Welcome back everybody!

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Welcome back for the Fall 2014 semester! A lot of interesting events happened since our last issue for the College of Social Sciences, including several new hires, and Fresno State's being ranked number 21 in the nation in terms of accessibility, affordability, and completion by TIME Magazine.

New Faculty

Last spring produced several successful searches for new faculty and staff, resulting in hires for the Departments of Anthropology, Sociology, Criminology, and Political Science.

Dvera Saxton (ANTH)

Anthropology added to its faculty with Dvera Saxton, who received her doctorate in anthropology, race, gender and social justice from the American University in Washington, DC.

She worked in the Pajaro and Salinas Valleys for 3 years, documenting the health and work experiences of farmworkers, both mestizo and indigenous. She also organized with Central Coast communities in their campaigns against pesticides, especially methyl iodide, and worked in solidarity with rural residents, migrant students', indigenous farmworkers in their own advocacy projects, including immigrant rights, community gardening, and the founding of a health and wellness program at the newly revitalized Springfield Grange.

After a year of postdoctoral studying between 2013-2014 with the Social Science Environmental Health Research Institute at Northeastern University in Boston, MA, Dvera has the great pleasure and honor to return to California this summer to start a new job at Fresno State. She looks forward to teaching anthropology classes, doing ethnographic and environmental health research in the Central Valley, and supporting the children of farmworkers to pursue their educational goals.

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Student News
The comings and goings of our students.
Christopher Sullivan (SOC)

Christopher Sullivan joins the ranks of the Sociology Department, coming from UC Berkeley, where he received his doctorate in Sociology and Demography in 2013. His research examines ethnicity and inequality in China using a mixture of qualitative and quantitative methodologies. He spent over 18 months conducting ethnographic research and unstructured interviews with a group of Uyghur Muslim entrepreneurs in a large Chinese city, and found that as the climate of everyday violence intensified, individuals became more innovative in adopting strategies of resistance to police tactics of control. Chris specializes in quantitative methods, and in addition to teaching statistics and methods for the department, he hopes to create a course in Development and Globalization. As Sociology Chair Matthew Jendian notes, “I’m very excited that Dr. Chris Sullivan will be joining our sociology faculty in fall 2014, as he will be sure to reinvigorate our course offerings in statistics and quantitative research methodology!”

Hollianne Marshall (CRIM)

Hollianne Marshall comes to the Department of Criminology from Fairmont State University, where she served as an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice. She attained her MA and PhD in Sociology from the University of Central Florida. Her dissertation, “Italian-American Ethnic Concentration, Informal Social Control and Urban Violent Crime: A Defended Neighborhoods Approach,” focused on how violent crime is mediated by context. Her research looks at violent crime in urban areas, the impacts of informal social control on violent crime in urban areas, and sex crimes against children.

Jenna Kieckhaefer (CRIM)

Jenna Kieckhaefer worked as an ORISE Research Fellow for the National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime (which houses the FBI’s Behavioral Analysis units) prior to joining the Department of Criminology. She received her masters and doctorate in Legal Psychology from Florida International University, and did her BAs in psychology and criminology at UC Irvine. She received a research fellowship from the National Institute of Justice for her dissertation entitled, “Understanding rapport-building in investigative interviews: Does rapport’s effect on witness memory and suggestibility depend on the interviewer?” Her research includes examining the impact of likableness on memory accuracy and memory conformity of eyewitnesses, the malleability of bystanders’ memories, and the effects of rapport building on the recall accuracy of adult witnesses.

Lisa Bryant (PLSI)

Lisa Bryant joins the Political Science Department, having finished her doctorate in Political Science at University of New Mexico. Her dissertation, entitled, “Mobilizing the Immigrant Vote: A Comparison of Mobilization Methods to Increase Turnout Among Minority and Naturalized Citizens,” received the Graduate Dean’s Dissertation of the Year Fellowship for the 2012-2013 school year. Lisa also recently won the Graduate Student Mentor Award (2012), a one time award for an outstanding graduate student at the University of New Mexico who has provided exceptional service and excellence in mentoring other graduate students in his or her own or in other departments. Her primary research interests are in the areas of political behavior and campaigns and elections, focusing particularly on voter mobilization and election administration.

