



CENTER *for*  
CALIFORNIA STUDIES  
2018 ANNUAL REPORT



SACRAMENTO  
STATE



**CENTER FOR CALIFORNIA STUDIES**  
**2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

{ *Front cover: 2017–18 Capital Fellows* }



*Leonor Ehling, Executive Director, Center for California Studies*

## *Message from the* **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

As I finish my ninth month here in this new role as executive director, I reflect on the important changes that 2018 brought to the Center and California's state government. First and foremost, here at the Center we hired a new director of the Senate Fellows Program: Jamie Taylor, a veteran Senate staffer who brings with him essential legislative experience, strong relationships with Senate staff and a passion for nurturing the state's next generation of leaders. Jamie joins a distinguished group of staff here at the Center, who collectively hold a generation's worth of experience managing the Center's programs. Jamie will bring new energy and vision to the Senate Fellows Program, as well as a renewed focus on compliance with federal Title IX law and safety for all our fellows.

Second, California voters elected a new Governor and new state legislators, renewing California's status as a Democratic 'trifecta' state, one of only 14 states with Democrats controlling both houses of the legislature and the Governor's seat. Nevertheless, last November's election of a new Democratic governor marks the first time since the late 1800's that the state has elected a Democratic governor to immediately succeed another. As we have in previous years, the Center will continue to work with all three branches of government in supporting their efforts to craft programs and policies to address the state's challenges.

Third, in concert with Sac State's mission as a regional university, the Center worked with regional partners in co-sponsoring several events focused on issues affecting Sacramento and the surrounding region. Of note, in October the Center co-sponsored a leadership training for young people with the local chapter of Voto Latino, a non-partisan non-profit dedicated to building a stronger and more inclusive democracy. This event brought dozens of young people from the Sacramento region and the Central Valley to the Sacramento State Downtown center for a day of activities. In September we co-sponsored the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's annual "State of Hispanics" event, which brought together members of Sacramento's community to hear about issues affecting Sacramento's Latino community and beyond.

The Center was also proud to be part of Sac State's historic opening of a new downtown location, where the Center now has an auxiliary office. During the first week of September, the Center was proud to host the very first public event held at the new Sacramento State Downtown center: a presentation of research funded by the Center's Faculty Research Fellows Program, on the effectiveness of Sacramento County's Mental Health Court. This event brought together state leaders, local judicial branch leaders and state and local advocacy groups to learn about the effect that mental health courts can have on recidivism.

As 2019 begins to unfold, we hope to continue the Center's role as a contributor to the policy dialogue at the state level, as a contributor to the vibrancy and resiliency of our democratic system, and as a contributor to this state's next generation of leaders.

## CENTER FOR CALIFORNIA STUDIES

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## CENTER FOR CALIFORNIA STUDIES MISSION STATEMENT

### { Bridging academia and government in the state

The Center for California Studies is based at Sacramento State – the “Capitol of the State.” This strategic location in the state capital strategically positions the Center to be the University’s link to the state and its many outside partnerships involved with public service in California. This, paired with the Center’s location at the heart of the county’s largest public university system, makes us uniquely positioned to

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

- ▶ To assist California’s public officials and policymakers in addressing the state’s most pressing public policy issues.
- ▶ To foster in California’s future leaders a dedication to public service and a commitment to the knowledge and skills necessary for an effective and ethical public career.
- ▶ To promote civic literacy among Californians, inspiring greater understanding of the state’s history, culture, and public policy.

# CALIFORNIA STUDIES STATEMENT

service of strengthening California's democracy. }

Capital Campus" of the California State University. Being located in California's three branches of California's government, other universities, think tanks, and with our extensive research, academic programming, and position as part uniquely equipped to fulfill our mission and accomplish our goals.

e's challenges through policy research and productive dialogue.

commitment to the values of representative democracy, equipping them with the

ng of our state, government, people and history.

