



A special thanks is extended to all the Divisions and Offices that graciously support New Faculty Orientation. Thank you to all the individuals on this campus that have mentored and supported the newly hired faculty of 2014-2015.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

California State University, Northridge

NEW FACULTY YEARBOOK
VOLUME II



04	INTRODUCTION	20	DAVID NAZARIAN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
08	SHINE WITH NFO		
10	STRATEGIES		WADE CHUMNEY SIGALIT RONEN
12	HIGHLIGHTS	24	ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE
14	INDIVIDUALIZED		
16	NETWORKING		ANWAR ALROOMI TZONG-YING HAO WEN-CHIN HSU RUTING JIA BINGBING LI SAMI MAALOUF VIDYA NANDIKOLLA VAHAB POURNAGHSHBAND
18	EMOTIONS		

34	HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT		DORIS ABRISHAMI GRETCHEN BORIA PÉREZ HANIA DAWANI IVAN GUILLORY JACOB JENSEN BRETT KOONTZ PATCHAREEYA "PATTY" KWAN ROBERT LOCKIE CARMEN SAUNDERS SUZANNE SPEAR
46	HUMANITIES		LINDA ALVAREZ SANTOSH KHADKA STEPHANIE H. KIM J.C. LEE JOSEPH WILTBERGER
52	MICHAEL D. EISNER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION		JESSICA CHEN FENG CAT GASPARD DANIEL GOUGH

56	MIKE CURB COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA & COMMUNICATION		KARI HAYTER A.J. McCAFFREY
60	OVIATT LIBRARY		CHRIS BULOCK FELICIA VERTREES DELPHIA WILLIAMS MARY WOODS
66	SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES		SANCHAYEETA ADHIKARI ALYSSA ARENTOFT GISELA LANZAS
70	UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES		ARACELI MEJIA AMY ROSENBLATT

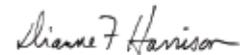
INTRODUCTION

Dear New Tenure-Track Faculty Members:

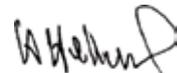
We are pleased to welcome and recognize you as new members of the CSUN community-at-large. We appreciate your fresh optimism and wish to extend our support in fueling your motivation for years to come, as we value mentoring and outreaching to our new faculty.

We acknowledge you for successfully enduring the stress and hurdles that a career transition entails, and offer our congratulations on surviving your first year of the tenure-track process.

Sincerely,



Dianne F. Harrison
President



Harry Hellenbrand
Provost and Vice President
for Academic Affairs



DIANNE F. HARRISON
President



HARRY HELLENBRAND
Provost and Vice President

In the Fall of 2014, CSUN welcomed almost 40 new tenure-track faculty members. These are the individuals that will touch our future here at CSUN.

The New Faculty Orientation (NFO) began with a two-day program that included welcoming remarks by numerous administrators, programs, offices, fellow faculty, and students. New faculty are invited to move across campus, dialogue with students and faculty, take exercise breaks with student athletes, receive one-on-one technology mentoring, eat, learn the names of every single new faculty member, and forge meaningful bonds with others. Since building relationships and confidence is cited by faculty as one of the most important NFO outcomes, our Learning-Centered NFO promises a rich and engaging experience as it continues throughout the first semester with programming on benefits, grants, assessment, and teaching practices. This is a group of new faculty that are dynamic, engaged, and motivated to thoughtfully contribute to our campus and community.

Join the Office of Faculty Development in celebrating the accomplishment of finishing their first semester as a CSUN tenure-track faculty member. To all the new faculty members, it has been a pure honor to serve you as you embark upon one of the most exciting careers—working at California State University Northridge!

Warmly,
Greg Knotts



GREGORY KNOTTS

Associate Professor
Director of New Faculty
Orientation and Programs

SHINE WITH NFO



NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION 2014-2015

SHINE WITH THESE DYNAMIC INGREDIENTS

The New Faculty Orientation committee crafted a set of core ingredients that are woven into the fabric of all of our events and programing. These event objectives include:

Strategies: we model interactive and learning-centered teaching strategies at NFO.