Faculty and Staff News

Tenured and Promoted Faculty 2014

T. Hasan Johnson (AFRS)
De Anna Reese (AFRS/HIST)
Yoshiko Takahashi (CRIM)

Promoted Faculty 2014

Kenneth Hansen (PLSI)
James Mullooly (ANTH)

Faculty on Sabbatical Fall 2014

Lori Clune (HIST)
Cristina Herrera (CLAS)
Emma Hughes (CRIM)
William Skuban (HIST)

The COSS Herald

The COSS Herald is a semi-annual publication by the faculty of the College of Social Sciences, highlighting the activities of the faculty, staff, & students, and providing a venue for social bonding among members of nine departments spread over five buildings on campus. The COSS Herald is not an official university publication.

The COSS Herald Staff:

Cristina Herrera, Co-editor (on sabbatical)
Andrew Jones, Co-editor

Submissions for the next edition of The COSS Herald should be sent via email to either cherrera@csufresno.edu or anjones@csufresno.edu. Images should be submitted in ‘jpeg’ format, while text materials should be in rich text format (rtf). The editors retain the right of refusal to publish any materials they deem to be obscene, pornographic, threatening, or boring.
Pub. Crawl

In this section of The COSS Herald, we highlight faculty accomplishments in scholarship since our last issue and provide an opportunity to showcase future publications on the verge of acceptance.

Accepted Works


Research Roundup

Numerous faculty received release time and mini grants to conduct research for the upcoming academic year:

Annabella España-Najera will be examining voter turnout in Latin America and analyzing anti-violence policies in Guatemala.

Emma Hughes is researching community volunteers in prisons and jails, looking at the nature and context of service provisions.

Ethan Kytle and Blain Roberts are working on the historical memory of slavery amongst citizens in Charleston, South Carolina.

Fred Vermote is engaged in historical research on global finances and missionaries in 17th century Asia.

Jennifer Randles is pursuing research on support for engaged and positive paternal involvement among low-income fathers in Fresno.

Sarah Whitley is delving into the coping strategies and effects of the 2014 drought on food acquiring strategies for people in poverty in cities in the Central Valley.

Segun Ogunjemiyo is comparing CO2, and water vapor exchanges in Fresno and Potsdam, New York.

William Skuban is working on his historical analysis of the formation of the Chilean nation, focusing on the period of 1820-1932.

De Anna Reese is working on a case study of Kerry Washington and her interactions with the power dynamics of Hollywood.

Jeff Cummins is looking at the politics of diversity within the state of California.

Kenneth Hansen is conducting research on native learning communities within California.

Thomas Holyoke is investigating the dynamics of state charter school laws and their impact after enactment.

Melanie Ram is pursuing research on tracking international organization issue emergence and policy outcomes within Europe.
Student News

Applied Creativity in California’s Central Valley

Six current and former anthropology students presented papers at the Southwestern Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Garden Grove, CA, April 24-26, 2014. The session, entitled, Applied Creativity in California’s Central Valley: CSU Fresno’s Institute of Public Anthropology, was organized by Professors Jim Mullooly and Hank Delcore, and included student papers:

Michael Blanchard, “Emerging Virtual Reality Applications: How Technology is Redefining Creativity.”

Kim Amico, “Creative Approaches to Understanding Technology Use Amongst ‘At Risk’ Students.”

Jia Lu and Kia Lee, “Creative Approaches to Nutrition Education: Nutrition and Exercise Education Development.”

Peter Yang, “Cultural Inflections of Pain: Technologies of the Body in a Central Valley Hospital.”

Jenise Coates, “Understanding Financial Aid at Fresno State: Creative First Steps.”

Humanics Scholars

Eighteen Humanics Scholars, along with Don Simmons, and Matthew Jendian, participated in the 51st International Conference of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in San Antonio, Texas, March 22-25, 2014.

Outstanding Graduates

Several of the College’s 2014 outstanding graduates have news to share:

Maria Ortega-Reyes

Maria Ortega-Reyes, the Dean’s medalist for the College of Social Sciences 2014, and double major in sociology and political science, received the President’s Scholarship and was accepted into the doctoral program in sociology at Brown University, where she will begin attending classes this fall.

Nicole Hoke

Nicole Hoke, outstanding graduate and Dean’s medalist nominee in Geography and City and Regional Planning, accepted the position of Regional Transportation Planner for the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC).

Sean Kiernan

Sean Kiernan, Dean’s medalist for the Division of Student Affairs and political science major, has worked in the California Assembly Speaker’s Press Office and traveled alongside President Castro to Washington D.C. and Sacramento to lobby elected officials on behalf of the CSU. He is planning on pursuing a degree in law and a career in politics.

