

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

Asian Pacific Islander Desi Americans Caucus

Black Caucus

Chicanx/Latinx Caucus

Disability Caucus

LGBTQIA+ Caucus

Native American & Indigenous Peoples Caucus

Palestine, Arab, & Muslim Caucus

Teacher Education Caucus

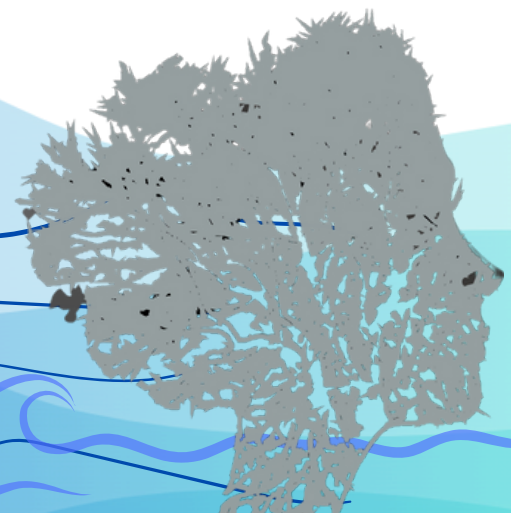
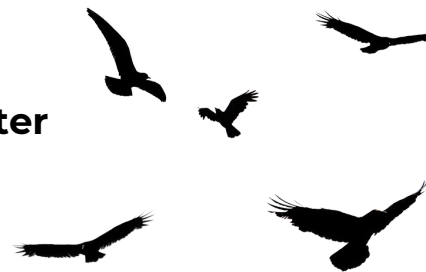
Womxn's Caucus

Waves of Resistance: Merging Waters as Pathways to Justice and Healing

Collaborating for the Common Good: Trouble the Water

Care and Healing: Ebb and Flow

Living Joyously and Free: Jubilee



**EQUITY CONFERENCE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 - SATURDAY MARCH 16**

FEATURED SPEAKERS



**DR. JACQUELINE
BATTALORA**

Wednesday, March 13
11:30AM - 1PM



**COLIN
WOODARD**

Thursday, March 14
10:30AM - 12PM



**TRICIA
HERSEY**

Thursday, March 14
1:30PM - 3PM



**ISABEL
WILKERSON**

Friday, March 15
1PM - 2:30PM



**KEITH
BOYKIN**

Friday, March 15
10:30AM - 12PM



**DR. EDDIE
GLAUDE, JR.**

Saturday, March 16
11AM - 12:30PM

<https://www.calfac.org/equity-conference/>



EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 1

Wednesday, March 13 ... 10 AM - 7:30 PM



TRE'VELL ANDERSON

Journalist, Podcast Host, Authoress

Tre'vell Anderson (they/them) is an award-winning journalist, noted podcast host, and authoress doing world-changing work around society and culture. Named to Out magazine's 2023 list of the 100 most impactful LGBTQ+ people and The Root's 2020 list of the 100 most influential African Americans, they have dedicated their career to centering those in the margins, grey spaces, and at the intersections of life. Tre'vell co-hosts two podcasts, Crooked Media's "What A Day" and Maximum Fun's "FANTI." Founder and Chief Imagination Officer of the social curation and media production house Slayzhon, they are also the authoress of "We See Each Other: A Black, Trans Journey Through TV and Film" and "Historically Black Phrases: From 'I Ain't One Of Your Lil' Friends' to 'Who All Gon' Be There?'".



DR. JACQUELINE BATTALORA

Speaker, author, and trainer in workplace and educational inclusion.