Highlights: we aim to highlight only the most critical information without overwhelming new faculty.

Individualized: we reveal the individual strengths and talents of new faculty and meet them at their individual starting point.

Networking: NFO is a personalized experience that facilitates networking and building relationships.

Emotions: we create an atmosphere filled with positive emotions such as celebration, reassurance, and motivation.

STRATEGIES

We model interactive and learning-centered teaching strategies at NFO.



TEACHING AND MENTORING



HIGHLIGHTS

We aim to highlight only the most critical information without overwhelming new faculty.



WELCOMING NEW FACULTY



INDIVIDUALIZED

We reveal the individual strengths and talents of new faculty and meet them at their individual starting point.



INFORMATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR



NETWORKING

NFO is a personalized experience that facilitates networking and building relationships.



COMMUNICATING WITH COLLEAGUES



EMOTIONS

We create an atmosphere filled with positive emotions such as celebration, reassurance, and motivation.



MOTIVATION TO START



DAVID NAZARIAN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

FACULTY MEMBERS

WADE CHUMNEY
SIGALIT RONEN



WADE CHUMNEY

BUSINESS LAW

I completed my advanced degree at the University of Virginia and was a tenure-track faculty member at Georgia Tech. I look forward to bringing my teaching experience to CSUN where I was drawn because of the excellent business law faculty.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would be a professional speaker and author (or at least try).

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I played college basketball (in England).



SIGALIT RONEN

MANAGEMENT

After completing my advanced degree from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, I was a senior manager at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada. I was so impressed with my interview process at CSUN and am eager to join the faculty members in the Management Department who are highly talented and very nice people.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would be a musician. I love singing and listening to music.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I am a yoga instructor.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would love to learn to speak Portuguese and interior design.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I like working in my home office during the day hearing the birds from my window. I also like the night after completing all my chores and after my kids are in their beds. I can then watch a movie or read something.



ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

FACULTY MEMBERS

ANWAR ALROOMI
TZONG-YING HAO
WEN-CHIN HSU
RUTING JIA
BINGBING LI
SAMI MAALOUF
VIDYA NANDIKOLLA
VAHAB POURNAGHSHBAND



ANWAR ALROOMI

CIVIL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

I just finished my advanced degree at Oklahoma State University and this is my first tenure-track position. I have experience teaching both graduate level and undergraduate level courses and look forward to bringing my diverse experiences to the diverse population at CSUN.



TZONG-YING HAO

CIVIL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

I completed my PhD at the University of Southern California. I have been a part-time faculty member at CSUN, teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses and am happy to now be on the tenure track.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would like to be a jewelry designer.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I like to photograph flowers, especially close-ups.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Sign language.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part is at the end of the day my son snuggled close to me in my bed.



WEN-CHIN HSU

COMPUTER SCIENCE

I just finished my advanced degree at the University of Florida and this is my first tenure-track position. I have been a part-time faculty member at another institution and am eager to be on the tenure track at CSUN. I look forward to projects that are interdisciplinary and collaborative.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Becoming a car technician would definitely be on my to-do list, because I love cars and I go to autoshow every year if possible.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I am also into fashion. I am a big fan of clothes designing and Project Runway. I would love to learn how to make clothes for myself and produce my own clothing line. I was an art student before I studied science so I am sensitive to art and details.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Fix or remodel cars.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of a day is at night when I have finished all my work and have time to check into a movie. The least favorite part of my day is ANY time when I am stuck in traffic.



RUTONG JIA

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

I completed my PhD at the University of Texas at San Antonio. I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at McNeese State University in Louisiana and this is my first tenure-track position. I really look forward to working at a state university with large, diverse student enrollment. The labs have really good and up-to-date equipment which will help me contribute to this continually developing university.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Day care teacher.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Swim, listen to pop and classic music.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Piano.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is at night sharing stories with my daughter.



BINGBING LI

MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING & MANAGEMENT

I completed my PhD at Texas Tech University where I have just finished a post-doc teaching associate position. I also have a degree from Hefei University of Technology in China. This is my first tenure-track position and I am eager to join such a great manufacturing systems engineering program.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Swimming.



