

The Honor Code Magazine

Spring 2025



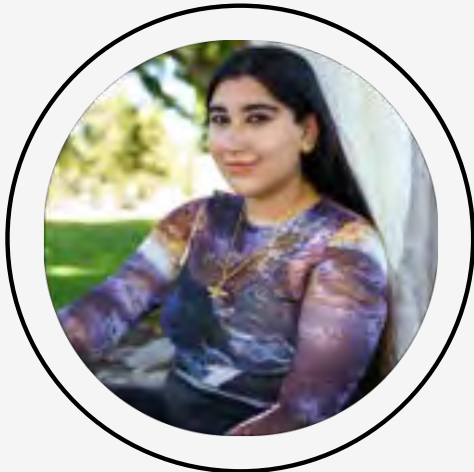
CELEBRATING
75 YEARS
AT THE BEACH

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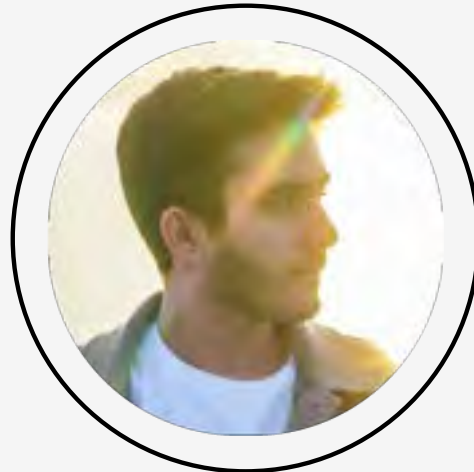
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Meet the Print Team



Darya Jafarinejad
Editor in Chief



Shawn Martinez
Print Designer



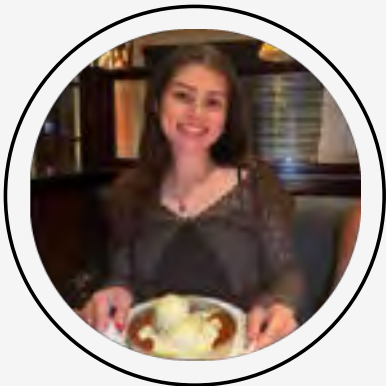
Skylar Stock
Writer



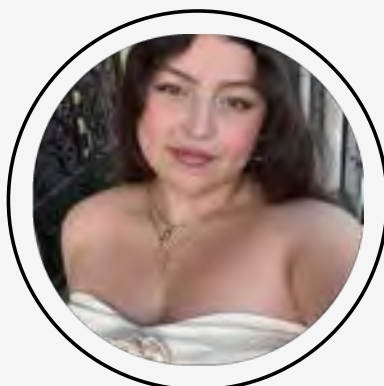
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Writer



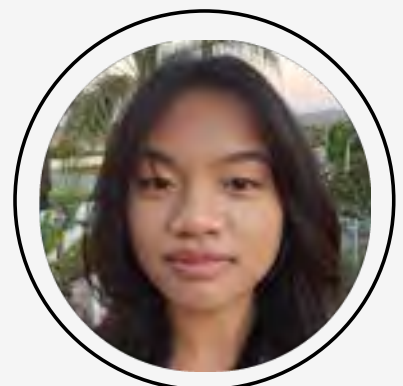
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Writer



Leyla Crail
Copy Editor



Amelia Guzman-Anguiano
Writer



Josephine Nguyen
Copy Editor

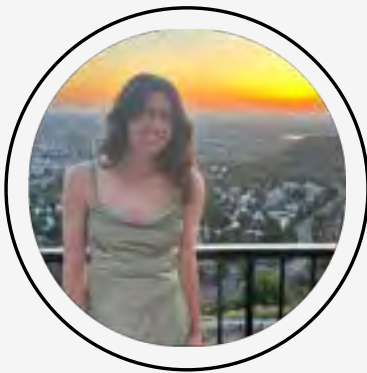
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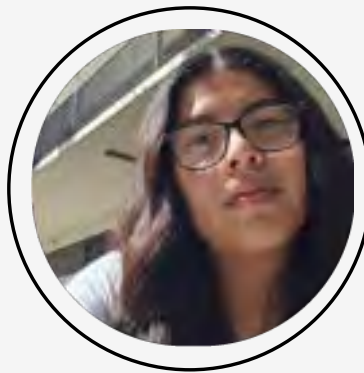
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Copy Editor



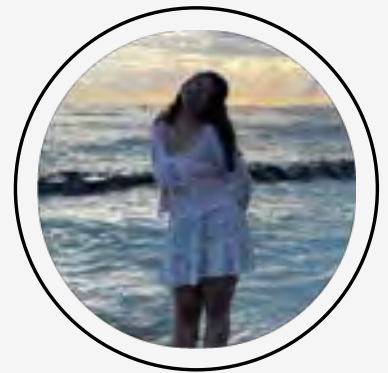
Iliana Guerena
Outreach Coordinator



Eva LeBlanc
Writer



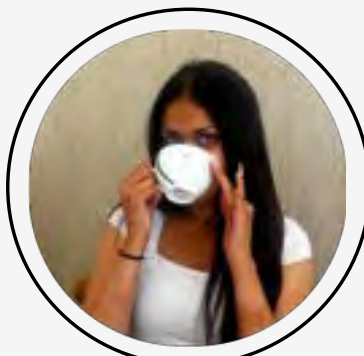
Lizette
Najera-Perez
Writer



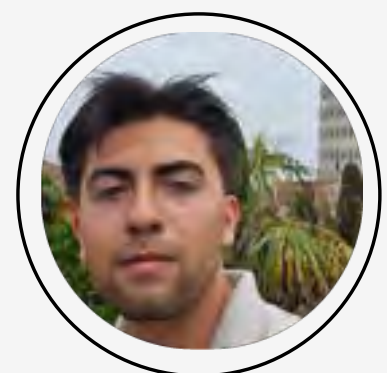
Alora Anderson
Writer



Richard Wang
Photographer



Jaseleen Pada
Social Media
Manager



Leonardo Ochoa
Photographer

A Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

When we're in the middle of the ocean, the shores can feel worlds away. We may be closer than we think, yet caught in the tide's overwhelming force, it seems we'll never reach the shoreline.

But we need to keep swimming. Brave the waves that tear you down, no matter how forceful they are or how bleak things seem. Our aspirations are something worth fighting for. Something to motivate us to keep our heads above water. To push forward, until that which we covet rests securely in our hands. It may take a long time, but each day, we get closer. Unpredictable waves or treacherous creatures may steer us off course. Let ambition and determination serve as a map, leading you faithfully to the shores.

Our dreams and goals are manifested on the shorelines of success. We cannot simply let them rust away, unclaimed and isolated far from us. To conquer the waves and reach the shores requires strength, persistence, and most importantly, a firm belief in ourselves. Especially when nobody else believes in us.

When you reach the shores, the tides will be nothing more than a distant memory. Not world-ending, like it may have felt in the moment, but a small thing that happened. It's important to remember our struggles, for they shaped us into who we are. But it is equally important to remember that, once you reach the pinnacles of success, they can no longer drag you down.

So just keep swimming. One day, you'll be surrounded by the comforting sand and warm sunlight. The treasure on the shores will be greater than you ever imagined. And the tides much smaller.

-Darya Jafarinejad
Editor in Chief



A Letter from the Print Designer

The release of this magazine celebrates my fourth semester here at the Honor Code Magazine. I am so grateful to have been a part of this team and contribute to what will now be my fourth magazine. I couldn't have asked for a better group of individuals to work with on these releases as I have enjoyed every moment.

