

RISING

FALL 2021

Ed.D. Leadership Program

San José State University

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Welcoming Our New Students

COHORT 8

Meet the newest Ed.D. cohort who began their studies in the Summer of 2021.



Anthony Oskar Alvarado

Hometown:
San José, California

Undergraduate: BS, Banking & Finance - National University

Graduate: MA, Curriculum & Instruction - San José State University & MA, Educational Leadership - Concordia University Irvine

Research Interests: Technology integration & social justice in public schools, addressing equity gaps in our public schools through equity-centered leadership, effective incorporation of technology in curriculum & instruction, development of STEAM programs to increase student motivation.

Personal Interests: International & interstate traveling, dining out, cooking, singing karaoke, watching movies, gardening, and taking care of my cats.



Raziye Baghi



Jaime Davis

Hometown:
San Carlos, California

Undergraduate: BA, Political Science - University of California, Davis

Graduate: JD (Juris Doctorate) - Willamette University College of Law

Research Interests: Mindfulness in education & social-emotional learning, particularly as it relates to marginalized communities, intersections of criminal justice system & education system.

Personal Interests: I am happiest when I'm outdoors doing just about anything. My current endeavor is surfing (2 years in, have surfed in Mexico, Costa Rica, & Nicaragua). Grew up skiing in Tahoe, & I've summited Mt. Shasta & *almost* summited Mt. Rainier (turned back by weather). I'm a fan of our national parks system, an avid reader of nonfiction, and a devoted re-watcher of West Wing & Madame Secretary.



Joe Fessehaye

Hometown:
Columbia, Missouri

Undergraduate: BA, Interdisciplinary (Sociology and Film Studies) - University

of Missouri

Graduate: M.Ed., Higher Education Administration - University of Missouri

Research Interests: Equity & inclusion in higher education, first-generation & marginalized students, student access, educational technology.

Personal Interests: Traveling the world, playing & watching basketball, music, and spending time with family & friends.



Sofia Fojas

Hometown:
Palo Alto, California

Undergraduate: BA, Anthropology, Minor in Music - University of Hawaii, Manoa

Graduate: MS, Educational Leadership - California State University East Bay

Research Interests: Arts & creativity and its socioemotional & academic impacts on historically excluded student populations,

especially youth experiencing homelessness & youth in foster care in K-14.

Personal Interests: I am a professional musician (AFM Local 6!) and play violin & viola. I love animals and currently am the guardian for a dog, two cats, 4 budgies, & a 36-year old Amazon parrot. I love to read nonfiction, and ride my bike. During the pandemic, I've been watching videos about sustainable living, tiny houses, & bees!



Drew Giles

Hometown:

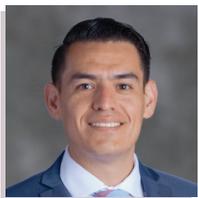
Loma, Colorado

Undergraduate: BS, Broadcast Journalism - University of Colorado, Boulder

Graduate: MA, Early Childhood Education - University of Colorado, Denver

Research Interests: Food justice, school gardens in early childhood education, family engagement, dual language learners.

Personal Interests: Gardening, trying out new recipes, international travel, hiking, and yoga.



Martin Gutierrez

Hometown:

Salinas, California

Undergraduate: BA, Political Science with a Minor in Education - University of

California, Davis

Graduate: MA, Education/Administration & Supervision - San José State University

Research Interests: English learners, instructional technology as a resource, inequities in education, parent engagement & involvement.

Personal Interests: Learning new technology, outings with my family, camping, and volleyball.



Tim Harper

Hometown:

San José, California

Undergraduate: BA, Child & Adolescent Development - San José State University

Graduate: MA, Education - San José State University

Research Interests: Historical foundations of the national early care & education system(s), systemic inequities present in the national early care & education system(s), strategies to provide 'Economic Dignity' to the national early care & education workforce.

Personal Interests: Travelling, hiking, eating healthy, meditation, soccer, spending time with my daughter, partner, and family/friends.



Teresa Keng

Hometown:

Fremont, California

Undergraduate: BA, Business Managerial Economics - University of California,

Los Angeles

Graduate: MS, Traditional Chinese Medicine & Chinese Herbology - American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Research Interests: Special needs, early childhood education, vocational programs.

Personal Interests: Karaoke, snorkeling, hiking.



Kelly Mack

Hometown:

Torrance, California

Undergraduate: BA, Philosophy, Minor in Education, University of

California, Santa Cruz

Graduate: MA in Elementary Education, San José State University

Research Interests: Critical pedagogy, critical race theory, anti-racist pedagogy, mentoring.

Personal Interests: Hiking, reading, baking, and roller skating.



Shelly Masur

Hometown:

Anchorage, Alaska

Undergraduate: BA, Sociology - Macalester College

Graduate: MPH, Health Education - Hunter College, City University of New York

Research Interests: P-16 policy & funding, impacts of public discourse on public education & equity, full-service community schools & whole child, whole family systems.

Personal Interests: Spending time with family, hanging with my dogs, running, hiking, travel.