SAMI MAALOUF

CIVIL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

I just finished my PhD at University of California, Los Angeles and also have a BS and MS from CSULA. This is my first tenure-track position. I worked in industry and have decided to join academia. I was a part-time faculty member at CSUN and am eager to begin my tenure-track journey. I am also eager to be a part of CSUN because of being in the vicinity of an educationally “emerging” community.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related “back-up plan”?

Continue working as a part-time lecturer at CSUN and stay at my current job in engineering consulting.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Reciting/writing poetry and playing music.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

There are many new things I would like to learn. Calligraphy is one of them. Painting is another.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is getting to CSUN, parking right away (practically impossible) and preparing my lecture early.



VIDYA NANDIKOLLA

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

I completed a PhD at Idaho State University and I was a tenure-track faculty member at Philadelphia University, teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses. I am eager to be a part of a fast-growing engineering program.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related “back-up plan”?

Doctor (Physician).

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Watch Big Bang Theory and relax OR cook proper Indian thali food.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Playing video games.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Exercise.



VAHAB POURNAGHSHBAND

COMPUTER SCIENCE

I just finished my PhD at the University of California, Los Angeles after degrees (BS and MS) from Berkeley. CSUN is my first tenure-track position, although I was fortunate to gain experience teaching prior to coming here. I am looking forward to the balance of research and teaching that CSUN provides.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Professional soccer player.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Traveling.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Sailing.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite time of the day is 7:34PM!



HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

FACULTY MEMBERS

DORIS ABRISHAMI
 GRETCHEN BORIA PÉREZ
 HANIA DAWANI
 IVAN GUILLORY
 JACOB JENSEN
 BRETT KOONTZ
 PATCHAREEYA "PATTY" KWAN
 ROBERT LOCKIE
 CARMEN SAUNDERS
 SUZANNE SPEAR



DORIS ABRISHAMI

HEALTH SCIENCES

I just finished my advanced degree and this is my first tenure-track position. Although I have some experience teaching undergraduate courses, I have most recently worked in industry and have decided to join academia. I am looking forward to the opportunity to learn from and understand our very diverse student population at CSUN.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Working as a hospital administrator/educator.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Love playing tennis and working out.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

How to swim.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite: Relaxing with a good book to read at 10 pm.



GRETCHEN BORIA PÉREZ

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

I just finished my advanced degree at the University at Albany, SUNY, and this is my first tenure-track position. I have taught before and am eager to bring this experience to the diverse student population at CSUN, which was a real draw for me in coming here!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Painter/Artist.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Painting.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would like to learn Italian.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite: The early evening after a productive day.



HANIA DAWANI

NURSING

I have a Master of Public Health and a Doctorate in Nursing. I worked in academia, in Amman, Jordan, since 1990. I have taught in graduate and undergraduate programs and my research interests are in stress, depressions and family health. Prior to CSUN I was a consultant at the WHO on many national and international assignments, mostly in mental health. I participated in devising mental health policy for the country of Jordan and served as the director of professional services at the Jordanian Nursing Council, the regulatory body of nursing in the country. I was introduced to CSUN through friends and colleagues and learned about the potential to contribute to, and help develop, nursing programs; but Los Angeles was also definitely a factor in coming here!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

If I were not to become the academician, I would work for an international organization; specifically sought a job with WHO for respect of their mandate!

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

If I could afford it though, I would have loved to learn philosophy (my way), art appreciation, and travel forever; roam beautiful Europe, savor art and then nature.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

The best part of the day is the evening! I do not have worst part of the day. I just do not like to work in the early morning hours.



IVAN GUILLORY

KINESIOLOGY

I completed my PhD at Louisiana State University. I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at the University of Kentucky and this is my first tenure-track position. I am happy to be in southern California at CSUN and the position was directly in line with my skills and experience!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I'd probably have done something in the travel industry.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I love to travel and I'm a HUGE college football fan.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Re-learn how to swim.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite part of the day is after work when I finish my workout and I can sit in front of the TV with a nice steak!



