

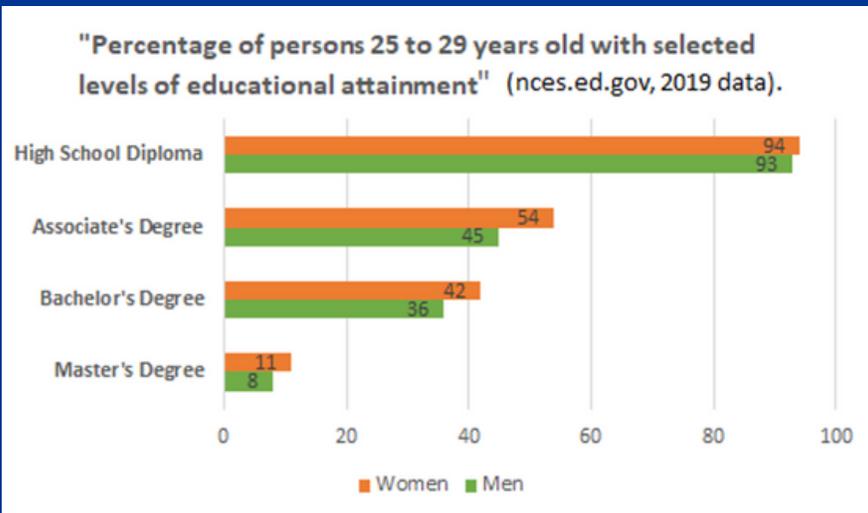


California State University, Bakersfield GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER

Spring 2021 Semester Newsletter

Pursuing Graduate Studies

Increases job prospects, earning potential, personal growth, social network, and specialized skills:
“... The more you know the more you can do. The more you learn the better prepared you are at life and in turn your career...” (Highergrad, 2017).



source: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d19/tables/dt19_104.20.asp
[see also: "Should you go to graduate school?" by Chamorro-Premuzic, 2020]

GSC DIRECTOR

Dr. Luis Vega

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Martha Manriquez

GRADUATE ADVISOR

Adrienne Silva

STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Denisse Silva

Jennifer Paulsen

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VIRTUAL HOURS

Monday 8-5:00 PM
Tuesday 8-5:00 PM
Wednesday 8-5:00 PM
Thursday 8-5:00 PM
Friday 8-5:00 PM

LOCATION – VIRTUAL DUE TO COVID

www.csub.edu/graduatestudentcenter

CONTACT US

Main: (661) 654-2786 /Fax: (661) 654-2791
Email: gsc@csub.edu

A very warm welcome and good wishes of wellness. Challenging times bring new opportunities, and we at the Graduate Student Center stand ready to facilitate and foster graduate student success, whether via virtual or in-person, as conditions allow. Please look forward to exciting workshops, funding grant options, research engagement, and emerging opportunities through our Title Vb grant, which will enhance our programs and your experiences in graduate studies.

–The Graduate Student Center

Tough times never last. But tough people do.

--R. H. Schuller

GSC Spring 2021 Workshops

All workshops will be through Zoom, Fridays, 3-4 p.m.

RSVP at gsc@csub.edu or by visiting our [Events Page](#)

1/22/2021 - Spring 2021 New Graduate Student Orientation - GSC Staff

2/12/2021 - Money Matters for Graduate Programs - Kimber Wellman

2/26/2021 - Financial Aid 101 for Graduate Students - Kimber Wellman

3/05/2021 - Cal State Apply Workshop - Adrienne Silva

3/19/2021- GRE Workshop - Adrienne Silva

4/09/2021 - Overcoming Imposter Syndrome - Anna Duran

4/23/2021 - The Graduate Hidden Curriculum - Luis Vega

Other workshops will be announced via email and posted on our website, [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) pages

