

GSC NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025 | Volume 7 | Issue 2



2 Doctoral Programs | 17 Master Programs | 5 Teaching Credentials | 4 Teaching Certificates



DID YOU KNOW?

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CSUB BY THE NUMBERS

68

68% of our Graduate Students are First Generation

62

62% of our Graduate Students are Hispanic/Latino

70

70% of our Graduate Students are Female

92

92% of our Graduate Students are considered In-State

28

28% of our Graduate Students are ages 25-29

91

91% of our Graduate Students are from other CA Institutions

77

77% of our Graduate Students attend Full-Time

67

67% of our graduate students are from Traditionally Underrepresented Groups

2 Doctoral Programs | 16 Master's Programs | 5 Teaching Credentials | 3 Teaching Certificates

In this issue...



The Graduate Student Center Team:

Interim Dean of Academic Affairs:

Dr. Elizabeth Adams

GSC Coordinator:

Martha Manriquez

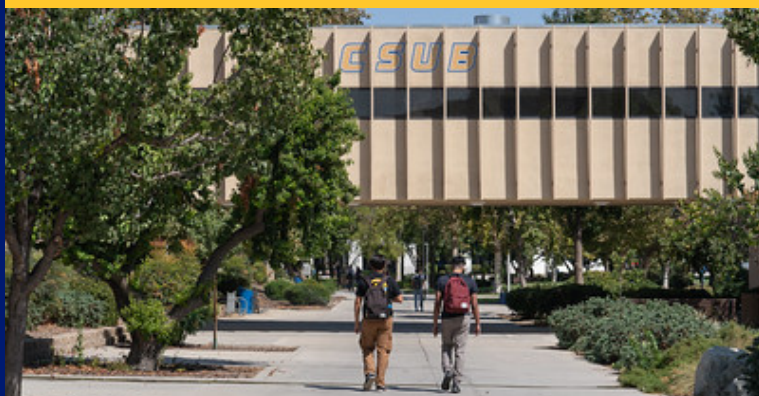
GSC Administrative Analyst:

Adrienne Silva

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ASI Director- TBD



- p.1 - Introduction**
- p.2 - Our Graduate Programs**
- p.3 - Opportunities from Beyond Our Campus**
- p.4 - CSUB Excellence**
- p.5 - Graduate Student Highlight**
- p.6 - Alumni Spotlight**
- p.7 - Alumni Spotlight Cont.**
- p.8 - Featured Graduate Program**
- p.9 - Mentoring & Fellowship**
- p.10 - 2024 Grad Slam Winner**
- p.11 - Donate to the GSC**
- p.12 - ASI Position Advertisement**



Contact Information

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www.csub.edu/graduatestudentcenter



Welcome to the Graduate Student Center!

The GSC supports and provides numerous services and resources to prospective, current, and past graduate students at CSUB. These resources include (but are certainly not limited to) general advising, biannual graduate orientation, annual graduate summit, annual grad slam (3MT) competition, free workshops, laptop checkout, semester-by-semester GSC newsletter, graduate panel discussions, application support, Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program, California Pre-Doctoral Program, other graduate events, and when our location has concluded repairs, we will resume offering our graduate lounge, computer lab, and poster printing services. With over 20 graduate programs (including Doctoral, Master's, second Bachelor's, post Baccalaureate, and Credential programs), 19+ credentials, 6+ professional certificates, 3+ academic certificates, 1,400+ current graduate students, and 12,000+ graduate alum, our graduate programs are continually growing.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BAKERSFIELD
Graduate Student Center



OUR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Did you know CSUB has over 20 Graduate Programs?

2

20+ Graduate Programs

1,400+ Current Graduate Students

12,000+ Graduate Alumni

Doctoral Degrees

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Educational Leadership
Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Teaching Credentials

Educational Administration
Educational Counseling
Special Education
Teacher Education Multiple Subjects
Teacher Education Single Subject

Teaching Certificates

Bilingual Added Authorization (Spanish)
Introductory Competition Science Supplementary
Authorization
Reading and Literacy Added Authorization

Master's Degree

Master of Arts in Education - Curriculum & Instruction
Master of Arts in Educational Administration
Master of Arts in English
Master of Arts in History
Master of Arts in Spanish
Master of Arts in Special Education
Master of Business Administration
Master of Public Administration
Master of Science in Biology
Master of Science in Counseling Psychology
Master of Science in Computer Science
Master of Science in Educational Counseling
Master of Science in Geology
Master of Science in Health Care Administration
Master of Science in Kinesiology
Master of Social Work



Learn more at: <https://www.csub.edu/graduatestudentcenter/graduate-programs>

OPPORTUNITIES FROM BEYOND OUR CAMPUS

Faculty Diversification Fellowship Program

3

CSUB is proud to remind all of its partnership with the Kern Community College District (KCCD) and Bakersfield College (BC) to bring you an opportunity to become a Fellow!

The **Faculty Diversification Fellowship Program** provides CSUB graduate students interested in teaching at a 2-year community college with an opportunity to participate in a mentorship collaboration with a BC faculty member. In addition, these CSUB graduate students will gain exposure to the community college culture, including best practices for teaching and supporting the diverse group of students enrolled at a rural California community college.