Celebrating Long Beach State's 75th anniversary this magazine aims to celebrate our school's history through it's iconic colors, as well as through our iconic nickname "The Beach". For this print I have included a combination of our Universities colors and a Beach aesthetic for this celebration and hope that you the viewer enjoy our Spring 25' release.

-Shawn Martinez
Print Designer

UHP WORKING TO PUT K-12 SUPPORT ON "BLAST"

WRITTEN BY: SKYLAR STOCK

For the past 25 years, the non-profit Long Beach BLAST (Better Learning For All Students Today) has been leading Long Beach youth with the help of college-level mentors. This semester, the University Honors Program has partnered with BLAST to encourage honors students to get involved in the local community.

BLAST works with schools to determine each student's individual needs and tailor their experience so they are getting the best possible assistance.

"The students in the community are our future. And the way I see it is, if you have an hour or two a day to just speak to a student and support them academically and push them, that impact lasts a long time," Kassandra Beltran, a mentor program supervisor at Long Beach BLAST, said.

Beltran originally started as a mentor for the program in 2011 and has been in her current position for almost three years. At BLAST, she recruits and trains mentors to support K-12 students in their endeavors. Beltran also helps to match students with mentors in the program.

The program recruits college students at the start of every semester. It lasts eight weeks and students meet with their mentees twice a week for one hour sessions. Last semester, according to Beltran, BLAST had over 200 mentors and mentees involved.



Long Beach BLAST collage depicting student mentees in the program attending events and graduating during the 2022 to 2023 cohort. Photo credit: Skylar Stock

One big factor in college enrollment is students' ability to meet "A through G" requirements. These requirements are a set criteria of classes that high schoolers have to meet with a C grade or better in order to enroll in four year colleges.

Dr. Sandra Pérez, UHP Director, found that there weren't enough Long Beach high school students completing their A through G requirements. Many students in low-income situations are not given the opportunity to meet these requirements in time. Incorporating BLAST was a way for honors students to help youth meet their full potential.



Angela Alvarez-Director of Programs and
Kassandra Beltran- AMP Supervisor with Long Beach BLAST

We are especially targeting middle school kids, so that they know ahead of getting into high school ... what needs to get done in order for them to be college eligible,” Pérez said.

“Community service, working with young people, providing opportunity, providing hope. For me, it is incredibly rewarding.” The key to this was bridging mentees with a UHP mentor that they can rely on.

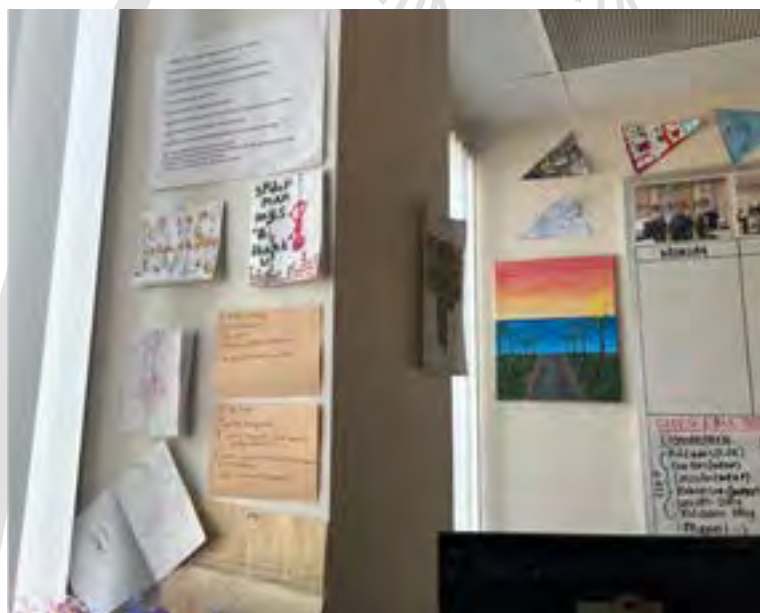
“A lot of the honors students that we’re recruiting are working with our middle school population,” Beltran said. “So they’re working on ...higher level skills like college and career thinking, really embedding the idea of positive future thinking skills and just positive thinking skills in general ... just to help them be prepared for high school or prepared for college, and be well rounded young professionals.”

Kristen Gibbel is a first-year honors biology student who was paired with a seventh grade student from Jefferson Middle School. Her primary goal is to take out the monotonous structure of learning and incite curiosity in learning. Goal setting is the first step to independence, according to Gibbel, and she hopes to inspire her mentee to create his own goals.

“You get to see a lot of potential in these younger kids,” Gibbel said. “And it’s inspiring, honestly, because I think sometimes, as we grow older, you kind of lose that spark.”

Marlee Helmy, another first-year biology student, joined an informational Zoom meeting about BLAST in the Fall 2024 semester. She instantly thought being a mentor was a “really nice” opportunity. I thought, Why not do what I can to help others?” Helmy said. “Because they were talking about all the success stories they [BLAST] had and I thought, ‘Wow, this program has a really big impact.’”

After signing up for the program, Helmy was matched with a fifth grade student from Lincoln Elementary in Long Beach. Her duties include helping her mentee with reading and homework. Beyond that, she enjoys getting to bond with her mentee. “I know she really likes listening to Daniel Caesar,” Helmy said.



A thank you poster created by students in Beltran’s Male Leadership classes while she was a college and career advisor at BLAST.



Photos of students in the program hang on the wall of the Long Beach BLAST office. Scattered throughout is encouraging and uplifting messaging. Photo credit: Skylar Stock

“For honors students, being a mentor means being a reliable confidant for these Long Beach students. Encouraging mentees socially in addition to academically is an important part of the program, according to Beltran. “At the end of the day, we're not just tutors. We're trying to also help with any other areas that they might need,” Gibbel said.

The Allstate Foundation worked with UHP to provide a \$10,000 stipend for 50 honors students to mentor local students. In addition to this stipend, honors students can meet badge requirements for the year by participating in the program.

“It's everybody pitching in to make this happen, right? And we very much depend on our honors students, [to devote] their time and energy for this to be successful,” Pérez said. Social justice and leadership skills are key parts of being in UHP and can be found in BLAST, according to Pérez.

BLAST has seen over a thousand students participate as mentors and mentees throughout the years. Once mentee students graduate, they are awarded with graduation BLAST bling that encourages them to take the experience of the program into their futures. Beltran has seen “beautiful stories” of mentees coming back as mentors. Some even come back to praise the program.

“There are various activities that we did in the community for the students about their values and their self image, and we had them write letters to someone they were thankful for, and a student wrote a letter to me, and that was the first time that I knew I was making an impact on their lives,” Beltran said.

Both mentors and mentees have the opportunity to be inspired, according to Helmy. “Although, of course, it is a commitment to make —you know you're meeting with them twice a week for a whole semester,” Helmy said. “But, I think it's worth it, I think more people should do it. It has a lasting impact on a lot of students, some students really need it, and you could be the one to help them.”

The University Honors Program hopes to gain momentum in numbers for BLAST in the Fall 2025 semester. According to Pérez, allowing the program to grow and prosper is important to the well being of the Long Beach community. Honors students can sign up to be a BLAST mentor at the beginning of the Fall 2025 semester.



A thank you poster created by students in Beltran's Male Leadership classes while she was a college and career advisor at BLAST.



ALL ABOARD: VINCE NORGA ON UHP'S NEXT VOYAGE

WRITTEN BY: JAYDEN SANDSTROM



Associate Director Vincent Norga



Norga Speaking at CSULB

Who is Vincent Norga?

Born and raised in Southern California, Associate Director Vincent Norga began his academic journey at Cal State Fullerton, majoring in Psychology with the goal of becoming a school counselor. He was drawn to Psychology and being a school counselor because family and friends told him that he was a great listener and gave good advice. He wanted to help future generations succeed in school and be a mentor to individuals that were forgotten.

