The year 2019 marks the end of a decade of change in the world and in California. Ten years ago, our country was struggling its way out of the Great Recession, and our state was teetering on the edge of insolvency. Our country was led by a newly-elected man in his 40s, the first African-American president in our nation’s history, while our state was being led by a newly-elected septuagenarian who had already tried his hand at being governor, 40 years prior. The economic woes of everyday people loomed large on the political landscape, eclipsing almost every other issue. Now, ten years later, with the economy recovered and unemployment at record lows, a new generation of young people are raising the alarm about the climate catastrophe that awaits us absent radical actions to reverse our dependence on carbon-releasing energy. Over the past decade, the Center for California Studies has also been a witness to big transformations, from the tragic and untimely passing in 2011 of Tim Hodson, the Center’s long-time director, to the leadership of Steve Boillard, who served as the Center’s director from 2012 to 2018, when he retired.

During 2019, the most momentous change for the Center was a changing of the guard for a pivotal position within the Capital Fellows Program. The Outreach Coordinator for the Capital Fellows Program plays a key role in recruiting public-service oriented-college graduates to apply for one of the 64 positions in our four programs. After 21 years at the Center, our former Outreach Coordinator, Claire Bunch, decided to embark on a new adventure by joining the outreach team of a state program. We will miss Claire immensely, but with change comes opportunity, and in November we were pleased to promote an existing Center staff member to be the new Outreach Coordinator. Nadia Navarro Brown, working as a Program Coordinator for the Senate Fellows Program for the past five years, has agreed to take the helm of the Outreach Coordinator position in Claire’s place.

We also experienced change in one of the Center’s flagship events: the Envisioning California Conference. In an effort to expand the impact of this event, we have transitioned from a single, day-long event to a few smaller events spread throughout the year. We were successful in putting together three different “Envisioning” events in 2019, all of which were well-received by our stakeholders.

Finally, I am proud to announce that in November, the Center received a grant from the Gates Foundation, to help us do some capacity-building and re-examine the ways in which we serve as a bridge between academia and state government. Some of the funds will also be available to do applied research and public events on one of the most pressing issues facing state policy-makers: the widening gap in income inequality, and what to do about it. For more information about the grant, and our other accomplishments in 2019, see the Executive Summary on page four.

*And you can watch recordings of these events on our YouTube channel, https://www.youtube.com/channel/Cb3TRd_93350fQOhGtmhcfQ, also found on our website under “Media Archive,” https://www.csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/
Bridging academia and government in the state of California.

The Center for California Studies is based at Sacramento State – the “Capital Campus” of the California State University. Being located in California’s capital strategically positions the Center to be the University’s link to the three branches of government, other universities, think tanks, and outside partnerships involved with public service in California. This, paired with our extensive research, academic programming, and position as part of the county’s largest public university system, makes us uniquely equipped to fulfill our mission and accomplish our goals.

To accomplish its mission, the Center has identified these goals:

- To assist California’s public officials and policymakers in addressing the state’s challenges through policy research and productive dialogue.
- To foster in California’s future leaders a dedication to public service and a commitment to the values of representative democracy, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary for an effective and ethical public career.
- To promote civic literacy among Californians, inspiring greater understanding of our state, government, people, and history.
Mission Statement

Bridging academia and government in the service of strengthening California’s democracy.

The Center for California Studies is based at Sacramento State— the “Capital Campus” of the California State University. Being located in California’s capital strategically positions the Center to be the University’s link to the three branches of California’s government, other universities, think tanks, and outside partnerships involved with public service in California. This, paired with our extensive research, academic programming, and position as part of the county’s largest public university system, makes us uniquely equipped to fulfill our mission and accomplish our goals.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Significant Center activities in 2019 included:

