



RISING

FALL 2023

Director's Message	1
Welcome New Cohort 10 and 9 Students	2
Ed.D. Orientation Day for New Students	11
New Ed.D. Core Faculty & Staff	13
Doris Prince Scholarship Recipients, SY 2023-2024	15
SJSU Graduate Equity Fellow, SY 2023-2024	16
Ed.D. Student, Alumni, and Faculty Accomplishments	17

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the Fall 2023 edition of the Ed.D. Newsletter. In this edition, you will get to know our amazing group of new students (Cohort 10) and core faculty and see pictures from the Cohort 10 Orientation Day that was held on May 20, 2023. Also, consistent with our previous newsletters, we close this issue with a list of impressive achievements of former and current students and faculty.

We are in recruitment season! Please reach out to me in case you are interested in pursuing your EdD program with us. We offer hybrid and fully online options for completing the educational leadership doctorate degree. Please join one of our information sessions to learn more about our program and community. You may access the following link to register: <https://www.sjsu.edu/edd/>.

Thank you, and I wish you well.

Ferdie Rivera
Interim Director

WELCOME

Cohort 10 Students



Dilkash Ahmed

Hometown: Fremont, California

Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science in Speech and Language Pathology and Audiology at California State University East Bay

Graduate: Master of Arts in Education

Research Interests: Inclusiveness regarding students with extensive needs being enrolled in general education classes at the college level and gap between adults with disabilities and employment

Personal Interests: I enjoy baking, gardening, spending time with family and in the wilderness. I love adventure and traveling.



Melvin Brown

Hometown: San Jose, California

Undergraduate: BA in Social Science, San Jose State University

Graduate: M.Ed. in Higher Education Leadership, Northcentral University

Research Interests: First Year Experience Programs, Black College Student Retention, Artificial Intelligence affects of higher education.

Personal Interests: I enjoy cooking, karaoke, traveling, being a foodie, dancing (as a workout), watching movies, writing, electronic music composition.



Benjamin Campbell

Hometown: San Jose, California
Undergraduate: California State University, Long Beach | Bachelors of Arts in Chinese Studies | Minor in Journalism
Graduate: Johns Hopkins University School of Education | Masters of Science in Education
Research Interests: Public and Charter K-12 Education



Clarissa Mae Calimbas

Hometown: South San Francisco, California
Undergraduate: AA in Social Sciences, College of San Mateo, and BA in Child & Adolescent Development - Preparation for Teaching, San Jose State University
Graduate: MEd in Educational Leadership with a focus in Student Affairs
Research Interests: My research interests include exploring Pilipina/x/o Americans college students and their involvement with Pilipina/x/o Student Organizations (PASOs) and finding out it impacts the college experience. My interests also include social mobility, Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) student issues including retention, engagement, equity gaps and professionals (identity and career development), sense of belonging, campus traditions, student success, the transfer student experience, and student engagement and leadership.
Personal Interests: Going to the gym and Orangetheory classes, running, attending concerts and music festivals, cheering for Bay Area sports teams, bingeing shows, learning how to DJ, and spending time with my family, boyfriend, and friends.



Prisilla Cortez

Hometown: Gonzales, California
Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, Communication Studies, Minor in Child and Adolescent Development, San Jose State University
Graduate: Masters of Arts, Communication Studies, San Jose State University
Research Interests: After School Programs, High School College and Career Readiness, Latino Experiences in Higher Education, and Social Emotional Learning.
Personal Interests: I enjoy cooking, thrift shopping, attending concerts, and spending time with my family & friends.