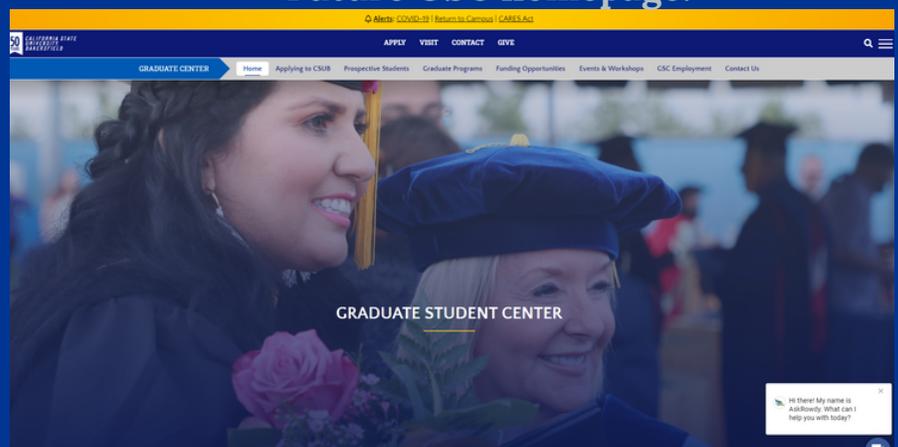
The GSC website is getting a new look!

In the coming weeks, our website will be updated to match CSUB's homepage. To find out more about these changes, visit: <https://its.csub.edu/csub-website-redesign-what-has-changed>

Current GSC homepage:



Future GSC homepage:



In the News

“CSUB faculty members part of international team researching drought-related tree death: **Dr. Anna Jacobsen** and **Dr. Brandon Pratt** join international team of 37 co-authors” news.csub.edu (by K. Ardis, 2020, November 9.).

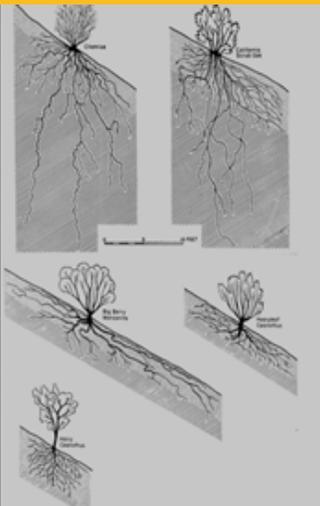


Biology professors, Drs. Jacobsen and Pratt, blend basic and applied science to tackle the issue of climate change effects on our forests, facing irreparable damage due to ongoing drought and fire hazards. Their work is published in the prestigious *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, where they note devastating drought and fires' impact on local oak woodland in the foothills of the Tehachapi Mountains. (Link to the published study: <https://www.pnas.org/content/117/47/29720>)

In addition to working with premier researchers from around the world, Drs. Jacobsen and Pratt also involve CSUB graduate students. Biology graduate student, **Jacob Priester**, presented an offshoot of this research at the *2nd 3-Minute Thesis Grad Slam competition*, where he won second place, with his project, "**How Low Do They Go? Investigating Plant Rooting Depth as A Factor of Drought Mortality.**" In Dr. Pratt's words: "Jacob's project is a very ambitious study of the mechanisms that allow plants to survive drought studying coordination among root, stem, and leaf function. Rarely have studies taken such a holistic approach when studying large woody shrubs, and this approach promises to yield novel insights." Jacob's presentation can be seen at: [Youtube Link](#) [minute 30:23].



Photo: Pratt



Hellmers et al. 1995. *Ecology* 36(4):667-678



Jacob Priester

"Winners announced for second annual Grad Slam Competition: Graduate Student Center hosted presentation, first-place goes to **Hannah McKinzie**" news.csusb.edu (by S. Parker, 2020, December 21,)



Chinese Posters, "The Chinese People's Liberation Army is the Great School of Mao Zedong Thought," 1969



The Sociological Cinema, "Two Brown Berets from Oakland and the Bay Area pose beneath photos of Goyaałé (a.k.a., Geronimo), Chairman Mao Zedong, and Che Guevara, 1969." Photographer Unknown, 1969



Professor of History, **Dr. Christopher Tang**, was the faculty sponsor for Hannah McKinzie's Grad Slam research project, "**Maoism and the Chicano Movement.**" In Dr. Tang's words: "As McKinzie's research makes clear, Chicano/a activists in the 1960s-70s found solace and inspiration in the anti-imperialist ideas of Chinese Communist leader, Mao Zedong. In pursuing this research and elevating the historical agency of the Chicano/a activists at the heart of this story, McKinzie at once inserts these local actors into the broader transnational narrative of global 1960s progressivism, while also restoring this chapter of Cold War activism to the history of the Chicano/a movement in this country. Drawn from her dual engagement with Chicano/a history and the history of the global Cold War, this project is a testament to McKinzie's penchant for highly creative and incisive historical research."

