

THE NATURAL PHENOMENA

SUMMER 2015



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A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Kirsten Fleming, Dean of the College of Natural Sciences

We are currently the largest college in the university with 30% of all students having a major in CNS. We have several talented and successful faculty and this year, the college's awards went to Dr. John Tate of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for teaching, Dr. Laura Newcomb of the Department of Biology for research, scholarly and creative activities and Dr. Bryan Haddock of the Department of Kinesiology for service. Dr. Madeleine Jetter from the Department of Mathematics was

awarded a Department of Education, Investing in Innovation grant (i3). The amount requested was \$2,999,235. In order to receive the funding, there was a required 15% private match or \$450,000. We received funding from the following foundations for the match: \$75,000 from The Packard Foundation, \$150K from The Toyota USA Foundation and \$238,370 from The Heising-Simons Foundation, which totaled \$13,370 more than we needed. This grant added pre-K students into the mix.

Teaching English Learners Early Mathematics (TEEM) project aims to improve the academic achievement of English Learners in pre-K through grade 6 mathematics. TEEM will partner with the Riverside County Office of Education, two Riverside County school districts and Head Start. TEEM will innovate through a focus on inquiry for students, teachers and principals.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed to develop a Doctorate of Nursing Practice. This agreement is between California State University, San Bernardino and Kaiser Perma-

nente Southern California Medical Group to develop and offer a Doctoral Program in Nursing Practice. This agreement includes developing collaboratively, and in conjunction, with the requirements of the CSU Fullerton DNP Consortium, a DNP that begins with the Nurse Anesthesia track BSN to DNP. The current MSN to DNP track will continue to be offered by the consortium.

This past year we welcomed 13 new tenure-track faculty members to the college, and 10 new faculty members will join them in fall 2015.

The 2015-2016 year will be interesting and challenging as we celebrate CSUSB's 50th year, implement the university's 2015-2020 strategic plan and undertake the search to replace our highly respected provost, Dr. Andrew Bodman.

STAFF APPRECIATION DAY

On July 13, 2015, the dean hosted staff appreciation day. The staff that participated went on a tour at Sony Pictures Studio in Culver City, and then had lunch at Farrell's Restaurant. The tour of Sony was interesting and informative. The staff saw a short video on the history of Sony Studios and then they were taken around the lot. They got to see the set of the game show Jeopardy, the set of The Goldbergs and the world renowned Barbara Streisand Sound Stage.



DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Dr. Jeremy Mallari joins the faculty as a new assistant professor in bio-organic chemistry. Dr. John Tate received the college Outstanding Teaching Award. After a 45-year career, Professor Dennis Pederson has entered full retirement. Dr. Kimberley Cousins presented at the ACS National Meeting in March on her computational materials science research, and the investigation of student success using evidence-based strategies. Dr. John Zhang published journal articles with his students and Dr. Bob Phalen in Health Science on ethanol permeation through nitrile gloves, and the study of highly porous materials for hydrogen storage. Our outstanding undergraduate this year is Siyoung Lee. She is currently preparing her application for medical school. Alumni highlights include Jonathan Forman who is a member of the Organization for the Nonproliferation of Chemical Weapons, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013. Karen Antonio, a graduate student at Notre Dame, organized a biocatalysis symposium at the ACS National Meeting.

School of Computer Science and Engineering

The School of Computer Science and Engineering passed several milestones 2014/2015. The school now has two ABET accredited programs: the B.S. Computer Science degree program has been reaccredited and the B.S. in Computer Engineering has been awarded first-time ABET EAC accreditation. The school succeeded in having the interdisciplinary B.S. in Bioinformatics converted from a pilot to a permanent program. In fall 2014, the M.S. program in Computer Science experienced a 79% growth in graduate students; enrollment increased further, and the school expects 90+ active graduate students for fall 2015. In fall 2014, the faculty welcomed two new tenure-track assistant professors, Dr. Quingquan Sun and Dr. Zhenpping Wu. The year ended on a high note for the school with the celebrating of two outstanding individuals: the 2015 Outstanding Undergraduate Student in the College, Andrew Brinker, and the 2015 Outstanding Alumnus, Dr. Kenton McHenry (2001), currently at NCSA, University of Illinois.

