernal

### Michelle De Luna

Research Fellowship: JPL Year-Round Internship (Two-Year Extension)  
Fall 2019-Spring 2021  
NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (NASA JPL)

### Giovanna Diaz

2019-2020 CLS Department Mentoring Fellowship  
Faculty Mentor: Dolores Delgado-Bernal

### Laura Dickinson- Turner

Association for Theatre in Higher Education/ KCACTF Innovative Teaching Award  
2nd Overall Oral Presentation Phi Kappa Phi  
Campus Delegate in Creative Arts to the 34th CSU Student Research Competition  
Outstanding Presentation Award, Creative Arts Faculty  
Mentor: Meredith Greenburg

### Frank Diemel

Outstanding Poster Award, South Coast Geological Society  
Faculty Mentor: Barry Hibbs

### Holly Chen

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Adam Ferguson

Association for Theatre in Higher Education/ KCACTF Innovative Teaching Award  
2nd Overall Oral Presentation Phi Kappa Phi  
Campus Delegate in Creative Arts to the 34th CSU Student Research Competition  
Outstanding Presentation Award, Creative Arts Faculty  
Mentor: Meredith Greenburg

### Bridget Garcia Vera

2019-2020 CLS Department Mentoring Fellowship  
Faculty Mentor: Dolores Delgado-Bernal

### Joshua Garrido

Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship awarded by USDOT Federal Highway Transportation Faculty  
Mentor: Mehran Mazari

### Romy Griep

David Miller Scholarship

### Lisa Jarvis-Gaines

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Maria Kizilova

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Gore Khachatryan

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Neil Kohanski

Margaret & Philip New Scholarship  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. James Brady

### Ma Ledi Ham Loot

2019 Graduate Alumni Scholarship for Superior and Distinguished Scholarship, Leadership and Academic Achievement  
Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (April 2020)  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Medrick Minassian

International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (April 2020)  
Faculty Mentor: Laura Whitcomb

### Wenny Nguyen

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Andrea Ogaz

Begole Archaeological Research Grant, Anza Borrego Foundation  
Faculty Mentor: James Brady

### Edgar Orozco

American Psychological Association Services for Transition Age Youth (STAY) Fellowship Faculty  
Mentor: Elina Saeki

### Carol Peralta

NSS Outstanding Graduate Student Award, CSULA  
Faculty Mentor: Barry Hibbs

### Angelica Perez

NASA internship at Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
June 4, 2019 - August 9, 2019

### Fiona Phan

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Tyler Powell

2020 CSUPERB Don Eden Graduate Student Research award  
2019 Emeriti Association Fellowship for Academic Excellence Faculty  
Mentor: Edith Porter

### Nick Rivas

2019-2020 CLS Department Mentoring Fellowship  
Faculty Mentor: Dolores Delgado-Bernal

### Chelsy Salas

Invited to talk to JPL Management  
8/8/2019  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)  
Graduate College Fellowship  
2/14/2020  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Internship  
6/3/2019 – 05/15/2020

### Jocelyn Rodriguez

Best Oral Presentation in the Life Sciences – Cancer Biology, 2019  
SACNAS National Meeting Faculty  
Mentor: Nathan Lanning

### Diana Sainz

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Jennifer Saucedo

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Natalie Shirinian

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Arielle Steimer-Barragán

CSU Student Research Competition 2020 Winner  
Outstanding Oral Presentation in Humanities and Letters; Selected as CSU Delegate at CSU Statewide Student Research Competition Faculty  
Mentor: Ericka Verba

### Charles Tobin

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Cindy Toscano

First Prize Poster presentation 28th Annual Student Symposium on Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities  
Faculty Mentor: Edith Porter

### Karina Vargas

2019-2020 CLS Department Mentoring Fellowship  
Faculty Mentor: Dolores Delgado-Bernal

### Peggy Williams

Case Study Presentation Winner at the Cal State LA Board of Directors Mock Budget Hearings to solve community health problems  
Faculty Mentor: Barrington Hunt

### Cory Winner

International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (April 2020)  
Faculty Mentor: Laura Whitcomb

### Curtis Young

International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (April 2020)  
Faculty Mentor: Laura Whitcomb

# Faculty Mentor Honorees

We are recognizing faculty mentors by profiling one from each college. These faculty mentors were nominated by their student mentees and their colleagues highlighting their mentorship activities that promote graduate student research, scholarship and creative activity. These honorees were carefully chosen after thorough evaluation by their respective colleges.