Preeti Jha

Hometown: San Jose, California
Undergraduate: Bachelors in Education, Banaras Hindu University, India
Graduate: MA in Emancipatory Leadership, San Jose State
Research Interests: Spirituality and Education, spiritual aspect of a leader, a teacher, and a student in Education
Personal Interests: Art, yoga, mindfulness, travel, family and friend time, listening to music, exploring new cafes



Sara Kendall

Hometown: Visalia, California
Undergraduate: Bachelors of Arts; Human Communications, Cal State Univ. Monterey Bay
Graduate: Masters of Arts; International Policy Studies; Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey
Research Interests: large-scale, high-stakes assessment; student equity in the classroom; teacher retention; dyslexia screening; school funding
Personal Interests: international policy/news; travel; real estate; docuseries



Carmen
Kennedy-Saleh

Hometown: San Jose, California
Undergraduate: BFA, Art, University of San Francisco
Graduate: MFA, Creative Writing, San Jose State University
Research Interests: Storytelling Craft and Critique, Liberatory (Emancipatory) Theories, Critical Histories that center Sociology, Pan-Africanism, and Afrofuturism
Personal Interests: Art, Photography, and Video Production



Luis Lenzi

Hometown: Bakersfield, California

Undergraduate: B.A. in Music, Minor in Sociology, California State University Bakersfield

Graduate: Special Education, Mild-Moderate Disabilities Concentration, California State University East Bay

Research Interests: Social Emotional Learning (SEL) within the Special Education classroom settings, Teacher Attrition and Retention for male teachers of color within special education, Campus Safety and Emergency Management. Strategies for both teachers and students.

Personal Interests: Spending time with family, creating music, and cycling.



Amanda Lubbs

Hometown: San Jose, California

Undergraduate: BA. double major: Mathematics and French, Knox College (Illinois)

Graduate: MA Education, Special Interest, SFSU

Research Interests: Math Anxiety, how to alleviate it in both teachers and students

Personal Interests: Singing, playing Bass Guitar, Cooking allergy friendly meals, Supporting my 2 college children and my Educator husband.



Veronica Meza

Hometown: Mountain View, California

Undergraduate: B.A. Literature and Drama-National Autonomous University of Mexico-UNAM

Graduate: M.A. Spanish Education-Bennington College in Vermont State

Research Interests: Theater Arts Curriculum in Spanish predominated Hispanic neighborhoods as a vehicle of transformation in art instruction for addressing healing and trauma in students/Spanish immersion schools, and their initial work in creating the new mindset of future leaders/Latino immigration in California, and the disadvantages or opportunities for students to reach a higher education level.

Personal Interests: Hiking, swimming, theater, Spanish language playwright, movies, cooking and baking



Lusyna Kim
Narvaez

Hometown: San Jose, California

Undergraduate: Bachelors in Early Childhood Education from Pacific Oaks College

Graduate: Masters in Leadership in Education and Human Services from Pacific Oaks College

Research Interests: Women of color in leadership positions within the Community College System, Capturing the student voice using data appropriately to enforce effective change within a community college, and leadership development within Classified Professionals within a Community College

Personal Interests: Hanging out with my family (kids and husband), trying new coffee spots, traveling, reading new books, and exploring new cities.



Andrew
Nguyen

Hometown: Vietnam

Undergraduate: Business Administration (Previous concentration: Accounting Information System)

Graduate: Informatics - Cyber Security and Privacy

Research Interests: Educational Data Integrity and Privacy

Personal Interests: In his free time, Andrew enjoys listening to K-pop and R&B music and is a huge fan of modern classic cars.



Uche Ogamba

Hometown: San Jose, California

Undergraduate: Bachelor in Science in Justice Studies

Graduate: Masters in Science in Justice Studies

Research Interests: Social Justice, Organizational Development, Representation, and Retention

Personal Interests: Family, self improvement, music and fitness



Phoebe Paxton

Hometown: Texarkana, Arkansas

Undergraduate: BA, Sociology, CSUEB

Graduate: MS, Healthcare Administration, CSUEB

Research Interests: Charter schools focus on implementing techniques to support minority students effectively. Developing systems for prevention and intervention to assess students strengths, learning styles and interests to reach every child.

