

California State University, Northridge



CSUN | California State University | Northridge

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 2013-2014.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

California State University, Northridge





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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. HARRISONPresident



HARRY HELLENBRAND
Provost and Vice President

In the Fall of 2013, CSUN welcomed over 30 new tenure-track faculty members. The two-day New Faculty Orientation (NFO) included welcoming remarks by numerous administrators, programs, offices, fellow faculty, and students. 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. 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. This is a group of new faculty that are dynamic and motivated to thoughtfully contribute to our campus and community. These are the individuals that will touch our future here at CSUN.

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

Whitney Scott Associate Professor Director of New Faculty Orientation & Programs



WHITNEY SCOTT
Associate Professor
Director of New Faculty
Orientation and Programs

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SHINE WITH NFO



NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION 2013-2014

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.

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STRATEGIES

We model interactive and learningcentered teaching strategies at NFO.



TEACHING AND MENTORING



lacksquare

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



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NETWORKING

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



COMMUNICATING WITH COLLEAGUES



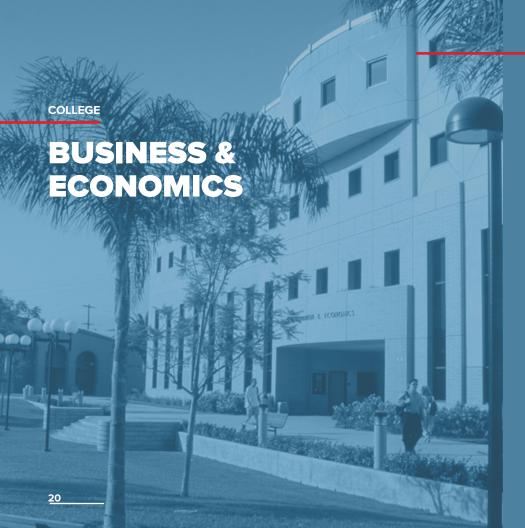
EMOTIONS

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



MOTIVATION TO START





AKANKSHA BEDI KRISTINE BECK YOUNG-WON HER



AKANKSHA BEDI

MANAGEMENT

I earned my Ph.D. in Human Resources Management & Organizational Behaviour from McMaster University, Canada Master of Arts (Economics), Simon Fraser University, Canada Master of Commerce, Delhi University, India Bachelor of Commerce (Honors), Delhi University, India. The research program I have been establishing, and have been working on for several years, aims to contribute to the areas of dysfunctional work behaviors. My research interests are in the areas of workplace aggression, organizational politics, work related stress and emotions, and coping mechanisms used to manage stress.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is?
Intellectually stimulating and fun filled conversations with my colleagues and

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

Someone please have mercy and teach me how to belly dance!

students.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Raising funds for breast cancer foundation and charities supporting underprivileged kids.

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

Sitting in a gym pumping iron and

Sitting in a gym pumping iron and building some killer biceps.



KRISTINE BECK

FINANCE

I earned my Ph.D. in Finance from Florida State University. I also earned a B.S. in Economics from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. I taught at the University of Denver and the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh prior to joining CSUN. My research interests include international finance, investments, financial planning, and methodological issues.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Helping students build good financial planning habits.

What is your favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is walking my daughter to school.



YOUNG-WON HER ACCOUNTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

I earned my PhD in Accounting from the University of South Carolina-Columbia. My current research interest is in the field of behavioral experimental research in accounting. I am particularly interested in exploring how various accounting information can influence accounting professionals' judgment and decisionmaking.

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

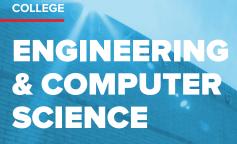
I would like to learn how to surf, so I can make the most of my current location in California.

What's one of your favorite habits? OR what is one of your least favorite habits?

Googling the internet for the best price before buying something, even though my time spent on googling does not justify any benefit I can possibly obtain from this time-consuming habitual search!

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

I would be a professional salesman of a multinational company who needs to sell something all over the world, as I love



SHAHNAM MIRZAEI



SHAHNAM MIRZAEI

ELECTRIC AND COMPUTER ENGINEER

I earned my Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from UC Santa Barbara. I got my M.S. degree from CSUN and my B.S. degree from the University of Tehran. I have worked in industry for almost 10 years. It includes a variety of topics but they are all around "reconfigurable hardware." Topics such as computer arithmetic, image processing, signal processing are the main topics that interest me.