## **Dr. Kristina Ruiz-Mesa**

### **College of Arts and Letters**

Department of Communication Studies

Dr. Ruiz-Mesa is currently the Director of the Basic Course (COMM) and the Teaching Associate (TA) Supervisor since fall 2014. She mentors and trains 14-18 TAs annually, the largest number of TAs in the College of Arts & Letters. Dr. Ruiz-Mesa encourages students to submit their work to the *National Communication Association* (NCA) conference. In the last 3 years, her mentees presented over 20 papers at NCA. Her mentoring is rooted in a commitment to improving educational access and equity, and is marked by patience, kindness, and encouragement. She constantly encourages students to explore, enjoy and excel in the world of academia, and beyond. Many of her students are admitted to some of the top doctoral programs in the country and published scholarly articles. As someone committed to critical communication pedagogy designed to incorporate and value student experiences in her mentoring, Dr. Ruiz-Mesa commits substantial time and care in all of her mentoring.

#### ***Message from the Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Linda Essig:***

*Dr. Kristina Ruiz-Mesa was recently promoted – early – to associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies. Since joining the Cal State LA faculty in 2014, Dr. Ruiz-Mesa has coordinated our Basic Course in Oral Communication, which has meant mentoring many graduate students the unique skills involved in teaching oral communication. Her research on inter-cultural communication is published in journals such as *Journal of Communication Pedagogy and Learning in Higher Education*. She is a frequent presenter, sometimes in collaboration with her graduate students, at national and international conferences including the *National Communication Association* and others. Congratulations to Dr. Kristina Ruiz-Mesa for her many accomplishments, and most especially for mentoring the next generation of Communication Studies scholars and educators.*

## **Dr. Maria Karafilis**

### **College of Arts and Letters**

Department of English

Professor Karafilis's commitment to student success starts in the classroom. Her dedication to helping students is evident in her commitment to the success of student's writing and professionalization during and after the graduate program. She motivates students to expand their professional network, CV, and scholarly skills by encouraging them to attend conferences. Every year she urges students to form panels during the English Graduate Student Association, "Significations", where she coordinates and arranges the schedule of presentations. Her strength as a mentor comes from her ability to listen to students and help them reach their goals. Professor Karafilis is prompt to respond to students about all matters related to their academic success and guide them towards their goals. Professor Karafilis's mentorship makes students begin to regard themselves as scholars.

#### ***Message from the Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Linda Essig:***

*Dr. Maria Karafilis has been on the faculty of the Department of English for almost twenty years. A specialist in Nineteenth-century American Literature, Dr. Karafilis's current research focuses on ethics in early nineteenth century literature and, following a second string of inquiry, temporal derangement in the works of Nathaniel Hawthorne. In addition, she is currently director of the American Communities Program, the University's interdisciplinary public humanities center. Her scholarly rigor combined with her dedication to students has made her a much sought-after mentor of graduate students, including a current Sally Casanova pre-doctoral scholar. Dr. Karafilis exemplifies the teacher/scholar/public humanist model at the core of the College of Arts & Letters. The many successes of your students are the mirror of your ability as a mentor – Congratulations!*

# Faculty Mentor Honorees

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## **Dr. Jongwook Woo** College of Business and Economics Department of Information Systems

Professor Woo teaches students and develops their skill in the study of Big Data Analysis and Prediction. This academic year, he mentored 33 graduate students. Professor Woo encourages students to participate in and present their research at the Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Symposium held on campus and at “Women in Data Science” (WiDS). His students have published at international conferences and in scholarly journals. Students leverage the rich research experiences they receive under his mentorship to successfully join industry or advanced degree programs.