JACOB JENSEN

KINESIOLOGY

I completed my PhD at the University of Tennessee. I have been a tenure-track faculty member at CSU Chico. I experienced a great interview with the Kinesiology Department and look forward to working with the people there. CSUN is in a great location and a great community.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

College Tennis Coach
Commercial Actor

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Tennis, piano, organ
Twin
Left-Handed

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Golf
Another instrument

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite part of day (anything active).
Least favorite part of day (fixing meals).



BRETT KOONTZ

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

I just finished my advanced degree at the University of La Verne and this is my first tenure-track position. I was a part-time faculty member at CSUN and also worked in industry. I have decided to join academia. Although my dad was a student at CSUN in the 1960's and I see working here as an opportunity to contribute to the community in which I grew up, this bio is as spicy as a dry baked potato.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would like to have a catering truck business that serves pies made by guest pie bakers with blue ribbon credentials from mid-west county fairs. In the best interests of my customers, I would assume the task of taste-testing all of the offerings each day.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Furthermore, I enjoy drought tolerant plants such as succulents and cacti.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Some day I would like to learn how to make my own clothes.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I am a morning person and love to get the day started while others slumber.



PATCHAREEYA "PATTY" KWAN

HEALTH SCIENCES

I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at the Claremont Graduate School after completing all of my degrees (BS, MPH, PhD) at the University of Southern California. This is my first tenure-track position. I grew up in the San Fernando Valley, just 2-4 miles away from CSUN, and have never left the Southern California region. I am excited to be at CSUN, which appears to be dedicated to students' success - but also supports faculty growth and development through allowing them to pursue their research interests.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would have my own cooking show on the Food Network.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I love to cook and am an avid bargain shopper (nothing beats the clearance section!).

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would learn to garden. I'm not good at growing plants but wish I can grow my own fruits and veggies in my backyard.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is picking up my kids from their grandparents' (babysitter) house after work since they are so happy to see me. My least favorite part is in the morning when I'm trying to get them out of bed, dressed and off to school by 8am.



ROBERT LOCKIE

KINESIOLOGY

I completed my PhD at the University of Technology (Australia) and was a tenure-track faculty member at the University of Newcastle (Australia) where I gained a great deal of teaching experience I am eager to bring to CSUN. The Kinesiology Department was a huge draw for me to relocate – the people and strength of the faculty. Also, CSUN offers a balance between teaching and research in a great location.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would be an action movie extra, because I have an Australian father and Indonesian mother, I look like any number of races. Therefore, I could roam from movie to movie playing any number of bad guy henchmen that are in one scene before the hero takes care of business.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I have competed in natural bodybuilding before.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would say snowboarding, so I could take proper advantage of the Californian mountains.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day would be in the evening, sitting down with some form of sport on the television with a beer.



CARMEN SAUNDERS

HEALTH SCIENCES

I am completing my doctoral degree from Walden University and my dissertation should be done by the time you read this bio! I came from a non-tenure-track position at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and this is my first tenure-track position. The mentorship opportunities drew me to CSUN and I am a graduate from Cal State L.A., so I know the value of a CSU education.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Go back to working as a mammo tech. My fun job: professional relaxer.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I like to knit and crochet. I like to play SoulCalibur.



SUZANNE SPEAR

HEALTH SCIENCES

After completing my PhD at UCLA, I finished a research associate job at USC (I know). I also gained teaching experiences in both environments. I also earned an MS from the University of New Orleans and a BA from NYU. I like the fact that CSUN is growing its research portfolio and that there is support for research. I have heard only good things about CSUN, the campus is beautiful, and I look forward to my path here!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Didn't really have one. Maybe move to France and find something there (my husband is from France).

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I used to do theatre and only switched my major during undergraduate from theatre to anthro. I once wanted to join the circus. I'm hoping my theatre background will help me be an engaging professor who can bring subjects to life.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

How to be an effective teacher. How to grade essays as I find this arbitrary at times.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I like the morning, breakfast time. I also like having a glass of wine after work.



