



Distinguished Faculty Advising Award

Dr. Laura Henriques

Science Education

An advisor in the Single Subject Science Credential program and the Science Education Master's program, Dr. Laura Henriques is dedicated to helping students reach their potential and achieve their dreams.

Dr. Henriques, who also serves as chair of the Science Education Department, began advising students in the credential program 12 years ago and started serving as coordinator for the science teacher preparation program 10 years ago. In that time, she has helped countless students navigate the cumbersome process of earning a California teaching credential and offered advice for many more who have considered a teaching career. In the late 1990s and early 2000s Dr. Henriques was the sole advisor for the science credential program, with approximately 1,000 student contacts per year. To meet students' needs, Dr. Henriques has often seen students outside of office hours and created an electronic advising log to track her students.



Dr. Henriques recently began serving as the CSULB coordinator for the Math and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI), a CSU initiative designed to increase the number of credentialed math and science teachers. In order to reach out to potential students, she created a science credential program Web site and a LISTSERVE. She also works with students earning their master's in science education. She has mentored four students through their thesis, is the thesis advisor for four more and is a thesis committee member for an additional five students.

Dr. Henriques has served as the faculty advisor for the Association of Future Science Educators, and secured National Science Teacher Association (NSTA) Student Chapter status in 2002 and California Science Teacher Association (CSTA) Student Chapter status in 2007 for the campus organization. She also encourages students to participate in conferences and runs the popular Young Scientists Camp for students in the community.