The Faculty Diversification Fellowship Program is open to all CSUB graduate students either in the last semester of their graduate programs or have recently graduated. Additionally, CSUB graduate students that:

- Come from underrepresented minority groups,
- Possess a passion for serving a diverse student body and exploring culturally relevant and inclusive teaching practices,
- Or are interested in pursuing a tenure-track position at a 4-year college or university are highly encouraged to apply!

The program recently welcomed the first Spring cohort this semester (pictured left), and applications will reopen for a Fall 2025 cohort. Make sure to get your application in!

When applying, make sure that your application packet includes the following:

- 5 Professional References
- Cover Letter
- Current Resume
- Sample Syllabus
- Statement on your Philosophy of Teaching
- Transcripts (Official or Unofficial)

Though not required, it is highly recommended that you also submit the following:

- Letter of Recommendation
- Statement on your Diversity Philosophy

Including these in your application makes it stand out from the rest!

For further information, please refer to [the program brochure](#) or [the program website](#). If any questions remain, please do not hesitate to reach out to Lead Faculty Coordinator of the program, [Dr. Maria Wright](#).



CSUB Graduate Excellence Program:

Over the past 6 years, graduate programs at CSUB have benefited from the nearly \$3 million CSUB was awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to expand graduate research infrastructure, support graduate faculty and student professional development, and offer special programs that support graduate student research. As this program ends, we celebrate the successes of this program.

A summary of Title Vb activities from 2019-2025:

- Expanded Graduate Student Center services and equipment
- New Graduate Student Center Lounge at CSUB Antelope Valley
- New research labs and equipment for research in climate change, computer science, geology, and kinesiology
- 5 Graduate Studies Summits
- 83 Graduate Fairs attended
- 37 Graduate faculty participants in the mentoring program
- 14 Graduate labs received supplies grants
- 37 Graduate student – faculty collaborative research teams supported
- 18 Graduate student travel grants awarded
- 15 Graduate student mentors supported during the summer research program
- 53 Graduate students presented at the CSUB Grad Slam three-minute thesis competition
- 62 Workshops and seminars offered with more than 1500 participants

Our team of grant personnel, leadership, mentors, and partners have found deep satisfaction in working with our graduate students, helping and supporting them in the successful achievement of their academic and professional goals. Watching them grow, overcome challenges, and develop into confident, capable professionals has been an inspiring experience for all of us.

As we look to the future, even though the current grant is coming to an end, our commitment to supporting our students remains unwavering. We are dedicated to continuing our mentorship, fostering opportunities for growth, and helping students navigate the next stages of their academic journeys. The relationships we have built and the mission we share extend well beyond any single funding cycle, and we are excited to find new ways to sustain and expand the support and programming our students have come to rely on.

From the entire Title Vb team, thank you for joining us in this journey. We look forward to exciting new opportunities together.

ANNA L. JACOBSEN, PhD

**Director, CSUB Title Vb STEM Graduate Excellence
Professor of Biology**



GRADUATE STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Martha Manriquez - M.A. in Spanish

5

A special congratulations to our very own Martha Manriquez for graduating with her master's degree in Spanish this last semester! We all know her, and we all love her; Martha is as hardworking as she is personable, and she has quite a fascinating story about how she got to be where she is today.

Martha was born and raised in Baja California, Mexico, and Southern California in San Ysidro. She attended high school in San Diego. Her parents were very adamant that Martha and her siblings get an education and attend college. Holding true to her parent's wishes, Martha is a first-generation college student who graduated from the University of San Diego with her Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA). Martha also has always been very interested in language, as she took many French classes throughout her undergrad and was only a few units shy of graduating with a French degree along with her BBA. Here at California State University, Bakersfield, Martha diligently completed a Human Resources Management Certificate, and recently graduated with her master's degree in Spanish this last Fall of 2024—Go, Martha!

After graduating with her BBA from USD, Martha built up quite an impressive job portfolio. From working in retail to mortgage banking to flower wholesale to call centers to online sales to substitute teaching and now to higher education, the question is not “What can Martha do?”; it’s “What can’t Martha do?”. Martha is a phenomenal worker who brings an infectious light wherever she goes.

In her spare time, Martha enjoys traveling with her family, reading, eating at delicious restaurants, and being “gramma” to her daughter’s two precocious and feisty mixed Chihuahuas.



Martha first started working at CSUB in 2011 in the Provost's Office as an administrative support coordinator. She then moved to the Graduate Student Center as coordinator in 2013 and has been there ever since. In 2021, Martha decided to pursue a master's degree in Spanish for professional career development, but also to enhance her competence in the language to better connect with our community here in Bakersfield. As Martha has always been passionate about language, this program was a perfect fit for her!

Martha is the heart of the Graduate Student Center and it would not be what it is today without her. Martha's biggest inspiration has always been seeing students she was able to help throughout their graduate careers reach their goals. Martha emphasizes taking extra time to provide students with the most detailed information possible because you never know what small component can change the trajectory of a student's academic career. Martha has definitely impacted the lives of many students for the better.

