

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Rethinking the Classroom

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020 | 9AM-10:30AM

~ Student Panel ~



Panel Moderator: Dr. Patience Bryant
Director, Student Conduct and Ethical Development
CSULB

Dr. Bryant is the Director for Student Conduct and Ethical Development at California State University-Long Beach, where she oversaw the creation and implementation of the university's first restorative justice program: W.A.V.E. (Welcoming Accountable Voices & Education) and serves as the university's chief judicial officer. Dr. Bryant holds a Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from Nova Southeastern University and previously worked at the University of Mississippi and Texas A&M University-Commerce where she led the introduction of restorative justice into their traditional student conduct processes. Dr. Bryant was featured as a contributing author in the ACUHO-I/ASCA collaborative book: *Conduct and Community: Residence Life Practitioners Guide* and as a contributing author in the *Student Conduct Practice (2nd Edition)* book. Dr. Bryant has served as a track coordinator and faculty member for the Donald D. Gehring Academy by the Association for Student Conduct Administrators (ASCA) and currently serves as the Director of Education on the ASCA Board of Directors.



Justin Hackett
Double Major: Business Management / Operations & Supply Chain Management
CSULB

Justin is a senior majoring in Business Administration currently working as a Global Supply Chain Procurement Specialist at Northrop Grumman. He is also the former President of The Society for Advancement of Management, Director of Leadership and Development for the Interfraternity Council, member of the Honors Program, numerous National societies/programs, and a part-time motivational speaker.

Courses I Have Taken Using Innovative Technology

One of my favorite hybrid classes was Perspectives on Gerontology with 20 other honors students where I learned about the study of aging and older adults. My Gerontology class was taught by two instructors who made the class extremely enjoyable and informational. We were split up into groups and would present a chapter out of the book to our fellow classmates (taking up the whole class period). This lengthy presentation was beneficial, not only for us to become experts, but to those that were listening/taking notes. We constructed infographics and were able to make our own video off a book. This was one of my favorite classes and I owe it all to the two professors who on the last day of class said, "I enjoy teaching because I get to see all of you young people. It makes me feel younger and hopeful for the future."

Being enrolled in an online or hybrid class can be a very efficient option. Taking these types of classes will help you transition into the working world because you learn how to prioritize and keep track of all your due dates. At work, no one is going to constantly tell you when you need to have something done and you always need to make sure that you are keeping up to date with current information. This is especially useful if you are a student who also works. You are able to have more flexibility in your schedule since you do not have to come to campus every day. This also allows you to be

~ Student Panel ~

Justin Hackett (cont'd)

more involved on campus via student organizations which bridge the gap between school and work. You are able to spend your time volunteering or impacting the school/community which will increase your intrinsic motivation. In regard to hybrid classes that meet once a week, you learn to pay more attention to what the teacher is saying, therefore taking in more information because the class meets infrequently. For instructors, making sure that the course is well defined and organized is key to a successful online class. Being readily available via email, phone, or office hours for students is extremely important. Also, incorporating videos, pictures, or real-life examples of certain topics allow the information to be easily absorbed by the students. Overall, taking online/hybrid classes will teach you to be independent and help you learn how to manage your time more effectively.



Lindsay Kerr

Major: Liberal Studies/Child Development
CSULB

For the last 3 years, Lindsay has worked in the AIM center as the Instructional Materials and Technology Consultant. Her role consists of checking documents and websites with either JAWS or VoiceOver for issues and making recommendations for remediation. In addition, she reads and corrects documents produced in Braille. Lindsey hopes to make an impact on visually impaired students' lives as a teacher of the visually impaired.

Courses I Have Taken Using Innovative Technology

A set of innovative courses I have taken are the Math Teacher Education courses required by the Liberal Studies major. The instructors came up with creative ways to teach students with limited vision a subject that is extremely visual. My instructors realized that having physical or tactile models of the math helped get the points across. The Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Center made this possible because they have a tactile graphics embosser. In addition, one of my instructors shared her PowerPoint with me so I could put my iPad under a CCTV also known as a video magnifier to see the notes that she wrote during lecture.