Life, however, had different plans for the now Associate UHP Director. While a student at Cal State Fullerton, Norga began his career by assisting with practice exams and working as a student assistant. He later moved into an Assistant Coordinator role at UC Riverside, where his passion for supporting students grew. Norga decided to pursue graduate education at Cal State Long Beach and received a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology.

In his counseling services role at UC Riverside, Norga worked with students considered at-risk of not graduating due to external circumstances, similar to students in the EOP program. He felt that this aligned with his goal of working with future generations of learners and helping them succeed academically.

He kept this experience in mind when he decided to apply for the position of Associate Director of the Presidential Scholars. He wanted to make a shift from working with at-risk students to providing guidance to extremely high-achieving students, and he felt that this still would incorporate most, if not all, of the elements of what he originally wanted to do.

"When working with students at risk of not graduating, many of them aren't afraid to ask for help because they've struggled up to that point. But honors students are more stubborn since so many of them have been academically successful for so long, they often have a harder time asking for support when faced with obstacles," he explained. He added that despite their academic success, honors students don't necessarily need less support. In fact, in some cases, he believes honors students need even more support to accomplish their sometimes very ambitious goals.

In 2018 Norga transitioned into the role of Associate Director for all honors students when the Presidential Scholars Program and UHP merged together. He enjoys working with the Presidential Scholars, especially the opportunity to see high-achieving, collaborative minds connect and network with each other. He also noted that many of the Presidential Scholars he has worked with were deeply grateful for the support they received from the university, and after graduating, many of them return to campus to pay that kindness forward.

Behind the Scenes

Norga's current responsibilities primarily consist of data collection to determine how to further support students. Much of his data collection surveys trends among honors students, such as program involvement. He has also been responsible for tasks such as growing the Honors Program's overall population.

One of the data collection projects Norga was tasked with involved an old requirement of the Honors Program, which mandated that students attend three honors events per semester. Concerns were raised about whether this requirement was negatively impacting students' performance in their classes and timely graduation rates. The data Norga collected supported this concern, revealing that students who attended more honors events took longer to graduate. While the data was qualitative, Norga attributed this trend to the social nature of the events, which tended to focus more on networking and socializing than on academics. He suggested that students who attended more events might have been more focused on social interactions, potentially losing sight of their academic priorities as a result. In response to these findings, the requirement was removed, and honors events are now completely voluntary.

Another significant contribution Norga made was in the creation of the Honors Portfolio System. This system was designed with the goal of enhancing student success by encouraging involvement in leadership and creative endeavors. Norga pointed out that simply having a college degree is no longer enough to stand out in today's competitive workforce, given the large number of college graduates.

To differentiate themselves, students need to engage in opportunities outside the classroom. The Honors Portfolio was created to help students track these experiences and serve as an incentive to continue pursuing opportunities that would complement their education and make them more competitive in the job market. Norga has also conducted extensive research into the decline in student participation across all events. While the previous requirement of attending three events per semester was removed, a more significant and unexpected decline in participation has continued since the COVID-19 pandemic. Previously, 40-60 students would attend events, but now, only 5-10 students are showing up. Despite efforts to modify events each semester, student participation remains lower than the honors staff had hoped for. Different strategies are being planned to increase student involvement in the future.



Norga with Presidential Scholarship Recipients at Cal State Long Beach



Ideas for the Future & Closing Advice

Norga also believes that offering a course like UHP 100 as a summer bridge class would greatly benefit students.

He has observed that many students feel overwhelmed during their first semester, and a summer bridge program designed to introduce them to the campus and available opportunities could provide much-needed support. Additionally, he emphasizes the importance of connecting honors students with university faculty during this program. He believes that having a faculty mentor from the start would help students go through their education more effectively and make the most of their college experience.

When asked if he had any advice for honors students, Norga shared this insight: “If you look for it, you can find mentorship in terms of staff and faculty on campus, and having a mentor is a long-term beneficial thing for you. It can provide insight, perspectives, and ideas for different problems you are trying to work out in your head that you might not have considered otherwise”. He emphasized that the faculty and staff genuinely want to support students in any way they can and often welcome the opportunity to serve as mentors.



Norga with Presidential Scholars

FROM COAST TO COAST: ERIN LARIOS CONQUERS THE TIDE

WRITTEN BY: AMELIA GUZMAN-ANGUIANO

Erin Larios, born and raised on the cusp of Orange County and Long Beach, graduated from CSULB in May 2023 with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Economics, alongside a Legal Studies certificate. Now attending Cardozo School of Law in New York, she proves her determination to serve the community and prioritize the quality of her education. “I am capable, I am smart, and I am able to chase the dreams that I had as a kid through the confidence I built as a leader and the classes I took in Honors,” she affirms.

Prior to enrolling at Cardozo Law School, Erin was a very active member in the Honors community. Integrating herself into a community so rich in encouragement and passion changed the trajectory of her college experience. Some of her responsibilities during her time included: Editor-in-Chief of Honor Code Print Magazine, Lead Coordinator of the Honors Peer Mentor Program (HPMP), Honors Ambassador of the Increasing Diversity, Equity, Advocacy and Solidarity (IDEAS) committee, and more. In particular, she credits the start of her involvement to HPMP, starting as a mentee and eventually becoming a mentor and coordinator. As a primary contributor, she helped others assimilate into a community where “everyone is like-minded, in the sense of wanting to do well academically but also investing in the community.” Moreover, she advocated for expanded accessibility of resources outside the commonly frequented. Erin believes the Honors program helped her obtain experience in representing herself, crafting her voice, and building an image of what she wanted to embody to law schools during her applications.



Erin Larios -Honors Alum, Class of 2023

Likewise, when asked what one of the proudest moments of her education was, Erin mentions her Honors thesis, a study of the impact of judicial interpretation on social movements through the scope of abortion rights, under the mentorship of Dr. Whitehead. While it was rigorous at the time, she appreciated the opportunity to be a pioneer of her own research and exhibit her growth to family and faculty. She still “always[s] talk[s] about it in interviews.” Throughout her academic journey, Erin appreciated the dedication that Honors professors demonstrate to applying their curriculum to a broader perspective beyond the classroom and ensuring everyone’s needs are met.

Although Erin knew she wanted to attend law school long before she stepped foot on campus, her experience in her curriculum cemented her interest and nurtured her aspiration for equity. She just landed a summer job with a judge at the New York Supreme Court, where she will be working in child welfare proceedings. Erin is also hoping to come out with a writing sample, where she can illustrate her legal reasoning and analytical skills as well as her communication style.

She credits much of her success to her grit, modeled by her parents growing up. Similarly, Erin prompts, ‘You can’t pour from an empty cup.’ She follows up with her belief that albeit learning discipline in academics is vital to success, being friendly and giving yourself as well as others grace is equally as important. With the knowledge that we are all investing in ourselves as people, many can foster meaningful relationships.



Larios celebrating with friends after delivering the class-speaker speech at the 2023 CSULB honors graduation ceremony.



Larios and other members of LALSA (Latin American Law Student Association) visiting a first-year law firm reception in Manhattan, learning about Big Law.



Larios practicing her oral argument in the moot court room of Cardozo School of Law.

Through her efforts, Erin hopes to ensure that people feel seen and heard, whether that be through her career, friends, family, the Honors program, or community organizations she aims to align herself with one day. By embedding her goals with kindness and empathy, she aims to “bring some light to people and communities that are being stripped of it.”

It may be daunting to be the first in your family to explore a different career path, However, Erin exemplifies the rewards of determination and investing in one’s own success!

"SPICY", STORY & SCRIBENDI: A WRITER'S REFLECTION WRITTEN BY: KEANU HUA

It's always said that university is the time to discover yourself. So, I figured that discovering myself would involve discovering that it's hard to get an "employable Bachelor's" and "decent job" and that I'd need to shed some things to do so.