**Serving as a Bridge Between Academia and Policy-Makers; Research and Events**
- Held the first Envisioning California Speaker Series, a new concept to expand on our previously annual Envisioning California Conference. The series included three events: The first was in March, and covered the predatory lending industry. The second was in June and focused on juvenile justice reforms in California. The final event was in October and focused on the newly-legal cannabis industry in California, and efforts to expand ownership of this industry to populations adversely affected by the drug wars of prior years.
- Assisted Sac State in hosting a major international conference, convened by the California Public Utilities Commission, in March, about technological innovations to help prevent, identify and combat wildfires. A link to a recording of the conference can be found here: https://firetechsummit.cpuc.ca.gov/
- Hosted a Visiting Scholar event, “California as a Nation-State: Innovative or Inevitable?” with Professor Alison Holmes of CSU Humboldt on August 14, 2019; and
- Obtained a $500,000 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to help us take a fresh look at our existing policy research programs, and determine if there are new and different ways to serve the policy research needs of our stakeholders, state policy makers. The funds will also be available for the Center to support CSU policy research on the topic of income inequality, as well as to disseminate this research through public events like our Envisioning California Speaker Series.

**Capital Fellows Programs**
- We said “goodbye and good luck!” to Claire Bunch, our Outreach Coordinator, who had worked at the Center for 21 years, and who decided to embark on a new career adventure at a state agency; and
- We transitioned to a new Outreach Coordinator for the Capital Fellows Program, Nadia Navarro Brown, who previously worked as the Program Coordinator for the Senate Fellows Program; and
- Secured funding in the 2019-2020 budget for a 3.3% COLA to the Fellows’ stipend and an increase in the relocation grant from $250 to $875.

**Other Internship and Training Programs**
- In conjunction with USC, we secured a five-year renewal to our long-standing contract with the National Council of State Legislatures to conduct the Legislative Staff Management Institute, at week-long intensive leadership training program for legislative staffers from all over the country; and
- As we have done every year, we provided support to other experiential learning programs, including the Sacramento Semester Program, the Judicial Internship Program, the Chicano-Latino Youth Leadership Program’s Comcast Fellowship, the Education Policy Fellows Program, and the Panetta Congressional Internship Program; and
- For the 2019-2020 year, we suspended the Federal-State Relations Fellowship program, due to concerns about the quality of the fellowship experience.
Founded in 1982 and located at Sacramento State, the capital campus of the California State University (CSU), the Center possesses a unique trust: to bring the resources of the state’s largest university system to the service of public discourse, civic education, and state government.
I used to think government work was extremely rigid and straightforward, but now I’ve seen firsthand how complex state matters can be. There is no one right answer, and that is why it’s so important that Californians take the many opportunities to voice their opinions to impact legislation.
The Jesse Marvin Unruh
Assembly Fellowship Program

Created in 1957, the Assembly Fellowship Program is the oldest of the four Capital Fellows Programs and marked its 62nd anniversary in 2019. The program is a part of the Assembly’s earliest efforts to professionalize legislative staff and became a partnership between the California State Assembly, the Center and Sacramento State in the 1980s.

The goal of the Assembly Fellowship Program is to provide an opportunity for aspiring public servants to directly participate in the legislative process.

The program enjoyed another successful year with strong retention of the outgoing class of Fellows. Ten of the 18 2018-19 fellows stayed on with the Legislature with the remaining finding work in state government, legislative advocacy, political or nonprofit work.

In 2019, the program continued its focus on the selection of high caliber and diverse class of Fellows, comprehensive Orientation training, compatible office placements, and post-fellowship retention of Fellows within the Assembly. The program also continued to partner with Assembly leadership on all aspects of the program.

The 2019-20 class began their fellowship on October 16, 2019. The Fellows participated in an intensive six-week long orientation in preparation for their office placements. Orientation focused around the themes of process, politics, policy, people, and placement with trainings led by key legislative staff, many of whom are Assembly Fellowship alumni. Activities included legislative and budget process trainings, policy briefings, placement preparation, a mock committee hearing, site visit to a state prison and juvenile facility, and team building activities.

As part of their academic seminar with Professor Bruce Snyder, the Fellows conducted research and completed papers and presentations on 2019 legislation as well as California state agencies and departments. Fellows continued to be in high demand with approximately 45 Assembly offices requesting Fellows.