Dr. Jacqueline Battalora is a keynote speaker, author, and trainer in workplace and educational inclusion. Her keynotes about the legal invention of the human category "white" people, turn contemporary conceptions of race upside down and reorient thinking about race and human divisions. The keynotes are steeped in law and history made both accessible and nuanced.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 1

Wednesday, March 13 ... 10 AM - 7:30 PM



AVRIEL EPPS

AI Expert, Advocate

Avriel Epps is a computational social scientist and PhD candidate at Harvard University, specializing in the impact of bias in predictive technologies on human development. With an M.S. in Data Science from Harvard, she is a Harvard Presidential Scholar and Ford Foundation predoctoral fellow as well as a fellow at the National Center on Race and Digital Justice. She also leads AI4Abolition, an organization dedicated to increasing AI literacy in marginalized communities, as its founding director. Avriel's research examines the nature of socio-algorithmic systems and their impact on marginalized individuals' beliefs, behavior, and key developmental processes. Formerly a visiting researcher at Spotify and an ed-tech entrepreneur, she has published in both academic and popular publications, including The Atlantic, and is featured in the 2022 PBS documentary "TikTok, Boom."



BRANDON KAZEN-MADDOX

ASL Artist - Director - Choreographer - Dancer - Acrobat - Filmmaker

Brandon Kazen-Maddox is a Grandchild of Deaf Adults (GODA) and third-generation native signer of American Sign Language (ASL) who identifies as a Nonbinary, Black Indigenous Person of Color and a member of the LGBTQAI+ community.

From 2010 to 2017, Brandon worked as a professional circus acrobat in San Francisco, CA and honed their circus training and dance technique through various collaborations in theatre, film and opera. In May 2019, Brandon graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts with an MFA in Dance and New Technology and currently works as a professional artist, choreographer, director, editor and ASL Artist both in New York City and remotely.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 2

Thursday, March 14 ... 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM



GINNY BARNES

*First Year Student Success Librarian
California State University, Fresno*

Ginny Barnes is doing their best in the California Central Valley. Currently the First Year Student Success Librarian at Fresno State Library, they support new and incoming students in their navigation through the complex world of higher education. Wherever possible they merge art and community with education resulting in poetry slams, workshops, zines, and more. Read their recent collaborative publication, *Love Letter to Banned Books*, a celebration of the books that have shaped and saved us.



JOHN CARAVELLO

*Professor of Philosophy
California State University, Channel Islands*

How should we respond when someone challenges the very norms we assume when evaluating arguments? I contest a widely-accepted dogmatist answer according to which we can justly assert or rely on foundational norms or principles even when we know our interlocutors reject them. I go on to develop a virtue-theoretic approach to argumentation, highlighting the central role played by open-mindedness and related virtues in distinguishing good from bad arguments. The resulting theory elucidates the pragmatic nature of argumentative circularity, offers normative guidance for those looking to improve their discursive behavior, and makes some progress towards resolving ongoing debates over the proper response to peer disagreement.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 2

Thursday, March 14 ... 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM



LISA CHEBY, MLIS

Education Librarian

California State University, Northridge

In July 2022, Lisa Cheby joined the Library as the first Dr. Karin J. Duran and Richard Nupoll Education Librarian. In addition to her librarianship, Lisa has worked as a high school English teacher and a poet. She has published two poetry chapbooks, the latest being *Buffy Averts a Mid-life Apocalypse*. Lisa holds an MLIS from San Jose State University and an MFA from Antioch University. We sat down to talk with her about her experiences.



AMANDA GROMBLY

Collection Development and Management Librarian

California State University, Bakersfield

Amanda Grombly is an Associate Librarian at CSU Bakersfield as well as a doctoral candidate in the university's Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (DPEL). She holds an MA in English from CSUB and an MLIS from San Jose State University. Her research focuses on adults' attitudes towards reading, representation and censorship in library collections, and information ethics in information and media literacy education. She is the collection development and management coordinator for the Stiern Library at CSUB.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 2

Thursday, March 14 ... 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM



TRICIA HERSEY

Artist and Theologian

When you experience the work of artist Tricia Hersey you are witnessing a practice unbound, defying the lines that are often drawn between disciplines, methodologies, and schools of thought. Tricia's craft has taken a lifetime to perfect. It is deeply influenced by her experiences as the daughter of an abolitionist pastor, as a native of the South Side of Chicago, and as the torch-bearer of her family's Mississippi and Louisiana roots. Her upbringing is woven throughout her two decades of experience as a teaching artist, chaplain, poet, theatermaker, performance artist, and community organizer. She necessarily dissolves these boundaries to unlock mental, physical, and spiritual spaces for radical thought and imagination. The wideness of her practice opens portals and possibilities of world-building and future-casting while embodying the teachings of somatics, womanism, womanist theology, Black Liberation Theology, Afrofuturism, and her ancestors.