Of course, maybe I would still submit fiction every now and then, and get rejected most of the time, because a lot of decent things worth doing are hard to do. And that's how they should be. That I might win an award or anything of that caliber was something I considered too unlikely to ponder, especially as someone who's not formally studying fiction.

"Spicy," a short story I had work-shopped for a class, won the Short Fiction award at the Western Regional Honors Council for the Scribendi Magazine*. It tells the story of two boys, Lucky and Vargas, as Lucky comes to terms with the depth of his grief about his dearest maternal grandfather's passing and the food and intimacy that they had all shared together.

I hadn't ever considered it likely to receive the reward. That said, I'm a statistics major, so I see perhaps too many things in terms of luck. For me, writing fiction has mostly been about the process and experience of it. Submitting my writing to places was purely to placate that other part of me that does want attention, even if the results rarely turn out good.

And yet, looking at my submission, it is undeniably personal. Even if it's not literally what happened to me, it drew heavily from my own life, from my family's lives, in order to get the timbre that I did; cooking mackerel with pineapple and tomatoes, precious chili oil growing mold, the refusal to acknowledge grief, tiny moments and motions and memories in the kitchen, unusually quiet Vietnamese folk at a funeral—those sorts of things.

Those were all coming from my own life. My own boring life. The fiction feels real, is a better story, because it has those real components, even if a younger me would have rejected writing about myself. All of those stories are about those human parts of me, the parts that I had thought would get in my way in university and a decent job, the parts that I thought I'd never want to write about. And yet, they persist.

**Scribendi is an annual print magazine that publishes creative work from undergraduate honors students within the Western Regional Honors Council (WRHC). You can find the most recent edition of Scribendi in the Honors Center, Library 507 to read Hua's short story, "Spicy"*



Keanu Hua at the WRHC receiving the award for Best Short Fiction for "Spicy"

MEET THE MVP: A SIT-DOWN WITH HONORS' MOST VALUABLE PROFESSOR - DR. CAITLIN FOURATT

WRITTEN BY: KEANU HUA

Dr. Caitlin Fouratt is an associate professor in the Department of International/Global Studies. She teaches thesis courses for the University Honors Program and was voted the Most Valuable Professor by students in UHP for 2024. With a master's in Latin American studies and a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology, she has dedicated her career to studying migrations and refugees in Central America. After teaching a Writing Intensive course on this subject and supervising several of our students, UHP reached out to Dr. Fouratt and asked her to teach thesis courses, which she enthusiastically accepted. The Honor Code recently sat down with Dr. Fouratt to learn more about her research, teaching philosophy, and the meaningful connections she's built through the Honors Program.

Q: What got you interested in refugees and forced migrants in Central America?

A: I began studying migration to Costa Rica as an undergraduate, when I studied abroad there. I did an internship working on labor rights on banana plantations, and most of the workers were migrants. After graduation, I returned as a Fulbright scholar to study xenophobia and discrimination. Later, I did my masters thesis on gender and migration in Costa Rica, and then my dissertation project and book on transnational families that are separated across borders.

However, in 2015, when I went to Costa Rica to share my findings about transnational families with my research participants and decision makers in the country, I learned about the dramatic increase in asylum applications that the country had begun receiving. They faced many similar challenges to the families I had already worked with, including with increasingly restrictive immigration policies.

Then, in 2018, there were mass protests in Nicaragua that were met with violent repression from the government. Suddenly, many of the families I had worked with in my earlier research were reunited in Costa Rica – because they had to flee the violence in Nicaragua! So in some ways, my research participants transformed into forced migrants, and that demanded my attention.



Dr. Fouratt with her book, *Flexible Families: Nicaraguan Transnational Families In Costa Rica*

Photo courtesy of the College Of Liberal Arts

Q: How did you come to be involved in Red de Jovenes Sin Fronteras and what have you gained from this experience? What did you do during your time there?

A: I began working with the Red de Jovenes sin Fronteras after attending several events they sponsored to bring awareness to the situations of refugees in Costa Rica and build bridges between Costa Ricans and refugees from various countries living there. The Red is a network of refugee youth, and so with them I helped organize events and discussed refugee issues with government agencies. When I took students to Costa Rica, they participated as interns with the Red and since then, my migration class on campus worked with the Red to produce a podcast series about the experiences of refugees in Costa Rica.

Q: What was the research process like for your book, *Flexible Families: Transnational Migration in Costa Rica and Nicaragua*?

A: The book is an ethnographic monographic, so I employed a variety of ethnographic methods over multiple years. I conducted participant observation in immigrant neighborhoods and organizations, participating in everyday activities and learning from people about their family lives. I then interviewed migrants in their homes and then asked if I could visit their families back in Nicaragua. Then, I traveled to Nicaragua and did the same thing with their family members. I got to travel their own migration routes in reverse! I also did this over many years, summers in 2009, 2010, and then for almost 18 months in 2011-2012, and then follow-up visits [in] the summers of 2015-2018. This means I really got to know many of the families. What was most special to me was that my daughter was born in Costa Rica in 2011, and she came with me on my fieldwork. I learned a lot about mothering from migrant women in Costa Rican and grandmother caregivers in Nicaragua.



Dr. Fouratt with her family.

Q: What do you believe are some of the implications of your research in *Flexible Families: Transnational Migration in Costa Rica and Nicaragua*?

A: *Flexible Families* examines the struggles of Nicaraguan migrants and their families to maintain relationships and a sense of family across the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border. A lot of discourse in Nicaragua has been around how migration breaks up families, but what my work shows is that migration is a strategy that Nicaraguan families have used for generations to ensure household survival.

These families face both the effects of chronic economic crisis and extreme poverty in Nicaragua and intense xenophobia and increasingly repressive immigration laws in Costa Rica. Despite renewed state discourses of solidarity, working-class Nicaraguans find themselves excluded from collective and national projects, turning to migration and a reliance on family to care for family (this really came to a head with the protests in 2018, with mass protests and government repression). Focusing on transnational parenthood, single mothers, absent fathers, and extended family care-giving, I argue that these configurations are part of a larger repertoire of care practices Nicaraguans developed in the face of civil war, uneven development, and natural disasters.

Q: What are some of the impacts you hope your research will bring about?

A: I hope that my research first, and foremost, is true to the experiences that people shared with me. I also wanted to contribute to our understanding of migration outside the US and Europe. Part of what my recent research has shown is the ways in which humanitarian policies contribute to larger, regional systems of exclusion and marginalization of migrants and refugees in the Americas.

I also hope my work helps to shift the narratives around migration – pushing back on discourses that blame migrants for social problems back home as well as in host societies. My work with transnational families has influenced the UN Women's Report on the State of the World's Women (2019) and has contributed to more nuanced discussions about migration and family in Costa Rica.

Q: Can you discuss your experience as a mentor for UHP, UROP, and the McNair Scholarship program? How do you manage serving as an advisor for all three programs? What has been the most rewarding thing about your role in these programs?

A: Usually, I only have one or two students at a time, so it's not like I'm mentoring dozens of students in all the different programs! Each of them have their own characteristics – UROP students have generally been fresh to research, so that is a lot of teaching students about the research process, and giving them tools they'll be able to use later in their major or other research opportunities. For McNair and BUILD, students usually join my research project. That has led to a lot of great collaborations. Several students have come to Costa Rica to do fieldwork with me and interview refugee youth.

