Director’s Message
Cohort 3 Graduates
The New Ed.D. Cohort
Global Experience in Finland
Achievements
Updates
In March of 2019, it was with much enthusiasm that I accepted the offer to become Director of the Ed.D. program at San José State University. I recognized becoming the Ed.D. Director afforded the opportunity to build upon my previous leadership experience as Director of the Ed.D. Leadership Program at California State University East Bay. My time at CSU East Bay, from 2014-2017, was the most professionally rewarding part of my career in higher education. For instance, I was able to work collectively with students, faculty, staff, and community members to actualize a new vision and direction for the doctoral program. By creating new student learning experiences, including additional program supports, and launching university-school-community partnerships, the Ed.D. Program fostered an environment designed to prepare leaders to promote equity and social justice in K-16 institutions and communities across California. Furthermore, I was able to engender a culture predicated on building the capacity for students and faculty to produce and disseminate scholarship and research. Becoming editor of Issues of Teacher Education and founding the SOJO Journal: Educational Foundations and Social Justice Education, establishing a social justice improvement group for the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED), and generating numerous conference sessions at the American Educational Research Conference (AERA) proved to be vital outlets for faculty and students to be committed to engaging in collaborative research, to disseminate scholarship to the broader academic community, and to envision how research can support leaders to be agents of change and transformation.

During my brief time at SJSU, I have already learned the Ed.D. Leadership Program at SJSU is an excellent academic unit designed to prepare collaborative, transformative leaders capable of building school systems free from oppression, injustice, and inequality as well as to closing the opportunity gap resulting in educational disparities and social inequalities. The Ed.D. program also provides numerous academic supports, such as a graduate writing mentor, an academic advisor, and workshops on designing and completing dissertation projects, to ensure students finish their studies as well as obtain their career goals upon completion of their degree. A global learning component, an interdisciplinary faculty roster, and documentary-inspired research projects are just three unique features that distinguish San José’s Ed.D. Leadership Program from similar Ed.D. programs across California and beyond.

Over the past few months, I have been involved with several rewarding programmatic initiatives and events. I enjoyed learning more about students’ dissertation work when I hosted an AERA proposal writing workshop. The fall social at Maggiano’s also provided a wonderful platform to connect students across cohorts and for Ed.D. alum to meet new colleagues. It was also exciting to meet with several Ed.D. alumnae. I learned there is a desire to support an Ed.D. Alumni/Alumnae Association in the near future. Finally, there was an opportunity to launch the SOJO Journal: Educational Foundations and Social Justice Education at SJSU. I have connected with several alumni, students and faculty. We brainstormed ways that SOJO can support their intellectual work.

I want to thank the staff, faculty, current students, and Ed.D. alumnae at SJSU for being welcoming and supportive as I made the transition back to the Bay Area and to campus life at San José State University. I also appreciate Dr. Arnold Danzig for his commitment and ability to make the Ed.D. program at San José State University the premier Ed.D. program in the CSU system. To be sure, I will have some big shoes to fill as I collaborate with staff, students, faculty, and K-16 leaders across California so as to grow and move the Ed.D. program in new directions. I look forward to the rewarding opportunities and possibilities that lie ahead at San José State University.

Sincerely,

Brad

Bradley J. Porfilio, Ph.D.
Director, Ed.D. Leadership Program
The third cohort of Ed.D. students gathered on May 24th, 2019 to celebrate their achievement of completing the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at SJSU. Students were joined by Ed.D. faculty, including their advisors, family, and friends. Speakers included Lurie College Dean Heather Lattimer, outgoing Ed.D. Director Arnold Danzig, keynote speaker and Ed.D. faculty member Rebeca Burciaga, as well as cohort 3 students John Schilling and Catherine Voss-Plaxton.

Congratulations, Cohort 3 Graduates!
Co...
Roberto Portillo  
Hometown: San Mateo, CA  
Undergraduate: BS in Criminal Justice Administration, CSU East Bay  
Graduate: MA in Education/Mexican American Studies, San José State University  
Research Interests: Culturally relevant leadership in alternative education.  
Personal Interests: Pacific Ocean in the Winter. Indian Ocean in the Summer.

Noah Price  
Hometown: San Francisco, CA  
Undergraduate: BA in English, Portland State University  
Graduate: MA in Education, San Francisco State University  
Research Interests: Equity and inclusion in higher education participation and learning outcomes.  
Personal Interests: Biking, running, reading, and travel.

Furwa Rizvi  
Hometown: Dallas, TX  
Undergraduate: BA in Psychology, University of Texas at Dallas  
Graduate: Masters of Educational Curriculum and Instruction-Teaching, Early Childhood M.Ed.T., University of Texas at Arlington  
Research Interests: Early childhood education, professional learning communities, leadership styles.  
Personal Interests: Makeup, shopping, reading, travel.

