

May 2021



## Dean Baski's Message

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Students,

I want to thank our faculty and staff who supported our students during Spring 2021 Semester. Your commitment and dedication to our students is greatly appreciated!

Last year, we weren't able to celebrate in person with our 2020 graduates. This year the class of 2020 will have both a virtual celebration and a drive-in ceremony at the Pomona Fairplex on May 20<sup>th</sup> which will also be streamed live. The class of 2021 will have two drive-in ceremonies on Sunday, May 23 at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. These events will be live streamed, and there will also be a virtual ceremony. For more information, please visit the [CPP commencement page](#).

To our graduating students I offer our sincere congratulations. The degree you are earning is the result of years of hard work and determination. Be proud of the fact that you are graduating, particularly during this tumultuous time in our lives. Please remember that you will always be a permanent part of the Cal Poly Pomona family.

**Congratulations!**

## Meet Long Truong - the 2021 College of Science McPhee Scholar and Valedictorian

Our 2021 McPhee Scholar and Valedictorian is computer science major Long Truong. Truong started coding in the 6th grade. He remembers as a child seeing super computers in movies and thought that looked pretty cool.

His enthusiasm for computers persisted and his programming and coding skills improved. Recognizing his interest and aptitude, his parents encouraged him by making additional classes available to him on weekends.

[Read More](#)



## BASES Covers all Bases

BASES stands for Black Achievement Success and Engagement in Science. The new program is funded by the Kellogg Legacy Project Endowment. Leading the effort is Michael Page, Chemistry and Biochemistry Department Chair, and Vice President of the Black Faculty and Staff Association at CPP.

“Our goal is to create a learning community in which African American students will belong to a cohort during their first year,” Page said.

[Read More](#)

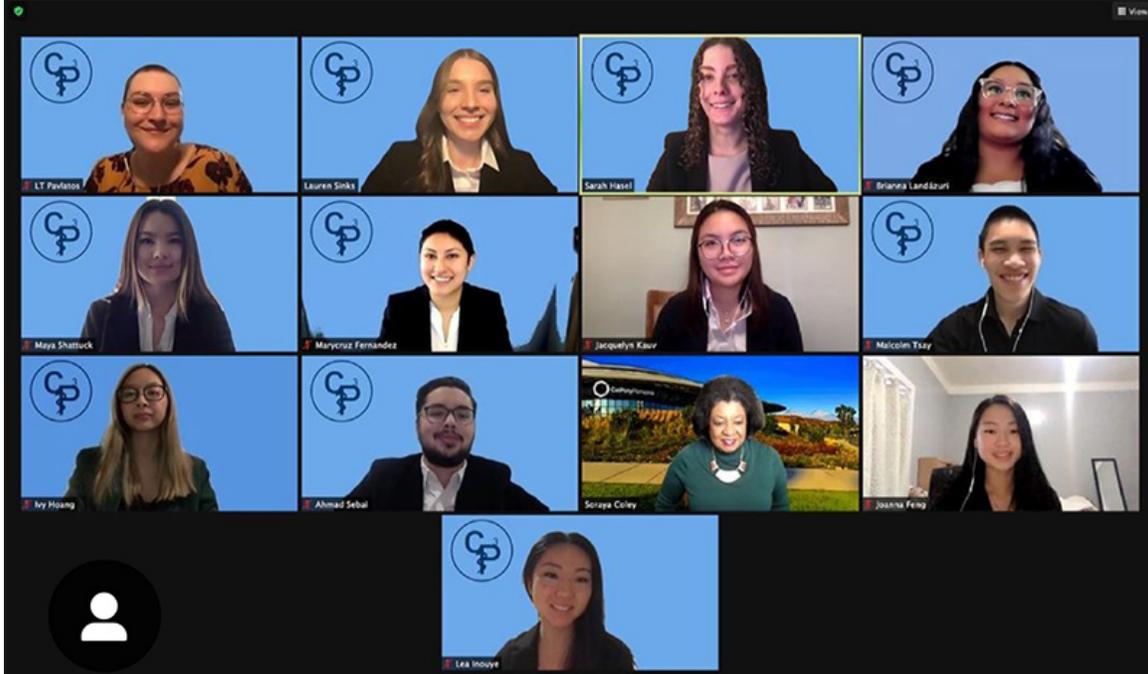


## Empowering a new Generation of Healthcare Heroes

Cal Poly Pomona students who dream of becoming doctors, dentists and optometrists face stiff competition getting into the best health programs. The CPP Pre-health Conference (C Triple P) event on April 10 gave them a head start in the process.

The virtual conference was conceived and organized by the [Pre-Medical Student Association \(PMSA\)](#) and attracted students from Cal Poly Pomona and other CSU's.