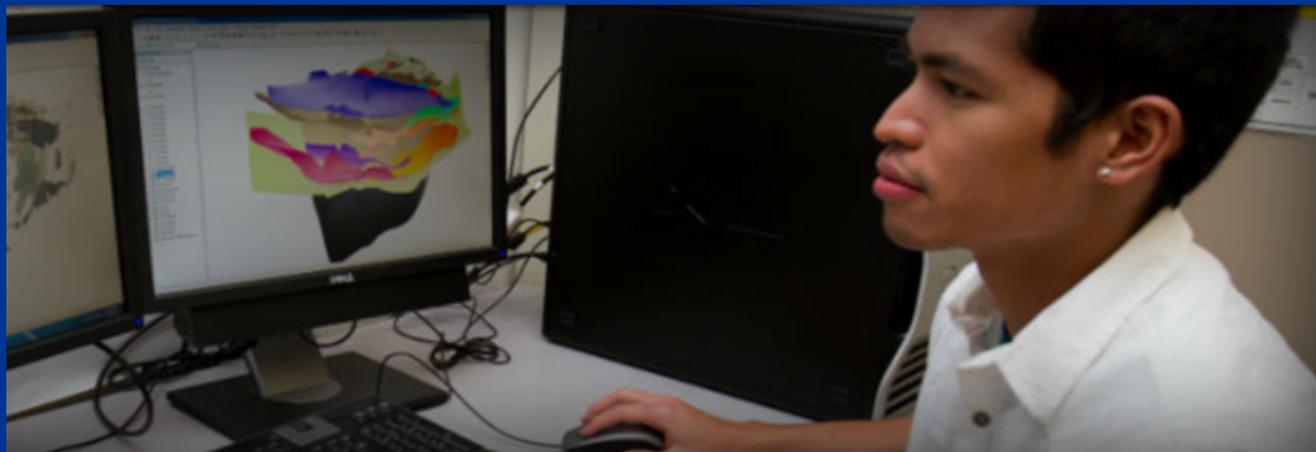
Winning first place means that Hannah will represent CSUB at the fifth annual regional Grad Slam Conference, hosted by the Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS) in March 24, 2021, which will be virtual this year due to COVID-19. She will join nearly two dozen collegiate competitors from Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, North Dakota, Utah and New Mexico as well as other CSU campuses. Hannah's presentation at CSUB Grad Slam competition can be seen at: [YouTube](#) [minute 21:32].

According to Graduate Student Center Director, Dr. Luis Vega: "Through the CSUB Grad Slam competition, our graduate students can proudly present their hard work in conducting scientific research, an endeavor for which they have passion, patience, and perseverance, required to advance science."

In the Grad Slam, also known as the 3MT™ (three-minute thesis) Competition, graduate students showcase their research through short TEDx Talk-style presentations. In a span of three minutes, participants display their research using one PowerPoint slide and present their research using language that not only their peers, but also non-specialists understand.

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Point of Pride, our Newest Graduate Degree Program on Campus



Program Description

The Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (CEE/CS) offers a graduate program leading to a Master of Science in Computer Science degree. The program is intended to prepare students for high-tech careers in the computing industry, government agencies, academic research, or graduate studies at the doctoral level. Thesis and project options are both available in the program and the electives are designed in response to regional, state, and national needs in computing. A broad range of faculty research interests, access to modern facilities, and a strong student-faculty interaction permit the student to choose from a broad spectrum of research or project topics.