Blanca Tavera  
Hometown: San Antonio, TX  
Undergraduate: BA in Women's Studies, UC Santa Cruz  
Graduate: MSW in Social Work, San José State University  
Research Interests: Latina leadership and liberation; parent involvement and engagement; critical consciousness and empowerment theories; social justice issues.  
Personal Interests: Spending time with family and friends; finding new dining adventures; treasure hunting; investigating socially responsible investments; practicing yoga and mindfulness; exploring a minimalist lifestyle; playing board and card games.

Leslye Tinson  
Hometown: Compton, CA  
Undergraduate: BA in Psychology, San Francisco State University  
Graduate: MS in Psychology, San Francisco State University  
Research Interests: The role of mentoring to support college students, academic achievement in African American youth, mental health as co-curricular support, teaching of psychology, ways to integrate new faculty into school culture, and increasing rates of retention for faculty of color.  
Personal Interests: I enjoy swimming, tennis, baseball, and am a proud fan girl to Serena Williams and Mary J. Blige.

Hanh Tran  
Hometown: Alameda, CA  
Undergraduate: BA in History, UC Santa Cruz  
Graduate: MA in Education, San Francisco State University  
Research Interests: Looking at public education in an equity and social justice framework, tracking and the implementation of policies relating to high-stakes testing.  
Personal Interests: Sleeping, reading, hanging out with my dogs, watching random YouTube videos with my family.

Veronica Weaver  
Hometown: San José, CA  
Undergraduate: BS in Psychology: Child & Adolescent Development, Saint Mary's College  
Graduate: MA in Early Childhood Special Education, San José State University  
Research Interests: Inclusion, equity, and access to high quality early childhood education for ALL children.  
Personal Interests: I enjoy spending time with my family, friends, and dog Wonder. I love to spend time in nature, travel, and propagate succulents.

Parinaz Zartoshty  
Hometown: Tehran, Iran  
Undergraduate: BA in Government, Cornell University  
Graduate: MA in International Relations, Boston University  
Research Interests: Internationalization- defining and understanding its importance in higher education as the world becomes more interconnected and more complex at the same time; Women and leadership; Organizational structures in education and how to structure units in a way that empowers and promotes/ supports leadership.  
Personal Interests: Hiking, reading, languages, and enjoying food from all around the world.
Cohort 5 Students Travel to Scandinavia!

The fifth cohort of Ed.D. students, plus a few Ed.D. faculty members and Lurie College of Education Dean Heather Lattimer spent part of their summer in Finland, Sweden, Estonia, and Russia. While there, they (clockwise from top left photo)...

- Attended lectures at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland,
- Visited a vocational school in Estonia,
- Attended a presentation on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland given by Dr. Jouni Valijärvi
- Engaged in class discussions,
- Gave their own presentations at the University of Jyväskylä, such as this one by student Richard Ruiz, and
- Explored street art in Stockholm, Sweden during their first few days, shown by student Anne Tran.
Faculty Achievements

On Bilingual Teachers and Multilingual Students
Allison Briceno

Article:

Book chapter:

Presenting Internationally and Serving Chicana/Latina Students as a Faculty Fellow
Rebeca Burciaga

Dr. Burciaga was recently reappointed as a faculty fellow for the SJSU Chicana/Latina Student Success Center for the 2019-2020 year to develop academic programming to provide academic engagement and leadership development through high-impact educational practices. In addition, she was appointed as Editorial Board Member of *Chicana/Latina Studies: The Journal of Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social*.

Dr. Burciaga presented a paper at the International Conference of the Life and Work of Gloria Anzaldúa, Paris, France. This manuscript examines *educación en nepantla* – borderland pedagogies that capture epidemiological and ontological sources of knowledge. This work responds to Anzaldúa’s (2000) call to weave together our intellectual, political, and spiritual work and by recognizing that Chicana/o and Latina/o communities’ intellectual, cultural, material, social, and emotional resources constitute historically accumulated knowledge.


Publishing and Presenting Strategies on Advancing Student Achievement
Brent Duckor

Dr. Duckor co-wrote an article with Ed.D. alumna, Carrie Holmberg. They will be presenting this work at the National Council of Measurement in Education’s 3rd Annual Special Conference on Classroom Assessment, Boulder, CO this fall.

Article:

Abstract:
A robust body of evidence supports the finding that particular teaching and assessment strategies in the K-12 classroom can improve student achievement (Hattie, 2012). While experts have identified many effective teaching and learning practices in the assessment for learning literature, teachers’ knowledge and use of “high leverage” formative assessment (FA) practices are difficult to model in novice populations. By employing advances in construct modeling (Wilson, 2005), the theoretical underpinnings of learning progressions research, and four principles of evidence-centered design, teacher educators along with psychometricians can test hypotheses about teacher learning progressions. Utilizing a FA moves-based framework (Duckor & Holmberg, 2017), our article examines how beginning teachers’ posing, pausing, and probing practices align with five key strategies of formative assessment. Examples of construct maps, instructional tasks, and turns of talk analysis using scoring guides are provided from an empirical study of novice science preservice teachers in a high needs school district.