Department of Geological Sciences

The Department of Geological Sciences congratulates Dr. Alan Smith on his retirement and is grateful for his 15 years of dedicated service as chair of the department. Dr. Sally McGill is now serving as interim department chair. In spring 2015 she published a paper, with John McGill and Joan Fryxell, on the results of GPS data collected by CSUSB students from 2002-2014. Dr. Erik Melchiorre will be on sabbatical during 2015-16 and will be publishing his research on placer gold at Rich Hill, Ariz., as well as beginning new projects in astrobiology. The department is proud to welcome Dr. Codi Lazar

as a new assistant professor starting in September 2015. Dr. Lazar specializes in experimental petrology and geochemistry, and comes to us with a Ph.D. from UCLA and several years as a postdoctoral fellow and visiting investigator at the Geophysical Lab of the Carnegie Institute of Washington. Dr. Alison Sloat, assistant professor in residence at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, was awarded the 2015 Outstanding Alumna award from the CSUSB Department of Geological Sciences.

Department of Kinesiology

Welcome to the Department of Kinesiology at Cal State San Bernardino. Kinesiology is one of the fastest growing majors in the CSU and in the United States. Visit <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2010/08/11/kinesiology> for details. Our department is growing in majors, developing new laboratories and replacing faculty members who leave CSUSB or retire. Kinesiology has almost 800 majors in three concentrations: exercise science (45%), allied health professions (31%), pedagogy (11%) and undeclared (12%). Growth in kinesiology, particularly in the major is placing extreme demands on our human and physical resources. Next fall two new faculty members will join kinesiology replacing three who left or retired. Unfortunately, Kinesiology will lose Dr. Shannon Siegel to the University of San Francisco; Dr. Michelle Alencar to CSU Long Beach; and, Dr. Grenfell to the "good life" in Lake Arrowhead (retirement). Dr. Aaron Moffett remains on leave of absence working with the Wounded Warriors. Stay abreast of kinesiology by visiting <http://kine/csusb.edu>

Department of Mathematics

The math department has had another productive year. Davida Fischman and Su Liang each have published work in the field of mathematics education. Rollie Trapp (knot theory) and Corey Dunn (geometric group theory) have also each been published in the last year. Finally, Chetan Prakash has published two works about theories of consciousness in the last year as well.

The department has also been very active in terms of obtaining grants. Madeleine Jetter was awarded \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Education to fund her Teaching English Learners Early Mathematics (TEEM) program; Dr. Fischman and Dr. Diane Brantley (COE) are collaborators in the project. Dr. Dunn and Dr. Trapp have also been awarded \$240,000 from the National Science Foundation to continue their long running and successful Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates program. This program is jointly funded by CSUSB.

We look forward to another productive upcoming year!

Department of Physics

The department has had another exciting year. We are continuing to grow - in the number of students, the amount of research going on, and in the number of faculty. For those alumni out there from decades past, just imagine 65 students in Phys373. That's the enrollment for the fall, and it has Professor Paul Renteln a *little anxious*.

In addition to growing class sizes, the number of students doing research has skyrocketed. With CREST, PRISM, and the work going on at the Murillo Family Observatory, we currently have ~20 students doing research on campus this summer, and ~15 at various NASA sites and doing REUs.

We are happy to announce that a new experimental solid state physicist will be joining the department in the fall. Dr. Sara Callori, a specialist in X-ray and neutron scattering analysis of functional materials, is our new assistant professor. Also, congratulations to Dr. Laura Woodney, who has been promoted to full professor.

