

GRADUATE STUDENT AND FACULTY MENTOR RECOGNITION RECEPTION

OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

May 1, 2025

3:00 p.m.

Graduate Resource Center,
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CONTENTS

4	Letter From the Dean
5	Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholars
7	Students Admitted to Doctoral Programs
9	LSAMP Students
10	Graduate Equity Fellowship Recipients
12	Non-Resident Graduate Student Tuition Fee Waiver Recipients
14	Travel Award Recipients
18	Culminating Project Fund Grant Recipients
19	Authors on Publications
25	Presentations at Professional Conferences
36	Special Presentations, Performances, & Exhibits
42	Delegates for CSU Research Competition
43	Cal State LA Research Symposium - Oral Presentations
49	Cal State LA Research Symposium - Poster Presentations
55	Special Awards or Recognitions
61	Student Acknowledgment of Faculty Mentors
76	Office of Graduate Studies Staff

GRADUATE STUDENT AND FACULTY MENTOR RECOGNITION RECEPTION

MAY 1, 2025
3:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Letter From the Dean

Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholars

Students Admitted to Doctoral Programs

LSAMP Students

Graduate Equity Fellowship Recipients

Non-Resident Graduate Student Tuition Fee

Waiver Recipients

Travel Award Recipients

Culminating Project Fund Grant Recipients

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Presentations at Professional Conferences

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Cal State LA Research Symposium - Oral

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OFFICE OF

Graduate Studies



LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT & DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Dear Graduate Students,

Every year, I am impressed by the academic excellence of our graduate students. I am thrilled to celebrate you for the innovative research, scholarship, and creative projects you have produced this academic year. I am honored to share your tremendous achievements in this Graduate Student and Faculty Mentor Recognition Booklet. This year, Cal State LA faculty recommended for acknowledgement 172 graduate students who published or presented their work at professional conferences, and those who performed and displayed creative exhibits in professional and public forums. An impressive number of you have received research grants, summer research fellowships, academic scholarships, and awards for excellence in your disciplines. Many of you are also pursuing doctoral studies, and 14 have shared your offers of admission to doctoral programs across the country. Others of you are entering careers as confident and well-prepared leaders in your chosen fields. We are very proud of you and pleased to highlight your contributions to your fields of study. You are and will remain a valued member of our Golden Eagle community.

At the center of transformative graduate education experiences are the relationships graduate students develop with faculty mentors in classrooms, laboratories, field work, and internships. Therefore, we provided graduate students with an opportunity to share a few words of appreciation for their faculty mentors. This recognition booklet captures your sentiments regarding the unwavering support and guidance of faculty mentors at Cal State LA. I am grateful to my faculty colleagues for their outstanding mentorship and dedication to your academic, professional and personal success.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate you on your academic and professional achievements, and I wish you continued success in your future career.

Sincerely,

Karin Elliott Brown, Ph. D.
Associate Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies



SALLY CASANOVA PRE-DOCTORAL SCHOLARS

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



IVAN COBIAN

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Yvette Szabo

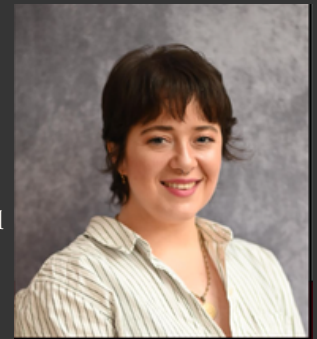
Ivan's research focuses on despaired Latine and LGBTQIA + communities and what treatments or teachable skills are most effective in helping aid those populations from poor outcomes like depression, anxiety, low self-esteem and suicide ideation. His thesis project investigates how emotion regulation might moderate depression, anxiety and stress in minoritized populations. Ivan's end goal is to be a professor and psychological researcher who investigates protective factors.

CHELSEA DEBAISE

Television, Film, and Media Studies

Faculty Mentor: Michael Clarke

Chelsea's thesis explores these very ideas, applied specifically to niche sectors of the reality television landscape. Her research has given her opportunities to survey, delighted fans who've found community and solace in their media of choice, as well as workers within the industry who've watched their labor, be taking advantage of all adding to the complex tapestry of television content, and the passionate queer fandom's that go along with it.



HUMBERTO HERNANDEZ MENDEZ

Sociology & Women's Gender Sexuality Studies

Faculty Mentor: Molly Talcott

Humberto's research, examines how gender identity and expression are impacted within a violent immigration system. Humberto is basing the research on the limited literature, sources and data collected until now the project begins to bridge the gap in the academic discourse at the intersections of gender, identity and expression and ice detention. This work continues the discourse on the need for the abolition of such systems that are not equipped, nor should exist due to the propagation of gender based violence, lack of resources, lack of training, and lack of humanity to welcome, undocumented, gender variant people of color.

SALLY CASANOVA PRE-DOCTORAL SCHOLARS



AMANDA JOKELA

Anthropology

Faculty Mentor: Michele Bleuze

For her masters thesis, Amanda will examine human bone for textural aging patterns using digital microscopy to identify and seriate developmental age based on surface bone texture patterns. Her research utilizes the midnight terror cave, Belize, and osteological assemble from the Maya classic. 250-900 CE, the largest human sacrificial assembled in the southern Maya lands. This research will develop a general method for textural aging of human osteological material.

KATHERINE HANIEL LAINEZ

Latin American Studies

Faculty Mentor: Enrique Ochoa

Katherine's work highlights the growth of neoliberalism in Honduras and exacerbation of poverty which forces Hondurans out of their home country in search of livable wages. By analyzing oral histories from Honduran, migrant mothers and their children, Katherine's work is aimed at deepening our understanding of how mothers' transnationalization shapes their intimate family relationships.



KIMIA LAVASANI

Forensic Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Alma Olaguez

Kimia's research revolves around factors that influence decision-making in legal context. Specifically, her research has examine the influence of emotions on verdict and other trial outcomes in criminal and civil cases. Some of the types of cases that she has worked on include child, sexual abuse cases, as well as personal injury, litigation cases. Additionally, she has continued to examine the effectiveness of jury motion, regulation instructions in various cases and legal context as well.

VIOLETA MURILLO

Chicana(o)/ and Latina(o) Studies

Faculty Mentor: Gabriela Valenzuela

Violeta's research examines on document students experiences with higher education system, specifically at the graduate level. And documented students constitute 20% of the population attending the university of California and California State University systems. Despite this, only a fraction of undocumented students in the state pursuit professional degrees.



EDWARD ROMERO

Chicana(o)/ and Latina(o) Studies

Faculty Mentor: Anita Revilla

Edward's masters thesis will explore gentrification, displacement, and discrimination within the university of Southern California area, and he will connect the institutions expansion to the social issues that residence of color face. His approach to this research is through Archival research, testimonies, and a map based approach that will visually dis display change. He aims to connect social issues and their root causes to ensure these patterns are addressed, and no longer ignored.

GRADUATE STUDENTS ADMITTED TO DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

We are proud to announce that fifteen graduate students have been accepted into various PhD programs. These programs include Audiology, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, African American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Women's Studies, Communication, Biology, History, Chicana/o Studies, and Education.

FLORA ABGARYAN

Cal State LA
Doctor of Audiology
Alhambra CA

JAYLA EDWARDS

University Wyoming
Psychology
Laramie, WY

BRITNEY GALLEGO

University of California, Davis
Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Davis, CA

ALISON GREIVING

Cal State LA
Doctor of Audiology
Alhambra CA

THOMAS JEIRONEMO

University of California, Berkeley
African American Studies
Berkeley, CA

AMANDA JOKELA

University of California, Berkeley
Ethnic Studies Ph.D. program
Berkeley, CA

University of California, Los Angeles
Women's Studies PhD program
Los Angeles, CA

GRADUATE STUDENTS ADMITTED TO DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

BRANDON LAURENT

University of Connecticut
Communication
Storrs, CT

VIOLETA MURILLO

University of California, Santa Barbara
Chicana/o Studies
Santa Barbara, CA

JAMILET OCHOA

University of California, Berkeley
Ethnic Studies
Berkeley, CA

KARINA OLMOS

University of Nevada Reno
Program?
Reno, NV

University of California, Los Angeles
Women's Studies
Los Angeles, CA

ISABELA PEDRO

Utah State University
Biology
Logan, UT

EDWARD ROMERO

University of California, Irvine
Education
Irvine, CA

ANTHONY SALES-HERNANDEZ

University of California, Santa Barbara
History PhD with Fellowship
Santa Barbara, CA

DARIA SMITH

Virginia Tech University
Biology
Blacksburg, VA

University of California, San Diego
History PhD with Fellowship
San Diego, CA

Stony Brook University
History PhD with Fellowship
Stony Brook, NY

DION VINES

Pepperdine University
Organizational Leadership
Los Angeles, CA

UTEP
History PhD with Fellowship
El Paso, TX

LOUIS STOKES ALLIANCE FOR MINORITY PARTICIPATION (LSAMP): GRADUATE STUDENTS

California State University – Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (CSU-LSAMP) is a comprehensive, statewide program dedicated to broadening participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. It is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Office of the CSU Chancellor. Initiated in 1993-94, the CSU-LSAMP Alliance currently consists of all 23 campuses of the CSU. The types of activities offered to support each objective (listed below) have consistently been shown to facilitate the retention and progression of underrepresented minority (URM) students in STEM, and represent a set of well-established "best practices." In the current Phase (internally known as SPaRA I), substantial emphasis has been placed on engaging students in research activities and on activities designed to enhance graduate school preparedness. CSU, Los Angeles (Cal State LA) currently has one of the larger LSAMP programs with 150 anticipated students participating this year. The CSU-LSAMP @ Cal State LA is also supported by significant funding from the College of Natural and Social Sciences and the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology at Cal State LA as well as the University.

SOPHIA DIAZ

Biology

JANETTE DZUL

Biology

FERGUS PLACE

Electrical and Computer
Engineering

TOMMY ROJAS

Geological Sciences

GRADUATE EQUITY FELLOWSHIP

The Graduate Equity Fellowship grant is designed to increase the number of graduate degrees awarded to economically disadvantage CSU students, especially those graduate students that are underrepresented among graduate degree recipients in their discipline and to those who are disabled. This year, forty-one (41) graduate students received Graduate Equity Fellowship. These students have demonstrated potential to succeed in graduate school and to complete a graduate degree program in no more than two years.

