

Meet Our Faculty Mentors

Faculty



Professor Nathan L. Anderson is an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing at Chico State. He engages in multiple research projects spanning computational materials science to educational pedagogy. Prior to joining academia, he worked in the semiconductor manufacturing industry for KLA Corporation. Before industry, he spent time at Sandia National Laboratories. He earned his PhD in materials science and engineering from Purdue University and his BS in materials engineering from San Jose State University.



Professor Rob Davidson teaches creative writing and American literature at Chico State. His most recent book is *What Some Would Call Lies: Novellas* (Five Oaks, 2018), a finalist for the 2018-2019 *Reader Views* short story/novella prize, and praised by *Kirkus Reviews* as “A pair of tales that will entertain, transport, and move readers.” He is the author of three previous short fiction collections: *Spectators: Flash Fictions* (Five Oaks, 2017); *The Farther Shore* (Bear Star, 2012); and *Field Observations* (University of Missouri, 2001). His honors include a Fulbright award, multiple Pushcart Prize nominations, and an AWP Intro Journals Project Award in fiction.



Professor Keiko Goto is originally from Japan. She was born in Gunma Prefecture, which is famous for hot springs and tough women. She holds a BS in food science and technology from Kyoto University and a PhD in nutritional sciences from Cornell University. As a nutritionist, Goto has worked in various countries such as Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, the Philippines, and Tanzania, and has developed a deep appreciation of diversity in people and food. Her current research interests include food and culture, international nutrition, and food behaviors. She enjoys traveling, pairing wine with foods, and playing piano, clarinet, and cello.



Shelley R. Hart is an associate professor in the Department of Child Development at Chico State, a research associate in the Department of Mental Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University; and a nationally certified school psychologist. Her scholarship has focused primarily on mood disorders and suicide in school-aged children. Her most recent work focuses on qualitative research regarding the mental health experiences of ethnic minority youth in Butte County. To date, Hart has authored over 50 publications and has over 75 presentations at local, regional, and national conferences.



Lauren McNamara is a Registered Dietitian and an assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at Chico State. She is also the Director of the Dietetic Internship, helping to provide interns with varied and challenging supervised learning opportunities. McNamara has worked as a clinical dietitian doing both inpatient and outpatient counseling since 2014. Her research interests include clinical and community nutrition, disordered eating, curriculum development, and action research related to program implementation and improvement. McNamara enjoys spending time with her family, running, skiing, hiking, biking, and, of course, cooking and eating delicious food!



Professor Patrick S. Johnson is an associate professor in the Psychology Department at Chico State. Prior to arriving in Chico in 2015, he earned a BS in psychology from the University of Florida, an MA in applied behavioral science from the University of Kansas, and a PhD in psychology from Utah State University; and served as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Johnson's training and research has focused on the areas of behavioral economics, behavior analysis, psychopharmacology, and addiction. He works closely with his undergraduate and graduate research assistants to apply behavioral economic models to a variety of public health issues, including substance abuse, sexual risk behavior, and distracted driving.



Professor Celeste Jones teaches undergraduate and graduate social work micro practice, focusing on mental health and trauma. She is a trained MI instructor and MINT member. She has extensive clinical experience with individuals, families, and children. Jones researched trauma debriefing with bank robbery victims and has experience debriefing individuals and communities that have experienced trauma through natural disasters (floods), technological disasters (Oklahoma City bombing), workplace trauma (bank robberies), and interpersonal trauma (domestic violence). Jones' research interests are trauma and recovery, domestic violence, international social work issues, digital storytelling, telehealth, and social work education.



Professor Linda Kline has worked at Chico State since 1990. She received her PhD in environmental psychology from Colorado State University in 1984. Kline actively involves students in research knowing that each project is better with the input and efforts of persons with varied backgrounds and perspectives. Her effort to understand challenges of first-generation college students and to take action to remove equity gaps in graduation rates created a perfect connection with her student mentee. Kline is also active in investigating components of human- animal interaction.



Seth Selorm Klobodu is an assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at Chico State. His research interests are diversity and inequality in nutrition and dietetics education (e.g. barriers to nutrition and dietetics education, weight stigma and bias, etc.), food insecurity among college students, and native and indigenous food cultures.