DR. SANG HEA KIL

Professor of Justice Studies

California State University, San Jose

Winner of 2021 Outstanding Academic Title: Media and Communication, Choice (the publishing unit of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association) for "Covering the Border War" (Lexington Press): 2022. <https://www.choice360.org/choice-pick/2021-outstanding-academic-titles-media-communication/>

Top Paper Award for "Border Symptoms and Border Operations: Militarization, Criminalization and Diseased Body Politic Discourse of Late Capitalism," in Ethnic and Racial International Communication Section (Co-sponsored with Global Communication and Social Change), International Communication Association, Washington DC: 2019

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 2

Thursday, March 14 ... 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM



RAYMOND PUN, MLS, EDD

Academic and Research Librarian, Alder Graduate School of Education

Raymond Pun (he/him/his) is the academic and research librarian at the Alder Graduate School of Education. In this role, he supports all library services from research to scholarly communication. With over 17 years of experience, Ray has worked as a librarian in institutions such as Stanford University, Fresno State, New York University Shanghai, and the New York Public Library. He has published and presented extensively and is an active member of the American Library Association. Most recently Ray served as the 50th President of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) and the 42nd President of the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA). Ray holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fresno; a Master of Library Science from CUNY Queens College; and a Master of Arts in East Asian Studies and Bachelor of Arts in History from St. John's University.



DR. SAMI SCHALK

Professor of Gender & Women's Studies, Author

Dr. Sami Schalk is an Assistant Professor of Gender & Women's Studies at University of Wisconsin-Madison. She earned her BA in English (Creative Writing) and Women's Studies from Miami University in 2008, her MFA in Creative Writing (Poetry) from University of Notre Dame in 2010, and her PhD in Gender Studies from Indiana University in 2014. Dr. Schalk's interdisciplinary research focuses broadly on disability, race, and gender in contemporary American literature and culture, especially African American literature, speculative fiction, and feminist literature. She has published on literature, film, and material culture in a variety of peer-reviewed humanities journals.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 2

Thursday, March 14 ... 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM



DR. SEBASTIÁN SCLOFSKY

*Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
California State University, Stanislaus*

Hi, my name is Sebastián Sclofsky, I am an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at California State University, Stanislaus. I teach courses on Critical Criminology, Social Theory, Criminal Justice, Policing, and Police Violence. My research focuses on capitalist state violence, in particular police violence, Marxism, socio-economic inequalities, and racism in Brazil, South America's Southern Cone, and the United States. I also study the development of tough-on-crime policies and the import of US-based policing strategies in Latin America, particularly Uruguay.



MATTHEW SOLOMON

Filmmaker, Author, Conflict Resolution Facilitator

Matthew Solomon was born and raised in Los Angeles and has been in the entertainment business for most of his adult life--first in music and then as an award-winning writer/director. His passion for people, equity, and social justice led him to work as a consultant for organizations needing help with conflict resolution and partnership building. During the pandemic, he returned to school to obtain a Master's degree in Public Administration so that he could have more of an impact in helping to create communities that work for everyone. His course of study involved a deep dive into understanding policing, the carceral system, and public safety. This film was his capstone project.