Most of my UHP mentees, though, have pursued their own projects. What's fun there is getting to explore a new topic or issue with the students and guiding them through the research process. This is also what I love about teaching the UHP thesis courses – being able to follow a group of students through the whole process, or accompany them for a semester or more as they design, develop, and complete their projects. Getting to work closely with students on a long-term project is really rewarding because you get to see the student's growth and development and you also get to know them better. I've gotten to know some of my mentees' families and am still in touch with mentees who graduated years ago. Mentoring in that capacity also provides space to share other aspects of academic life with students – I always talk with my mentees about work-life balance, being a working mom, thinking through their own professional and academic goals.

Dr. Fouratt's commitment to humanitarian research, sustained activism, and serving Honors students is nothing short of inspiring. She demonstrates the potential of research to aid underprivileged communities trans-nationally, and uses her knowledge, experience, and skills to train the next generation of researchers. Her commitment truly exemplifies why she was chosen as the Honors Program's Most Valuable Professor.



Dr. Fouratt and some of her students at an event with Red de Jovenes sin Fronteras in San Jose, Costa Rica, in February 2020.

THE SWEETEST FRUITS OF LABOR

WRITTEN BY: AMELIA GUZMAN-ANGUIANO

Vincent Miramontes-Andrade, a third-year student in Speech-Language Pathology, is the first in his family to attend college. From a young age, he was determined to “be the one to get a degree and pull [his] parents out of poverty,” regardless of the struggles that come with this responsibility. Having a speech impediment in his youth, his passion for helping others is an accumulation of his own experiences and the desire to give back what others generously offered him.

Vincent credits the opportunity to write a thesis as what drew him into the Honors program. Brought up in San Jose, Vincent admits to feeling behind academically compared to his peers because of a lack of college readiness programs offered at his high school. Initially, he thought of becoming a nurse, but found the field tremendously competitive. He chose to pursue Speech-Language Pathology instead, hoping to work in a hospital setting. Now aspiring to assume a role akin to a combination of teacher and nurse, he aims to help patients, particularly ones with dementia and Parkinson’s disease. He recalls feeling lost and unsure during his first-year, expressing, “I knew I wanted a master’s degree but I didn’t have any knowledge on it so I focused on molding myself into a good excel. applicant.”.

Navigating a new campus with a limited perspective while being far from home was hard at first, but by putting himself out there through the Honors Peer Mentor Program (HPMP), Vincent found an outlet to express himself freely and work towards his goals with great company.



Vincent at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists (ABRCMS) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to present his BUILD research which investigated the development of l and r sounds in Spanish-English bilingual children.

He had found the Honors community welcoming and accommodating for his appetite to grow. Surrounded by enthusiasm, he felt a profound sense of belonging. Now a coordinator in the Honors Peer Mentor Program, he expresses that connecting with a mentor, a fellow Honors student, in his major as a first-year was an invaluable experience. Because Speech-Language Pathology majors are only a small percentage of the Honors Program, the opportunity to collaborate with someone with similar experiences and work with staff like Dr. Cherell Johnson-Davis and Dr. Sandra Pérez proved to be exactly what Vincent needed to excel.



The Linguistics Research Lab during the Fall 2024 Semester. From left to right, pictured are Dr. Nancy Hall (Principal Investigator), Vincent Miramontes-Andrade (Lab Manager), Emy Nguyen, Carissa Lam, and Jia Chen (Student Lab Volunteers).

Later joining the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) during his second-year, Vincent was invigorated by a passion for hands-on learning and transitioned to the Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity (BUILD) program this year. With a newly awakened hunger to partake in experiences he once thought were outside his realm of possibility, he took on forty-hour weeks of research during the summer. Utilizing an Electroglottograph (EGG) machine, Vincent investigates the differences in speech patterns between Spanish-English bilingual speakers and English monolingual speakers. He also observes the impact code-switching, when an individual alternates between two or more languages in a single interaction, has on bilingual speech patterns. As a token of appreciation, Vincent declares, "My thesis is going to be a love letter to my parents."

Along this vein, Vincent shares the compatibility of the programs he partakes in, saying, "It's doable; a lot of tasks share skills that help with each other's assignments." He yearns to lift up students from similar backgrounds as him in the CSU system and encourages them to take on new opportunities to curate their college experience to their liking, even if they do not go favorably at first. "I'm the first to be here, I want to break the cycle and improve. Rejection is redirection, even if it is tough to swallow."

Vincent has recently been accepted into Purdue University's Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP). This competitive program will allow Vincent to continue to expand his experience in research and expose him to other realms within Communication Disorders.

Through his story, Vincent illustrates the fruits of one's labor are as sweet as what they pour into it.



Vincent and the BUILD program in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Vincent with Dr. Cherell Johnson-Davis and Emily Jasso presenting their research, "From Disruption to Innovation: Redesigning the Honors Peer Mentor Program for the Future," at the Western Regional Honors Council (WRHC) Conference in Denver, Colorado.

BEYOND THE TEXTBOOK: CRACKING THE CODE OF THE HONORS MINDSET

WRITTEN BY: JAYDEN SANDSTROM

The Journey to Becoming a University Professor

Joseph Galasso is a professor at both Cal State Long Beach and Cal State Northridge. As an undergraduate, he majored in English, though he unexpectedly discovered his passion for Linguistics. He found himself increasingly fascinated by the structure of language. He describes his stumbling into the field of linguistics as accidental and like fate.

Professor Galasso's curiosity and passion for linguistics grew during his time as an undergraduate, and he decided to pursue a graduate degree in Linguistics abroad in England, focusing primarily on Child Language Acquisition Linguistics. In 1999, while in England, he received a letter from Cal State Northridge offering him a teaching position in their Linguistics department. He started out teaching grammar and then moved on to teaching classes more related to his field. He then went on to teach an entry-level Linguistics class at Cal State Long Beach. He has now been a professor for 25 years.

At Cal State Long Beach, Professor Galasso primarily teaches an Honors section of Linguistics 100. At Cal State Northridge, he teaches a larger variety of courses around Linguistics, with some even at the graduate level. Although he's worked as a professor for nearly three decades, he only recently started teaching honors students, with this year marking his third year doing so.



Joseph Galasso, Ph.D.

Photo courtesy of the College Of Liberal Arts

The wide range of students he's taught and the diverse content he covers in his courses are a reflection of his love and knowledge of his field.

What is Linguistics?

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. It includes phonology, phonetics, syntax, and pragmatics. Though Professor Galasso primarily studies the Child Language Acquisition field of linguistics, he has also been conducting a lot of research regarding Artificial Intelligence and its language component.

AI is becoming a very big part of the linguistics field because it demonstrates how incredible the human mind is. AI may be able to know large amounts of facts and information, but in many ways, it still lags far behind human intelligence. To illustrate this concept, Professor Galasso commonly provides an example of self-driving vehicles and a stop sign. If the stop sign is bent out of its normal shape, a self-driving vehicle may not be able to recognize it, but even a young child in the early stages of learning would still be able to understand that it is still a stop sign.

Being able to have abstract thought and recognize patterns beyond memorization is what is known as categorical processing. Just memorizing facts is what is known as itemized processing. These types of processing are something that Professor Galasso elaborates on in the courses he teaches, and it shows how linguistics is crucial to understanding the weaknesses of different language models. This was one of the most fundamental ideas of his most recent research pieces that he published.

Through an Honors Lens

While Professor Galasso has only been teaching honors students for three years, he has noticed some differences in honors students teaching, mainly their sheer curiosity. He feels that many honors students are more curious than non-honors students, and speculates that this sense of wonder is something that's likely been present since childhood.

In his experience, students in his honors section are much more likely to disagree with his viewpoints and challenge ideas, which paves the way for deeper discussions. He suspects that many of them were likely troublemakers as children, not because of bad behavior but because they refused to go with the norm and wouldn't be satisfied with typical answers. He thinks honors students are much more likely to ask questions, think from multiple perspectives, and think more critically on many topics.

