

Inaugural Principal Investigators Recognition Celebration



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Student Affairs



● Engineering & Computer Science · Health & Human Development · Humanities

Science & Mathematics · Social & Behavioral Sciences



Sponsored Programs at CSUN

November 2012

It is my pleasure to thank Principal Investigators for their successful efforts in attracting sponsored programs to California State University, Northridge.

Faculty research and sponsored activities open doors to a deeper understanding of our world, to solving perplexing problems, and to greater and more exciting opportunities for our students. Such work helps connect the university to our community and the world, and brings vital and necessary resources to the university.

Dianne F. Harrison

Ph.D., president, California State University, Northridge



Celebration Highlights CSUN's Focus on Research

More Than 100 Faculty Researchers Recognized at Inaugural Event

When President Dianne F. Harrison joined the California State University, Northridge community this summer, she set an ambitious goal: double the amount of grant or contract-funded research on campus in the next five years. In keeping with that goal, the president has renewed the campus' focus on supporting faculty who are conducting funded research projects.



On Nov. 1, Harrison hosted about 100 faculty researchers from each of CSUN's nine colleges at the inaugural Principal Investigators Recognition Celebration at her home. Each principal investigator, the lead researcher on a funded project, was individually honored and presented with a token of the university's appreciation for their dedication to projects that cover subjects that range from nanotechnology and solar astronomy to education and ecology.

Before introducing the researchers, the president affirmed her dedication to research on campus, which she said not only contributes to the ongoing development of crucial basic and applied science—essential to solving today's challenging problems—but also benefits students and fellow faculty working with them on their projects.



Principal investigators serve as mentors for the students and fellow faculty working with them on their projects.



"We know that students who are involved and working with faculty, side-by-side, do better," Harrison said. "They do better academically. They do better in completion. They do better in a whole host of ways."

Harry Hellenbrand, provost and vice president for academic affairs, also spoke about the importance of research in effective teaching. "If you aren't out there practicing what you preach, then you can't preach well," he told the researchers. "So what you're doing is essential for good teaching."

In addition to mentoring students, principal investigators mentor young faculty, preparing the next generation of CSUN's faculty to lead funded projects, an essential element to reaching the president's goal to double research funding—important in today's challenging budget environment.



"Any kind of additional, non-California-state revenue that we can bring in is all to the good," Harrison said.



2012

Principal Investigators





Tami Abourezk

Professor Abourezk works in the areas of Motor learning/control and Elementary physical education. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development entitled "Reducing the Childhood Obesity Rate Among Low Income Children in Van Nuys."

Professor Adelman's areas of interest include Elementary reading instruction and Language/writing instruction. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the California Postsecondary Education Commission to help teachers gain multiple subject teaching credentials.



Elaine Adelman



Larry Allen

Professor Allen's research is centered on ecology, behavior, and biogeography of fishes. He has an award from California Sea Grant to conduct an assessment on the population of the barred sea bass of the coast of Southern California.

Professor Amini is the Chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.



Ali Amini



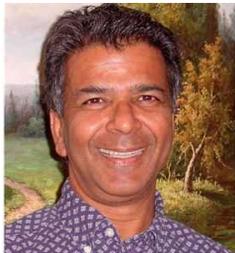
Kamiran Badrkhan

Professor Badrkhan's work focuses on curriculum development and leadership development. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from the South Bay Workforce Investment Board to train unemployed teachers to assist in obtaining teaching authorizations in math or science.

Professor Banner's research is centered on nervous and immune systems interactions and diabetes. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct research to inform the development of effective treatments for diabetic neuropathy.



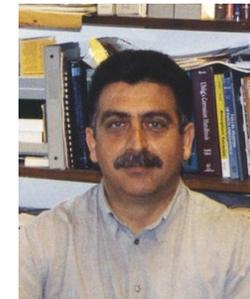
Lisa Banner



Prasanta Barkataki

Professor Barkataki is a computer scientist. He has a grant from WellPoint, Inc. to offer a design clinic in Common Business-Oriented Language (COBOL) and enterprise computing.

Professor Bavarian is Director of the Advanced Materials Laboratory and the Advanced Corrosion Laboratory. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.



Behzad Bavarian



Nagwa Bekir

Professor Bekir is Associate Dean of Engineering and Computer Science. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.

Professor Beloborodov is in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from NSF to foster outstanding multidisciplinary and innovative research in nano-technology; educate and train students in advanced nanomaterials science; stimulate and develop strong university-national laboratory partnerships; and develop a novel cross-disciplinary course on nanotechnology for physics students.



Igor Beloborodov



David Boyns

Professor Boyns' work centers on Sociological theory and Social interaction. He has a subaward funded by the James Irvine foundation to inventory current practices and learning outcomes in transfer General Education courses and to provide feedback on emerging models for General Education reform.

Professor Burch is in the Department of Secondary Education. She is Principal Investigator on a grant from the California Post-secondary Education Commission to help teachers gain single subject teaching credentials in math, English, science and other secondary school subject areas.



Carolyn Burch



Nancy Burstein

Professor Burstein's research interests include teacher preparation in urban schools, inclusive practices for learners with mild/moderate disabilities, and alternative certification programs. She is Principal Investigator on a 5-year, \$5 million dollar stimulus funded grant from the U.S. Department of Education to address the critical shortage of qualified special education.