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

In engineering there is always something to learn and it never stops. For me the newest thing to learn is how to write a proposal, and I'd like to succeed in one of those that I am writing within the next year or so.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Teaching engineering design techniques to my students.

What's one of your favorite habits? Playing chess is my favorite habit.

What is your favorite part of your day?

It is being with my family after a full working day at CSUN.



ROSA M. ANGULO-BARROSO
STEPHANIE BENJAMIN
REBEKAH HOWERTON-CHILD
OVANDE FURTADO
DENA HERMAN
NOLA KENNEDY
BRETT KOONTZ
KAITLIN O'KEEFE
ELIZABETH SUSSMAN
CAROL VELAS



ROSA M. ANGULO-BARROSO

KINESIOLOGY

I studied at the University of Barcelona INEF (Instituto Nacional de Educacion Fisica), Barcelona, Spain, and earned my B.S. in Physical Education at Indiana University, in Bloomington, Indiana. I also earned my M.S. in Biomechanics at Indiana University. I have dual Ph.D.'s in Human Performance, and in Neural Sciences in exploration and control of leg movements in infants.

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

Balance between teaching, research, and family.

What is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I make excellent Spanish paellas.



STEPHANIE BENJAMIN

HEALTH SCIENCES

I earned my Ph.D. in Epidemiology from Tulane University. I also earned my B.A. in Biological Basis of Behavior from the University of Pennsylvania and I earned my M.P.H. in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. I am interested in diabetes research with a focus on pre-diabetes and obesity.

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"? I would play mah jongg everyday!

What's the most recent, best thing you learned related to CSUN? I learned about how many great resources there are at the CSUN

Library.

What's one of your favorite habits? One of my favorite habits is watching TV at night before I go to bed.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about? Decreasing childhood obesity.



REBEKAH HOWERTON-CHILD

NURSING

I earned my Ph.D. in Nursing from UC Los Angeles. I have travelled all over the world for my education (or really just Southern California). I studied at the University of Southern California for my B.S. in Nursing and then went about three blocks east to Mount St. Mary's College for my MSN in Nursing Education. I am one of the few who was born and raised in Los Angeles, more specifically Northridge.

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

How to do home improvement projects... I LOVE watching HGTV but am always afraid to try something new myself.

What is your favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is the morning when everyone is home and I can watch Jungle Junction or Mickey Mouse Clubhouse with my boys and drink the morning's first cup of hot coffee.

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

It is really a toss up between a party

planner and a fiction novel writer.



OVANDE FURTADO

KINESIOLOGY

I earned my Ph.D. in Motor Development and Learning from the University of Pittsburgh. I also earned my B.A. degree in Physical Education from the Federal University of Parana - Brazil. My line of research focuses on two main areas: (1) validation of observational models in psychomotor assessment instruments and (2) the relationship between motor skill competence, perceived motor competence, physical activity levels, and body composition measurements in children and adolescents.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?
Helping disadvantaged street children in Brazil.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

Teaching/working with students of different backgrounds and nationalities.

What is your favorite part your day? My favorite part of the day is the moment I wake up and realize that another day is about to begin.

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

I would be a professional soccer player and eventually a soccer coach.



DENA HERMAN

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES

I earned my Ph.D. in Community Health Sciences from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. I am proud of my MS in Nutritional Sciences from the Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität, Bonn, Germany. Not only did I have to learn the language but I had to speak/write it well enough to do all of my studies (oral and written exams) in German. I also have an RD, registered dietitian's license with a specialty in Pediatrics and an MPH. My research topic is childhood obesity. I am interested in the origins of disease and am looking at how theories of "infectobesity" affect newly immigrated populations by studying their microbiome (gut bacteria).

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Bringing together people from disparate areas who would not otherwise meet each other to work/think together. I like the synergy of creating new ideas out of old ones.

What is your favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is waking up and swimming (outdoor pool) and watching the sun rise as I finish my workout. Feel like I have accomplished something good before most have set foot out of bed.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

The super supportive, collegial environment at CSUN. I feel so welcome and appreciated. Love it!

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NOLA KENNEDY
ENVIRONMENTAL AND
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

My Ph.D. was conferred by UCLA in the discipline of environmental health science. I am interested in evaluating human exposures to environmental agents, such as airborne particles, noise, and thermal extremes.

