



Office of Graduate Studies

Fall 2018 Newsletter

Sharing news from our graduate student community!

Office of Graduate Studies

Chaparral Hall Room 123

M–F 8:00 am–5:00 pm

P: (909) 537-5058

F: (909) 537-5078

gradstud@csusb.edu

csusb.edu/graduate-studies

Follow us: [csusbgradstud](#)



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Message from the Dean



Welcome to the 2018-2019 academic year!

Fall quarter has been a busy one for Graduate Studies, but it has also been a rewarding time of building community and making connections. We hosted three university-wide events this quarter: our first Graduate Student and Family Picnic, our annual Graduate Student Orientation, and Graduate Education Week (another first!). Our September picnic gave us the chance to share hot dogs and lemonade with our graduate students and their families and welcome them back to campus after the summer break. Our Graduate Student Orientation introduced 75 new students to

CSUSB and helped prepare them for their master's and credential programs; we distributed a new student handbook developed for graduate students, shared information on campus resources, and offered free professional portraits for use on LinkedIn and other social media platforms. But our biggest event was Graduate Education Week – a weeklong series of workshops, receptions, information sessions and activities for graduate students and the campus community. You'll find more information on all of these events in this newsletter.

I'd also like to point your attention to the university's funding opportunities, described on pages 2-3. We have recently expanded the Graduate Equity Fellowship program to include both university-wide and program-specific fellowships, and have increased the amounts allocated and the number of awards available. The Office of Student Research has moved the Student Research and Travel Grant from a quarterly award to a monthly award, so students can get the funds they need to support their research, conference presentations, and related travel in a more timely manner. And

for those who are considering continuing their studies at Ph.D. programs, the CSU offers both the Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program and the California Pre-Doctoral Program. Students, note that the deadlines for both are in early February and the time to prepare your applications is now. For assistance, please contact Graduate Studies at (909) 537-5058.

This issue also shares the stories of a few of our remarkable students. Our Outstanding Thesis Award winners are featured on page 9, we explore our Applied Archaeology program through the eyes of graduate student Evelyn Hildebrand on page 5, and learn what it takes to be a Teaching Assistant in the English Department from Leilani Martinez (page 11). We also take a look at the lives of three of our alumni who are now pursuing doctorates at Pennsylvania State in *The CSUSB-Penn State Connection*. I hope you enjoy our fall newsletter and I encourage you to share your stories with us!

Happy Holidays,
Dorota Huizinga

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Graduate Education Week Offers Something for Everyone

At the Office of Graduate Studies, we hosted our first annual Graduate Education Week as a way to introduce undergraduates to graduate education, support our graduate student community and recognize their dedicated faculty mentors. Held November 5th–9th, the event included mixers, celebrations, health and wellness events, workshops on graduate research and career advancement, and information sessions.

Day 1 kicked off the week with a delicious **Welcome Brunch!** President Morales gave opening remarks, and guests included administrators, faculty, staff, and of course, graduate students and prospective graduate students. During the event, we recognized our two Outstanding Thesis Award winners, Jason Jung and Dorris Kamiya Stewart, as well as the many faculty who chaired thesis, project, and dissertation committees last year.

72 faculty served as thesis committee chairs during 2017–2018, and many chaired on multiple thesis committees!

That same afternoon, we invited the campus community to our **Graduate Studies Open House**, where guests were treated to hot chocolate and cookies in our courtyard. We gave away two gift baskets, shared information on our outstanding graduate programs, and had a great time encouraging future coyotes to join the pack!



Yoga on the lawn.



Information table.

Since many of our graduate students lead hectic lives balancing work, school, and family, we dubbed **Day 2** of our event **Graduate Student Physical Education Day**. Students gathered in front of the Pfau Library for **Yoga on the Lawn**, and Student Health Center presenter Judi Cruz led an afternoon **Nutrition Workshop** with tips on healthy eating for busy students.

Day 3 focused on research and wellness: **Graduate Student Workshops** covered thesis formatting, graduate research, and institutional review board processes. Then came a series of Wellness Workshops presented by health and wellness guru April Lane, covering meditation, SMART goal setting, resilience, emotional intelligence, and stress management.

On **Day 4**, we hosted a **Graduate Program Information Session** to share information about our graduate programs with the campus community. Programs from every college were



Graduate Dean Huizinga and President Morales enjoy a light moment at the Welcome Brunch.

"You can't walk into a school in San Bernardino or Riverside County without finding dozens of our graduates serving as teachers."