Visit us at: https://www.csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows.html
Twitter: @asmfellows
The California State Senate Thanks The 2018-19 Senate Fellows

2018-19 Senate Fellows
The California Senate Fellows Program

Created in 1973, the California Senate Fellows (CSF) is the second oldest of the four Capital Fellows Programs. The Secretary of the Senate, Erika Contreras, contributed to the 2018-19 CSF program as the principal Senate partner. The 10-month fellowship program provided professional development, mentorship, an intensive curriculum and briefings from subject matter experts who are dedicated to the mission of the Center—building legislative staff capacity and strengthening California’s democratic governance structure. Our Senate partners consider the fellows program an integral part of its staff succession plan.

Civic education is a key goal of the Center for California Studies—it is a testament to the fulfillment of that objective than the successful planning, selection, and preparation of Senate Fellows for legislative service.

The 2018-19 CSF program ended on September 20, 2019, and the class was successful in obtaining post-fellowship career employment. Twelve of the 18 Senate Fellows stayed on in staff positions within the Legislature. Three Fellows stayed in public service by taking the following positions: budget analysts with the Department of Finance, and a council aide for a local government representative. Two Fellows left the Legislature to pursue a career in the private sector as issue advocates. One Fellow left the Legislature to pursue a Ph.D. in Political Science.

The 2019-20 CSF selection panel played a crucial role identifying the most competitive applicants for the program’s 18 positions. The selection panel reviewed 401 applications and interviewed 74 candidates in Sacramento and Los Angeles in April and May of 2019. The CSF selection panel was comprised of two representatives of the Center and the University, two Republican Senate staff members, and four Democratic Senate staff members. The 2019-20 class of Senate Fellows arrived on October 16. After a six-week orientation, they began their assignments in Senate offices on December 2. The CSF Program placed Fellows within 16 member offices and two committee offices.

The 2018-19 California Senate Fellows completed their academic seminar in May of 2019, researching and writing a 30-page formal policy analysis paper. This capstone project represented an in-depth and scholarly analysis of a policy selected by Fellows, with an emphasis on future policy options, and detailing key policy issues they worked on while in their placements. They spent the remainder of their fellowship applying what they learned.

Visit us at: https://www.csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows.html
In 1997, the Center for California Studies collaborated with the Judicial Council of California to create a unique program in the third branch of state government. At a time in history when the state court faced unprecedented changes in governance and funding, the California State University system identified its niche in the unique public management arena of court policy and administration.

Graduate fellows in the Judicial Fellowship Program experience the innovations, challenges and complexities of the largest single court system in the world.

Serving as professional staff, Judicial Fellows assist in policy-making and innovative programs that impact the courts and the goals of providing justice through equal access and fairness across the state and in local communities.

A partnership with the Judicial Council of California, the Judicial Fellowship combines an interdisciplinary academic program with direct professional training. Mentors in local courts and in the Judicial Council of California provide Fellows with a comprehensive and unparalleled view of the daily operations and management of the state’s court system.

The only program to offer statewide placement opportunities, the Judicial Fellowship places 10 Fellows each year in Superior Courts and/or Judicial Council offices throughout California. Placement locations in 2019 included the counties of Alameda (19-20), Butte, Los Angeles, Placer, San Bernardino, San Francisco (18-19), San Mateo (19-20) and Orange, as well as the Judicial Council Office of Governmental Affairs, Judicial Council Center for Children Families and the Courts (18-19) and the Judicial Council Criminal Justice Services division (19-20). In 2019, the fellowship program introduced two new placements, the San Mateo County Superior Court and the Judicial Council Criminal Justice Services division.

In 2019, each Fellow in the class of 18-19 completed their year-long Capstone Project. Projects included researching and recommending pre-trial assessment tools for courts and creating a Superior Court Annual Report. A highlight for the class of 2018-19 was the opportunity to tour San Quentin State Prison and learn more about the programs within the prison walls. Four Fellows from the class of 2018-19 continued working for the Judicial branch and the Superior Courts post-fellowship.