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## CENTER FOR CALIFORNIA STUDIES

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Significant Center activities in 2018 included:

#### Capital Fellows Programs

- Hired a new Director of the Senate Fellows Program, Jamie Taylor; and
- Awarded to a record 24 incoming Capital Fellows grants from the Timothy A. Hodson Capital Fellows Assistance Fund. We also continued to increase the endowment that supports the fund, collecting generous donations from individuals and organizations.

#### Other Internship and Training Programs

- In conjunction with the Education Insights Center, secured funding in the state budget to support ongoing funding for the new Education Policy Fellows Program, and subsequently graduated the second class of EPFP fellows; and
- Promoted the Panetta Congressional Internship Program on campus and assisted President Nelsen in selecting a Sacramento State student for the program; and
- Provided support to other experiential learning programs, including the Sacramento Semester Program, the Judicial Internship Program, Federal-State Relations Fellowship program, and the Chicano-Latino Youth Leadership Program's Comcast Fellowship; and
- Administered, in partnership with USC's Sol Price School, the Legislative Staff Management Institute for 00 legislative staff representing 00 different states.

#### Serving as a Bridge Between Academia and Policy-Makers; Research and Events

- Organized and hosted the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Envisioning California Conference in Sacramento focused on arts and its application to education, public safety and human services; and
- Organized and hosted the first public event to be held at the new Sacramento State Downtown center: a presentation of research funded by the Faculty Research Fellows Program regarding the effectiveness of Sacramento County Superior Court mental health courts. Over 60 participants attended the event; and
- Co-hosted the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's annual "State of Hispanics" event, that focused on issues affecting Sacramento's Latino community; and
- Co-hosted, with Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon two Speaker's Lecture Series events, one in the spring at UCLA and the other in December at CSU Fullerton.

#### Civic Education

- Co-hosted a one-day leadership training program for a local chapter of Voto Latino, a non-partisan, non-profit focused on increased civic engagement among Latino youth; and
- Organized the first-ever LegiSchool summer institute for Sacramento-area high school students at the State Capitol.



*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.*



2017-18 ASSEMBLY FELLOWS

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 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary in 2018. 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.**

Assembly Fellows are college graduates of all ages representing the rich cultural and socio-economic diversity of California. The 11-month program provides an introduction to public policy formation and adoption through full-time work as professional staff in the Assembly.

The program enjoyed another successful year with strong retention of the outgoing class of fellows. Ten of the eighteen 2017-18 fellows stayed on with the Assembly while four others are engaged in government or advocacy/policy related work. Two fellows are pursuing graduate programs in law and public policy with the remaining two fellows in transition.

In 2018, 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 2018-19 class began their fellowship on October 22, 2018. The fellows participated in an intensive six-week long orientation in preparation for their office placements. Orientation focused around the themes of policy, process, politics, 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, and site visits. As part of their academic seminar with Professor Bruce Snyder, the fellows conducted research and completed papers and presentations on 2018 legislation as well as California state agencies and departments. Fellows continued to be in high demand with approximately 50 Assembly offices requesting fellows.

Visit us at: [csus.edu/calst/assembly](http://csus.edu/calst/assembly)





**2017-18 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 former Secretary of the Senate, Daniel Alvarez, contributed to the 2017-18 CSF program as the principal Senate partner. The 11-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 to strengthen 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.**

Eleven of the eighteen Senate Fellows stayed on in staff positions within the Legislature. Three fellows stayed in public service by taking positions as budget analysts with the Department of Finance, and working in local government. Three fellows left for graduate or law school. And after completing the 2017-18 CSF program, one fellow finished off the year working on a Congressional race.

The 2018-19 CSF selection panel played a crucial role identifying the most competitive applicants for the program’s 18 positions. The selection panel reviewed 460 applications and interviewed 62 candidates for the program. The CSF selection panel was comprised of two representatives of the Center and the University, three Republican Senate staff members, and four Democratic Senate staff members. The 2018-19 class of Senate Fellows arrived in October. After a six-week orientation, they began their assignments in Senate offices on December 3rd. The CSF Program placed a fellow with the Committee on Public Safety and the rest were placed on Senators’ personal staff.