HUMANITIES

FACULTY MEMBERS

LINDA ALVAREZ
SANTOSH KHADKA
STEPHANIE H. KIM
J.C. LEE
JOSEPH WILTBERGER



LINDA ALVAREZ

CENTRAL AMERICAN STUDIES

I just finished my PhD at the Claremont Graduate University and bring my part-time faculty experience there and at CSUN to my first tenure-track position. I am so excited to join the Central American Studies program (only one in the nation); also that CSUN is an HSI in the community in which I grew up, which means I can continue to work in and serve my community.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Vegan Chef or Applied Ethology.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I am vegan (for ethical, health and social reasons). I am very involved in the animal

rights movement and do a lot of work with all types of animal rescue. I share my life with a few dogs, cats and a 25-year-old tortoise named Burt. The most unique animal whose rescue I've been involved in was a falcon. Let's just say it's a unique experience to have a falcon hopping around in your car while driving on the 5 freeway.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would want to learn more about nutrition science in order to create/work on projects that address nutrition and food access issues in communities of color both in the U.S. and abroad.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I generally enjoy the whole day because every day is unique, but I really like mornings and fresh thoughts.



SANTOSH KHADKA

ENGLISH

I completed my PhD at Syracuse University, New York and also just finished a post-doc teaching associate position there. This is my first tenure-track position. I also have an MA in English from Pokhara University, Nepal. I have experience teaching graduate level as well as undergraduate level courses and am looking forward to teaching such a diverse student population.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Being a police officer.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I love trekking in the mountains.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Gymnastics.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite: after midnight;
least favorite: early morning.



STEPHANIE H. KIM

LINGUISTICS/TESL

My MA and PhD are both from UCLA, but my BA is from Kyung Hee University in Korea. I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at UCLA and this is my first tenure-track position. I am eager to put my teaching experience to work in this great location where I found a good "fit."

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would be a travel agent or a tour guide. I love traveling and making travel plans.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

How to train for a marathon.

**J.C. LEE****ENGLISH**

I just completed my PhD at the University of Rhode Island where I was fortunate to acquire a great deal of teaching experience. This is my first tenure-track position. I am so glad to join the English Department at CSUN where I was drawn because of their work supporting developmental writers.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would custom build vivariums and indoor planted water features.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I adore reptiles and amphibians.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I wish I knew more about how to build or repair things around the home. I envy my friends who have such skills.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I am generally as nocturnal as my work schedule allows me to be. I love sunrise, provided I have the occasional luxury of staying up to see it (rather than waking up for it.)

**JOSEPH WILTBERGER****CENTRAL AMERICAN STUDIES**

My PhD is from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at the University of Notre Dame where I gained experience in both graduate and undergraduate courses. This is my first tenure-track position.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would open up a surf lodge on a beach somewhere in Central America. Actually, I might still do that anyway even though I have a full-time job.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I grew up sailing and I love it. I compete in regattas when I'm not busy being a geek. I'm a certified instructor, and I was an assistant coach for El Salvador's national youth team when I was doing my dissertation fieldwork there from 2008 to 2011.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Man, I wish I had the patience and discipline to finally learn to play the guitar.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite part: Going for a run -- which, now that I live in California, I can do year round! Anyone looking for a running partner or know of a local running group? Least favorite part: The short time between waking up and that first swig of my gourmet Central American coffee.

MICHAEL D. EISNER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

FACULTY MEMBERS

JESSICA CHEN FENG
CAT GASPARD
DANIEL GOUGH



JESSICA CHEN FENG

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING

I just finished my PhD in Marital and Family Therapy at Loma Linda University. This is my first tenure-track position, where I was drawn because of my value for the diversity within the student population at CSUN. I was also drawn to the Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling because of its intentionality, camaraderie, and honor of human difference amongst colleagues.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I would open up a coffee and stationery store that encourages clientele to have a great latte while writing a personalized card to someone that they could snail mail it to.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Calligraphy, relaxing with our miniature schnauzer and eating lots of good Asian food in the San Gabriel Valley.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Playing the bass and electric guitar.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I love the early morning or late night when the world feels at rest and I am either reading a restful psalm or a good non-academic book.