The class of 2019-20 began their fellowship year in September of 2019 with orientation in Sacramento. Fellows attended a field seminar at the Alameda County Superior Court and participated in field seminars focused on professional development in Sacramento with the Senate and Executive Fellows.

Finally, 2019 saw continued success for the Judicial Fellowship on a variety of social media platforms. This year, the Judicial Blog surpassed 25,000 views. The Judicial Fellowship Program also maintains a presence on Twitter and Instagram.

Visit us at: https://www.csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows.html
Judicial Blog: https://cajudicial.wordpress.com/
Twitter: @cajudicial     Instagram: @cajudicial
2018-19 Judicial Fellows
The Executive Fellowship Program

The Executive Fellowship Program was created in 1985 through the joint efforts of then-Sacramento State President Don Gerth and then-Governor George Deukmejian. It was the third of the now four fellowship programs composing the Capital Fellows Programs. The Executive Fellowship Program started with 10 Fellows in October, 1986. The program expanded to 15 fellows in 1994 and to 18 in 1997.

The Executive Fellowship Program provides a natural introduction to a variety of future professional directions. Several members of the 2018-19 class moved into staff and executive positions in California government. Others sought opportunities in the nonprofit field and other public interest opportunities.

The 2018-2019 Fellows were accomplished college graduates from throughout California who demonstrated their commitment to public service in both community and university settings. The placements in 2019 included the Secretary of State, the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development, California Volunteers, the California Office of Emergency Services, and the Department of Health Care Services. New placement offices included the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Managed Health Care, the Division of Juvenile Justice, and the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

The class of 2019-20 Executive Fellows began their placements at the end of November and are already hard at work learning about state governance. This class has demonstrated strong interests in community development, equity, and transportation, and they have been placed in a variety of offices that include the High Speed Rail Department, the California Department of Justice / Office of the Attorney General, the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Research Bureau, and the Government Operations Agency. Our Fellows continue to learn first-hand from our state’s top administrative leaders how to tackle the challenges of transportation policy, sustainable resource management, innovation in public service, and public safety.

Visit us at: https://www.csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows.html

Fellows work full-time in high levels of the executive branch and meet weekly for graduate seminars. It is a wonderful opportunity for Fellows to gain insight and experience in state government.
2019 California Through My Eyes Photo Contest Winner
Founded in 1994, the LegiSchool Project is a civic education collaboration between Sacramento State and the California State Legislature. LegiSchool encourages high school students to be civically engaged in their district and beyond. Our diverse programming throughout the year gives students the opportunity to talk about important state issues and be engaged in current events. LegiSchool started 2019 with February’s Town Hall on California’s Collaborative Courts. High school students from the Sacramento area gathered at the State Capitol to discuss the implementation of the collaborative court system in California. Students had an opportunity to ask questions to Judge Larry Brown from the Sacramento Superior Court and explore how the collaborative court system are focused on reducing recidivism and rehabilitation services.

In October 2019, LegiSchool had the Gender Equality Town Hall in the State Capitol. Students from different high schools in California discussed gender representation in the workplace, in media and in leadership positions. Students asked questions about the gender pay gap, gender stereotypes in the media and how to increase the number of women in leadership positions. Students were able to hear from organizations like California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls and former journalist/reporter Sharon Ito.

The Juvenile Justice Town Hall was held in December 2019 at the State Capitol. Students discussed what currently happens to youth offenders and how the new changes in 2020 will change the structure of the juvenile justice system. Students spoke with the LAO, the Senate Public Safety Committee, the Sacramento Probation Department and Sacramento ACT.

The annual photo contest received brilliant pictures from students around California and showcased our state’s cultural diversity and various landscapes.

