

June 2020



Dean's Message

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Students,

To follow up on [President Coley's message](#), the College of Science stands in support of our Black community. We condemn racism and commit ourselves to building a community of respect and an inclusive environment that values all members and their contributions.

As stated by President Coley, "*our values — our regard for humanity and each other — will consistently be reflected in our work, our teaching, and our engagement with one another.*"

One of the core values of the College of Science is *inclusivity* and we are engaged in efforts to improve our culture to support this value. I urge you to become and remain engaged with the college and university in such efforts. What does that mean?

It means, for example, participating in university events such as the recent Community Reflection on June 2, and the Campus Equity Dialogues, which began in February with an inaugural event co-sponsored by the College of Science. It means supporting efforts such as our new Voices of Color group in the college, which was initiated by some of our passionate students to create community among faculty, staff and students of color. They organized several events this past academic year and will continue to host virtual chats to cultivate a space where people can express their experiences.

These efforts remind us that cultural change is a continual process and not a destination. We will engage the college leadership to design regular constructive forums that welcome the sharing of ideas, recommendations, and tangible actions that will better serve our Black community. Together, we can work towards a culture where all voices are heard and all individuals are valued.

With gratitude,

Alison

Matthew Povich Receives Provost's Award for Excellence in Scholarly and Creative Activities

The Provost Award for Excellence in Scholarly and Creative Activities was awarded to Povich for his research work with students. Povich worked on the [Milky Way Project](#) with CPP undergraduate students Tharindu Jayasinghe ('17, physics) and Don Dixon ('17, physics). "This project took astronomical survey data and produced images to classify phenomena such as [interstellar bubbles and stellar-wind bow shocks](#) in the Galaxy," said Povich.

[Read More](#)



A HAPII Place for Computer Science Research



Whether you're using your laptop to conduct research, typing a text on your phone or asking Siri to tell you a joke, you're experiencing the human/computer interface (HCI). At the [HAPII lab](#) in the College of Science, students are working under the guidance of Assistant Professor Ben Steichen to improve that interface.

[Read More](#)

Toxic Effects of Oil Spill Change Genetics in Seaside Sparrow



Andrea Bonisoli Alquati, assistant professor of biological sciences, led a team that has identified the genetic mechanism causing physiological changes in Seaside Sparrows (*Ammospiza maritima*) that are similar to changes in exposed fish.

[Read More](#)

News

Bronco Mentoring Program

Any current student of Cal Poly Pomona is eligible to participate in the program. Students/alumni can sign up at the following link: [Join the CPP Bronco Mentoring Network](#). In addition to students being able to find alumni mentors by major, industry, employer and mentoring expertise, there are also five communities:

Veterans

First Generation Students and Alumni

Bronco Comunidad (Latinx Alumni & Students)

African American Students & Alumni

Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Community

Communities are intended to boost student and alumni engagement. Members can pose general questions, ask for advice, etc. in a group format rather than one on one with a mentor.

Are you an alumni who wants to be a mentor? Visit the [mentor web page](#).

Stephanie Rothman Receives Distinguished Teaching Award

Stephanie Rothman has established a strong record of excellence in teaching Biology since joining Cal Poly Pomona in 2011. She is an enthusiastic and compassionate instructor who makes her courses both relevant and relatable. Teaching with an inclusive perspective, Rothman includes multiple modes of learning for both face-to-face and online courses, and has been recognized as an e Learning Accessibility Champion and received a recent Wall of COOL Award.



Erin Questad Receives Ralph W. Ames Distinguished Research Award

Associate Professor Erin Questad from the Department of Biological Sciences has an outstanding record of scholarly work in habitat conservation, global change, and invasive species using remote sensing to guide ecosystem restoration. Her work has been published in 18 peer-reviewed articles since joining Cal Poly Pomona, and she has received more than \$2 million in research funding. As a committed teacher-scholar, Dr. Questad's integration of teaching and research has resulted in specialized field courses in which students engage in cutting-edge research.

Yan Liu Receives Outstanding Faculty Advisor of the Year Award

Assistant Professor Yan Liu from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is widely recognized for his efforts to provide timely and clear advice to students as they navigate their curriculum and develop their career plans. He has been particularly effective in helping students with semester conversion planning, change-of-major advising, minor advising, and leading orientation advising for new students. Dr. Liu's approachable demeanor provides a welcoming environment for students and supports their success.



Juanita Jellyman Receives Gail Jenkins Teaching and Mentoring Award

Assistant Professor Juanita Jellyman from the Department of



Biological Sciences was recognized by the Human Anatomy and Physiology Society (HAPS) for her use of engaging learning activities to help students truly understand and retain the more difficult Physiology concepts with kinesthetic and active learning strategies using inexpensive everyday props.

Mindfulness and Wellness

Kinesiology and Health Promotion faculty **Alane Daugherty** is interviewed about the 8 dimensions of wellness, how we can be intentional about creating wellness, and the biological benefits of gratitude.

[Watch Video](#)



Rigs to Reefs

The research of Associate Professor Jeremy Claisse and his students
is featured on the CSU website.