<https://www.matthewsolomonconsulting.com/>

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 2

Thursday, March 14 ... 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM



COLIN WOODARD

New York Times bestselling historian and Polk Award-winning journalist

A New York Times bestselling historian and Polk Award-winning journalist – is one of the most respected authorities on North American regionalism, the sociology of United States nationhood, and how our colonial past shapes and explains the present. Compelling, dynamic and thought provoking, he offers a fascinating look at where America has come from, how we ended up as we are, and how we might shape our future. Author of the award winning Wall Street Journal bestseller *American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America*, Woodard has written six books including *The Republic of Pirates* – a New York Times bestselling history of Blackbeard’s pirate gang that was made into a primetime NBC series with John Malkovich and Claire Foye – and *Union: The Struggle to Forge the Story of United States Nationhood*, which tells the harrowing story of the creation of the American myth in the 19th century, a story that reverberates in the news cycle today.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 3

Friday, March 15 ... 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM



KEITH BOYKIN

TV and film producer, national political commentator, New York Times best-selling author, and a former White House aide

Keith Boykin is a TV and film producer, national political commentator, New York Times best-selling author, and a former White House aide to President Bill Clinton. His latest book is *Why Does Everything Have to Be About Race? 25 Arguments That Won't Go Away* (2024).

A graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School, Keith has taught at American University in Washington, D.C., the Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University, and City College of New York. He is a co-founder and first board president of the National Black Justice Coalition and a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of six books.



JUDY JUANITA

Award-winning poet and short story writer, novelist, essayist, and playwright

Born in Berkeley and raised in Oakland, Judy Juanita (Judy Hart) joined the nation's first Black Student Union at San Francisco State and subsequently the Black Panther Party (BPP).

She edited the BPP newspaper and worked in the Breakfast for Children program while finishing her BA at SF State. Five days after graduating, she became the youngest professor of the nation's first black studies program.

Decades later, she would appreciate that she had participated in four key social movements.

An award-winning author, poet, public speaker and podcaster, Juanita's themes explore the peculiar paths trodden by black people in California.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 3

Friday, March 15 ... 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM



JUNE "JUMAKAE" KAEWSITH

Professional Artist and Wellness Consultant

June Kaewsith, also known as "Jumakae," is a professional artist, wellness consultant, and storytelling coach. After spending her twenties as an artist and community organizer inside of nonprofit organizations, she began craving an alternative narrative to healing and justice beyond the struggle. Curiosity led her back to Thailand, where she studied with a traditional midwife to learn the ways of her ancestors. That's when she realized that all of our ancestors were entrepreneurial, filling a need in the community through their sacred offerings. Thus sparked her calling to assist others in remembering their magic.

www.yourstorymedicine.com



ISABEL WILKERSON

*Pulitzer Prize winner and author of the critically-acclaimed bestsellers *The Warmth of Other Suns* and *Caste**

Isabel Wilkerson, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Humanities Medal, is the author of the critically acclaimed, *New York Times* bestsellers *The Warmth of Other Suns*, and *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*.

The Warmth of Other Suns won the National Book Critics Circle Award, among other honors, and was named to more than 30 Best of the Year lists, including *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The New Yorker* and *The Washington Post*. *TIME* Magazine named it one of the "10 Best Non-Fiction Books" of the decade. *The New York Times Magazine* named *Warmth* to its list of the best nonfiction books of all time.

Her new book, *Caste: The Origins of our Discontents*, was published in August 2020 to critical acclaim and became a Number 1 *New York Times* bestseller.

Wilkerson won the Pulitzer Prize for her deeply humane narrative writing while serving as Chicago Bureau Chief of *The New York Times* in 1994, making her the first black woman in the history of American journalism to win a Pulitzer Prize and the first African American to win for individual reporting. In 2016, President Barack Obama awarded Wilkerson the National Humanities Medal for "championing the stories of an unsung history."

A reminder that recording is not permitted for this event and, for the Q&A portion of our program, Ms. Wilkerson would love to hear your thoughts about both of her books.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 3

Friday, March 15 ... 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM



YA BASTA MEMBERS

SEIU USWW

The Ya Basta! Center's workplace sexual violence and harassment prevention training places survivors of sexual violence in trainer/instructor positions to change industry conditions and become resources to their peers to take action against sexual harassment in the workplace.

The Janitor Survivor Empowerment Act, AB 547, approved by Governor Newsom in 2019, states that janitors trained by the Ya Basta! Center are the only qualified instructors to carry out these trainings. Using peers to conduct sexual violence and harassment training in the workplace promotes the mental, emotional, and physical skills that empower workers and help survivors heal.