Professor Cadavid's interests include Energy transport in the Solar Atmosphere; Turbulence and the Solar Dynamo; Space Weather; Effects of Solar Variability on the Terrestrial Climate; and Climate Science Education. She is Co-Principal Investigator on three separate federal student success grants to increase underrepresented students in global climate change and other STEM related fields.



Cristina Cadavid



Dwayne Cantrell

Mr. Cantrell is the Director of the Office of Student Outreach and Recruitment Services. He is Principal Investigator on three TRIO grants including Upward Bound and Talent Search.

Professor Carpenter performs research on the ecology of marine algae. He has two grants from the National Science Foundation to study the long-term ecology and ocean acidification of coral reefs.



Robert Carpenter



Gary Chapman

Professor Chapman is a solar astronomer. He has grants from the National Science Foundation and National Aeronautics and Space Administration to examine the effects of solar radius on sun spot activity.

Professor Chattopadhyay's research centers on semiconductor device fabrication. Professor Chattopadhyay has a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to research the design and fabrication of silicon carbide chips for military and commercial aviation.



Somnath Chattopadhyay



Ivan Cheng

Professor Cheng is interested in teacher professional development. He currently holds a grant from the California Department of Education to increase collaboration among high school teachers to identify best practices and develop teacher leadership skills.

Professor Christian is an Astrophysicist. He has a grant from the Smithsonian Observatory to study the activity and behavior of 11 different comets.



Damian Christian



Randy Cohen

Professor Cohen's laboratory investigates the physiological and biochemical effects that neurotransmitters have on the behavior of animals. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine to help prepare students for careers in stem cell research.

Professor Cota's research interests are in bilingual and multicultural education. She has a grant from the California Postsecondary Education Commission to help teachers gain multiple subject teaching credentials.



Irene Cota



Helen Cox

Professor Cox performs work in contemporary atmospheric change including air pollution, ozone depletion and climate change; the retrieval of atmospheric constituents from remote sensing measurements; remote sensing and geographic information systems; sustainability and energy resources. She has a contract from the U.S. Navy to perform climactic monitoring on San Clemente Island to help protect endangered species.

Professor Crowhurst's research is focused generally on using multidimensional, multinuclear NMR spectroscopy to better understand the mechanisms of signal transduction in the brain. In particular, she is interested in understanding the roles of structure, biophysical properties and protein dynamics in the specificity and affinity of interactions between proteins and their targets involved in several signaling cascades. She is Principal Investigator on grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health to study the structure and function of proteins.



Karin Crowhurst



Shawna Dark

Professor Dark is the Chair of the Department of Geography and Director of the Center for Geographical Studies that fosters geospatial research within the university and the Southern California region. She has several contracts ranging from water related research to wetland mapping to broadband signal testing.

Professor De Oliveria's research interests include cross comparative studies of urban planning, development strategies and collaborative networks in the Americas; pedagogy and teaching methodologies for students and professionals in urban planning; sociology of Latin America: gender roles, social movements, poverty, and participatory urban planning; and North American Cities: land-use and social and environmental justice. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to form a multi-institutional consortium for Brazilian and U.S. exchange students to perform research on urban planning and sustainability.



Euripedes De Oliveria



Maria Elena DeBellard

Professor DeBellard conducts research on neural crest cells, a stem cell population that migrates from the neural tube early in development. They migrate extensively throughout the embryo and form most of the head and peripheral nervous system, giving rise to sensory and sympathetic ganglia, heart regions, glia, head bones, teeth, muscle cells, sensory organs, melanocytes and other cell types. She has grants from the National Institutes of Health to research the formation and development of embryonic brain cells as a potential model for understanding development of tumor cells.

Professor DeBose is the Chair of the Department of Sociology. He has two grants from the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) that pay CSUN students to mentor LAUSD students and tutor them in math, English, history, language arts, and science.



Herman DeBose



Deqing Ren

Professor Ren's research interests include solar adaptive optics, 3-D image spectroscopy and direct detection of earth-like planets. He has a National Science Foundation grant to design a portable Solar Adaptive Optics system that can be used on any solar telescope to produce high-resolution images to better study the sun.

Professor Dermendjian is the Chair of the Department of Civil Engineering and Applied Mechanics. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.



Nazaret Dermendjian



Matthew Des Lauriers

Professor Des Lauriers' research focuses primarily on the island of Isla Cedros, located off the Pacific Coast of the Peninsula. Working with scholars from the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia of Mexico, Oregon State University, and the University of California, Irvine, Dr. Des Lauriers has documented a rich archaeological record stretching from historic period otter hunters and miners to the very earliest colonization of the Baja California Peninsula. He has a contract from the U.S. Forest Service to examine cultural artifacts in the Angeles National Forest.

Professor Doonan is an archaeologist and art historian specializing in the ancient cultures of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. He has a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a three-year investigation of the impact of the ancient Black Sea economy on social, economic and cultural formations in the Black Sea region.



Owen Doonan



Maria-Rita D'Orsogna

Professor D'Orsogna's research interests lie in biological swarming, biological systems and crime. She is Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to use mathematical modeling to help understand many important real-world biological paradigms.

