

My Professional Origin Story

Tuesday, November 15, 2022,
12:00-1:00 p.m.

Have you ever wondered how people land their dream job? Is it sheer luck? What role do education, networking, and planning play? In this panel, current CSUSB graduate students, alumni, and staff discuss their journey from novices to experienced professionals. Learn about their challenges and successes, and the role of mentorship in their professional journey.

Graduate Education Week

Nov. 14-18, 2022



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Dr. Tiffany Bitting is the Director of the Career Center at the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses. Dr. Bitting has worked in higher education since 2001 in a variety of roles, starting off as a Summer Bridge peer advisor and mentor in the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) at California State University, Long Beach. She has worked in higher education career services for nearly nine years. Over the years, Dr. Bitting has worked in both Academic and Student Affairs at public and private institutions, including National University, University of Houston, and in the California State University system. Dr. Bitting received her Ed.D. in Ethical Leadership with a Social Justice focus from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas where her research focused on Retention, Sense of Belonging, and Career Readiness of First-Generation College Student Success.



Christopher Burk is a Senior IT Auditor for the California State University. He started working for the CSU in Summer of 2019. Prior to assuming the position at the CSU, Christopher worked as an InfoSec auditor for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of the Inspector General. Christopher attended California State University, San Bernardino where he attained his MBA and B.S. in Administration both with concentrations in cybersecurity. Additionally, he is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP). Since joining the department, he has worked to help strengthen the CSU through independent and objective oversight of IT systems including IT Disaster Recovery, Cloud Computing, Information Security, Decentralized Computing, and Accessible Technology.



Michael Huang is a graduate student in the M.S. in Counseling Program at CSUSB with a dual concentration in School and Professional Counseling. His career aspiration is to work in the field of higher education as a college counselor. He currently works as a student assistant in the Office of Graduate Studies at CSUSB and will soon be starting a new position as a transfer coach in the Counseling Office at San Bernardino Valley College.



Dr. Lupe Rincon is Associate UX Researcher at JP Morgan Chase & Co. She received her M.A. in English Composition from CSUSB and her Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics from The Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Rincon specializes in an array of qualitative research methods, including ethnography, focus groups, semi-structured interviews, surveys, and data visualization. Her research interests reside in discovering pain points and delights in order to maximize usability and accessibility for diverse audiences.



Michelle Skiljan is Executive Consultant and Financial Advisor for IEWBC and Senior Director of Philanthropy, Foundation and Corporate Relations at CSUSB. She has over 20 years of entrepreneurial experience and lives in the house "entrepreneurship" built. Ms. Skiljan has also served as an adjunct professor of entrepreneurship at CSUSB since 2007. Widely recognized throughout the region, Ms. Skiljan serves on boards, collaboratives and committees including being a founding member and current chair of the Microenterprise Collaborative of Inland Southern California. She has a BS in information management and an MBA in entrepreneurship from California State University San Bernardino.