



October 2023

Message from the Dean

Every day of the past few months has been filled with delight as I learn about the activities and accomplishments of our college. I am grateful to work with staff and faculty colleagues that are creative, smart, fun – the days are never boring. I look forward to seeing the culmination of student semester-long projects as we head towards the end of the last half of the semester!

I've also appreciated how everyone holds space for and gives grace to our colleagues who have burdens related to personal, family, and community issues, both close to home and around the world. Although being in-person helps us better understand the richness of our colleagues' lives, we do not know all the challenges our colleagues face. As we hold that space, I hope that everyone can also take a moment to read through this quick list of kudos and send out appreciation and gratitude. While sharing positivity may not solve the big problems, [research](#) shows that there are benefits to ourselves and those we thank.

Kind regards,

Cami

Upcoming CLASS Events

First-Gen Featured Speaker – November 8, 2023 | CPP First-Generation College Student Week 2023 takes place November 6-9. CLASS will be hosting a session with featured speaker, Dr. Maricela J. Becerra Garcia, assistant professor of Spanish and Global Languages and Cultures at CSU Channel Islands on November 8, 2023 from 3:30p – 5:15p in the BSC. Maricela will be sharing her story, "Lessons in Perseverance: A First-Gen's Journey from Student to Profesora at the CSU". All are welcome, no registration is required!

World Philosophy Day – November 14, 2023 | Come celebrate World Philosophy Day with the CPP Philosophy Department! The celebration will feature alumni talks and panel, conversations with current students, faculty presentations, an Ethics Bowl demonstration, a lunchtime student-alumni mixer, and more! This is a great opportunity to become part of our department's vibrant philosophical community, find out more about philosophy at CPP, interact with students and alumni, and meet our faculty. Friends and family are also welcome to join us in our celebration. [Register online!](#)

GIS Day – November 15, 2023 | Mark your calendars for Cal Poly Pomona GIS Day 2023 happening on November 15th in Ursa Major within the Bronco Student Center! GIS (Geographic Information System) Day is a unique gathering, that unites our diverse student body, faculty, staff, local schools, communities, organizations, and public and private industries. It's a day to celebrate the incredible work happening in the world of GIS at CPP and beyond! [Register today!](#)

CLASS Performing Arts Events – Don't miss the 2023-2024 Seasons for Music, Theatre, and New Dance. Check out the performance calendars and purchase tickets online: [Music](#), [Theatre and New Dance](#).

Tell us what events are happening in your departments through the "Submit Your News" form at the bottom of this newsletter.

Geography and Anthropology

James Blair, Associate professor of geography and anthropology, was interviewed on the New Books Network podcast about his book "[Salvaging Empire: Sovereignty, Natural Resources, and Environmental Science in the South Atlantic](#)". Blair argues that by claiming self-determination and consenting to British sovereignty, Falkland Islanders created a settler colonial protectorate to extract resources and extend empire in the South Atlantic.

Professor of geography and anthropology, **Kristen Conway-Gomez's** class GEO 4090: Applied Cultural Geography "This Class is Trash" was recently recognized as a featured PolyX course. This course involves studying local trash to guide students in analyzing and evaluating the geographical features of our natural environment and its human interactions. It includes activities like field mapping, systematic and random spatial sampling, and reporting on environmental impacts.

Kevin Palomo, Anthropology senior and recipient of the 2020 and 2023 Latino Equality Alliance Youth Scholarship (LEA) conducted an [interview with CALÓ News](#) about the benefits of the LEA Scholarship program and the reprieve and hope it brought to his personal and academic life. "They brought hope in order for me to graduate and it also expanded on other desires that I have to move into a career that is basically fulfilling to me, so that's where I would say they have been an essential part of my academic record and also my professional life".

Philosophy

Philosophy launched Season 3 of the [CCEP \(California Ethics and Policy Center\) Podcast](#) titled "Movements in California". In collaboration with Philosophy, it was produced by associate professor of political science, **Brady Collins**, Lauren Hom (assistant professor of political science), and an amazing group of students primarily from CLASS. The podcast now has 18 episodes and nearly 1700 downloads. Listen to it anywhere you get your podcasts by searching for "[CCEP Podcasts – Exploring Policy and Ethics in California](#)".

Assistant professor of philosophy, **Christine Wieseler's** article "The import of Critical Phenomenology for Theorizing Disability" was accepted by The Journal of Philosophy of Disability. It will be published in November 2023 and the journal is open access.