NAZIMA BACCHUS
Counseling

HEBBAH ELOKOUR
Audiology

EMAN BADR
Engineering

JUAN ESCOBAR
Electrical Engineering

TARYN BATES
Sociology

ANGELICA ESCOBAR
Health Science

KAREN CANO
Psychology

CECELIA ESQUIVEL
Counseling

SANDEE CASTANEDA
Audiology

CRISTINA ESQUIVEL
Latin American Studies

VICTORIA CECILIA
Music

LISET FLORES
Counseling

IVAN COBIAN
Psychology

NATALY GOMEZ
Political Science

REBOLLO DEMETRIO
Political Science

DESTINEE GUERRA
Counseling

GRADUATE EQUITY FELLOWSHIP

ABIGAIL HERNANDEZ
Chicano Studies

KYLEE Q ROBINSON
Film, TV and Theatre (Writing)

ALYSSA HERRERA
Chicano Studies

ANTHONY SALES-HERNANDEZ
History

KIMIA LAVASANI
Psychology

JAVIER SANTILLAN
Chicana(o) Latina(o) Studies

JANET LEANOS
Audiology

ANAIYA SUMMERVILLE
School Psychology

KYUWON LEE
Counseling

JONAH TEJADA
Political Science

LAURA TO
School Psychology

ORLANDO MARTINEZ
Electrical Engineering

AILEEN VALENZUELA
Public Administration

NATALIE MILLER
Business Administration

ALICIA VALLADARES
Business Administration

SABRINA MORALES
Counseling

MENNO VERBATEN
History

VIOLETA MURILLO
Chicano Studies

VIRIDIANA FLORES
Psychology

JAMILET OCHOA
Chicano Studies

MYA WYATT
Speech-Language Pathology

KATHERINE ORTIZ
Mathematics

FEI XU
Mathematics

MONET PEOPLES
Political Science

JENNIFER ZARATE
School Psychology

NON-RESIDENT GRADUATE STUDENT TUITION FEE WAIVER

Non-Resident tuition fee waivers are granted to non-resident graduate students who are either domestic non-resident students or citizens of a foreign country. Awardees must demonstrate exceptional scholastic ability and prior scholastic achievement, as well as financial need. Recipients receive a non-resident tuition fee waiver of up to 20 units within an academic year. Recipients must be enrolled full time or be employed by the CSU for 20 hours or more a week, but less than full time. To maintain eligibility, awardees must remain classified as an International or Non-Resident student. This year, twenty seven (27) students received the Non-Resident Graduate Student Tuition Fee Waiver.

AMIT PAL BHARATH
Television, Film and Theatre

VIVIAN HEREDIA
Business Administration

TEEGAN BOYD
Kinesiology

ROOSA HIRVELA
Television, Film and Media

HANNAH CALISTRI
Anthropology

RAENELLE IRONS
Anthropology

JINALBEN BIPINBHAI CHAUDHARY
Electrical Engineering

VISHNUPRIYA JAMPA
Business Administration

JOON CHUN
Mathematics

SOLOMON JOO
Social Work

ABDULAZEEM FALOLA
Business Administration

RAYHAN KAHN
Special Education and Counseling

ISHAN GUPTA
Arts

JASMEET KAUR
Business Administration, MBA

NON-RESIDENT GRADUATE STUDENT TUITION FEE WAIVER

AYE THIRI KHAING
Materials Science and Engineering

AUGUSTUS POMERLEAU
Philosophy

COURTLYN LAM
MS Healthcare Management

SNEHIL SARKAR
Information Systems

ZIANG LI
Philosophy

ANANYA SHARMA
Chemistry

MARSHALL MONTGOMERY
Television, Film and Theatre

LIBINA B THOMAS
Computer Science

KARLI MILLER
Biological Science

ARPIT VAISHYA
Computer Science

NATCHA MUANGSOMBOON
Doctor of Audiology

JIAWEI XIANG
Psychology

SASANK B MUKKAMALA
Computer Science

OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES TRAVEL AWARDS



This year, fifty-five (55) graduate students received travel support through the Office of Graduate Studies (Student Success Fee funds) to present their work at a conference and for professional development purposes.

The Travel Support for Student Presentations is a reimbursement program designed to encourage and assist Cal State LA graduate students whose work has been accepted for presentation at a professional or academic conference. Graduate students whose presentations are funded through this program receive reimbursement of up to \$750 for travel, lodging, and conference registration costs. Graduate students attending a conference for professional development receive partial reimbursement of up to \$500 for travel, lodging, and conference registration.

Krishna Algosio

Biological Sciences
Phoenix, AZ

Victor Banuet

Television, Film, and Media Studies
Palm Springs , CA

Victor Alvarado

Department of English
Palm Springs, CA

Kajal Bhandare

Business and Economics
Philadelphia, PA

TRAVEL SUPPORT GRANT RECIPIENTS

Cate Boone

Psychology

Denver, CO

Kimberli Fajardo- Lazaro

Social work

Cienfuegos, Cuba

Christina Briones

Social Work

Cienfuegos, Cuba

Sudheendra Gamoji

Physics

National Harbor, MD

Hanna Calistri

Anthropology

Denver, CO

Eric Gonzales

Anthropology

Denver, CO

Izel Castillo

Communication Disorders

Omaha, Nebraska

Naida Hennessey

School of Social Work

Sacramento, CA

Michael Collins

Social Work

Cienfuegos, Cuba

Vivian Heredia

Business Administration

Seattle, WA

Jon Cvac

Philosophy

Cleveland, OH

Ryan Hernandez

Communication Disorders

Seattle, WA

Hebbah Elokour

Communication Disorders

Boys Town, Nebraska

Roosa Hiervela

Television, Film, and Media Studies

New Orleans, LA

Angelica Escobar

Psychology

Seattle, WA

Mariela Patricia Huazano Heredia

Social Work

Cienfuegos, Cuba

Maria Faheem

Psychology

Seattle, WA

Marjorie Hunt

History

Mexico City, Mexico

TRAVEL SUPPORT GRANT RECIPIENTS

Marjorie Hunt
History
Mexico City, Mexico

Jennifer Leiva
Anthropology
Denver, Colorado

Rachel Israel
Psychology
Seattle, WA

Chelsea Leyva
Child Development
Denver Colorado

Amanda Jokela
Anthropology
Denver, Colorado

Victor Mojica
Communications Studies
New Orleans, LA

Eric B Jones
Social Work
Cienfuegos, Cuba

Victor Montes De Oca
Department of English
Palm Springs, CA

Pham Lan-Anh N
Communication Disorders
Seattle, WA

Noah Mostacero
Department of English
Palm Springs, CA

Marie Lassaigue
Child Development
Minneapolis, MN

Violeta Murillo
Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies
Champaign, Illinois

Brandon Laurent
Communication Disorders
New Orleans, Louisiana

Megan Jordan Murphy
Communications Studies
New Orleans, LA

Toan Le
Kinesiology
Irvine, CA

Jamilet Ochoa
Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies
Champaign, Illinois

Kyuwon Lee
Psychology
Seattle, WA

Jyotikaben V Patel
Chemistry
Denver, CO

TRAVEL SUPPORT GRANT RECIPIENTS

Zalak Patel

Business and Economics
McCormick Park, CA

Tiffany Clarissa Sandoval

Communication Disorders
Seattle, WA

Paul Pommells

School of Social Work
Oakland, CA

Javier Santillan

Chicana(o) Latina(o) Studies
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Nataly Pugh

Communication Disorders
Omaha, Nebraska

Raffi Shirinian

Mechanical Engineering
Las Vegas, Nevada

Jocelyn Quintana

Psychology
Seattle, WA

Laura To

Psychology
Seattle, WA

Arun Radhakrishnan- Narecode

Electrical and Computer Engineer
Anahiem, CA

Valeria Valencia

Psychology
Seattle, WA

Jamie Ragins

Television, Film, and Media Studies
New Orleans, LA

Alicia Valladares

Management
Seattle, WA

Nicole Salimbangon

Chemistry
Chicago, IL

Benjamin E Weber

Social Work
Cienfuegos, Cuba

Celeste Salinas

Social Work
Cuba

Angeline Widjaja

College of Education
Seattle, WA

CULMINATING PROJECT FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Culminating Project to Support Completion of Thesis, Creative Activity, or Dissertation grant is a reimbursement program designed to support Cal State LA graduate student research or scholarship conducted towards completing a thesis, project, creative activity or dissertation. Students funded through this award receive reimbursement for approved supplies, equipment, and services. This year, six (6) students received the grant.

DANNY MUNOZ

Film, TV and theatre

"Family Portraits"

Faculty Mentor: Oliverio Rodriguez

RACHEL COFFMAN

Communication Disorders

"Fall Risk Prevention for the Aging Population"

Faculty Mentor: Miwako Hisagi

KYLEE ROBINSON

Film, TV and theatre

"In the Beginning"

Faculty Mentor: Karyn Laurence

SHELBY DETWEILER

Psychology

"Individual personality characteristics and Family attitudes"

Faculty Mentor: Heidi Riggio

LAUREN HILL

Geography, Geology and Environment

"Population structure and breeding origins of two songbird species migrating through a mountain pass in Southern California"

Faculty Mentor: Eric. M. Wood

ARIE K. VASQUEZ

Art

"The Critical Eye"

Faculty Mentor: Phung Huynh

AUTHORS ON PUBLICATIONS

Megan Abraham

Special Education and Counseling

Abraham, M. (2025). The school experiences of twice exceptional students: A review of recent research. *Exceptionality*, 1–24.

Bailey, A. L., Abraham, M. E., Dong, J. Y., Torres, I. M., Wang, Y. P., Zamora, E., & Zhang, X. (2025). Translanguaging: Conceptual underpinnings of equity-oriented instructional and assessment practices with adolescent multilingual learners. *Linguistics and Education*, 87, 101418.

Alejandra Acero Reilly

Education

Acero Reilly, Alejandra. (2025). Mi cuento. *CABE Multilingual Educator*.

Montserrat G. Aguilar

Education

Aguilar, Montserrat G. (2025). Me Dicen que. *CABE Multilingual Educator*.

Brandon De Jesus

Civil Engineering

Kwan WS, Leal C, Nunez E, & De Jesus, B. (2025) "Partially Drained Responses of Dense Sand under Monotonic Simple Shear". *ASCE Geotechnical Frontiers 2025*, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

Chelsea DeBaise

Television, Film, & Media Studies

Fandom | Cultures | Research journal, "Oh My God, It Was DISCOURSE: Tracking the Politics of FanFic Archives Through Social Media" (in review).

Jose Alfredo Delgado

Education

Delgado, Jose Alfredo. (2025). Translanguaging Pedagogy in Integrated ELD Classes for High School Students. *CABE Multilingual Educator*.

Jayla Edwards

Psychology

Swaby, M. Virgen, T., Dianat, A., Edwards, J., Olmos, K. & Eisen, M. L. (2025). Racial Identity as a Moderator of Same-Race Bias Among Hispanic Mock Jurors. *Psychology, Crime and Law*.

AUTHORS ON PUBLICATIONS

Jose Fuentes; Cesar Leal; Elizabeth Nunez

Civil Engineering

Fuentes J, Kwan WS, Leal C, & Nunez E. (2025) "Comparison of Dynamic Properties between Treated and Untreated Bauxite Residue". ASCE GeoenviromMeet, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

Karina Gutierrez

History

"Editor's Note." Perspectives, Vol.51, (May 2024), pp. vii–ix.

Isaac Hall

Geology, Environmental Geology

Hall, I. and Rezaie Boroon, M. (2024) Stable Isotopic Signatures of NO₃ in Waste Water Effluent and Los Angeles River. Journal of Water Resource and Protection, 16. 102-122. 4. Participated in local water conferences presenting posters, 5 Admitted to University of Idaho starting Summer 25"

Marjorie Hunt

History

Hunt, Marjorie "Performing Chile by the Sea: The Politics of Music in the Festival Internacional de la Canción de Viña del Mar." Perspectives (Cal State LA) 51 (Spring 2024): 19–35.

Manel Ibarra

Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Certificate and Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies

'Safer at Home? Negotiating Religion, UndocuLife, and Queerness during the COVID-19 Pandemic.'" Until We're Seen Public College Students Expose the Hidden Inequalities of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Univ of Pennsylvanis Press 2024)

Jooeun Jeon

Computer Science

D. Sagar, F. Mohammadi, J. Joen, M. Pourhomayoun and N. Amini, "Deep Learning-Based GABA Edited-MRS Signal Reconstruction", in Proc. of the 18th International Symposium on Visual Computing (ISVC 23), Lake Tahoe, NV, Oct. 2023.