Visit us at: [csus.edu/calst/senate](http://csus.edu/calst/senate)

The 2017-18 California Senate Fellows completed their academic seminar in May of 2018, researching and writing a 50-page capstone paper detailing key policy issues they worked on while in their placements. They spent the remainder of their fellowship applying what they learned. The 2017-18 CSF program ended in September 2018, and the class was successful in obtaining post-fellowship career employment.





# THE JUDICIAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

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. The ongoing challenge of court administration is to manage the policy and operations of the courts, to preserve judicial independence, and ensure the efficient and fair administration of the law.

**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 2018 included the counties of Alameda (17-18), Butte, Los Angeles, Merced (17-18), Placer, San Bernardino, San Francisco, and Orange, as well as the Judicial Council Office of Governmental Affairs. In 2018, the fellowship program introduced two new placements, the Sutter County Superior Court and the Judicial Council Center for Families, Children, and the Courts.

In 2018, fellows had the opportunity to observe and learn about many different aspects of court administration, the judicial branch, and the justice system in general. A highlight for the class of 2017-18 was the field seminar to the Los Angeles Superior Court and the opportunity to observe a Teen Court session at a local high school.

Fellows from the class of 2017-18 completed the fellowship year and went on to a variety of different post-fellowship opportunities including continued work in public service (within the courts and Executive branch), non-profit work and one went on to continue her education at Stanford Law School.

Finally, 2018 saw continued success for the Judicial Fellowship on a variety of social media platforms. This year, the Judicial Blog surpassed 20,000 views from over 6,000 unique users.

Visit us at: [csus.edu/calst/judicial](http://csus.edu/calst/judicial)  
Judicial Blog: <https://thorallblog.wordpress.com/>



**2017-18 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 ten Fellows in October, 1986. The program expanded to fifteen fellows in 1994 and to eighteen in 1997.

The Executive Fellowship Program provides a natural introduction to a variety of future professional directions. Several members of the 2017-18 class moved into staff and executive positions in California government. Others sought opportunities in the non-profit field and other public interest opportunities.

The 2017-2018 fellows were accomplished college graduates from throughout California who demonstrated their commitment to public service in both community and university settings. The placements in 2018 included the Department of Finance, the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Air Resources Board, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.

New placement offices included the Secretary of State, the Governor's Office Climate Advisor, CalSTRS, and the California Student Aid Commission.

The class of 2018-19 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 environmental policy and community development, and they have been placed in a variety of offices that include the Strategic Growth Council, the Department of Managed Health Care, the California Office of Emergency Services, the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, and the Division of Juvenile Justice. Our fellows continue to learn first-hand from our state's top administrative leaders how to tackle the challenges of environmental policy, public health, juvenile justice, community growth, and public pension sustainability.

**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.**



**2017-18 EXECUTIVE FELLOWS**



2018 CALIFORNIA  
THROUGH MY EYES  
PHOTO CONTEST WINNER



# THE LEGISCHOOL PROJECT

Real Issues, Real Debate, Real Curriculum

Founded in 1994, the nationally recognized Legischool Project is a civic education collaboration between Sacramento State and the California State Legislature. The mission of Legischool is to engage young people in matters of public policy and state government by creating opportunities for students and leaders to meet and share ideas on the problems affecting Californians. In doing so, we hope to motivate young people to take an interest in the public life around them and to encourage their active participation in our political process.

Legischool kicked off 2018 with a Town Hall Meeting in February on the topic of Social Media. Students from across the state gathered in Sacramento along with policymakers in the State Assembly and discussed the pro's and con's of social media and the importance of security within these platforms. Students asked thought provoking questions and learned how state and federal policies impact internet users on a daily basis.

In March 2018, the ten winners of Legischool's 2017 essay contest gathered together at the Capitol to meet with state policy makers once again. The topic of the essay contest winners had written on had asked students to look at their high school's food options and discuss how they would change their menu. Students brainstormed different ways that schools could implement healthier food, spoke to policies that they thought were ineffective and proposed real-world solutions.