[Read More](#)



## News



### Justin Cortez Wins First Place at CSU Student Research Competition

Chemistry and Biochemistry graduate student Justin Cortez from Chantal Stieber's lab was awarded first place in the Physical and Mathematical Sciences category of the CSU Student Research Competition.

The title of his presentation is "Synthesis of Nickel Fluoride Complexes with Bidentate N-Heterocyclic Carbene Ligands"

"Justin spearheaded this research which is a collaboration with Nicholas Ball at Pomona College, and discovered new directions for reactions relevant to pharmaceutical chemistry," Stieber said. "We discovered a novel nickel complex with reactivity that had not been demonstrated before."

[LEARN MORE](#)



### Chantal Stieber Receives the Provost's Award for Scholarly and Creative Activities

S. Chantal E. Stieber, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, pursues environmentally conscious research that investigates ways to reduce pollutants, examines methods for responsible pharmaceutical and agrochemical synthesis, and explores ways to eliminate nuclear waste.

Stieber has received several prestigious grants since joining the CPP faculty, including a \$600,000

Department of Defense grant to purchase an X-ray diffractometer used in determining molecular structure, and an \$475,000 NSF CAREER grant, “in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through research and education.” She is currently mentoring 17 students in her laboratory. Students say that her mentorship has given them a sense of purpose and inspiration to pursue their goals. One of her graduate students, Justin Cortez, won first place at the CSU Student Research Competition in the category of physical and mathematical sciences.

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### **Svetlana Stouklova From the Department of Physics and Astronomy Receives the Distinguished Teaching Award**

Svetlana Stouklova began lecturing at CPP in 2006, bringing valuable experience as a physicist and engineer in industry to share with students. She instills confidence in her

students while teaching them a challenging subject like physics. Her teaching style is engaging and, though she teaches about 200 students per semester, manages to call them by name. Stouklova offers innovative classes that include problem-solving recitation, and a flipped general physics course.



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### **Alan Krinik From the Department of Mathematics and Statistics Receives the Ralph W. Ames Distinguished Research Award**

Alan Krinik has an outstanding and extended record of scholarly work on Markovian models and matrix properties. During his 38-year career at CPP, he has helped edit five research monographs and published 33 articles, the majority of which had student co-authors. Dr. Krinik embodies the teacher-scholar ideal, directing 29 graduate students in their master's thesis and assisting over 30 students to present at conferences.

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### **Jamie Snyder From the Department of Biological Sciences Receives the Outstanding Faculty Advisor of the Year Award**

Jamie Snyder is Associate Chair for Advising in Biological Sciences where she oversees the advising of about 1,500 majors and non-majors. She successfully handled virtual orientation last summer, and her efforts in promoting the

department ensured a high yield of accepted students. Dr. Snyder enjoys working with students and demonstrates her commitment with empathy and understanding.



### **Ashley Ysias From the College of Science Advising Center Receives the Outstanding Staff Advisor of the Year Award**

Ashley Ysias is coordinator of the College of Science Advising Center and has helped the center become a central hub for advising questions, concerns, and referrals. Her team successfully led the college through semester conversion. Ysias introduced a group advising model in 2017 and presented the results at a NACADA conference. The center has created several informational videos to help students, and in response to remote work instituted drop-in advising.

Place article copy here. Be sure to make the articles short and concise as people tend not to read much more than a couple of paragraphs. Place article copy here.

### **Axelrad-Goldstein Research Awards**

The Axelrad-Goldstein Research Awards went to three students in the amount of \$2000 each. The recipients are (left to right) undergraduates Adrian Torres, Andrea Matias, and graduate student Kevin Liang.



**Students:**

**Hear STEM Career Advice from**

CAL POLY POMONA COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

# SPECIAL EVENT

## CAREER PANEL DISCUSSION

TUESDAY APRIL 27 - UHOUR (12pm - 1pm)  
ZOOM: <https://bit.ly/3uDSf6y>



**JEFF EPPINK**  
EARTH SCIENCES '79  
PRESIDENT & CO-FOUNDER,  
ENEGS LLC

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A  
DISCUSSION ABOUT STUDENT  
SUCCESS, CAREERS IN STEM,  
IMPOSTER SYNDROME,  
DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND EQUITY



**NIEDRE HECKMAN**  
CHEMISTRY '88  
DIRECTOR, GLOBAL REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
TAKEDA



**MARY MOGGE**  
EMERITUS FACULTY, PHYSICS  
CAL POLY POMONA

**MOHAMMAD VIRANI**  
PRESIDENT  
ERNEST PRETE JR. FOUNDATION



 Cal Poly Pomona | College of Science

Members of the College of Science  
Dean's Circle.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The College of Science raised a total of \$41,386 from 60 gifts during the 2021 Giving Day event. That includes matching gifts from generous donors who gave us a head start on fundraising for the April 21-22 event. An additional \$11,731 was raised for Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE). The **WiSE initiative** is a joint program of the College of Science and the College of Engineering and is part of the Cal Poly Pomona STEM Success Network.