Sociology Club

Members of the Sociology Club distributed personal hygiene products to Fresno’s homeless population on May 3, 2014, after a successful donation drive that lasted much of the spring semester. The Club gathered more donations than they were able to distribute, and have material to distribute for another personal hygiene drive this semester.

The Fresno State Food Recovery Network

Sarah Whitley and Janine Nkosi established six community partnerships so Fresno State students enrolled in SOC 3 Critical Thinking about Society could engage in service-learning activities (partnerships were formed with The Bulldog Pantry, Wesley United Methodist Base Camp Hot Meal Program, Millbrook Presbyterian Friday Hot Meal Program, Hope Lutheran Tuesday Food Pantry, St. Paul Newman Center Hot Meal Program, and Wolter’s Elementary). Faculty and students held the first Fresno State Food Security and Hunger Awareness Banquet at the St. Paul Newman Center on April 28, 2014. Locally the Fresno State Food Recovery Network has recovered 18,114 pounds of food to date. Nationally, FRNs have recovered 358,275 pounds of food.

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Rumor Mill

Staff to attend Women’s Conference
Staff members of the College will be attending The Central California Women’s Conference on September 16, featuring keynote speaker Valerie Bertinelli, at the Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center. The Central California Women’s Conference was founded in 1988 by the late State Senator Ken L. Maddy of Fresno. The mission of the conference is to educate, motivate and inspire women to excel in their professional and personal lives.

CARI grant award
Jennifer Randles received a Community Action Research Initiative (CARI) Grant Award from the American Sociological Association’s Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy. The grant will go towards her research on engaged and positive paternal involvement among low-income fathers in Fresno.

Spirit of Service Awards

Faculty and Staff News
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‘Suicide by Cop’ talk given in Germany
Harald Otto Schweizer was invited to give a two hour presentation on the topic “Suicide by Cop” (in German) at the Karlsruhe, Germany police headquarters on July 2, 2014. The presentation was co-sponsored by the International Police Association.

Cold War discussed in Switzerland
Lori Clune presented at the International Conference on New Narratives of the Cold War in Lausanne, Switzerland in July, and had a chapter accepted and translated in Spanish in the book La Guerra Fría y las Américas.

Eurasian history seminar in Hawaii focuses on the Mongols
Michelle DenBeste spent the month of June in Hawaii attending a seminar on Eurasian history. The Mongols and the Eurasian Nexus of Global History provided participants with five weeks of lectures, discussions, museum visits, and films focused on investigating the Mongol period of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries—an era of extraordinary interactions among the peoples and civilizations of Asia and Europe that in many ways marked a turn toward greater multiculturalism and more concertratedly pursued globalization. While focusing on the Mongol era, its historical contexts and subsequent impacts, the program also offers resources for enhancing engagement with multiculturalism, its challenges, and creative possibilities. DenBeste notes, “The institute will result in a much greater inclusion of Mongol history in all of my Russian history courses and perhaps ultimately in the development of a Central Asian history course. In addition, the group is working on a publication, Teaching the Mongols.”

In the beginning of August, DenBeste took a group of 20 students to Russia. They traveled to St. Petersburg and Moscow. (see Paparazzi photo on page 8).

Staff honored for service

At the Staff Training And Recognition (STAR) Day awards ceremony on May 29, 2014, the University honored members of the staff of the College of Social Sciences for years of service. Fabiola Alvarez (pictured above on the left), Christopher Cruz (pictured below), and Julie Watson were acknowledged for 15 years of service to the University. Susan Sandoval (pictured above on the right) received acknowledgment for 35 years, including service in the Department of History for the past seven.

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New Hires
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Chih-Hao Wang (GEOG)

The department of Geography and City & Regional Planning is pleased to welcome a new faculty member, Dr. Chih-Hao Wang, to the department. Dr. Wang will begin his appointment this semester as an Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning. Before joining the department, Dr. Wang was a Visiting Assistant Professor in the City and Regional Planning Section of the Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture at The Ohio State University.

Dr. Wang received PhD in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University. His research focuses on environmental planning from the perspective of natural hazard mitigation, and on application of spatial statistics to analyze spatial or social interactions in transportation behavior, social inequality, and water management. Dr. Wang’s teaching assignments will include environmental planning and GIS courses.

New Staff

A new Department Administrative Support Assistant joined the staff in Criminology after the beginning of spring semester, 2014.