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

Making sure that the work I do is more than an intellectual exercise and insisting that it has the potential to help people.

What's one of your favorite habits? Nearly every evening, my dog and I go for a 4-mile run.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

The strong sense of community among faculty, staff and students.

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

I would have an outrageously good, small, and friendly restaurant and it would be open for breakfast and lunch only.



BRETT KOONTZ ENVIRONMENTAL AND

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

I am earning my Doctor of Public Administration from University of La Verne. I earned my B.S. and M.S. at CSUN. I spent one summer in Finland as an exchange student. I am currently studying renewable energy governance in the western United States.

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 full-time pie judge at county fairs, with particular emphasis on fruit pies of the Midwest. I have a soft spot for home-made apple pie.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

I want students to travel, travel, travel before ancient civilizations fall to modernization.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

I enjoy the creativity and diversity of my students.

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KAITLIN O'KEEFE

HEALTH SCIENCES

I earned my Ph.D. in Epidemiology from UC Los Angeles. I study both infectious disease and disaster epidemiology. I focus on describing the occurrence and exploring risk factors for certain infectious diseases. I also evaluate emergency preparedness efforts in an attempt to improve overall preparedness of organizations, particularly through collaborations between organizations.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Getting students excited about my field and developing their own passions.

What is your favorite part of your day?

My favorite part of the day is coming home after a class I felt great about and thinking about my lectures for the coming weeks.

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

What's the most recent, best thing you learned related to CSUN or living in San Fernando Valley?
There's a bowling alley nearby!



ELIZABETH SUSSMAN

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES

I earned my Ph.D. in Physical Activity, Nutrition and Wellness from Arizona State University, as well as earning my Registered Dietitian credential by completing my internship at Long Island University. B.S.: California State University, Long Beach RD internship: Long Island University, Brookville, NY. M.S.: Columbia University, New York, NY. I look at vitamin and mineral deficiencies in kidney failure patients. Using nutrition, I attempt to correct these deficiencies, hoping to improve the oxidant-antioxidant imbalance in these patients, ultimately leading to reduced cardiac mortality.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Fostering the love of nutrition to the students and how it is vital to health at all stages.

What's one of your favorite habits?
Going to Crossfit most days of the week!

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

The support of the faculty in my department; I never thought the people I work with would be so supportive...
I love it!

Who is someone (or some pet!) that is a really important part of your life?

My dog, Rocky, and my boyfriend, Joey; both provide many laughs.

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CAROL VELAS

NURSING

I earned my Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy from CSUN. A.S. in Nursing at Pierce College, B.S. in Nurising at University of Phoenix, M.S. in Nuring (Edcuator Role) at CSU, Domingues Hills. I have a passion for student success (prior to, during, and after college). My Master's work was in student retention, my dissertation focuses on retention, program completion, and mastery of the NCLEX (nursing state board exam). I am currently working on an RN transition program (writing a Song-Brown Grant) for our nursing graduates to assist with the role transition from student to new graduate registered nurse.

What's one of your favorite habits?

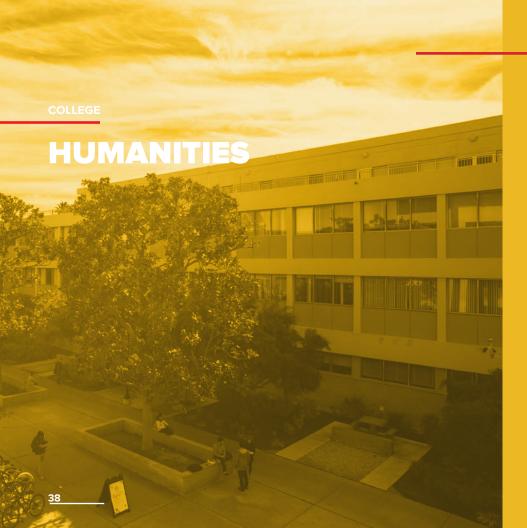
I love decorating the house for the holidays. We start with Halloween and a very scary front yard, then Thanksgiving with autumn colors and pumpkins, then Christmas with lights outside, a huge Grinch that overlooks the front yard with 5 differently decorated trees.

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

I would love to combine horses and flowers. I have a love for both. I have ridden since I was 7 and always thought I would love to own a flower shop. So, I was thinking maybe contracting with the Rose Parade to embellish all the horses in the parade with beautiful floral arrangements!!