CAT GASPARD

SECONDARY EDUCATION

I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at Bard College after completing my advanced degree at the University of California, Santa Barbara. This is my first tenure-track position where I will be bringing a wide range of teaching experiences across K-16. I met so many wonderful people during my visit; I look forward to working with them!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Host my own cooking/travel show
- the female version of Anthony Bourdain

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I love to surf.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

A new language.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite - sunset.



DANIEL GOUGH

DEAF STUDIES

I just finished my advanced PhD at Lamar University and this is my first tenure-track position. I have a lot of teaching experience in undergraduate level courses at CSUMB. I am really looking forward to working with the excellent faculty members of Deaf Studies. They have given me a great start in my career and provide amazing mental stimulation.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Be a scuba diving instructor or own a medical business.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Roller blade with my family, reading books, and I am full of surprises, which is unique about me!

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

How to build and maintain motorcycles and classic vehicles like Volkswagen Bus.

MIKE CURB COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

FACULTY MEMBERS

KARI HAYTER
A.J. McCAFFREY

KARI HAYTER

THEATRE

I just finished my advanced degree at CSU Fullerton and this is my first tenure-track position. I have had a great time as a part-time faculty member at CSU Fullerton and am glad to be on the tenure track here at CSUN.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?
Can't imagine not teaching. Ever.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?
I have two therapy dogs.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?
COOKING!

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Favorite: Late evening, watching TV with my family. And ice cream.





A.J. McCAFFREY

MUSIC

I just finished my PhD at the University of Southern California after earlier degrees from Rice University and The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. I have taught courses in music theory, aural skills, and composition at the University of Southern California, the Longy School of Music of Bard College, California State University Los Angeles, and Pasadena City College. This is my first tenure-track position.



OVIATT LIBRARY

FACULTY MEMBERS

CHRIS BULOCK
FELICIA VERTREES
DELPHIA WILLIAMS
MARY WOODS



CHRIS BULOCK

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES LIBRARIAN

I completed my PhD at UCLA and was a tenure-track faculty member at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. The dedication of the library faculty to the CSUN campus community was a big draw for me coming here and I can't wait to start teaching! My research interests include management of Open Access resources, tracking perpetual access entitlements, and evaluation of electronic library collections.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I'd open up a coffee roaster.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Rock climbing.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Speaking Portuguese.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of my day is seeing my 8 month old smile at me when he wakes up in the morning.



FELICIA VERTREES

SENIOR ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN OF RESEARCH, INSTRUCTION AND OUTREACH SERVICES

I have a BA in Journalism from Eastern Illinois University and an advanced degree from San Jose State University. Prior to my tenure-track job here, I was already part-time faculty at CSUN and I enjoyed it very much. The students are so great and so are my fellow librarians.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Comedian. Seriously.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Reading, gardening. I love hanging out at museums, and I love just hanging out in my backyard.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would learn how to speak another language -- either French or Spanish.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Least favorite: My commute in to work. Thankfully it's through the mountains, so it's not horrible.



DELPHIA WILLIAMS

SENIOR ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN OF COLLECTION ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

I just finished my advanced degree at San Jose State University after BAs in Sociology and Liberal Studies, both here at CSUN. This is my first tenure-track position. I have been on this campus since I was an 18-year-old freshman. I love the people in the library and atmosphere on this campus.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Social Work, working with at risk teens.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would love to learn how to play the piano.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Mid-day is my least favorite part of the day, I always feel like I need a quick nap. My favorite part of the day is early morning or dusk.



MARY WOODS

SENIOR ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN OF COLLECTION ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

I just finished my advanced degree at San Jose State University after also completing a BA from Chapman University. This is my first tenure-track position and I can't wait to start teaching. From activist movements to graduation ceremonies, I love that the Oviatt Library is the center of much activity on campus.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I attempt to write screenplays. Most remain unfinished.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I'd love to take a class on sign language.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

I'm a commuter. 'Nuff said. (Though I do enjoy my NPR and podcast time.)



SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

FACULTY MEMBERS

SANCHAYEETA ADHIKARI
ALYSSA ARENTOFT
GISELA LANZAS



SANCHAYEETA ADHIKARI

GEOGRAPHY

I just finished a post-doc teaching associate position at Macalester College. Although I have a great deal of teaching experience, this is my first tenure-track position. I have degrees from the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, India, as well as the University of Florida. I am really looking forward to attempting a work-life balance!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?
Chef.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?
Photography.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?
Learn French.