In contrast, he finds that the general population of students only has an interest in their particular major and doesn't want to venture out much from their field of study. He notices that honors students are more willing to explore diverse topics and challenge the orthodoxy through innate curiosity. He enjoys conversations he has with many honors students as a result.

When teaching his honors classes, Professor Galasso pushes concepts further and delves deeper than he would in a standard course. He seeks to encourage students to continuously draw connections between ideas and have them ask themselves, How does this relate to that? How are other things I've learned relating to these concepts?

Believing that intellectual curiosity and critical thinking thrive in a less structured environment, he gives honors students more freedom in their learning. He designs lectures around abstract topics in the hopes that students will explore ideas independently, and he aims to foster honors students' natural inclination to question, analyze, and think beyond the surface.



Professor. Galasso at the Linguistics
Faculty Grad Party 2024



Coming to a Close

“The teaching experience isn't something I would give up for anything. I'm getting close to retiring, but I'd always rather be in the classroom,” Professor Galasso explained. He feels that working with honor students and students in general is an incredible experience, even claiming that he feels he learns more from students than they learn from him.

Professor Galasso's love for teaching and passion for his field are perfect examples of why a university education is so extraordinary. His unique approach to teaching makes him an invaluable addition to honors students' college experience.

With all this in mind, honors students should always remember to continue to make connections between ideas, think deeply, and explore diverse topics. To come up with answers beyond the obvious and never stop asking questions. Curiosity is a strength, and it makes you unique, so embrace it. You never know where this passion for discovery might take you!



Professor Galasso at Colchester UK Garden Party with his daughter, wife, his two PHD mentors and others.

Fall 2024 Honors Senior Projects

Emily Fitzpatrick

Biology, B.S Dr. Amanda Fisher
Tecate Cypress management in the Cleveland National Forest: Population viability in the face of fire.

Kaitlyn LaRue

Speech-Language Pathology, B.A. Dr. Kenya Gomez-Tydor
Impact of Personal Perceptions of Literacy on Aphasia Recovery

Jordan Gerbian

Political Science, B.A. Dr. Lorian Johnson
The Impact of Soviet Communism on Russian Ballet: A Comparison of Ballet Within Russia and the United States Between 1917-1991

Julia Rizkallah

Biology - Education B.S. Prof. Charles Fair
The Impact of Hands-On Education on Secondary Students' Concept Retention and Attitudes Towards STEM Concepts

Mary Catipay

Communications Studies, B.A. Dr. Amy Heyse
Born with Pain Built In: A Rhetorical Analysis of Fleabag

Nyah Tibbs

Psychology, B.A. Dr. Bernadette O'Leary
The Efficacy of Group Versus Individual Therapy as an Intervention for Survivors of Sexual Assault

Emily Palomaki

Molecular Biology, B.S Dr. Judy Brussian
Transcription Factors Targeting Senescence Associated Genes in Arabidopsis Thaliana

Kayla Cheney

Marine Biology, B.S Dr. Chris Lowe
Usage of Rip Currents by Juvenile White Sharks

Isabella

Espinoza-Palomares
Film and Electronic Arts, B.A. Dr. Quinn Winchell
Film and Low Budget Filmmaking

Claire Tran

Psychology, B.A. Dr. Amy Wax
Resilience and Well-Being of Transgender and Non-Conforming Gendered Gamers

Maria Joana Araujo

Molecular Cell Biology & Physiology, B.S. Dr. Julie Wahlman
Synthesis of a-Arylated Dihydrobenzofurans via Nickel-Catalyzed Reduced Cross-Coupling Reactions

Emily Palomaki

Molecular Biology, B.S Dr. Judy Brussian
Transcription Factors Targeting Senescence Associated Genes in Arabidopsis Thaliana

Dania Smith

Psychology, B.A. - Chicano and Latino Studies, B.A. Dr. Andrew Lohmann
The Psychological Impact of the Farmworkers Movement on the Chicanx Community

Elizabeth Zamora

Psychology, B.A. Dr. Anila Bhagavatula
Assessing the Impact of Groupthink in Online Social Settings: Its Influence on Victims of Fake News

Katelyn Perez

Psychology, B.A. Dr. Joan Fisher
How Non-Classical Music is Used as a Coping Mechanism

Dalilah Gonzalez

Molecular Cell Biology & Physiology, B.S. Dr. Kelly A. Young
Evaluating Training for Mentors of Undergraduate Researchers at an R1 University

Tryphena Ho*Aerospace**Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Ehsan Madadi

Vortex Dynamics:

Geometric

influences on

Millirobot

Mobility in Fluids

Christopher**Shimizu***Kinesiology: Exercise**Science, B.S.*

Dr. Kurt Escobar

Analyzing heart rate

and heart rate

variability in active

and inactive college

students

Aimee Aguirre*Chemical**Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Jihwan Kang

Synthesis and

Photocatalytic

Motion of Hematite

Cubes: Towards

Guided Self-

Propulsion in

Isotropic Systems

Jack Martin*Mechanical Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Mahdi Yoozbishadeh

Metal Printer Development

Samantha Villa Floran*Aerospace Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Tairan Liu

Robotic Modeling: A

Comprehensive Guide from

an Initial to Advanced

Level of Proficiency

Kirsten Arkus*Liberal Studies, B.A.*

Dr. Lisa Martin

Class Size and its Effects on

Student Performance

Rita Farag*Civil Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Pitiporn

Asvapathanagul

Microplastic Contamination

from Roadway Runoff

Reon Allen*Physics, B.S.*

Dr. Joel Zinn

Magnetic Cycles of Oscillating

Red Giants in Eclipsing

Binaries

Christian Kellams*Mechanical Engineering,**B.S*

Dr. Mortaza Saeidi

Developing Highly

Conductive Coatings for

Aerospace Applications

Mai Quesada*Nursing, B.S.*

Dr. Melissa Dyo

CLABSI Prevention

Sarah Kasem*Molecular Cell Biology**and Physiology, B.S.*

Dr. Douglas Pace

Assessing the Effects of

Temperature on the

Food Induced Plasticity

Response of the Pacific

Sand Dollar, Dendraster

Excentricus

Michael Dominguez*Computer Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Amin Rezaei

CycPUF: Cyclic Physical

Unclonable Function

Amanda Cabatay*Healthcare Management, B.S.*

Dr. Linda Martinez

Crossing Borders for Care:

Linking U.S. Healthcare

Costs to the Rise of Medical

Tourism

Trevor Hughes*Biomedical Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Ga-Young Kelly Suh

Physical Model Design for

Cochlear Implant Surgical

Planning and Patient

Education

Angelo Ryan Soriano*Computer Science, B.S**- Physics, B.S.*

Dr. Bo Fu

Quantifying the Visual

Attention of Pilots Using

Peak Saccade Velocity and

Gaze Entropy

Elanor Whitesides*Electrical Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. I-Hung Khoo

Bluetooth-Enabled

FSR-Equipped

Insole Prototype

for Gait

Asymmetry Correction

Spring 2025 Honors Senior Projects

Grace Boulos

Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Emel Demircan
Rhythmic auditory stimulation to improve gait in flat feet patients

Jannila Te

Psychology

Dr. Brenda Gutierrez
Humor is Subjective: College Students' Views about Humor and Social Topics

Robert Fajardo

Sociology

Dr. Roberto Ortiz
Closeted Classmates: Examining the Precarity of Concealing and Communicating Queer Student Identities

Ramiro

Sanches-Castillo

Civil engineering

Dr. Pitiporn Asvapsthanagul
Optimizing Vortex Separation for Microplastics removal

Ethan Haber

Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Maricela Maldonado
The Effects of Modified Electrospun PCL Scaffolds on Pancreatic Beta Cell Development and Function

Clarissa Lu

Speech-Language Pathology

Dr. Margaret Vento-Wilson
What is the Prevalence of Screen Media and Its Effects on Language Acquisition?

