



EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEPARTMENT

VOLUME IV,
ISSUE 2



The Educational Leadership Department held its 2018 Commencement Reception on May 22 at The Pointe at the Walter Pyramid, where members of Cohort 9 celebrated their much-anticipated graduation with friends and family. The Class of 2018 boasts one of the biggest graduating classes since the inception of the program, with 28 students completing their coursework and officially receiving their doctoral degree. With newest changes to the university's commencement ceremony, this reception is also notable for being the first to be held at the Walter Pyramid.

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PRESENTING THE GRADUATES OF 2018

MASTER OF SCIENCE

David Alfaro
Helen Barriere
Brittany Betancourt
Destinee Blackmon
Yesenia Capellino
Kevin Castillo
Cynthia Cervantes
Lizette Covarrubias
Mathew Gonzales
Juan Gonzalez
Christina Ibarra
Macey Lachman
Lyndsay Madru
Kevin Nguyen
Jacob Perez
Mai-Thi Pham
Trixie Marie Ramoso
Bria Roberts
Erick Sanzon Perez
Tiffany Schulz
Rosa Trujillo
Christie Vega
Paula Votendahl

in
STUDENT
DEVELOPMENT IN
HIGHER EDUCATION

DOCTORATE

Dr. James Alvarado
Dr. Lui Amador
Dr. Andrea Chang-Seo
Dr. Brenda Estrada
Dr. Miranda Felix
Dr. Jorge Gamboa
Dr. Ashley Griffith
Dr. Shauna Harris
Dr. Maisha Jones
Dr. Lisa Kirkendoll-Edwards
Dr. Brent Kuykendall
Dr. Jenifer Lipman
Dr. Arturo Martinez
Dr. Elizabeth Miller
Dr. Melanie Mitchell
Dr. Lynda Murray-Thomas
Dr. Eleanor Murray
Dr. Sara Pol-Lim
Dr. Linda Ramos
Dr. Rosemary Ramos
Dr. Maria Rangel-Hernandez
Dr. Luz Rivera-Cotto
Dr. Janet Robinson
Dr. Fabian Rojas Ramirez
Dr. Jeremy Smotherman
Dr. Jennifer Solano
Dr. Kamisha Sullivan
Dr. Eliza Hoyos Vences

in
EDUCATIONAL
LEADERSHIP

MASTER OF ARTS

John Arias
Nicole Bear
Ashleigh Broullard
Sara Coley
Andrew Estrada
Seena Fedorchak
Lauren Guzzino
Kristin Kiefer
Patricia Leano
Jessica Lubs
Myra Marquez
Elisa Morreale
Ashlee Steegen
Mona Yasmineh

in
EDUCATIONAL
ADMINISTRATION

Spotlight



Dr. Michael Muñoz

Vice President of Student Support Services
Long Beach City College

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR ED.D ALUM

Dr. Michael Muñoz, as he was recently appointed to Vice President of Student Support Services at Long Beach City College. The Long Beach Community College District Board of Trustees approved his appointment this past year in March, and Dr. Muñoz began his tenure in July.

"It's been a very positive transition and experience for me, it's very touching," said Dr. Muñoz about his experiences on the first few months on the job. "The campus, I feel like, has embraced me and welcomed me with open arms. It's a moment in time when the campus is ready for change."

Dr. Muñoz's passion for higher education stems from his experiences working in the counseling field as an undergraduate. As a single father, he transferred to UC Irvine to obtain his B.A. in Psychology and Social Behavior. In his last year, as part of his field work, he obtained an internship working at Santa Ana College in the transfer center. It was here where he fell in love with education and confirmed his goal of wanting to work as a counselor.

After obtaining his M.S. in Counseling from CSULB, Dr. Muñoz worked full time as a high school counselor at the Santa Ana Unified School District.

"After being a counselor for a few years, I realized that I wanted to move into more leadership roles," said Dr. Muñoz. "I wanted to make more of an impact. I love the impact that I was making with my students, but it was at an individual level. I felt like I wasn't necessarily changing the system or the structure. So I decided to pursue my doctorate."

Dr. Muñoz joined the Ed.D program's first cohort in 2007. He says it was a very positive experience in preparing him with the research skills and knowledge to move into higher level administrative roles. He says his own personal dissertation work, as well as the program's course work has enabled him to have a strong equity focus, which led to other promotional activities. He also has expressed his appreciation for the department's faculty, who continue to mentor him to this day.