ALYSSA ARENTOFT

PSYCHOLOGY

I just finished a post-doc at UCLA after completing my other degrees at Fordham University and NYU. The culture of the Psychology Department and the diversity of the institution were such huge draws for me that I can't wait to start teaching in my first tenure-track position.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

A writer.

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Reading.



GISELA LANZAS

ANTHROPOLOGY

I just finished my PhD in Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. I have taught at UCSB, but this is my first tenure-track position. I am eager to be at CSUN with all the amazing diversity here.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

Professional dancer!

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Salsa dancing.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

Philosophy.

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

Mornings in cold regions (for some reason, morning in the tropics are more productive for me. My brain seems to stop working when I feel cold!).

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES

FACULTY MEMBERS

ARACELI MEJIA
AMY ROSENBLATT



ARACELI MEJIA

STUDENT SERVICES PROFESSIONAL

I just completed my PhD at Arizona State University after an MS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a BA from UC Berkeley. I have taught part-time (both undergraduate and graduate courses) at CSU Long Beach as well as ASU. This is my first tenure-track position. There were several “selling points” that attracted me to CSUN. However, one of the main positive points is the opportunity to work with the student population at this campus, specifically with the Latina/o students.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related “back-up plan”?

I would become a dance instructor for a small dance company.

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

I would like to learn how to garden;

specifically I would like to learn how to plant and take care of tomatoes, corn, chiles, basil, mint, avocados and limes. Anyone have any good tips?

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

A favorite part of the day waking up in the morning to make my french press coffee then going back to sleep. After a few minutes pass, I wake up again to the smell of freshly brewed coffee. After I prepare my cup of coffee, I sit down in a comfortable chair (either indoors or outdoors) for 20 minutes and mindfully enjoy drinking my cup.

The least favorite part of the day is when I have to drive during traffic hours.



AMY ROSENBLATT

STUDENT SERVICES PROFESSIONAL

I am originally from Maryland (through high school) and earned a BA from Ohio University (Athens, OH) and an MA from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (in Chicago, IL). I completed my advanced degree (Psy.D.) from the Adler School of Professional Psychology. Prior to that, I was a pre-doctoral intern at CSUN in 2011-12, left for my post-doctoral fellowship at Santa Monica College for the 2012-2013 academic year, and was hired at CSUN (in a non-tenure track position) for the 2013-2014 academic year. I had a very positive experience during my pre-doctoral internship (within University Counseling Services) at CSUN during the 2011-12 academic year, and have wanted to stay ever since!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"?

I am not a professor; I am a psychologist (although I am often in teaching roles!). If I were not a psychologist, I would likely be in a career that allowed me to utilize more creativity! I love coming up with innovative ideas and thinking "outside of the box."

For pure fun, what is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Music and exercise!

If you could learn something new, what would it be?

To play acoustic guitar!

What is your favorite or least favorite part of your day?

One of my favorite parts of the day is enjoying a strong cup of coffee right after I wake up; I like to have time to transition into the day.



NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION 2014-2015

MIDDLE ROW (L TO R)

Jimmy Gandhi, Manufacturing Systems Engineering & Management
Janet Oh, Associate Director, Office of Institutional Research; Psychology
Stefanie Drew, Psychology
Ashley Samson, Kinesiology

FRONT ROW

Virginia Huynh, Child & Adolescent Development
Whitney Scott, Child & Adolescent Development

BACK ROW

Mark Otten, Psychology
Matthew Jackson, Theatre
Greg Knotts, Elementary Education

**NOT PICTURED BUT ALSO ON
THE COMMITTEE**

Marquita Pellerin, Pan African Studies
Coleen Martin, Oviatt Library



Working with the VISCOM team to produce this book embodies what it means to be a learning-centered and engaged University. Thank you to the CSUN students who created this book, under supervision of remarkable faculty and staff; your skills and talents are impressive!



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