– President Tomás Morales, *Welcome Brunch address*

represented at the event, and nearly a hundred prospective students from the CSUSB community stopped by to meet with faculty and explore master's and credential programs. Meanwhile, graduate students attended two Career Center Workshops: *How to Build Professional Connections* and *Understanding Mentorship* to ready themselves for the workforce.

We wrapped up the week on **Day 5** with a relaxing **Reception Mixer**; the event honored our dedicated Graduate Teaching Associates, and we also heard from two outstanding CSUSB alumni, Charli Eaton and Sara Klepps. Charli and Sara shared news of how they are using their education in the social sciences to improve the communities they live in. We applaud their successes!

We hope you had the opportunity to participate in one (or all!) of our Graduate Education Week events, and look forward to doing it again next year!



One of the many workshops held during Graduate Education Week.



Ian Banuelos wins a gift basket at the Open House.

84 graduate students are serving as Teaching Associates this year!

Funding Opportunities for Graduate Students

CSUSB offers funding to support a range of educational objectives...

For those who need financial assistance...

State University Grant

Available to California residents, this need-based award covers a portion of tuition. Financial aid applicants are automatically considered for this program. Complete the FAFSA to be considered.

- **Award:** up to full tuition fee at CSUSB
- **FAFSA Deadline:** March 2nd, 2019
- **Apply at:** studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa

Contact Graduate Studies for funding information at (909) 537-5058.

Graduate Equity Fellowship

CSUSB awards Graduate Equity Fellowships to economically disadvantaged students who have successfully overcome educational disadvantages and are enrolled in a master's degree program. Two fellowships are available under this program:

- **Graduate Studies Fellows:** \$4,500
- **Graduate Program Fellows:** \$500 – \$2,000
- **Application Deadline:** March 2nd, 2019

Awarded through the Office of Financial Aid. Complete the FAFSA at studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa, as well as the Graduate Equity Fellowship application on the CSUSB Scholarship Site, accessed through your MyCoyote student portal.

Contact Graduate Studies for funding information at (909) 537-5058.

For those considering a doctoral program after completing a master's...

Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program

Through the Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP), the CSU offers loans and faculty sponsorship to full-time students pursuing doctoral degrees who are interested in a teaching career at a CSU campus.

- **Award:** loans of up to \$10,000 per year or \$30,000 total
- **Loan Forgiveness:** 20% of the loan is forgiven for each year of full-time postdoc teaching at a CSU campus
- **Application Deadline:** Feb. 4, 2019

Application materials are available at www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/cdip/.

Contact Graduate Studies for funding information at (909) 537-5058.

California Pre-Doctoral Program

This CSU program provides financial assistance and support to students considering a doctoral degree and preparing for doctoral programs. As Sally Casanova Scholars, participants receive guidance from a faculty mentor and funding for visits to doctoral-granting institutions, graduate school applications, and travel to national symposiums.

- **Award:** up to \$3000 in support
- **Benefits:** succeed through faculty mentoring
- **Application Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2019

Contact Graduate Studies for funding information at (909) 537-5058.

Support for academic research, conference attendance and presentations, thesis or project development, or travel related to research or study abroad...

Student Research & Travel Grant

Open to both undergraduate and graduate students, the CSUSB Student Research and Travel grant (SRT) helps cover research related expenses (e.g., research supplies, conference attendance and presentations, and travel related to a research project).

- **Award:** up to \$1000 per academic year
- **Application Deadline:** awarded monthly

Apply at csusb.edu/student-research.

Contact the Office of Student Research for funding information at (909) 537-3728.

Faculty/Student Grant (OSR)

The Faculty/Student Grants facilitate collaborative research or creative activity (RCA) between students and faculty. Projects under this program are intended to provide students with in-depth “hands-on” experience in the research or creative activity process.

- **Award:** up to \$1,500 per faculty/student team
- **Deadline:** Nov. 2nd, 2018

Apply online at <https://www.csusb.edu/student-research>.

Contact the Office of Student Research for funding information at (909) 537-3728.

SSI Graduate Student Culminating Project Fund

This program is designed for graduate students completing a thesis, project, or dissertation. Funds must be used to support recipients’ thesis, project, or dissertation research or related professional development activities.

- **Award:** up to \$2000 (one-time award)
- **Benefits:** participate in the Thesis Writing Accountability Group and engage in writing support
- **Deadline:** Nov. 2nd, 2018

Apply online at csusb.edu/student-research.

Contact the Office of Student Research for funding information at (909) 537-3728.