"The faculty is very caring. Shout out to Dr. Bill Vega. I've been out of the program for 8 years, and every semester, he still makes it a point to drive out to my college and take me to lunch."

Prior to his new position, Dr. Muñoz worked for 11 years at Rio Hondo College, and most recently, served as the Executive Dean of Counseling and Student Equity. Returning to Long Beach was a decision that he says made perfect sense, as Dr. Muñoz noted his appreciation for the city for its innovation and place in the forefront of college access and equity.

In his current position as Vice President of Student Support Services, Dr. Muñoz will lead several facets of the college that will contribute to the overall student experience, including enrollment services, counseling and student support services, student affairs, and athletics.

"The students want innovation and change and want to improve the student experience, so I'll be working to look into what kinds of experiences we want to create for these students."

INTRO TO THE FELLOWS

A look at each of the fellows who will be joining the Educational Leadership team this year:

Dr. Kirstie DeBiase

ALUMNI FELLOW

I have a BA in Intercultural Studies with a minor in TESOL; a Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential with BCLAD; an MA in Curriculum and Instruction; and an EdD in Educational Leadership. I am currently the Academic Dean of General Education at West Coast University. The past 20 years of my career in education have been spent in brick-and-mortar, online, and hybrid environments as Instructor, Academic Dean, Regional Dean, Manager of Instructional Quality, and Director of Training. This is my second year as an Alumni Fellow, and this year I am looking forward to being part of this collaborative and creative team to bring exciting events to the University for professional development, networking, and social re-connection. I welcome the opportunity to share my background and experience, both professionally and as an alumna of the EDD program working with the Department of Educational Leadership to connect alumni and students with professional development opportunities. I live in Long Beach and one aspect of my career goals is to always be helping improve education within this city. The fellowship will keep me in touch with a small part of what is happening in the university within Long Beach, and innovative ways in which I can contribute.

Dr. Maisha Jones

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW

My undergraduate education in Sociology prepared me for a career in the helping fields, where I thought I might apply what I learned either as a Social Worker or Probation Officer. Due to the various challenges I overcame as a single mother, full-time student and employee, I redirected my focus to the field of education. For ten years I worked in the Financial Aid Office, increasing awareness of resources and support available to navigate financial barriers to academic success. I was able to transfer the passion I had for facilitating workshops and presentations to a career in the classroom where I have a more significant impact on student success by implementing culturally relevant pedagogy. I was able to transfer the passion I had for facilitating workshops and presentations to a career in the classroom where I have a more significant impact on student success by implementing culturally relevant pedagogy.

The Post-Doctoral Fellowship is an excellent opportunity to share this research at educational conferences, and also publish alongside relevant literature that drives evidence-based decision-making processes on college campuses. Embarking on this journey is personally uplifting, academically challenging, and professionally fulfilling. I'm honored to have been chosen, and I believe this program will be mutually beneficial for educational leaders and their respective institutions.

Dr. Lisa Takami

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW

Since February, 2015 I have managed the Professional Development & Learning Department at El Camino College. I previously served as a curriculum development specialist at Los Angeles Harbor College and as a curriculum development project manager at Long Beach City College in the areas of economic workforce development and career technical education. After obtaining a teaching credential and beginning my career in K-12 education, I earned an MBA in International Management and owned a language and cross-cultural training firm before making a career transition to higher education teaching and administration. Completing the EDLD program and a dissertation on the work of higher education chief diversity officers were lifelong goals and ones that have delivered value to my current institution in areas such as culturally-responsive pedagogy and equity and inclusion institutional planning and programming.

I am so proud to be part of COE's academic community. The fellowship is a wonderful opportunity to stay connected and continue to hone my writing and research skills while advancing my career as a higher education instructor and administrator committed to student success and social justice in higher education.



Dr. Elaine Villanueva Bernal

ALUMNI FELLOW

I earned my Ed.D in 2016, and my research interest is in professional development for STEM faculty in higher education and K-12. Before entering higher education, I worked for the Aerospace Industry as a Failure Analyst. I now teach general education chemistry for non-science majors, organic chemistry for pre-health professions students, and technical communications for chemistry majors.

