



A Note From The Dean ...



FACULTY

Jocelyn Ahlers
Virginia Arreola
Bonnie Bade
Ranjeeta Basu
Kristin Bates
Dustin Calvillo
Marion Geiger
Scott Greenwood
Sharon Hamill
Michael Hughes
Sheri-Lynn Kurisu
Elizabeth Matthews
Konane Martinez
Cynthia Melendrez
Michael McDuffie
Brandon Moore
Kimber Quinney
Adam Shapiro
Oscar Fabian Soto
Darci Strother
Theresa Suarez
Jonathan Trinidad
Jill Weigt
Carrick Williams
Kaitlyn Woltz

ASSOCIATE DEANS

Elisa Grant-Vallone



WE DID IT! With the teaching, guidance, mentoring and support of faculty and staff, more than 500 CSUSM students were able to celebrate their achievements at Commencement this past weekend. It was a privilege to watch our faculty hood master's students and an honor to present our undergraduates to President Neufeldt for conferral of their degree. An extra special THANK YOU to all the faculty and staff who dedicated their time Sunday to be at Commencement for our students and their loved ones.

Kimberly Knowles-Yanez
Carmen Nava

STAFF

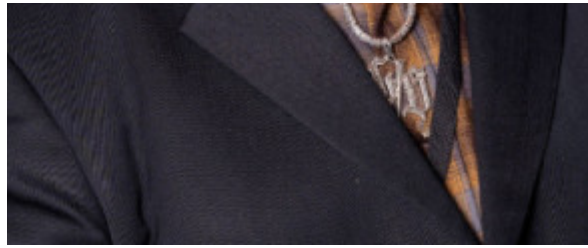
Amandah Altamirano
Rachel Kintner
Tim Meehan
Leo Melena
Jessica Raffi
Elise Wise (student assistant)

A special congratulations to liberal studies administrative coordinator Lorena Vivar, who walked after completing her master's degree in public health.

Best wishes for a restful and restorative break.
See you in 2024!

Faculty Highlights





Statewide Program Puts Doctoral Degrees Within Reach

There was a time when sociology professor Xuan Santos didn't believe – or even know – that earning a Ph.D. was possible. As a first-generation, system-impacted, undocumented student, Santos was already defying the odds by pursuing a bachelor's degree. One day, he saw an A-frame near the Cal State Los Angeles administration building promoting the California Pre-Doctoral Program, which changed everything.

Earlier this year, Santos was named faculty director for the California Pre-Doctoral Program after the previous director's retirement.

Santos serving as faculty director for Pre-Doctoral Program



Podcast Unites Music With History

History is everywhere, and if you look closely enough, aspects of it can be found in the most unlikely places.

History professor Citlali Sosa-Riddell's current passion project is co-hosting a podcast with longtime friend Jorge Leal, an assistant professor of history at UC Riverside. "The Discursive Power of Rock en Español and the Desire for Democracy" is a podcast that traces past social movements in Latin America. Sosa-Riddell's key focus is examining the role that Spanish rock music has played in challenging dictatorships and advocating for the rights of immigrants.

Sosa-Riddell's passion project



Goldberg on Education Podcast

Music professor Merryll Goldberg was on Education Beat's podcast recently discussing her amazing past and her passion for the arts.

[Podcast link here](#)

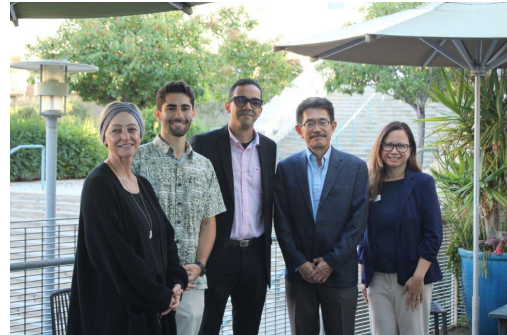


International Faculty & Staff Association Launches

The newly formed International Faculty & Staff Association launched recently with an event in the Cross-Cultural Center. The mission of IFSA is rooted in the belief that a globalized academic community is not just desirable but essential for our continued success. In an increasingly interconnected world, IFSA's work is vital, and goes beyond the boundaries of our CSUSM campus. One of the greatest strengths of any academic community lies in its ability to draw from a multitude of cultural backgrounds and experiences. It is through this rich tapestry of diversity that we can broaden our

horizons, challenge our preconceptions, and truly prepare our students to thrive in an interconnected world. Our international community bring with them a wealth of knowledge, experiences, and cultural nuances that enrich the fabric of our academic community. IFSA is a symbol of inclusivity, and it embodies the spirit of unity and understanding that we strive to achieve at our university.

Information on the IFSA, memberships, events, etc.



Faculty Notes

Omitted from the “CHABSS well-represented at Faculty Center” section in a recent newsletter was **Ruoxi Li**, an associate professor of political science who is currently wrapping up her term as interim associate director of the Faculty Center ... Filling in for Li, who is taking a sabbatical, is psychology professor **Carrick Williams** ... **Brian Dolber**, chair of communication, testified before the Massachusetts legislature's Joint Committee on Financial Services Nov. 6 in support of legislation that would protect labor rights for app-based workers. His testimony was based on reports he co-authored and published with PolicyLink, and his ongoing research with Rideshare Drivers United ... The Office of Internships has created a new webpage for students for Spring 2024. This can be shared with students who are interested in participating in an internship next semester. [Enrolling in a Spring 2024 Internship Class](#) ... **Kristine Diekman** was featured in [an article](#) for Cornell College. The art, media, and design professor is a Class of 1979 alumnae at the Iowa institution.

Save the Date

Dec. 19 — **Office of Global Education Drop-ins:** Mark 243 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (throughout the fall every Tuesday)

Dec. 21 — **CUGR Committee Undergraduate Research:** ADM 2302 HUB 12-1 p.m.

Dec. 21 — **Grades due from instructors; last day of Fall semester**