Celeste O'Brien

Marine Biology

Dr. Christine Whitcraft
Assessing the Effect of Tidal Elevation on the Distribution of Round Stingrays (*Urobatis halleri*) Across Habitats

Jermey San Miguel

Computer Engineering

Dr. Jelena Trajkovic
The Significance of Cache Memories within Machine Learning for Cache Design

Lizbeth Herrera Cuen

Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Mortaza Saeidi
Developing Stretchable Electronics

Alyssa Mariana Alfaro

Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Perla Ayala
Development of 3D Tissue Models for Microvasculature Studies

Ivonne Sotelo

Political Science

Dr. Marlene Nava Ramos
Voices of Leadership in Higher Education: Student Engagement in DACA and Student-Led Social Movements

Sarah Pilling

Marine Biology

Dr. Chris Lowe
Abundance and Distribution of Resting (*Urobatis halleri*) Across Different Substrata

Alina Anwar

Computer Science

Dr. Jelena Trajkovic
IoT Systems: Survey of Implementations and Prototyping

Neelou Shiftch

Psychology

Dr. Arturo Zavala
Exploring The Multifaceted Impact of SSRI Exposure in an Animal Studies Framework

Taylor Miller

Political Science

Dr. Matt Lesenyie
Barriers to the Ballot: Examining the Impact of Voter Suppression on Democratic Participation in Marginalized Communities

Jason Haddadin

Biochemistry

Dr. Julie Wahlman
Investigating Methods to Synthesize Allylic Boronates through Ni-Catalyzed Reductive Cross-Coupling

Sal Pena

Applied Mathematics

Dr. Wikrom Prombutr
Integrating Data-Driven Strategies into Equality Valuation: A Case Study of Coca-Cola AND Pepsi

Sammi Zhang
Business Management, Operations Supply Chain Management
Dr. Seung-hoon Jeong
Hallyu Fandom Culture in the Digital Age: How Technology, Society, and Economics Continues to Shape the Kwave

Ely Estrada
Nutrition and Dietetics
Dr. James Childers
Health Nut: the correlation between orthorexia nervosa and social media among college aged students

Jade Block
Psychology
Dr. Samar Needham
Understanding Barriers to Self-Management of Heart Failure: A Path to Improved Patient Outcomes

Adan Garcia
Criminal Justice & Consumer Affairs
Dr. Ernest Chavez
A Consequence of Mass Incarceration That Perpetuates Inequality: Pay-to-Stay Jails in Los Angeles and Orange County

Mario Saucedo
Industrial Design
Dr. Joel Bell
ExoArc: Designing Around Microfluidics Technology

Corissa Sweet
Biochemistry
Prof. Sergio Temores
Investigating First-Year STEM Student Success: Exploring the Impact of Institutional Support and STEM Identity

Alanna Ha
Molecular Cell Biology and Physiology
Dr. Douglas Pace
Examining Temperature-Induced Morphological Plasticity in Purple Sea Urchin Larvae, *Strongylocentrotus Purpuratus*, For Implications in Adaptation And Survival

Nicolette Love
Psychology
Dr. Ulices Piña
Bonaire: A Tiny Island with a Big Heart for Scuba Related Conservation

Brandi Parker
Criminology
Dr. Skyler Morgan
Solitary Confinement: Racial Disparities & Mental effects

Hailey Araiza
Nutrition and Dietetics
Dr. Evan Schick
A Survey of Physician Education and Comfort Level in Providing Basic Nutrition Counseling to Patients with or without Chronic Disease

Zahra Muthalip
Molecular Cell Biology / Physiology
Dr. Yuan Yu Lee
DIY: A Modular Low-Cost 3D Printed Medical Grade Electrophoresis Device

Daniel Chiu
Microbiology
Dr. Deborah Fraser
Endogenously Produced Innate Immune Protein C1q Modulate Macrophage Cytokine Production

Illiana Guarena
Psychology
Dr. Robert Schug, Ph.D.
The Role Social Learning Theory Plays in the Development of a Serial Killer

Nicole Saulus
Kinesiology
Dr. Alison Ede
Unveiling College Students' Perceptions on Para Athletes

Sarah Ramoy
Healthcare Administration
Dr. Sandra Pérez
Comprehension of Reproductive Justice Among CSULB Students

Sophie Simic
Nutrition and Dietetics
Dr. Evan Schick
Blue Zones and Longevity

Sidnee Justice
Business Management
Dr. Kara Miller
Bridging Continents and Identities: An Autoethnography on Black Womanhood Abroad

Zahraa Haguar
Molecular Cell Biology and Physiology
Dr. Vasanthy Narayanaswami
Determining Apolipoprotein E3 conformational change from lipid free to lipid associated state

Sona Akopyan
English - Creative Writing
Minor in Criminal Justice / Criminology
Dr. Skyler Morgan
The Impact of Parental Incarceration on Children's Emotional and Behavioral Well-being

Gemma Vela
Health Science
Dr. Alexandra Wilkinson
Students Perceptions of Long-Term Care Facilities and Elder abuse

Cole Whitney
Mathematics
Dr. Ryan Blair
H-Knots and the Meridional Rank Conjecture

Nathanael Rosnick*Mathematics*

Dr. Joshua Sack

TBD

Thomas Tuong*Aerospace**Engineering, B.S.*

Aerodynamic

Comparison of
Integrated and Gap
Morphing Wings**Movindu Kawshan****Dissanayake****Mudiyanselage***Physics, B.S.*

Dr. Claudia Ojeda

- Aristizabal

Graphene-Based

Transport Studies of

Cu Phthalocyanine

and PtTe₂-Cr Alloys:

Integration of

MicroED and

Advanced

Fabrication

Techniques

Mya Perez*Liberal Studies*

Dr. Oscar Navarro

Need For

Curriculum,

Family Engagement,

and Educators of

Color in K-12 and

its Impact on

Student Success

Shawn Austria*Molecular Cell Biology*

Dr. Deborah Fraser

Innate Immune Protein

C1q Modulates Oxidative

Phosphorylation in

Human Monocyte

Derived Macrophages

Sofia Arnold*Mathematics Education*

Dr. Jeffrey Pair

Teaching Music in Math

Beth Pajong*Psychology*

Dr. Judy Jou

Nuances of Polycystic

Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS):

Understanding Awareness

of PCOS and its Implications

on Wellbeing,

Self-Perception, and

Quality of Living

Victoria Rojas*Biology*

Dr. Kagba Suaray

Building a Dynasty:

Analyzing the Success of

Super Teams

in the NBA

Anna Andrade*Linguistics*

Dr. Colleen Ahland

Inside Head: Semantic

Analysis of Emotions in

English and Japanese from

the Film Inside Out

Zoe Wade-Fry*Psychology*

Dr. Alani

Exploring the Effects

of Severe Stuttering on

Higher Education: How

Stuttering Influences

Academic Success in

College - A Scoping

Review

Jacob Rodriguez*Aerospace Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Joseph Kalman