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ISWARI PANDEY
KHANUM SHAIKH
KIMBERLY ROBERTSO



ISWARI PANDEY

ENGLISH

I earned my Ph.D. in English Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Louisville. B.A., Tribhuvan University, Nepal. I am interested in business and professional communication, postcolonial studies, global rhetorics, remediation and higher education, and ethics of knowledge building. My research examines a wide range of topics including immigrant and workplace literacies, transnationalism, global Englishes, new media, research methods, university-community collaboration, and writing center research.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...
Walking through the Orange Grove, it's the coolest experience even on a stressful day!

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

I would either be farming or working as an editor.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?
Helping students write better.



KIMBERLY ROBERTSON

WOMEN'S STUDIES

I earned my B.A. from the University of Northern Colorado in 1999, followed by my M.A. from the University of Michigan in 2001, and also a second MA from the University of California, Los Angeles. I earned my Ph.D. at the University of California, Los Angeles, 2012. I am a citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation and an activist, teacher, scholar, and mother. I teach courses in American Indian Studies and Gender & Women's Studies. My academic interests and political commitments include the relationships between violence against Native women, the construction of identity, urbanity, sovereignty, and indigenous feminisms.

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

Diverse populations.

What is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Arts and Crafts.



KHANUM SHAIKH

WOMEN'S STUDIES

I earn my Ph.D. in Women's Studies at UCLA my B.A. at UCLA, M.A. at University of Oregon in Transnational Feminism, Gender and Social Movements. My geographical areas of focus are Pakistan and North America.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Fostering the love of nutrition to the students and how it is vital to health at all stages.

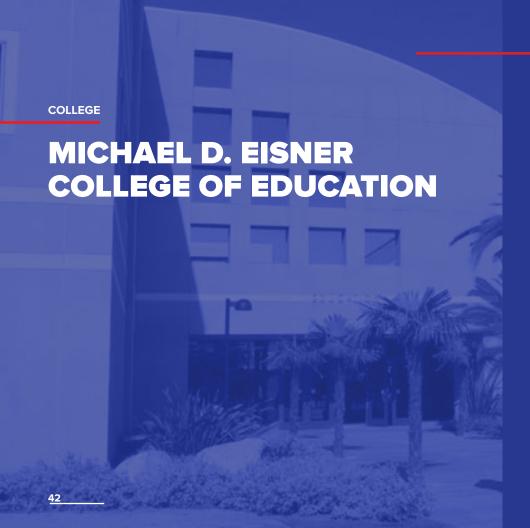
What is your least favorite part of your day?

When I am confronted with how to handle a two-year-old's tantrums without throwing myself on the floor and acting the same way as him.

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

Open a Chai shop that serves as a political/art space.

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AMY HANREDDY SHYREA MINTON



AMY HANREDDY

SPECIAL EDUCATION

I earned my Ph.D. in Education with an emphasis in Disability Studies from Chapman University, M.A. in Special Education from Cal State Northridge. I am very interested in research that seeks to improve outcomes for individuals with significant disabilities. To that end, I would like to pursue research of the many factors surrounding inclusive education (teaching students with and without disabilities together in general education classrooms), and social justice issues related to disability.

What's the most recent, best thing you learned related to CSUN?

I didn't realize how many people I know who work here in other colleges.

What's one of your favorite habits? Reading to my daughter at bedtime. Always stretches too long.

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

Exploring all the great stuff the campus community has to offer-gym, speakers, performances, art gallery!

If being a professor wasn't going to work out, what was your fun non-related "back-up plan"? National Park Ranger! I want to know all the details about every national park.



SHYREA MINTON EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELING

I earned my Ed.D. in Leadership for Educational Justice from the University of Redlands. I earned my M.A. and PPS credential from the University of Redlands, and my B.A. from UC Santa Barbara. I also completed coursework for LPCC licensure at Azusa Pacific University. I study multicultural counseling related to Professional School Counselors and identity development of this professional group. In addition, I am interested in continuing to study the impact of certain practices in the current P-12 education system on African American students.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Diversity awareness and multicultural counseling as a lifelong learning process. This is something I hope to fully engage in over the course of my career. We live in a time where there is so much diversity to appreciate.

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

Film Critic. I have no formal training in film, but love watching and talking about movies.

Who is someone that is a really important part of your life?

My husband...he is so supportive of me no matter what. He is my biggest cheerleader!