If I had one word of advice for an instructor, it would be to ask the student what they need and feel free to think outside the box when helping students be successful in their education

~ Student Panel ~



Samantha Wallace

Major: M.S. in Emergency Services Administration
CSULB

Samantha Wallace lives on the eastern plains of Colorado, approximately 45 miles east of Denver.

She has been married for the last 12 years and has 3 kids (age 8,7 and 1yr) and due with another this August. She's a police officer with the City and County of Denver and has been since 2004. In 2017, she was promoted to Sergeant and assigned patrol in northwest Denver since. Samantha is a military veteran having served 4 years with the USAR as a Military Police Officer and 5 years with the USAFR as a Crew Chief on C-130s. She has completed a AAS degree in 2000 in veterinary medicine, a BA degree in Christian Studies and is finishing her MS at CSULB in Emergency Services Administration, set on graduating in May.

Innovative Course(s) Name, Number of Students, and Short Description of the Course

All of the courses consisted of various textbooks or academic readings, TED talk videos or other YouTube videos, and one of the classes utilized Harvard Business Publishing (a Leadership and Team simulation) which allow assigned students to work in groups of about 4 on live time exercises that demonstrated errors with group think, working in silos, and poor communication. The majority of courses had about 12 students (I believe one or two had 16). The small sizes allowed us to get more in-depth with discussion questions posts and comments rather than posting a bunch of superficial answers just to meet the "minimum" for the grade. Substance was greatly encouraged.

Type of Technology/Innovation Used in the Classroom

A lot of videos were used (short- like TED talk length) which really helped explain the readings or information for that module in more detail. This was very helpful for students who maybe weren't visual learners as much as they are auditory learners. I found that the Harvard Business Publishing classes were fantastic – I wished they had more packages available that could have been implemented in other courses. Zoom was used in a few classes and it was helpful once we figured out how to use it. I think it could have been implemented a little differently in some classes but being able to make connections with other students in real time allowed us to react to each other in the class on a much deeper level.

Response as a Student and/or Recommendations for Instructors

I obtained my BA degree online, and we didn't use any technology in those classes and to be honest, I feel like my degree was a solo endeavor. It was reading and writing papers and discussion questions. No videos, no ZOOM or Skype, no interactive technologies like Harvard Business. However, I have made friends getting this degree, I have people that I have helped and that have helped me. I have put faces to names and seen students struggle with the same things I struggled with. This time, it really felt like a team and I appreciate that- knowing that I wasn't alone. I would encourage colleges that are not implementing technology to do so. The world has advanced so quickly that I personally feel like not incorporating technology into the curriculum personally is a disservice to the students. Students get degrees so they can go out into the world and be ready to compete in a highly competitive, highly technological world. Not giving them all the skills possible is not putting them on the best foot to compete in the markets they are entering.

~ Student Panel ~



Tyler Nelson

Major: Psychology; Minor: Biology
CSULB

Tyler is a third-year student who is pursuing a career in neuroscience. She has taken a few online classes as well as a hybrid course. She works as a Psychobiology Supplemental instruction Leader and conducts undergraduate research.

Courses I Have Taken Using Innovative Technology

Nutrition 132 is an introductory nutrition course about the body's physiological relationship with food and exercise. Psychology 301 was a psychology profession course about the different career pathways and opportunities are available for psychology majors. Both of these courses offered a form of online lecture, as well as a virtual homework section.

Response as a Student and/or Recommendations for Instructors

In my experience in hybrid/online courses, I value the accessibility and freedom to work from anywhere. As someone who is constantly on the go for work, research, and class it makes a big difference when I can do work in between my tightly packed schedule. The accessibility of technology that comes with online courses is highly appreciated! One recommendation that I can make is possibly using Zoom sessions as a form of office hours with online professors. As a busy student, I would love to see more hybrid courses offered in the STEM department specifically.