Associate professors of philosophy, **Alex Madva** and **Katie Gasdaglis** published, "[Duties of social identity? Intersectional objections to Sen's identity politics](#)" in *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy*.

Associate professor of philosophy, **Alex Madva**, recently published several articles including:

- "[From Falsehoods to Truth, and From Truth to Error](#)," a critical notice of Kathy Puddifoot's (2021) book, *How Stereotypes Deceive Us*, in *Analysis*.

- ["Stop me if you've heard this one before: The Chomskyan hammer and the Skinnerian nail,"](#) a response to "The best game in town: The reemergence of the language-of-thought hypothesis across the cognitive sciences," by Jake Quilty-Dunn, Nicolas Porot, and Eric Mandelbaum
- ["It's always both: Changing individuals requires changing systems and changing systems requires changing individuals"](#), a response to "The I-frame and the s-frame: How focusing on individual-level solutions has led behavioral public policy astray" by Nick Chater and George Loewenstein. Co-written with Michael Brownstein and Daniel Kelly.

Betty Gao, previously the Dean's Office front-desk receptionist, has recently accepted an offer to start as the new Philosophy Department Coordinator beginning on Monday, October 30th.

History

History professor **Eileen Wallis** was featured in [Outlook Valley Sun](#) for examining factors behind institutionalization of Californians. Wallis' latest book, "California and the Politics of Disability, 1850-1970" explores the political, legal, medical, and social factors that influenced the widespread institutionalization of Californians from the gold rush to the 1970s.

Music

Rickey Badua, associate professor of music and director of bands, recently announced that the Cal Poly Pomona Wind Ensemble was selected through juried peer review to perform at the [2024 Western/Northwestern College Band Directors National Association Division Conference](#) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Upon review by a panel of collegiate wind band conductors were ranked amongst the top university wind bands that submitted recordings from the Western and Northwestern CBDNA divisions. Only eight university wind bands were chosen to perform at this prestigious conference. Join us in congratulating the CPP Wind Ensemble students as this is the first time Cal Poly Pomona has been invited to perform at this distinguished conference.

The Music Department will lead Poly Beats, a series of free music production workshops open to the public, at the Pomona Public Library on select Thursdays in November.

Theatre and New Dance

Nancy Kyes, Theatre adjunct professor, was featured in People Magazine's article "[Halloween Cast: Where Are They Now?](#)" for her role as Annie Brackett in John Carpenter's classic horror film franchise. Her acting career included roles in Carpenter's "Assault on Precinct 13" and "The Fog". Just before the 2018 "Halloween" release, Kyes told [The Poly Post](#) she never imagined the film would turn into the phenomenon it is today. "You don't think you're making great works of art that are somehow going to last through the ages," Kyes said. "In 1978, when the movie was made, the whole sequel thing was just taking off, so we were making jokes about 'Oh yeah, there'll be a sequel.'"

English and Modern Languages

In addition to releasing two books this Fall, Professor of American Literature, **Liam Corley** presented at San Francisco's literary festival *Litquake* earlier this month about emerging trends in the military genre, and the challenges and importance of writing against masculine traditions and combat-driven

narratives. Liam's book [Unwound: Poems of Enduring War](#) was published by Middle West Press in August and his book [Changelings: Insurgence](#) will be released by MilSpeak Press on November 15.

English Professor, **Dewey W. Hall**, delivered his keynote address to the German Society for English Romanticism (GER) in Augsburg, Germany last year to a gathering of international scholars convened for a major conference about Romantic Ecologies. Earlier this month, the noteworthy German publisher Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier (WVT) [published Professor Hall's keynote](#) in the edition of Romantic Ecologies, a volume of selected papers edited by David Kerler and Martin Middeke.

Karen Tellez-Trujillo, Assistant Professor of English and Modern Languages, became the recipient of the 2022-2023 National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) Early Career Faculty of Color Leadership Award. This award supports early career teachers of color as they build accomplished teaching careers in literacy education. Dr. Tellez-Trujillo will present her community literacy project associated with the PolyX course, ENG3152 - Literacy, Languages, and Cultural Practices at the NCTE Annual Convention in Columbus, Ohio on November 18, 2023.

