



## College of SSIS Newsletter

Fall 2015

Volume II  
Issue 1

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The College of  
Social Sciences &  
Interdisciplinary  
Studies

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*Designed by: Heather Mummaw*

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the College of SSIS,

I hope you all have had a wonderful Summer. As I write this, Summer at Sac State is coming to an end and in just a few weeks we will welcome back our students and faculty for the 2015-16 academic year. In addition to Graduation and our other special days on campus, I just love the start of the new school year. It's always great to see our students back on campus, recharged for their studies, as well as our talented and student-centered faculty and staff, who are the engine of what we do in the College.

This issue is the first of our regularly scheduled issues; We plan to publish two Newsletters a year, one at the start of Fall Semester and one at the start of Spring Semester. We are devoting the lion share of our space in this issue to featuring our 7 new faculty members, our new permanent Associate Dean, Dianne Hyson, our new Director of the Liberal Studies and Social Science programs, Tim Fong, and two special guests of the College this next year – former member of the California State Assembly and now College of SSIS Practitioner in Residence Roger Dickinson, and Joshua Dyck, Scholar in Residence in the Center for California Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science at University of Massachusetts-Lowell. Please join me in welcoming these new colleagues to the College and congratulations to Dianne, Tim, Roger, and Joshua!

Since my last communication, our 2015-20 strategic plan was completed and is now awaiting final approval by President Robert Nelsen, our Downtown School of Public Affairs project continues to gain momentum, and we are planning exciting conferences on climate change, Economics, Psychology, and other areas this next year. Once our strategic plan receives final approval, we will post it on our website and I expect to have significant news to report about our downtown school project in the January Newsletter.

In addition to welcoming our new faculty, I'd like to take the opportunity to congratulate two distinguished members of the College on their retirements -- Jud Landis, Professor of Sociology and a member of the College's family for over half a century, and Susan Sherry, Executive Director of the



Örn Bodvarsson, Dean

*Continued on last page*

## New Permanent Associate Dean for SSIS

Dianne Hyson PhD, MS, RD was appointed as the Associate Dean for SSIS after working in the position in an interim capacity since 2012. She joined Sacramento State in 2002 after completing her PhD in Nutrition Science at UC Davis and a post-doctoral fellowship in the UC Davis Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Hyson completed a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition (Honors) at Acadia University, Canada, a post-baccalaureate dietetic internship at the Winnipeg Health Sciences Center in Manitoba, and a Master of Science in Experimental Medicine at the University of Alberta. She worked as a registered dietitian in a variety of settings for over 20 years and led the team that implemented the nutrition intervention and education component of the longstanding Cardiac Rehabilitation and Coronary Heart Disease Reversal Program at the UC Davis Medical Center. Dianne has been the director of the accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics since joining Sacramento State and was the chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences from 2007-2012. Her research has ranged

from studying the effects of dietary components on post-prandial lipemia and risk factors for heart disease and other chronic conditions to developing, implementing, and assessing lifestyle intervention programs for primary and secondary prevention in the United States and South Asia. She has published several articles related to health-associated benefits of plant-based foods and has been a consultant for commodity groups in California and nationwide. She is excited to continue to serve the College as Associate Dean.



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## New Director of Liberal Studies and Social Science

Timothy P. Fong, Professor of Ethnic Studies, has recently been appointed director of the Liberal Studies and Social Science Program (LSSSP), where he will oversee all preparation of multiple-subject pre-service K-6 teachers, as well as single-subject pre-service 7-12 grade teachers in History-Social Sciences. Dr. Fong received his doctorate in Ethnic Studies from the University of California at Berkeley in 1992.



education equity and student engagement, and qualitative methodology (ethnography and oral history). Dr. Fong has written and edited several books and has presented at numerous professional conferences across the nation and internationally. He is also the Project Director and Principal Investigator for the Full Circle Project (FCP), funded by the U.S. Department of Education. FCP is a comprehensive approach to implement a strategically focused, campus-wide effort to improve retention and graduation rates of underrepresented Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students. FCP aims to assist AAPI students throughout his or her entire college careers, and provide ample opportunities to engage in service both on and off campus to enhance their university experience. The Full Circle Project was also profiled in the book, *Educating a Diverse Nation: Lessons from Minority-Serving Institutions*, written by Clifton Conrad and Marybeth Gasman.