Joining the Lurie College Leadership Team
Mark Felton

Dr. Mark Felton was recently appointed Faculty Associate Dean for Research in the Lurie College of Education. He has also published a literature review and presented at two international conferences.

Conferences:


Publication:

*This integrative literature review takes up the ongoing discussion about the place of mixed methods designs in educational research. We focus on studies that investigate the role of argumentation in inquiry-based learning, either as a means for enhancing inquiry (argument-based inquiry) or as a learning outcome (inquiry-based argument). We ask: (1) How frequently and in what ways are mixed methods used in the field of inquiry-based instruction? (2) What rationales are driving the use of mixed methods? and (3) To what extent is the potential of mixed methods research being realized in the field? For readers studying argumentation in inquiry-based instruction, we hope to open up a critical dialogue about aims and methodologies in the field. For readers interested in mixed methods designs we hope to offer a case study of how to build a rationale from within a discipline for leveraging the range of mixed methodologies to study a problem.*

Award-Winning Documentarian
Robert Gliner

Dr. Robert Gliner was recently awarded the Phi Kappa Phi national honor society SJSU chapter Distinguished Service Award in April, 2019. In addition, Dr. Gliner also has two new documentary films that have aired on various PBS stations across the country.

*Walk the Walk* showcases a unique SJSU college class where students over a twelve year period from 2007–2019 have been going beyond talking about what might be possible solutions to problems facing the larger society to actually implementing policy changes which get at their root causes.

*Learning From Costa Rica* features SJSU Ed.D. students on a two-week journey to find out what they can learn from a country which, having no defense budget, can prioritize spending on education. In the process, the Ed.D. students reflect on how they can apply what they learn to the schools they work in back home.
Distinguished Faculty Mentor

Nikos Mourtos

Dr. Mourtos received an Award of Excellence as a Distinguished Faculty Mentor for Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering (MSAE) student Sarah Ortega, who won 1st Place in the 2019 CSU Student Research Competition.

Dr. Mourtos has also presented at the following conferences and co-authored several papers with MSAE students:


The papers below were co-authored and presented by MSAE students in Europe:


On Educational Leadership Preparation

Brad Porfilio

Dr. Porfilio recently published an article on the topic of educational leadership and social justice.


On Teacher Preparation and Social and Emotional Learning

Colette Rabin

Articles:


Panelist on CalAPA Standard Setting Panel

Noni Reis

Dr. Reis was selected over the summer as one of 20 educators from across the state to serve on a standard-setting panel for the California Administrator Performance Assessment/CalAPA, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing in Sacramento.

Additionally, Dr. Reis also gave the following presentations and trainings below.

Empirical Presentations:

1. Mendoza-Reis, N. & Sumbera, B. Preparing social justice leaders: Stories from the field. International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership. SOKA University. Aliso Viejo, CA.

Professional Development:

1. *Beyond Culturally Relevant to Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy*


2. *Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Part I – Elements of CRP*

**Student Achievements**

**Presenting Internationally on STEAM**

**Gigi Carunungan**

Gigi Carunungan, a student in cohort 6, recently spoke at the Third Annual Chinese STEM Education Development Conference, held in Xi’an, China. Her presentation focused on science, technology, education, art, and mathematics (STEAM) as a way of teaching and learning. STEAM is also at the intersection of various fields, resulting in new ideas and innovation. In education, a new field has emerged from the intersection of neuroscience and learning.

**Chairing a Session on Data Ethics at the INFORMS Conference**

**Heidi Eisips**

Heidi Eisips chaired a session recently at the 2019 Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) Annual Meeting entitled “Debiasing Decision Making – Ethical Data Mining and Eliminating Algorithmic Bias,” that explored how to balance the benefits of data mining and data analytics in modern society while creating and sustaining a legal and ethical framework to prevent bias. You can listen to the recording of this session through this link: https://pubsonline.informs.org/do/10.1287/orms.2019.05.30p/full/.

**A New Role and a Trustee Appointment**

**Jennifer Izant Gonzales**

Cohort 5 student, Jennifer Izant Gonzales was recently appointed as a trustee to the Soquel Union Elementary School District in Soquel, CA. She also transitioned to a new role over the summer as the Project Director for Continuous Improvement, Curriculum and Instruction, and Professional Learning for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, Alternative Education Department.