Andrew Moss, professor emeritus of English and nonviolence studies, was featured in LA Progressive's article "[Shutting off exploitation, one hotel at a time](#)". Moss says the rolling strikes by unionized hotel workers continue to move forward. Recently, workers have reached tentative agreements with The Westin Bonaventure and Biltmore Los Angeles.

Psychology

Jill Nemiro, Professor of Psychology recently published a peer-reviewed journal article with three recent CPP Psychology student alums: Anel Ayala, Jodee Lee, and Briseli San Luis. The article is titled, "Strategies for Managing the Challenges of Student Virtual Teams in Higher Education: A Case Study" and will be published in the upcoming issue - 24(1) - of the Quarterly Review of Distance Education.

Arman Ter-Grigoryan, a 2008 psychology alum, is the founder and [CEO of Invicta Recovery Center](#), an outpatient substance abuse program that specializes in cognitive behavioral therapy. Ter-Grigoryan says there is a need for such services as people continue to grapple with the emotional toll of the COVID-19 pandemic and the fentanyl epidemic spreading in the region.

Communication

Toni Lopez, Communication senior and intern in the NPR affiliate station, has [filed reports on topics](#) such as the impact of state budget cuts on early childhood services, Riverside County's crises services, and park funding in San Bernardino.

Associate Professor in Communication, **Jason Turcotte**, just published a book with Routledge titled "[Comedy, Cameos, and Campaign Communication: Leveraging Entertainment Media to Win Elections and Advance Policy](#)". His book documents the shift in media consumption habits away from news toward more entertaining programs and platforms, underscoring how those evolving media consumption habits shape campaign norms. The book features case studies examining how politicians strategically use entertainment media to advance their political ambitions.

Andrea Smith, assistant professor of Communication, recently published a paper in [Social Media + Society](#) examining how college students interpret and use social media as a potential source of sexual consent communication.

Zane Landin, ('22 communication), writes about the “many layers of what it means to have a severe mental illness” and overcoming the stigma that “there is something wrong if we can’t control our emotions or have mental illnesses” in an [article for The Good Men Project](#).

Communication major, **Vanessa Fuentes**, was recently interviewed by an NBC affiliate, KOB15, in Oregon about her \$4000 scholarship from the Medford Rogue Rotary Club that allowed her to attend Cal Poly Pomona. “Ever since elementary school, my parents have talked about me going to college, they’ve always wanted me to pursue higher education. I had that ingrained in me and I always wanted to go to college”.

Ethnic and Women’s Studies

Alvaro Huerta, associate professor of ethnic and women’s studies and urban and regional planning, was featured on Noticias Telemundo’s national broadcast about the significance of the White House’s Day of the Dead celebration being open to the public. Huerta says that the event is about having “pride in our ancestors and our indigenous roots”, and that the White House welcoming members of the Latinx community is a way of “treating us with respect”. This story also aired by affiliate stations across the US including our Los Angeles station.

Sociology

Jack Fong, professor of sociology, was invited by the University Library to present his research findings on Death Cafés from his 2017 work, *Death Café: Exploring the Horizons of Mortality*. The event was time to coincide with Dia de los Muertos.

Assistant professor of sociology, **Peter Hanink** penned a powerful op-ed on gun control in the LA Times, [“Opinion: Americans treat mass shootings like natural disasters. As if we can do nothing to prevent them”](#).

Sociology professor, **Anthony Ocampo**, joined NPR affiliate station KRCB 104.9FM to discuss the ways his upbringing in a multigenerational immigrant household, his college experience, and the nuanced intersectionalities of Filipinos, Latinos and queer men of color laid the groundwork for his books, “The Latinos of Asia: How Filipinos Break the Rules of Race” and “Brown and Gay in LA: The Lives of Immigrant Sons”.

Political Science

Farrah Hassen, adjunct professor of political science and poli sci alum ‘04, was featured in *Times-Republican* article [“Suing for a Livable Planet”](#). Hassen commented on a new movement by young people pursuing constitutional climate cases in Montana, Hawaii, Virginia, and Utah. Hassen says that litigation alone won’t fix the climate emergency threatening public health and quality of life.

Submit your news!

CLASS Kudos is a monthly list of shout outs to brag about the incredible work you’re doing! Keep us up to date on what’s happening in your departments and tell us about upcoming events, share exciting

news, announce student successes, and more by [submitting your news on our website](#)! For questions, contact CLASS Communications Specialist Ashley Bagwell, adbagwell@cpp.edu.

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