Erick Jimenez

Education

Jiménez, Erick. (2025) ¡Somos! CAFE Multilingual Educator.

AUTHORS ON PUBLICATIONS

Cesar Leal

Civil Engineering

Nguyen C., Kwan WS, Leal C. (2025) "Numerical Simulations of Sand Elements Based on Constant-Volume versus True-Undrained Data from Cyclic Direct Simple Shear Tests". ASCE Geotechnical Frontiers 2025, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

Leal C, Kwan WS, & Nunez E. (2024) "Sand Post-liquefaction Monotonic Responses with Various Loading Directions and Angularity". 18th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Milan, Italy.

Nelson Leon

Electrical Engineering

Peña Arellano, F.E., Leon, N.L., González López, L., DeSalvo, R., Themann, H., Appavuravther, E.Z., Avallone, G., Badaracco, F., Barton, M.A., Bertolini, A., Chavez, C., Damas, A., Damas, R., Gallego, B., Hennes, E., Iannone, G., Linker, S., Mondin, M., Moreno, C., Pang, K., Selleri, S., Soto, M., Travasso, F., Van-Heijningen, J., Velez, F., Zeoli, M., "A cryogenic test-mass suspension with flexures operating in compression for third-generation gravitational-wave detectors," arXiv:2503.19169 [gr-qc], submitted to Class. Quantum Grav., March 2025.

Elizabeth Nunez

Civil Engineering

Nunez E, Kwan WS, & Leal C. (2024) "Laboratory Investigations into the Effects of Heating on Clay's Mechanical and Hydraulic Changes Using Geophysical Methods." ASCE GeoenviromMeet, Portland, USA.

Kwan WS, Leal C, Nunez E, & De Jesus, B. (2025) "Partially Drained Responses of Dense Sand under Monotonic Simple Shear". ASCE Geotechnical Frontiers 2025, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

Nunez E, Kwan WS, & Leal C. (2025) "Laboratory Investigations into the Effects of Heating on Clay's Mechanical and Hydraulic Changes Using Geophysical Methods". ASCE GeoenviromMeet, Louisville, Kentucky, USA. doi.org/10.1061/9780784485705.006

AUTHORS ON PUBLICATIONS

Karina Olmos

Psychology

Swaby, M. Virgen, T., Dianat, A., Edwards, J., Olmos, K. & Eisen, M. L. (2025). Racial Identity as a Moderator of Same-Race Bias Among Hispanic Mock Jurors. *Psychology, Crime and Law*.

Jean-Carlo Palacios

Civil Engineering

Kwan WS & Palacios, J. (2025) "Bi-directional Cyclic Shear Testing of Soils: From Earthquake Engineering to Marine Monopiles". ASCE Geotechnical Frontiers 2025, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.
doi.org/10.1061/9780784486009.023

Lan-Anh (Lanny) Pham

Speech-Language Pathology

Morton, I. D., Tirado, V., Ellis, E.M., & Pham, L.A. (submitte). The Sentential Complement Clause Sentence Constructions of Early School-Age Children with and without Developmental Language Disorder.

Eva Rios-Alvarado

Latin American Studies

"Introduction" (co-author) and "Learning From the Brown Body: Xicana Feminism in the Community College Library"

Sara Robledo Lucas

Curriculum and Instruction

Robledo Lucas, Sara. (2025). On the Path to Hopefully Become a Mirror: The Experience of a First-Generation Latinx in Becoming a Dual Language Teacher. *CABE Multilingual Educator*.

Anthony Sales-Hernández

History

"Beyond the 'Bloody Race War': How Print Media Shaped the Cananea Strike and Pre-Revolutionary Mexico." *Perspectives*, Vol.52, (May 2025).

"Review of *Bad Mexicans: Race, Empire & Revolution in the Borderlands* by Kelly Lytle Hernández." *Perspectives*, Vol.51, (May 2024), pp. 127-128.

Gutierrez, Karina, Wassell, Peter, and Sales-Hernández, Anthony. "Editor's Note." *Perspectives*, Vol.51, (May 2024), pp. vii-ix.

AUTHORS ON PUBLICATIONS

Javier Santillan

Chicana(o) Latina(o) Studies

Santillan, J. Echoes from East LA: Martha Gonzalez's Journey Through Music, Activism, and Artivism. Saint Lunita Magazine

Violet Tirado

Speech-Language Pathology

Morton, I. D., Tirado, V., Ellis, E.M., & Pham, L.A. (submitte). The Sentential Complement Clause Sentence Constructions of Early School-Age Children with and without Developmental Language Disorder.

Arpit Vaishya

Computer Science

A Vaishya, R. Chatterjee, D Sagar, F Mohammadi, M Pourhomayoun, Manveen Kaur, Jung Soo Lim, and N. Amini, "Detection of Large Vessel Occlusion in Ischemic Stroke Patients using Deep Residual Distilled Convolutional Network", 2025, in press, International Journal of Semantic Computing.

Peter Wassell

History

"Editor's Note." Perspectives, Vol.51, (May 2024), pp. vii–ix.

"The De Facto Governors of Haiti: The Debate Over US Recognition of Haiti, 1804-1862" in Perspectives a Journal of Historical Inquiry vol. 52. Spring 2025

Dorcia White-Brake

Sociology

White-Blake, D. "Analysis: Kendrick Lamar's 2016 Grammy Performance" California Sociological Forum, Spring 2025

Hilary Wu

Special Education and Counseling

Dodds, R. L., Roy, S., Wu, H., Belden, A., Hafer, C., & Toapanta, C. (in press). Improving uptake in regional center services: using program data to identify predictors of under-utilization and non-utilization. American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

AUTHORS ON PUBLICATIONS

Qiong (Annie) Wu

Child and Family Studies

Wee, S.-J., Xue, M., Lo, Y., & Wu, Q. (2025, April). "I am an American!": Critical analysis of East Asian/Asian American protagonists' experiences of racism and microaggressions portrayed in children's picturebooks. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Wee, S.-J., Xue, M., Lo, Y., & Wu, Q. (in press). Unpacking East Asian/Asian American experiences of racism and microaggressions portrayed in children's picturebooks. *Early Childhood Education Journal*.

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Annett Acosta

Audiology

Title: Teacher Moves Used to Engage Diverse Students With Disabilities in Math Discourse

Conference: UC SPEDDR 2025

Title: Building Inclusive Foundations: Preservice Educators' Beliefs About Twice-Exceptionality.

Conference: 2025 AERA Annual Meeting

Annett Acosta

Audiology

Title: Neural Aging Effects in American English Monolinguals and Spanish-English bilinguals

Conference: American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention

Andrew Alamillo

Environmental Science

Title: Identifying Post-fire Vegetation Growth Trends In The Los Angeles San Gabriel Mountains: A Case Study Of The 2020 Bobcat Fire

Conference: 2025 Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section Meeting

Melody Arakelian

Audiology

Title: Neural Aging Effects in American English Monolinguals and Spanish-English bilinguals

Conference: American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention

Matthew Ardis

Audiology

Title: Training Cochlear Implant Users' Pitch Discrimination: Effects on Behavioral/Neural Outcomes

Conference: American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Jada Augustine

Joint Doctoral Program PhD with UCLA

Title: Early Educational Pathways: The Influence of Preschool on Kindergarten Placements

Conference: American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Brandon Bailey

Speech-Language Pathology

Title: The Complement Clause Verb Production of Five-Year-Old Children with and without Specific Language Impairment.

Conference: Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Burgundy Bisson

Audiology

Title: Neural Aging Effects in American English Monolinguals and Spanish-English bilinguals

Conference: American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention

Darcy Blakesley

Speech-Language Pathology

Title: The Imitation of Sentential Complement Clause Sentences by Children with and without SLI. Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Conference: Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Darcy Blakesley

Speech-Language Pathology

Title: Verb frequency and the production of complex syntax in five-year-old children with and without developmental language disorder.

Conference: California Speech-Language-Hearing Convergence 2025

Teegan Boyd

Kinesiology

Title: Wrist Proprioception and Throwing Accuracy in Baseball: Unraveling Directional and Style Specificity

Conference: American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Meeting 2025

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Ana Carmona

Audiology

Title: A large sample retrospective study on self-perception of hearing loss in the greater Los Angeles Spanish-speaking community: A comparison of audiometric data and HHIE scores

Conference: California Association of Audiology (CAA) Annual Conference

Jose Coreas Guzman

Environmental Science

Title: Investigating Heatwave Dynamics Along The Los Angeles River Using Geospatial Analysis

Conference: 2025 Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section Meeting

Christopher Cid

MFA in Television, Film, and Theatre

Title: Roundtable: The Stage is our Calli : Chicana Narratives in Theatre-Making and Performance Roundtable.

Conference: The National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies/ 50th Anniversary

Robert Coronado, Jr.

History

Title: "Hybridity: In-Between People, Texts, & Objects Across the Early Modern World"

Conference: UCLA Medieval & Early Modern Student Association

Jalene Garcia-Santamaria

Sociology

Title: Stigmatizing Conditions: Attitudes and Experiences of Social Workers with formerly incarcerated individuals.

Conference: 2025 Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section Meeting

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Brandon De Jesus

Civil Engineering

Title: Partially Drained Responses of Dense Sand under Monotonic Simple Shear

Conference: Geotechnical Frontiers 2025

Title: Partially Drained Responses of Dense Sand under Monotonic Simple Shear

Conference: Geotechnical Frontiers 2025

Jalene Garcia-Santamarina

Title: Stigmatizing conditions: Attitudes and experiences of social workers with formerly incarcerated individuals.

Conference: Pacific Sociology Association

Ricardo Hernandez

CalState LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education

Title: Supporting Behavioral Challenges in Inclusive Classrooms: Integrating Co-Teaching and MTSS for Students with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (Poster Presentation)

Conference: UC SPEDDR 2025, UC Davis MIND Institute

Title: Empowering Communities to Serve: Training and Mentorship for Immigrant Families Raising Children with Autism (Poster Presentation)

Title: Mentoring Providers to Support Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Families of Children with Disabilities (Paper Presentation)

Conference: Mental and Behavioral Health Conference, CSULA

Ryan Hernandez

Speech-Language Pathology

Title: Balancing Learning, Leadership & Life: Graduate Student Strategies and Perspectives During the Journey of Graduate School.

Conference: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention 2024

Eileen Ho

Education

Title: Improving Access to the Veteran Readiness & Employment (VR&E) Program for Veterans with Disabilities Using Instructional Design Roundtable Proposal

Conference: SITE 2024

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Corinne Howie

Audiology

Title: Understanding Of Congenital Cytomegalovirus Among Future Speech-language Pathologists

Conference: California Speech-Language Hearing Association (CSHA) Annual Convention

Marjorie Hunr

History

Title: "Gold-Hunters in an Emerald City: Rio de Janeiro, the California Argonauts, and the Search for Precious Metals in the Americas."

Conference: Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies 72nd Annual Meeting.

Title: "Palanquins and Washerwomen: Gendered Geographies of Power in 19th-Century Rio de Janeiro."