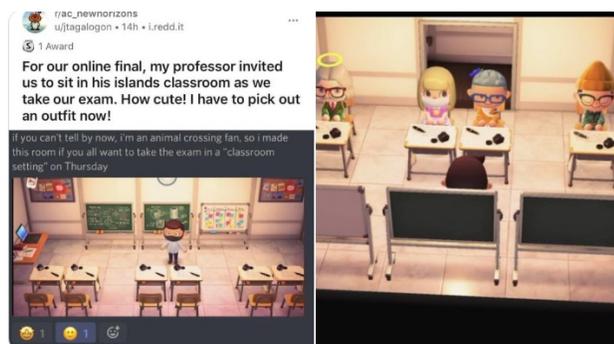
(Left) As part of Chelsea Williams' master's thesis research, which looked at the geographic- and habitat-related variation in age and growth patterns in Garibaldi, she captured and chemically tagged fish to validate her aging methods. (Right) Sea lions look on as Dr. Jeremy Claisse surveys the benthic invertebrates and habitat at Begg Rock, a pinnacle reef. Claisse is part of a team that has been conducting surveys of rocky reef and kelp forest habitats. Photo: Jonathan Williams (From the CSU website)

[Read CSU Article](#)

Professor Invites Students to His Island During Final Exam

Knowing the stress students were under this spring transitioning to virtual classes, Mathematics Associate Professor Jimmy Risk was looking for ways to relieve the pressure. So, he invited them to his island.

[Read More](#)



Information and Resources

- [Academic and Student Services Support](#)
- [Broncos Care Basic Needs Program \(Resource List\)](#)
- [College of Science Advising Information](#)
- [CPP COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Faculty Resources for Teaching Continuity](#)
- [Student FAQs About the Campus Response to COVID-19](#)

New Publications

If you have a recent publication that is not included, please let us know so that it can be listed in next month's newsletter! email: djgriggs@cpp.edu

1. **Cawley, A.** (2020). They know more than you think: An anti-deficit framing of mathematics students' understanding of the intercepts of a function using multiple representations. *MathAMATYC Educator* 11(3) p. 14-24. [LINK](#)
2. Mesa, V., **Cawley, A.**, Duranczyk, I., & Watkins, L. (2020). Characterizing classroom interactions to assess the quality of algebra instruction at community colleges. *MathAMATYC Educator* 11(3) p. 52-73 [LINK](#)
3. **Ghanimi, H.**, Goddard, J. H. R., Chichvarkhin, A., Gosliner, T. M., Jung, D.-W., & **Valdés, Á.** (2020). An integrative approach to the systematics of the *Berthella californica* species complex (Heterobranchia: Pleurobranchidae). *Journal of Molluscan Studies*. doi: 10.1093/mollus/eyaa001
4. Benjamin P. **Schermerhorn, Armando Villasenor*, Darwin Del Agunos*, Homeyra R. Sadaghiani**, Gina Passante, and Steven J. Pollock (2019) Student perceptions of math-physics interactions throughout spins-first quantum mechanics. Physics Education Research Conference Proceedings, doi:[10.1119/perc.2019.pr.Schermerhorn](https://doi.org/10.1119/perc.2019.pr.Schermerhorn)
Full Text: [Download PDF](#) - [PER-Central Record](#)
5. Cecala, J. M., Lau, P. W., & **Leong, J. M.** (2020). Floral bagging differentially affects handling behaviours and single-visit pollen deposition by honey bees and native bees. *Ecological Entomology*. doi: [10.1111/een.12890](https://doi.org/10.1111/een.12890)
6. **Selco, J.**, & Chan, J. (2020). Update on Science Education: Still a Societal Imperative. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas*, 93(3), 114–119. doi: [10.1080/00098655.2020.1743135](https://doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2020.1743135)

New Grants

Assistant Professor Breanna Binder, Department of Physics and Astronomy, What is the Mass of the NGC 300 X-1 Black Hole?, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (2020 - 2021)

Assistant Professor Juanita Jellyman and Associate Professor Andrew Steele, Department of Biological Sciences, A Circadian Pathway to Better Beef, Agricultural Research Institute (ARI) (2020 - 2021)

Professor Jascha Polet, Department of Geological Sciences, Site Response in the San Gabriel, Chino and San Bernardino Basins, United States Geological Survey (2020-2021)

Professors Amar Raheja & Daisy Tang, Department of Computer Science, Research Experience for Undergraduates in UAV Technologies, NSF 19-582 Research Experiences for Undergraduates (2020 - 2023)

Associate Professor Jayson Smith, Department of Biological Sciences, Restoring Rocky Intertidal Foundation Species across California, The Regents of the University of California (2020-2021)

Assistant Professor Chantal Stieber, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Iron and nickel catalysts for mitigating denitrification and agricultural pollution, Agricultural Research Institute (ARI) (2020 - 2021)

Support the College of Science



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

May 4 - July 6 Add/drop for 2nd 5-week Summer Session

June 29-30 Final exams for 1st 5 week summer session

July 1 2nd 5 week summer session classes begin

Aug 3-4 Final exams for 2nd 5 week summer session

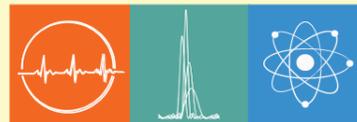
Aug 3-6 Final exams for 10 week summer session

Aug 10 - Sep 2 Add/Drop for Fall Semester

Aug 20 Fall Semester classes begin



College of Science Advising Center



Advisors are working remotely.

Contact by email at:
sci_advising@cpp.edu

You can
[schedule an appointment](#)
through CPP Connect.



CalPolyPomona

College of Science

Our Mission:

**Educate, mentor, and inspire students through scientific inquiry
and hands-on learning**

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