I am looking forward to strengthening the alumni network and to engage educational partners in the community about what we do. I am looking to connect with educational leaders in the high school and community college settings who want to build programs around STEM education. As the only Pilipina STEM Faculty in my institution, I feel that it is my duty and responsibility to support underserved and underrepresented populations in the STEM disciplines. Further, as the first Pilipina alumni, I am looking forward to recruiting Asian American and Pacific Islander women into our program.

The fellowship can help me scale my impact, and potentially create opportunities in which I can work with secondary and postsecondary institutions in developing STEM education and career programs.

Dr. Lidiana Portales Blair

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW

I have had the good fortune of experiencing several different roles in the field of education- first as an elementary teacher, then as a curriculum specialist, and now as a lecturer and student teacher supervisor at CSULB with the Urban Dual Credential Program. While I never expected to make the jump from pK-12 to higher education, finishing the Ed.D. program at CSULB opened new doors. In my current role, I love that I am able to combine my years of teaching and instructional coaching experience with the administrative and research skills I learned in the doctoral program at CSULB.

I now look forward to a new challenge as I join the EDLD postdoctoral fellowship program. I applied to the program in the hopes of receiving guidance in publishing my dissertation, contributing to higher education, and making an impact on literacy practices in elementary schools.

I hope that my findings will be helpful in guiding decisions about literacy intervention for young readers. I look forward to learning about the publishing process as I continue to work with future teachers at CSULB.

Dr. Gabriela Castañeda

FUTURE FACULTY FELLOW

I currently serve as the Assistant Director for the Argyros Career Service at Chapman University. I believe that my education and previous experience in career services and in higher education have certainly play a major part in leading me to my current position.

What I am most looking forward to with this fellowship is to the opportunity to collaborate with some phenomenal faculty members and other fellows. Additionally, I look forward to connect with incoming and current students and be a source of support and positivity as they navigate their educational journey.

The Future Faculty Fellowship will not only provide me with the opportunity to gain teaching experience but it will enhance and advance my scholarly work. Furthermore, it will serve as a platform to strengthen and grow my professional network.

Dr. Zamecia McCorvey

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW

I am Dr. Zamecia J. McCorvey and I am honored to have been selected to participate in the Post-Doctoral Fellowship program in the Department of Educational Leadership at CSULB. I am a cohort III graduate of the EDLD doctored program. I currently work as a school psychologist for the Los Angeles Unified School District where I provide mental health support for student, parents, and staff. I also enjoy teaching graduate students as an adjunct professor part-time in the educational counseling and school psychology program at National University.

I believe that my participation will give me the motivation, knowledge, and guidance. Furthermore, this fellowship I believe will assists me in gaining more research experience which will allow for more educational opportunities overall.

Dr. Jennifer Solano

FUTURE FACULTY FELLOW

My name is Jennifer Solano and I am the current Future Faculty Fellow at CSULB. I graduated last May from the Educational Leadership Ed.D. program, as a proud member of Cohort IX. I have worked for the past 20 years in special education, with a background in speech/language pathology. Currently I work as the Program Specialist for Westminster School District. Working within the capacity of a Program Specialist, I have observed obstacles related to access for students with disabilities. Within the context of this fellowship, I am looking forward to interacting with future educators and educational leaders and engaging in thoughtful conversations regarding equal access to a rigorous curriculum for all students. I believe that this fellowship experience will help to broaden my understanding of challenges that both general education and special education teachers face while attempting to accommodate students with disabilities within their classrooms and hope to take this new found knowledge back to my district to improve practice.



Outstanding Student Spotlight



MACEY LACHMAN

Outstanding Thesis, Student Development in Higher Education

THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GRADUATES THOUSANDS of bright and engaged educators every year, and each year the College awards the top students, which range from Outstanding Liberal Studies student, to Graduate Dean's List, to Outstanding Credential Student. Included in this list of honors are the awards for Outstanding Graduate Student and Outstanding Thesis. And this year, the college was pleased to award both of those distinct honors to graduate student Macey Lachman, who graduated with her M.S. degree in Counseling, Student Development in Higher Education (SDHE).