Amber Hornberger (CRIM)

Amber Hornberger joined the Department of Criminology in Spring of 2014. She attained a BA in Fine Arts from CSU Fullerton, and brings over a decade of administrative experience to the Department. Amber moved from southern California to Clovis in August 2013 and is enjoying the people of the Central Valley and visiting the Sierra’s with her husband. She can usually be found jogging around campus during lunch, attending wellness classes, or visiting the Gibson Farm Market. She enjoys interacting with her co-workers and expanding her knowledge of Fresno State.

Faculty and Staff News
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Cha appointed to board of trustees

Marn Cha has been appointed to serve a four-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees of Pacific States University in Los Angeles. In addition to that position, Cha has been appointed to a professorship emeritus of the School of Politics and Public Management of East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai, China.

Statistics book now available on SSRIC

The SSRIC’s website (http://www.ssric.org) has a number of resources for teaching and research. SPSS for Windows A Basic Tutorial Version 22, co-authored by Ed Nelson, is now available on this website. Visitors can access via: http://ssric.org/node/449. While visitors to the site are checking it out, Nelson suggests taking a look at the other resources available on the website, and observes, “Please note that the SPSS tutorial is available without cost.”

New Program – Option in City and Regional Planning

Following the approval of a new name for the department of Geography and City & Regional Planning, the department is pleased to announce a new program that gives students opportunity to obtain a BA degree in Geography with Option in City and Regional Planning. The option program, which starts this fall, is designed to provide the knowledge, skills, and values that will enable students to secure professional employment, to perform effectively as planners, to think critically, and to participate meaningfully in the planning profession. The program emphasizes practical experience with a rich diversity of planning applications in the city of Fresno, as well as the Central Valley region. Students enrolled in this option will be exposed to a wide variety of physical and environmental planning issues and problems and will learn about the array of methods and techniques employed by planners in their work. The courses are carefully selected to introduce the techniques and approaches of city planners and provide excellent preparation for graduate studies in urban and regional planning and in public policy analysis.

Summer Research

Dr. Segun Ogunjemiyo worked on research projects supported from a grant received from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The $250,000 grant provides opportunity for him to hire three Geography majors to work full time, for eight weeks, as student research assistants on projects that include measurements and modeling of greenhouse gasses emissions from manure lagoons, assessment of the effects of July 4 and New Year fireworks on PM2.5 concentration and air quality in California cities, and measurements of temperatures in parked cars for modeling of hyperthermia in children left in hot cars.

Transitions

Colleges and their respective Departments are subject to periods of equilibrium and moments of transition when it comes to the people who make up the faculty and staff. The College of Social Sciences experienced such a transition in 2014 with the FERP of one faculty member and the departure of both a faculty member and a member of the staff.

Malik Simba

Malik Simba entered into the Faculty Early Retirement Program at the end of Spring, 2014, and received the designation Professor Emeritus at the University.

Commencement ceremony in May. He joined the College in 1989 and has served as Coordinator of the Africana Studies Program since 2006.

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Transitions
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Toni Dupont-Morales

Toni Dupont-Morales served in the Department of Criminology for six years. She was hired in 2008 with two years of service credit and attained tenure in 2011. At the end of the spring semester, she made the decision to leave the Department and is now employed with the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole.

Kristi Larkin

After 13 years of serving as a member of the staff in the College, Kristi Larkin is moving to the Jordan School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology to work in the Dean’s Office. During her years of service to the College, Kristi worked in the Department of Geography (and City and Regional Planning), the Office of Development, and the Dean’s Office.

Provost Awards 2014

From the 103rd Commencement Program

Graduate Teaching and Mentoring

William Skuban has been at Fresno State since 1998. For more than a decade, he has served as a Ronald McNair mentor, which has allowed him to guide under-graduates no only as an adviser on projects, but also as a speaker on various McNair panels and workshops. For him, the reward is seeing a student either continue on into Fresno State’s graduate program or gain entrance directly into a doctoral program. Described as having a genuine concern for his students, he has been both an effective graduate mentor and a successful scholar. He has published numerous articles based on his research on Chile and Peru and has published a book with the University of New Mexico Press, “Lines in the Sand: Nationalism and Identity on the Peruvian-Chilean Frontier.” In the classroom, he challenges and inspires his students. Through his efforts, he has inspired dozens of students to enroll in Fresno State’s graduate program in History, including, the 2013 Dean’s Medalist from the College of Social Sciences. He has also directed numerous master’s theses, one of which was honored with the College of Social Sciences Thesis of the Year Award in 2012. Bill will be on sabbatical in the fall semester, traveling to Chile to conduct research on his next major work.

