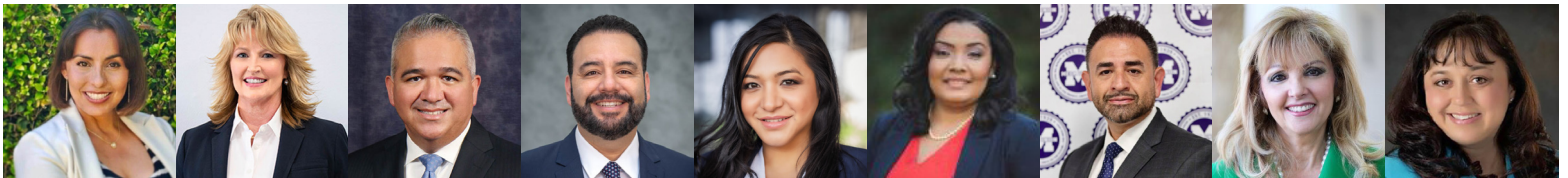




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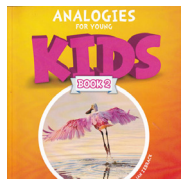
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1960s

Jack Nelson EdD '61 recently published *Critical Issues in Education (9th edition)* co-authored with Stuart Palonsky and Mary Rose McCarthy (Waveland Press, 2021).



Janet Cady Zebrack BS '63 published *Analogies for Young Kids Book 2* for children five to seven years old. The layout of this science book promotes prediction skills which are essential for reading success. Analogies teach connections, motivate inventions and can

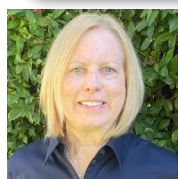
stimulate our ideas on numerous subjects. This book was translated into Lao, the official language of the country of Laos. The translated book includes both the English version and the Lao version. It was approved by the Ministry of Education of Lao PDR. One thousand copies were published and are now being used throughout Laos. Janet is in the process of having three more of her books translated and published into Lao to further help the third world country. The books are: *Hooked on Verbs, International Analogies, and Analogies for Young Kids Book 1*. All of her books can be seen at www.janzebrack.com and purchased at Amazon. Your purchase will benefit the country of Laos as all profits from her books go to this cause.



Edwin Follick ME '64, AMED '69 has served as president of South Baylo University in Anaheim, Calif. since January 2018. His priorities as president are students first, then the academics of accreditation for master's and doctoral programs with state educational

regulatory agencies, and finally dealing with professional licensing boards. Edwin notes it has been a busy time with the pandemic and transitioning to virtual instruction for didactic classes along with precautions for clinical instruction and the treatment of patients.

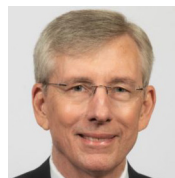
1970s



Karen Popovich Levyn BS '72, MS '74 is presently the vice chair of the Human Relations Commission in Beverly Hills, Calif. and a public relations and campaign consultant for the Beverly Hills School Board election.

Anselmo Villanueva MS '73 is principal of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a Catholic school located in the barrio, called La Colonia, in Oxnard, Calif. The school's student population is 99% Latino and serves preschool students through eighth grade. Our Lady of Guadalupe School has served the

community since 1906. César Chávez attended the school when he was a young student.



Stephen Ralls DDS '74, EdD '79 assumed the office of president of the American College of Dentists in September 2019. He earlier served as executive director of the organization for over 20 years.

Joyce Moss MS '76 is senior managing editor of BFA Educational Media.



Janis Perry '77, MS '81 is a professor of education and counseling at Santiago Canyon College in Orange County, and serves as president of the Association of California Community College Teacher Education Programs (ACCCTEP), a statewide organization of teacher educator professionals in the 114 California Community Colleges. Working in partnership with other higher education teacher education organizations, university systems and the legislature, ACCCTEP works to increase the number and quality of lower division teacher education programs that are focused on diversifying the teacher pipeline and preparing students with quality academic preparation integrated with multiple early field experiences. Initially an elementary school teacher and principal, Janis has been with the Rancho Santiago Community College District for 36 years.



Teri Bradford MS '78 retired from her most recent post as senior director of alumni and parent relations at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, Calif. after a long and fulfilling career in both higher education and the local non-profit community. During her 41 year career, Teri also served as the associate dean of students at Westmont College, executive director of Life Network Pregnancy Care Center and executive director of the Youth and Family Services branch of the Channel Islands YMCA. Along with enjoying the benefits of retirement, Teri is grateful to now be serving on the Board of Trustees at Westmont College.



Mary Ann Lillywhite Dumbek BS '79, MS '80 retired in June 2018. The last 20 years of her career Mary Ann was with the Newport-Mesa Unified School District teaching deaf and hard of hearing and learning handicapped students. She worked with children from third through 12th grade.

View past issues of *Class Notes* at

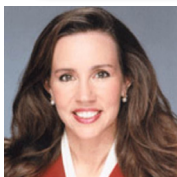
<https://rossier.usc.edu/alumni/class-notes/>

1980s

Steven Pritzker *MS '82, PhD '97* was co editor-in-chief of the third edition of *The Encyclopedia of Creativity* published by Elsevier in May 2020. He founded and was director of The Creativity Studies masters and doctoral specialization at Saybrook University where he still teaches. Steven is also past president of Division 10 of The American Psychological Association where he is a fellow.