Professor Dudgeon's research interests lie in two areas. One is the different levels of integration exhibited among individual organisms aggregated in a group, clone or colony and how this variation impacts both, their population ecology, and the evolution of their life histories. The second is the scale- and context-dependence of ecological processes in community development. He is Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to study the ecology of algae and mussel beds in the Gulf of Maine to better understand the management of marine ecosystems.



Steve Dudgeon



Nathan Durdella

Professor Durdella's current research focuses on college impact and uses qualitative methods to examine historically underrepresented students in STEM fields. He has as a grant from Santa Monica Community College to evaluate their Center of Excellence for Veterans Student Success.

Professor Ebin's expertise is in the area of research, program planning, adolescent and college health issues, as well as mental health concerns within the public health realm. Community collaboration and innovative health outreach projects with student participation are of special interest. She has a grant from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to enhance and expand campus suicide prevention efforts through the development and integration of culturally appropriate training materials, new education and training modules, and a networking infrastructure.



Vicki Ebin



Peter Edmunds

Professor Edmunds' research focuses on the physiological ecology of tropical reef corals and he works at the organismic, population, and community levels. He has two grants from the National Science Foundation to study Long term ecology and ocean acidification of coral reefs.

Professor Efrat's research interest is in the area of childhood obesity where she focuses on investigating the efficacy of interventions designed to promote breastfeeding initiation and duration rates as well as interventions aimed at increasing children's physical activity. Dr. Efrat currently serves as a Co-Project Director of three recently funded federal grants. The first project, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, promotes lactation education among undergraduate nutrition science students at CSUN. The second project, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, is designed to address the childhood obesity problem in Van Nuys. The third grant, which is funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, is a research project focused on evaluating the efficacy of a telephone-based breastfeeding education and support intervention on Latina Medicaid recipient's breastfeeding rates. In addition, she serves as the Co-Principal Investigator on a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded research project exploring the efficacy of the use of refundable tax credits to promote enrollment in after-school physical activity among low-income children.



Merav Efrat



Rafi Efrat

Professor Efrat is Director of the Bookstein Institute for Higher Education in Taxation. He is Principal Investigator of a Title V grant designed to improve the six-year graduation rates of all students at the University; close the graduation rate gap for Latino students; and increase retention of Latino freshmen students. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation exploring the efficacy of the use of refundable tax credits to promote enrollment in after-school physical activity among low-income children. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from the Internal Revenue Service to expand the capacity of the Bookstein Institute in serving the needs of low-income taxpayers in Los Angeles.

Professor El Naga's research interests lie in digital system design, design of digital computers, Verilog HDL, error detecting and correcting system design. He is Principal Investigator on the CSUN portion of a technology transfer grant from the Air Force to work with a local company in developing a sub-aperture imaging system.



Nagi El Naga



Jussi Eloranta

Professor Eloranta's research focuses on low temperature chemistry and physics in superfluid helium; liquid phase electron paramagnetic resonance studies of organic radicals; decomposition reactions of peroxides; and matrix isolation spectroscopy of small molecules. He has a National Science Foundation grant to develop methods for injecting atomic and molecular species in superfluid helium to potentially aid in synthesizing high-energy materials and fuels, and control chemical reactions at low temperatures.

Professor Esparza has consulted for major tertiary health care organizations throughout the country with particular emphasis on operations, organizational and leadership development. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid to provide telephone-Based Support and Education to Promote Breastfeeding Rates of Latina Medicaid Recipients.



Salvador Esparza



Robert Espinoza

Research in Professor Espinoza's Laboratory of Integrative and Comparative Herpetology (LICH) seeks to understand how forces such as evolutionary history, the physical environment, and interactions among species affect an animal's morphology, physiology, ecology, behavior, and life history. In short, he studies the "how" and the "why" of animal function. He has a National Science Foundation grant comparing the thermal dependence of sprint performance in day active, night active and cold climate Geckos.

Professor Evans' research interests include cellular automata - theory and applications and experimental mathematics. She is Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to prepare post-baccalaureate and STEM professionals to become Teaching Fellows (TFs), and Master Teaching Fellows (MTFs) in Mathematics and to strengthen their leadership capabilities.



Kellie Evans



Sylvia Fernandez

Professor Fernandez's research interests include discrete geometry, combinatorics, and graph theory. She is Co-Principal Investigator on an NSF grant to prepare post-baccalaureate and STEM professionals to become Teaching Fellows (TFs), and Master Teaching Fellows (MTFs) in Mathematics and to strengthen their leadership capabilities.

Professor Fischhaber's group is investigating the protein biochemistry of DNA repair in *S. cerevisiae* (baker's yeast). In human beings, failure to repair covalent modifications to DNA (DNA damage) by the biologic repair pathways results in genetic mutations and cancer, particularly skin cancer. She has a grant from the National Institutes of Health that will increase our understanding of a complex biological pathway that protects against cancer and aging.



Paula Fischhaber



James Flynn

Professor Flynn's research interests focus on broadcast and point-to-point telecommunications, software defined radio (SDR) and RF electronics. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a contract from the Air Force to fund student projects in electrical engineering with the ultimate goal of increasing the number of CSUN engineering graduates working at Edwards Air Force Base.

Professor Foley performs work in the use of technology in science education; technology tools for students and teachers; computer supported collaborative science; and assessment of learning. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Aeronautics Space Administration to prepare underrepresented students for careers relevant to global climate change.