Jennifer Mendez-Perez

Double major in Management and Operations and Supply Chain Management
CSULB

I am a transfer student with an Associate's Degree in Business Administration and am the first in my family to be enrolled and to soon receive my Bachelor's Degree next spring. Prior to COVID-19, I held a position as a Horn Center Student Assistant, and quickly received the pleasure of being recruited to join the Academic Technology Services Department where I currently work and assist on various hands-on projects. On my days off from ATS, I fulfill my current summer role as a Procurement Agent Supply Chain Intern for Boeing.:

Courses I Have Taken Using Innovative Technology

IS 300: Management Information Systems, 115 students, utilized WileyPlus for homework and quizzes. After the events of COVID-19, exams were proctored on WileyPlus which enabled a lockdown browser within the website to disable the use of the e-textbook. Professor used a third-party application to keep the accountability of students attending lecture called "CourseKey" where students would check in the first 5-10 minutes and would lose points if checked in after the given time frame or of any absence.

CBA 300: International Business, 120 students, utilized the e-book on RedShelf for a more hands on learning besides PowerPoints presented in lectures. Modules were completed in addition to any recommended readings to ensure students would receive the most clear and concise knowledge to apply during any situations relating to business functions and decisions influenced by cultural, political, economic, and social factors around the world.

~ Student Panel ~

Jennifer Mendez-Perez (cont'd)

It is extremely helpful when an instructor becomes either proficient or literate in the preferred technology that will be used by the students for the academic turn. One thing I noticed benefits both instructors and students, are attending workshops. With the constant evolution of technology, just as students are learning, instructors should also be proactive with adapting to the changes by seeking help to the resources on campus. From a student aspect and watching my peers go through online courses, it is very helpful when student resources are listed in the syllabus or anywhere in the "Course Home" that way its easily accessible to students to assure them of their tools. Instructors, at the end of the day it is perfectly okay to not know all of the answers to a problem, but it definitely helps to utilize the resources as a starting point to help pave a smoother experience for both the instructor, and the students.



Gerardo Lopez

Second Year Grad Student, Computer Science
CSULB

I feel this semester was bizarre and a bit difficult because the Pandemic sent the country into a spiraling mess, and within academia, a lot of us realized how ill-prepared we were for a situation like this. With how far we've advanced within medicine, a pandemic like this really wasn't something a lot of us, in my opinion, thought would happen. That being said, I felt a lot of professors didn't know how to address it and tried to compensate for this in many ways. Some professors gave an excess amount of work, others lectures via zoom for longer than students could concentrate. I personally gave PowerPoint slides. Even though I tried my best to make everything as clear as possible by having my sister (a junior in high school at the time) look over them and make sure she grasped the topics. Some students were still left confused. So my feedback would be, ask your students for their feedback and trying what works best for them. As for us, the students, I know concentrating while at home is difficult and maybe we wish for more from professors, but we need to understand that they too are people that have lives. Along with this, they may understand and learn in manners that are very different from ours, so reaching out always helps.



Diana Orellana

Major: Psychology
Double Minor: Sociology & Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
CSULB

I am a third-year student in the psychology department at CSULB and I would like to pursue a master's degree in counseling. Over the past three years, I have worked at Academic Technology Services as student assistant and interned last fall semester at Casa Youth Shelter.

The first course I took online was Social Psychology (PSY 351) which used a combination of recorded lectures, self-reflections, discussion board posts, and a presentation to engage students with the material. Recently, I took Psychology of Women (PSY 354) which had quizzes throughout the recorded lectures, a feature of Kaltura.

Online courses have the potential to make material more accessible and to encourage students to take control of their learning because there is a great amount of flexibility. My recommendation to professors and students alike would be to also utilize this flexibility to check in with each other about the progress of the course to maintain the value of instructor-student interactions.