Randall Miller *EdD '86* returned safely and healthy from two weeks in the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador just prior to the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic earlier this year. He continues to serve as senior consultant to the chancellor of Wayne County Community College District in Detroit, where he had served as executive vice chancellor and president of two of the districts' six campuses. He also previously served as president of Lake Michigan College.

1990s



Rebecca Shore *EdD '96* published her fifth book, *Changing to Charters: How and Why School Leaders Convert* through Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Rebecca is an associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at University of North Carolina at

Charlotte.

Kristi Kahl *EdD '97* is assistant superintendent, curriculum, instruction and professional development in Long Beach Unified School District. She oversees all aspects of curriculum development, instructional direction, and professional development support for approximately 3,500 teachers.

Pingju Kuo *MS '99* is a teacher at Silicon Valley Chinese School in San Jose, Calif. where she teaches bilingual students (seventh graders) along with planning curriculum and designing course materials.

Jennifer Pringle *MS '99* serves as an instructional coach in Pasadena Unified School District. She also earned her master's degree in education from UCLA in June 2020.

**Submit an update for the Spring
Class Notes newsletter at**

<https://rossier.usc.edu/alumni/class-notes/>

Six New Trojans Appointed School District Superintendents



Rebeca Andrade *EdD '16*
Superintendent
Salinas City Elementary School District



Elizabeth Eminhizer *EdD '19*
Superintendent
Covina-Valley Unified School District



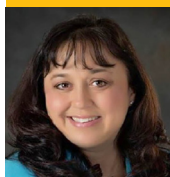
Alfonso Jimenez *EdD '12*
Superintendent
Hacienda La Puente Unified School District



John Lopez *Current EdD student*
Superintendent
Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District



Raul Ramirez *BA '01, EdD '14*
Superintendent
Mesa Union School District



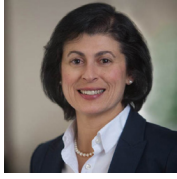
Jennifer Root *EdD '17*
Superintendent
Menifee Union School District

2000s



Jeff Miller *PhD '01* was recently promoted to chief learning officer and vice president of organizational effectiveness at Cornerstone onDemand. In this role, he generates and drives global strategy for learning and development, diversity, equity & inclusion, internal communications, performance and succession management and employee experience. Cornerstone is the world's leading human capital management software company and is headquartered in Santa Monica, Calif.

Jennifer Kang-Moon *MS '02, EdD '06* is director of education services K-8 in the Compton Unified School District. She provides administrative and curriculum leadership for the planning, development, organization and coordination of K-8 grade curriculum and professional services. Jennifer also directs the implementation of state standards, frameworks, adopted material, and best instructional strategies.



Gina Moses *ME '02* joined the #3 ranked Virginia Tech on-line master of information technology program as director. Gina is tasked with developing and expanding the program and academic offerings nationally and internationally to working professionals

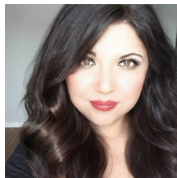
looking to make career pivots or advancement in their careers. The program will be moving to the new Innovation Campus in Alexandria, Va. tied to the new Amazon HQ 2 location.

Philip Spradling *PhD '02* is a licensed psychotherapist and has launched a private practice, Philip Spradling Psychotherapy, working with mid and later life individuals in beautiful Santa Cruz, Calif.



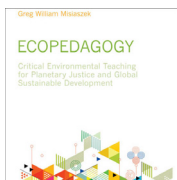
John Purcell *ME '03, EdD '06* was awarded the Los Angeles Unified School District 2020 Teacher of the Year Award. It is an honor bestowed upon educators who have established excellence in their school and the school's community. The program celebrates excellence

in teaching by recognizing teachers who have inspired a love for learning in their students and who have distinguished themselves in the teaching profession. It identifies leaders among educators. The Los Angeles Unified Board of Education will also recognize John's achievements in the teaching profession. John is a first-grade teacher at 32nd Street USC Performing Arts Magnet School.



Jeanette Chien *EdD '04* is deputy superintendent in the San Diego County Office of Education. She supports all districts and schools in the county with instructional programs, accountability & assessment, leadership development, support for English

learners, and issues of equity and global competency. Jeanette also leads departments that provide direct services to migrant students and families and students in early education programs.



Greg Misiaszek *BS '96, ME '05* published *Ecopedagogy: Critical Environmental Teaching for Planetary Justice and Global Sustainable Development* with Bloomsbury Press (2020).

To stop the downward spiral of intensifying environmental violence that inevitably leads to social violence we, as humans, need to better understand what is at stake and to determine how to make changes at the root levels. Ecopedagogy is centered on understanding the struggles

of and connections between human acts of environmental and social violence.

Jennifer Gerson *ME '06, EdD '20* began a new role as the director of graduate affairs in the School of Social Sciences at the University of California, Irvine. After working at USC for 16 years and earning her doctorate in educational leadership, Jennifer is excited for her new role.



Andrew Green *BM '07, MAT '08* and Elizabeth Kuhn *BA '07* welcomed their son, Anthony Paul Nagem Kuhn-Green on January 30, 2020.



Matt Horvath *EdD '07* was recently named assistant superintendent, personnel services in the Beverly Hills Unified School District.



Kristy McCray *ME '07* earned tenure and promotion to associate professor of sport management in the Department of Health and Sport Sciences at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio. Additionally, a journal article that she co-authored was named finalist

for Best Paper of 2019 in the *Sport Management Education Journal*. Kristy was also recently interviewed and quoted by *USA Today* on sexual violence precautions by the NCAA. Her research area is sexual violence prevention in college athletics.