### ***Message from the Dean of the College of Business and Economics, Dr. Tye Jackson:***

*Dr. Jongwook Woo has been a faculty member at Cal State LA for 18 years in the College of Business and Economics’ (CBE) Department of Information Systems at Cal State LA. He has successfully mentored students of which one received the best paper award at The 14th Asia Pacific International Conference on Information Science and Technology (APIC-IST 2019). Dr. Woo is a noted scholar and has published articles on big data and data science. Recently, his faculty-student team research received recognition. The research team created an interactive data visualization dashboard that forecasts the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths by region in the U.S. and around the world. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Jongwook Woo as this year’s CBE’s Faculty Mentor Honoree.*

## **Dr. Adelaide Doyle-Nichols** Charter College of Education Division of Applied and Advanced Studies in Education

Dr. Doyle-Nichols supported students from the Education and Technology Leadership program to be active in the Research and Scholarly Sym- posiums such as ORSCA, the Arcadia Innovation Summit, and the Adobe Summit. She has been active in guiding students to present their work. She also students to publish their scholarly activity as well. Professor Doyle-Nichols fully supports student to conduct independent research. Due to the recent public health COV-19 emergency, Professor Doyle-Nichols has served as a critical source of knowledge for using Canvas, Zoom, Camtasia for screen casting, and other software and web resources to ensure an optimal online learning experience. Her role in this program is indispensable and deserves to be honored especially for its contribution to our globalized technological society.

### ***Message from the Dean of the Charter College of Education, Dr. Cheryl Ney:***

*Dr. Doyle-Nichols is a fearless innovator in the use of educational technology! She shares her excitement about new technologies with the CCOE students and school teachers she encounters. She is a professor in the Division of Applied and Advanced Studies in Education in the Charter Col-lege of Education. She began teaching at Cal State LA, her alma mater for her bachelor’s, and Master’s degrees, in 1990, after receiving her Ph.D. from USC in 1997 and a 15 year career as a High School Band and Orchestra Director.*

*She teaches courses in Educational Technology Leadership and the E-Learning and New Media Design. She also teaches courses in the Graduate Certificate Program in Online Teaching and Learning and Computer Applications in Schools. With her colleague, Dr. Javeri, she has been a major architect in the soon to be launched first fully online degree program at the University—an MA in Educational Technology!*

*Her research interests include use of virtual reality, augmented reality, educational technology, e-learning and the integration of these technologies into teacher education-- preparing educators for 21st century learning and thus impacting thousands of youth!*

# Faculty Mentor Honorees

We are recognizing faculty mentors by profiling one from each college. These faculty mentors were nominated by their student mentees and their colleagues highlighting their mentorship activities that promote graduate student research, scholarship and creative activity. These honorees were carefully chosen after thorough evaluation by their respective colleges.

## **Dr. He Shen**

### **College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology**

Department of Mechanical Engineering

Dr. He Shen is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering (ME). His research interests are in dynamics and controls; robotics and autonomous systems; modeling and simulation; mechatronics and instrumentation; image processing and computer vision. Dr. Shen is a thoughtful and reflective educator who is committed to transforming the educational experience for our students through meaningful learning experiences inside and outside of class. He is a strong researcher in the field of robotics and an excellent mentor to a wide variety of students, including high school students, undergraduates at all levels, and MS students. Dr. Shen is an active advocate of project-based experiential learning. In addition to incorporating real-world projects into his robotics and control courses, he has engaged more than 30 students in research activities and many more in activities related to engineering projects in student organizations – all focused around robotics. He is an active faculty advisor for several student organizations, including co-founding and leading the multi-disciplinary RoboSub competition team. Dr. Shen is truly an outstanding teacher and mentor to faculty and students alike. Two of his most recent MS students have gone on to engineering PhD programs at Purdue University and McGill University, after co-authoring several papers and presenting at multiple conferences. Multiple other students are working at JPL, or in robotics or vehicle industries.