Brian Foley



Rachel Friedman-Narr

Professor Friedman has a grant from the California Department of Education to enhance teacher knowledge and skills in implementing research-based strategies in teaching the Speaking and Listening Standards of the California Common Core Standards.

Professor Gainsburg is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to prepare post-baccalaureate and STEM professionals to become Teaching Fellows (TFs), and Master Teaching Fellows (MTFs) in Mathematics and to strengthen their leadership capabilities.



Julie Gainsburg



Evelyn Garcia

Ms. Garcia is Co-Principal Investigator on the two Talent Search TRIO grants from the U.S. Department of Education to increase middle and high school persistence and postsecondary enrollment.

Professor Gilbert is the Director of the Magaram Center and Principal Investigator on a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant to reduce childhood obesity and a U.D. Department of Agriculture grant to Advance Competencies of Students in the Area of Breastfeeding Education.



Joyce Gilbert



Joseph Hajdu

Professor Hajdu's current interest focuses on elucidation of the mechanism of action of lipolytic enzymes with specific emphasis on phospholipase A2. He has a grant from the National Institutes of Health to research the role of membranes and phospholipids in biological processes as a means to better understand their behavior in health and disease.

Professor Hanson is Director of the Valley Trauma Center and Principal Investigator of ten federal, state and local grants to assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse.



Charles Hanson



Marianne Hattar-Pollara

Professor Hattar-Pollara is Principal Investigator on a contract from the California Office of Statewide Planning and Development to develop, implement and evaluate an educational Nurse Faculty Preparation Program to fast track the development of qualified ethnically and culturally diverse nurse faculty.

Professor Heermance is a Field Geologist and Principal Investigator on a grant from the American Chemical Society/Petroleum Research Fund to conduct geologic studies in west China.



Richard Heermance



Harold Hellenbrand

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Hellenbrand is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to reduce health disparities for vulnerable populations from several disciplinary and methodological perspectives.

Professor Herr's research interests include science education; the role of assessment in advanced science education; development of resources for instruction in biology, chemistry, geoscience and physics. Prof. Herr is Co-Principal Investigator on the California Science Project grant to improve professional development for K-12 science teachers in the San Fernando valley.



Norman Herr



Martha Highfield

Professor Highfield is in the Department of Nursing and is Principal Investigator on a contract from Catholic Healthcare West to facilitate education and development of nursing staff at Northridge hospital in regards to clinical nursing research evidence-based practice.

Professor Ho is the founding director of the Ernie Schaeffer Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Director of the CSUN Systems Engineering Research Laboratory (SERL). Dr. Ho is Principal Investigator of an award from the Air Force to research the influence of cultural, organizational, and automation capability on human reliance on automatic collision avoidance technology.



Nhut Ho



Ray L. Hong

Professor Hong is a developmental biologist. He is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to study nematodes and the evolution of developmental processes using genetics and molecular biology.

Professor Horn is Chair of the Math Department and is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to attract underrepresented students to careers in engineering and physical sciences.



Werner Horn



Hamid Johari

Professor Johari is Chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Principal Investigator on a contract from Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne, Inc. to research propellant material properties and propulsion systems. He is also Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.

Ms. Johnson is Director of the Office of Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) and Principal Investigator on a contract from the California Department of Rehabilitation to provide educational/employment services to students and Department of Rehabilitation clients.



Jodi Johnson



Taeyou Jung

Professor Jung is a program director in the university's Center of Achievement through Adapted Physical Activity, which provides internationally recognized exercise therapy and aquatic therapy services for people with special needs. He is funded by UCLA to conduct research on the effects of cardiovascular exercise on cognitive function in people with multiple sclerosis.

Professor Kang's primary research interest is psychological factors contributing to the social adaptation process including emotion, personality, social working memory, and acculturation strategy. She is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to assess individual differences in social intelligence by applying the concept of working memory and its framework to the area of social intelligence.



Sun-Mee Kang



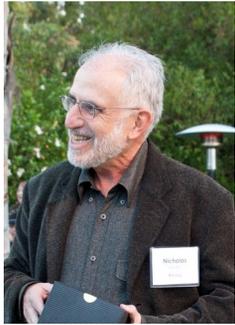
Sharlene Katz

Professor Katz conducts research on electronics, sensors, linear system theory, neural networks, and communication systems. She is Principal Investigator on a contract from the Air Force to fund student projects in electrical engineering with the ultimate goal of increasing the number of CSUN engineering graduates working at Edwards Air Force Base.

The research underway in the Kelson laboratories is focused on the development of bifunctional ketone transfer hydrogenation catalysts with potential application for environmentally friendly and deliberately specific pharmaceutical synthesis. Professor Kelson is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation grant to acquire a 600 MHz NMR spectrometer to greatly enhance research and expand teaching activities at CSU Northridge.



Eric Kelson



Nicholas Kioussis

Professor Kioussis is Director of the W. M. Keck Computational Materials Theory Center. He is the CSUN Principal Investigator on a new grant from the National Science Foundation to establish the Nanosystems Engineering Research Center in collaboration with UCLA, Cornell and UC Berkeley. He is also Principal Investigator on a grant from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency to conduct complementary experimental and computational studies of the electronic structure of semiconductor detector surfaces and contact interfaces in order to optimize the detector signal to noise ratio.

