Congratulations Class of 2019!

Draft Strategic Plan 2025

Please visit the College of Science Strategic Planning web page to read the mission, vision, values, and the 8 goals that will guide us.

The COS strategic plan was developed using an inclusive and collaborative process that invited a variety of stakeholders to participate. Focus groups and interviews were conducted with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and donors to gain an understanding of the current situation and desired future for the college. Over 2,000 data points were
The College of Science will hold two ideation sessions during the summer to help develop action plans for accomplishing the 8 goals that were developed through this collaborative process.

**Students Conduct Breast Cancer Research Thanks to NIH Grant**

The College of Science has received a National Institute of Health (NIH) grant to study how Usp16-Mediated Histone Deubiquitination Regulates Breast Cancer Cell Invasion. The Principal Investigator is Professor Junjun Liu, biological sciences. He's mentoring three graduate students and one undergraduate.

**SPIRES Ready to Take Students to New Heights**

The College of Science has acquired a new $1 million grant from the National Science Foundation to promote the success of low socio-economic scholars in the sciences. The project is called “SPIRES” which stands for Scholars Program in Research, Education and Science.

Steve Alas who is Director of Science Educational Enhancement Services (SEES) and professor of biological sciences is the principal investigator. The co-PI's are Daisy Sang from the Department of Computer Science, Laurie Riggs from CeMAST, and Wei-Jen Lin, Department of Biological Sciences.

Because of his dedication and leadership in supporting student success through SEES, LSAMP, BioTiER, and now SPIRES, Steve Alas has been honored with the 2019 Provost’s Award for Excellence in Service.

**Student Highlights**

**Janam Dave Wins First Place in CSU Research Competition**

Biological sciences graduate student Janam Dave won first place in the biology graduate category for his research titled "Efficacy of Intravenous Vs. Aerosol AmBiosome Therapy for Murine Pulmonary Aspergillosis." The research was conducted under faculty mentor Jill Adler-Moore.
Our 2019 Giving Day for the College of Science Raised $16,447

The amount was raised from 48 gifts. Two of our students won prizes for their fundraising efforts. Environmental biology major Joaquina Hernandez got the most clicks for the college, and biochemistry major Elizabeth Garcia got the most gifts for the college.

Sierra Lauman Wins Best Oral Presentation

Graduate student Sierra Lauman, biological sciences, won best oral presentation at the Southern California Academy of Sciences meeting. Her talk was titled "Propagule Pressure and Functional Traits: Utilizing Invasion Mechanisms to Promote Restoration."

Faculty Highlights

Lisa Alex Appointed as Associate Dean

On July 1 Lisa Alex will begin serving the College of Science in the role of Associate Dean, Operations and Students.

Dr. Alex was the College of Science outstanding advisor in 2006, served 18 years as faculty advisor for science council, and received an ASI Honorary Lifetime Membership in 2010. She has served on the Academic Senate since 2005, is currently on the Executive Committee, and was recently appointed as a Presidential Fellow on the University Strategic Planning Committee. She received the 2018 George P. Hart Award for Outstanding Faculty Leadership.

Dr. Alex has served as the Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry since 2011 and has a strong record of serving students and supporting the faculty and staff of the College of Science. Please welcome Lisa Alex in her new role as Associate Dean.

Professor Amar Raheja Receives the Ralph W. Ames Distinguished Research Award

Professor Raheja's expertise in teaching includes image processing, computer graphics and computer vision, and he also co-proposed machine learning to enrich our curriculum. His research work reaches across campus and includes an Agricultural Research Initiative (ARI)-funded project for precision agriculture, developing a forecasting model for apparel sales, and an NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates in Unmanned Autonomous Vehicles (UAV). In addition, Dr. Raheja's record serving as a
Professor Robin Wilson Receives Distinguished Teaching Award

Professor Wilson’s contributions to student learning both inside and outside of the classroom are remarkable. His methods include engaging students with flipped classroom curriculum. As a participant in the First in the World Grant he is committed to the program’s goals of creating a supportive STEM faculty community to drive change in teaching and learning.

Professor Wilson is involved in the Algebra Project at the local and national level providing support and training to high school math teachers. His career has been motivated by the idea that “Math literacy can be the key to unlocking the unlimited potential of disenfranchised communities.”

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


New Grants

Wei-Jen Lin, professor, biological sciences, Enhancing Undergraduate Research Opportunities, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (February 26, 2019 - July 31, 2019)

Ben Steichen, assistant professor, computer science, Student Travel Grant for Web Conference, National Science Foundation (May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2020)

Frances Mercer, assistant professor, biological sciences, Using the CRIPR/Cas9 genetic engineering system to investigate the role of antibody receptors in human immune-cell killing of the parasite Trichomonas vaginalis. California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) (June 1, 2019 - November 30, 2020)

Elizabeth Scordato, assistant professor, biological sciences, Adaptation to anthropogenic environments: comparative genomics of commensal avian species, California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) (June 1, 2019 - November 30, 2020)

Jamie Snyder, assistant professor, biological sciences, Determining cellular proteins involved in viral-induced lysis of Sulfolobus, California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) (June 1, 2019 - November 30, 2020)

Upcoming Events

May 23: Final Hiring Fair, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Just graduated or looking for a summer internship? This event is for you!

May 27: Memorial Day - campus closed

Support the College of Science

College of Science Advising Center

May 27: Memorial Day - Campus closed

May 28: Last day to drop for 10 week and 1st 5 week summer sessions with full refund
May 29: Classes begin for 10 week and 1st week summer sessions

June 5: Add/drop period ends for 10 week and 1st 5 week summer sessions

June 11: First day to withdraw by petition for serious and compelling reasons (1st 5 week summer session only)

June 19: Last day to withdraw by petition for serious and compelling reasons and receive a "W" (1st week summer session only)

June 25: First day to withdraw by petition for serious and compelling reasons (10 week summer session only)

Questions answered!
Feel free to call 909-979-5654 or email sci_advising@cpp.edu

Follow us on social media cpp_science