Program Objectives

The program educational objectives are to prepare graduates who:

- (1) Demonstrate expertise in advanced computing topics and an ability to maintain a high standard of professional competence.
- (2) Analyze and solve significant real world problems with contemporary computing knowledge.
- (3) Apply computing knowledge ethically, with an understanding of realistic constraints and for the overall benefit of a diverse society.
- (4) Enhance the economic well-being of their region through a combination of computing expertise, communication skills, social responsibility, leadership, and entrepreneurship.

All graduates are also expected to adhere to the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Code of Ethics, <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics>.

For updates and application information, please visit:
<https://extended.csub.edu/programs>

KUDOS

On December 4, 2020, eleven graduate students presented their research to a panel of distinguished, Hall of Fame Alumni, who served as judges, as well as attendees from the university and the community. The high quality of their research was separated by the thinnest of margins. We, at the Graduate Student Center, offer our strongest congratulations to the 2020 Grad Slam competition participants, attendees, and judges. Please watch this inspiring 40-minute competition found on CSUB's Youtube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4QLCNpJ_rQ&feature=youtu.be

2020 VIRTUAL GRAD SLAM COMPETITION

What is the Grad Slam?

The Grad Slam, or 3MT, showcases graduate student research through short TED Talk-style presentations. Master's and doctoral students display one PowerPoint slide and have three minutes to present their research using language their peers and non-specialists will understand. Students who participate learn how to:

- A) Articulate their research concisely and effectively;
- B) Hone their communication and presentation skills;
- C) Explain their research and its potential impact to an audience outside their disciplinary field.

How are the presentations scored?

A team of guest judges will score each presentation along two different categories: comprehension-content and engagement-communication.

How do the presenters prepare?

To help students prepare for the CSUB Grad Slam, a series of workshops are offered for interested students. These workshops provide a basic overview of the Grad Slam competition rules and judging criteria, as well as guidance.



CSU Bakersfield



CSUB GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER

Friday, December 4, 2020 at 3pm

Presentations:

Jadd Bahaaldin- Biology

"Fishing for Proteins"

Misbah Chaudhry- Biology

"Exploring the Biocontrol Potential of Streptomyces Species Against Pythium Violae- A Dominant Carrot Pathogen"

Amy Feters- Biology

"Riverine Litter: Bridges Impact the Distribution of Anthropogenic Litter in a Freshwater River"

Craig Hulse- Geology

"Geochemical Analysis of a New Lunar Meteorite From North Western Africa"

Carmen Lorenzo Baker- Counseling Psychology

"Examining Reflections of Parent-Child Communication Surrounding Mental Health: A Qualitative Dyadic Exploration"

Chanel Manzano- Biology

"Investigating the Role of Unique Plant Hormones in Rhodococcus Fascians Pathogenicity"

Hannah Mckinzie- History

"Maoism and the Chicano Movement"

Dianna Mojica- Biology

"Unraveling the 1st Step in the Streptomyces Scabies Pathology: How Does the Pathogen Sense it is in the Vicinity of a Living Root?"

Favian Ramirez- Biology

"Recently Revealed Motility of Rhodococcus Fascians"

Jacob Spriester- Biology

"How low do they go? Investigating plant rooting depth as a factor of drought mortality."

Onn Wright- Nursing

"Benefits of Napping Among Night Shift Workers"

How is the winner of the competition honored?

The winner of the CSUB Grad Slam will participate in the virtual 5th annual regional Grad Slam/3MT hosted by the Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS). The winner will join nearly two dozen collegiate competitors from Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, North Dakota, Utah and New Mexico as well as other CSU and UC campuses. Prizes are awarded for 1st place (\$500), 2nd place (\$250), and People's Choice (\$250).

Special Thanks to:

Workshop Presenters

Veronica Catalan- CSUB Marketing & Communications Specialist

Heidi Forsythe- M.A., Lecturer, CSUB Communications Department

Esra Hashem-Interim Director of CSUB Marketing & Communications

Shelby Parker- CSUB Marketing & Communications Coordinator

Application Review Committee

Dr. Stephen Allen- History

Dr. Bre Evans-Santiago- Teacher Education

Dr. Yeunjoo Lee- Advanced Educational Studies

Dr. Maryann Parada- Spanish

Judges

Jeremy Adams- BHS Teacher, Lecturer, CSUB Political Science Department

Catherine E. Bennett- J.D. at Klein, DeNatale, Goldner, Attorney's at Law Political Science Department

