

Ed.D. Leadership Program San José State University

FALL 2019



Message from the Director



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

Cohort 3 Graduation Celebration

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!**



Cohort 3 graduate Analiza Filion (left), receives her program completion certificate from her Dissertation Committee Chair Robert Gliner.

Ed.D. Director, Arnold Danzig (left), presents his Cohort 3 doctoral advisee John Schilling with his program completion certificate.

Cohort 6

Meet the newest students in the Ed.D. Leadership Program who began their studies in the summer of 2020.



Gigi Carunungan Hometown: Silicon Valley Undergraduate: BA in Phillipine Studies, University of the Philippines Graduate: MA in Curriculum and Instruction, New Mexico Highlands University Research Interests: My focus will be on curricular strategies. Specifically, innovating elementary school

math to include higher-order thinking skills, socially-interactive lesson activities, community, and integrating fun in learning. Personal Interests: I take a keen interest in moving away from linear, memorization, and test-driven learning and infusing creativity in math solutions with integrative, dynamic, multimodal, deep-dive, play, socially-interactive, context, gamification, and story-based curricular strategies. I'm also interested in taking off from neuroscience and innovating learning strategies anchored to the physical processes of the human brain.



Janet Gutierrez

Undergraduate: BA in Human Communication with Concentration on Chicano Studies, CSU Monterey

Graduate: MA in Administration & Supervision, San José State University

Research Interests: Bilingual education, Latinas in

leadership, service learning and project based learning for elementary schools versus high stakes testing, culturally proficient curriculum. **Personal Interests:** Running, hiking, watching college basketball, swimming, reading, playing and taking adventures with my family, listening to Oprah's SuperSoul conversations.



Vladimir Ivanović

Undergraduate: BS in Computer Science, Union College

Graduate: MS in Electrical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Research Interests: Educational public policy; activism; inequality; equity, full and fair funding.

Personal Interests: Outdoor activities: sailing, climbing, hiking, scuba diving, mountaineering, swimming, skiing.



Amna Jaffer

Graduate: MA in Education/Counseling & Student Personnel, San José State University

Research Interests: Counselor training, preparation and advocacy in order to promote social justice in educational settings.

Personal Interests: Hiking, travel, vegetable gardening, incorporating expressive arts such as psychodrama in therapy and in education.



Yolanda Jimenez

Hometown: Sacramento, CA Undergraduate: BA in English, CSU Sacramento Graduate: MA in Education/Administration & Supervision, San José State University Research Interests: Recruiting and retaining teachers of color, culturally relevant pedagogy, English learner engagement in content area classrooms.

Personal Interests: Raising a family, leading Girl Scouts, volunteering with Lions Club, homesteading, creating custom clothing and home decor, attending live performances, and cheering on the local youth sporting teams.



Charlene Lee

Undergraduate: BA in Honors in Psychology, UC Berkeley Graduate: MA in Educational Psychology, Chapman University Research Interests: School inclusion, co-teaching, and universal design for learning.



Arthur Maldonado

Undergraduate: BA in Political Science/ International Affairs History, UC Riverside Graduate: MS in Educational Counseling, National University

Research Interests: Corporal punishment, school suspensions and interventions, recidivism, PBIS

Svstems of Supports

Personal Interests: Spending time with my family and friends, particularly during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season. It is a very festive time for my family and I, and we enjoy the home-cooked meals, freshly baked desserts and sweets, and the traditional drive through Christmas Tree Lane. I also do my best (after the holiday season of course) to engage in a healthy dose of weight-lifting, swimming, and running. Exercise and developing a workout routine helps keep my mental focus and physical wellbeing in check.



Marcella McCollum

Hometown: San José, CA Undergraduate: BA in Psychological Services, University of San Francisco Graduate: MA in Education/Speech Pathology, San José State University Research Interests: Bilingual education, appropriate identification of dual language learners in special

education, equity and access to graduate school among diverse student populations, equity and access to immersion schools for children with special needs.

Personal Interests: Reading, hiking, traveling, entertaining, singing, going to shows.



Candice Nance

Hometown: Redwood City, CA Undergraduate: BS in Business Administration/ Marketing, San José State University Graduate: MBA in International Business Practice, American International College

Research Interests: Teaching and learning, differentiated instruction, basic aid community college

funding, gifted and talented education, disabled students, transformative leadership, middle college, dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, privatization pressures on community college curriculum, & global education trends. **Personal Interests:** I enjoy traveling throughout the United States and the globe, spending time with family and friends, reading a good book, playing at the beach with my husband and two daughters, and occasionally flying general withing distribution.