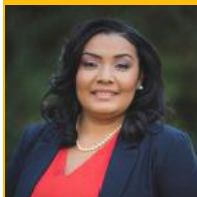
Marie Dacumos *EdD '08* is director of curriculum and instruction in the Sulphur Springs Union School District in Santa Clarita, Calif. She leads instructional initiatives to strengthen the district-wide instructional program; guides professional development for teachers and principals; manages state and federal programs; and utilizes data to inform instructional decisions in the areas of curriculum, assessment and instruction.



Pat Pefley *EdD '08* was promoted to deputy director, strategic engagement for the Machine-Assisted Analytic Rapid-Repository System (MARS) program at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) in Washington, D.C. She is accountable for project management and

operational effectiveness to facilitate stakeholder engagement in executing the MARS Program. MARS, one of the DIA's top priorities, is a multi-year commitment to integrate 21st-century technologies and transform the data production and dissemination of foundational military intelligence, thereby enabling a decision information advantage to the operator and warfighter community. Pat develops a strategic engagement and communications plan; oversees a technically diverse team of military, civilian and contract personnel; and champions

Siria Martinez ME '04 selected as Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Equity and Success at California Community Colleges



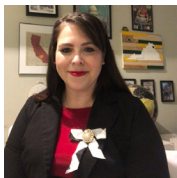
California Community Colleges announced this spring that **Siria Martinez ME '04** was named assistant vice chancellor of student equity and success. The largest system of higher education in the nation, California Community Colleges is composed of 73 districts and 115 colleges serving 2.1 million students each year. Siria will lead the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative in deploying professional development and technical assistance aimed at advancing equity and success strategies. She previously was dean of student success & institutional effectiveness and interim dean of student services at Woodland Community College.

A Los Angeles native and raised in Compton, Siria was the first in her family to attend college. She earned her bachelor's from UC Davis, her masters of education in postsecondary administration and student affairs from USC Rossier and a PhD in higher education from Claremont Graduate University.

MARS capabilities and capacity across the intelligence community.

Christine Picon Van Duzer ME '08 is an educator in the El Segundo Unified School District.

Thomas Tucker EdD '08 is vice principal, special projects at Littlerock High School in the Antelope Valley Union High School District. He oversees special projects and community partnerships with the Los Angeles County Office of Education.



Mary Bramley ME '09 is director of development at For Love of Children (FLOC) in Washington, DC. She works on building relationships with the community, corporations and donors to tell the FLOC story. Mary oversees all fundraising activities, marketing, communications, and assists with board management.

Patricia Dickenson EdD '09 created a book, *The Virtual Classroom: Creating Distance Learning Experience*, for teachers to develop remote teaching practices in mathematics instruction in response to teachers around the world working remotely this school year.

Sue Kaiser EdD '09 is happy to announce the birth of her grandson (a future Trojan), Calihan Dax Kaiser, on May 20, 2020.



Caesar Smith ME '09 is associate director of athletics at Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep in San Francisco, Calif. His job is to build on and advance the mission of academic and athletic excellence for all student-athletes with a particular focus on the development of student leadership within school's athletic program.

Edward Trimis EdD '09 was featured in the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) EdCal newsletter in August. EdCal is sent to over 17,000 ACSA members throughout the state. Edward is the principal at Legacy Visual and Performing Arts High School (VAPA) in South Gate, Calif., and an adjunct professor with USC Rossier. VAPA has improved in leaps and bounds in the 4+ years he has been principal including major improvements in academics, arts, and athletics.

2010s

Alissa Amundson (Smith) MAT '10 is a team lead - learning specialists for Instructure in Knoxville, Tenn. She helps lead and manage a team of education professionals assisting educators at all levels learn how to effectively leverage Canvas, a learning management system, in their respective classrooms.

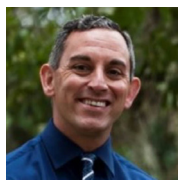


Gus Frias EdD '10 received the InfraGard National Members Alliance's (INMA) 2020 National Award for Public/Private Partnerships acknowledging his leadership in helping to ensure the health, safety and success of students and staff attending K-12 schools. INMA is a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the public and private sectors.

Rose Hajian BA '08, MAT '10 is an elementary school teacher at Pilgrim School in Los Angeles where she teaches fourth grade students.

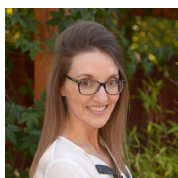
Trammell Jones ME '10 created Guided Frequency LLC, with the mission to bring awareness to the long term physical and mental health benefits of incorporating consistent yoga, meditation, and other holistic wellness practices into your

lifestyle. They facilitate conversations and foster meaningful experiences, online and offline, that create access and inspire elevated interactions with self and the surrounding community.



Jason Pappas *EdD '10* received the 2019-2020 undergraduate teaching award at Florida State University. He is an associate teaching professor with Florida State University's College of Education in the Department of Sport Management. Jason also serves as director of the sport management internship program.

Elisabeth Summers (Lange) *MAT '10* earned her EdD from Concordia University in December 2018.



Christine Gerchow *MAT '11* was named director of UC Berkeley's Academic Talent Development Program (ATDP). For almost four decades, ATDP has invited excelling students from the Bay Area and around the world into a unique academic community

to pursue their academic passions through rigorous summer coursework. As director, Christine will create and supervise programs; devise budgets; supervise, hire and train staff; monitor the effectiveness and results of programs and plan adjustments; ensure compliance with accrediting bodies; and maintain strong relationships with university officials.