## Events

### College of Science Lecture Series: Utilizing Math Models to Understand Infectious Disease

Wednesday, May 12, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Ortega's talk will present a model of measles and a model developed for COVID-19 using a system of ordinary differential equations following the natural history of the infection.

Additional discussion of the disproportionate burden of coronavirus on traditionally underserved groups will be shared as a call to action to study this current pandemic.

[\*\*REGISTER NOW\*\*](#)



### College of Science Lecture Series

Wednesday, May 12, 4-5 p.m.

### Utilizing Math Models to Understand Infectious Disease

presented by

**Omayra Ortega, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor,  
Sonoma State University



Dr. Ortega will be available  
5:00-5:30 for informal discussion

## 2020 & 2021 College of Science Commencement

The 2020 and 2021 Commencement ceremonies will be drive-in events held at the Pomona Fairgrounds and will also be streamed live. There will also be virtual



ceremonies on May 29 and May 30.

**2020 Commencement: May 20, 11 a.m.**

**2021 Commencement May 23, 5 p.m.**  
Biological Sciences, Chemistry and  
Biochemistry, Mathematics and Statistics

**8 p.m.**  
Computer Science, Geological Sciences,  
Kinesiology and Health Promotion,  
Physics and Astronomy

**LATEST UPDATES**

## Information and Resources

- [Science Advising Center Resources and Information](#)
- [Academic and Student Services Support](#)
- [Broncos Care Basic Needs Program](#)
- [CPP Safer Return & Vaccination Information](#)
- [Faculty Resources From the Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence](#)
- [Zoom & Online Learning Resources \(How-to Info\)](#)

## 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](mailto:djgriggs@cpp.edu)***

1. Antoine-Lorquin, A., **Arensburger, P.**, Arnaoty, A., Asgari, S., Batailler, M., Beauclair, L., ... Bigot, Y. (2021). Two repeated motifs enriched within some enhancers and origins of replication are bound by SETMAR isoforms in human colon cells. *Genomics*, 113(3), 1589–1604. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ygeno.2021.03.032>
2. Williams, J. P., **Claisse, J. T.**, Pondella II, D. J., **Williams, C. M.**, Robart, M. J., Scholz, Z., ... Witting, D. (2021). Sea urchin mass mortality rapidly restores kelp forest communities. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 664, 117–131. <https://doi.org/10.3354/meps13680>
3. **Ear, J.**, Abd El-Hafeez, A. A., Roy, S., Ngo, T., Rajapakse, N., Choi, J., ... Ghosh, P. (2021). A long isoform of GIV/Girdin contains a PDZ-binding module that regulates localization and G-protein binding. *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, 296, 100493. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbc.2021.100493>
4. **Foster-Greenwood, B.**, & Kriloff, C. (2021). Degree-One Rational Cherednik Algebras for the Symmetric Group. *Symmetry, Integrability and Geometry: Methods and Applications*. <https://doi.org/10.3842/sigma.2021.039>
5. Byrd, C., & **Kwon, M. H.** (2021). The Effect of Hand-Held Technology on Thumb Biomechanics. *Journal of Health, Sports, and Kinesiology*, 2(1), 7–8. <https://doi.org/10.47544/johsk.2021.2.1.7>
6. Behrens, J., Løvholt, F., Jalayer, F., Lorito, S., Salgado-Gálvez, M. A., Sørensen, M., **Polet, J.**, ... Vyhmeister, E. (2021). Probabilistic tsunami hazard and risk analysis: A review of research gaps. *Frontiers in Earth Science*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2021.628772>

# Grants

**Assistant Professor Cristina Runnalls, Department of Mathematics and Statistics**, Preparing, Recruiting and Training Effective Educators (ongoing), The Regents of the UC Los Angeles (2020-2022)

**Assistant Professor Lily R. Silverstein, Department of Mathematics and Statistics**, Sophie's Circle Mentoring Program, Mathematical Association of America (2021-2022)

Support the College of Science

## College of Science Advising Center

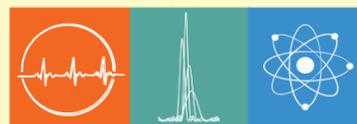


### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Apr. 21 - June 11:** Fall 2021 general registration
- May 3:** Summer 2021 Add/Drop period begins
- May 15-21:** Spring finals week
- May 21:** Spring 2021 - Last day to withdraw for serious and compelling reasons and receive a "WX"
- May 21-23:** Commencement
- May 27:** Summer 2021 fees due (2nd 5 week session)
- May 31:** Memorial Day holiday



## College of Science Advising Center



**Advisors are working remotely.**

Contact by email at:  
[sci\\_advising@cpp.edu](mailto: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**

Follow us on social media [cpp\\_science](#)