Professor Klein's research interests are mathematical physics, general relativity & cosmology, statistical mechanics, mathematics education, and climate science education. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to prepare underrepresented students for careers relevant to global climate change.



David Klein



Sharon Klein

Professor Klein is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the California Department of Education to enhance teacher knowledge and skills in implementing research-based strategies in teaching the speaking and listening standards of the California Common Core Standards.

Professor Kwok's research involves studying the relationship between organelle morphology/location and cellular physiology in plant cells. Of primary interest is the structure and function of plastid stromules. Professor Kwok is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to find new compartments within plant cells that will promote more efficient use of plants to improve human health.



Ernest Kwok



Luciana Lagana

Professor Laganá's current research interests are women's issues, adult behavioral medicine/health psychology, ethnogeriatrics, as well as sex and marital therapy. She is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to assess Post Traumatic Stress Disorder among economically disadvantaged, ethnically diverse older women and develop health models to improve clinical intervention.

Professor Levin is Chair of the Department of Social Work and Principal Investigator on three contracts to provide education, training and professional development to social workers and Masters of Social Work students.



Amy Levin



C.T. Lin

Professor Lin works with his students in the fields of bioengineering, assistive technology and autonomous mobile robotics. Professor Lin is Principal Investigator on a contract from Medtronic Diabetes to support design of an auto inserter for a glucose sensing system.

Professor Lisagor is Chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to reduce the childhood obesity rate among low-income children in Van Nuys.



Terri Lisagor



Ritamarie Little

Ms. Little is the Associate Director for the Marilyn Magaram Center for Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics and Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to reduce the childhood obesity rate among low-income children in Van Nuys.

Professor Love is Principal Investigator on a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to implement the Positive Parenting Program online, engage vulnerable parents, improve parenting practices and enhance child development.



Susan Love



Gang Lu

Professor LU's research is in the area of materials science. He is Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Science Foundation to establish a joint research powerhouse with Princeton on computational materials science and to increase recruitment, retention and degree attainment by members of underrepresented groups in materials research.

Professor Lucero-Liu is Principal Investigator on a contract from Programa de Investigación en Migración y Salud at UC Berkeley to conduct qualitative research exploring the psycho-emotional and familial well-being of Mexican minors deported by the U.S.



Ana Lucero-Liu



Debbie Ma

Professor Ma's research focuses on social psychological phenomena related to stereotyping and prejudice. She is Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Science Foundation to refine our current understanding of the role that features play in stereotypic trait inferences.



Kathleen Marsaglia

Professor Marsaglia's research interests include Sandstone petrology and sedimentation. She is Principal Investigator on three awards from the National Science Foundation and IODP Management International to study sedimentation and sand mineralogy at sites in New Zealand with colleagues at U of Florida.

Professor McAuliff's research uses basic social and cognitive psychological theories to understand human behavior in applied settings. He has used multiple methods to examine a variety of empirical questions relating to people's involvement in the legal system. Professor McAuliff is Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Institutes of Health to study how different types of support affect child witness stress, accuracy, and perceived credibility.



Cindy Malone

Professor Malone is a geneticist. Her research program has focused on how genes are negatively regulated in the immune system, in both normal gene silencing during development and in aberrant gene silencing that occurs in diseases such as cancer and AIDS. Professor Malone is Principal Investigator on grant from the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine to help prepare students for careers in stem cell research.



Bradley McAuliff



Gigi McGuire

Ms. McGuire is Assistant Director of Community and Academic Partnerships in the Office of Student Outreach and Recruitment. She is Project Director of a Los Angeles Unified School District/U.S. Department of Education funded GEAR UP partnership with area high schools.

Ms. McLeod works in the area of national outreach for the National Center on Deafness. She is project director for a U.S. Department of Education grant to establish and operate a National Postsecondary Education Center for Individuals who are Deaf.



Cathy McLeod



Jheem Medh

Professor Medh's overall research interest is in the area of lipoprotein metabolism and atherosclerosis. She is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant supporting research on lipoprotein lipase increases and insulin sensitivity in muscle cells.

Professor Medh's primary research interest is in understanding how cells die. There are multiple forms of cell death; she is most interested in "apoptosis" or "programmed cell death". Professor Medh is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to conduct research on the role of certain genes in immune cell development, differentiation, and leukemia therapy.



Rheem Medh



Gloria Melara

Professor Melara is Assistant Department Chair of Computer Science. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.

Professor Melikyan's research interests include novel diagnostic and therapeutic agents for a breast cancer detection and cure. He is Principal Investigator for a National Science Foundation grant to explore novel chemical designs at the interface of radical organic and organometallic chemistry.



Gagik Melikyan



Thomas Minehan

Research in the Minehan laboratory is focused primarily in two areas: development of synthetic methodology directed toward the preparation of biologically-active natural products, and the development of environmentally friendly reactions for organic synthesis. Professor Minehan is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to study synthesis and DNA binding affinity of novel gilvocarcin-C-glucosides.

Professor Moore teaches in the areas of organizational behavior and management theory. He has extensive international experience in training policy and economic development. He is also an active consultant in the workforce development area. Professor Moore is Principal Investigator on a California Legislative Counsel Bureau contract to provide management and leadership training.



Richard Moore



Renee Moreno

Professor Moreno's research focuses on literature, rhetoric and composition, and race and ethnicity, and draws upon traditions of story and storytelling. She is director of the U.S. Department Education funded McNair Scholars Program preparing CSUN students for doctoral studies.