Wenli Jen *EdD '11* was named as one of 13 faculty serving as a faculty advising fellow. She will represent the Health Sciences Department in the College of Health, Human Services, and Nursing at California State University, Dominguez Hills. The Faculty Advising Fellows Program is designed to improve advising on campus and student retention by increasing university faculty involvement in the advisement of freshman, sophomores, and transfer students. Increased faculty contact outside of the classroom is linked to improved student success.

Antonio Raddi *MAT '11* is a social studies teacher at Green Dot Public Schools in Los Angeles.



Emily Reyes *MAT '11* is a teacher at Laurel Cinematics Arts & Creative Technologies Magnet School in the Los Angeles Unified School District. She provides online instruction for third graders in language arts, math, social studies, science, and the arts. Emily supports

English language learners and collaborates with colleagues to determine best practices to improve student academic progress and ensure success. She also works with parents to provide strategies to best encourage and support work habits at home.



Kristina Rigden *MAT '11, EdD '17* has been selected as one of just 24 fellows in the second cohort of the IAspire Leadership Academy, a leadership program aimed at helping STEM faculty and administrators

from underrepresented backgrounds ascend to leadership roles at colleges and universities. The academy is one pillar of the diversity and inclusion work underway through the Aspire Alliance (formally known as the National Alliance for Inclusive & Diverse STEM Faculty). The National Science Foundation-backed alliance is working across post-secondary institutions to develop more inclusive institutional cultures supporting the access and success of all undergraduate STEM students, especially those from underrepresented groups.

Kenya Williams *MAT '11, EdD '18* is principal of the Humanities and Arts Academy of Los Angeles in Harbor City, Calif. The school is a personalized high school that emphasizes the arts and humanities preparing students for college by providing a stimulating, rigorous, interdisciplinary curriculum supported by innovative teaching practices and modern technology.



Maruth Figueroa *EdD '12* was appointed assistant vice chancellor - student retention and success at the University of California, San Diego. Maruth provides leadership to the Chancellor's Associates Scholars Program, OASIS, Undocumented Student Services, the Student Success Coaching Program, the Veterans' Resource Center, Academic Enrichment Programs and Transfer Student Success. In addition, Maruth contributes to campus-wide equity, diversity, and inclusion collaborations, partners with Housing Dining Hospitality (HDH) and college leadership to further advance the residential experience and is a key collaborator with the Teaching + Learning Commons.

Rick Garcia *ME '12, EdD '15* is director, admissions and enrollment management for the University of La Verne College of Law. He works with some of the finest professionals in the business to recruit and retain future legal professionals to one of Southern California's most diverse and accessible legal programs. Rick oversaw the transition to a new CRM, Slate, and collaborated with several university offices to bring new capabilities online to better serve and communicate with prospects, applicants, and enrolled students.

Christina Han *MAT '12* is a staff attorney at Children's Law Center in Monterey Park, Calif.



Matthew Jellick *MAT '12* was recently promoted to assistant director of the Center for Language Education at Southern University of Science and Technology, located in Shenzhen, China, where he has been working for the past four years. In addition, he won the university's

Administrative Service Award for which he was asked to give a speech to university governance on Teacher's Day, highlighting the importance of "Education Outside the Classroom," a value he learned through the MAT Program at USC. In his spare time, Matthew enjoys seeking out new Mexican restaurants in

Sarah Peyre MS '05, EdD '08 Named Dean of University of Rochester's Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development



Sarah Peyre MS '05, EdD '08, associate dean for innovative education at the University of Rochester Medical Center and executive director of its Institute for Innovative Education, has been appointed dean of the Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development at the University of Rochester.

The Warner School dean is a senior academic leader at the university who shapes the vision and objectives for the school, generates resources in support of those priorities, and effectively manages its operations. The dean develops the school's strategic plan that ensures its financial sustainability, builds community both within and beyond the school, fosters interdisciplinary collaborations, and maximizes its impact on the fields of education and human development.

University of Rochester President Sarah Mangelsdorf commented, "I have been impressed with Sarah's contributions to our Medical Center, and I'm delighted that she will be now be bringing her energy and strategic vision to the important work of the Warner School."

China, all of which are good, but still don't compare to that guy selling tacos from the back of his van outside the Staples Center.



Jonathan Mathis PhD '12 along with Carlos Galan *ME '18*, are among the authors celebrating the forthcoming release of the publication, *Cultivating Key Capabilities through Volunteer Service: Preparing Youth for the Future of Work*. This project celebrates the 25th anniversary and legacy of the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program, while gaining critical insights on the outcomes of volunteer service among program alumni.

anniversary and legacy of the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program, while gaining critical insights on the outcomes of volunteer service among program alumni.



Capitola Parker ME '12 is a full-time Los Angeles based realtor with the ability to sell and assist with buying property throughout California. She works with all income groups and assists with matching clients to mortgage bankers and credit repair services to prepare for home ownership. Capitola also provides support for commercial buying and leasing.

home ownership. Capitola also provides support for commercial buying and leasing.



Daniel Diaz EdD '13 wrote an op-ed, "Tips on remote learning for panicked parents" that was published in the *Los Angeles Times* on August 11, 2020.

Jannette Flores EdD '13 was elected vice chairperson of Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) Texas.

Prima Gonzalez MAT-TESOL '13 is associate chair - international pathway program at The New York Film Academy (NYFA). She has been developing the English language curriculum for the international pathway program, which has its first intake in Fall 2020. The courses integrate skills needed for bachelor's and master's degrees in filmmaking and acting for film.