Conference: Center for the Study of Genders and Sexualities Student Research Conference

Title: "Crossing the Boundaries of Empire and Archive: The Spatial Turn in Postcolonial Latin American Historiography."

Conference: Phi Alpha Theta Southern California Regional Conference 2024

Edward Jaros

Education

Title: The Power of Play: Educational Equity through Interactive Games

Conference: SITE 2024

Amal Kahn

Audiology

Title: Vestibular Knowledge in the Field of Deaf Education

Conference: California Speech-Language Hearing Association (CSHA) Annual Convention

Title: Vestibular Knowledge in the Field of Deaf Education

Conference: Cal State LA Summer Program of Research Opportunities for Undergraduate Training (SPROUT) 2024 Summer Symposium

Johan Landaverde

Education Technology

Title: Multimodal Learning and Assessments

Conference: SITE 2024

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Brandon Laurent

Communication Studies

Title: Soul Food-Cultural Currency and a Preserver of Black Diasporic History

Conference: 2024 National Communication Association Annual Convention

Cesar Leal

Civil Engineering

Title: Sand post-liquefaction monotonic responses with various loading directions and angularity.

Conference: 18th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering

Susan Lee

Speech-Language Pathology

Title: Neural Aging Effects in American English Monolinguals and Spanish-English bilinguals

Conference: American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention

Kyuon Lee

Counseling

Title: Supporting diverse learners with dyslexia through an ecological perspective

Conference: National Association of School Psychologists

Han Lee

Cal State LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education

Title: Mentoring Through Feedback: Beginning Teachers' Preparation to Work With Diverse Students With Disabilities

Conference: Symposium session at Mental and Behavioral Health Conference 2025

Title: Brain-Learning Connection: Supporting Educators and Families of Diverse Learners with ADHD and Dyslexia.

Conference: Symposium Session at Mental and Behavioral Health Conference, CSULA

Troy Maki

Kinesiology

Title: Wrist Proprioception and Throwing Accuracy in Baseball: Unraveling Directional and Style Specificity

Conference: American Physical Therapy Association Meeting 2025

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Chanee McMillian

Counseling

Title: Another Type of Language Learner: Literacy Instruction for AAE Speakers.

Conference: Council for Learning Disabilities 46th International Conference on Learning Disabilities

Title: Mentoring Providers to Support Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Families of Children with Disabilities

Title: A Glance From Within: Working With Black Communities to Raise Awareness on Disability Advocacy.

Conference: Mental and Behavioral Health Conference 2025, Cal State LA

Sabrina Morales

Counseling

Title: Supporting diverse learners with dyslexia through an ecological perspective

Conference: National Association of School Psychologists

Arthur Ni

Audiology

Title: Tuning Characteristics of Bone-Conduction Ocular Vestibular-Evoked Myogenic Potentials

Conference: California Association of Audiology (CAA) Annual Conference

Elizabeth Nunez

Civil Engineering

Title: Laboratory Investigations into the Effects of Heating on Clay's Mechanical and Hydraulic Changes Using Geophysical Methods

Conference: Geo-EnvironMeet 2025

Isabel Nunez

Audiology

Title: Extended High-Frequency Hearing and Its Effect on Speech Perception in Noise

Conference: American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention

Sara Nunns

Audiology

Title: The Effects of Noise Exposure on Saccular Sensitivity in Musicians

Conference: California Association of Audiology (CAA) Annual Conference

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Jean-Carlo Palacios

Civil Engineering

Title: Bi-Directional Cyclic Shear Testing of Soils: From Earthquake Engineering to Marine Monopiles

Conference: Geotechnical Frontiers 2025

Chloe Paul

Communication Studies

Title: Making Headway for Greater Regard

Conference: 2024 National Communication Association Annual Convention

Title: To Identity and Beyond for Greater Regard

Conference: 2024 National Communication Association Annual Convention

Lan-Anh (Lanny) Pham

Communication Disorders

Title: The Imitation of Sentential Complement Clause Sentences by Children with and without SLI.
Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Title: The Complement Clause Verb Production of Five-Year-Old Children with and without Specific
Language Impairment.

Conference: Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Title: Verb frequency and the production of complex syntax in five-year-old children with
and without developmental language disorder.

Conference: California Speech-Language-Hearing Convergence 2025

Title: Complex Syntax and Grammatical Errors in Preschool Children With and Without Specific
Language Impairment.

Conference: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention 2024

Amber Pope

Cal State LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program

Title: A Glance From Within: Working With Black Communities to Raise Awareness on
Disability Advocacy

Conference: 9th Annual Mental and Behavioral Health Conference CSULA

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Anthony Sales-Hernández **History**

Title: "The Role of Print in the Pre-Revolutionary U.S.-Mexico Borderlands."

Conference: Presented at the Interdisciplinary Historical Student Research Conference

Julian Salinas **Education**

Title: Coding Cultures: Empowering Latino Educators with ScratchJr through CRP

Conference: SITE 2024

Tatev Sarkissian **Cal State LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program**

Title: Empathy and Perspective Taking: Links with Religiosity, Right-Wing Authoritarianism, and Social Dominance Orientation.

Conference: Western Psychological Association 2022

Title: Brain-Learning Connection: Supporting Educators and Families of Diverse Learners with ADHD and Dyslexia.

Conference: Symposium Session at Mental and Behavioral Health Conference 2025

Julie Rinker **CalState LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education**

Title: Another Type of Language Learner: Literacy Instruction of African American English (AAE) Speakers

Conference: Council for Learning Disabilities

Tiffany Sandoval **Speech-Language Pathology**

Title: Balancing Learning, Leadership & Life: Graduate Student Strategies and Perspectives During the Journey of Graduate School.

Conference: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention 2024

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Javier Santillan

Chicana(o) Latina(o) Studies

Title: Message from the Barrio, Quinto Sol, Music as Resistance, Panel

Conference: Professors Panel

Michael David Smith

English M.A.

Title: "Do Lupine-Lunar Hybrids Dream of Eating Grandmother Too?"

Conference: Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference

Violet Tirado

Speech-Language Pathology

Title: The Imitation of Sentential Complement Clause Sentences by Children with and without SLI. Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Conference: Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

Jannyane Truong

CalState LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education

Title: Mentoring Providers to Support Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Families of Children with Disabilities

Title: Mentoring Support Providers in Supporting Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Families.

Conference: : Mental and Behavioral Health Conference 2025, Cal State LA

Janet Villalobos

Education

Title: Adaptive Technology Training for Virtual Team Collaboration

Conference: SITE 2024

Dion Vines

Pan African Studies

Topic Title: From Soul Food to Soul Healing

Conference: National Council of Black Studies Conference.

Pete Wassell

History

Title: "Complicity in the Project of Latin American Colonization"

Conference: Phi Alpha Theta Southern California Regional Conference 2024

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Erik Weisner
Geological Science

Title: Assessing Pre- And Post-Wildfire Stream Runoff From The Bobcat Fire In Los Angeles Basin
Conference: 2025 Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section Meeting

Nia Webster
Speech-Language Pathology

Title: Experiences of Black CSD Students at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs)- A Student Panel.
Conference: NBASLH 2025

Dorcia White-Brake

Title: The Rent is Too Damn High: How to empower tenants to resist landlord harassment, abuse and neglect?

Conference: The Social Theory Conference at Cal State LA

Title: Analysis: Kendrick Lamar's 2016 Grammy Performance.

Title: The Rent Is Too Damn High: Empowering tenants to stand against landlords who abuse the Ellis Act.

Title: The Departure and Arrival of Congolese Refugee: Economic disparities and climate change.

Conference: The Social Theory Conference at Cal State LA

Mya Wyatt
Speech-Language Pathology

Title: Experiences of Black CSD Students at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs)- A Student Panel.
Conference: NBASLH 2025

Hilary Wu
Joint Doctoral PhD with UCLA

Title: Barriers to Regional Center Service Utilization for School-Aged Clients

Conference: TASH Conference

Title: Improving Uptake in Regional Center Services: Using Program Data to Identify Predictors of Under-Utilization.

Conference: Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & EXHIBITS

This academic year, thirty eight (38) graduate students showcased their talents through special presentations, competitions, exhibits, films, and performances.

Karina Argudo

MA in Special Ed, Option in Autism Spectrum Disorders

Topic Title:*Outstanding Teacher Award at John C. Fremont Elementaru in Glendale*

Christina Guadalupe Briones

Social Work

Topic Title:*The impact on diabetes care of doctors who know their patients' language when their patients have limited English proficiency.*

Maria Castorena

Social Work

Topic Title: *Heath disparities among elderly population: the role of access to health care*

Michael Collins

Social Work

Topic Title: *Exploring the Outcomes of Interventions for Homeless People.*

Janette Dzul

Biology

Topic Title: *Testing the hypothesis that Human Beta Defensin-2 induces dormancy in Mycolicibacterium smegmatis, a model organism for Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

Benjamin Edward Weber

Social Work

Topic Title: *How to design an effective dating violence prevention program for institutions of higher learning.*

Kimberli Roxana Fajardo Lazaro

Social Work

Topic Title:*The impact of artificial intelligence on improving the autonomy of older people.*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & EXHIBITS

Leslie Figueroa-Lozano

Social Work

Topic Title: *Two workshops on Substance Misuse Among Students with Disabilities for OSD Participants*

Emma Garcia

Healthcare Management

2025 ACHE College Bowl Competition

Faith Haile

Psychology

Topic Title: *Examining the Effect of Pre-Identification Descriptions and Confirming Feedback on Memory Distortion in Eyewitnesses.*

Richard Hu

Communication Studies

Topic Title: *Session Chair of Opening the Floor: Narratives, Relationality, and Future Directions for Asian Pacific Islander Desi Americans in Collegiate Forensics*

Mariela Patricia Huazano Heredia

Social Work

Topic Title: *Safe spaces focused on "Joy" and the impact on the mental health and resilience of LGBTQIA+ people of colour.*

James Hummel

Educational Leadership

Topic Title: *Teacher Credential Program Reforms Needed to Improve Assistive Technology Training for Special Education Pre-service Teachers*

Eric Brakebill Jones

Social Work

Topic Title: *The measure for recovery: Evaluating the effectiveness of individualised interventions to improve addiction recovery outcomes among adults.*

Yin Junxiang

Healthcare Management

2025 ACHE College Bowl Competition

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & EXHIBITS

Evan Krikorian

English Studies

Topic Title: *Invited guest lecture with co-authors for a Cal State San Bernardino English MA research methods course on Human-AI stylistics and discourse analysis*

Daniela Valentina Lara

Latin American Studies

Topic Title: *“Precarity at the Border: Border externalization, neoliberal accumulation of labor, and resistance of migrant women at the U.S.-Mexico border”*

Jo Lacangan

Fine Arts

Topic Title: *UCLA New Wight Biennial: Social Sediment, Artist;*

“The Parts That Make the Whole” Solo Show and Artist Talk, COMA Gallery, Artist

“Jo Lacangan: Artist Talk” - Monterey Peninsula College, Panelist

2B Artist Residency, Selected Residency Participant

Natalie Miller

Business Administration

Topic Title: *An Examination of Health, Housing, and Resident Satisfaction for building a Sustainable Community via a Racial Equity Lens: A Data-Driven Analysis. CBE Community Engagement Symposium 2025. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shilpa Balan*

Violeta Murillo

CoES

Topic Title: *“Insurgent, Persistent Inequalities: Undocumented Latinx Graduate Students Pursuing Post-Graduate Education”. Research presentation Latine Studies Graduate Student Conference (LSGSC) at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.*