Alumni are encouraged to keep in touch. Feel free to pop in any time, e-mail Dr. Dixon at pdixon@csusb.edu, or contact your favorite professor directly (for addresses check out our website: physcs.csusb.edu).



THE NATURAL PHENOMENA

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY



Department Chair:
Michael Chao

Professors:
Nicole Bournias
James Ferrari
Anthony Metcalf
Paul Orwin
David Polcyn
John Skillman
Stuart Sumida
Kimberlyn Williams

Associate Professors:
Laura Newcomb

Assistant Professors:
Jeremy Dodsworth
Angela Horner
Tomasz Owerkowicz
David Rhoads

Department Office:
Debbie Reynolds
Katrina Preciado

Support Technicians:
Lisa Anderson Tom Benson
David Coffey Cindy Chrisler

The Department of Biology has had a very productive year for our faculty and students. First, we welcomed new faculty member Dr. Jeremy Dodsworth to CSUSB. Dr. Dodsworth received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington, Seattle in microbiology and comes to us as a postdoctoral researcher and research assistant professor from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; he is an environmental microbiologist interested in organisms that live in extreme environments such as geothermal hot springs. He brings many new areas of expertise to our department, including archaeal microbiology and genomics. In terms of extramural funding efforts; here are some highlights. In the area of research funding, Dr. Angela Horner was awarded a prestigious three-year National Science Foundation (NSF) grant totaling \$318,000 to study the effects of age on muscle performance. In the area of science education, Dr. Dave Polcyn was awarded a \$1,500,000 grant from the California Department of Education partnering with K12

teachers in the Coachella Valley area to bring Next Generation Science Standards into the science and math curriculum. Our \$2.7 million Bridges to Stem Cells training grant, funded by the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) and directed by Dr. Nicole Bournias, was just renewed. This grant provides training, research stipends, and tuition support for both undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in pursuing a career in stem cell research. All these grants provide vital experiential learning opportunities for our students and prepare them for future success in the STEM professions they will be entering. Our biology students have been, simply put, outstanding. Justin Minck (Bournias lab) won the CSUSB Undergraduate Student Research Competition sponsored by the Office of Student Research and represented our campus at the statewide competition. Nick Schwartz (Horner lab), who was this year's Outstanding Undergraduate Student in the Biology Program, won Best Undergraduate

Presentation at the Regional Division of Vertebrate Morphology Meeting. Jose Ramirez (Newcomb lab) was a finalist for the CSUPERB Glenn Nagel Undergraduate Research Award. Graduate student Alicia Davis (Newcomb lab) won the Southern California Branch of the American Society of Microbiology M.S. Graduate Student Research Award and the CSUPERB Don Eden Graduate Research Award. Stacey Nerkowski (Metcalf lab) won the CSUSB and CSU statewide Graduate Student Research Competition, and was also the Outstanding Graduate Student for the College of Natural Sciences. All of our undergraduate and graduate students continue to impress with their ongoing research projects, and CSUSB students from the Chao, Newcomb, and Ferrari labs have also co-published with their mentors in peer-reviewed journals this year. Dr. Laura Newcomb and her students have had a particularly productive year; no wonder she was nominated as Outstanding Professor in Research for the College of Natural Sciences.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCE AND HUMAN ECOLOGY



Department Chair:
Marsha Greer

Professors:
Ted Coleman
Lal Mian

Associate Professors:
Dorothy Chen-Maynard
Robert Phalen

Assistant Professors:
Monideepa Becerra
Joseph Hughes
Angie Otiniano-Verissimo

Lecturers:
Robert LaChausse

Department Office:
Deanna Rinebolt
Leann Bactad-Pulido

Our undergraduate programs in public health education, nutrition and food sciences, health care management, and environmental health science continued to show dramatic increased enrollment. There are now more than 700 students in the undergraduate and graduate MPH and MSHA programs. More than 150 undergraduate public health education, health care management, and environmental health science students completed internships in the Inland Empire. Student members of Eta Sigma Gamma, Delta Chapter (the national honorary in health education) celebrated National Public Health Week in discussions with fellow students about food security and resources, including The DEN, the newly opened campus food bank. Two new faculty members were hired in fall of 2014. Angie Otiniano Verissimo earned a Ph.D. and an MPH degree from the Department of Community Health Sciences at the University of California, Los Angeles. She earned a B.A. from the University of Redlands,