In California, there are more than 100,000 janitors who work the night shift every night, and this training will ensure they have the tools to protect themselves.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

DAY 4

Saturday, March 16 ... 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM



DR. EDDIE GLAUDE, JR.

*New York Times Bestselling Author & James S. McDonnell
Distinguished University Professor, Princeton University*

One of the nation's most prominent scholars, Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr. is an author, political commentator, public intellectual and passionate educator who examines the complex dynamics of the American experience. His writings, including *Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*, *In a Shade of Blue: Pragmatism and the Politics of Black America* and the New York Times bestseller *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for our Own*, take a wide look at Black communities, the difficulties of race in the United States and the challenges we face as a democracy.



JUNE "JUMAKAE" KAEWSITH

Professional Artist and Wellness Consultant

June Kaewsith, also known as "Jumakae," is a professional artist, wellness consultant, and storytelling coach. After spending her twenties as an artist and community organizer inside of nonprofit organizations, she began craving an alternative narrative to healing and justice beyond the struggle. Curiosity led her back to Thailand, where she studied with a traditional midwife to learn the ways of her ancestors. That's when she realized that all of our ancestors were entrepreneurial, filling a need in the community through their sacred offerings. Thus sparked her calling to assist others in remembering their magic.

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DR. AKHILA ANANTH

Associate Professor in the School of Criminal Justice & Criminalistics at California State University, Los Angeles.

Akhila L. Ananth is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminal Justice & Criminalistics at California State University, Los Angeles. Her research examines constructions of race, and gender in the design of juvenile courts and detention facilities and has been published in edited collections and peer-reviewed journals, including *The Sociological Review Magazine*; *Kalfou*; *Social Justice*; *Gender, Place, and Culture*; and *Studies in Law, Politics, and Society*. In addition to this research, she is on the executive board of her faculty union chapter, serves as a Director for the LA-32 Neighborhood Council, co-founded an internationalist anti-fascism collective, and supports various racial and economic justice projects in Los Angeles.

At Cal State LA, my students come to the classroom ready to ask the hard questions: How do we create a more just world, acknowledging the past mistakes we've made as societies? What will our communities look like when we've eliminated the causes and correlates of crime and all people feel supported to live productive, healthy lives? We draw from our experiences living and working in Los Angeles to think creatively about racial justice and social change. Every day I come to work, I learn from my students as much as they learn from me.



DR. DIANE BLAIR

Professor and Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Communication at CSU Fresno

Dr. Diane Blair is a Professor and Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Communication at Fresno State. She teaches and researches in the areas of Rhetorical Criticism and Theory, Social Movement Rhetoric, and Feminist Theory and Practice. She has published several articles and book chapters on women and politics, including the rhetorical performances of U.S. first ladies. Her research has appeared in the scholarly journals of *Women's Studies in Communication and Rhetoric* and *Public Affairs*, and in edited books *Political Women: Language and Leadership* and *Leading Ladies of the White House: Communication Strategies of Notable Twentieth Century First Ladies*. She is also a contributor and member of the editorial board for the NEH-sponsored *Voices of Democracy: The U.S. Oratory Project*. Dr. Blair has served in several leadership positions related to her academic interests and activism. From 2010-2012 she served as President of the national Organization for Feminist Research on Gender and Communication. She is also the Immediate Past President of the Fresno Chapter of the California Faculty Association and is currently serving in a statewide officer position for CFA.

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LESLIE BRYAN

Theatre Arts Lecturer at CSU San Bernardino

Leslie Bryan is a recently retired California State University, San Bernardino faculty member for Theatre Arts and College of Arts & Letters, teaching dance and assessment courses for Liberal Studies students studying to become teachers. She is the founder of the Family Night at the Theatre program where CSUSB students along with elementary school children devise and perform theatre pieces based on themes from children's literature. She has choreographed several CSUSB Theatre Arts performances over the past 25 years and has mentored Liberal Studies students in their preparation for the Multiple Subjects Credential program. Ms. Bryan is also a teacher leader for The California Arts Project providing professional development training in dance for K-6 teachers.