In fall of 2018, the essay contest asked students to write a letter to the future Governor of California. Within the letter students were asked to list the policies they believed should be the Governor's top priorities upon taking office. Winners of essay contest will gather in Sacramento in March 2019 and present their ideas to policy makers in the Capitol.

In May 2018, Legischool received over 520 photos in Legischool's "California Through My Eyes" photo contest. In this visual media contest, students are able to exercise their creativity and think about what California means to them. The prize-winning photos, as well as other notable mentions, are hung inside of the Capitol as a way to showcase student talent from all over the state.

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/](http://www.csus.edu/calst/legischool_project/)

*Photo credit: Elisa Roberts, South Lake Tahoe High School*





# CAPITAL FELLOWS 2018 OUTREACH

Outreach in 2018 included recruitment of the 2018-19 and 2019-20 classes of Capital Fellows. Methods for reaching applicants include alumni and staff visits to universities and organizations around the state, emailing and mailing of outreach materials, online advertising and videos, and social media including blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram posts.

1176 applications were received in February 2018 for the 2018-19 class of Capital Fellows Programs. 26% of these applicants received their undergraduate degree from the CSU, 39% from the UC, 18% from private California universities, and 17% from out-of-state universities; 60% of applicants were female and 40% male. Over the last ten years, the number of applications for the Capital Fellows Programs has ranged from 1100 to 1468 with an average over the ten year period of 1309 applications. Outreach in 2018 culminated in the selection of a diverse 2018-19 class of fellows. Based on application surveys, this class consisted of 65% Persons of Color, more specifically, the class was 13% Asian/Pacific Islander, 6% Bi/Multi Racial, 17% Black/African American,

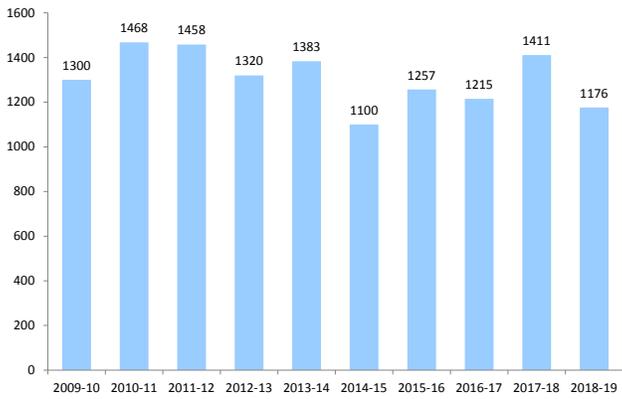
27% Latino/Hispanic, 30% Caucasian, and 6% Not Specified.

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 39 different campuses and represent 27 different majors. Surveys showed that they heard about the programs from several locations; most applicants listing more than one source of information. 28% of applicants heard about the programs from professors or academic staff; 14% from career centers or career fairs; 27% from former or current Fellows; 11% from the internet; and 18% from other means. Review of the 2019-20 applications will begin in February of 2019.

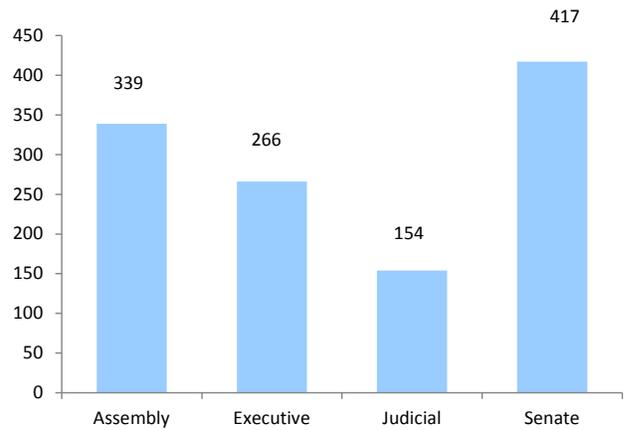
Post-Fellowship Decisions, 2017–18 Capital Fellows