To find out more about these opportunities and all of LegiSchool’s civic education pursuits, please check out our website:

http://www.csus.edu/calst/legischool_project/

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Photo credit: Elisa Roberts, South Lake Tahoe High School
Outreach in 2019 included recruitment of the 2019-20 and 2020-21 classes of Capital Fellows. Methods for reaching applicants include alumni and staff visits to universities and organizations around the state, emailing and mailing outreach materials, online advertising and videos, and social media including blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram posts.

1200 applications were received in February 2019 for the 2019-20 class of Capital Fellows Programs. 28% of these applicants received their undergraduate degree from the CSU, 37% from the UC, 17% from private California universities, and 19% from out-of-state universities; 59% of applicants were female, 40% male and 1% other. Over the last 10 years, the number of applications for the Capital Fellows Programs has ranged from 1100 to 1,468 with an average over the 10-year period of 1,309 applications. Outreach in 2019 culminated in the selection of a diverse 2019-20 class of Fellows. Based on application surveys, this class consisted of 60% Persons of Color, more specifically, the class was 15% Asian/Pacific Islander, 3% Bi/Multi Racial, 11% Black/African American, 31% Latino/Hispanic, 31% Caucasian, and 9% Not Specified.

Applications were received from applicants with bachelor’s degrees from 57 different California universities and 100 out-of-state schools. Selected Fellows received degrees from 38 different campuses and represent 24 different majors. Surveys showed that they heard about the programs from several locations; most applicants listing more than one source of information. 34% of applicants heard about the programs from professors or academic staff; 16% from career centers or career fairs; 24% from former or current Fellows; 18% from the internet; and 8% from other means. Review of the 2020-21 applications will begin in February of 2020.
Capital Fellows Applications Received, Fellowship Years 2010-11 to 2019-20

Capital Fellows Applications Received by Program, Fellowship Year 2019-20

Capital Fellows Applicants Undergrad School Type, Fellowship Year 2019-20

Capital Fellows Applicants Ethnicity, Fellowship Year 2019-20

Capital Fellows Undergrad School Type, 2019-20 Class

Capital Fellows Ethnicity, 2019-20 Class

CSU 28%

Out of State 19%

California Private 17%

UC 37%

Asian/Pacific Islander 15%

Bi/Multi Racial 3%

Black/African American 11%

Caucasian 31%

No Response 9%

Latin/o Hispanic 31%

Native American 0%

Capital Fellows Applicants Undergrad School Type, Fellowship Year 2019-20

California Private 17%

Out of State 19%

UC 37%

CSU 28%

Capital Fellows Ethnicity, 2019-20 Class

No Response 5%

Asian/Pacific Islander 11%

Bi/Multi Racial 3%

Black/African American 13%

Caucasian 33%
ENVISIONING CALIFORNIA SPEAKER SERIES

For the past 29 years, the Center’s annual Envisioning California Conference has been a staple of the Center’s public programs. Topics have covered a broad swath of the policy landscape, from the energy crisis of the early 2000’s to the housing crisis of today. In 2019, after much deliberation about ways to increase the impact of the Center’s public programs, we decided to expand the impact of this event, by changing the event from a single day to three days spread throughout the year. The commensurate change in name, the Envisioning California Speaker Series, reflects our goal of having three to four smaller events, all on a different topic and spread throughout the year, in lieu of a one-all-day event focused on a single topic. Accordingly, this year’s Envisioning California Speaker Series included three successful events:

• “An Evening with Richard Cordray” -- Mr. Cordray, the first director of the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, led a panel of experts in a discussion of the predatory lending industry and its effects on consumers (March 27, 2019).

• “Looking to the Future: Pathways for Juvenile Justice in California” -- Placer County Superior Court Judge Colleen Nichols presented on current trends in California juvenile justice, followed by a panel discussion. (June 21, 2019)

• “Cannabis Equity in California” A panel of local and state experts discussed cannabis equity programs, which are designed to use cannabis industries to help the populations adversely affected by decades of punitive drug enforcement policies. (October 3, 2019)

Thanks to the foresight and careful planning of the Center’s previous leaders, we have recordings of all previous Envisioning California annual conferences, a tradition which we continued with the new Envisioning California Speaker Series events in 2019. Despite the continuation of this tradition, in 2019 we introduced technological innovations such as the livestreaming of our events. Livestreaming allows policy makers, advocates, researchers and other interested members of the public to view an event in real-time, if they are unable to attend the event in person.