Professor Stephen Lewis was hired by Chico State in 1998 and teaches Latin American history classes. He has published on the Mexican Revolution, state and nation building in the state of Chiapas, and the history of Mexican *indigenismo*. Currently, he is completing a classroom textbook on Mexico's lesser-known or "unscripted" revolutions since 1958.



Jennifer A. Malkowski is an associate professor of communication arts and sciences at Chico State. Her research and teaching lie at the intersections of public health communication, medical professionalism, and biotechnological controversy where she explores how persuasive communication influences perceptions of and responses to health risks at both the individual and collective levels. Her work has appeared in *Health Communication*, *Journal of Medical Humanities*, *The Review of Communication*, and *Journal of International & Intercultural Communication* in addition to other edited collections. Her recent work includes a co-edited special issue of *Rhetoric of Health & Medicine* that inaugurates a research trajectory for scholars invested in the public nature of health specifically.



Professor Ana Medic came to Chico in 2012 from Serbia. Her education includes a BS in biology and an MS in ecology and environmental protection from the University of Belgrade. Medic obtained her second professional science master's degree at Chico State with emphasis on sustainable water and wastewater treatment. She worked as an educator for over 12 years teaching as science and biology teacher the Cambridge Britannica International School and the International Baccalaureate program. Medic discovered she truly enjoyed teaching and sharing her passion for science with international students and continued her teaching career at Chico State. Her research includes solid waste management, water management, weed management in agriculture with IPM implementation. She likes traveling and is fluent in English, Spanish and Serbian.



Professor Vincent Ornelas earned his bachelor's degree at Pitzer College and went on to the University of Southern California to earn both his MSW and his PhD. Ornelas was trained as a qualitative methodologist and has published articles on various issues linked to the Latinx population in the United States. He is currently researching recruitment and the success of community college students at Chico State. Ornelas complements his research with teaching and administering the BSW program at the School of Social Work and service on campus with the Chican@/Latin@ Council and the California Faculty Association as well as involvement in his Chapman neighborhood.



Susan Roll is a professor and director of the School of Social Work. She received her MSW from Arizona State University and her PhD in Social Work from University of Denver. Roll's teaching and research interests focus on poverty and income inequality. She studies how social welfare policies either support or create barriers for families to be financially stable. She also works on how we teach and learn about poverty through innovative pedagogy and experiential learning.



David Stachura is an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Chico State. He utilizes zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) to understand the evolution of the vertebrate immune system. He is a scientific consultant for Finless Foods, a Bay Area company focused on making sushi from fish stem cells. He is also the Chief Scientific Officer at FACTORFIVE, a local company designing stem-cell based treatments for skin conditions.



Cawa Tran is an assistant professor of biological sciences at Chico State. Tran received her bachelor's degree in integrative biology from the University of California, Berkeley in 2004, and her PhD from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2012. She pursued postdoctoral research at Stanford University School of Medicine until she joined Chico State in 2017. Tran and her students are interested in the molecular and cellular mechanisms mediating symbiosis. They use an integrative approach to investigate host-microbe interactions in the sea anemone *Aiptasia*, a laboratory model for understanding coral symbiosis and bleaching.



Professor TangJudy (‘Judy’) Vang was raised in Oroville and received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Chico State’s School of Social Work, and her doctoral degree from Portland State University Graduate School of Social Work. Vang’s research interests include mental health, juvenile delinquency, refugee/immigrants, HIV/AIDS, and the educational experiences of students of color. Vang has served on several graduate thesis committees and is currently mentoring two graduate students on their research projects pertaining to race and its impact in academia and social services.



Heather Werner has a bachelor’s degree in child development, master’s degree in social work with an emphasis in child welfare (Title IV-E). Prior to teaching, Werner worked for nine years as an adoptions specialist for the California Department of Social Services, Adoptions Bureau. She hopes to use her research, teaching, and mentorship experience to promote her mentee’s acceptance to a PhD program in the future.



Professor Jennifer Wilking is the Political Science and Criminal Justice Department associate chair and received her PhD in political science from UC Davis in 2010. She studies and teaches in the field of comparative politics, specializing in development and China. Other interests include research design, local housing issues, and collaborative teaching and learning.