Statistical Surface Heat

Flux Analysis in Simulated

Solid Rocket Propellants

Flames

Katherine Erian*Psychology*

Dr. Richard Rosenberg

Guilt or Goal? The

Influence of External

Pressure on Career

Decision-Making

Julian Martin Alonso*Marine Biology*

Dr. Lily HousePeters

Climate Crisis Urgency In

Long Beach: Current

Attitudes Of Long Beach

Residents

Ariana Hernandez*Chemical Engineering*

Dr. Roger Lo

3D Printed Modular

Microfluidic Device for

Liposome Synthesis

Lucas Landeros*Psychology*

Dr. Samar Saade

-Needham

The Big Five Personality

Test and Addictive

Behavior Among College

Students

Andi Reuda*Speech-language Pathology*

Dr. Shriya Basu

GAVT: Barriers, Biases,

and Complexities

Tiffany Johnson*Aerospace Engineering, B.S.*

Dr. Joseph Kalman

Low Temperature

Decomposition Cessation of

Ammonium Perchlorate

Madison Rocha*Psychology*

Dr. Maricela Correa

The Consumption of

Crime-related Media and

its Effects on Perception of

Safety on Campus

Jade Marie Ingham*Accounting*

Dr. Erin Arruda

A Comparative Analysis of

Factors Influencing

Undergraduate Student

Sense of Community in

California's UC, CSU, and

CCC Systems

Brenna Bobich*Civil Engineering*

Dr. Mehran Rahmani

Concrete: Cracking, Repair,

and Mitigation Methods

Pamela Baez*Psychology*

Dr. Carole Campbell

The Paradox of Femvertising:

A Qualitative Analysis of Gen

Z Identity in the Age of

Empowerment

Katelynn Salazar*Speech-Language Pathology*

Dr. Shriya Basu

Bringing Awareness to

Elementary School Teachers

as Professional Voice Users:

Vocal Abuse and Lack of Vocal

Health and Hygiene

Alpha Nguyen
Speech-language Pathology

Dr. Margaret Vento-Wilson
What Does the Literature in the Field of Applied Behavioral Analysis Reveal About Language Acquisition and Development Hierarchies Versus Verbal Behavior Intervention Principles for Children with Autism Who Use Aided AAC Systems?

Sara Walsh
Kinesiology Exercise Science
Dr. Manuela - Gardner
The mechanics of breathing. A review on the type of breathing mechanics

L.V. Hernandez
Studio Art
Prof. Fafnir - Adamites
The Written and Illustrated Dance

Bence Papp
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Mortaza Saeidi
Flexible Thermoelectric Generators for Wearable Applications

Leann Nguyen
Economics
Dr. Tianjiao Chiu
Economic and Social Issues of the Fast Fashion Industry: The Consequences of Social Media Influences

Angela Aguilar
Human Development
Dr. Lauren Heidbrink
Mental Health Disparities Among Low-Income College Students

Cynthia Ibanez
Kinesiology, Exercise Science
Dr. Lora Wilson Mau
To Be Given: A Reflection on My Experience Creating an Anime Based Dance Production

Annie Le
Molecular Cell Biology & Physiology
Dr. Amanda Fisher
Vegetative Anatomy and Staminal Development of American Water Willow, *Justicia americana* (Acanthaceae)

Jasmin Rivas
Business Administration - Marketing
Craig Macaulay
Perceptions of Power: Consumer Awareness and the Hidden Realities of Monopolies in Modern America

Olivia Jaime
Marketing
Dr. Marie Botkin
Cultural Capital and Fashion: Analyzing How Fashion Choices Reflect and Reinforce Social Status

Jemikeann Reed
Electrical Engineering
Dr. I-Hung Khoo
Development of Wireless Haptic Motor Control System for Gait Applications

Javier Ybarra Gomez
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Tairan Liu
Multi-point injection analysis of water quality monitoring on domestic pipelines

Dorsa Kamyab
Molecular Cell Biology & Physiology
Dr. Fangyuan Tian
Morphology Control of Metal-Organic Frameworks

Neha Siddiqui
Business Administration, Management Information Systems
Sam Anvari
Beach Events & Orgs User Experience & User Interface Design

Lydia Lifquist
Marine Biology
Dr. Christine Whitcraft
Effects of Urbanization on Wetland Songbird Community Composition in the Greater Los Angeles Area

Emily Silva
Hospitality Management
Dr. Libby Gustin
Low Temperature Decomposition Cessation of Ammonium Perchlorate

Bella Vaca
Film
Prof. Kent Hayward
A Collaborative Nature

Joely Rodriguez
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Tairan Liu
Implementation of Crash Detection Systems in Heavy Duty Vehicles

Al Alzghol
Molecular Cell Biology & Physiology
Dr. Richard Rosenberg
Sleep Deprivation and Academic Performance

Evelyn Juarez
Business Management
Kevin Mills
The Impact that Green Washing has Towards Tesla's Environmental Impact: Supply Chain and Safety Issues

Avi Jagdish
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Tairan Liu
Synthetic Dataset Creation for Visual Relationship Detection Between Components in a Manufacturing Environment

Gabriel Andal
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Neda Karami
A Comprehensive Analysis of Autonomous Robotics: Revolutionizing Modern Industries

Nathaniel Fredida
Computer Science
Dr. Bo Fu
Web-Based Eye Tracking for Gaze Analysis: A Study Using WebGazer

Grace Gonzalez
Nutrition & Dietetics
Dr. Virginia Gray
Meal Kit Intervention for Students with Food Insecurity: Exploring Students Experiences and Program Impacts

Chris Nunez
Electrical Engineering
Dr. Ava Hedayatipour
Development of an Optimized Fall Detection Algorithm Using Threshold Filtering and AdaBoost on BLE Wearable Devices

Brandon Linay
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Neda Karami
Non-Contact Material Detection with the Use of Coplanar Capacitive Sensors

Darya Jafarinejad
Creative Writing
Dr. Azza Basarudin
Songs of Freedom: Resilience And Resistance In Persian Mythology And The "Woman, Life, Freedom" Movement In Iran

Carla Zuccarini
Computer Science
Dr. Ava Hedayatipour
Optimizing Flex Sensor Performance Using Machine Learning

Joshua Nwabuzor
Computer Science
Dr. Hossein Sayadi
Demystifying Large Language Models in Cybersecurity Education: The Risks and Rewards of Prompt Engineering

Charley Soo
Psychology
Dr. Dave Whitney
Part-time Work Experiences and Interests: Comparing college students with and without ASD

Annaliese Avila
Cinematic Arts
Dr. Katherine Guerra
Her Body, Her Fears: The Depiction of Women Within the Body Horror Film Genre

Letizia Maukar
Computer Science
Dr. Bo Fu
A Study of Circle Packing, Tree Map, and Baseline Visualizations in Understanding Ontological Relationships

Alana Loinaz
Cinematic Arts
Dr. Elizabeth Sanchez
Working Title

Marley Yagle
Marine Biology
Dr. Michael Carlson
Population dynamics of marine zoospore parasites infecting marine planktonic diatoms in Alamitos Bay

Nicholas Alvarez
Psychology
Dr. Sandra Arevalo
Association between acculturative stress and depression

Joseph Yewhalashet
Computer Science
Dr. Kagba Suaray
A Data Driven Case for EOPS: Assessing Program Effectiveness Through Web Scraping and Regression Modeling

Emma McMillan
Cinematic Arts
Dr. Jose Palacios
The Hollywood Hierarchy and its Effect on Student Filmmaking

Juliana Lane
Health Science
Dr. Claire Garrido - Ortega
Factors Contributing to Gut Dysbiosis among U.S. Homeless Individuals and their Implications on Public Health Interventions: A Systematic Literature Review

Nhaya Mae Jimenez
Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Mortaza Saeidi
Developing High-Performance Organic Flexible Thermoelectrics for Wearable Applications

Ian Weiss
Computer Science
Dr. Oscar Morales Ponce
ASSIST: AI Soccer Statistics and Information Systems Technology - A Computer Vision Approach to Player Tracking and Game Analysis

Maximiliano Varela
Psychology
Dr. Kristi Hagans
First Generation Latinx Freshmen Students' Preparedness for College

*California State University,
Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd.
University Library Room 507
Long Beach CA 90840*

*(562)-985-1774
honors@csulb.edu
www.csulb.edu/honors*



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