His research specialty areas include comparative race and ethnic relations, contemporary immigration, politics and public policy, community studies, higher

## Interim Executive Director of the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP)



Adam Sutkus brings over 25 years of public sector policy and program management to the Center, and starting in September 2015, Mr. Sutkus will be the Center's Interim Executive Director. Prior to joining the Center, Mr. Sutkus held key program management and

policy positions throughout government, including special appointments under three Governors. Early in his career, he served as a congressional aide in Washington, D.C., concentrating on environmental and disaster management issues, and held positions with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

and on Capitol Hill. In California, he has served as Executive Director of the State's Recycling Advisory Committee in the Dept. of Conservation; as Dept. of Fish and Game's liaison for oil spill emergency response and policy; and as Chief of Staff for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. His portfolio of Center projects include facilitating mass care and shelter planning for three LA cities and facilitating a regional mass care workshop; Emergency Function 8—facilitating public health and medical issues at the state agency level; evacuation planning for the access and functional needs community; statewide planning for animals in emergency through Emergency Function 11; multi-agency interoperability communications planning; designing an organizational system for medical volunteers in bioterrorism events; and helping state and local agencies meet federal homeland security mandates within California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).

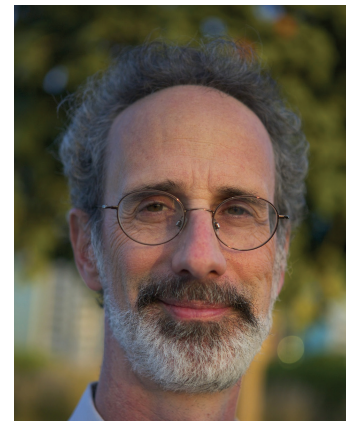
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## First Al Qazzaz Lecture to be on Climate Change

The inaugural lecture in the *Al Qazzaz Dean's Lecture Series* will be held on September 28th and will feature Dr. Peter Gleick. The lecture will be titled, "The Future of Water in a Changing Climate." Dr. Peter Gleick is renowned the world over as a leading expert, innovator, and communicator on water and climate issues. He co-founded and leads the Pacific Institute based in Oakland, California. The Institute is an innovative and independent science-based organization that creates and advances solutions to the world's water challenges.

Dr. Gleick's work has redefined water from the realm of engineers to the world of social justice, sustainability, human rights, and integrated thinking. His influence on the field of water has been long and deep: he developed the first analysis of climate change impacts on water resources, the earliest comprehensive work on water and conflict, and defined basic human needs for water and the human right to water – work that has been used by the UN and in human rights court cases. He pioneered the concept of the "soft path for water," developed the idea of "peak water," and has written about the need for a "local water movement." Dr. Gleick received the prestigious MacArthur

"genius" Fellowship and was named "a visionary on the environment" by the BBC. He was elected both an Academician of the International Water Academy, in Oslo, Norway and a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Wired Magazine featured Dr. Gleick as "one of 15 people the next President should listen to." He received his B.S. from Yale University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Gleick serves on the boards of numerous journals and organizations, and is the author of many scientific papers and nine books, including the influential series *The World's Water* and *Bottled and Sold: The Story Behind Our Obsession with Bottled Water*, as well as the 2012 release *A Twenty-First Century U.S. Water Policy*.



Funding for Dr. Gleick's appearance is made possible by an endowment established by Dr. Ayad Al Qazzaz (Sociology), the Dean's Office and the Office of the Provost.



## College of SSIS Practitioner in Residence



Assemblymember Roger Dickinson will be serving as the College of SSIS Practitioner in Residence for the 2015-2016 academic year. Roger will be serving on the Downtown School of Public Policy Planning Task Force and will also be giving some guest lectures throughout the year.

