Welcome to this year’s edition of the alumni newsletter! We are excited to showcase everything our students and faculty have been working on since our newsletter last summer. In putting together the newsletter, I am impressed with the productivity of our faculty, even when many of our faculty’s efforts have been dedicated to moving to online teaching during the spring semester, and preparing to be online again for the fall semester.

This summer our faculty are spending time reflecting on the recent protests and how to create an anti-racism culture in our department and at SJSU. To start thinking about how to move forward, some faculty are participating in an anti-racism book club and learning community this summer. On pg. 12 we provide some recommendations based on the books that we will be reading to further understand issues of race and racism in society and in our classrooms.

For the spring semester, we had to get creative about some of the events that were scheduled to be held in-person. Dr. CJ Duh, who organizes our annual SPARC event, worked quickly to move the research conference online (see ReSPARC on pg. 11-12). The speaker for the event delivered her talk live on Zoom and students uploaded their posters for viewing during the last few weeks of the semester. Although we weren’t able to honor our scholarship recipients at SPARC like we usually do, we were glad to be able to award 11 departmental scholarships to 17 students in what has been a difficult financial time for many of our students (see pg. 6-10). If you’re interested in donating money to the department so we can offer more scholarships, please see pg. 13. Every little bit counts and any amount can be helpful to our students!

There are many links throughout the newsletter that we encourage you to explore. Each of the publications listed on pg. 4 have a link to the abstract on the journal’s website, in case you are interested in exploring more about our faculty’s research areas. Please check out this information to see all that we’re doing in the department!

This year we welcomed Dr. Christine Ma-Kellams to the department (see pg. 2). In August, we will welcome two new faculty members to the department – stay tuned for more information about their research and teaching expertise!

We hope you have a great summer! Please keep in touch and follow us via our SJSU Psychology Alumni Facebook page.
In Fall of 2019, Dr. Christine Ma-Kellams joined the SJSU Psychology Department. Dr. Ma-Kellams obtained her Ph.D. in social psychology from UC Santa Barbara and completed her postdoctoral training at Harvard University in both the psychology department and the Kennedy School of Government. Prior to coming to SJSU, she was an assistant professor at the University of La Verne. Her research draws on social and cultural psychology to explore how intra-psychic processes (e.g., lay cognitive theories; emotions) and extra-psychic systems (e.g., governments, social institutions, close relationships) interact to produce a dynamic model of culture.

On November 20, 2019 we hosted Dr. Alonso Vera for the annual Alan E. Kazdin Endowed Lecture in Psychology. Dr. Vera is Chief of the Human Systems Integration Division at NASA Ames Research Center. He has led the design, development and deployment of mission software systems across NASA robotic and human space flight missions. His expertise is in the areas of human-computer interaction, information systems, artificial intelligence and computational human performance modeling. His talk was titled, “Intelligent Systems on Mars: How Psychology Helps NASA Make Software Tools that Work.”

Center for Community Learning and Leadership celebrates 20 years! Our own Dr. Elena Klaw is the director of CCLL and discusses 20 years of service learning at SJSU.

Congratulations to Dr. Howard Tokunaga, Dr. Greg Feist, and Dr. Dave Schuster who were all awarded sabbatical leaves for the upcoming 2020-2021 year!

Congratulations to our new Associate Professors Dr. Valerie Carr and Dr. Matt Capriotti who were tenured and promoted in May!
Dr. Elena Klaw was awarded two grants from AmeriCorps/California Volunteers as Primary Investigator: a planning grant of $75,000.00, and an implementation grant of $480,868.00. This funding will provide stipends to 44 SJSU students to serve as AmeriCorps Civic Action Fellows who will provide STEM education to low income elementary school students in Santa Clara County, and serve as COVID-19 Contact Tracers and Investigators with the Santa Clara Department of Public Health. In addition Dr. Klaw received two Fellowship Awards from California Campus Compact for 2020-2021 to provide $500 to students serving as civic leaders in Students demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and Rock the Vote.