We hope to continue this practice for our Envisioning California Speaker Series of 2020, as we look forward to more innovations and the evolution of this and other public programs produced by the Center.

All recordings can be found on the following link, available on our website under "Media Library": https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb3TRd_93350fQOhGtmhcfQ)
**2019 Notable Capital Fellow Alumni**

**Dr. Melissa Lee, 2008-09 Judicial Fellow** • Melissa Lee is Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics and Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. After graduating from UC San Diego with a B.A. in Political Science, Melissa was a Judicial Fellow in the Orange County Superior Court. There, she split her time between the Planning and Research Division and the Juvenile Justice Division. After completing the fellowship, Melissa went on to Stanford University to pursue her Ph.D. in Political Science. Her current appointment as faculty in the Department of Politics and Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs allows her to combine her passion for research with her dedication to the public interest and public service. “My fellowship year allowed me to witness government service ‘on the ground,’ and in that sense it differed considerably from my previous public service experience in the federal bureaucracy. The courts are one of the first and most important encounters an individual has with government, and my fellowship showed me the vital role that court administration and programming plays in shaping a citizen’s experience with the justice system. Although I could not have anticipated it at the time, that experience influenced my academic interest in studying the capability and effectiveness of government institutions as well as their interactions with society.”

**Seyron Foo, 2009-10 Senate Fellow** • Seyron Foo serves as Vice President of Public Policy and Government Relations at Southern California Grantmakers and Philanthropy California, where he develops, organizes, and implements efforts to connect philanthropy and policymakers to catalyze and shape public policy for an equitable and vibrant region and state. In this capacity, he is keenly attuned to the critical issues emerging in society and how it affects philanthropy’s ability as sector to affect the common good. Additionally, he is responsible for educating and informing government officials about philanthropic efforts, and identifies opportunities to convene grantmakers and government to tackle the state’s most pressing social issues. Seyron also serves as a gubernatorial appointee on the California Board of Psychology as Board President. He earned his Master in Public Affairs from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School and his B.A. in Rhetoric and Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley. “The California Senate Fellows programs offers the incredible prospect to be at the heart of public policymaking, a rare opportunity to learn and do. I had the unparalleled opportunity to learn from the very best of the Capitol and my peers, and the lifelong relationships built have been invaluable in my career and personal life.”

**Dahir Nasser, 2014-15 Executive Fellow** • Dahir Nasser is an Assistant Deputy Director of the Community and Local Equity Grants Unit with the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz). A former Executive Fellow (2014-15) who served his fellowship year at Go-Biz, Dahir has been involved in public health programming and policy in a variety of roles throughout his career, including the Office of Health Equity at the California Department of Public Health. “The Executive Fellowship Program was exactly what I hoped it would be – a gateway to a career in public service leadership,” says Dahir. “Through my placement, mentor, professors, and relationships with state government leaders I gained knowledge and experience that elevated my understanding of what government was, is, and could be.” Dahir also shared that “As an Executive Fellow, I received the opportunity to serve all Californians, and my community specifically, by contributing my point of view and authentic experience as a team member of the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development.” He adds “Every day I learned and grew personally and professionally.”