MATTHEW JACKSON ROBERT ST. PIERRE



MATTHEW JACKSON

THEATRE

I earned my M.F.A. in Stage Management from the Department of Drama at UC Irvine, B.A. in Theatre from UC Riverside. You know those people at entertainment events dressed all in black with headsets on and clipboards in their hands? That's what I do. Stage management is the practice of organizing and coordinating a theatrical production including all elements: design, direction, acting, and technical crew work.

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

I'd like to become fluent in a foreign language. Spanish or ASL, probably.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Empowering students in their artistic field, making sure they know they will have to work extremely hard to be successful as an artist.

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

I've always thought it would be a blast to work in the sports industry either as a broadcaster or entertainment producer.

What's one of your favorite habits?

Watching plays, musicals, concerts, dancing, and any sort of live entertainment.



ROBERT ST. PIERRE

ART & ANIMATION

After earning my degree in Illustration in 1990 at the Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, I launched my career with various studios such as Walt Disney Television Animation Studio, Disney's Direct to Home Video & Feature Animation Divisions, Warner Brothers Feature Animation, Focus Films and numerous other studios. Beyond these 23 years of industry experience, I have accumulated 17 years of teaching and lecturing for private art and educational institutions as well as for the Disney Studios.

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

I was originally interested in providing lecture and workshop services for the CSUN Art Department and was encouraged to submit for a tenure track position. I quickly realized how wide open the opportunities would be while impacting the lives of numerous students through my industry contacts and experience. All of my faculty contacts and communications, coupled with the overwhelming genuine support I've received, keep reaffirming our mutual interest and confirming that accepting this CSUN position was, frankly, one of the greatest career choices I have made.



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CHARISSA JEFFERSON LAUREN MAGNUSON



CHARISSA JEFFERSON

BUSINESS & DATA LIBRARIAN

I earned my M.L.S. from the University of North Texas/ CSUN cohort. B.A. in Women's Studies from CSU Long Beach, M.A. in Cultural Studies, Arts and Humanities from Claremont Graduate University. My focus is effective teaching and learning technologies for library and information literacy instruction for business students.

What is the one cause you feel most passionate about?

Facilitating an understanding that lifelong learning is an opportunity we ought to afford ourselves.

What's one of your favorite habits? I have been enjoying the spinning classes at the SRC.

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

Dancing in a world dance company and traveling to perform!

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...
My intelligent and friendly colleagues.
They inspire me every day.



LAUREN MAGNUSON
SYSTEM & EMERGING
TECHNOLOGIES LIBRARIAN

I earned my M.A. in Information Science and M.Ed. in Educational Technology from the University of Missouri-Columbia. B.A., Philosophy, Tulane University. I am interested in understanding how users approach library research using technology, and I also work on developing technology that makes research and finding information easier and more enjoyable for students and faculty.

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

My walk to work in the morning while listening to music or a podcast. I plan out my day and think about the things I want to accomplish that day.

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

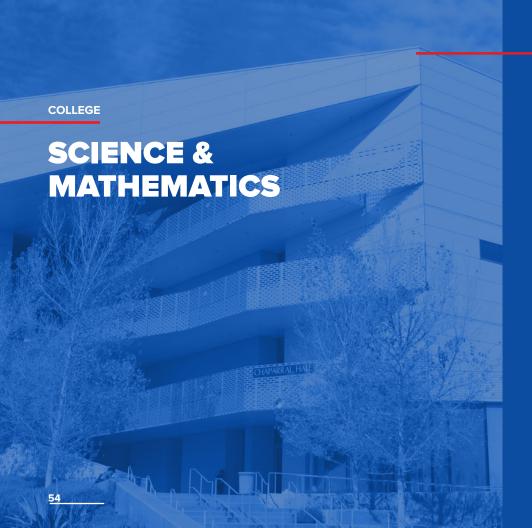
Though I have no artistic ability, I would have loved to be a comic book illustrator.

What's one of your favorite habits? OR what is one of your least favorite habits?

My favorite habit is running - usually right after work - but sometimes that good habit gets overruled by my bad habit of watching too much Netflix.



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GILBERTO FLORES KERRY COOPER TYLER LUCHKO CASEY TERHORST DAWN VAUGHN



GILBERTO FLORES

BIOLOGY

I earned my Ph.D. in Biology from Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. I study the ecology of microorganisms (bacteria and archaea) living in a range of environments including the deep-sea and the human body. Assistant Professor. What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

Teaching/research balance.