Personal Interests: Reading about current events and trends, researching skills to enhance my personal development, listening to cultural music, volunteering for a nonprofit organization, and collecting vintage items.



Rolan Resendiz

Hometown: East Side San Jose, California

Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, California State University Stanislaus

Graduate: MLS-Public Administration, Fort Hays State University

Research Interests: Community education is my main topic area of research. The community can be classified as a classroom, school, neighborhood, or historically marginalized community. More specifically, I plan to study how community-based development can impact communities. Utilizing a community-based development approach is a method of decentralization that uplifts and empowers the community's voice, interest, and power. Community-based development is a manner in which decision-making is done from a bottom-up rather than a top-down approach. Community education is a vital transformative strategy that ensures direct democracy in communities.

Personal Interests: I am proud to be the first openly gay city councilman for Hollister, Ca. I enjoy spending time with my partner, daughter, and extended family. I enjoy theater performances, visiting museums, and learning about history.



Anthony
Rodgers

Hometown: St. Louis, Missouri

Undergraduate: African American Studies | U.C. Berkeley

Graduate: Emancipatory School Leadership | San Jose State University

Research Interests: I am interested in exploring violence targeted towards black boys in schools and establishing the best practices for black boys to experience an increased sense of belonging in schools.

Personal Interests: I enjoy traveling, brokering world peace, reading, being with family, transformative leadership, and taking on each day with gratitude.



Shilpan Sheth

Hometown: San Jose, California

Undergraduate: BS | Chemical Engineering | University of California Riverside

Graduate: MA | Teaching | University of Southern California

Research Interests: Character education, humanism, and spirituality

Personal Interests: music, history, psychology



Feroza Solaiman

Hometown: Kabul, Afghanistan

Undergraduate: BA in Liberal Studies, Preparation for Teaching, San Jose State University

Graduate: MA in Teaching, San Jose State University

Research Interests: Lack of representation in the field of education

Personal Interests: Jogging, Reading, Traveling, Spending time with my family.



Jeffery
Sundquist

Hometown: Monterey, California
Undergraduate: BA, Theater, UCLA
Graduate: MA, Scandinavian Languages and Literatures, UCLA; MLIS, Library and Information Science, UCLA
Research Interests: Effective and inclusive online course design, teaching, and learning in higher education; Student and instructor competencies in higher education distance learning; Library and academic learning spaces in higher education in a post-COVID-19 environment
Personal Interests: Comic books, TV/movies, libraries and archives



Kaci Turpin

Hometown: San Diego, California
Undergraduate: B.S in Community and Regional Development from UC Davis
Graduate: M.A in Sport and Recreation Management from the University of Iowa
Research Interests: Organizational learning, transformative leadership, and transfer student retention strategies
Personal Interests: Rock climbing, hiking, and just about anything outdoors with my dog, Maverick. Traveling and spending time with family.



Erika Vargas

Hometown: Mira Loma, California
Undergraduate: B.S./Criminology/University of La Verne
Graduate: M.B.A./International business & supply chain management/ULV, Second masters Kinesiology/Cal Baptist
Research Interests: Higher Ed. Leadership
Personal Interests: Spending time with family & outdoor adventures