Roger Dickinson was elected in November 2010, and reelected in November 2012, and represented the 7th Assembly District including the Cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento. In his two terms in the Assembly, Dickinson established himself as an effective lawmaker. In his first year, he achieved a 100% bill signing success rate – seven bills were approved by the legislature and all seven were signed into law. In the second year of his term, nine more bills were signed by the Governor. In 2014, his most successful year, 15 bills were sent to Governor Brown and all 15 were signed in law – another 100% success

rate. As a legislator, Dickinson focused on issues related to environmental quality, education, health and human services for children and families, economic development, and consumer protection.

Prior to his election to the Assembly, Dickinson served on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors beginning in a special election in January 1994, and was subsequently re-elected to four four-year terms, serving through 2010. As a member of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Dickinson played key roles on issues such as health care, welfare reform, economic development, clean air, improved transportation, and smart growth. He was instrumental in the building of Raley Field, home of the Sacramento River Cats; the transition of McClellan Air Force Base into a thriving economic center; the construction of a new primary health care center for Sacramento County; the conversion of the county vehicle fleet to clean fuels; the creation of Birth and Beyond, a home visitation program for at-risk families; the creation of the Dry Creek Parkway; and the turnaround of the Grant Joint Union School District; among other things.

Assemblymember Dickinson received his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley where he lettered in varsity basketball and afterward earned a law degree at UCLA in 1976.

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## Scholar in Residence for the Center for California Studies

Joshua J. Dyck, Ph.D. is a political scientist and survey researcher who is serving as Visiting Scholar at the Center for California Studies at Sacramento State University for the 2015-2016 academic year. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Government in Politics from the University of Maryland and holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Political Science from Western Washington University. He is Associate Professor of Political Science and Co-Director of the Center for Public Opinion at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell (2012-present).

Professor Dyck studies American politics, with a focus on public opinion, voting behavior, and state politics. The largest sub-section of his research has focused on direct legislation in the American states. His research has appeared in many leading scholarly journals including *The Journal of Politics*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, and *Political Behavior*. He is also the co-editor of *The Guide to State Politics and Policy*

(Sage/CQ Press 2013), a 33 chapter volume covering the entire field of state politics, with Professor Richard Niemi of the University of Rochester.

Professor Dyck's research has been highlighted in popular media outlets like *The Monkey Cage Blog*, *Miller-McCune*, *Forbes*, and *The London School of Economics USAPP Blog*. His election analysis and commentary on polling has appeared in national and international media outlets like *The New York Times*, *ESPN the Magazine*, *Time*, *Reuters*, and *The Globe and Mail*. Since 2014, Dyck has been the pollster for 7News (WHDH/NBC Affiliate) in Boston.





## New Year, New Faces: New Tenure Track Faculty for the College of SSIS

### Nathan Stevens Anthropology



Throughout his career, Dr. Stevens has worked in both academic settings and archaeology for environmental compliance while employed by universities, government agencies, and the private sector. Most recently, in his capacity as Principal Investigator at Far Western Anthropological Research Group in Davis, he completed archaeological investigations throughout California for a variety of clients including the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Park Service, the National Forest Service, the California Department of Transportation, and the California National Guard. He received his Master's degree in anthropology from Sacramento State University in 2002 and his Ph.D. degree in anthropology from University of California, Davis in 2012. His research interests include the prehistory of California and the Great Basin, evolutionary ecology, technology, subsistence, and cultural evolution. Overall, his research seeks to understand how Native Americans of western North America made a living, and how their 13,000-year-plus tenure on the land can help address larger questions dealing with human adaptations worldwide, including current challenges we face living among each other and amid a

changing climate.

Dr. Stevens is excited to join Sacramento State, where he will split his duties between teaching courses, mentoring students, and directing projects at the Archaeological Research Center (ARC), where grant and contract-funded work supports graduate and undergraduate student training and career development. Over the past 20 years, the ARC has helped train a generation of professional archaeologists (including Dr. Stevens) who work for a variety of state and federal agencies, Native American tribal groups, environmental consulting firms, and universities. Dr. Stevens is honored to return to Sacramento State and contribute to this important work.