| Program      | Stayed With Placement or With Same Branch | Other State, Federal or Local Government Service | Graduate or Law School | Private Sector (includes legislative advocacy related work) | Non-Profit Sector | Other          |
|--------------|---|--|------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|
| Assembly     | 10 (56%)                                  | 1 (6%)   | 2 (11%)                | 3 (17%)   | 0 (0%)            | 2 (11%)        |
| Executive    | 12 (67%)                                  | 2 (11%)  | 1 (6%)                 | 1 (6%)  | 2 (11%)           | 0 (0%)         |
| Judicial     | 3 (33%)                                   | 1 (11%)  | 1 (11%)                | 0 (0%)  | 1 (11%)           | 3 (33%)        |
| Senate       | 10 (56%)                                  | 3 (17%)  | 3 (17%)                | 1 (6%)  | 0 (0%)            | 1 (6%)         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>35 (56%)</b>                           | <b>7 (11%)</b>                                   | <b>7 (11%)</b>         | <b>5 (8%)</b>   | <b>3 (5%)</b>     | <b>6 (10%)</b> |

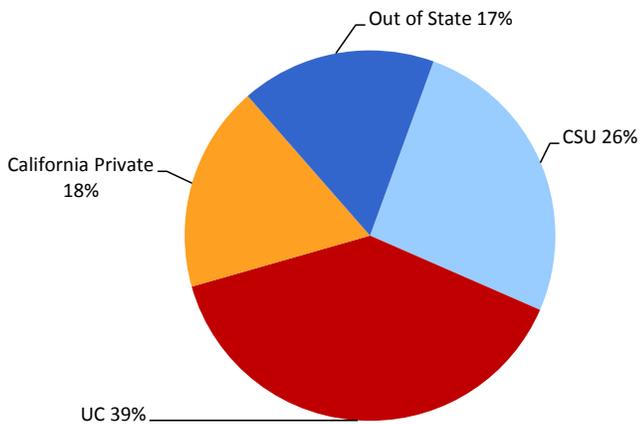
**Capital Fellows Applications Received ,  
Fellowship Years 2009-10 to 2018-19**



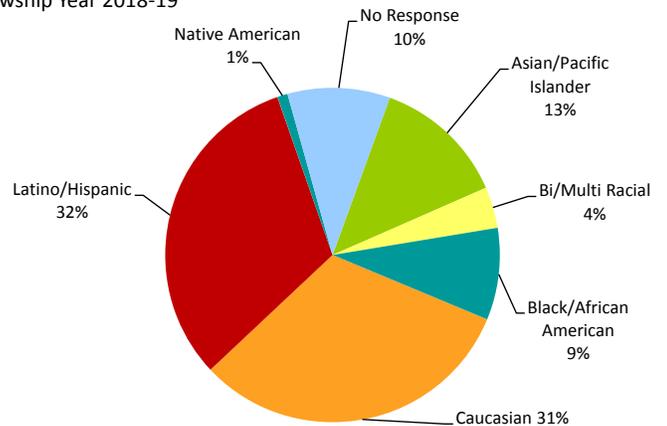
**Capital Fellows Applications Received by Program,  
Fellowship Year 2018-19**



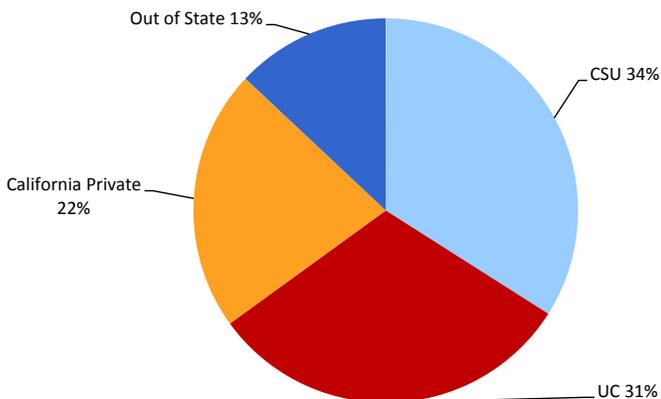
**Capital Fellows Applicants Undergrad School Type,  
Fellowship Year 2018-19**