departments of Biology and Spanish. Our second new faculty member is Monideepa Bhattacharya Becerra who earned a Dr.PH. in Health Education and a Master's in Public Health (MPH) in Health Policy and Leadership from Loma Linda University. She also earned a B.S. in Botany and Plant Sciences from the University of California, Riverside.

Faculty were engaged with students in research and other scholarly activities. Dr. Bob Phalen with two students presented a paper at the American Industrial Hygiene Association meeting. One student presented results on the removal for Arsenic from water using a modified Nicaraguan water filter at the Water Resources and Policy Initiatives (WRPI) Conference. Dr. Becerra published two papers and presented a paper at a Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools' Professional Development Workshop at NIH. One graduate student in the MPH program published a peer-reviewed article in Preventing Chronic Disease published by the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention. Another graduate student in the MPH program received the Randall Lewis Health Policy Fellowship and her work resulted in an academic-community partnership to address farmers' market utilization needs in the city of Rialto. An undergraduate student in the Public Health Education program was selected for the competitive Student Mentorship Program for Hispanic Health Research from Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools. She also received the prestigious and competitive National Diversity Internship Program from the Veterans Administration and will be working at the Washington, D.C. Veterans Administration during summer 2015.

We look forward to hearing from all our alumni, and encourage you to write and update the faculty on where you are and what you are doing. Keep in touch by completing our survey at <http://www.survevgizmo.com/s3/2030545/Student-Login-Page>

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING



Department Chair:
Mary Anne Schultz

Professors:
Marylin Smith-Stoner

Associate Professors:
Claudia Davis
Teresa Dodd-Butera
Cindi Fike

Assistant Professors:
Alham Albutiq
Susan McGee-Stehsel

Lecturers:
Deborah Cohen
Kathy Tiras
Anna Wilson

Department Office:
Patrick Bungard
Lorena Gomez
Clayton Okafuji

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Alan Lin

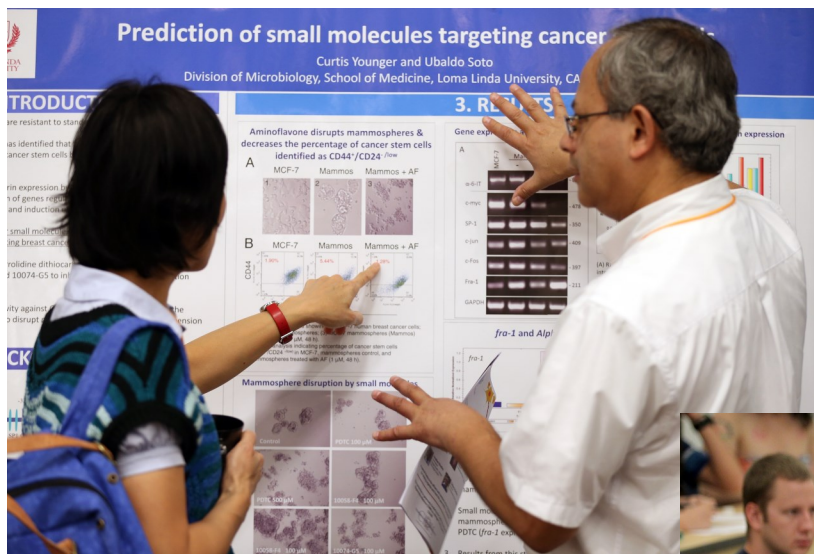
The Department of Nursing (DON) offers three major programs leading to a degree. These are: the undergraduate entry-into-practice program (BS), the Master of Science in nursing program (MS) and the RN to BSN program. Additionally, a special summer program for Foreign-Trained Nurses is offered in the summer. It is designed to facilitate the entrance of nurses trained outside of the United States into practice in California. This academic year the profession of nursing welcomed over 100 graduates from our undergraduate program who are now eligible to sit for the entry-into-practice exam, NCLEX-RN (National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses). With over 300 students in the undergraduate program at any one time, an assertive goal the department has is to integrate simulation experiences into the curriculum through the new Prem Reddy Simulation Center located in the HP complex.