**Irene Ho, 2008-09 Assembly Fellow** • Irene Ho serves as Chief of Staff to Assemblymember Philip Y. Ting, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Budget. Irene was previously Senior Consultant to the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation, where she analyzed legislation, provided policy advice, and organized informational and oversight hearings. She also previously served as Legislative Director for Assemblymember Ting and Legislative Aide for Assemblymember Julia Brownley, who was elected to Congress in 2012. Irene earned her master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration from California State University, Sacramento and received her undergraduate degree in mass communications and political science from the University of California, Berkeley. “I wouldn’t be where I am today without the Assembly Fellowship. The Fellowship program allowed me to gain the policy experience and professional network needed to pursue a meaningful career in public service. I’m also proud to have served on the selection panel and worked with many fellows over the years, as I continue to be inspired by their passion for making California a better place and am forever grateful to count myself as part of the family.”
**Center Projects**

**Hodson Endowment**
The Timothy A. Hodson Capital Fellows Assistance Fund has enjoyed another successful year supporting Capital Fellows with its needs-based awards. This past summer, awards totaling $10,000 were granted to 17 incoming 2019-20 Capital Fellows – providing the critical financial bridge needed to start the fellowship, covering costs ranging from housing deposits to professional wardrobe. Center friends, the Hodson family, and sponsors continued to help sustain the Fund with their generous support. Returning sponsor Southern California Edison and other supporters allowed us to increase the number and size of awards given in addition to growing the Endowment towards future scholarships.

Since the establishment of the Hodson Fund four years ago, we have aided 116 fellows from seven consecutive cohorts, including 25 recipients from the 2018-19 Capital Fellows class that recently successfully completed their programs. These inspiring future leaders represent the California promise and dreams that Tim Hodson often wrote and spoke about, and would be so proud to see today.

**Visiting Scholar**
The Center for California Studies hosts a Visiting Scholar Program (VSP). This program provides a selected scholar or researcher administrative and organizational support to further their research as it relates to topics that are relevant to the mission of the Center. The scholar investigates an issue pertinent to California democracy, politics, and governance. During their time as the “scholar in residence,” the Visiting Scholar is expected to produce a document and/or presentation to be shared with the greater research and policy making communities.

Our 2019 Center for California Studies Visiting Scholar was Alison Holmes, Ph.D., Associate Professor of International Studies at Humboldt State University. Her presentation focused on her research about the change in the international roles California plays on a global scale. Titled “California as a Nation State: Innovation or Inevitable?”, Dr. Holmes presentation touched upon “how our state reconciles the demands of globalization while balancing its role with the increasingly international activities of cities, counties and tribes is crucial to the economic, political, and cultural future of the state in the 21st Century.” This robust presentation was served by a discussion panel consisting of: Jamie Callahan, Deputy Cabinet Secretary for Governor Gavin Newsom; Anka Lee, Global Affairs Advisor to California Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon; and Douglas Smurr, Of Counsel at Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP. This was one of our most successful Visiting Scholar presentations, and it was live-cast and recorded on YouTube.

**Legislative Staff Management Institute**
In August, the Center convened the annual Legislative Staff Management Institute (LSMI), in partnership with the University of Southern California’s Sol Price School. For the past 15 years, the Center and the Price School together have put on this eight-day annual program for state legislative staff from around the country. Participants are mid-career legislative staff who have taken on, or plan to take on, management and leadership roles in their legislative offices. The program is sponsored by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

Since 2005 over 500 legislative staff from 27 states, Washington DC, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands have participated in the Sacramento program. The 2019 cohort had 45 participants representing 22 states. Activities included facilitated discussions and activities led by nationally-recognized leaders in organizational management, team-building activities such as rafting on the American River, and small group discussions and projects. Participants even enjoyed VIP treatment in the state Capitol’s Senate and Assembly chambers. The next Institute is August 28 - September 4.
In offering its various programs, the Center has greatly benefited from productive collaborations with many partners outside California State University, Sacramento. Thank you to all our partners, including but not limited to, the following:

- Office of the Governor
- California State Assembly
- California State Senate
- Judicial Council of California
- Center for Southern California Studies
- California State Archives
- California Secretary of State
- Capital Public Radio
- California Center for Civic Participation
- California Cultural and Historical Endowment
- Institute for Governmental Studies, UC Berkeley
- Institute for Local Government
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- Pat Brown Institute, California State University, Los Angeles
- UC Berkeley Public Policy Press
- University of Southern California, Sol Price School of Public Policy
- University of California Center, Sacramento