Renee Paquier Chico

Graduate: MS in Criminal Justice, Boston University Research Interests: Equity, incarceration, global education. Personal Interests: Volunteering, traveling, hiking.





Cohort 6 students (clockwise from top left) Hanh Tran, Charlene Lee, Marcella McCollum, and Vladimir Ivanovic at their New Student Orientation.



Roberto Portillo

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.



Noah Price

Undergraduate: BA in English, Portland State University

Research Interests: Equity and inclusion in higher education participation and learning outcomes.



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



Blanca Tavera

Hometown: San Antonio, TX Cruz

Graduate: MSW in Social Work, San José State University

parent involvement and engagement; critical conscious-

ness 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

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

Personal Interests: I enjoy swimming, tennis, baseball, and am a proud fan girl to Serena Williams and Mary J. Blige.



Hanh Tran

Graduate: MA in Education, San Francisco State

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 Adoiescent 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 propogate succulents.



Parinaz Zartoshty Undergraduate: BA in Government, Cornell University

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!

- University of Jyväskylä in Finland given by Dr. Jouni Välijärvi,
 Engaged in class discussions,
 Gave their own presentations at the University of Jyväskylä, such as this one by student Richard Ruiz, and





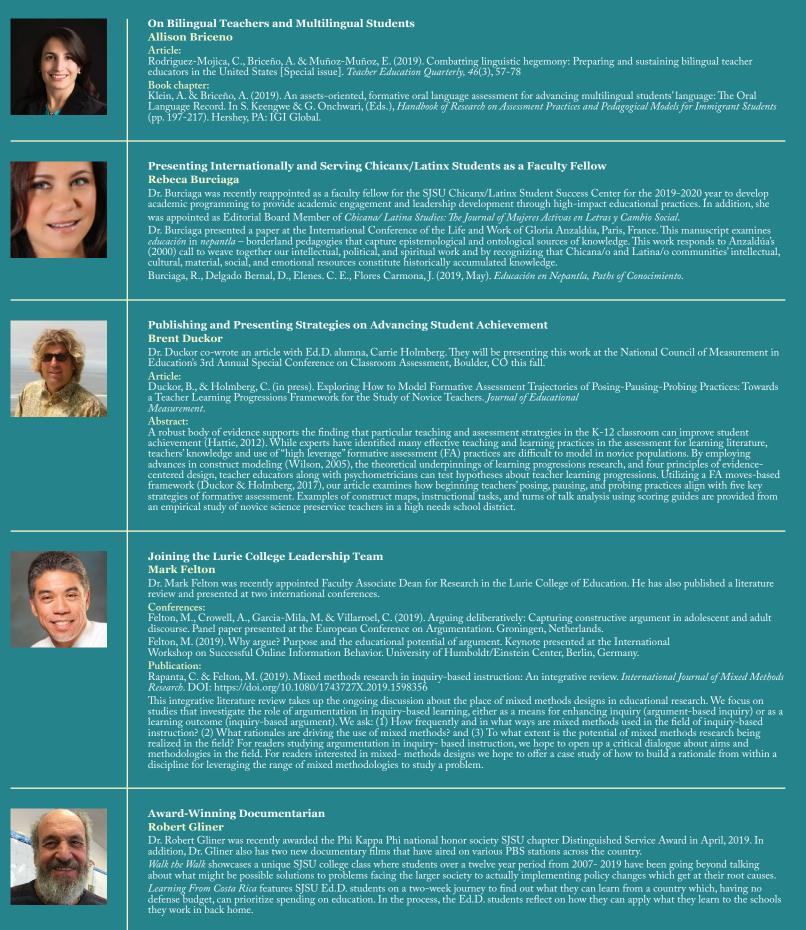








Faculty Achievements





A Case for Critical Pedagogy and Transformative Education Kathleen McConnell

Dr. Kathleen McConnell co-authored the essay below with Ed.D. graduate Melissa Urbain. In this piece, they argue argues that a thirty-year historical trend away from critical pedagogy preceded the current administration's indifference to education, and that Betsy DeVos serves as little more than an unpleasant distraction from the broad political support for teacher accountability, transmission or "banking" models of education, and compliance-based programs. The same trends have shaped postsecondary education, which emphasizes job readiness over civic commitments, promotes a meritocracy, has de-professionalized faculty, and equates benchmarks with learning. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and the critical pedagogies embraced by many teachers are two notable exceptions to these historical trends. The next phase of critical pedagogy should focus documenting the true cost of impactful, equitable, transformative education.