The MSN program launched 10 new graduates in the fields of population health, advanced commu-

nity health or nursing education and we retain about 50 students in these programs at any one time. This program continues its working relationship with Tra Vinh University outside of Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam with two of our professors, Dr. Teresa Dodd-Butera and Ms. Damaris Lizzaraga, serving as visiting professor there in December 2014. Additionally, Dr. Dodd-Butera is the primary investigator for a Nurse-Faculty Loan Program from HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) of over \$200,000 to benefit students destined for a teaching career through our MSN program. Ours was one of two CSU Nursing Departments to boast such an honor. Changes in faculty include full tenured professor, Dr. Marylin Stoner, who entered her first year of the FERP program while continuing to offer her expertise in a cutting-edge nursing research course and a technology in nursing course. The department also welcomed a new chair this academic year, Dr. Mary Anne Schultz, who began her nursing education ca-

reer here at this campus in the late 1980s. She comes most recently from West Coast University where she served as associate dean and previously, from the Los Angeles campus where she earned tenure and served as an associate professor known for technological innovations in the classroom.

Faculty had an especially good showing at our Honor Society's (Sigma Theta Tau) Annual Research and innovation event, Odyssey, in fall 2014. Featured presenters included: Ms. Dawn Blue (increasing confidence levels associated to simulation experiences), Dr. Cindy Fike (health literacy levels related to nursing interventions in an environment of care), Ms. Dee Wojnar (the importance of covert data collection in a study of nosocomial infection avoidance) and Ms. Susan McGee-Stehsel (the role of County Behavioral Health programs for those in treatment of Post Trauma). It was a proud day for nursing.



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Patricia A. Kraemer and James W. Stockman/Planned Gift/Endowed STEM/Business Scholarship Fund

\$100,000 - \$499,000

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DEVELOPMENT CORNER



It was a great year for the College of Natural Sciences. The college received current student scholarship support from alumni,

staff and faculty, funding for research on how children learn math, corporate funding to support conservation education and a planned gift that will assist future students enrolled in STEM or business majors.

The Patricia A. Kraemer and James W. Stockman Endowed STEM/Business Scholarship Fund.

Pat and Jim, alumni of Cal State San Bernardino recently created a planned gift, currently valued at \$500,000, designed to help the next generation of scientists and business leaders. Jim is a business major, with an extensive career in business management. Pat is a mathematics major, having worked in the defense industry (as a rocket scientist!) and the finance field, both personal and corporate. In their own words, "We want to help the students that are already proving their drive by paying their own way, working their way through school. We know just how much this scholarship can help. We want to provide a scholarship that would have helped us all those years ago!" Dean Fleming and the rest of the CNS and CSUSB community extend a heartfelt thank you to Pat and Jim for

their extraordinary legacy commitment.