Mr. Muñiz is project director for the U.S. Department of Education TRIO grant to provide student support services to first generation and low income college students.



Frank Muniz



Maria Helena Noronha

Professor Noronha is the Interim Associate Vice President Graduate Studies, Research and International Programs. She is Co-Principal Investigator on the National Science Foundation funded Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Bridge to the Doctorate to assist underrepresented students in pursuing Ph.D.s in STEM disciplines.

Two major research areas of the Ogawa group are 1) design and development of highly ordered 2-dimensional conjugated polymer matrixes for photovoltaic and electroluminescent devices and 2) development of fluorescent chemo-sensing materials for biologically active small molecules and ions. Professor Ogawa is Principal Investigator on a grant from the American Chemical Society/Petroleum Research Fund to study organic and organometallic syntheses, photophysical measurements, and electrochemical analyses.



Katsu Ogawa



Janet Oh

Professor Oh's research interests center around the development and experiences of linguistic minority populations in predominantly monolingual environments such as the United States. Professor Oh is Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to study the role of childhood language memory in adult language learning.

Professor Osorno's research interests include Electrical Machines and Energy Conversion, Electric Power Systems, Power Electronics, Fault Analysis in Power Systems and Power Distribution Systems. He is Principal Investigator on a University of Minnesota/Department of Energy funded contract for acquisition of power electronics lab stations as part of a national consortium of universities revitalizing electric power engineering education.



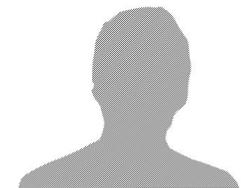
Bruno Osorno



Clara Park

Professor Park's research interests include learning styles and educational and occupational aspirations of diverse students; second language acquisition and bilingual education. She is Principal Investigator on two U.S Department of Education grants, the postbaccalaureate Title V project preparing Hispanic students to be teachers, and preparing Asian ESL Bilingual teachers project.

Professor Peckham-Hardin's research interests focus on improving outcomes for students with severe disabilities and their families. She is Principal Investigator for U.S. Department of Education Project PREP to address shortages of special educators serving children with moderate, severe, and multiple disabilities.



Kathryn Peckham-Hardin



Vicki Pedone

Professor Pedone is Chair of the Geological Sciences Department. Her research interests include Carbonate petrology and sedimentary geochemistry. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant supporting research training targeting more than 200 students in engineering and the natural sciences (STEPS).

Dr. Pelletier is Director of Student Services Center in College of Engineering & Computer Science. She is also Principle Investigator for the NSF funded Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation serving ECS majors.



Karla Pelletier



Martin Perez

Mr. Perez is project director for the Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math Science program serving area high school students by helping to prepare them to succeed in college.

Professor Peric is a Biophysicist whose primary research goal is to improve data analysis of the EPR spin label spectrum in the fast motional regime by using nonlinear least-squares fitting. He is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to study proteins that affect the function of cell membranes in Alzheimer's disease.



Miroslav Peric



Debi Prasad Choudhary

Professor Choudhary is a solar physicist. He is Principal Investigator on a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation studying the magnetic tomography of emerging sunspots.

Professor Preminger is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Aeronautics and Space Administration award to produce ground-based models of the Sun's total and spectral irradiance.



Dora Preminger



S.K. Ramesh

Professor Ramesh is the Dean of Engineering and Computer Science. He is the Principal investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Hispanic Serving Institutions Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) program. The project is designed to increase the number of underrepresented students transferring to CSUN to pursue majors in Engineering and/or Computer Science.

Professor Rajai's research focuses on the fields of engineering and management. He is Principal Investigator on a contract from the Roberts Tool Company to conduct research and support on supply chain management for the Southern California Manufacturing Group.



Mark Rajai



Jil Laleh Razani

Professor Razani's research primarily focuses on neuropsychological functioning in patients with various forms of dementia and healthy individuals from varied cultural backgrounds. She is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to study daily functioning, cognition, and caregiver burden in patients with mild cognitive impairment.

Dr. Rosen is the Director of the National Center on Deafness. She is Principal Investigator on a U.S. Department of Education grant to establish and operate a National Postsecondary Education Center for Individuals who are Deaf.



Roslyn Rosen



Kathleen Rowlands

Professor Rowlands' research interests include instructor epistemologies and classroom practices; closing the achievement gap; instructional discourse communities; integrating reading, writing, speaking, and listening; and professional development for K-16 teachers. She is Principal Investigator for the California State University, Northridge Writing Project, which is part of the University of California and California State University California Writing Project network.

Professor Ryan's research focuses on energy systems and thermodynamics. He is Co-Principal Investigator on a contract from Pratt Whitney/Rocketdyne to research and evaluate propulsion systems.



Robert Ryan



Carrie Saetermoe

Professor Saetermoe is Chair of the Department of Psychology. Her specialty areas are developmental psychology, health psychology and poverty studies. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to reduce health disparities for vulnerable populations from several disciplinary and methodological perspectives.

Professor Sariscsany's research interests include the study of physical activity levels in public school students and Physical Education's impact on low fit students. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to reduce the childhood obesity rate among low-income children in Van Nuys.