Selene Munoz

Hometown:

Castroville, California

Undergraduate: BA, History - University of California, Santa Cruz

Graduate: MA, Education - San José State University

Research Interests: Special education, restorative practices, bilingualism.

Personal Interests: Traveling, spending time with friends and family.



Harshdeep Singh Nanda

Hometown:

Fremont, California

Undergraduate: BA, Political Economy & Public Policy with

an additional Minor in Public Policy - University of California, Berkeley

Graduate: MPA (Master of Public Administration) - San José State University

Research Interests: Educational equity, inclusivity, diversity, student success, career development, higher education, socio-economic mobility, community college.

Personal Interests: Hiking, reading, writing, web development, spending time with family/friends.



Mylinh Pham

Hometown:

San José, California

Undergraduate: BA, History & Social Sciences - San José State University

Graduate: MA, History - San José State University

Research Interests: History education and racial issues in U.S. history.

Personal Interests: Hiking and spending time with my daughter.



Lauren Reagan

Hometown:

Concord, California

Undergraduate: BA, Literature - University of California, Santa Cruz

Graduate: MA, English (Teaching of Writing) - Humboldt State University

Research Interests: Culturally responsive post-secondary learning & supports, co-curricular assessment, centering student voices, socially-just higher education administration, organizational learning.

Personal Interests: Running, backpacking, and hiking with the dog, elaborate cooking projects.



Nannette Regua

Hometown:

Fresno, California

Undergraduate: BA, English, Minor in Women's Studies - San José State University

Graduate: MA, History - San José State University & MA, Women's History - Sarah Lawrence College

Research Interests: Critical race theory, community cultural wealth, first-generation Latinx college students, equity, social justice.

Personal Interests: Researching women's history, traveling to historical destinations, and spending time with my son.



Keri Toma

Hometown: Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii
Undergraduate: BA, Asian Studies & BA, Japanese, both completed at University of

Oregon

Graduate: MA, Teaching Foreign Language & MA, International Education Management, both completed at Monterey Institute of International Studies

Research Interests: Student success including the role of co-curricular programs & peer mentorship, intercultural development & assessment, campus internationalization.

Personal Interests: Traveling, cooking, and eating food from around the world, spending time with my little rescue pug & managing her social media account.



Diana Valle-Murillo

Hometown: Monterey, California
Undergraduate: BA, Language Studies - University of California, Santa Cruz

Graduate: MA, Counseling Psychology - Santa Clara University

Research Interests: College access & higher education, representation, social justice & advocacy for underserved & underrepresented communities, women in leadership, best practices for counseling & mental health, race, identity, culture & language.

Personal Interests: Coffee!! Family gatherings, cooking with my mom, visiting family in Mexico, traveling and exploring new places & foods with my husband, going to music, art & sports events.

Ashley also joined the SJSU Ed.D. Leadership Program in Summer 2021, as a new member of Cohort 7.



Ashley Busby

Hometown: Oakland, California
Undergraduate: BA, Psychology - San Francisco State

University

Graduate: M.Ed., International Education Policy - Harvard Graduate School of Education

Research Interests: The intersection of socioemotional learning and restorative practices, and how developing preservice teachers' social and emotional competencies supports their investment in anti-racist praxis.

Personal Interests: I am a vegan, meditating, foster mom. Nature and laughter are my favorite medicines, which means I am out hiking in the redwoods with my dog, Starfire, or on a backpacking trip with my partner whenever possible.

SJSU's Ed.D. Community

ACHIEVEMENTS

Students



Sofia Fojas

Sofia has been awarded a 3-year fellowship from our [Center for Collaborative Research Excellence in Education \(CCREE\)](#) to engage in applied research that addresses and advances equitable outcomes for students in foster care and students experiencing homelessness in the K-12 population. Read the full press release on the [Lurie College blog](#).



Martin Gutierrez

Martin was awarded the Region 4 Site Administrator of the Year this summer by the California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators (CALSA). The highlights include stabilizing quality teacher retention, alignment of site goals on student achievement, efforts during remote instruction to ensure student engagement, participation, and achievement.



Harshdeep Singh Nanda

Harshdeep has recently been reappointed for another 3-year term as Personnel Commissioner for Fremont Unified School District.

Alumni



Sara Douglas

Dr. Douglas presented her dissertation study, “A Look Inside The Black Box: Understanding Communicative Exchanges in Online Learning Environments (2019),” with SJSU advisor Emily Slusser at the Critical Questions in Education (CQiE) conference in Seattle, Washington in February 2020, and again at the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Annual Conference in December 2020. She completed her ISTE Certification in January 2021 and is now an ISTE Certified Educator.



Carrie Holmberg

Dr. Holmberg is Chair of the AERA Classroom Assessment SIG (Special Interest Group) for the academic year of 2021-2022.

Dr. Holmberg has also co-authored with Ed.D. Professor, Dr. Brent Duckor, a resource for teachers, instructional coaches, and LEAs for the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence: “Assessment for Learning to Support Student Achievement”. The free-to-all resource is a “learning path” of 9 modules that offers a self-paced, flexible route to becoming a formative assessor committed to equity and excellence in diverse classrooms.