Dr. Mark Val Selst is starting a new term serving on the statewide academic senate. He is one of the longest serving members and will continue as chair of the chancellor’s general education advisory committee, which will focus this year on implementation of an ethic studies course for all students. Thanks to Dr. Van Selst for all of his service to the CSU!

Dr. Susan Snycerski was selected for San José State University’s inaugural cohort of the SJSU’s Public Voices Fellowship. The OpEd Project’s goal is “to increase the range of voices and quality of ideas we hear in the world.” SJSU’s 2020 Public Voices Fellowship marks SJSU’s first entry into this national initiative aimed at dramatically increasing the public impact of women and underrepresented thought leaders. In particular, the fellowship is geared towards those who have not yet learned how to translate their scholarship to public action, ensuring that their ideas help to shape the important conversations of our age.

Dr. Steven Macramalla received a Nautilus Book Award in the category of mind-body practices, for his book *Unleash the Dragon Within: Transform Your Life With the Kung-Fu Animals of Ch’ien-Lung.*

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**Student Accomplishments**

**2020 College of Social Sciences Deans Student Colloquium.** The Colloquium provides undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to present their information in a public forum. In addition, students received guidance and feedback on their presentations from the College Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities (RSCA) Advisory Committee. This year, three of the five awardees were from the Psychology department. Check out the links below for interviews with the students and discussion of their research.

- **Sovannie Len, Psychology**
- **Laura Muratore, Psychology**
- **Rachel Windsor, Psychology**

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**FACULTY AND STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**
Faculty and Student Publications and Presentations


Faculty and Student Publications and Presentations


Student Scholarships

Through generous gifts, endowments and grants, the Department of Psychology is proud to annually recognize our undergraduate and graduate students’ academic excellence, research creativity, service, and educational resilience. If you like to contribute to our ability to offer these awards, please consider making a designated gift through our donation page.

We’re pleased to announce the winners of this year’s scholarships!

**FRANK D. PAYNE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:**

In memory of Dr. Frank Payne, Professor of Psychology and former Chair, two annual scholarships are awarded to Psychology majors or Psychology graduate students. Awardees must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 overall and 3.5 in Psychology, and have plans to pursue a career that includes psychological research.

**JOHN AND VIVIAN MACRAE SCHOLARSHIP FOR EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL RESILIENCE:**

Dr. John MacRae was deeply devoted to his students and served as a faculty of our department from 1954 to 1980 and as Department Chair. Thanks to a generous gift in honor and memory of John and Vivian MacRae, annual scholarships are awarded to current SJSU Psychology undergraduate or graduate students who are succeeding in their education in spite of great personal challenges.
Student Scholarships

JAMES AND BECKY MCGAUGH RESEARCH AWARD FUND

This award has been established to recognize Dr. James L. McGaugh’s (SJSU BA 1953 Psychology and Faculty member of the Department of Psychology from 1957 - 1961) significant contribution to research and education in psychology and neuroscience. Eligible candidates are SJSU Psychology undergraduate or graduate level students whose research was presented at an annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association.

LOY S. BRALEY SCHOLARSHIP

This award has been established in memory of Dr. Loy S. Braley. Loy was a Psychology Professor at SJSU for approximately 30 years with a primary focus in personality theory and cognition. Loy was known for stimulating lectures and high expectations for his students. He was also well known for the support he gave his students, both in his classroom and in his office. A knock on his office door was greeted with his wonderful smile and a commitment to student-centered learning. This annual scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate entering their last year at SJSU or a graduate student.

Ana Herrera
Yulissa Camero
Cristina Hernandez
Student Scholarships

ROBERT AND MARALEE HICKS SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is in memory of Maralee J. Hicks (SJSU BA 1956 Philosophy) and Robert A. Hicks, PhD. (SJSU MA 1960 Psychology and Emeritus Faculty member of the Department of Psychology). Eligible candidates are SJSU Psychology undergraduate or graduate level students whose research was presented at an annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association.

PSYCHOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

This scholarship is for graduate and undergraduate students majoring in Psychology.

Zoe Anderson

Mong- Tuyen Hoang
Student Scholarships

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL RESILIENCE SCHOLARSHIP

Annual scholarship awarded to one or more Psychology majors or Psychology graduate students who have demonstrated exceptional educational resilience while students at SJSU. Through this award, Psychology faculty will have the opportunity to recognize, celebrate, and encourage students who succeed in completing their educations in spite of great personal challenges.

SPITZE ENDOWMENT PSYCHOLOGY

This scholarship is for students majoring in psychology who are enrolled full time and qualify for financial aid.

ALAN E. KAZDIN SCHOLARSHIP

Provides reimbursement for convention/conference expenses for graduate Psychology students. Recipients have presented a paper or poster as first author at an annual convention of a regional, national or international organization.
Student Scholarships

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP
Annual scholarship awarded to one or more Psychology students who have demonstrated exceptional service to the University and/or the community while students at SJSU.

Austin De Lozada
Olivia Jacobson

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP
Annual scholarship awarded to one or more Psychology graduate students who have demonstrated outstanding research activities in any area of Psychology while students at SJSU.

Rachel Windsor
The 63rd SPARC (Spartan Psychological Association Research Conference) was held from April 20 to May 5. Typically lasting one full day, SPARC’s duration was extended and held remotely this year due to Covid-19 meeting restrictions. Thanks to the many presenters and participants (300+ conference registrants!), 2020 SPARC was a success!

On Monday, April 20, at 4:30pm, Dr. Erin Flynn-Evans, Director of Fatigue Countermeasures Laboratory, NASA Ames Research Center, gave the keynote presentation via a webinar. The title of her talk was “Sleep in the Sky and in Space.” More than 60 people attended the live meeting. To accommodate people who cannot attend the live meeting, the meeting recording was available for viewing via a shared folder from April 21 to April 27.

From April 28 to May 5, student presentation recordings were available for viewing via a shared folder. 2020 SPARC includes 4 oral presentations and 16 poster presentations, representing researchers from 8 different institutions.

Having completed research during this turbulent time is no small feat, and we should all join our hands to applaud the student researchers and their advisors!

GLIMPSES OF ReSPARC
ANTI-RACISM BOOK SUGGESTIONS

As noted in the Editor’s column, many of our faculty have committed to a learning plan this summer in order to better educate ourselves about race and racism in society and in our classrooms. Below we present suggestions about the books we are reading together and with our families. Many thanks to Leslye Tinson, MS, LMFT for compiling these resources and for her willingness to help the department think critically about these issues.

Culturally Responsive School Leadership: Muhammad Khalifa
So You Want to Talk About Race: Ijeoma Oluo
Stamped From the Beginning: Ibram X. Kendi
White Rage: Carol Anderson
I’m Still Here: Austin Channing Brown
Between the World and Me: Ta-Nehisi Coates
How to be an Antiracist: Ibram X. Kendi
We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom: Bettina Love

Reference: Tinson, L. M. (2020). *If I were a White or non-Black psychologist and willing to listen to Leslye, this is what I would do to learn about racism (a working paper).*

[https://www.leslyetinson.com/speaker](https://www.leslyetinson.com/speaker)
Please join alumni and friends in supporting Psychology at San José State University. In an era of extraordinarily limited resources, your tax-deductible gift goes a long way to help our mission of delivering a high-quality education each year to more than 5000 students who enroll in our Psychology courses.

Just as important, your gift is extremely encouraging to today’s faculty and students. For when you give, you show your pride and belief in what we do.

To provide your tax-deductible gift online, visit this link (or copy and paste http://www.sjsu.edu/psych/Donate/index.html into your browser).

Click on the “Give Now” button and follow the instructions. To provide your gift by mail, please make your gift check payable to Tower Foundation of SJSU and mail to: Tower Foundation of SJSU, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0257. Please be sure to include a note that you gift is for the Psychology Department.