The Wellness Connection



Social Wellness

By April Lane, MPH, CHES

Welcome to the fall 2018 quarter at CSUSB! The fall quarter is an exciting time, filled with anticipation and opportunities, and I hope it is going well for you. In the last issue I introduced readers to the multiple dimensions of wellness. In this second part of the series, I'd like to talk about social wellness and why it's important in the big picture of living a life of greater balance, wellness, and overall health.

The term social wellness refers to our relationships and interactions with others. These relationships can be a great source of support during the good, and the not so good, times. In addition, having healthy relationships is vital to overall health. Research from the National Institutes of Health (2018) indicates that the long-term health risks of feeling alone or isolated for a prolonged period of time can be compared to the risks associated with smoking, elevated blood pressure, and obesity. But don't despair, because research also indicates that people with healthy relationships live longer, have lower blood pressure, healthier cardiovascular function, respond better to stressful events, and have a more robust immune system.

While social wellness will look differently for each of us, ultimately it involves building relationships with others (family or friends) that are healthy, nurturing, supportive, and provide a feeling of connectedness. Having this support greatly enhances well-being and acts as a buffer when times get tough. Social support can take different

forms. These include emotional (i.e. feeling cared for), instrumental (i.e. cooking a meal for a sick friend), or informational (i.e. giving a copy of your class notes to your friend when he/she missed class). I'd like you to take a moment to think about your own social wellness. Is this an area of your life that could use some help? If so, here are a few tips that may help:

- Nurture your relationships by being honest and empathetic to the feelings, hopes, and dreams your friends share with you.
- Be realistic when making a commitment. Is it something you want to, or can realistically, do? If not be honest and, if so, then follow through with your commitment.
- Don't be afraid to show appreciation to others through verbal and nonverbal actions. For example, saying thank you can mean a lot, but I couldn't have been more grateful when my friend brought me a big cup of hot tea the other day...just because.

Here are some additional tips for growing your social network. Try working out at a gym or participating in an exercise group. This is a great way to meet new people and gives you the added benefit of getting some exercise as well. Do you have a dog, or know someone with a dog, that could use a walk? Get out there! You'll meet fellow animal lovers and your dog will be thrilled (maybe your dog will make a new friend too). Look for an opportunity to volunteer for a charity that you care about or get back into a long-lost hobby, or take up a new one. These are all great ways to find others with passions similar to yours.

Even though developing social connections can seem challenging at first, the rewards are great! So, put down this article and get out there! This world is filled with interesting, amazing, and loving people who want to get to know you! What are you waiting for?



Student Spotlight: Applied Archaeology

Student Evelyn Hildebrand

Evelyn Hildebrand's love of history has taken her to places near and far. After working on an dig in the San Bernardino National Forest, she left the U.S. to visit Greece, a country rich in history. We caught up with Evelyn recently and asked her to share her experiences in the Applied Archaeology program.

"In archaeology, each project is different from the last, so there is always something new to learn!"

What sparked your interest in archaeology? When I was in 6th grade, we learned about Ancient Egypt and other ancient Mediterranean societies, and how we knew what we knew about the cultures and people. At the time, there were several theories about how the pyramids were built and I was very interested in how archaeologists made educated guesses to understand what life was like during these times and places. It felt like being a detective; solving mysteries.

Why did you choose CSUSB's Applied Archaeology program? In California there is a high demand for Cultural Resource Management (CRM) specialists, aka applied archaeologists, and not a lot of appropriately qualified people to fill the manager positions. The AA program aims to fill the need for higher qualified individuals in California and I hope to be one of them.

Last summer you excavated a site on the San Bernardino National Forest for your master's project. What did you find? We only went out to the site on weekends, as everyone works during the week. The site was roughly 60 meters, about 197 ft, and we conducted a survey, creating a digital map on a Trimble GPS of concentrations of artifacts, as well as several isolated artifacts. They consisted of broken ceramic pots, rusted metal containers and cans, and a few railroad nails. The purpose of the map was to show the 'best' areas; the ones most likely to hold diagnostic artifacts, artifacts that can offer information about the people who were here. We also made the map as a reference to continue to go back to later after the field work was completed to keep track of where we worked. Because of the nature of this particular site, we excavated small pits, maybe 20cm or 7inches deep across the site. I wasn't expecting to find much, and I was right.

This site, I believe, was a temporary work camp for individuals who built the railroad in the late 1880's. For roughly 2 weeks' time, workers would be in one place near the track, build a section of it, then move to another area and repeat the process. This is most likely why we did not discover anything at such a shallow depth. We changed tactics and did a surface collection, marking on the map what we bagged. Based on the research I have done so far, as well as the kinds of ceramics recovered, I believe the railroad workers here were Chinese immigrants. Several pieces have markings and shapes similar to others recovered from very similar sites across several states in the same time frame.