Ashley Mitchell MAT '13 earned her EdD in K-12 educational leadership and policy from Vanderbilt University in May 2019.



Marco Nava EdD '13 recently published a book chapter co-authored with Imelda Nava, "Partnerships in Practice: Developing a Positive School Culture Toward Title 1 School Success." The chapter is part of the book, *Creating School Partnerships that Work* (Kochan & Griggs, 2020). This chapter demonstrates how two school-wide Title 1 urban elementary schools with decreased funding and high numbers of English learners developed academic success in multiple school performance indicators through implementing a multifaceted approach that employed strategies in the following focus areas 1) data intentionality and professional development, 2) partnerships, 3) targeted intervention, 4) increased parent involvement, and 5) promoting a positive school culture. The study is significant because it highlights practical strategies that can be employed at schools with similar demographics, assets, and challenges.

two school-wide Title 1 urban elementary schools with decreased funding and high numbers of English learners developed academic success in multiple school performance indicators through implementing a multifaceted approach that employed strategies in the following focus areas 1) data intentionality and professional development, 2) partnerships, 3) targeted intervention, 4) increased parent involvement, and 5) promoting a positive school culture. The study is significant because it highlights practical strategies that can be employed at schools with similar demographics, assets, and challenges.

Miriam Otero MAT-TESOL '13 joined the faculty as a middle school history teacher at Kent Place School in Summit, N.J.

Angela Arteaga *ME '14* is a teacher at Victor Elementary School in Victorville, Calif.

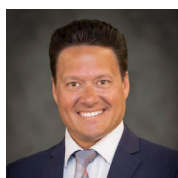


L. G. Michael Brown *MAT-TESOL '14, EdD '17* was hired in August as the director, institutional advancement engagement services at University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC). As the director, he is responsible for the overall strategy, implementation, administration, reporting and delivery of all institutional advancement programming and activities that engage students and graduates for career advancement and advocacy, as well as developing and sustaining collaborative relationships and partnerships with internal and external stakeholders. Mike was first hired by UMGC as an overseas collegiate faculty member and associate professor in Japan in January 2019.



Viet Bui *ME '14, EdD '20* is the senior academic advisor at the USC Thornton School of Music. As the senior academic advisor, he provides support and guidance to a team of academic advisors in the Thornton Office of Admission and Student Affairs. In addition to

advising his own caseload of undergraduate and graduate students, Viet supervises the international and career programs coordinator for the Thornton School. Viet recently completed his EdD in summer 2020 and his dissertation explored the experiences of first-generation undergraduates with academic advising.



Michael Gotto *EdD '14* was recently promoted to assistant superintendent, human resources in the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District.



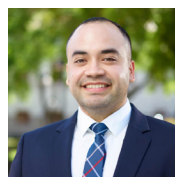
Arnold Laanui *EdD '14* is the director of extensions at Waipahu High School and leads initiatives to bridge campus scholarship with the needs of an evolving economy and workforce. After 25 years in federal law enforcement, Arnold left a career with the

Federal Bureau of Investigations to answer a new call to service. Today, he works at a progressive high school where he designs curricula, coaches teachers, connects industry to scholarship, and inspires a new generation of civic-minded leaders.



Oscar Macias *EdD '14* was recently published in ACSA's Leadership Magazine. His article is titled "Social emotional competence, emotional intelligence and the prosocial school leader: How the pandemic, school closures and distance learning can guide leaders."

Veronica Obregon *MSW '01, EdD '14* published a book titled *The Telemental Health Workbook: 30+ Youth Friendly Activities for Mental Health Professionals*. Recently, mental health providers across the country were pushed into working online to provide mental health counseling to their clients. Many mental health providers had no previous training, experience or tools to help them provide effective telemental health services. Veronica partnered with co-author, Flor Chaidez, a fellow Latina social worker working in urban areas of Los Angeles, and together they mobilized to fill the need for telemental health tools for clinicians. Their goal was to create tools that support mental health providers working in BIPOC communities because they value access to mental health care and community social justice. The workbook provides research, activities and tools that supports the use of online mental health services. Mental health providers can use the workbook to help improve their telemental health practice with youth.



Fernando Pena *ME '14* is director of undergraduate admissions and recruitment at San Francisco State University.

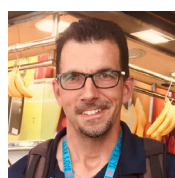


Anacany Torres *ME '14* co-founded a program, Project RISE, on her community college campus in 2018 to serve formerly incarcerated students. Anacany wrote and was awarded a grant from the Community College Chancellor's Office for her campus to develop

services and programming for Project RISE. She recently earned her EdD from California State University, Long Beach, conducted research on the support services for formerly incarcerated community college students and contributed as a co-author to academic briefs with pending publications.

Michelle Woody *EdD '14* was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor in the Counseling Department at Dallas Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. campus in July. Michelle's role has also been expanded to include academic and career advisor for counseling students.

Shanell Leggins *EdD '15* is a college counselor at NIST International School in Bangkok, Thailand.



Gianmarco Masoni *EdD '15* is chief operating officer at Kin:pathic in Amherst, N.H. Kin:pathic is a New England based behavioral services startup with a central telehealth component. Gianmarco leads technology integration, branding, marketing efforts, business development and strategic expansion.

Hasmik Danielian EdD '09 Secures Local Admission Area Status For Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District



The Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District (NLMUSD) has gained local admission area status for students seeking to enter California State University, Long Beach. The designation, starting for the 2021-22 school year, means that qualified NLMUSD graduates seeking entry to CSULB as first-time freshmen or upper-division transfers will be given priority admission as local residents.