Jennifer Izant Gonzales

Dr. Izant Gonzales has recently been promoted to director of Alternative Education at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education. She also gave birth to her third child, Magnolia Marielena Izant Gonzales on August 23, 2021.



Taunya Jaco

Dr. Jaco is a middle school teacher in San Jose Unified School District and a proud member of the San Jose Teachers Association. In June 2021, Dr. Jaco was elected to serve on the California Teachers Association (CTA) state Board of Directors. The organization is over 150 years old that encompasses nearly 310,000 members and more than 1,100 local chapters in school districts throughout California. CTA works to improve the conditions of teaching and learning in California, and its members include teachers, counselors, psychologists, librarians, Education Support Professionals and other non-supervisory certificated personnel in our public schools and colleges.

Dr. Jaco recently completed her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at San José State University, where she conducted a documentary film study entitled *Fidelity At The Forefront: The Fight For Ethnic Studies*, illuminating the plight of Ethnic Studies practitioners and scholars. Dr. Jaco earned a Masters of Arts in Journalism from Regent University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from San Diego State University.



Annette Kennedy

Dr. Kennedy served as Principal / Interim Executive Director of a charter school, Suncoast STEAM Academy for the 2020-2021 school year in San Diego, California.

She is currently a full-time student at Trinity Law School with a focus on educational law and juvenile justice related issues. Having served as a school administrator for the past six years, Dr. Kennedy sees this as a nice compliment to what she currently does in the field of education and with all the legalities that go along with it.

Dr. Kennedy is also a part of the California Charter Schools Association (CCSA)'s New School Growth Program cohort as a School Developer. Part of her dissertation work at SJSU included creating a model school, Kindezi Inspired Structured Schools (K.I.S.S. Model), that she had hoped to one day bring to fruition. Well the time has finally arrived. She will be working closely with the California Charter Schools Association with an anticipated opening of the school in Fall 2023.



Laura Shroder

Dr. Shroder is now a Program Specialist with Amazon in their Global Education Programs. She is working on the Career Choice team which is bringing higher-education opportunities (free of charge) to their hourly associates.



Mara Williams

Dr. Williams has recently accepted an Associate Professor / CLS Program Director position at Neumann University in Aston, Pennsylvania.



Hyon Chu Yi-Baker

Dr. Yi-Baker was recently acclaimed by the California Council of Cultural Centers in Higher Education (CaCCCHE) with the Legacy Award in “recognition of [her] labor, time and energy in the act of resistance and empowerment for communities that [she serves].”

Faculty



Arnold Danzig

Martin, G. E., Danzig, A. B., Flanary, R. A., & Orr, M. T. (2021). *School leader internship: Developing, monitoring, and evaluating your leadership experience* (Fifth). Routledge.

International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership (ICPEL) (2021). Symposia Organizer and Participant.

Symposium 1: Who Decides: Power, Dis/ability and Leadership: Focus on Ontology, Epistemology, Intersectionality, and Advocacy

Symposium 2: Who Decides: Power, Dis/ability and Leadership: Policy and Practice



Noni Reis

Journal Editor

2020-2021 Co-Editor, Special Edition Vol. 1, *Justice Centered Leadership, Educational Leadership and Administration: Teaching and Program Development*. California Association of Professors of Educational Leadership.

Journal Article

Gray, M.S. & Mendoza-Reis, N. (2021). From preparation to the principalship: Towards a framework for social justice in leadership. CAPEA Journal Special Edition on *Justice-Centered Leadership*.

Book Chapter

Mendoza-Reis, N., Lu, M.Y., Louque, A.C. (2021) Women of color in education: Narratives of barriers, challenges and successes. In Rodriguez, S. & Brown, K., *Black and brown leadership and the promotion of change in an era of social unrest*. IGI Global. Pennsylvania.

Committees

2021-2022 Committee Member: Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (JEDI) International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership

2020-2021 Committee Member: Mentoring Mosaic. International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership.

2019-2021 Executive Committee. California Association of Professors of Educational Administration

*** A Teacher Learning Progressions Approach to Investigating Preservice Teachers' Real-Time Formative Assessment Practices With English Learners.**

Carrie Holmberg, San José State University (Ed.D. Alum)

Brent Duckor, San José State University (Core Ed.D. Faculty)

*** Early Education in California: Experts Identify Systemic Leverage Points Toward Universal Access**

Heidi Schmidt Emberling (Ed.D. Alum)

Emily Slusser, San José State University (Chair, Education Department of Child and Adolescent Development (ChAD))

*** The Risks and Benefits of Always-On Technology: Exploring the Intersection Between Technology and Student Voice**

Heidi Livingston Eisips (Ed.D. Student)

*** We're Still Here: Decolonizing Canada Through Indigenous Hip-Hop Culture**

Bob Gliner (Core Ed.D. Faculty)

Brad J. Porfilio (Ed.D. Director)

*** Revisiting Bell's Theory Through Power Preservation: Institutional Versus Individual Interest Convergence in the 21st Century**

Dr. María Ledesma (Core Ed.D. Faculty)



SJSU | EdD LEADERSHIP
PROGRAM

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