Mary Jo Sariscsany



Elizabeth Say

Professor Say is the Dean of Humanities and Principal Investigator of the STARTTALK Russian Language & Culture Immersion Program designed to (1) to provide a Russian language and culture immersion experience designed to prepare students to enter a global professional workforce, and (2) to offer Los Angeles's large Russian community a Russian language immersion program that will expand their international professional options and help them maintain a connection with their language and cultural heritage.

Professor Schilling's areas of research interest include theory of long runs, nearest neighbor methods, experimental design and confidence intervals. He is Principal Investigator on a contract from the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to provide statistical support to the Department's Chemical Soil Background Study.



Mark Schilling



Yann Schrodi

Professor Schrodi's general research interests are in the development of catalysts based on inorganic or organometallic transition metal complexes. He currently has an award from the American Chemical Society/Petroleum Research Fund to conduct research on the development of novel olefin metathesis catalysts.

Professor Schwartz's areas of research include petrology and geochronology. He is Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to conduct petrology research in the Blue Mountains in Northeast Oregon with colleagues at the University of Alabama and University of Houston.



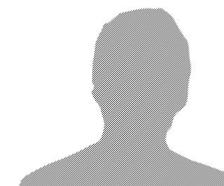
Joshua Schwartz



Sue Sears

Professor Sear's interests include teacher preparation in special education; alternative certification and multiple pathways; early literacy; and reading research and reading disabilities. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a 5-year, \$5 million dollar stimulus funded grant to address the critical shortage of qualified special education teachers prepared to serve learners in high-need schools.

Professor Sheng's current research activities involve the following fields in condensed matter physics: (1) Critical behavior in quantum phase transitions in low dimensions, including quantum Hall effect (QHE) systems, spin-orbit coupling systems, random-magnetic-field systems, and the recently experimentally observed metal-insulator transition at zero magnetic field ($B=0$) in 2D electron systems; (2) Strongly-correlated electron systems, theoretical study of new kind of ordering and Matter of states; (3) New spin states in various spin models, spin transport, spintronics in various ferromagnetic materials; theoretical understanding and calculation of the colossal magnetoresistance in $R_{1-x}A_xMnO_3$. She is Principal Investigator on NSF funded research that addresses fundamental questions regarding quantum phenomena.



Dong-Ning Sheng



Yohannes Shiferaw

Professor Shiferaw is interested in the application of nonlinear dynamics, pattern formation, and stochastic processes, to problems in biology. Much of his work revolves around the application of these methods to understand the dynamics that underlies abnormal cardiac rhythms that precede a heart attack. He has funding from the National Institutes of Health to apply multi-scale mathematical modeling to understand phenomena that underlie cardiac arrhythmia.

Professor Simila's research interests include seismology and plate tectonics in California, Washington, and Costa Rica. He is Principal Investigator on the California Science Project grant to improve professional development for K-12 science teachers in the San Fernando valley.



Gerry Simila



Ashley Skylar

Professor Skylar's research focuses on using technological applications to enhance special education in the following areas: Adapting WebQuests for students with Learning Disabilities; Web Accessibility for people with disabilities; assistive technology devices/resources; using and field testing online modules available at the IRIS Center; using web-conferencing to enhance online learning and communicate with support providers; and online mentoring via modules and discussions. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a U.S. Department of Education award to develop a model teacher credential program for special educators.

Professor Spagna is Dean of the Michael D. Eisner College of Education and Principal Investigator on a Los Angeles Unified School District funded project to conduct teacher professional development.



Michael Spagna



Salley Spencer

Professor Spencer's research interests include teaching reading to older struggling students, methods for developing reading fluency in struggling readers, RTI, and grouping practices in reading instruction. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a grant from the U.S. Department of Education grant to examine the benefits of restructuring education around clinical practice in high-need schools.

The main goal of Professor Steele's research is to elucidate the causes of variation in abundance of organisms that live in open populations in order to understand and predict their dynamics and spatial patterns. He has funding from the California Coastal Commission to study the reproduction, growth, and food-chain support of fishes on the artificial reef near San Onofre.



Mark Steele



Mary-Patricia Stein

Professor Stein's research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of intracellular trafficking with particular emphasis on the ability of pathogens to alter normal cellular trafficking events to evade clearance by the host. She is funded by a National Institutes of Health grant to study the molecular mechanisms of intracellular trafficking and the ability of pathogens to alter normal cellular trafficking events.

Dr. Stevens is the Director of University Counseling Services (UCS). He specializes in psychotherapy with men, stress reduction and sports psychology. Along with other UCS colleagues he is the developer of Experience Confidence and Enjoyment of Learning (ExCEL) programs here at CSUN. He is Project Director on the CSU Chancellor's Office funded Student Mental Health Initiative.



Mark Stevens



Michael Summers

Research in Professor Summers' laboratory focuses on the problem of how bacteria regulate adaptive alterations of their cell morphology and physiology in response to environmental changes. He utilizes the cyanobacterium *Nostoc punctiforme* for these studies. He is funded by a National Institutes of Health grant to study important regulatory genes and understand genetic regulation involved in akinetes (resting state cells of cyanobacteria).

Professor Sun's major interests fall within economic geography, GIS, spatial statistics, and contemporary China. He is particularly interested in technological innovation and urban/regional economic development. He has National Science Foundation funding for an international workshop that brings scholars together to discuss strategic directions for research on China's ways of innovation.