The Corporate and Foundation Front

The development office had the good fortune to work with biology Professor Kimberly Williams on a grant that brought approximately 900 students from the San Bernardino City Unified School District and the Coachella Valley United School District to CSUSB to learn about habitat conservation and education. The grant, **Cal State Promotes Coastal Sage Scrub Conservation and Environmental Education**, brought elementary, middle and high school students to campus in March 2015. Students received "Conservation through Education" backpacks, a pair of folding binoculars, a compass and a specially prepared 33-page lab manual that helped students learn more about astronomy, paleontology, coastal sage scrub, landscape patterns and geology. **Funders of the grant included:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation/Wells Fargo, Southern California Edison and The Community Foundation/The SL Gimbel Foundation. **Matching funds for i3 Department of Education grant: \$468,000**

Last summer, Dr. Madeleine Jetter from the math department was awarded a prestigious i3 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for \$3 million to study how English learners acquire math. However, a 25 percent match of private funds or \$450,000 was

required to be in place before the federal funds could be released.

We exceeded the private match by securing \$468,000 in total private funds and Dr. Jetter's research on how children learn math can now begin in earnest. **Funders of the matching grant included:** The Toyota USA Foundation, The Packard Foundation and Heising-Simons Foundation.

Dean's Council on Philanthropy:

A new CNS initiative, the Dean's Council on Philanthropy, provides members an opportunity to support and promote the future success of the College of Natural Sciences. Members serve as ambassadors for the college and assist the dean in securing support for its programs, outreach to the community, and provide direct and indirect financial support for college initiatives. Please welcome our founding members, **Dr. Paula Estrada de Martin '95, '97 Biology**, **Mr. Bhriugu Celly '02 Computer Science**, and **Dr. Leo Connolly, professor emeritus**. For more information about the Dean's Council of Philanthropy, please contact Duke Graham, director of development, at 909-537-5267 or via email at dgraham@csusb.edu.

COMMENCEMENT 2015

The College of Natural Sciences' commencement ceremony took place on June 20th at 4 p.m. at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario. Before a crowd of their families and friends, more than 480 students received their diplomas. Among those students were several who were singled out for various honors. Each year, the college chooses students it determines to be outstanding, both from the undergraduate and graduate populations. This year, the outstanding graduate students are Stacey Nerkowski, from biology; Thomas Crane, from geological sciences; Christy Scroggins from health science and human ecology; Leonard Lamp, from mathematics and April Joy Santos from nursing. These students have shown great promise in their chosen fields, and the college is proud to recognize them. The outstanding undergraduate students are Nick Schwartz from biology; Siyoung Lee, from chemistry and biochemistry; Stephen Bryce, from geology; Gena Alltizer from health science and human ecology; Adrianna Mitchell, from kinesiology; Amy Strauss, from mathematics; Brent Lukacs from nursing and Emily Brown from physics. These students have worked very hard and richly deserve the honors. Additional students received departmental honors. From the **Department of Biology**: Patricia Holt-Torres, Cory Kunkel, Michael Ramos, Nick Schwartz, Tyler Valdez, David Vasconcellos and Teresa Villaseñor; from the **Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry**: Katie Morrow; from the **School of Computer Science and Engineering**: Alan Perez and Jonathan Perez; from the **Department of Geological Sciences**: Stephen Bryce; from the **Department of Health Science and Human Ecology**: Diana Iwais and Christopher Wills; from the **Department of Kinesiology**: Nick Acevedo, Gerardo Alvarez Vargas, Elmine Beard, Anna Brodzki, Alexander Camarillo, Teresa Del Real Delfin, Aubree Downtain, Jackelin Felix, Adam Galeckas, Ronald Gonzalez-Trujillo, Bradley Herrock, Emily Hill, Manjot Hundal, Paul Jackman, Hyun Kim, Kris Malapira, Adrianna Mitchell, Matthew Montgomery Rodriguez, Ryan Ortanez, Lizbeth Ortiz, Adali Quinonez, Danielle Talbot and Tabitha Toral; from the **Department of Mathematics**: Joshua Bowlin, Brain Friday, Bianca Larios, Amy Strauss, Katelyn Thompson and Steven Thompson; from the **Department of Nursing**: Anna Acosta, Patrick Allen, Tiffany Alvarado, Jose Arriaga, Mirela Astilean, Victoria Bernal, Brenda Bitka, Josh Bongga, Elizabeth Wisner, Sara Brunn, Kyrstina Crofoot, Paulina Cross, Lindsay Dang, Heaven Douglas, Kathleen Duenez, Allen Duran, Cathy Emerdinger, Stephanie Erickson, Rocio Gamboa, Mandivar Gill, Katie Hade, Joana Harrison, Amanda Hayden, Alaina Helt, Mike Henderson, Mary Hoy, Melina Hurtado, Dominique Hust, Matthew Juback, Tayler Kelley, Brittany King, Alexandra Kliwer, Codie Koenke, Hojun Kyung, Jonathan Labib, Alyssa Ledbetter, Bawoo Lee, Brent Lukacs, Kaylee Maeda, Adeline Manese, Ana Mata, Vanessa McCall, Melanie McMillan, Fabrianne Mendez, Yardenis Miranda, Tony Ngo, Jane Ngugi, Marlene Ortiz, Romnick Pablo, Matthew Parke, Yvonne Pedroza, Sarah Perez, Dalawna Polk, Marzena Richardson, Joy Rittenhouse, Cristaline Rodriguez, Anthony Saldana, Jose Samson, Kacie Schmidt, Sia Shayo, Elizabeth Steele, Partenamaria Stefanidis, Samantha Stueckle, Kristin Sullivan, Deizon Sy, Kaitlyn Taylor, Jessica Tovar, Julie Tran, Uwa Ukwu, Lianna Uribe, Britney Vrooman, Whitney Weaver, Lindsey West, Leika Widby and Morgana Wyman; from the **Department of Physics**: Alberto Acevedo, Stefan Awender and Emily Brown.