Ms. Bryan served three terms as the Statewide Lecturer Representative for the California Faculty Association, representing the Southern California campuses. She was the lecturer representative for the CSU San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses, part of the chapter's Executive Board, Faculty Rights Committee, and was the advisor for the CFA-SB Students for Quality Education (SQE), student interns.

Ms. Bryan has served on the CFA Bargaining Team for the 2010-2014 Collective Bargaining Agreement and has represented CFA on lecturer and diversity issues for conferences held by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Ms. Bryan has twice served as co-chair of the African American Caucus and has been an executive member of the Membership and Organizing Committee. She is the current chair of the CFA Disability Caucus and is part of the CFA 2024 Equity Conference planning committee.



MELISSA CARDENAS-DOW

Social Sciences Librarian at Sacramento State University

Melissa Cardenas-Dow is a social sciences librarian at Sacramento State University, responsible for the subject areas of psychology, ethnic studies, women's and gender studies, and counselor education. She is active with the California Faculty Association (CFA), the labor union representing teaching faculty, librarians, counselors, and coaches in the California State University System as a member of the CFA system-wide Librarians Committee and the Sacramento CFA Chapter's Anti-Racism and Social Justice (ARSJ) Committee. She is currently chair of the Association of College & Research Libraries Education & Behavioral Sciences Section (ACRL EBSS) Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Committee and a member of the American Library Association (ALA) Core Values Task Force. She holds a Master's in Library & Information Science from San Jose State University and a Master's in Assistive Technology Studies & Human Services from California State University Northridge.

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CHRIS COX

Sociology Lecturer at San Jose State University and Co-Chair of Council for Racial and Social Justice

Chris Cox is a lecturer in the department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Science at SJSU, where he has taught for 22 years. He has been a CFA activist for more than 15 years and is currently the Associate Vice President for the Council for Racial and Social Justice (North). He is also an advisory board member for the Coalition of Contingent Academic Labor (COCAL). Chris was named the SJSU Outstanding Lecturer in 2017, and has also been recognized by various community organizations for his work as an educator.



MARK ALLAN DAVIS, MFA

Assistant Professor of Africana Studies in Black Performance Studies/Dramatic Literature and Music/Theatre History at San Francisco State University

Mark Allan Davis, MFA, is a native New Yorker and an Assistant Professor of Africana Studies in Black Performance Studies/Dramatic Literature and Music/Theatre History at San Francisco State University's College of Ethnic Studies. His explorations and research focus on the politics of the black body on stage and in dramatic literature, Black Lives Matter, the Politics of African-American Performance on Racial & Social Movements. Minstrelsy and Vaudeville on Broadway Song & Dance, as well as the reemergence and rediscovery of the impact and evolution of the Black Arts Movement on contemporary theatre & dance creation. Mr. Davis is an Original Cast Member of 'The Lion King' on Broadway and is an accomplished director/choreographer, & dramaturg, and playwright, both domestically and internationally.



DR. SHARON ELISE

Professor of Sociology and CFA Asst VP for Racial and Social Justice

Sharon Elise, Ph.D. left a faculty position in Women's Studies at Fresno State to join the faculty of CSUSM in Sociology in Spring 1994. Her teaching and research center on critical race studies, Black Studies, Black Feminism, Intersectionality, women of color and sociopoetics. She has been active in the university and her discipline, and has held leadership positions in her department, college, academic senate, faculty union, and professional organizations. Dr. Elise' current research centers on antiBlack racism with ethnographic work at the university and in Puerto Rico. Dr. Elise helped to lead the union's Anti-Racism and Social Justice Transformation since the work began, and with Chris Cox, she co-Chairs the Council for Racial and Social Justice.