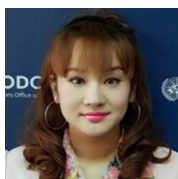
“This great achievement is the result of concerted efforts between us and the university,” said **Hasmik Danielian EdD '09**, who retired as NLMUSD superintendent on July 1. “The partnership creates a special legacy for our school community that will allow generations of students to not only expand their horizons, but also take advantage of unlimited opportunities that lie ahead by attending such a prestigious university. I am beyond elated!”

The change in status, which was recently approved by university and CSU system officials, is the successful culmination of a lobbying campaign that had begun with school counselors then was stepped up last year by district representatives. The process included public hearings with campus officials in February, two of which were attended by district administrators, counselors and other staff, as well as scores of students and parents who had arrived by school buses.

Historically, NLMUSD, an 18,600-student Hispanic majority school system with four high schools, had not been included in the local admission areas of any of its three closest CSU campuses: Long Beach, Fullerton and Los Angeles. Without the designation, NLMUSD students, in effect, had only limited access to those nearby campuses, competing with students from across California and beyond.

In addition, the three campuses, because the number of applicants is greater than the number of available spaces, have been considered “impacted” for undergraduate degrees — which means students have had to meet higher, more stringent admission requirements.

Marco Sanchez EdD '15 was recently promoted to director of secondary education, research, and evaluation with the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District (NLMUSD). He has been with NLMUSD for two years and previously served the Pomona Unified School District for 15 years as a high school math teacher, assistant principal, and principal.



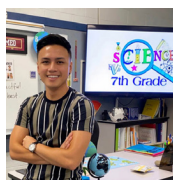
Vichaya Vannasin MAT '15 returned to Thailand after graduation and worked as an English language instructor, curriculum developer, UN Language Proficiency Examination (LPE) facilitator and coordinator at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Learning Centre for four years. She was entrusted to develop and facilitate training that enhances language proficiency of UN staff members to further their career development and multilingualism. Vichaya was able to transfer and apply the knowledge and skills that were acquired from USC Rossier to her work in a practical manner. In February 2020, she joined the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime as a program

staff who oversees the training academies and core-curricula for the border management program.



Trista Beard EdD '16 wrote an op-ed on high-touch student support in remote learning environments that was published by the NASPA Center for First-Generation Student Success.

Elizabeth Becker ME '16 is a first year law student at Loyola University Chicago School of Law pursuing her passion in higher education law.



Gardy Borromeo MAT-TESOL '16 is a seventh grade science teacher at Ocean View Junior High School in Oxnard, Calif. He facilitates classes that are based on the school's chosen science curriculum. Gardy is currently implementing lessons and interacting with students and families through distance learning.



Joseph Chan *ME '16* is the director of admissions and enrollment at Missionary University in Los Angeles. His role involves reviewing and interpreting digital analytics in order to monitor and adjust recruitment processes to reach maximum effectiveness.

Joseph also helps in communicating changes, statistics, and other information to the university president, chief operations officer (COO), registrar, chief academic officer/provost (CAO), and academic deans. He is also responsible for directing, hiring, training and coaching admissions staff members. Joseph graduated with his PhD in Educational Leadership in higher education from Trident University International in Cypress, Calif.



Paul Delgado *EdD '16* is a principal at Aspire Public Schools in South Los Angeles. Paul shared that his dissertation topic, "Case Study: Dynamics of a 21st Century School Model Integrating Technology to Enhance Teaching and Learning," proved to be beneficial for

his teachers and school site as they applied the conceptual framework to aspects of their approach to lesson design. In the current unexpected shift to remote learning, his teachers approach technology with a growth mindset and strive to move beyond substituting learning tasks to modifying and redefining learning tasks for students.

Marco Quevedo *MAT '16* earned his master's degree in educational psychology and Ed.S degree in school psychology from Azusa Pacific University in May 2019.



Henry Romero *EdD '16* currently serves as principal of Lakeside High School in the Lake Elsinore Unified School District.

Gregory Worsham *ME '16* is a senior technical trainer and instructional designer at Proterra. Proterra is a leader in the design and manufacture of zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles, enabling bus fleet operators to significantly reduce operating costs while delivering clean, quiet transportation to local communities across North America. Gregory evaluates e-learning solutions for North American deployment, creates training materials to support both instructor-led and e-learning centered course offerings and manages both field support and customer focus training programs.



Yuji Yang *MAT-TESOL '16* is a dual language English and Mandarin kindergarten and first grade teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Timothy Fretwell *MS '17, EdD '20* was recently selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel in the United States Marine Corps and moved to Okinawa, Japan where he will serve as a deputy assistant chief of staff for logistics.



Christopher Riddick *EdD '17* is an associate, organizational transformation at Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington, D.C. Christopher and his wife, Lauren, are also happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Zoe Kellan, on July 21, 2020.

Dalila Tahirovic *ME '17* founded Academy of Excellence, a learning center based in La Jolla, Calif. that supports high school students preparation for life beyond high school. This 10 week intensive course covers personal development, self reflection and analysis, composing personal statements, and developing a portfolio for use in future job or internship endeavors. Dalila also founded the Institute for Teacher Excellence, a teacher led mentorship program for teachers who are already credentialed but looking to improve their educational philosophy with methods from both Waldorf and Montessori philosophy. They also support teachers who are already teaching and hoping to further their credentials through test prep support.