#### ***Message from the Dean of the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology, Dr. Emily Allen:***

*Dr. He Shen is an outstanding educator. He has successfully experimented with flipped classrooms and other forms of active learning in his engineering classes, and never stops trying to improve the effectiveness of his teaching. He mentors multiple groups of students, formally in his research lab, as well as informally in the club environment of two student competition teams, both focused on robotics and autonomous vehicles. He is a highly innovative colleague, committed to the success of our undergraduates as well as our graduate students. In the words of his graduate students, "Dr. Shen's positive attitude, outlook, and selflessness greatly impacted my goals of achieving graduate education as a first generation student. I wouldn't be where I am today without his advice and leadership. I gravitated towards his idea of endless learning, which was simple yet instrumental; his support as my advisor, mentor, and friend was and still plays a vital role in my success. His ability to engage students in academics, leadership, and teamwork resonates as former and current students look to inspire their peers as he did with us."*

## **Dr. Ailish Sheard**

### **College of Health and Human Services**

School of Kinesiology, Nutrition and Food Science

Dr. Sheard developed the Environmental Physiology Lab and curriculum in the School of Kinesiology, Nutrition, and Food Science. Dr. Sheard's contribution has helped strengthen the program by creating opportunities for students to learn about this field and to conduct research. Her instruction in KIN 5040: Research Design has improved the overall development of research ideas for many students in our program. She also supports students in obtaining financial support for their research. Dr. Sheard is well-rounded in the field of kinesiology and nutrition in a way that allows her to give constructive feedback on these students' research proposals and literature reviews, which certainly support intellectual growth and overall student success.

#### ***Message from the Dean of the Rongxiang Xu College of Health and Human Services, Dr. Ron Vogel:***

*Dr. Ailish Sheard's impact on Kinesiology master's students has been significant. She has been committed to student success for years and understands that working closely with graduate students both in class and helping to guide them through their research activities is critical to their growth. She spends a great deal of time and energy working with students and we are proud that she is honored with this award. One of her students remarked that, "Dr. Sheard's advice and guidance set me up for success as a graduate student and now as a teacher". Another thanked her for, "believing in me...so that I was able to succeed as a graduate student." By providing outstanding mentoring, Dr. Sheard has helped establish a new culture of research and scholarship in the Kinesiology graduate program.*

## Faculty Mentor Honorees

We are recognizing faculty mentors by profiling one from each college. These faculty mentors were nominated by their student mentees and their colleagues highlighting their mentorship activities that promote graduate student research, scholarship and creative activity. These honorees were carefully chosen after thorough evaluation by their respective colleges.

**Dr. Heidi Riggio**  
**College of Natural and Social Sciences**  
Department of Psychology

Dr. Riggio joined the Psychology Department in Fall 2005. She has taught variety of courses in Psychology including Introductory Psychology, Social Psychology, Descriptive Statistics, Sex and Gender, and Theories of Personality. Dr. Riggio is an exceptional professor whose passion and enthusiasm for the subject is reflected in her inspirational, and thought-provoking lectures. Anyone who has had the pleasure of taking a class with Dr. Riggio knows that she exemplifies the qualities of an outstanding professor, who has a talent for teaching in an engaging, challenging, yet understandable manner, making learning a pleasurable experience. She has mentored more than 38 graduate students in the MA Program in Psychology at Cal State LA.

***Message from the Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences, Dr. Pamela Scott-Johnson:***

*Dr. Riggio, for your commitment to student training and development, and for mentoring the next generation of scholars. The College proudly salutes your support of graduate education. Congratulations to your students, who nominated you. Of note is the number of students with whom you have co-authored publications and presentations and for whom you have impacted their lives.*



## Student Acknowledgments of Faculty Mentors

Students were invited to acknowledge faculty mentors who have helped them achieve their academic goals including supporting their research; co-authoring publications and presentations; and guiding them in creativity activities and professional growth.