What was the most exciting part of the project? After reading so many articles on other railroad sites, and spending a few hours looking at photos and guides on Chinese ceramics, it was a thrill to finally go into the field and see them in person. The next step will be exciting too, to have some of the artifacts tested to see what kinds of food they once held; see what kinds of food workers were eating at this time.

You are currently living abroad in Greece – what brought you there? Currently, I am continuing to research and write my thesis on the project. The artifacts are in storage and work on them will resume when I return. Since I finished all of the required course work for the master's program, I have a bit of freedom in how I can continue forward. I mentioned before that I've been interested in the ancient world's societies for most of my life, so being able to be here for a little while and see the temples and ruins has been a really fun experience. It's also nice to take a break and study something different for a change.

What are your career goals? I hope to work as a lab technician; maybe eventually become a director with more experience. I want to work on cleaning, storing, preserving artifacts. There are more collections than there are people to clean them and store them properly in some cases, and I would love to help to solve that problem.



Evelyn Hildebrand



Circle dragonfly sherd

Graduate Student & Family Picnic Kicks off the Academic Year with Fun and Games

The Office of Graduate Studies held its first annual Graduate Student and Family Picnic on September 14th to welcome graduate students and their families back to campus after the summer break. Graduate students, faculty, and their families spent a summer evening enjoying music, hot dogs, and lemonade while catching up with each other on the Pfau Library lawn.

Kids of all ages enjoyed human fooseball, Frisbees, and other outdoor games, courtesy of the Recreation and Wellness Center. There was even a little free-style dancing! Thanks to everyone who joined us and helped make the event a success!



Smile! President Morales takes time out for a selfie at the picnic.



Friends catch up on summer events.



Participants dined on hot dogs, fresh fruit, and a lemonade bar.



A future Coyote gets ready to join the pack.



Grad students and their families had a howling good time!



Professor Muhtaseb shows off her Coyote pride!

Graduate Student Orientation Welcomes New Coyotes to the Pack

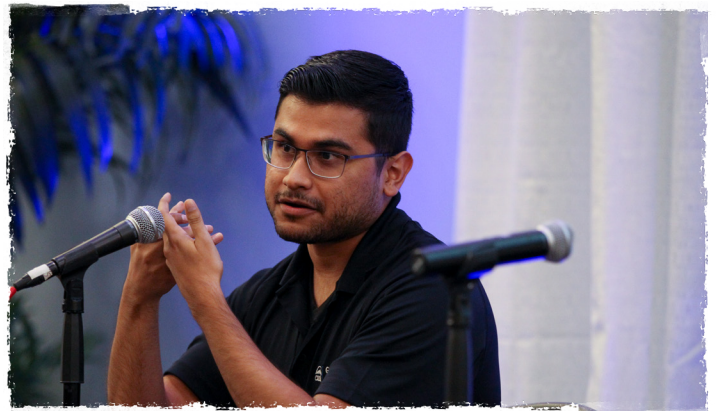
The Office of Graduate Studies was proud to host its annual Graduate Student Orientation once again last September 28th in the SMSU Event Center. The objective of this event is to welcome our newly admitted graduate students, relay important information, and introduce them to the wonderful resources available to them as graduate students at CSUSB.

Several departments, including the Career Center, Title IX, and the Pfau Library, gave presentations on the resources and support they offer graduate students. Graduate students also received a newly-updated student handbook, which details a comprehensive overview of campus resources, as well as policies and procedures that graduate students must be aware of as directly applicable to them.

The orientation concluded with a resource fair; 22 departments were represented, including the Recreation and Wellness Center, ASI, the Undocumented Student Success Center, the Office of Student Research, and the Graduate Writing Center. Students were treated to appetizers and refreshments while meeting with representatives from campus departments. As a special opportunity, photographers were available to take professional portraits of our students, which can be used for LinkedIn profiles, CV's, resumes, etc.

As a commuter campus, we understand that not all students may have had the opportunity to attend this orientation in person. For those who missed it, the orientation was recorded live, and a link to this video has been posted at the Graduate Studies website (csusb.edu/graduate-studies). The student handbook is also available online.

The Office of Graduate Studies is proud to host this event every year, and we look forward to welcoming a new group of graduate students next fall.



Graduate Student Handbooks Now Available!

Pick up your copy in the Office of Graduate Studies, CH-123. Or download a digital copy on our website: csusb.edu/graduate-studies. See our resources page.