CNS OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Dr. Kenton McHenry graduated from CSUSB in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. Prior to graduating, Dr. McHenry did a summer internship in the Department of Computer Science at UC Berkeley. While there, he conducted computer vision research under the supervision of Dr. David Forsyth. In 2008, Dr. McHenry received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Presently, he is a Senior Research Scientist at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He has published widely, given many scholarly presentations, and his work has been extensively featured in the media. At the same time, Dr. McHenry has also been an adjunct assistant professor. All who knew him at CSUSB had expectations that he would develop into a highly competent and successful individual and computer scientist, and Dr. McHenry has distinguished himself far beyond those expectations.



Stacey Nerkowski

CNS OUTSTANDING GRADUATE

Stacey Nerkowski graduated with a Master's of Science in Biology. Stacey's thesis focuses on molecular ecology, this research derived from her internship with the CSUSB Water Resources Institute, which introduced her to the topic of ecological preservation through genetic analysis. Her research will provide government agencies with the necessary information for conservation management strategies and restoration of our local biodiversity. Stacey published and presented the results of her research. In 2014, she was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student in Natural Sciences at the 27th Annual CSU Student Research Competition. As a graduate student, she established a graduate level biology club, Bio-Grad, taught lower division biology laboratory classes and participated in the Science Networking and Recruiting Forum sponsored by the USDA and Coyote Careers. She intends to pursue her Ph.D. in Biology in order to teach and conduct research at the university level.



Andrew Brinker

CNS OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE

Andrew Brinker graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science and a cumulative GPA of 3.85. During his time at CSUSB, Andrew published and presented research in computer visions, machine learning, combinatorial game theory algorithms and law. Last summer, he took part in a research experience at University of North Carolina at Charlotte in which he worked on a project to aid in the diagnosis of breast cancer. Andrew helped establish a vibrant computer science and engineering club on campus. He is especially proud of the tutoring program offered by the club, which he started and for which he has volunteered hundreds of hours over the past two years. Andrew volunteers his time setting up computers, categorizing and sorting books for the Inland Empire Children's Book Project, a charity which provides free books to teachers and underprivileged students.