**Professor Andres Aguilar**

Biological Sciences

**Dr. Manuel Moreno Aguilar**

Latin American Studies

**Dr. Gaston Alzate**

Modern Languages and Literatures

**Dr. Navid Amini**

Computer Science

**Dr. Arun Aryal**

Information Systems

**Dr. Beth Felice Baker-Cristales**

Anthropology

**Dr. Shilpa Balan**

Information Systems

**Dr. Olajide Bamashigbin**

Psychology

**Professor Luoman Bao**

Sociology

**Professor Oscar Bernal**

Physics and Astronomy

**Dr. James Brady**

Anthropology

**Professor Gary Brookfield**

Mathematics

**Professor Michael Calabrese**

English

**Dr. Mario Castaneda**

Curriculum & Instruction

**Dr. Chaterjee Choi**

History

**Professor Joshua Cuzzone**

Geosciences and Environment

**Dr. Dolores Delgado-Bernal**

Chicano/a & Latina/o Studies

**Dr. Jessica Dennis**

Psychology

**Dr. Foad Dizadji-Bahmani**

Philosophy

**Dr. Robin Dodds**

Special Education

**Dr. Timothy Doran**

History

**Dr. Ramani Durvasula**

Psychology

**Professor Mitchell Eisen**

Psychology

**Professor Edward Eivers**

Biological Sciences

**Dr. Andre Ellis**

Geosciences and Environment

**Dr. Erica Ellis**

Communication Disorders

**Dr. Mohsen Eshraghi**

Mechanical Engineering

**Dr. Dionne Espinoza**

Liberal Studies

**Dr. Gaithri Fernando**

Psychology

**Professor Miles Finney**

Economics and Statistics

**Professor Gabriela Fried-Amilivia**

Sociology

**Dr. Mitch Fryling**

Education



## Student Acknowledgments of Faculty Mentors

**Professor Choi Ga-Young**

Social Work

**Dr. Linda Greenberg**

English

**Professor Meredith Greenburg**

Theatre and Dance

**Professor Jian Guo**

Geosciences and Environment

**Professor Yasuhiro Hasegawa**

Computer Science

**Professor Melissa Hendrata**

Mathematics

**Dr. Barry Hibbs**

Geosciences and Environment

**Dr. Kristen Hourigan**

Sociology

**Professor Barrington Hunt**

Management and Accounting

**Professor Anh-Luu Huyn-Hohnbaum**

Social Work

**Professor Peter Ivory**

Communication Disorders

**Dr. Manisha Javeri**

Applied & Advanced Studies in Education

**Dr. Lia Kamhi Stein**

Division of Educational Foundation & Interdiv Studies

**Professor Afary Kamran**

Communication Studies

**Professor Tanya Kane-Perry**

Theatre and Dance

**Professor Kasmron Karimlou**

Electrical & Computer Engineering

**Professor Anureet Kaur**

Kinesiology and Nutritional Science

**Professor Susan Kawell**

Curriculum and Instruction

**Professor John Kennedy**

Music

**Professor Stefan Keslacy**

Kinesiology & Nutritional Science

**Professor Arezoo Khodayari**

Civil Engineering

**Professor Wai Kit Choi**

Sociology

**Professor Mike Krebs**

Mathematics

**Professor Patrick Krug**

Biological Sciences

**Professor Mary Kubalanza**

Communication Disorders

**Dr. Jim Kuo**

Mechanical Engineering

**Dr. Wing Shun Kwan**

Civil Engineering

**Professor Nathan Lanning**

Biological Sciences

**Professor Kittiya Lee**

History

**Dr. Jingjing Li**

Geosciences and Environment

**Dr. Daphne Liu**

Mathematics

**Professor Sonya Lopez**

Civil Engineering

**Professor Robert Martin**

Art

**Dr. Allison Mattheis**

Applied and Advanced Studies in Education

**Professor Brigitte Matthies**

Psychology

**Professor Mehran Mazari**

Civil Engineering

**Dr. Stephen McGuire**

Management

**Professor Jamil Momand**

Chemistry and Biochemistry

## Student Acknowledgments of Faculty Mentors

**Professor Marina Mondin**  
Electrical & Computer Engineering

**Professor Nina O'Brien**  
Communication Studies

**Dr. Enrique Ochoa**  
Latin American Studies and History

**Professor Anna Oshipova**  
Special Education & Counseling

**Dr. Arturo Pacheco-Vega**  
Mechanical Engineering

**Dr. Hyunsook Park**  
Biological Sciences

**Dr. Edith Porter**  
Biological Sciences

**Dr. Mohammad Pourhamayoun**  
Computer Science

**Dr. Pamela Regan**  
Psychology

**Professor William Rosales**  
Sociology

**Professor Heidi Riggio**  
Psychology

**Professor William Rosales**  
Natural & Social Sciences-Dean

**Professor Amelia Russo-Neudstadt**  
Biological Sciences

**Dr. Melanie Sabado-Liwag**  
Public Health

**Dr. Elina Saeki**  
Special Education and Counselling

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Mechanical Engineering