Awards and Accolades

CSUSB boasts more than 30 master's programs, nine teaching credentials, and a doctorate in education, and every CSUSB academic program that is eligible has earned national accreditation. While each program is exceptional in its own right, Graduate Studies would like to recognize the following outstanding graduate programs:

The Master of Science in Industrial & Organizational Psychology was ranked as number 5 throughout the nation for its curriculum and number 15 overall by the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology.

CSUSB's Criminal Justice Program is consistently ranked among the top online criminal justice programs in the nation. Its master's program rankings include:

- **2017:** The Master's Program was ranked #15 in "The 25 Best Online Master of Criminal Justice Degree Programs" (The Best Schools)
- **2016:** The Master's Program was ranked #4 in "Most Affordable online Master's in Criminal Justice Program" (Collegevaluesonline)
- **2016:** The Master's Program was ranked #12 in "Best Online Masters in Criminal Justice Degree Program, 2016" (College Choice)
- **2016:** Ranked #9 in the "Best Online Criminal Justice Programs" (Best Colleges)

The MBA Program in the Jack Brown College of Business and Public Administration is counted among the best. The AACSB accredited MBA program has garnered the following recognition:

- **The "Best Business Programs,"** (U.S. News and World Report, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)
- **Top 40 university in the US** (TIME magazine/ White House, 2014)
- **The "Best 294 Business Schools,"** (The Princeton Review, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)
- **Top 18 regional public universities in the Western USA** (US World News, 2014)
- **Top 20 MBA Program Globally** (CEO Magazine, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016)

These awards reflect the quality of our programs and the commitment of our faculty and staff – Congratulations!

CSUSB Student-run Journal, *History in the Making*, is Making History

The history department's award winning journal, *History in the Making: A Journal of History* won third prize in the 2018 Gerald D. Nash graduate print journal national competition. The current edition was entered in the graduate-level competition for the first time, due to the fact that several graduate students from the Master of Arts in Social Sciences and Globalization participated in its development. The journal publishes work from both undergraduate and graduate students.

History in the Making is an annual publication of the university's Alpha Delta Nu Chapter of the Alpha Theta National History Honor Society, and is sponsored by the CSUSB Department of History. The online version is available at the History in the Making webpage, csbs.csusb.edu/history-in-the-making



The 2018 *History in the Making* editorial board: (front row, left to right) Eric Lowe, Andrew Richter, Sarah Slawson, Jasmine Colorado, Athahn Steinback, Lark Winner, Kyle Burke, Byron Williams, (back row, left to right) Jacquelyne Anton, Danny Cervantes, Jordan Hammon, Hannah Norton, Samuel Briseno, Alexander Serrano and Martin Votruba.

History in the Making is no stranger to the spotlight: Prior to the latest recognition, the journal has been awarded five Gerald D. Nash History Journal Awards in the undergraduate competition (third place in 2009 and 2013, second place in 2012 and 2015, and first place in 2014). In addition, the Alpha Delta Nu Chapter was awarded best chapter in the nation by the Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society for the third consecutive year. The Office of Graduate Studies offers its hardy congratulations!

Outstanding Thesis Award Recipients 2017 – 2018

Each year, the Office of Graduate Studies recognizes two graduate students whose master's thesis or project demonstrates exceptional scholarship. Awardees are chosen from those nominated by each graduate program, and are judged by a panel of CSUSB faculty for their originality, significance of the study, outcomes, and overall quality.

Among the many impressive submissions, two stood out for the high quality of their research and contributions to their field:

- **Jason Jung**, for his thesis, *Redescription and Phylogenetic Analysis of the Materials Assigned to the Taxon "Captorhinikos" chozaensis*, written for his Master of Science in Biology;
- **Dorris Kamiya Stewart**, for her thesis, *Losing Control: The Consequences of Individual- and Group- Based Social Exclusion on Latina Women's Self-Regulation of Unhealthy Eating*, written for her Master of Arts in General Experimental Psychology.

Jason's work is recognized for its contribution to our understanding of the evolutionary history of vertebrate species and the relationship between the earliest reptiles and many of the terrestrial animals we see today. His study involves comparing *Captorhinikos chozaensis* fossils he received from two major museums and performing an anatomical redescription to identify the early reptile's placement in the phylogenetic tree.

"My study confirmed two things: That the fossils I received from the two museums were of the same species, and that the species' genus had previously been misidentified and so, was wrongly named," Jason noted. "What has been called *Captorhinikos chozaensis* occupies its own branch on the phylogenetic tree of Captorhinidae, and is a new species that needs to be named."