McConnell, Kathleen F. and Melissa Urbain. (2019.) "Unasked or unheard?: Turning up the volume on Sprague's questions. Communication Education 68(4).



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:

• July 22, 2019: STEAM education in the 21st century: Are we neglecting the "A"? Invited presentation at the ATINER 2019 Series of Academic Dialogues: The Future of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Education, Athens, Greece.

• July 23, 2019: The Boeing 737 Max: A systems approach to analyzing what went wrong. Presentation at the 3rd ATINER Annual International Conference on Mechanical Engineering, Athens, Greece.

Gunnam, R.S. & Mourtos, N.J. (2019, May). Design of a regional, hybrid transport aircraft. Presented at the International Symposium on Sustainable Aviation (ISSA 2019), Budapest, Hungary.
Subramanian, S. & Mourtos, N.J. (2019, May). Design of an electric, short takeoff and landing, autonomous, single passenger aerial vehicle. Presented at the International Symposium on Sustainable Aviation (ISSA 2019), Budapest, Hungary.

• Hunter, C. & Mourtos, N.J. (2019, July). Design of a supersonic transport aircraft. Presented at the 3rd ATINER Annual International Conference on Mechanical Engineering, Athens, Greece.

• Johansen, R. & Mourtos, N.J. (2019, July). Dynamic stability and control analysis for an advanced military trainer conceptual aircraft design. Presented at the 3rd ATINER Annual International Conference on Mechanical Engineering, Athens, Greece.



On Educational Leadership Preparation Brad Porfilio

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

Porfilio, B., & Strom, K. (2019). In pursuit of socially just and socio-culturally responsive educational leadership preparation: One Ed.D program's process of transformation. Journal of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Special Issue #2 on Educational Leadership and Social Justice, 3(2).



On Teacher Preparation and Social and Emotional Learning Colette Rabin

Articles: Rabin, C. (in press). Co-Teaching Toward Collaborative and Caring Teacher Preparation. *Journal of Teacher Education*. Swanson, P., Rabin, C., Smith, G., Briceño, A., Ervin, Kassab, L., Sexton, D., Mitchell, D., Whitenack, D., Asato, J. (in press). Trust your Team: Our Journey to Embed Social and Emotional Learning in a Teacher Education Program Focused on Social Justice. *Teacher Education Quarterly*. Watson, M., Daly, L., Smith, G., & Rabin, C. (in press). Building a Classroom Community that Supports Students' Social/Moral Development. *Teacher Education Quarterly*.



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.

2. Mendoza-Reis, N. & Kleidon, G. Culturally Proficient Leaders in Title 1 Schools: A Closer Look. International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership. SOKA University. Aliso Viejo, CA

Professional Development:

1. Beyond Culturally Relevant to Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy

Mendoza-Reis, Quintanar, R., Lu. M.Y. Salgarino, B., Greenfield, M. Instructional Leadership Corp. Higher Ed Team. Santa Clara, CA Beyond Culturally Relevant to Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy. Santa Clara County Office of Education. Professional Development Series: March 21, April 9, May 8, 2019.

2. Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Part I – Elements of CRP

Mendoza-Reis, N. & Quintanar, R. CTA/UCLA Summer Institute. Instructional Leadership Corps Higher Ed Team. Los Angeles, CA. July 31, 2019.

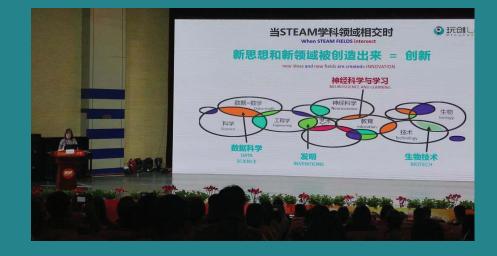
Student Achievements



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.



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.

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 Rvan

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

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. Duckor, B., & Holmberg, C. (in press). Exploring How to Model Formative Assessment Trajectories of Posing-Pausing-Probing Practices: Towards a Teacher Learning Progressions Framework for the Study of Novice Teachers. Journal of Educational Measurement.



Moving Across the Country and New Professional Role Annette Kennedy

Dr. 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.



Moving Up Manuel Nunez

A graduate of the Ed.D. program's first cohort, Dr. Nunez was recently promoted to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources with the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District.

Updates



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.

Ed.D. Leadership Program

Lurie College of Education San José State University

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