Sheryl Chalupa- Retired President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Southern CA

Debbie Wood- Retired Nurse

Faculty Profile, Dr. Kiran Garcha, History Department



The CSUB History Department welcomes its newest member this 2020/21 academic year, **Kiran Garcha, Ph.D.**, a specialist in African American History. Originally from California, as an adolescent Dr. Garcha moved with her family to Washington state, where she eventually attended the University of Washington in Seattle, earning a BA in American Ethnic Studies. She then moved back to California to pursue an MA degree in Afro-American Studies at UCLA, before finally landing at UC Santa Cruz for, first, a second MA, this one in History, and then a PhD with dissertation work, “Bringing the Vanguard Home: The Role of Children, Home, and Family in the Black Panther Party.” While working on her doctorate, Dr. Garcha was also able to publish some of her scholarship, including an article in the *Journal of African American Studies* in 2019 (September, pp. 1-15): “Children and Childhood in Black Panther Thought and Discourse, 1966-1974.”

Prior to her arrival at CSUB, Dr. Garcha taught African American Life and History at CSU Monterey Bay, and served as a Teaching Assistant at UCSC for sixteen different courses, giving her several years of pedagogical experience in a broad range of courses, in addition to African American history, including the U.S. history survey, immigration history, U.S. labor history, the Civil Rights Movement in the U.S., and historical skills and methods, among others.

Additionally, Dr. Garcha participated in a summer residency program in the Chapel Hill area (the Research Triangle) of North Carolina, last summer: “Objects and Places in an Inquiry-Based Classroom: Teaching, Learning, and Research in the Humanities.” She also has experience in digital humanities, having helped build a digital public humanities map as a California Humanities Mellon Public Fellow in 2018, as well as in museum/library exhibition work, as she co-curated “Pictures in Progress: The Black Panther, 1966-2016,” a McHenry Library Exhibition at UCSC. To round out her research and pedagogical skills, Dr. Garcha also participated in the Advanced Oral History Summer Institute at the Oral History Center at the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley.

Since her arrival, Dr. Garcha has been teaching in her field of specialization: HIST 4230, African American History. She has been a presenter for the Community Conversations forum, on such important topics as “Why does the past matter? How the history of slavery impacts us,” alongside luminary professors such as CSUB Dr. Alicia Rodriguez and Dr. Gregory Mixon, from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte.

Source: CSUB History Newsletter (M. R. Vivian, Editor):
[Microsoft Word – Spring '20.docx \(csub.edu\)](#)

Updates to CSUB Title Vb Grant: STEM Graduate Excellence

STEM Graduate Excellence program activities, supported through a Title Vb grant from the U.S. Department of Education, continue at CSUB and are helping to building vibrant, high-quality graduate programs that serve all our students, particularly from underserved populations. Program directors, Drs. Anna Jacobsen and Debra Jackson, are overseeing activities that will (a) increase graduate research-oriented activities, (b) develop faculty-student mentorship programs to increase graduate research activities, and (c) expand services in our Graduate Student Center, especially with new specialized computer programs to support graduate student computing needs.

We congratulate our current 'Graduate student-faculty collaborative research program' (GCRP) student participants and look forward to hearing about their graduate research at the Spring Student Research Competition. A call for proposals for GCRP research for the 2021-2022 will be coming soon. The GCRP is funded by our CSUB Title Vb grant and supports student-faculty teams with a monetary award to conduct and complete a research project within the academic year.

There were two well-attended faculty panels in Fall 2020, on "Demystifying graduate school" and "Skills for graduate school success." Additional presentations will be scheduled during the Spring 2021 semester. Please look for announcements about these events. These are student-centered events that are designed to support the success of our graduate students.

Please keep an eye on this grant's activities and apply for opportunities that emerge. Two such opportunities are:



ATTENTION CSUB GRADUATE STUDENTS:

DELL LAPTOPS ARE AVAILABLE!

Laptops checkouts are first come, first serve and we have a limited supply. Please email the Graduate Student Center to check availability and setup a time to pick up a laptop.