Jason's next step is to submit his work for review and publication, and he hopes his work will be corroborated by others in the field. He is presently exploring Ph.D. programs while he serves as the academic coordinator for the Biology department and teaches two labs: Human Anatomy and Cell Biology.

Kamiya's thesis examines social exclusion and its effects on self-control, particularly eating behavior. Within the field of psychology, there is an ongoing discussion as to whether individual or group-based exclusion is more harmful. Kamiya suggests that the two theories are not at odds but are instead complimentary. The outcome depends on a third component – whether the exclusion is fair (e.g., based on skill level or ability) or unfair (based on ethnicity, gender, or race). Her study supports her prediction that fair social exclusion will especially impair self-regulation when it is related to individual identity, and that unfair social exclusion will especially impair self-regulatory ability when it is related to group identity (e.g., ethnicity).

"Not being able to control your eating behavior might lead to many health problems, like obesity," Kamiya said. "Thus, it's important to understand the situations that might lead to unhealthy eating behavior."

Kamiya is now beginning her second year as a Ph.D. student in Social Psychology at Tulane University, where she serves as a graduate researcher, teaching assistant, and mentor to students from underrepresented populations. She plans to become a university professor and research scholar. Both Kamiya and Jason's theses are available on CSUSB ScholarWorks.



Jason Jung



Dorris Kamiya Stewart

Campus Resource: Pfau Library



Bonnie Petry, Reference Librarian

**Have an
overwhelming
research paper
and don't know
where to start?**

The Pfau Library offers a wealth of resources to help you explore your topic, home in on the most relevant materials, and keep everything organized for ease in citing sources used in your paper. The Research page on the library's website (library.csusb.edu) includes links to FAQs, library research basics, and online tutorials. You'll also find comprehensive online research guides organized by subject; each page includes links to suggested reading, citation styles, and research tips relevant to the subject matter. And if you still have questions and need help right away, try the library's online chat feature, or text a librarian at (909) 542-8990.

If you need more guidance and prefer a face-to-face meeting, visit the Research Assistance Desk located on the library's first floor. One of the university's reference librarians will be on hand to answer your research questions, introduce you the library's electronic databases, general internet searching, and print resources. Reference librarians provide individual instruction and help you construct effective search strategies for finding the information you need. No appointment is necessary! See the Reference page on the library website (library.csusb.edu).

You can also schedule an appointment with a librarian subject specialist – this method is ideal for graduate students working on in-depth research, such as a thesis or project. Consult the Department Liaison List on the library's website for a list of subject matter specialists.

Library Workshops

Register for workshops on the library website. If you miss one, watch for it to come around again next quarter.

(Workshops are updated quarterly. Check the library's workshop calendar for dates and registration.)

- Free Software for Student Success
- How to Read a Textbook
- Zotero: Citation Management Made Free and Fun
- Introduction to OneSearch
- Maximize Your Full Text Retrieval!
- Finding Historical Primary Sources
- Information and the University
- Social Work Research
- Library Research for Graduate Students
- Conducting a Literature Review
- Evaluating Scholarly Resources
- Advanced Database Search
- Critical Information Literacy for Graduate Teaching Assistants
- Google Scholar and Advanced Google Search
- Using GapMinder and Social Explorer for Data Visualization
- Basic Strategies for Fact Checking the Web
- APA Autobahn: APA Reference List Explained

"Being a graduate student does not mean that you should already know everything about doing library research. Rely on the Pfau Library's librarians for professional research assistance! Why make graduate school harder than it already is?"

– Bonnie Petry, Reference Librarian

Graduate Teaching Associate: Leilani Martinez

With her eye on a career as a community college educator, Graduate Teaching Associate Leilani Martinez says teaching is her way of giving back. **“I’m happy that I was able to take advantage of educational opportunities that came my way, and I now want to provide others with the same opportunities for growth and learning,”** she shared.



Leilani is part of the Graduate Teaching Associate program in the English Department. The program is designed to allow graduate students who wish to pursue a career in college level teaching to gain experience in the classroom while receiving coaching and mentoring from a faculty member. As an M.A. in English Composition candidate, Leilani is currently serving as a Teaching Associate for English 170, where she teaches English literature to a classroom of 35 undergraduates. Her assistantship runs from Fall 2018 through Winter 2019.

The job is not without its challenges. Since English 170 is a GE course, the students’ interests, degree objectives, and learning styles can be wide-ranging. Leilani says she has to remind herself “to step back and see the bigger picture, and step forward and apply a focused objective to the myriad of learning styles and backgrounds in the classroom. I make sure that I teach in a way that helps them recognize those differences – that those differences exist, but also intersect.”