Martha is a huge inspiration to students, staff, and faculty alike, as she is an absolute delight to work with and truly embodies the motto, “If you want to, you can do it.”

Congratulations, Martha!

For this year's Alumni Spring section we would like to spotlight Luis Hernandez for all his academic achievements. Born in Mexico and raised by hard working immigrant parents, Luis carries with him the values of determination, humility, and service. His family's sacrifices and unwavering support have been a driving force behind his accomplishments and commitment to give back through education.

A proud CSUB alumnus, Luis earned his Bachelor of Science in Economics in Spring 2018, his Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Spring 2020, and his Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) in Spring 2023. In 2023, he took the next step in his educational journey by being admitted into the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) program at CSUB, driven by a desire to uplift others and serve his community through higher education.

Today, Luis serves as the Graduate Programs Advisor for the College of Business and Public Administration at CSUB, where he helps prospective graduate students explore opportunities, navigate their next steps, and find encouragement along the way.



His journey hasn't been without challenges—balancing work, school, and personal life—but Luis shares a message rooted in experience: “Be realistic about what you can take on, and don't be afraid to pivot if something no longer fits your goals.” He encourages students to lean on one another, build friendships within their major, and remember that it's okay to take a different path if it leads to growth. “It's better to explore new options than to feel like you have to give up on education altogether.”

Beyond academics and campus involvement, Luis enjoys relaxing at home with family watching movies—a pastime he's loved since childhood—and unwinding with video games (he'll let readers decide what qualifies as a “healthy amount”).

One of his favorite memories at CSUB is the late-night study sessions at the library with close friends. While they shared laughs and memories, they also held each other accountable—an experience that not only helped him succeed but also led to friendships that have lasted nearly a decade.

Looking back, he encourages new students to get involved early. “Joining clubs and connecting with faculty opened up opportunities I might've missed. Those relationships really shaped my path.” His story is a reminder that education is more than just degrees—it's about growth, community, and finding your own way forward.

What is Educational Counseling?

The Master of Science in Educational Counseling is a graduate degree created to prepare students for careers in educational counseling, with specializations in School Counseling or Student Affairs for Higher Education. This program equips future counselors with the knowledge and skills necessary to work in diverse educational settings. When applying for Educational Counseling, candidates must choose a concentration: School Counseling or Student Affairs.

School Counseling Track:

- For work within a K-12 setting.
- 2.5 years while attending full-time.
- 800 hours of field work experience.
- Practicum/fieldwork placements.
- Graduate with Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential in School Counseling.

Student Affairs Track:

- For work within a college setting - emphasis on student service positions.
- 2 years while attending full-time.
- 600 hours of field work experience.
- Practicum/fieldwork placements.

What is the program coursework like?

All students will complete core counseling courses, specialized coursework (depending on concentration), supervised fieldwork experiences, and a final culminating activity. The program is typically completed in two years with full-time enrollment or three years with part-time enrollment. All courses are scheduled on weekdays after 5:00 PM at the Bakersfield campus. However, practicum and fieldwork may require significant commitments during the day throughout the academic school year.

For more information about the programs, please visit the websites below or contact any of the program personnel, staff, or faculty.

Educational Counseling Overview
School Counseling Track
Student Affairs Track

**Educational Counseling
Graduate Program Director**
Dr. Yvonne Ortiz-Bush
yortiz_bush@csub.edu
EDUC 215

MENTORING

Did you know? CSUB has a mentor program available for graduate students. The Runner Alumni Mentor Program (RAMP) pairs graduate students with a CSUB alumni professional for an academic year of career-preparation coaching. Join here: [Runner Alumni Mentor Program](#)



20k GRADUATE EQUITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AND MORE

Did you know you can apply for the Graduate Equity Fellowship (GEF) Program? This program awards graduate students \$500-\$2,000 per academic year. You can learn more about this fellowship program (as well as many other graduate student funding opportunities and resources) by visiting the Graduate Student Center's [Funding Opportunities & Resources website](#).

Congratulations to Grad Slam 2024 Winner: Monica Uriaz

Monica Uriaz presented a 3-minute research presentation titled: “Factors Influencing Seedling Recruitment of Valley Oaks (*Quercus lobata*) in the Southern San Joaquin Valley”.

Faculty advisor: Dr. R Brandon Patt

Congratulations Monica!



Special shoutout to first runner-up Isaac Owens for representing CSUB at the Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS) conference in Colorado!

Please consider joining us in our mission to serve and support prospective, current, and past CSUB graduate students by donating to Graduate Studies. Please know your generous donations (no matter how large or small) have a direct positive impact on our graduate students.

You can donate online at: <https://give.csub.edu/gsc.shtml>



DONATE TO THE GSC



ASI: DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDENTS POSITION OPENING

If you are interested in joining ASI as the Director of Graduate Students, please contact Mike Kwon at mkwon@csub.edu

Requirements:

1. Must be a currently enrolled graduate student at CSUB.
2. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 within the graduate program.
3. Be enrolled in 6, or more, units.

Congratulations to our Fall 2024 Graduates!



THE GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER

CONTACT INFORMATION

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