WELCOME

New Cohort 9 Student



Jen Daby

Hometown: Sacramento, California

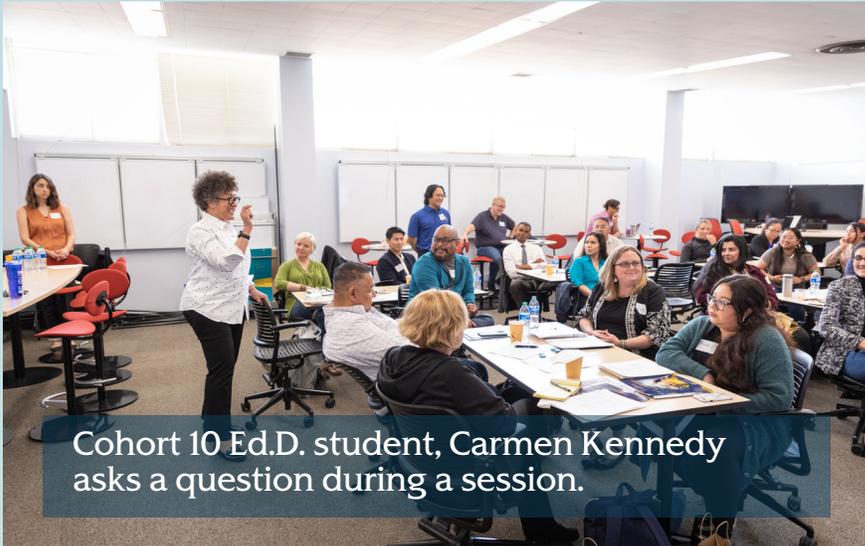
Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, Chicano/a Studies with a Cultural Studies Emphasis and Spanish Minor, UC Davis
Multiple Subject Teaching Credential with BCLAD in Spanish, CSU Sacramento

Graduate: Master of Arts, Latin American Studies, San Diego State University

Research Interests: Identity, belonging, and the home-school connection for children of immigrant families.

Personal Interests: Learning about other languages and cultures, dancing, and listening to music.

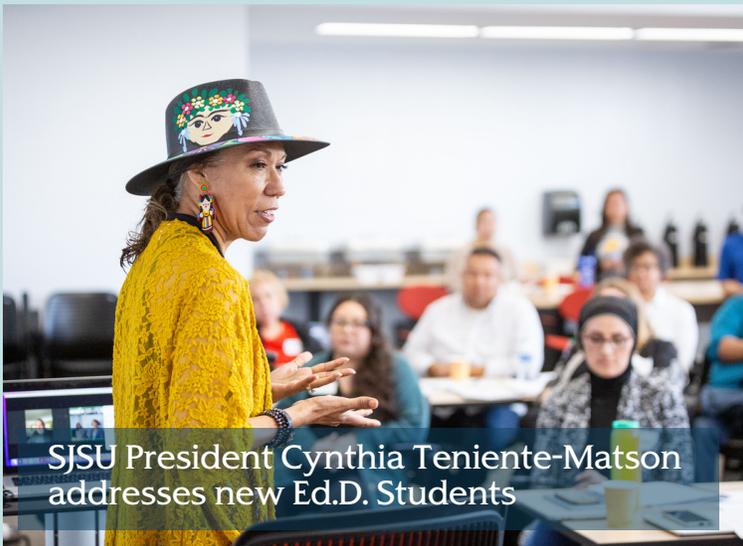
Cohort 10 Orientation Day



Cohort 10 Ed.D. student, Carmen Kennedy asks a question during a session.



SJSU President Cynthia Teniente-Matson engages with new Ed.D. Students



SJSU President Cynthia Teniente-Matson addresses new Ed.D. Students



Cohort 10 Ed.D. student Melvin Brown



Cohort 10 Ed.D. student Prisilla Cortez

On Saturday, May 20th, Cohort 10 students gathered for their orientation to the Doctorate in Educational Leadership (EdD) program at SJSU. The program included introductions to key campus resources, a community building session, and an alumni and current student panel to share their experiences with the Ed.D. Leadership Program. Students also had the opportunity to meet with SJSU President Cynthia Teniente-Matson and Lurie College Dean Heather Lattimer. Interim Director Ferdie Rivera and Educational Leadership Department Chair María Ledesma also shared their insights with the newest cohort of Ed.D. students.