Janneth Najera

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

Topic Title: *Del Corazón!: Persisting toward Servingness through the Establishment of La Casita Student Center-Association of Hispanic Serving Institutes Educators*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & EXHIBITS

Jamilet Ochoa

CoES

Topic Title: *“Uncaptured: Queer Gestures of Resistance to the Hauntings of Surveillance”.*
Research presentation Latine Studies Graduate Student Conference (LSGSC) at
the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Reema Parmar

Healthcare Management

2025 ACHE College Bowl Competition

Neelam Partidar

MS Information Systems

Topic Title: *An Examination of Health, Housing, and Resident Satisfaction for building a
Sustainable Community via a Racial Equity Lens: A Data-Driven Analysis. CBE
Community Engagement Symposium 2025.*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shilpa Balan

Mihrazoon Paryani

Social Work

Workshop on Food Insecurity Community Resource for Cal State LA Guardian Scholars
Program

Isabela Pedro

Biology

Topic Title: *The role of biodiversity in mitigating drought stress in plant communities*

Melissa Perales

Social Work

Topic Title: *Connecting with Art for Well-being/Conectando con el arte para el Bienestar:
Culturally grounded workshop for Latinx Survivors of Domestic Violence*

Carlos Alberto Regalado Figueroa

Latin American Studies

Topic Title: *“Surviving the Ring: Migrant Labor”*

Andrew Rojas

Latin American Studies

Topic Title: *“A Weberian Language of Resistance”*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & EXHIBITS

Celeste Salinas

Social Work

Topic Title: *The benefits of animal-assisted interventions to improve TF-CBT in child victims of sexual abuse.*

Javier Santillan

Chicana(o) Latina(o) Studies

Topic Title: *, Film and research presentation at the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies, Albuquerque, NM. Message from the Barrio, Quinto Sol, Music as Resistance. Chicana/o Short-Film Festival.*

Message from the Barrio (short film) – Official Selection, OC Film Fiesta (2025), and the Cal State LA Chicax Latinx Film Festival(2024)

Jonathan Skurnik

Fine Arts

Topic Title: *Exhibition of a portrait of my mother Joan at the Offus Gallery in the Bendix Building in Downtown Los Angeles, April, 2025.*

Daria Smith

Biology

Topic Title: *Microclimate and Facilitation Trade-offs Along a Los Angeles Urban Gradient*

Renée Tabizón

Latin American Studies

Topic Title: *"Generational Outcomes: Mexican American and Mexican Immigrant Experiences in Twentieth Century San Gabriel Valley California"*

Renée Tabizón

Latin American Studies

Topic Title: *"Inequality along the San Gabriel Foothills : Mexican American and Mexican Immigrant Experiences in the Twentieth Century "*

Arpit Vaishya

Computer Science

Topic Title: *Detection of Large Vessel Occlusion in Ischemic Stroke Patients using Deep Residual Distilled Convolutional Network Presented at IEEE AIMHC 2024*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & EXHIBITS

Joshua Wilder Oakley

Fine Arts

Topic Title: *Guest Lecture: Rauschenberg and Neo Dada: the beginnings of interaction design, Art 1012 World Art History Survey Course, Prof. Julien Nykolak*

Sally Zreiqat

Master's Information Systems

Topic Title: *An Examination of Health, Housing, and Resident Satisfaction for building a Sustainable Community via a Racial Equity Lens: A Data-Driven Analysis. CBE Community Engagement Symposium 2025.*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shilpa Balan

CAMPUS GRAD DELEGATES FOR CSU RESEARCH COMPETITION

Six (6) Graduate students were selected to represent Cal State LA at the CSU system-wide Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities Competition. The Competition was held on April 25 – 26, 2025, at the California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt campus. The event is held annually to recognize student accomplishments in research, scholarship, and creative activities and to provide a forum for our students to gain experience in delivering a professional presentation. Our graduate student scholars presented research across a range of disciplines including Anthropology, Social Work, History, Psychology, Electrical Engineering, Physics.

Hannah Calistri

Anthropology

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Amira Ainis

Preservation and Contamination: Identifying Pesticides on Ethnographic Woven Materials using Portable X-Ray Fluorescence

Mei Ku

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Yvette Szabo

The Contributions of Rumination, Catastrophizing, and Depression in the Associations Between Adverse Childhood Events and Gastrointestinal Symptoms in a Predominantly Hispanic/Latino Sample

Isaac Collins

Social Work

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Margarita Villagrana

Black Americans Attitudes and Perceptions of Mental Health Services

Isuru Rajapakshe

Electrical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Deborah Won

Spectral Changes in sEEG as a Biomarker for rTMS Efficacy in Major Depressive Disorder

Marjorie Hunt

History

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kittiya Lee

The Wild and Unfree: Geographies of Nature and Slavery in Mid-Nineteenth Century Rio de Janeiro

Evelyn Scott

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Susan Terebey

Protostar Disk Dynamics of Oph IRS 63

Congratulations to Isuru Rajapakshe and Isaac Collins on winning 2nd Place!

Honorable Mention to: Evelyn Scott

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Behavioral and Social Sciences

Jessica Vega

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Corinne Bower

Positive Classroom Experiences are Related to Later Reduced Math Anxiety and Higher Math Achievement

Angela Valadez

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Corinne Bower

Parent Perceptions of Math and Spatial Language in Education YouTube videos when Co-viewed with Adults Versus Peers

Ashley Ramirez

Forensic Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Alma Olaguez

Navigating Emotions in Civil Litigation: A Qualitative Analysis

Blanca Henriquez

Forensic Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Alma Olaguez

Exploring Verdict Justifications: A Qualitative Analysis of the Defendant's Violent History in a Civil Trial

Mei Ku

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Yvette Szabo

The Contributions of Rumination, Catastrophizing, and Depression in the Associations Between Adverse Childhood Events and Gastrointestinal Symptoms in a Predominantly Hispanic/Latino Sample

Mira Arbonies

Forensic Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Mitchell Eisen

Examining Pre-Admonition Suggestion In Eyewitness Decision-Making Under Real-World Conditions Using the Field-Simulation Paradigm

Shelby Detweiler

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Heidi Riggio

Permissive Parenting Style and Adult Personality Outcomes

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Humanities I: Humanities & Communities

Renee Tabizon

Latin American Studies

Faculty Mentor: Enrique Ochoa

Generational Outcomes: Mexican American and Mexican Immigrant Experiences in Twentieth Century San Gabriel Valley California

Jamilet Ochoa Rocha

Chicana(o) Latina (o) Studies

Faculty Mentor: David Green

Resisting Capture: Queer Gestures in Opposition to Hauntings of Surveillance

Anthony Sales-Hernandez

History

Faculty Mentor: Chris Endy

The Role of Print in the Pre-Revolutionary U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

Marjorie Hunt

History

Faculty Mentor: Kittiya Lee

The Wild and Unfree: Geographies of Nature and Slavery in Mid-Nineteenth Century Rio de Janeiro

Isaac Collins

Masters of Social Work

Faculty Mentor: Margarita Villigrana

Black Americans Attitudes and Perceptions of Mental Health Services

Eric Jones

MSW

Faculty Mentor: Joanna Karczewska

Recovery Compass: Revolutionizing Addiction Treatment Through Environmental Mastery and Data-Driven Personalization

Marie Lassaigue

Child Development

Faculty Mentor: Ashley Munger

Cultural Adaptation and Emotional Development: Exploring Resilience and Parent-Child Relationships in Immigrant Families

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM GRADUATE STUDENT ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Humanities II: Anthropology/Archeology

Robert Coronado Jr.

History

Faculty Mentor: M. Kittiya Lee

Purépecha Humanism: Indigenous Renaissance Elements in the Relación de Michoacán, c. 1539-1541

Hannah Calistri

Anthropology

Faculty Mentor: Amira Ainis

Preservation and Contamination: Identifying Pesticides on Ethnographic Woven Materials using Portable X-Ray Fluorescence

Eric Gonzales

Anthropology

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Michele Bleuze

Reimagining Perceptions of Sacred Space at the Cueva de Sangre, Dos Pilas

Nimrat Brar

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Dana Saifan

Trauma & Mental Health Service-Seeking Among Muslim American Young Adults

Amanda Jokela

Anthropology

Faculty Mentor: Michele Bleuze

Illuminating the Subterranean: A Bioarchaeological Analysis of the Cueva de Sangre

Harnawaz Boparai

Biology

Faculty Mentor: Eric Wood

Short-term Avian Response to Native Oak Restoration on the CSU LA Campus

India Wesley-Cardwell

Biology

Faculty Mentor: Jinae Roa

*Effects of elevated environmental carbon dioxide (CO₂) on the acid-base regulatory capacity of epaulette shark (*Hemiscyllium ocellatum*) gills*

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Karli Miller

Biology

Faculty Mentor: Christine Scoffoni

The combined effect of light and heat on C3 and C4 grass function

Aqueen Lenon

Exercise Science

Faculty Mentor: Stefan Keslacy

Understanding the effects of resistance training on brain and muscle oxygenation during exercise-induced muscle fatigue.

Teegan Boyd

Kinesiology

Faculty Mentor: Leila Rahnama

Neck Muscle Functional Characteristics in Individuals with Forward Head Posture

Computer Science

Xuewen Tang

Information Systems

Faculty Mentor: Song Xing

Establishing an AI-Generated Content Shared Service Center within Global IT Architecture

Luis Martinez

Electrical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Deborah Won

Parkinsons Tremor Detection via Apple Watch Accelerometry Data

Rajapakshe Mudiyanseelage Isuru Rajapakshe

Electrical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Deborah Won

Spectral Changes in sEEG as a Biomarker for rTMS Efficacy in Major Depressive Disorder

Eman Badr

control system

Faculty Mentor: Abdullah Al Maruf

Scalable Design of Cyber-Resilient Architectures for Critical Systems

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Joseph Tran

Electrical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Abdullah Al Maruf

Observability-Blocking Controls for Double-Integrator and Higher Order Integrator Networks

Anirudha Bhaktharahalli Subramanya

Computer science

Faculty Mentor: Pourhomayoun Mohammad

Adversarial resilience in Large Language Models

Engineering

Andy Damas

Mechanical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Arturo Pacheco

Circulation Patterns in Horizontal Rectangular Enclosures due to Humidity in Air

Sudheendra Gamoji

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Marina Mondin

Combating Thermal Lensing in Gravitational Wave Detectors Through Radiative Cooling

Physical Sciences

Sergio Avina

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Emilie Royer

Airglow: Understanding the Upper Atmosphere of Venus through Infrared Observations of O₂

Marlee Rapp

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Margaret Lazzarini

Spatially Resolved Star Formation History of IC 1613

Kenneth Stebbing Cabrera

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Susan Terebey

Shocks and Astrochemistry in the Outer Disk of the Protostar L1527

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Evelyn Scott

M.S. Physics

Faculty Mentor: Susan Terebey

Protostar Disk Dynamics of Oph IRS 63

Marlon Reyes Silva

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Margaret Lazzarini

Characterizing High Mass X-ray Binary Populations in Low Metallicity, Low Mass Dwarf Galaxies Using Chandra and Hubble Data

Dominique Dang

Chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Yixian Wang

Single Nanoparticle Electrochemical Analysis Using Critical Angle Reflection Microscopy