Virginia Araceli Feliz *EdD '18* is an assistant, tenure-track professor in educational leadership and policy studies at California State University, Sacramento.



Mason Borchard *MAT '18* is a full stack software engineer at People Evolve as Consciousness Expands (P.e.a.c.e., Inc.) P.e.a.c.e., Inc. is a consciousness research company in the San Francisco Bay Area.

They use microelectronic random number generators (RNGs) to track and provide support for anomalous consciousness-related effects by setting up their software in settings such as art exhibits, music festivals, and in ride-share vehicles. A current project of Mason's involves streaming live RNG data to a webapp and implementing machine learning algorithms. The idea is that the data then influences user interfaces such as by integrating natural language processing to render text from a linguistics database.

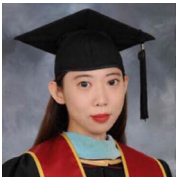
Michael Davis *ML '10, EdD '18* is president pro tem and racial equity officer for the City of Los Angeles, Board of Public Works. In this capacity, Michael serves as liaison to the Bureau of Contract Administration and helps develop a plan for diversity and inclusion of minorities, women and emergent, disabled and veterans businesses.



Kevin Dimatulac *ME '18* is a tenure-track counselor at Glendale Community College in Glendale, Calif.



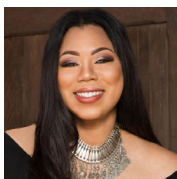
Amadi Emeh *MAT '18* is a vice principal in the San Juan Unified School District in Carmichael, Calif.



Jialu Fan *MAT '18* is an upper school mathematics teacher at Lakes International Language Academy in Forest Lake, Minn. She teaches in the international baccalaureate middle years program (MYP), as well as Mandarin immersion math, Mandarin immersion pre-algebra, and algebra 1 in English.



Theo Fowles *EdD '18* founded Stay Motivated and Rise Together Enterprises in February 2020. Stay Motivated and Rise Together Enterprises builds community and offers professional development via a podcast, workshops, and consulting services. The first initiative to launch is The Black Social Capital podcast, a bi-weekly show focused on successful black professionals who are currently in the field discussing issues affecting black students, staff and faculty on college campuses and other professional arenas.



Terri Horton *EdD '18* was selected to be a strategic consultant for the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, Obama Foundation Scholars Program.



Mary Beth Kropp *EdD '18* is a senior consultant at Collaborative Learning Solutions in Sacramento, Calif. She serves as a thought partner to school districts interested in systems change to improve student outcomes.

Michael McAlister *EdD '18* is a leadership executive at Apple, Inc. Michael offers educational expertise to San Francisco Bay Area schools and districts interested in supporting student learning outcomes with Apple technology. He partners with educational organizations and their leaders to intentionally design support, clarify purpose, and implement strategic plans. Michael also assists with the building of personal, institutional, and structural capacity and guides collaboration in order to develop students' academic achievement and social wellbeing.

Alberto Pimentel *EdD '18* just completed his first year as a full-time, tenure-track sociology professor at Los Angeles Harbor College. He teaches Introduction to Sociology, Human Sexuality, and Social Problems. Alberto also serves on the academic senate, curriculum committee, and several scholarship committees. In mid-June, he was appointed to the position of co-coordinator of distance education for the entire college. In addition, Alberto collaborated with USC President Emeritus

Dr. Max Nikias and an advisory council from USC and Los Angeles Harbor College to launch the Higher Education Leadership Empowerment Network (HELEN), a leadership program designed to empower community college students.



Karla Prince-Cheng *EdD '18* is an adjunct professor at California State University, East Bay in Hayward, Calif. She teaches courses in research in educational technology and learning theories and the design of e-learning environments to graduate level students.



Nina Thomas *EdD '18* is supervisor of correctional education programs (principal) for the State of California/California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Tehachapi, Calif. She oversees all educational programs at a state correctional facility, including academic, career technical education (CTE), libraries, recreation and physical education, TV specialist, post secondary and continuing education.



Diontre Thompson *EdD '18* is head of diversity and inclusion business partners at Genentech in South San Francisco, Calif. Diontre was selected after an extensive candidate search due to his deep diversity and inclusion background, his team-orientation, collaborative partnerships, and his strategic acumen across many dimensions of the business. He will drive critical focus areas for the company in ensuring an inclusive people experience and lead D&I Learning and Development. His team will advise senior business leaders of the 13 major organizations to focus on embedding D&I throughout their organizations. Diontre will also serve as the liaison to the human resource leadership team and lead the Foster Belonging Pillar team. Diontre was one of two recipients of the USC Rossier Second Century Award in August 2019.

Julie Troletti *EdD '18* is principal of Our Community School, a TK-8th grade school in Chatsworth, Calif. She is primarily responsible for the education program and academic accountability at the school.

Kate Burke *MAT '19* is a social studies and academic support teacher in the West Sonoma County Union High School District in Sebastopol, Calif.

Alba Cázares *MAT '19* is a Spanish teacher at PUC Schools in Sylmar, Calif. Alba has been teaching seven classes virtually during the pandemic.



Carly Cooper *EdD '19* was appointed as an adjunct professor at USC Bovard College.

Shayna Markwongnark EdD '19 creates online education program to support parents and children with virtual learning



Shayna Markwongnark EdD '19 is currently an adjunct faculty/university supervisor at the University of Redlands, and has made it her mission to spearhead changes in education. The daughter of two immigrants and a first generation college graduate, she has hardly stopped to take a breath when pursuing her goals and passions.