Teaching also has its rewards: “I am happy not only because I have this opportunity to take part in the TA program, but also to provide opportunities of growth and learning to others.”

“They need someone to see them and their potential. I had an amazing professor at Riverside Community College that helped me see myself better. I want to help others along the way.”

Having started her educational journey as a community college student, she understands the challenges this population faces in pursuit of their education and career goals and the difference a supportive mentor can make in their lives. “I’m empathetic with the community college students – those who can’t afford to go to a university, or who had poor grades in high school,” she said. “They need someone to see them and their potential. I had an amazing professor at Riverside Community College that helped me see myself better. I want to help others along the way.”

Leilani’s belief in the power of higher education is sure to make her a positive influence on her own students, and an effective educator and mentor.

Graduate Studies would like to recognize all graduate students serving as Teaching Associates at CSUSB – thank you for your dedication and commitment to our undergraduate students!

Graduate Teaching Associates are responsible for designing and teaching a course, holding office hours, and meeting regularly with the TA Coordinator and their fellow TAs during the quarters they teach. They make a huge contribution to undergraduate education – this year, 84 graduate students are serving as Teaching Associates.

The CSUSB–Penn State Connection

Students who pursue master's degrees at CSUSB often look forward to the opportunity to pursue very specialized interests. Some students decide to dedicate their lives to the fields that they are passionate about by pursuing a Ph.D. The Pennsylvania State University is now home to three Ph.D. students who are CSUSB M.A. in English Composition alums, D'Angelo Bridges, Brett Diaz, and Lupe Rincon. The Faculty Director of Graduate Studies at CSUSB, Dr. Caroline Vickers, had the opportunity to visit them and catch up on their busy lives during her October trip to Penn State.

D'Angelo Bridges, 2016

Entering the Ph.D. program in English and African American Studies at Penn State has allowed D'Angelo Bridges to continue to pursue research that he became passionate about while working on his M.A. in English Composition, Literature Concentration, at CSUSB. His CSUSB master's thesis, *Revising Rhetorical Theory in "My Bondage and My Freedom": Narrativizing and Theorizing a Rhetoric of Blackness*, won the campus-wide Outstanding Thesis Award in 2016.

At Penn State, D'Angelo says, "my research lies at the intersections of African American rhetorical theory, literature, and culture. More specifically, my research engages literary texts rhetorically to think about self-definition, self-advocacy, and self-presentation in African American literature at the turn of the twentieth century. Through literary texts, writers such as Charles Chesnutt, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Anna J. Cooper engage theoretical work to define blackness, black ontology, and black psychology on their own terms. I use these texts to help understand African American rhetorical expressions and epistemology through its engagement with hegemony."

D'Angelo is pursuing these interests under the mentorship of Dr. Keith Gilyard, a prominent scholar and professor of English who teaches and researches in the fields of rhetoric, composition, and African American literature.

Brett Diaz, 2015

After finishing his M.A. in English Composition, Applied Linguistics and Teaching English as a Second Language Concentration, in 2015, Brett Diaz entered the Ph.D. Program in Applied Linguistics at Penn State. His master's thesis at CSUSB, *Correlations Between Vowel Lengths and Emotions*, focused on the display of emotion through language.

Brett says, "My research interests since coming to Penn State are semiotics, pragmatics, and approaches to methodology in the areas of discourse analysis, language policy, and health policy implementation. My current research focuses on emotional language as a semiotic resource in health policy implementation research, and semantic organization in language policy planning at the state level using corpus linguistic methodology."

Brett presents regularly at national conferences and has had a paper accepted in the prestigious journal, *Language in Society*, with his mentor, Dr. Robert Schrauf, who conducts empirical research on language, ethnicity and Alzheimer's disease, and methodological research on the use of mixed methods for making cross-cultural comparisons.



Pictured from L-R: Caroline Vickers, D'Angelo Bridges, and Seth King, who recently received his doctorate in Applied Linguistics from Penn State.



The CSUSB–Penn State Connection

Lupe Rincon, 2016

Before starting the Ph.D. Program in Applied Linguistics at Penn State in 2017, Lupe Rincon completed her M.A. in English Composition, Applied Linguistics and Teaching English as a Second Language Concentration, in 2016. Her CSUSB master's thesis, *Gatekeepers to the Third Space: Authority, Agency, and Language Hierarchy in First-Year Composition*, won the Rayburn Award for Outstanding Thesis in the CSUSB English Department.