### Elizabeth Spreng Anthropology Visiting Assistant Professor



Elizabeth Spreng (left)

From a personal perspective, Elizabeth Anne Spreng describes herself as an American-born European who has lived in ten states in the US and three other countries: Lusatia (Saxony, Germany), the territorial homeland of the Sorbs where she conducted her doctoral fieldwork and Scotland, a country that she considers her homeland. In many ways, Dr. Spreng understands the challenges and victories of living as a multilingual person and transnational in a

globalized world. She has spoken and/or studied nine languages: British English, Czech, English (the Americanized variety), French, German, Mittelalter Deutsch, Russian, Spanish, and Upper Sorb. She understands the moments of frustration and happiness that arise from her own interesting confusion of tongues.

In 2011, Dr. Spreng received her doctorate in linguistic anthropology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her dissertation practices draws heavily on the stories that bilingual Sorbs told her as they translated Munro Leaf's classic children's tale *The Story of Ferdinand*, the story of a Spanish bull that would rather smell the flowers than fight in the arena. Her focus entailed access to their linguistic choices and understanding “/mish-mash/”, what Sorbian speakers identify as mixing Sorb and German—tough which bilingual Sorbs eventually came to a point of linguistic satisfaction with their the story of Ferdinand. The Ferdinand project, ethnography cum translation, provides a detailed analysis of the complexities of bilingual life and choices.

In being a linguistic anthropologist with a four-fields background, she currently investigates issues related to bilingualism, globalization, and emotions. Dr. Spreng is also interested in the intersection of vital materiality and language in university settings. This new avenue builds on her expertise in multilingualism, emotions, and discourse analysis of texts. This new direction focuses on the lived experiences of learning efficiencies via enregisterment and language texts as things. To best summarize her work and philosophy, Dr. Spreng would simply say that she studies happiness, something that all people want to understand better.

## New Year, New Faces cont'd

### Michael Walker Water / Anthropology



Michael Walker received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Michigan State University where he focused on environmental anthropology, political ecology, and international development in southern Africa. His teaching and research interests include environment and development, water use and access, land tenure, and rural livelihoods. Dr. Walker conducted 18 months of ethnographic fieldwork in central Mozambique to understand the social dynamics shaping access to water and land resources in a rural community. His research examines how residents' access to these resources, critical for rural livelihoods, has changed as Mozambique transitioned from colonial rule, to socialism, to neoliberal capitalism. Central to this endeavor is exploring how residents organized around different class and gender identities articulate claims to water and land and the forms of authority they draw on to substantiate their claims in the context of overlapping resource-use rights. The Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and the U.S. Fulbright Program supported his work in Mozambique. Dr. Walker has published his research on these topics in peer-reviewed journals such as *World Development* and the *Journal of Southern African Studies*. He is writing a book manuscript on his research in Mozambique.

Dr. Walker is excited to join the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies and the Department of Anthropology at Sacramento State. He looks forward to developing several new research projects on water in California, including one that examines the links between water use, agriculture, and climate change in the Central Valley. He will also develop an ethnographic research project with water scientists to explore how they produce knowledge about water and how this knowledge is used to shape water policy in California. This project will examine the relationship between science and policy, as water governance models are adapted to meet the growing unpredictability of the hydrological cycle at multiple scales. The project will provide the opportunity for collaboration between the social and natural sciences. Dr. Walker is committed to developing research opportunities for students interested in environmental issues. When he is not engaged in his academic work, he enjoys cooking, running, hiking, and most things outdoors.

### Julian Fulton Water / Environmental Studies



Julian Fulton will be joining Sac State in January 2016 as Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Water Governance, Law and Policy after completing a Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC Davis. As Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Julian plans to teach a variety of courses, including and beyond

water. In his teaching, Julian uses history, lived experience, and real world problem solving to address California's complex environmental challenges. Many of these challenges are inherently interdisciplinary, and Julian hopes to develop co-teaching opportunities and curriculum across SSIS. Julian also expects to support the new University-wide Institute for Water, Energy, Sustainability and Technology (iWEST) by pursuing interdisciplinary research projects that span California and international environmental issues. Julian sees further opportunity to contribute to campus sustainability initiatives like Food Day and Earth Day. As a California native, Julian is looking forward to getting to know the state capital and being closer to the mountains, where he enjoys hiking, fishing, and skiing.