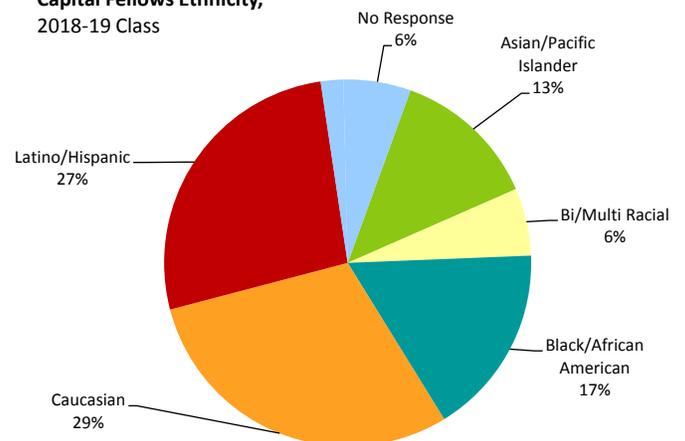
**Capital Fellows Applicants Ethnicity,  
Fellowship Year 2018-19**



**Capital Fellows Undergrad School Type,  
2018-19 Class**



**Capital Fellows Ethnicity,  
2018-19 Class**



# ENVISIONING CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

This year's Envisioning California Conference, *Arts and the Public Good*, was the 29th for the Center and the sixth year in a row to be held at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria. Held on October 4, 2018, the conference focused on the issue of art and California's social policies and creative economy.

The format of the conference was changed slightly to include four panels instead of five. Two sets of concurrent panels were held in the morning and then lunch included a keynote panel and buffet. The conference panel titles included:

- Art in California's K-12 Schools;
- Creative Arts Programs in the California Justice System;
- Our Collective Well-Being: Arts and Social Policy in California; and
- Harnessing Inspiration: Higher Education and the Creative Economy.

Featured throughout the day were distinguished panelists who work closely with this topic. The lunch segment included a keynote panel address by moderator, Dennis Mangers, Strategic Advisor for Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy to Mayor Darrell Steinberg; and panelists, Roberto Pomo, Professor from Sacramento State's Departments of Theatre & Dance and Film; Kristin Sakoda, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Arts Commission; and L. Steven Winlock, Executive Director, Sacramento County Office of Education, Leadership Institute.

Continental breakfast and lunch were provided by Hannibal's Catering. Informational tables included Sacramento State's College of Arts & Letters, Donald & Beverly Gerth Special Collections & University Archives, and the Renaissance Society; the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Rehabilitative Programs; the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission; Crocker Art Museum; California Arts Council; and the Sojourner Truth Multicultural Art Museum. Comments from attendees were very positive and the Center was pleased that the 2018 Envisioning California Conference was a great success.



Top photo: Conference attendees 2018 Bottom photo: Keynote panelists and Phil Garcia

# 2018 NOTABLE CAPITAL FELLOW ALUMNI

**Dr. Daisy Gonzales, 2009-10 Assembly Fellow** • Daisy is the 2nd woman to serve as Deputy Chancellor of the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) and the first person of color. As Deputy Chancellor, she manages the agency responsible for the largest public higher education system in the nation composed of 115 colleges and 73 districts. Her primary duties include directing progress towards the Vision for Success—the systems strategic plan to close educational equity gaps over the next five and ten years and managing a state agency with 172 employees. She began her career in the classroom as a dual-immersion 3rd grade teacher. Prior to joining the Chancellor's Office, she served as the Associate Director of PACE at Stanford University, Principal Consultant at the Assembly Appropriations Committee and Assembly Budget Committee Consultant. She holds a PhD and M.A. in Sociology from the University of California Santa Barbara and a B.A. in Public Policy from Mills College. She lives in Sacramento with her life-partner Enrique Ruacho, a 2009-10 Assembly Fellow. "The Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship provided me with access to a network of transformational leaders and lifelong friends. The mentorship and training I received from the Assembly Budget Office has been instrumental to my career advancement. The fellowship also engrained in me a commitment to public service and a mission to prop the door open for the next generation of leaders that will lead our state."