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DR. KIM GERON

Professor in the Department of Political Science at CSU East Bay

Professor Kim Geron began teaching at CSU East Bay in Fall Quarter, 1999. He received a B.A. in Labor Studies in 1992 and a Ph.D. in Political Science in 1998. As the lead faculty member for the Public Affairs and Administration Option for the Political Science major, he advises students on the pathway to complete their major in a timely fashion. He encourages direct participation by students in research and policy analysis. He mentors students to become active members of the local and global community.

For students seeking a career in the government and the non-profit sectors, Prof. Geron assists in designing an educational track leading to future employment options. Internships offer a proven path for these students to gain practical experience in the world of public affairs. A political internship can be a richly rewarding experience. As the coordinator of internships for the Political Science Department, Prof. Geron advises students on placement in meaningful and challenging positions. He annually takes a group of students to the Sacramento Legislative Seminar to attend workshops with lobbyists, legislators and staffers, and the media.

As the lead faculty member for the Public Affairs and Administration Option for the Political Science major, he advises students on the pathway to complete their major in a timely fashion. He encourages direct participation by students in research and policy analysis. He mentors students to become active members of the local and global community.



N'DEA JOHNSON

Program Director for Anti-Racism and Social Justice

N'dea currently works at the California Faculty Association as the Program Director of Anti-Racism and Social Justice. Prior to joining CFA, N'dea had spent more than ten years working, volunteering, and organizing in the realm of politics. Her areas of expertise include community cultivation, advocacy organizing, fundraising, DEB&I (diversity, equity, belonging, and inclusion) initiatives, policy, and leadership. This was showcased in 2019 N'dea started and ran a volunteer based nonprofit called Yellow Heart Committee that focuses on mental health and trauma survivors. In that capacity N'dea managed six board members and over 50 volunteer staff across five teams throughout the United States. N'dea's most prideful accomplishment with her nonprofit was leading the charge to co-host with California Assemblymember Tim Grayson an Informational Subcommittee Hearing at the California State Capitol on Streamlining Resources for Victims of Interpersonal Violence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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DR. ANNE LUNA

Assistant Professor of sociology at CSU Sacramento

Assistant Professor of sociology at California State University Sacramento, specializes in Native American studies, law and policy, social movements, and social inequality. She believes education must be open to all, liberating and transformative. She integrates indigenous knowledge and service learning into the classroom to help students & the community envision a more egalitarian future.



TALITHA MATLIN, MLIS

STEM Librarian at CSU San Marcos

Talitha Matlin is the STEM Librarian at CSU San Marcos. She has a Master's of Learning, Design, and Technology from San Diego State University and a Master's of Library and Information Science from San Jose State University. Her research interests focus on applying instructional design methodologies to nontraditional instructional settings and how to examine librarianship through an anti-racist lens.



MEGHAN O'DONNELL

Lecturer in the Department of Humanities and Communication at CSU Monterey Bay

I am a senior lecturer of US, Political, and Constitutional Histories in the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at CSU Monterey Bay. My courses emphasize the enduring question of what it means to be a citizen of a nation, and how answers to that question have been debated throughout history. We also seek to understand how national collective identities are forged and redefined over generations, and how historical myths, stories, and ideas shape those identities.

My professional research, and subsequently much of my historical interest, revolves around topics of nationalism and collective identity. For the past several years I have written on various issues, including religious nationalism, cultural assimilation, citizenship and the constitution, secularizing of politics, political aesthetics, and movements for social, racial, and gender justice.

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CATHERINE PAOLILO

Outreach & Engagement Librarian at CSU Channel Islands

Catherine Paolillo (she/her/hers) is the new Outreach & Engagement Librarian at California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI). She supports teaching and learning at CSUCI through library advocacy, campus and community partnerships, programming, reference, and instruction. Catherine has worked in research libraries for over ten years, having previously served at the University of San Diego, UC San Diego, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Catherine holds a Master of Science in Library & Information Science and a Master of Science in the History of Art, Architecture, and Design from the Pratt Institute.