### Dan Burghart Economics Visiting Assistant Professor



Dan Burghart joins Sacramento State by way of Ernst Fehr's group at the University of Zurich. In Switzerland Dan collaborated on research projects involving uncertain and intertemporal decision-making. Before moving to Zurich Dan was a Postdoctoral Fellow at New York University, funded by a National Institutes of Health Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award. While in New York Dan collaborated with Paul Glimcher on



## New Year, New Faces cont'd

studies linking economic behavior to alcohol intoxication, opiate use, and naturally fluctuating hormones. He also spent a year teaching in the United Arab Emirates at the newly minted NYU Abu Dhabi. Dan received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon in 2007 where his dissertation focused on demand for public goods.

### Andrea Moore Ethnic Studies



Andrea L. S. Moore received her B.A. in Sociology and Ph.D. in Cultural Studies from the University of California, Davis. Her academic brand focuses on Ethnic History and Socio-Cultural Production. Areas of expertise are situated within Pan African History, Cultural Studies, Sociology, and Popular Culture. Moore has been teaching in higher education for over 10 years serving concurrently as a lecturer in Sociology for the Department for Behavioral Social Sciences at Sacramento City College and the University of California, Davis for the African American and African Studies Program. As an Adjunct Professor, more has taught over four years in the Ethnic Studies Department here at California State University, Sacramento.

Her recent scholarship is focused specifically on extrapolating components of her dissertation that focus on the ways in which hip hop artists promote awareness to the recent social protests movements and organizations advocating for police reform. She is particularly interested in the trajectory of law enforcement acts of violence against unarmed people of color in urban spaces, as these issues require a heightened awareness as militarization of the state sanctioned violence continue to plague America and promote unjustified genocidal terror. Moore is examining racial frameworks found in scholarship and cultural practices that investigate the social discourse of the modern era used to justify the lynching of the Black body and its connection to the current criminal pathologizing of Black people murdered in the United States.

### Patricia Morris Sociology



Dr. Patricia Morris is excited to join the faculty of the Sociology Department. She received her doctorate in 2009 from Northeastern University in Boston and has since held a faculty position in the Midwest at Drury University. Professor Morris' teaching and research interests include statistics, research methods, social psychology, medical

sociology, human-animal relationships, work-related stress, emotion management in the workplace, and ethical decision-making. Combining these broad interests in sociology, Dr. Morris received a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship to study the ways in which young veterinary professionals define, approach, and eventually resolve ethical dilemmas and moral quandaries in their work. Of all of her scholarly accomplishments, however, Dr. Morris is most proud of the publication of her book with Temple University Press, *Blue Juice: Euthanasia in Veterinary Medicine*, which recently received the 2015 Midwest Sociological Society Distinguished Book Award. Professor Morris has worked with nurses and physicians on grant funded projects to improve access to healthcare in rural regions of Missouri. She has delivered papers on her research at conferences across the U.S. and in England where she gave the keynote address at Nottingham University's Centre for Applied Bioethics speaking about the potential benefits of sociological research to the field of bioethics.

Welcome,  
new  
Faculty!





SACRAMENTO STATE

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### Dean's Message cont'd

Center for Collaborative Policy. I am grateful to Jud for his many years of dedication, loyalty, and commitment to his department and our College. He will always be a significant and special part of the history of our College. Susan has led the Center for Collaborative Policy since its inception in 1992 and has done a fantastic job building it up to be one of the nation's leaders in helping public agencies, stakeholders, and the public in the region and state to use collaborative strategies to improve policy outcomes. I also want to congratulate two new department chairs – Ted Lascher (Public Policy & Administration) and David Lang (Economics), and three faculty members re-elected to department chair – Boatamo Mosupyoe (Ethnic Studies), Raghuraman Trichur (Anthropology) and Seunghee Wie (Family & Consumer Sciences).

Enjoy the remaining weeks of the splendid Central Valley Summer! It's always a pleasure to hear from

alumni and other friends of the College. Thanks to many of you for your support and interest in our work.

Best Wishes,

Örn Bodvarsson

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