**Darcel Sanders, 2012-13 Senate Fellow** • Darcel grew up in California's Central Valley and attended Dominican University of California. After graduation, Darcel joined Teach for America and taught for three years at Frick Middle School in Oakland, California where she was the AVID site coordinator. After which she served as a Senate Fellow and worked for four years in the state legislature. Darcel is currently the Chief of Staff at Teach For America-California Capital Valley, Senior Managing Director, California Government Affairs and has been serving as the Interim Executive Director of Teach For America-California Capital Valley since October 2018. "As a career changer, I began the Senate Fellowship hoping to have an impact on a very specific and popular area of policy—public education. Being a fellow gave me a front seat view of the interconnections of seemingly unrelated policy areas. Given the opportunity to work on many issues I was able to sharpen the tools in my legislative tool kit and build a network of mentors and colleagues. I am so grateful to have worked for a member that encouraged me to channel my passion for equity and inclusiveness into all of the work that we did and that empowerment set the stage for the work I get to do on behalf of students, families, and teachers today."

**Terra Thorne, 2009-10 Judicial Fellow** • Terra is currently the director of the California Education Policy Fellowship Program, a 10-month professional development initiative that brings together 20 leaders to explore critical issues in education policy. The program is jointly administered by the Education Insights Center (EdInsights) and the Center for California Studies. She also leads professional learning opportunities for the CSU Student Success Network, an independent community of practice facilitated by EdInsights. She credits her time as a Judicial Fellow as the inspiration for the capacity building work she does now. "The Fellowship was a gateway into public service and it opened doors for me that I never dreamed possible. As a fellow placed in the Butte County Superior Court, I had the distinct privilege of working with influential leaders both at the local and state level, and the ability to explore the ins and outs of our justice system. I learned so much from my mentors, my colleagues at the court, and my peers in the program – the relationships I formed during that time continue to shape me today. At the conclusion of the fellowship, I knew I wanted to pursue a path in life that would allow me to pay that experience forward."

**Heather Williams, 2008-09 Executive Fellow** • During the fellowship Heather served in the State Treasurer's Office during the administration of Bill Lockyer. She is currently the new Program Director for Policy and Outreach at the California Afterschool Network (CAN). A graduate of California State University, Fullerton, Heather attributes her time as a fellow to her career in policy. "Education is a very large and complex policy area, and the fellowship helped me to start to understand a lot of the moving pieces and those engaged with it. The fellowship program is widely known and respected in Sacramento. Anytime I have interviewed somewhere and mentioned the fellowship and my former mentor it was likely there was some connection. That network has really helped me move forward in my career. My fellowship experience helped ground me in the policy basics that would be applicable whether I was working on finance, environmental, or education policy. That experience allowed me to be more open in the future and willing to take risks and explore new policy areas. Now I'm focusing on a policy area I originally had no background in, but I absolutely love it!"

# 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 \$11,250 were granted to 25 incoming 2018-19 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 99 fellows from seven consecutive cohorts, including 12 recipients from the 2017-18 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 2017-2018 Visiting Scholar was Dr. Brian Adams of San Diego State University. Dr. Adams shared his research with the Sacramento State community and the greater Capital community during the summer of 2018. His research focuses on the effects of ballot designations (candidate occupations) on electoral outcomes in California. The research presentations were well attended and audience members asked thought provoking questions, driving the conversation and elevating the thinking on this important topic.

## 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 14 years, the Center and the Price School together have put on this 8-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).

To date, 507 participants representing 47 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 US possessions and 2 international countries have participated in the Sacramento program. The 2018 cohort had 46 participants representing 21 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. Our current contract with NCSL expires in 2019 and recently we were awarded another contract to continue running LSMI for the next five years. The next Institute is July 20 - 27, 2019.

CENTER FOR CALIFORNIA STUDIES

# *Distinguished Partners*

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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



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