Doroteo Manriquez

Materials Science and Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Yangyang Liu

Metalloporphyrinic Metal–Organic Frameworks for Enhanced Photocatalytic Degradation of a Mustard Gas Simulant

Steve Figueroa

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Armen Kocharian

Magnetic Properties of Nanoparticles in Different Carbon-based Matrices

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION

Natural Sciences

Lauren Hill

M.S. Environmental Science, Environmental Biology

Faculty Mentor: Eric Wood

Population structure and breeding origins of two songbird species migrating through a Southern California mountain pass

Sophia Diaz

Biology

Faculty Mentor: Elizabeth Torres

Comparative DNA Barcoding Analysis of Ostracod Crustacean Guts

Isabel Garcia

Chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Yixian Wang

Evaluating the Effect of Polystyrene Nanoplastics on the Abnormal Aggregation of Alpha Synuclein

Alfredo Gonzalez

Chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Xin Wen

Investigating the Relationship Between Thermal Hysteresis and Ice Recrystallization Inhibition Activity in Hyperactive Insect Antifreeze Protein Mutants

Puron Rahman

Chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Xin Wen

Inhibitory Effects of a Beetle Urine Antifreeze Protein on Human Kidney Stones

Maximilian Mobley

MS Molecular Microbiology

Faculty Mentor: Susan Cohen

*Characterizing the relationship between KtrA and the core oscillating proteins of *Synechococcus elongatus**

Zander Milburn

Biology

Faculty Mentor: Susan Cohen

Identifying the RNA(s) molecules associated with Rbp2 throughout the circadian cycle in cyanobacteria

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION

Social Sciences

Gabriel Alaniz

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Dana Saifan

Conformity at a Cost: Code-Switching and Its Mental Health Implications for Muslim Americans

Kenobi Donart

MS Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Yvette Szabo

Stressful life events and mental health: Emotion dysregulation accounts for depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms

Lisette Bailey

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Heidi Riggio

Voting Trends Among Hispanic Americans: A Comparative Study of 2016 through 2022 Was “Latinos for Trump” a real change in voting behavior or media sensationalism?

Sara Cruz

Counseling, Option in Rehabilitation Counseling

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Cailine Kim

Further Investigations on Challenges that Black Americans with Bipolar Disorders are Facing During the Diagnostic and Treatment Processes.

Julie Diaz

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

Faculty Mentor: Lani Cupchoy

The Oaxacan Experience and Utilization of Curanderismo in Los Angeles, examining the efforts to healthcare access.

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION

Ruth Uribe-Kirby

Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Yvette Szabo

Consistency in Trauma Reporting: Comparing Single-item vs Multi-item Trauma Questionnaires

Vanessa Roman

MSN -PMHNP

Faculty Mentor: Talato Kabore

Suicidal Ideation and Suicidal risk factors among the transgender population

Ivan Farias-Martinez

Kinesiology

Faculty Mentor: Ming-Chih "Darren" Sung

The Effects of Physical Activity Intervention on Motor Skills in Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Meta-analysis

Health and Wellbeing

Angel Chen

Nutritional Science

Faculty Mentor: Kathryn Hillstrom

The Role of Food Pantries in Los Angeles in Promoting Fruits and Vegetables Consumption

Education

Qiong Wu

Child Development

Faculty Mentor: Yafen Lo

Examining Challenges of Chinese Immigrant Male Early Childhood Educators through Acculturation and Cultural Capitals

Valeria Valencia

Counseling and School Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Nicole Garcia

Exploring School Psychology and Special Education Practices in Mexico

Arpit Vaishya

Computer Science

Faculty Mentor: Lexi Hwang

Enhancing STEM Success Through Simulations and Innovative Teaching

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION

Engineering - AI & Machine Learning

Kajal Bhandare

Information Systems

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shilpa Balan

AI Model to Assess the Impact of Wildfire on Housing Affordability in Southern California

Isha Jaywant Patil

Computer Science

Faculty Mentor: Beltran Verdugo Armando

Flow-Guided Dynamic Filtering and Iterative Feature Refinement with Multi-Attention for Joint Video Super-Resolution and Deblurring

Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology

Cristian Hernandez

Electrical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Curtis Wang

Online Control of a Scaled HVAC Testbed

Jordan Doose

Computer Science

Faculty Mentor: Salvador Rojas

Computer-Vision Based Landing Guidance for Autonomous Marine Exploration

Jonathan Flores

Mechanical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Salvador Rojas

Preliminary Design of a Soft Robotic Tentacle for Grasping Based on a Bioinspired Octopus Arm

Jose Mario Gutierrez

Electrical Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Salvador Rojas

A Bio-inspired Approach to Wave Disturbance Detection and Positional Control

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION

Environmental Science

Erik Weisner

Geological Sciences

Faculty Mentor: Jingjing Li

Assessing Pre- and Post- Wildfire Stream Runoff from the Bobcat Fire in Los Angeles Basin

Jared Sweatman

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Emilie Royer

A Study on the Sun's effects on Titan's Atmospheric Airglow using Data from the Cassini Spacecraft

Jose Coreas Guzman

Environmental Science

Faculty Mentor: Jingjing Li

Investigating Heatwave Dynamics along the Los Angeles River Using Geospatial Analysis

Angel Morales

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Emilie Royer

Spectroscopic Analysis of Solar Radiation Interactions with Titan's Upper Atmosphere Using Cassini Data

Eric Gutierrez

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Armen Kocharian

Magnetic Properties of Pyrolytic Polyethylene with Diamond Powder

Andy Ruiz

M.S. Chemistry, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Yangyang Liu

Investigating V-shaped Linkers in Metal-Organic Frameworks for Carbon Capture Applications

Kaycee Willis

Material Science and Engineering

Faculty Mentor: Yangyang Liu

A Novel Photo-Responsive Metal-Organic Framework for Direct Air Capture of Carbon Dioxide

CAL STATE LA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATION

Naomi Samarasinghe

Chemistry

Faculty Mentor: Yangyang Liu

Modified Metal-Organic Frameworks-Mediated Nucleic Acid Stabilization: Protecting RNA from Enzymatic Degradation

Physics

Sophia Grusnis

Physics M.S.

Faculty Mentor: Emilie Royer

Comparison of Surface Properties Between Enceladus and Europa

Cathryn Price

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Margaret Lazzarini

Unveiling the HMXB Population of Holmberg II: A Multi-Wavelength Study with Chandra and Hubble

Jonathan Davidson

Mathematics

Faculty Mentor: Jason O'Neill

Monochromatic Rectangles in Grids

Sasha Margolies

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Margaret Lazzarini

Spatially Resolved Star Formation History of Sextans A

Mitchell Jacobs

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Karine Le Bris

Structure-Property Relationships in Halocarbons: A Systematic Investigation of Radiative Properties through Spectroscopy and DFT

Ernesto Ramirez Jr

Physics

Faculty Mentor: Margaret Lazzarini

Spectral Classification of High Mass X-Ray Binaries in M33

Kylee Q Robinson

TV, Film, and Theater

Faculty Mentor: Karyn Lawrence

In the Beginning

SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS

Faculty members were invited to nominate graduate students for special recognition in their academic disciplines. These students were honored for their outstanding academic performance and received prestigious fellowships from a variety of institutions to advance their research and professional development. In addition, many graduate students achieved distinction by winning academic and artistic competitions.

Annett Acosta

Audiology

Special Recognition from The Journal of the American Academy of Audiology

Andrew Alamillo

Environmental Science

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Internship

Matthew Ardis

Audiology

American Academy of Audiology for Student Research Forum Award 2025

Ramisi Augustus

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Kaitlyn Avila

Television, Film, and Theatre

Writer of script selected for TVF 4801 - Short Film Incubator

Victor Banegas

English

The Parasitic Nature of 'Vampiric Capitalism' in John Polidori's The Vampyre

Darcy Blakesley

MA SLP

2025 California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) College Bowl - First Place

Kimberly Canpos - Ramos

Communication Studies

College of Arts & Letters Honors Convocation Special Recognition

Heather Castro

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS

Jorge Collazo

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Sarah Jo Combs

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Robert Coronado, Jr.

History, MA History

Fellowship for the Missionary Manuscripts Summer Workshop

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship to study Nahuatl at the University of Utah in the summer of 2025

Monica Elizondo

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Kyra Frazier

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Ashley C Garcia

MA SLP

Lisa O'Connor Scholarship for Academic & Clinical Experience

Lorraine Monnin Memorial Scholarship

Graduate scholarship from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation

Jessica Garcia

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Tana Garcia

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

William Harrison

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS

Ricardo Hernandez

Cal State LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education
LMAESTRO Doctoral Fellowship Grant (2024–2029)

Ryan Hernandez

MA SLP
Lorraine Monnin Memorial Scholarship

Eileen Ho

Educational Technology MA
Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Lauren Holiday

TVFM - MFA Writing Option
John Lion New Plays Festival Award Winner
Love, LA 10-Minute Play Festival Winner

Marjorie Hunr

History, MA History
College of Natural and Social Sciences, 2024.
Alumni Association Scholarship, 2024.
Hugh Bonar Endowed Scholarship, History Department, 2024.
Emeriti Association Mary Gormly Memorial Fellowship, 2024.
Outstanding Oral Presentation in Humanities and Letters.
Phi Kappa Phi inductee, 2024.

Armine Jallatyan

Educational Technology MA
Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Brandon Laurent

Communication Studies
College of Arts & Letters Honors Convocation Special Recognition

Susan Lee

MA SLP
ASHA 2024 Students Preparing for Academic-Research Careers (SPARC) Award
ASHA 2024 Research Mentoring Pair Travel Award (RMPTA)

Juan Martinez

Educational Technology MA
Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS

Cesar Martinez Salinas

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Chanee McMillian

Cal State LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program

Grant recipient of Project LMAESTRO

Victor Mojica

Communication Studies

College of Arts & Letters Honors Convocation Special Recognition

Megan Murphy

Communication Studies

College of Arts & Letters Honors Convocation Special Recognition

Rachel Park

MA SLP

Los Angeles Scottish Rite Endowed Scholarship

Chloe Paul

Communication Studies

College of Arts & Letters Honors Convocation Special Recognition

Isabela Pedro

Biology

NSF-GRFP Proposal - Honorable Mention

Lan-Anh (Lanny) Pham

MA SLP

2025 California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) College Bowl - First Place

Jaqueline Pineada Alvarez

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Isela Reza

MA SLP

2025 California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) College Bowl - First Place

Amanda Rhine

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS

Kylee Q Robinson

MFA in Television, Film, and Theatre (Writing Option)

Actor in "The Good Person of Sezechuan"

Writer and Producer of "In the Beginning" Culminating Project Staged Reading

Acting Competition Finalist Partner with Rebecca Silberman

Scenic Designer for "Eurydice"

10-minute play festival writer, "Drac Counts"

Assistant Director for World Premiere of "No Place Like Gandersheim"

Ensemble and writer for devised stageplay, "Fighting Back!"

Anthony Sales-Hernandez

History, MA History

Phi Kappa Phi Invitation Spring 2025 First Place Prize in 2024 Gerald D. Nash History

Graduate Electronic Journal Competition as Editor-In-Chief of Perspectives Vol.51. Phi

Alpha Theta. Fall 2024. Princeton Prospective Ph.D. Preview (P3) Scholar Fall 2024 Alumni

Association Scholarship, California State University, Los Angeles. Fall 2024.

