



CSUB

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UNIVERSITY WEEK
AUGUST 18-21, 2026



FACULTY

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

10:35 am - 11:50 am | Location: SCI III 108



ALEX SLABEY, ED.D.
Instructional Designer

ALL FOR ONE AND ONE FOR ALL: DESIGNING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

One for all and all for one means we all contribute to creating a learning experience where every student has the opportunity to succeed. In this session, we will introduce the resources and support options available to help make your Canvas course content accessible to all students. Whether you would like assistance remediating course materials or want to learn how to use the tools yourself, we are here to help. Come ready to learn something new in Canvas!

STAFF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

10:35 am - 11:50 am | Location: SRC



DANIEL JIMENEZ, MS
Organizational Leadership,
MS Entrepreneurship, ODCP, CCP

THE CSUB LEARNING LAB

Learning isn't something you attend. It's something you build. The session will help staff connect with one another, reflect on their growth, and discover professional development opportunities available at CSUB for the coming year.



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TUESDAY, AUGUST 18
STUDENT RECREATION CENTER

AGENDA

ALL EMPLOYEES

8:30 am **Check In, Food Pantry collection**

9:00 am **University Day Program**

Welcome

Dr. Deborah Thien, Provost for Academic Affairs

State of the University Address

Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr., President

Strategic Plan Remarks

Dr. Shaylyn Marks

Faculty and Staff Recognition and Awards

Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr.

Dr. Melissa Danforth, Academic Senate

Tabitha Marsh & Merry Coder, Staff Forum

Student Remarks

Nov Noor Kaur, ASI President

Closing

Dr. Deborah Thien

10:35 – **Staff Professional Development – SRC**
11:50 am **Faculty Professional Development – Science III – 108**

12:00 pm **Lunch**
"A Taste of CSUB" provided by KCSOS

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed today, and throughout the year, to support our students and community.

CSUB is dedicated to address food insecurity on campus and in the community. Past research indicates that 40% of college students are food insecure and that food insecurity is associated with a number of outcomes that conflict with academic success. In order to address this need, CSUB offers a variety of resources including an on-campus food pantry, monthly food distributions, Cal Fresh application assistance, fresh produce from our Edible Garden and various community partners. Please visit the links to the right for more information about each resource.

Our monthly food distribution takes place on the 3rd Monday of the month, or on the 3rd Tuesday of the month if there is a holiday. Reach out to our office to volunteer at the food distribution to prepare the boxes and distribute.



**ESSENTIAL NEEDS
RESOURCE CENTER**
CSU BAKERSFIELD

FACULTY AWARDS

OUTSTANDING LECTURER AWARD

CSUB is committed to providing encouragement and supporting outstanding teaching achievements by full-time lecturers. The Outstanding Lecturer Award has been established to honor a full-time lecturer for excellence in teaching effectiveness and service to the CSUB campus community.

Bianca Moreno, M.A.

Lecturer, Department of Communications



Ms. Bianca Moreno is a transformative educator in the Department of Communications at California State University, Bakersfield, whose unwavering commitment to student personhood has shaped an exceptional approach to teaching. By creating inclusive, engaging, and high-impact learning environments, she empowers students to find their voices, build confidence, and succeed far beyond the classroom. Her leadership and passion have poured into student journalism through advising *The Runner*, expanded experiential learning opportunities, secured funding and community partnerships, and guided students to earn state-level awards. A dedicated mentor and advocate, Moreno exemplifies excellence in teaching, service, and student success.

Ms. Bianca Moreno is honored to receive the 2026-2027 Outstanding Lecturer Award.

"I believe that learning extends beyond the classroom. I want my students to leave my class knowing they matter." – Ms. Bianca Moreno

PROMISING NEW FACULTY AWARD

The Promising New Faculty Award has been established to recognize exemplary achievements in teaching, research, scholarship, creative activities, and/or service among all full-time, tenure-track faculty or assistant professors.

Dan Stockwell, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of English



Recognized for his approach to teaching that apprentices CSUB students into the teaching profession as they prepare to become secondary English language arts (ELA) teachers, Dr. Dan Stockwell is distinguished by his student-centered teaching and dedication to the profession of public education. Since joining CSUB in 2023, Dr. Stockwell has published several pieces advocating for secondary ELA teachers and promoting critical literacy pedagogy, including a book with Routledge, and he has presented at national and state conferences. Supported by an internal grant, Dr. Stockwell and two undergraduate research assistants are investigating the experiences of California secondary ELA teachers who implement culturally sustaining pedagogies in their classrooms.

Dr. Stockwell is deeply honored to receive the 2026–2027 Promising

To cultivate mindfulness, the late Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh encouraged us to ask, "What am I doing?" My grateful response at California State University, Bakersfield: "Working my dream job." – Dr. Dan Stockwell



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FACULTY AWARDS

MILLIE ABLIN EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The Millie Ablin Excellence in Teaching Award is intended to recognize and encourage excellence in teaching.

Alem Kebede, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Sociology



Throughout Dr. Alem Kebede's more than 25 years of teaching at CSUB, he has sought to cultivate in students what C. Wright Mills called "sociological imagination," the capacity to connect micro-experiences to broader historical and global forces. Dr. Kebede's teaching has been guided by the conviction that sociology is not a canon to be memorized but a living intellectual toolbox for understanding the social world. This pedagogical commitment has been accompanied by modest scholarly engagement. Dr. Kebede's research has explored questions of social movements, culture, and power. Among Dr. Kebede's contributions is the concept of "decentered movements," designed to understand collective action less reliant on formal organizations. Through interconnected pursuits of teaching, scholarship, and mentorship, Dr. Kebede has endeavored to advance sociology as both an intellectual discipline and an instrument of cultivating informed and engaged citizens.