Yifei Sun



April Taylor

Professor Taylor's research interests lie in the general domain of the development of motivation and more specifically concern motivation for academic achievement among urban minority youth. Her research program examines social, cultural, and social-psychological influences on achievement motivation, and the identification of theory guided motivation-enhancing practices. She is funded by a UCLA sub-award for a Diversity Supplement from the National Institutes of Health to study the psychosocial benefits of ethnic diversity in urban middle schools.

Professor Thom is Principal Investigator for the Jumpstart for Young Children project, which trains college students to work in preschools that serve economically disadvantaged children.



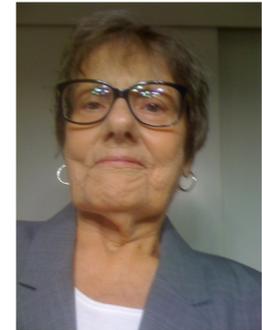
Emily Thom



Nayereh Tohidi

Professor Tohidi is Coordinator and Advisor of the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Program at CSUN. Her teaching and research areas include sociology of gender, religion (Islam), ethnicity and democracy in the Middle East and post-Soviet Central Eurasia, especially Iran and Azerbaijan Republic. She is funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the establishment of a minor in middle eastern and Islamic studies at CSUN.

Professor Tolan is Principal Investigator on an award from the Lily Academy of Japan to provide training and certification for participants of the Lily Academy Recreation Institute.



Jan Tolan



John Van Arsdale

Professor Van Arsdale is Director of the CSUN Aquatic Center located at Castaic Lake Recreation Area. The center provides boating and water safety education to upward of 10,500 individuals through its credit, non-credit and community service programs each year. Approximately one-quarter of those individuals are CSUN students, while three-quarters are members of the community. Professor Van Arsdale is Principal Investigator on a contract from the California Department of Boating and Waterways to operate a boating instruction safety center.

Professor Vandergon's research interests lie in looking at evolutionary processes that are involved in genome change. Using bioinformatics and molecular tools, she is looking at the evolutionary history of genes through the study of gene families. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation funded Robert Noyce Scholarship Program to increase the number of junior and senior undergraduate students preparing to teach science and math.



Virginia Vandergon



Jose Luis Vargas

Mr. Vargas is the Director of the Educational Opportunity Program and is Principal Investigator for the U.S. Department of Education Student Support Services TRIO grant that provides transition and academic support to 140 low-income first generation undergraduate college students each year.

Professor Vickroy is Head of the Television Production Option in the Department of Cinema and TV Arts. She is funded by Rowan University for a collaborative filmmaking project to produce a short form documentary to address sexual assault in colleges.



Thelma Vickroy



Ann Watkins

Professor Watkins specializes in statistics and statistics education. She is Principal Investigator on a subaward from Western Michigan University on the National Science Foundation funded project "Transition to College Mathematics and Statistics."

Professor Weeraratne's research on solid earth geophysics uses techniques in seismology and geophysical fluid dynamics. She is particularly interested in evolutionary processes for continental lithospheric formation, marine geophysical study of oceanic mantle dynamics, intraplate volcanism, and hotspot-ridge interactions, as well as whole mantle convection problems for the Earth and other planets. She is Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation CAREER grant to conduct geodynamic studies of the earth's mantle and differentiation of the earth's interior during core formation.



Dayanthie Weeraratne



Ivor Weiner

Professor Weiner's professional interests include autism and social skills instruction, programming for students with autism and emotional and behavioral disorders, and neurodevelopment. He is Director of the Family Focus Resource Center in the Michael D. Eisner College of Education. He is Principal Investigator on a contract from the North Los Angeles County Regional Center contract to provide education and outreach to families of children with disabilities.

Professor Yaspelkis works in the area of exercise physiology, and is Director of the Biochemistry Lab. He is Principal Investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to study skeletal muscle insulin signaling and its manifestation in type 2 diabetes.



Ben Yaspelkis



Maria Elena Zavala

Professor Zavala's research utilizes plants as model systems to investigate problems in development and growth. She is interested in understanding the regulation of gene expression on a cellular and tissue level. She is Principal Investigator on two National Institutes of Health grants supporting research and training for 36 undergrads and six grad students in biomedical and behavioral sciences to prepare them to enter PhD programs in biomedically related fields.

Professor Youssef is Director of the Experimental Mechanics Laboratory in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. His research focus is in the area of experimental mechanics. He is Co-Principal Investigator and CSUN Educational Director on a new grant from the National Science Foundation to establish the Nanosystems Engineering Research Center in collaboration with UCLA, Cornell and UC Berkeley.



George Youssef



Doug Yule

Professor Yule specializes in tectonics and Paleoseismology. He is Principal Investigator on a contract from the Southern California Earthquake Center at USC to conduct research on earthquake geology of the San Geronio Pass fault zone.

Committee Members

The University Corporation

Samanta Argueta

Chuong Bui

Heather Cairns

Georg Jahn

Mary Jumamil

Liz Kioussis

Krizel Leynes

Nasir Monem

Mahyar Sadri

Linda Turner

Leslie Zazueta

Office of Research & Sponsored Projects (ORSP)

Shelley Bartenstein

Shirley Lang

Scott Pérez

Suzanne Selken

Katherine (Kat) Sohn

Karen Storey



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