SJSU Ed.D. Orientation



Lurie College of Education Dean Heather Lattimer (left) and Educational Leadership Department Chair María Ledesma address the new cohort of Ed.D. students



Ed.D. Interim Director Ferdie Rivera shares information and insights with the new cohort of students



Ed.D. graduating students share their experiences and advice



Ed.D. faculty member Luis Poza leads a community building activity



Ed.D. Department Analyst Ana Paz-Rangel shares information with the new cohort



Cohort 10 Ed.D. students

NEW Ed.D. CORE FACULTY & STAFF



Liliana Castellón
Assistant Professor
Educational Leadership



Deanna Fassett
Professor and Assistant Vice Provost
for Faculty Development
Center for Faculty Development



Maria Fusaro
Associate Professor
Child & Adolescent Development



Veniece Guillory-Lacy
Assistant Professor
Educational Leadership



Lara Kassab
Associate Professor
Teacher Education



Sudha Krishnan
Assistant Professor
Special Education



Saily Kulkarni
Associate Professor
Special Education



Cara Maffini
Associate Professor
Child & Adolescent
Development



Robert Marx
Assistant Professor
Child & Adolescent
Development

NEW Ed.D. CORE FACULTY & STAFF



Ellen Middaugh
Associate Professor
Child & Adolescent
Development



Rachel O'Malley
Professor
Environmental Studies



Ana Paz-Rangel
Department Analyst
Educational Leadership



Lisa Simpson
Department Chair &
Associate Professor
Special Education



Grinnell Smith
Professor
Teacher Education



Kim Tsai
Associate Professor
Child & Adolescent Development



Tammie Visintainer
Assistant Professor
Teacher Education

Doris Prince Scholarship Recipients, SY 2023-2024



Jennifer Daby
Cohort 9



Preeti Jha
Cohort 10



Amanda Lubbs
Cohort 10



Jannet Galicia
Cohort 9



Abigail Smurr
Cohort 9

The Doris Prince Scholarship awards \$15,000 to women leaders who are currently enrolled in our Ed.D. Program. To learn more about our recipients' doctoral research projects, follow the link below.

<https://blogs.sjsu.edu/newsroom/2023/2023-doris-prince-scholars-in-their-own-words/>

SJSU Graduate Equity Fellow, SY 2023-2024



Phoebe Paxton
Cohort 10

The SJSU Graduate Equity Fellowship awards \$4,000 to currently enrolled graduate students at SJSU. For more details about this fellowship, please follow the link below.

<https://www.sjsu.edu/cgs/financial-support/graduate-equity-fellowship/index.php>

Ed.D. Student Accomplishments

Cohort 8



Anthony Alvarado

Promoted from his teaching position to Assistant Principal for the Franklin-McKinley School District in 2022 and subsequently transitioned to the role of Principal at Ida Jew Academy and Valle Vista Elementary in the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District this school year.

“These career advancements have been possible with the skills, knowledge, and support gained from the EdD program, and I'm eager to continue growing in my leadership role.”

Cohort 8



Nanette Regua

Professional transition: “I am the new Coordinator of the Student Success Center for the Lurie College of Education at San Jose State University. I am looking forward to serving students again and supporting them to achieve their degrees. Go Spartans!”

Ed.D. Alumni Accomplishments

Cohort 1



Blanca
Baltazar-Sabbah

Contributing author to *Baila Conmigo: Mentoring Latina School Leaders*, edited by Drs. Noni Reis and Sonia Rodriguez. Her chapter is titled: “The Role of Mentorship in Embracing and Elevating Hermanas.”

Cohort 3



Anji
Buckner-Capone

Title change: Undergraduate Public Health Program Coordinator

Peer Reviewed Publications:

*Buckner-Capone, A. (2023). Why I climb mountains with students: Using metaphor as a teaching tool. *Pedagogy in Health Promotion*, 0(0). doi:10.1177/23733799231179234

*Buckner-Capone, A. & Dougan, M. (2023). Mandating COVID-19 vaccination on campus: A qualitative analysis of a cross-sectional study of California college students. *Health Promotion Practice*, 0(0). Doi:

<https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399231192997>

*Buckner-Capone, A., Khau, A., & Martin, A. (2023). Responding to Multiple Events in 2020: A qualitative study exploring areas of growth and development among California college students. *Journal of American College Health Association*, 0(0). DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1080/07448481.2023.2253917>

*Dougan, M., & Buckner-Capone, A. (2023). Factors associated with COVID-19 vaccination status: A cross-sectional study of California students in higher education. *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 36. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmedr.2023.102386> . Report: 2023 Silicon Valley Pain Index >

<https://www.sjsu.edu/hri/policy-projects/svpi/index.php>

Cohort 7



Ryan Carter

Ryan Carter and Brent Duckor (core faculty) were invited presenters at the Berkeley Evaluation and Assessment Research Center (BEAR) Seminar on September 26, where they discussed study and instrument design, validation, and findings from Carter's doctoral dissertation study: Measuring High School Counselor Beliefs on the Importance of MTMDSS Universal Supports Since COVID-19. Presentation video available at: <https://bearcenter.berkeley.edu/seminars-fall-2023>.

Cohort 7



Kristi Grasty

Kristi presented her doctoral research at the 13th International Conference on Food Studies at the University of Guadalajara in Jalisco, Mexico in October 2023. She was a panelist in a themed session about "Living Lessons" related to "Food, Nutrition, and Health." Her presentation, entitled "Edible Learning," highlighted school food service practices and types of experiential education that promote better nutritional health for youth. Kristi's leadership led to the Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District receiving a 2023 Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association for its model food service program: "Edible Learning: Transforming School Cafeterias into Wellness Communities." She accepted this award on behalf of her district at an award ceremony in November 2023.

Cohort 2



Anisha Munshi

Appointed Superintendent of Gilroy Unified School District.

Cohort 6



Renee
Kazemipour
Paquier

Appointed Vice President of Student Services, Diversity and Inclusion at West Valley College:
<https://www.westvalley.edu/faculty/paquier.html>.

Cohort 6



Janet Oseguera-
Valencia

Contributed a chapter in the book, *Baila Conmigo*, edited by Drs. Noni Reis (affiliated faculty) and Sonia Rodriguez.

Ed.D. Faculty Accomplishments



Arnold Danzig

Participant and Presenter in the symposium, "Educational Choice Politics, Policy, and Governance: Beyond Myths and Promises" (with Dr. Bill Black, Dr. Zorka Karanxha, Dr. Ian Potter)

Presented at the annual meeting of the British Educational Leadership, Management, and Administration Society, (BELMAS), July 5-7, 2023. Belfast, UK.



Brent Duckor

Duckor, B. (2023, October). Got feedback for deeper learning? The promise of linking summative and formative assessment to improve student and teacher outcomes.

Invited keynote talk for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary. Duckor, B. (2023, October). Principles and Practices in Evidence-centered Program Evaluation and Assessment Design.

Invited presenter to conduct two-day workshops with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary.



Dolores Mena

Dr. Dolores Mena and Dr. Lorri Capizzi (faculty in SJSU's Counselor Education Department) received a 7-year Gaining Early Awareness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. The focus of this grant is to increase the number of low-income students (including homeless and foster youth) who graduate from high school and are prepared to enter and succeed in higher education. This partnership grant will provide academic support services to a cohort of East San José students from 7th grade through their first year of postsecondary education.



Eduardo
Munoz-Munoz

Received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

Publication: Muñoz-Muñoz, E. R., & Briceño, A. (2023). Reconsidering language assets: Preparing bilingual teachers to be critical educators. In Freire, J. A., Alfaro, C. & de Jong, E. (2023). *The Handbook of Dual Language Bilingual Education*. Routledge.

Keynote speaker: Muñoz-Muñoz, E. R. (2023, July). Sustainability Beyond the Metaphor: Educators as Critical Ecological Agents In the CLTA-CWLP World Language Summer Seminar. California World Language Project - California Language Teachers Association.

SJSU | Ed.D. Leadership Program

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