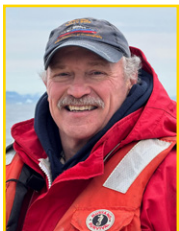
Dr. Kebede is honored to receive the 2026–2027 Millie Ablin Excellence in Teaching Award.

"Teaching is the art of demystification, the process of helping students overcome bad faith and discovering that the social world is neither inevitable nor unfathomable, but a human construct open to understanding and change." – Dr. Alem Kebede

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY AWARD

This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the principle and practice of research.

Anthony Rathburn, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Geology



Known for providing transformative research experiences for students, Dr. Anthony Rathburn conducts marine and environmental research and outreach around the world. Since his arrival at CSUB in 2016, he has acquired ~\$3,230,000 in external grants and contracts (as PI or Co-PI), and has published 14 research manuscripts in international, peer-reviewed journals along with 19 research abstracts (many include student co-authors). His interdisciplinary research focuses on the responses of seafloor microfauna to environmental change, with applications in paleoceanography, paleontology, seafloor ecology, and marine pollution.

Dr. Rathburn has taken students on numerous research voyages, where they actively participate in all aspects of science (recently, during a month-long voyage off the coast of Greenland). His grants also funded several student summer research internships. Dr. Rathburn is honored to receive the 2026-2027 Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity Award.

"Research is hard work, but fun, especially when it involves exploration of remote environments. My goal is to advance science and inspire students through experiential learning and the excitement of research." – Dr. Anthony Rathburn



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FACULTY AWARDS

JACQUELYN KEGLEY FACULTY LEADERSHIP & SERVICE AWARD

The Faculty Leadership and Service award was established in 1996/97 by the Academic Senate of California State University, Bakersfield and the CSUB Foundation in order to recognize and encourage outstanding contributions to the principle and practice of shared governance and service to the community.

Faculty leadership is critical to providing an educational experience of high quality and to the overall mission of CSUB.

Heidi He, DNP *Professor, Department of Nursing*



Dr. Heidi He is the Founding Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program at California State University, Bakersfield. Under her leadership, CSUB launched its DNP program, the second doctoral program in the university's history. Dr. He has secured more than \$10 million in external grant funding to strengthen undergraduate and graduate nursing education, expand workforce development initiatives, and enhance student readiness for practice through innovative simulation-based education. Her leadership has fostered a robust simulation program, advanced nursing education, strengthened community partnerships, and addressed critical healthcare workforce needs across the region. Dr. He is committed

to empowering others through innovation, mentorship, and inclusive leadership.

Dr. He is honored to receive the 2026–2027 Jacquelyn Kegley Faculty Leadership and Service Award.

“Great leadership is not about having all the answers; it’s about bringing together diverse voices whose unique perspectives create extraordinary solutions.” – Dr. Heidi He



NEW ADMINISTRATORS, FACULTY AND STAFF

*This listing reflects permanent employees hired between
August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026.*

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

NEW TENURED-TRACK FACULTY

Dr. Denae Ventura Arredondo, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, NSME

Dr. Shivansh Awasthi, Assistant Professor of Communications, A&H

Ms. Helen Capehart, Assistant Professor of Nursing, NSME

Dr. Matthew Kabel, Assistant Professor, Advanced Educational Studies, SSE

Dr. Minju Kim, Assistant Professor of Psychology, SSE

Dr. Mayssam Tarighi Shaayesteh, Assistant Professor of Management & Marketing, BPA

Dr. Ly Ly Trieu, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, NSME

NEW ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF

Nathaniel John Hutchinson, Library Services Specialist II, Walter W. Stiern Library

Dr. Bohsiu Wu, Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Education

BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

NEW ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF

Phillip Adam Blanks, Police Officer, University Police

Stephanie Davis, Director of Accounting and Reporting, Payment Services

Amyah Shonelle Gulley, Cashier, Student Financial Services

Luis G Martinez, Environmental Health and Safety Manager, Safety & Risk Management

Michael S Woodruff, Facilities Project Manager, Capital Plan Design Construction

Eric M Zielsdorf, Supervising HVAC Technician, Engineering and Energy Management



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STUDENT AFFAIRS AND STRATEGIC ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

NEW ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF

Catherine M Gonzalez, *Health Education Assistant, Student Health Center*

ATHLETICS

NEW FACULTY

Mr. Fletcher Brown, *Assistant Coach, Women's Basketball*

Mr. Zachary Gebhardt, *Assistant Coach, Men's Swimming*

Mr. Edward Hill, *Associate Head Coach, Men's Basketball*

Mr. Alan Nakamura, *Assistant Coach, Women's Basketball*

Ms. Jenny Topping, *Head Coach, Softball*

Ms. Kristen Wright, *Head Coach, Women's Volleyball*



JOIN US!



Join fellow Roadrunners for an evening that's truly out of this world! Cosmic Party in the Park brings together alumni, faculty, staff and community supporters for one of the CSUB Alumni Association's signature fundraising events. Enjoy great food, local beverages, live music, stellar entertainment and an exciting silent auction under the stars in Alumni Park.

FRIDAY
OCT. 16



COSMIC

BUY TIX HERE!

or visit csub.edu/pip

PARTY IN THE PARK

Every ticket helps strengthen the Roadrunner community. Proceeds support alumni engagement programs, student initiatives and opportunities that foster lifelong connections to California State University, Bakersfield. We hope you'll join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating CSUB.

PRESENTED BY



**VALLEY
STRONG**
CREDIT UNION



**ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**
CSUB BAKERSFIELD™