Through her experiences earning her undergrad and postgrad degrees, Shayna recognized the importance of accumulating several different tools to prepare her for success. In the ten years that she has worked in classrooms as a teacher and advisor, she has used those tools to develop strategies that worked best in engaging young minds. Now, as a mother to two young boys, and loads of tools and strategies in her tool belt, Shayna is working towards spreading her vision of more effective educational approaches. This ultimately led her to founding Epic Academy Inc., a non-profit educational organization that strives to create self-learners and critical thinkers.

In response to the hectic climate of our current times, Shayna saw the need for resources for parents of young children who are having trouble keeping their children academically engaged during quarantine. Cue Epic Party, an online educational program created and hosted by Shayna, which serves to provide engaging and fun content for young learners to enjoy. The main attraction of the program are the original 40-minute video programs that are released four times a week.

They are hosted by Dr. M., the alter ego of the aforementioned Shayna and her adorable two year old son and co-host, Zeus. These programs are as fun as they are educational, and include activities such as a read along, academic skills building, fitness segments, product demos with the digital learning kit Osmo™, along with visits from special guests who will join the party for some extra fun. Epic Party is built to be an “everything’s-in-the-box” type of service that encourages inquiry-based learning; the kind of product that Shayna suggests, “is what I as a mother myself would want for my children,” and one that will keep young children engaged on a daily and weekly basis.

Shayna hopes that the program will be a first step to help her change the way that parents, and their children think about learning. The program is set to launch early October, and is being offered with a free trial for children and parents to enjoy. More information can be found at www.epicacademyinc.com.



Camille Edwards ME '19 is an apprentice at The Late Show with Stephen Colbert in New York City.



Aerial Ellis EdD '19 was named to the 2020 Board of Directors for the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), the nation’s leading professional organization serving the communications community. She has also been appointed as a board representative to the PRSA Foundation Board of Directors, and as a co-chair for the Champions for PRSSA, the organization’s student section.

Rosa Flournoy ME '19 is a student services advisor for undergraduate majors in the political science department at USC Dornsife College of Arts & Science.



José González EdD '19 is senior director, program strategy & staff development at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula in Menlo Park, Calif. José leads the department in supporting clubhouses and school sites with delivering high-quality after-school programming centered on youth development practices. Given the widened scope of the department, José works with a team of program specialists and the director of curriculum and instruction to deliver professional development around curriculum, instructional best practices, management, and leadership. Recently, he led the team in designing and launching an organization-wide initiative for delivering virtual programming to K-12 students across three cities. José is also adjunct faculty at National University supporting intern teacher credential candidates.



Patton McDowell *EdD '19* is hosting a weekly podcast, *Your Path to Nonprofit Leadership*, which features interviews with leaders from all nonprofit sectors including education. The podcast is designed for individuals considering the nonprofit sector as a career path, as well as for those currently in the field seeking senior leadership opportunities.



Amartya "Marty" Ray *EdD '19* serves as chief of staff in the Office of the President and as assistant secretary of the corporation at Tufts University. In his role, he directs the operations of the president's office while advising the president on policy, procedural and operational issues. He facilitates matters within the senior leadership team, coordinates strategic initiatives, represents the president on university-wide committees, engages with a broad array of university constituents, and manages special projects.

Shilpan Sheth *MAT '19* is a certificated physics teacher in the San Jose Unified School District.

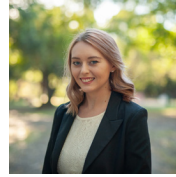
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Paul Bruno *PhD '20* is an assistant professor of education policy, organization, and leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

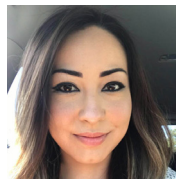


Cecilia Jerez *MAT-TESOL '20* is a bilingual teacher at EDS My Classroom in Venice, Calif. She prepares lesson plans in core subject areas (English, math and science) and the Spanish curriculum.



Mckenna Kleinmaier *MAT '20*, a biology teacher at Alexander Hamilton High School in Los Angeles, was chosen by the Knowles Teacher Initiative as a member of its 2020 Cohort of Teaching Fellows. This year, 34 promising high school mathematics and science teachers who are just beginning their careers were awarded Knowles Teaching Fellowships. The Knowles Teacher Initiative supports a national network of mathematics and science teachers who are collaborative, innovative leaders improving education for all students in the United States. The Knowles Teaching Fellowship is an intensive and cohesive, five-year program that supports early-career, high school mathematics and science teachers in their efforts to develop teaching expertise and lead from the classroom. Through the program, Knowles Fellows have access to grants for expenses associated with purchasing classroom materials, engaging in professional development, and spearheading leadership activities that have an impact beyond their own classrooms. Fellows also benefit from access to stipends, mentoring and coaching from experienced teachers and teacher educators, and membership in a nationwide community of more than 400 teachers who are committed to improving education.

Megan Robbins *MAT '20* is a special education teacher at WillCA Connections Academy in Scio, Ore.



Malysa Vizcarra *MAT '20* is an SDP (special education) science and history teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Leadership Month Programming in July reaches over 950 Attendees

This past July, we transitioned our annual, half-day, in-person Leadership Conference to a month-long, virtual event re-branded as Leadership Month.

Leadership Month featured 18 sessions with 61 speakers focused on career management and leadership development.

Total attendance across all sessions exceeded 950 participants and included alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends from 34 states and 10 countries.

View Leadership Month session information and recordings at

<https://rossiercareers.usc.edu/leadership-month/>

LEADERSHIP MONTH