What is one of your non-academic hobbies?
Fly-fishing.



KERRY COOPER

BIOLOGY

I earned my Ph.D. in Pathobiology from the University of Arizona. I study the pathogenesis and genomics of foodborne pathogens, particularly focusing on the role of DNA methylation in gene expression and virulence. What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

The friendliness and comradery between the different faculty members.

What is something unique about you?

I'm 6'9" and played college basketball.



TYLER LUCHKO

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

I earned my Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Alberta. I use physics based computer simulations to study interactionsbetween individual biomolecules such as proteins and DNA, the fundamental machinery of life. In particular, I am interested in developing new methods to predict interactions, which is important for the development of new pharmaceuticals.

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

Commitment to research and teaching.

What is one of your non-academic hobbies?
Running.

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CASEY TERHORST

BIOLOGY

I earned my Ph.D. in Biological Science from Florida State University. Surprisingly, I earned a B.A. in History from University of Southern California before switching to Biology. I earned my M.S. in Biology from CSUN. I am a community ecologist, so I am interested in how different species interact with one another. But I'm also interested in how evolution that happens on really short time scales (a few weeks to a few years) affects how those species interact.

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

No question, I would be training dolphins at Sea World. Sure, it would be embarrassing, but you'd only say that because you'd be jealous!

One of the things I am enjoying about my new job at CSUN is...

I am really enjoying interacting with my students, who are all seniors and heavily invested in the class. It's nice to be teaching students who are excited to learn!



DAWN VAUGHN

BIOLOGY

I earned my Ph.D. from the University of Washington in Biology. In the broadest sense, I am a marine ecologist interested in the role of the environment in shaping the diversity of behaviors, life histories and forms found in nature. A major question that drives my research is: How do species respond to environmental uncertainty?

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

CSUN has an outstanding marine biology program and I am excited to be a part of it!

What is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I was a world champion baton twirler (a long time ago....).

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SARA BERZENSKI JESSICA KIM SARAH MOUNTZ



SARA BERZENSKI

PSYCHOLOGY

I earned my Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from UC Riverside. I earned my B.A. in Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania, and loved living in Philadelphia after college for several years. My research examines the ways in which kids who have experienced adversity in childhood, such as child maltreatment, learn to understand and manage their emotions. Assistant Professor.

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

The best parts of my day are the relaxing drive to and from work, listening to a podcast of my favorite radio show.

The thing I really dislike is...
Losing a close fantasy football matchup!

What's one of your favorite habits? OR what is one of your least favorite habits?

My favorite habit is rearranging my Google Calendar!

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

My husband and I would open either a repertory film theater/cafe or a board

game store.



JESSICA KIM

HISTORY

I received my Ph.D in History from the University of Southern California in 2012, and subsequently held a postdoctoral fellowship from the Huntington-USC Center for California and the West. My research focuses on the connections between Los Angeles and Mexico in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?
Teaching oriented.

What is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

Hiking across beautiful southern California.



SARAH MOUNTZ

SOCIAL WORK

I earned my Ph.D. in Social Welfare from the University of Washington and my MSW from Columbia University. I received my B.A. in Women's Studies and Psychology from Smith College. My dissertation research focuses on the experiences of systems involved LGBTQ youth. My teaching spans the areas of child welfare, LGBTQ health and wellness, historical trauma, community organizing, anti-oppression training, and social justice in social work practice.

What was a positive "selling point" that convinced you that CSUN is your ideal institution?

Warmth of the department.

What is one of your non-academic hobbies and/or something unique about you?

I enjoy running half marathons.

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NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION 2013-2014

TOP ROW

Greg Knotts, Elementary Education Susanna Eng-Ziskin, Oviatt Library Julie Pearce, Student Counseling Center Virginia Huynh, Child & Adolescent Development Mark Otten, Psychology Coleen Martin, Oviatt Library Barry Cleveland, Theatre

BOTTOM ROW

Jongeun Kim, Family & Consumer Sciences Stefanie Drew, Psychology Whitney Scott, Child & Adolescent Development Ashley Samson, Kinesiology

NOT PICTURED BUT ALSO ON THE COMMITTEE

Marquita Pellerin, Pan African Studies Penelope Jennings, Faculty Affairs



NEW FACULTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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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