You must be a graduate student and enrolled in classes for the Spring 2021 in order to be eligible.

Email: gsc@csub.edu



**CSUB STUDENT FACULTY-
MENTOR COLLABORATIVE
INITIATIVES**

The Graduate Student-Faculty Collaborative Research program is funded by CSUB Title VB and will support student-faculty teams with a monetary award to conduct and complete a research project within the 2020-2021 academic year.

Open to biology, geology, nursing, & kinesiology graduate students submitting a research proposal.

For more information, go to our website www.csub.edu/graduatestudentcenter or contact the GSC at gsc@csub.edu.

Announcements



Adrienne Silva, MBA, joins us as our new Graduate Student Advisor. She comes to the Graduate Student Center after having a distinguished career in business, serving as the Graduate Programs' Coordinator for the graduate students in the school of Business and Public Administration, and honorably serving our country in the United States Army National Guard. Adrienne will assist in graduate student recruitment, admission, retention, and graduation initiatives, as well as professional development workshops. She brings to us a wealth of experience and we welcome her into the GSC family. Please do not hesitate to contact her for all of your graduate studies academic needs (asilva32@csub.edu).

Begin your research experience today!

Student research is a cornerstone of graduate studies and starting early is key to graduate school admission, advance degree completion, and fulfilling careers in academia and industry professions. An undergraduate student working with professors on research is not uncommon, nor is unusual for undergraduate students to publish as first authors. CSUB has a legacy of being student centered, and many professors stand ready to help undergraduate students start the research-endeavor. Steps to start this journey include finding an interesting topic that appeals to you, often from a class or professor you might be taking. Do not be shy, approach the professor with expertise on that area, take courses from them, volunteer to work in their lab, ask if you can be a lab assistant, or if you can take an independent study. Improve your grades, show motivation and willingness to go the extra steps, do meticulous work. A sampling of students and professors' research was profiled in our university news: <https://news.csub.edu/research-students-and-firsttime-authors-at-csub-celebrate-jobs-welldone>

Examples of a few publications of undergraduates, many of whom are now in doctoral programs, include the following:

Contreras, J. A., & Gillard, F. T. F. (2020). "Asparagine-based production of hydrogen peroxide triggers cell death in the diatom *Phaeodactylum tricornutum*." *Botany Letters*. [<https://doi.org/10.1080/23818107.2020.1754289> Link]

Gomez, F., & Vega, L. A. (2020). "Discriminated Individuals: Others' Dispositional and Situational Attributions by Time and Place." *Universal Journal of Psychology*, 8 (2), 19-26. [[Researchgate link to full article](#)] DOI: 10.13189/ujp.2020.080201

Hussain, S., Villarreal, S., Ramirez, N. Hussain, A., & Sumaya, I.C. (2020). "Haloperidol-Induced Hypokinesia in Rats is Differentially Affected by the Light/Dark Phase, Age, and Melatonin." *Behavioral Brain Research*, Feb 3;379;112313 [<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31715211/Link>]

Rodriguez-Zaccaro FD, Valdovinos-Ayala J, Percolla MI, Venturas MD, Pratt RB, Jacobsen AL. (2019). "Wood structure and function change with maturity: Age of the vascular cambium is associated with xylem changes in current-year growth." *Plant, Cell & Environment* [<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/pce.13528> Link] 42: 1816-1831.

Huot, K., White, M. and Acharya, T. (2019). "Natural Gas Hydrates: A Review of Formation, and Prevention/Mitigation in Subsea Pipelines." *Advanced Science, Engineering and Medicine*, 11(6), pp.453-464. [[Researchgate link to full article](#)]

Please check the Graduate Student Center website later in the spring semester, where a full feature article highlighting even more professors and students will be published, as well as steps to follow to get involved in research with a faculty member and careers where research is important.

Congratulations to the Fall 2020 Graduates for Earning their Master's Degrees!