Lachman, who earned her BA in History, with an emphasis in civil and human rights issues in U.S. History from UC Berkeley, applied to the College of Education at CSULB for her graduate degree specifically for the SDHE program. Lachman said, "I was drawn to SDHE due to its reputation in the student affairs field as an excellent program that also integrates social justice into the curriculum." Her thesis, *A Problematic Yet Necessary Effort: White Women in Student Affairs and Anti-Racist Allyship*, examined through a qualitative study, how 10 white women working as mid-career professionals in highly diverse institutions across southern California made meaning and engaged in anti-racist allyship. Lachman organized her findings along four themes: perceptions of campus climate at diverse institutions, developing white racial consciousness, efforts towards anti-racist allyship, and complexities of white allyship. Lachman was inspired to explore this topic as a thesis from her own personal challenges of understanding her role and place in anti-racist work both professionally and personally, and how to make meaning of and engage in anti-racist allyship. As a result, she was able to develop a conceptual model of white anti-racist

identity development.

By Amber L. Smith

This summer Lachman will still be working on campus to create a website for pregnant and parenting students, a campus map showing changing stations on campus, and creating a single point of contact for CalWORKs assistance, a program which provides financial assistance and work support to low-income families. Lachman also worked in the Dream Success Center in fall 2017 and assisted the coordination of professional development for grad students working in the Division of Student Affairs at CSULB. In addition to this vast professional experience, Lachman also interned at various community colleges, including Orange Coast College, Cypress College, and Golden West College.

The Outstanding Graduate awardee is also asked by the College of Education to nominate one of their professors as the Most Valuable Professor. Lachman nominated Dr. Shametrice Davis. When asked how Dr. Davis inspired her as a student, Lachman replied, "I had the pleasure of taking the Introduction to SDHE course, SDHE538, with Dr. Davis, and she served as the chair of my thesis. Her support was integral to my development as a student affairs professional, researcher, and person overall. She approaches her work with authenticity, strength, and compassion. It was an honor to work with her, and I think the College of Education is lucky to have such a brilliant and caring faculty member."

After wrapping up at CSULB this summer, Lachman plans to pursue a career in higher education as either a community college counselor or as an assistant director in student affairs. She plans to pursue her doctoral degree within the next few years.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Angela Locks

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

Dr. Angela Locks, Associate Professor in the Educational Leadership Department, was recently honored with a \$442,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program. The fellowship is described as the “centerpiece” of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation’s initiative to increase diversity in the faculty ranks of U.S. colleges and universities, helping underrepresented students rise to the highest academic levels. Guided by Dr. Locks, the fellowship program’s focus will include financial support, mentoring, student support networks, rigorous undergraduate research opportunities and graduate school preparation.

MMUF

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program

Dr. Charles Slater

Professors Around the World Award

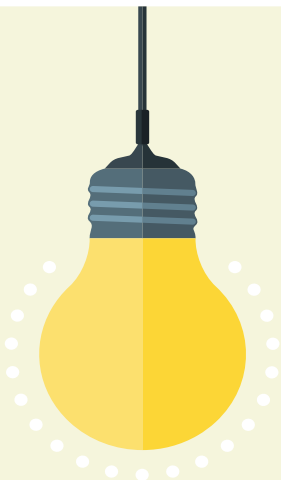
Dr. Charles Slater, Professor in the Educational Leadership Department, was recently honored with the Professors around the World (PAW) Award for his proposal on “Educational Exchange with Mexico Part II”. His proposal is a result of his collaborations with the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC), and the Escuela Normal Estatal (ENE) in Ensenada, Mexico. The partnership with the two Mexican universities will allow the program’s master’s and doctoral students a number of opportunities for international research, study abroad excursions, and field work assignments.



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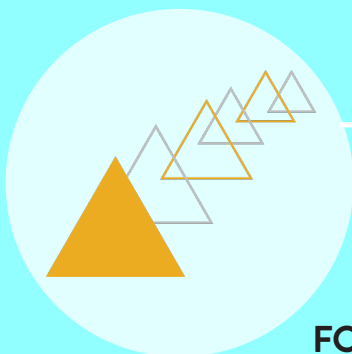
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TODAY. TOMORROW. TOGETHER.*

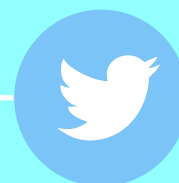
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