**Recipient of Multiple Grants and Conference Presenter**

**Marcella McCollum**

Cohort 6 student Marcella McCollum gave two presentations at a conference in her field last March, just prior to entering the Ed.D. program. Subsequently, she was also awarded a Lurie College Research and Teaching Collaboration grant with Dr. Matthew Love and Ed.D. faculty member Dr. Eduardo Munoz-Munoz to investigate the intersection between Dual Language Bilingual Education (DLBE) and Special Education. Additionally, Marcella was also recently appointed to the newly-established position of Undergraduate Program Coordinator for the department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences.

Several other grants that Marcella was awarded over the summer to develop department level priority programs include:

- **Cultural Humility Module:** collaboratively with Pei-Tzu Tsai to provide incoming graduate students with greater understanding of concepts of privilege, cultural humility, and the relationship to practice in Speech-Language Pathology
- **Gender Equity Module:** Providing graduate students with key experiences and language for gender diversity and equity
- **Inaugural Undergraduate Orientation:** aimed at Encouraging Success in CDS

Conference presentations at the March 2019 at California Speech-Language Hearing Association Annual Convention (peer reviewed):

- **Am I Biased?** An introspective discussion on cultural and linguistic diversity.
  
  **While much attention has been paid in our profession to explicit, external bias, implicit biases that shape our initial impressions of families that we work with may play a larger role in our interactions. An awareness and understanding of differences in belief systems, theories of language development/treatment, and willingness to be open and aware of our differences will help improve patient services, and outcomes.**

  This seminar provided information and opportunities to discuss the differences between internal and external biases, and invite the participant to explore issues of preference, familiarity, and perspective.

- **Structured Observation:** Guiding our Students in Observations, Increasing Clinical Competence.

  This seminar provided clinical educators with guidance on pre-clinical observation hours from the perspective of both a student and a faculty member. ASHA’s guidance in the area of observation was implemented in an experimental course at San Jose State University, focused on guided observation. A guide was provided to all students enrolled in this course, along with standardized clinical observations.
Alumni Achievements

**First Ed.D. Graduate Appointed to Tenure-Track Faculty Position at SJSU**

**Anji Buckner**

Upon completing the Ed.D. Leadership Program in Spring 2019, Dr. Buckner started a new position as an Assistant Professor in the College of Health and Human Sciences, Department of Health Science and Recreation. She is the first graduate of SJSU’s Ed.D. program to be appointed to a tenure-track position within the university.

Dr. Buckner will also be presenting one component of her dissertation in November 2019 at the American Public Health Association annual meeting in Philadelphia. The presentation “Understanding California Superintendents’ Beliefs About School Climate Data and its Uses” will focus specifically on superintendent beliefs and practices related to the importance and uses of school climate assessment data for community collaboration.

**Publishing a Journal Article with Ed.D. Faculty**

**Carrie Holmberg**

Dr. Holmberg has been publishing with her former Ed.D. faculty advisor, Dr. Brent Duckor, since before graduating from the Ed.D. Leadership Program. She is now publishing a new co-authored journal article to be released in December 2019/January 2020.


**Moving Across the Country and New Professional Role**

**Annette Kennedy**

Annette Kennedy, a recent graduate of the Ed.D. program, recently moved to North Carolina, where she is now a Senior Administrator of Math – Special Education Services with the Wake County Public School System.

**Scholarship Recipient**

**Candice Nance**

Candice Nance, one of the newest Ed.D. students, received two scholarships over the summer.

Robert G. Porter Scholars Program Scholarship

The Robert G. Porter Scholars Program honors Robert G. Porter, an American Federation of Teachers union activist who dedicated his life to championing the rights of working people, promoting civil rights and ensuring that the union was a vehicle for enabling the growth of members’ ability to achieve justice. Grants support members’ ideas to promote the promise of a just society for all.

College of Education General Scholarship

The Lurie College of Education awarded Candice a scholarship for her fall 2019 studies in the SJSU Ed.D. program.

**Workshop Presenter at a National Conference**

**Tricia Ryan**

Tricia Ryan, a student in cohort 5, was recently approved to present at two workshops at a national conference for the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). This higher education association was founded in 1910 and interfaces regularly with the US Department of Education. Tricia will present at the AACRAO annual meeting in April in New Orleans.

Presentations:

- Through the API Lens: An Exploratory Discussion of Topics Unique to Asian & Pacific Islander Communities
- A Million Tiny Paper Cuts: Understanding and Responding to Microaggressions
Ed.D. students, faculty, and alumni gathered at Maggiano’s restaurant in San José for a social event to start off the fall semester. They had the opportunity to meet one another, reconnect, and meet the new Ed.D. Director Brad Porfilio.

Ed.D. students listen to a panel of program alumni, at a Dinner & Discussion event in October, describe their experiences preparing their dissertations and strategies for successfully completing the program.
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