Julian Salinas

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Steven "Danny" Sanchez

Latin American Studies

California Pre-Doctoral Program - 2024 Summer Research Experience Award

Tiffany Sandoval

MA SLP

Robert L. Douglass Scholarship Fund

Los Angeles Scottish Rite Endowed Scholarship

Cal State LA Alumni Association Scholarship

Morgan Sjoerdsma

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Became Cal State LA's first three-time Academic All-American.

Earned first-team Academic All-American honors – only the third such recognition in Cal State LA history and the first since 2018.

Joined Ingvar Moseley (men's track and field, 2018) and Casey Jungwirth (volleyball, 2000) as Cal State LA's only other first-team Academic All-Americans.

Received the CCAA Elite 13 Award for academic excellence for the third consecutive year.

SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS

Daria Smith

Biology

NSF-GRFP Proposal - Honorable Mention

Alma Soto

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Talia Tabakian

Educational Technology MA

Special Reconition: Academic Excellence

Jonathan Tapia

Communication Studies

College of Arts & Letters Honors Convocation Special Recognition

Laura To

MS in Counseling Option in School Psychology

California Association of School Psychologists Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Scholarship

Miguel Toner

MA SLP

2025 California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) College Bowl - First Place

Jennyane Truong

CalState LA/UCLA Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education

CREST Doctoral Fellowship Grant (2024–2029)

Dion Vines

Pan African Studies

Inducted into the NCBS Honor Society.

Named a Fulbright Scholar, receiving an award to travel to South Africa in summer 2024 to study Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Healing.

Appointed as a Graduate Senator in August 2024.

Pete Wassell

MA History

Phi Alpha Theta: Eugene Fingerhut Award 2024

Mya Wyatt

MA SLP

2025 California Speech Language Hearing Association (CSHA) College Bowl - First Place

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS

Dr. Kamran Afary

Department of Communication Studies

“Dr. Kamran Afary, for all the thoughtful words of encouragement, the steady support, and dedication to the craft of communication—I’m forever grateful. Your guidance has truly made a lasting impact that I will carry with me in all I do. To all my phenomenal professors who’ve shared their knowledge, challenged me to grow, and supported me along the way—thank you all.” – Megan Murphy

Arnold Bueso

MFA in Film, Television, and Theatre

“You opened up an entire world of art I had not considered or understood before I underwent your tutelage. You inspired me with these words I’ll never forget: ‘Get out of your literal brain.’” – Kylee Robinson

Dr. Carolyn Dunn

MFA in Film, Television, and Theatre

“Dr. Dunn, I truly appreciate your guidance in my writing; It has helped shape me as a playwright. Your confidence in me has helped me see myself as a professional writer.” – Lori Grady

Dr. David Green

Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies

“I want to thank Dr. David Green for his invaluable support in helping me grow as a more confident writer. Thank you for encouraging me to engage with theory in a playful, queer way that expanded my thinking. Thank you for serving as my chair for my thesis project and for the endless revised drafts you provided feedback on. Your guidance and support during the graduate school application process were deeply appreciated.” – Jamilet Ochoa Rocha

Phung Huynh

Department of Art

“Having Professor Huynh as my mentor has been an immense pleasure and honor. Through her guidance and support, I am ready to achieve my future goal of becoming an art educator, and I will always be indebted to her for encouraging me to do so.” – Ari Vasquez

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

Dr. Stephen Rothman

MFA in Film, Television, and Theatre

“Dr. Rothman, I am so grateful you chose my play to direct. Your mentorship has taught me how to see my work in new ways and your directing style has strengthened my acting work. I never considered that I would be able to direct theatre, but having the privilege of watching you work has given me more confidence to pursue it in the future.” – Lori Grady

Randee Trabit

MFA in Film, Television, and Theatre

“Double-ee: Thank you for the giggles, for believing in me, and for pushing me to produce my best work. My MFA notebooks are filled with memorable quotes from you.” – Kylee Robinson

Dr. Ligiah Villalobos Rojas

MFA in Film, Television, and Theatre

“Professor Villalobos Rojas has been invaluable in guiding me through not just the completion of my culminating project, but the development of my writing skills. Her work in the film and television industries has provided her a wealth of knowledge that she graciously shares with her students as she helps them find their voice. I’m truly grateful to have met and worked with her during my time at Cal State LA.” – Kaitlyn Avila

“Thank you for reading all my work and challenging me with such helpful feedback. You have been an exceptional mentor to me.” – Kylee Robinson

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

Dr. Shilpa Balan

Information Systems

“I’m deeply grateful to Dr. Shilpa Balan for her constant encouragement, support, and the invaluable opportunities she has given me. Her mentorship has shaped not just my academic journey, but also how I think, lead, and grow beyond it.” – Latika Kapoor

“I’m truly thankful to Dr. Shilpa Balan for her consistent support and belief in my potential. Her mentorship motivated me to pursue opportunities beyond the classroom and present our research at a major conference.” – Kajal Bhandare

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

“I sincerely appreciate Professor Balan for her guidance and support during my first semester. Her encouragement helped me feel more connected with my classmates and confidently complete our group project on time.” - Tien Cheng

“Professor Balan, thank you sincerely for your dedication and support. Your optimism and positive spirit have been truly inspiring, and your encouragement has continually motivated me to move forward with confidence and enthusiasm.” – Yu Wang

“Professor Balan, I am deeply grateful for your inspiring mentorship throughout my graduate journey. Your passion for teaching and unwavering encouragement pushed me to think critically, aim higher, and believe in my potential.” – Natalie Miller

Dr. Roger Mendoza

Department of Management

“The time and effort professor invest outside of their busy schedules to help me develop professionally and refine my skills is something I deeply respect and will never take for granted.” – Emma Garcia

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Michael Clarke

Division of Special Education and Counseling

“Thank you for challenging my perspectives and providing a learning environment where theoretical knowledge transforms into practical wisdom that I'll carry throughout my career.” – Eric Jones

Dr. Nicole Garcia

Division of Special Education and Counseling

“Thank you for being amazing and supportive. You made me feel supported throughout this journey.” – Liset Flores

“Dr. Garcia has truly prepared me to be an effective practitioner and critical thinker by holding candid class discussions and providing research mentorship for the past three years. Your guidance and transparency has been invaluable. Thank you, Dr. Garcia!” – Laura To

Dr. Kezia Gopaul-Knights

Division of Special Education and Counseling

“Thank you for being amazing and supportive. You made me feel supported throughout this journey.” – Liset Flores

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

“I admire and appreciate Dr. Gopaul-Knights' humor and flexibility. She makes academic content so applicable and easy to understand, and I hope to embody her grace as a practitioner. Thank you, Dr. Gopaul-Knights!” – Laura To

Dr. Cailine Kim

Division of Special Education and Counseling

“Forever grateful for your guidance, and I can't wait to continue working with in the future!” – Sara Cruz

“I would like to thank Dr. Cailine Kim for her mentorship, guidance, and advice in my graduate journey. Dr. Kim is a passionate professor and mentor who wants her students to succeed.” – Carmine Escamilla

Dr. Theresa Meyerott

Division of Applied and Advanced Studies in Education

“I'm deeply grateful to Dr. Theresa Meyerott for her unwavering mentorship. Her thoughtful guidance, encouragement, and belief in my vision gave me the confidence to pursue meaningful research and grow as both a scholar and advocate.” – James Hummel

Dr. Elina Saeki

Division of Special Education and Counseling

“Dr. Saeki has been one of the backbones to the School Psychology program. She has been incredibly welcoming to all students, receptive to program feedback, and was one of the amazing faculty members to introduce school psychology research projects to me during my first year in the program. I aspire to become a faculty member like her in the future. Thank you, Dr. Saeki!” – Laura To

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Abdullah Al Maruf

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

“I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my advisor, Dr. Abdullah Al Maruf, for his continuous support, constructive feedback, and guidance throughout my research. His mentorship has been invaluable in helping me navigate both the technical challenges and the broader vision of this work. I am grateful to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at California State University, Los Angeles, for providing a supportive academic environment and the resources needed to complete this thesis.” – Eman Badr

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

“Dr. Abdullah Al Maruf has not only been a great teacher in the classes that I have taken with him, a clear and patient explainer of not just the tools of control theory, but their derivations and big-picture ideas. He has also been my advisor on my research and guided me not only to delve deeper into the exciting cutting-edge research of this field, but taught me much about how to be a better student, scientist, and engineer. He has been inspirational.” – Joseph Tran

Dr. Marina Mondin

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

“Dr. Marina Mondin for helping me find confidence in my math and reminding me that precision and persistence matter.” – Nelson Leon

Dr. Curtis Wang

Materials Science and Engineering Program

“I sincerely appreciate Dr. Wang’s invaluable mentorship in shaping my thesis—from helping define and frame the research problem to guiding experimental design and testing. I took the courses under him, EE5450 and EE5830, which laid a strong foundation for my work, and his continued support was instrumental throughout the process.” – Arun Narecode Radhakrishnan

COLLEGE OF ETHNIC STUDIES

Dr. Jose Anguiano

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

“Dr. Jose Anguiano, Thank you for making yourself available to me throughout this project. Your insight pushed me to think more deeply and critically about the work, both creatively and academically. I also want to express my gratitude for being part of the panel at the NACCS conference in Albuquerque—it meant a great deal to have your support and presence there. Dr. Lani Cupchoy Thank you for serving as my committee chair and for your thoughtful guidance through both the film and writing process. I’m grateful for your time, feedback, and encouragement. Thank you for introducing me to the power of digital storytelling and for teaching me that our stories matter—that they hold value and deserve to be documented. Your teaching reminded me that storytelling can be both accessible and transformational. Dr. Anita Revilla Thank you for your spiritual guidance and for emphasizing the importance of self-care in our academic journey. Your encouragement and vibrant energy created a positive, welcoming environment that helped so many of us feel supported and seen. I’ve learned so much from you—gracias for being a true source of inspiration.” – Javier Santillan

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

Dr. Jose Anguiano

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

“Dr. Jose Anguiano, Thank you for making yourself available to me throughout this project. Your insight pushed me to think more deeply and critically about the work, both creatively and academically. I also want to express my gratitude for being part of the panel at the NACCS conference in Albuquerque—it meant a great deal to have your support and presence there.” – Javier Santillan

Dr. Lani Cupchoy

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

“Thank you for serving as my committee chair and for your thoughtful guidance through both the film and writing process. I’m grateful for your time, feedback, and encouragement. Thank you for introducing me to the power of digital storytelling and for teaching me that our stories matter—that they hold value and deserve to be documented. Your teaching reminded me that storytelling can be both accessible and transformational.” - Javier Santillan

Dra. Sandra Gutierrez de Jesus

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

“Thank you, Dr. Gutierrez, for also welcoming me as a mentee and for the grace and support you provided in overcoming challenging situations. I truly appreciate your countless revisions and meetings regarding my thesis and Ph.D. application. I do not take lightly the time, effort, and support both of you have dedicated to ensuring my success. <3” – Violeta Murillo

“Thank you, Dr. Sandra Gutierrez, for your feedback on my writing and for serving on my thesis committee.” – Jamilet Ochoa Rocha

Dr. Anita Revilla

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

Thank you for your spiritual guidance and for emphasizing the importance of self-care in our academic journey. Your encouragement and vibrant energy created a positive, welcoming environment that helped so many of us feel supported and seen. I’ve learned so much from you—gracias for being a true source of inspiration.” – Javier Santillan