Student News
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A critique of modernity

Matt Ford, BA ‘10 Sociology and current graduate student in History, recently published in Climate and Capitalism, “Re-contextualizing Anti-Extractivism: Buen Vivir and the New Left in the Andes.”

Geography Bee

Annually, the National Geographic Society stages an event in Washington, D.C. called the Geographic Bee. Each November through January, elementary and middle schools throughout the U.S. hold Geographic Bees for fourth through eighth graders at their school sites. These students, having undergone intense study, demonstrate their prowess in many areas of Geography, including, but not limited to physical geography, economic geography, cities and states, world geography, etc. National Geographic then determines the 100 top qualifiers for the State Geography Bees, held the following spring, in the 50 states and three territories of the U.S. Those top 53 finishers are invited to compete every May in the National Geographic Bee in Washington, D.C.

This year the department of Geography and City & Regional planning hosted the State Geography Bee, and for the first time the event was held at Fresno State on April 4, 2014. The event was directed by Sean Boyd, a lecturer in the department of Geography and City & Regional planning who is also the California State Geography Bee Coordinator. Participants include 98 students from as far away as McKinleyville to the north, and Coronado to the south and approximately 350 people were in attendance – mainly, the competitors and their parents. The winner of the state contest, Tuvya Bergson-Michelson, represented California and took third place at the National Geography Bee held May 19 through May 23 in Washington, D.C, and received a scholarship prize of $10,000.

Dr. Castro has now offered a $5,000 scholarship to any State Geographic Bee winner who, in the future, qualifies to attend Fresno State, and chooses to do so, as long as the event remains at Fresno State.

It is the intent of the Department of Geography & City and Regional Planning to keep this annual event at Fresno State. To that end, the department has applied for, and has been approved for, a modest grant from the College of Social Sciences to help fund the event next year. For more information, go to: http://www.fresnostatenews.com/2014/04/national-geographic-state-geography-bee-to-be-held-at-fresno-state/
Paparazzi

(Above left) Thomas Holyoke and Andrew Jones walk towards the capital building to participate in CFA Lobbying Days in Sacramento on behalf of their fellow faculty, staff, and students. April 2, 2014.

(Right) Fresno State’s Allstar Mock Trial team competed at the National Championship Finals in Orlando, Florida. April 7, 2014. The group finished as one of the top 48 teams in the nation. Left to right. Front row: Kevin Piercy, Hailey Bonds, Ashley Eggleston, Maddy Martinez, Kaitlyn Sims, Deasha Brown, Head Coach Gordon Park Esq.; Left to right. Back row: Asst Coach Steven McQuillan, Esq., Grant Mason, Gage Marchini, Andrew Bunting, and Asst. Coach Christopher Irwin Esq.-Deputy. District Atty.

(Above right) Humanities Students4Giving at Fresno State celebrated its eighth year of grant making by awarding three $8,000 grants to local community benefit organizations (CBOs) focusing on: (1) Education; (2) Environment; and (3) Poverty Alleviation. Grants were presented by student scholars to the Fresno Arts Council, GRID Alternatives-Central Valley and Good Neighbor Center, Inc. at a reception on May 12, 2014, at Arte Americas.

(Left) Socializing before the dinner in honor of Dean’s medalists at President Castro’s house. Dean Luz Gonzalez poses with the College of Social Sciences medalist, Maria Ortega-Reyes and her mother, Patricia. May 15, 2014.

(Right) Geography Majors, Eric Melton, Kevin Wichman, and Karen Jimenez, download data from a weather station set up to measure temperature in parked cars for Segun Ogunjemiyo’s research.
(Above left) T Hasan Johnson talks about issues facing Black males at Chicago’s DuSable Museum for Question Bridge’s "A Dialogue Amongst Men" symposium, April 24, 2014.

(Above right) Linda Ragus (left) and Susan Sandoval (right) pose with Adriana Belmonte, who worked as a student office aid in History for five years, and graduated with her degree in Criminology, May 16, 2014. She now works for the Department of Corrections in Madera County.

(Lef) Jan Slagter (left) and Loretta Kensinger (right) pose with Marie Lerma, Women’s Studies outstanding graduate for 2014. Marie has been accepted to the highly prestigious Ph.D. program in the Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Ohio State University. May 9, 2014.

(Right) Michelle DenBeste and Andrea Johnson pose with history students in front of the Moscow Centre Bakhushina on their tour of Moscow and St. Petersburg. August 5, 2014.