AUDRENA REDMOND, M.A

Director for Anti-Racism and Social Justice

Inaugural CFA Program Director for Anti - Racism Social Justice. Her work includes: identifying policy and practice changes, developing and facilitating anti-racism workshops, organizing annual equity conferences and hosting a podcast, Radio Free CSU. For many years, she also organized the annual Leadership Institute for newly elected officers and member activists. Audrena feels fortunate to be part of an organization and profession that align with her values and beliefs that education is a human right and Black Lives Matter.



DR. TRACEY SALISBURY

Department Chair and Assistant Professor of Black Studies at CSU Bakersfield

Dr. Tracey M. Salisbury is an Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies at California State University, Bakersfield, where she has been a faculty member since 2017. She teaches Black Studies, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies courses within the Ethnic Studies/Interdisciplinary Studies program as well as Sport History and Sport Sociology courses for the Kinesiology department. Dr. Salisbury graduated with a BA in Political Science from Holy Cross College and a MA in Sport Administration from Central Michigan University. She earned her PhD in Kinesiology with an emphasis in Sport History, Sport Sociology and American/African American History from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Dr. Salisbury's research interests focus on Black women and sport, Black Feminism, Afrofuturism, Black popular culture particularly, rap music and hip-hop culture, and film studies focusing principally on the horror genre. She is a certified horror film fanatic and proud of it. Dr. Salisbury is the Council on Social Justice Representative for the Bakersfield campus, a tri-chair of the CFA Black Caucus, and the Chapter President for the Bakersfield campus.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

MODERATORS



DR. CHARLES TOOMBS

Professor of Africana Studies at San Diego State University and CFA President

Charles Toombs is a Professor of Africana Studies at San Diego State University (SDSU). His areas of specialization and research include: Africana literature (African American, African, and Caribbean), American literature, and Black Queer Studies. His degrees are: BA (English), MA (English), MS (Industrial Relations), Ph.D. (English), all from Purdue University. He is President of the California Faculty Association (CFA) and SDSU CFA and AAUP Chapter Presidents. He has published several works on African American literature and culture, including, "Harlem Renaissance in San Diego: New Negroes and Community" in *The Harlem Renaissance in the American West*, Routledge, 2012 and "African American Uprising" in *California Literature*, Cambridge UP, 2015. He has presented papers, chaired panels, and served on panels at professional meetings and conferences, including lectures and workshops on African American Literature and Africana Studies at Gorlovka State Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages, Gorlovka, Ukraine. He is a faculty consultant to the Educational Testing Service. He was selected as African American Educator of San Diego County for 2011 by Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. He is committed to social and cultural justice, and is the 2014 San Diego State University Faculty Diversity Award recipient.



VANG VANG

CFA Treasurer, Instructional Technology Librarian at Fresno State

Vang Vang, CFA Treasurer and tri-chair of the Asian Pacific Islander and Desi American (APIDA) Caucus is also a librarian at Fresno State. She received her M.S. from Simmons University in Boston, MA and her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC). Vang is recognized for maximizing her skills in technology to support the success of the campus's diverse student body and faculty. In 2020 she was a recipient of the Provost's Award for Extraordinary Teaching in Extraordinary Times: Student Success at Fresno. Additionally, Vang was an awardee of the 2019-20 FILA (Faculty Innovation & Leadership Award) from the CSU.

EQUITY CONFERENCE 2024

MODERATORS



DR. KEVIN WEHR

Professor of sociology at CSU Sacramento

I have examined the intersections of political sociology and environmental sociology, asking questions about the character of state building and the need of the state to impose an infrastructure on the landscape.

I am interested in what the classical theorists can tell us about the relationship between nature, society, and history, as well as what we can learn from postmodern or poststructuralist insights. I am particularly excited by developments in other fields such as environmental history, geography, and cultural studies. I also plan to expand this research to examine cross-national development schemas in a traditional comparative-historical framework. I have also done ethnographic/participant observation work on the culture of bicycle messengers, and remain engaged with criminology and deviance.

My most recent work is on the installation of water meters in the Sacramento area.

My teaching interests are diverse: from my main research specialty in environmental sociology to culture, criminology, and theory. My interests extend to social movements, political sociology, theory, and culture.