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Biological Sciences

**Professor Matthias Selke**  
Chemistry & Biochemistry

**Professor Michael Selvan Joseph**  
Kinesiology and Nutritional Science

**Dr. Travis Shihao Hu**  
Mechanical Engineering

**Dr. Ailish Sheard**  
Kinesiology and Nutritional Science

**Dr. Gabriela Simon-Cerejido**  
Communication Disorders

**Professor Rafael Solorzano**  
Latin American Studies

**Dr. Susan Terebey**  
Physics and Astronomy

**Professor Harry Therman**  
Physics and Astronomy

**Professor Leigh Ann Tipton-Fisler**  
Special Education and Counseling -EDSC

**Dr. Ericka Verba**  
Latin American Studies

**Dr. Angela Vergara**  
Latin American Studies

**Dr. Alejandro Villalpando**  
Latin American Studies

**Dr. Cynthia Wang**  
Communication Studies

**Dr. Yixian Wang**  
Chemistry & Biochemistry

**Dr. Robert Weide**  
Sociology

**Dr. Xin Wen**  
Chemistry & Biochemistry

**Professor Laura Whitcomb**  
Management

**Professor Tasha Willis**  
Social Work

**Professor Elaine Wittenberg**  
Communication Studies

## Student Acknowledgements of Faculty Mentors

**Professor Eric Wood**

Geosciences and Environment

**Professor Jongwook Woo**

Information Systems

**Dr. Alexandra Wright**

Biological Sciences

**Professor Howard Xu**

Biological Sciences

**Dr. Hengchun Ye**

Geosciences and Environment

**Dr. Jing Zhao**

Kinesiology and Nutritional Science

**Dr. Cecilia Zurita-Lopez**

Chemistry & Biochemistry

ASI is a non-profit student-run auxiliary governed by a Board of Directors elected by the student body of Cal State LA. Assisting in the protection of student rights and interests. ASI provides the means for effective input into the governance of the campus and is the official avenue through which student opinion is expressed. We have five (5) graduate student leaders who have been actively serving and advocating not only for our graduate students but the entire student population at Cal State LA. They sit in different policy making committees, organize workshops and events and create venues for student advocacy. These student leaders are:

**Ma Ledi Ham Loot**  
Graduate Academic Senator

**Christian Flores**  
Graduate Academic Senator

**Jocelyn Vargas**  
Health and Human Services Representative

**Ugbad Farah**  
Environmental Affairs Commissioner

**Jay Joshi**  
Civic Engagement Officer

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Associate Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies

**Veena Prahbu, Ph.D.**

Director of Assessment

**Andrew Chavez, M.A.**

Graduate Resource Center Coordinator

**Veronica Ramirez, B.S.**

Office Manager

**Sara Johnson**

Student Assistant

Geography

**Ma Ledi Ham Loot**

Student Assistant

Healthcare Management

**Paola Delgado**

Student Assistant

Television, Film, and Media Studies

**Leah Zander**

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English

**Gabriel Avila**

Writing Consultant

History

**Michiko Soto**

Writing Consultant

Latin American Studies

**Billy Sooksavath**

Writing Consultant

TESOL

**Victor Bustamante**

Thesis Reviewer

Economics

**Christine Palette**

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Communication Disorders

**Taimor Khan**

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Information Systems

**Emerald Aueyong**

Thesis Reviewer

Counseling



# ◀ Special Thanks

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## Harkmore Lee

College of Professional and Global Education  
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## Regina Cash

College of Professional and Global Education  
Associate Dean, Programs and Academic Innovation

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Jessica Morales-Chica (Vice-Chair), Child and Family  
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Mika Cho, Art

Kimi Wilson, Curriculum and Instruction

Kristine Bezdecny, Geosciences and Environment

Shilpa Balan, Information Systems

Sara Baker, University Library

Masood Shahverdi, Electrical and Computer  
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Mary Kubalanza, Faculty, College of Health and Human  
Services

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