Dra. Gabriela Valenzuela

Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies

“A special thanks to Dr. Gabriela Valenzuela, now at USC, for going above and beyond as a mentor and for taking me in as a mentee. Thank you for guiding me and for listening to my frustrations and concerns when I had no one else to turn to. Your support in helping me revise my fellowship and Ph.D. applications has been invaluable.” – Violeta Murillo

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

“I’m incredibly thankful for Dr. Gabriela Valenzuela’s mentorship in this program. Thank you for helping me reconnect with my love of reading and writing. Your guidance led me to discover the power of reading images and their potential to generate change—an insight that became central to my thesis. I’m also profoundly grateful for your advice and feedback on drafts throughout the PhD and fellowship application process.” – Jamilet Ochoa Rocha

RONGXIANG XU COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Siouxsie Calderon

School of Social Work

“Your dedication to excellence and student growth has profoundly impacted how I approach complex social issues, and I’m thankful for the ways you’ve pushed me to think more critically and compassionately.” – Eric Jones

Dr. Erica Ellis

Department of Communication Disorders

“I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. Ellis. She has supported and guided me throughout my graduate studies as my professor and NSSLHA advisor. She has been a constant source of encouragement and I am thankful for her mentorship.” – Tiffany Sandoval

“I am deeply grateful for Dr. Ellis’s unwavering support and encouragement throughout my leadership journey. Her guidance and collaboration were instrumental in nurturing and strengthening my skills as a leader, and I will always appreciate her impact.” – Ryan Hernandez

Larry Fernandez

Bobby Davis

School of Social Work

“I would like to acknowledge Professor Larry Fernandez and Bobby Davis, whose experiences as clinicians in the field of mental health deeply inspired me during my classes. The stories they shared in the classroom helped me bridge the gap between theory and practice, allowing me to connect what I learned to real-life situations working with clients.” – Christina Briones

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

Dr. Ian Morton

Department of Communication Disorders

“Thank you for everything! I've learned so much from you. You've given me so many opportunities to get involved in research and really pushed my thinking in the lab. I never thought I'd be presenting at conferences about syntax! It's an area of weakness for me, and I feel like I've gained more confidence in the content area. Being able to figure out lines of research and interpret graphs has been a really fulfilling experience. I'm so thankful for all the support and guidance throughout the years. You are absolutely the best!” – Lan-Anh Pham

Dr. Siyon Rhee

School of Social Work

“Your commitment to evidence-based practice while honoring lived experiences has transformed my approach to social work, and I'm grateful for your mentorship that consistently bridges theory with real-world application.” – Eric Jones

Hannah Rudnick

School of Social Work

“Your mentorship has been instrumental in helping me discover my authentic voice in social work practice, and I'm deeply grateful for the ways you've encouraged me to trust my unique perspective.” – Eric Jones

Dr. Von Simmons

School of Social Work

“The space you created for authentic exploration and growth has been transformative for my professional identity, and I deeply appreciate how you've guided me to find my own path in this field.” – Eric Jones

Brian Stefan

School of Social Work

“Words cannot fully express my gratitude for your exceptional mentorship that has fundamentally reshaped how I understand systemic transformation and my role within it – your influence on my journey has been truly special and will continue to guide my work long after graduation.” – Brian Stefan

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

Dr. Lisa Sueki

School of Social Work

“My gratitude goes out to Dr. Sueki, who inspired me to use my education to bridge academics with my interest for an immersive experience in Cuba. Her guidance has been instrumental in shaping my journey and expanding the way I connect learning with lived experience.” – Christina Briones

“Your unwavering support and guidance throughout this program has not only shaped my professional development but also inspired me to approach social work with greater depth and compassion.” – Eric Jones

Dr. Darren Sung

School of Kinesiology

“Thank you, Dr. Darren Sung for helping me with this thesis. I appreciate you for the endless help and support through it all and I couldn't have done this without you.” – Ivan Farias-Martinez

Dr. Margarita Villagrana

School of Social Work

“I want to thank Dr. Margarita Villagrana for her time helping prepare me for my first research presentation. Without her help I would not have had the confidence or knowledge to even attempt applying. Professor Eunice Kim has been a great professor who has helped build my foundation for undertaking Social Work. Without her guidance and thoughtful analysis of the moral and ethical duties social workers have, I wouldn't feel as capable of helping my community as I do graduating now.” – Isaac Collins

Dr. Tasha Willis

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“My gratitude goes to Dr. Willis for all of her unwavering dedication, commitment, and support during our delegation's travel for the Civitas Cuba TIES IX Conference. Her guidance, encouragement, and deep respect for diverse perspectives made the experience both meaningful and memorable.” – Christina Briones

“Thank you for embodying the perfect balance of academic rigor and heartfelt compassion that has fundamentally shaped my understanding of what effective social work truly means.” – Eric Jones

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dr. Corinne Bower

Department of Psychology

“I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Bower for continuously supporting and guiding her students to success. Without her support and knowledge, I wouldn't have accomplished so many achievements in the past year. Her expertise has significantly contributed to my academic success and makes research lab hours exciting and something that I look forward to.” – Angela Valadez

Dr. Chongmyoung Lee

Department of Political Science

“I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Chongmyoung Lee for being a constant source of support and guidance throughout my graduate journey. From helping me choose my classes to offering valuable advice from the very beginning, your mentorship has been instrumental in my success and growth.” – Aileen Valenzuela

Dr. Susan E. Cohen

Department of Biological Sciences

“Dr. Cohen is the most dedicated mentor to her students that I have had the pleasure of being around. She has never spoken down to demean a student. She always explains situations in an appropriate manner for the student to best learn from the situation. I could not be more grateful for her guidance.” – Maximilian Mobley

Dr. Christopher Endy

Department of History

“Thank you, Dr. Endy, for helping me rewrite a paper that will be published, reading my application materials, and for your thoughtful feedback that facilitated the further development of my writing.” – Anthony Sales-Hernandez

Dr. Alireza Farahmand

Department of Geography, Geology, and Environment

“Thank you for support not only in my research but also the classroom. Your classes have increase my knowledge of GIS and has been insightful for my research.” – Andrew Alamillo

“I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Farahmand for his unwavering support and guidance, which challenged me to approach geospatial analysis and environmental science with both rigor and creativity. His mentorship helped me refine my research focus and encouraged me to pursue opportunities that strengthened my academic growth. Thank you.” – Jose Coreas Guzman

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

Dr. Margaret Lazzarini

Department of Physics and Astronomy

“She has been extremely helpful in guiding me through my first ever research project by giving me specific and constructive feedback while also making me feel supported and understood. She met me where I was skill-wise and adapted her mentorship style to suit me.” – Sasha Margolies

“I appreciate Dr. Lazzarini’s guidance and her desire to see my succeed outside of our research. She has helped me with better understanding our work but also introducing me to others in her field who can help me achieve my goal of working at an observatory.” – Ernesto Ramirez

Dr. Kittiya Lee

Department of History

“Dr. Lee's encouragement and constructive feedback have been indispensable throughout my M.A. program. I'm so grateful to have found a mentor who holds my work to the highest standard and believes I can achieve that level of scholarship. Thank you Dr. Lee!” – Marjorie Hunt

Dr. Jingjing Li

Department of Geography, Geology, and Environment

“Thank you for your wisdom and guidance you have shared with me during my stay here at Cal State LA. Your help has been instrumental to my, and many other's, success!” – Andrew Alamillo

“I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. Li, whose mentorship sharpened my technical skills in GIS and environmental analysis while nurturing my growth as a critical thinker. Her patience, encouragement, and belief in my potential has made a lasting impact on my graduate journey. Thank you.” – Jose Coreas Guzman

Dr. Timothy Lim

Department of Political Science

“Your expertise and rigorous instruction in the graduate session helped me discover more of my family's past than I had hoped. Thank you for being constructive with all my efforts.” – Demetrio Rebollo

Dr. Michael McLendon

Department of Political Science

“Your enthusiastic teaching methods have been what helped me understand the philosophy of dead people. I cannot thank you enough for giving me the necessary tools to excel in your class.” – Demetrio Rebollo

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FACULTY MENTORS

Dr. Enrique Ochoa

Latin American Studies

“Thank you, Enrique, for supporting me last semester with endless book suggestions, letters of recommendation, application revisions, and thought-provoking conversations.” – Anthony Sales-Hernandez

“Profe Ochoa's ability to inspire deep and thoughtful discussions among students from a variety of educational, economic, and ethnic backgrounds created safe spaces for a transfer of ideas like no other. Our lives, our history, our journeys are important and our voices are our truth. Thank you Ochoa.” – Renee Tabizon

“Profe has been a consistent support in my studies over the last 4 years. They have helped me get (and remain) excited about my research and academic future. Profe's empathy and encouragement have empowered me to reach higher and grow bolder in my studies and as a person. I hope to one day inspire and nurture others the way Profe Ochoa has.” – Katherine Lainez

Dr. Jason O'Neill

Department of Mathematics

“There will never be enough words to express my gratitude towards my faculty mentor, Jason O'Neill. His encouragement and insight have allowed me to grow intellectually and professionally as a mathematics researcher, and I want to thank him for always having time to share his time and wisdom.” – Jonathan Davidson

Dr. Emilie Royer

Department of Physics and Astronomy

“She has provided fantastic mentorship by showing me what it is like to participate in research, reaffirming my desire to pursue this career path. She has helped me seek many different opportunities, such as presenting at the Student Research Symposium and presenting a poster at an international conference.” – Sergio Avina

“Dr. Royer has been an extraordinary mentor, providing ample guidance and support which inspires her students to put in the work necessary to excel in their projects.” – Angel Morales Aguilar

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Dr. Yvette Szabo

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“I want to thank my mentor for her support and guidance. I am thankful to have someone like Dr. Szabo cheering for me.” – Ruth Kirby

“Dr. Szabo is the most responsible and supportive mentor a student can hope for. Throughout my applications and thesis project, she has kept me motivated and provided a lot of support and feedback. I am lucky to have her as my mentor.” – Mei Ku

Dr. Susan Terebey

Department of Physics and Astronomy

“I can say without a doubt that I wouldn't be where I am today without Dr. Terebey believing in me and always pushing me forward. Anything I accomplish going forward will be largely in part thanks to her, and I will always be grateful for that.” – Kenneth Stebbing

Joey Torres

Department of Political Science

“Finding someone like me as an instructor helped me feel my own dreams were accomplishable, despite any obstacles that were before me.” – Demetrio Rebollo

Dr. Ericka Verba

Latin American Studies

“Ericka has guided me, cried with me, and supported me. I am forever grateful.” – Cristina Esquivel

Dr. Angela Vergara

Department of History

“Thank you, Dr. Vergara, for your guidance during our almost weekly meetings, your connections in the field, and your feedback on anything I sent you.” – Anthony Sales-Hernandez

Dr. Eric Wood

Department of Biological Sciences

“I'd like to thank Dr. Wood for being flexible with me. Our relationship isn't harmonious nor is it hostile, it's a dance. I'd also like thank my two committee members Patrick Krug and Christine Scoffoni who have also provided invaluable personal and professional support to me as an aspiring scientist both on my thesis project and on topics outside of my thesis project.” – Harnawaz Boparai

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Emilie Royer
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