<https://www.csub.edu/commencement/F2020grads/>

AH - English

Jonathan Michael DeWitt
Lisa Ann Karpe

AH - History

Jovannie Michelle Garcia
Jennifer Diane Paulsen

AH - Spanish

Gabriela Bravo
Sonia Garcia Parra
Belinda Garza Hess
Consuelo Lopez-Calderon
Daniella Medina-Gomez
Adrian Romero
Juan Carlos Vizcarra Guerrero

BPA - Administration

Madison Renee Aurin
LaVonne Alexis Banks
Esther Chiquini
Paula Danelle Grieco
Melissa Ann Jauregui
Cristine A Nuguid-Yem
Amber Desiree Rappozo
Paola Andrea Sanchez

BPA - Business Administration

Afaf Abdulla Aldulay
Miriam Alqaisi
Nikki Aringer
Keri Marie Berry
Detrick C Bombarger
Stephanie Davis
Richard Vraig Garrett
Elver Ivan Guardado
Kenza Adel Hall
Kazunori Andrew Kishimoto
Linda Yvette Lara
Daniel William Lord
Chelsea Brooke-Iger Manning
Jose Leon Muralles
Adaobi Geraldine Okudo
Carlos Gregorio Pelayo
Bianca Teresa Ramirez
Yuri Madrigal Rodriguez
Christopher Sergio Ryan
Adrianna Alvarado Rye
Shelton Leon Stevens
Luis Manuel Toro
Alexis Woodard

BPA - Health Care Administration

Rajdeep K Kang
Urie Norris
Mason Rhett Rasmussen
BPA - Public Administration
Paul Archer
Andrea Calderon
Stephanie N Garcia
Ismael Garcia
Paola Hernandez
Alejandra Yessenia Lopez
Beltran

Maria Cristina Lopez
Rushdi Amjad Mishmish
Wendy Montanio
Frances Nunez-Luna
Stephanie Michelle Perez
Luis Eduardo Revolorio
Matthew Scott Stillwell
Javier Valdes
Abel Velasquez
NSME - Biology
Viridiana Castro
Samuel John-Hamilton Louden

Angela Madsen
Elizabeth Marion McNamara
Diana Pantoja Rangel
Catherine Robles
Nahliel Mayan Ruiz

NSME - Geology

Maryann Bobbitt
Summer Chantille Gibbons
Kristin Marie Koehler
Tucker Barnett Plunkett
Erin Marie Walter
Zachary Luke Webb

SSE - Counseling: Student Affairs

Sonya Gaitan
SSE - Education
Maria Camille Bianca Basa Dino
Franca Biasetti Marquette
Timothy Rogers McDowell

SSE - Education: Curriculum & Instruction

Haley Robin Anglin
Miriam Arceo
Kristy Lea Armstrong
Erika Ayon
Ginesha Nichole Bivens
Michelle Ashley Cannon

SSE - Education: Curriculum & Instruction (cont'd)

Gary Castro
Angie Loren Cruz
Antonio Delgado
Milagros Guadalupe Gaspar-Rojo
Cecilia Gomez Arias
Heather Christine Hallsted
Marlyce Catherine Haugen
Nicol Jean Jensen
Michele Lee Johns
Emily Josephine Johnson
Allysa M Jones
Alison Renee Kolberg
Desirea Nichole Kyle
Karen Marie Marx
Gregory William McDowell
Desirea Ann Kyle
Karen Maire Marx
Gregory William McDowell
Desiree Ann Modie
Glenn Miguel Patridge
Estefanhy Perez
Christopher Peterson
Bianca Alicia Quintero
Clarissa Ramirez
Veronica Marcela Ramos Benavidez
Maria De La Luz Gonzalez Rodriguez
Rachel S Rosoff
Breanna Shofner
Arianne Stebbins
Frank Anthony Umana
Jesus Valencia
Mackenzie Loyala Wilke Hooper
Tyson H Witcher
SSE - Special Education
Kayla Lynn Campista
Kayleigh Ann Denton
Adrianna Espitia Ford
Kasey Biagioni Frost
Rowyn Elizabeth Guenther
Bethany Dayanne Jones
Victoria Lopez
Shelby Rae Moore
Paige Elizabeth Ogden Beard
Jamie Parker
Paul Kent Tondreau
Ngoc Vu
Danielle Christine Zbysenski