At Penn State, Lupe says, "My current research focuses on expanding stance analytic frameworks, so that they encompass both verbal and non-verbal resources, in the examination of how these semiotic resources not only shape the ecologies that people interact in, but how those same factors influence how stances are enacted in talk. I plan to develop this framework further by examining interactions in and outside of classrooms, in a close examination of how people, spaces, time, and objects work together to inform stances."

She is actively pursuing these research interests under the mentorship of Dr. Suresh Canagarajah, who states on his website, "Coming from a country where ethnic conflict has destroyed more than 80,000 lives in the past 20 years, I am an activist for peace and social change. I am also a critical practitioner, who cares about connecting education to justice and empowerment." Dr. Canagarajah is an eminent scholar in Composition Studies and Applied Linguistics whose work has made a tremendous impact on understandings of multilingual people in educational contexts.

Share Your Stories!

Know of an interesting student, faculty member, or a unique event or activity hosted your program? Share your stories with Graduate Studies! Email us at gradstud.csusb.edu. A newsletter story submission form is available on our website at csusb.edu/graduate-studies on our publications page.

All three of these Penn State doctoral students started at CSUSB as undergraduate students and then continued on for master's degrees, so they go way back with each other. They all express appreciation for their friendship, which was cemented at CSUSB, and enjoy having support from their fellow CSUSB alums as they pursue their doctoral work at Penn State. As D'Angelo Bridges states, "*Once a 'Yote, always a 'Yote!'*"

The Office of Graduate Studies at CSUSB is extremely proud of these alums and all that they have accomplished. We look forward to their bright futures.



Pictured from L-R: Lupe Rincon and Brett Diaz



Pictured from L-R: Suresh Canagarajah, Naseh Shahri (Ph.D. Candidate in Applied Linguistics at Penn State), Lupe Rincon, and Caroline Vickers



Winter 2019 Calendar

January 20

Student Research and Travel Grant Application Deadline

February 1

Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program Application Deadline

February 20

Student Research and Travel Grant Application Deadline

February 22

Thesis, Project, Dissertation Submission Deadline

March 2

FAFSA Application Deadline

March 2

Graduate Equity Fellowship Deadline

March 20

Student Research and Travel Grant Application Deadline

March 25-29

Spring Break

JAN 29

Submission and Review Process Workshop

January 29, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Pine Room

Submitting a thesis, project, or dissertation for publication on ScholarWorks? This workshop will describe the electronic submission and review process, the committee certification form, deadlines, and general formatting requirements. Contact: Graduate Studies at (909) 537-5058

FEB 1

33rd Annual CSUSB Student Research Competition

February 1, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

SMSU Fourplex

Graduate and undergraduate students present their research before a panel of judges; winners advance to the statewide CSU Research Competition, where they will compete against other outstanding scholars in the California State University system. Contact: Office of Student Research at (909) 537-3728

FEB 13

Women in Academia Workshop

February 13, 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Pfau Library, Room 5005

Female faculty members from across CSUSB's five colleges will address future careers in academia from a woman's perspective. These talks will cover topics such as finding a position, publishing, balancing a healthy and productive professional life, tenure, and navigating academia as women. Attendance is open to all graduate students. Contact: Graduate Studies at (909) 537-5058

FEB 20

2nd Annual COMIC BOOK EXPO!

Feb. 20, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

5th floor, PL-5005/5005M

The Pfau Library has more than 3,200 comic books in their Special Collections, which include DC and Marvel superheroes, The Walking Dead series, Archie, and much more.

APR 19

Pass the Torch

April 19, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

SMSU Fourplex

Get to know your fellow graduate students! This networking opportunity facilitates both interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary relationships. Discuss coursework, research opportunities, career goals, and nurture professional academic relationships. Contact: Graduate Studies at (909) 537-5058

JAN 15

Introduction to Ph.D. Programs

January 15, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Eucalyptus Room

This workshop will provide an overview of how to best prepare for Ph.D. programs. Specifically, it will cover what makes applicants competitive, researching programs, contacting potential mentors, and preparing application materials (i.e., writing a statement of purpose and asking for letters of recommendation). Contact: Office of Student Research at (909) 537-3728

JAN 23 & JAN 24

Avoiding Plagiarism Workshop

January 23, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

January 24, 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Eucalyptus Room

Find out how to avoid plagiarism through the proper use of citations, better paraphrasing, and organizing your research. The workshop will also explain how Turnitin.com is used to check for plagiarism during the thesis, project and dissertation review process. Contact: Graduate Studies at (909) 537-5058