



The Farm to Fork Festival, which took place on September 14, 2016, was planned in partnership among the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, Student Health and Counseling Services, and Campus Sustainability. The theme for this inaugural year was Farm to Every Fork with a host of activities on campus to build awareness for student hunger and resources for support. A fundraising dinner on the Guy West Bridge was planned and executed by students in Dr. Kelly Thompson’s FACS110 Food Production and Sustainability course under the supervision of campus Executive Chef Aaron Franco. Proceeds from this dinner went to support the ASI Food Pantry. Dr. Lynn Hanna coordinated the dinner programming and the keynote on poverty and food systems by international scholar, Raj Patel.

As part of the Chancellor’s Initiative on Student Food and Housing Security, President Robert S. Nelsen has supported the creation of a task force to coordinate campus efforts to address these issues. Drs. Lynn Hanna and Kelly Thompson from Family and Consumer Sciences have accepted leadership roles on this task force. Dr. Hanna is spearheading research efforts in this area and Dr. Thompson has accepted the President’s appointment as co-chair with ASI President Patrick Dorsey.

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## Dean's Message

Dear Friends of the College of SSIS,

Happy New Year from the Dean's Office! I hope all of you had a restful, safe, and healthy holiday season. Last semester, over 840 undergraduate and graduate students in the College completed their degrees, with over 600 participating in graduation ceremonies on December 16 at Sleep Train Arena. Commencement is one of my very favorite days and last month's Commencement was especially nice. Not only did we celebrate the completion of another "crop" of students graduating from our 14 departments and autonomous degree granting programs, but we were honored to have Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg serve as our Community Speaker and Emma Tamayo, graduating senior in Family & Consumer Sciences, serve as our student speaker. Mayor Steinberg had been on the job for only 3 days and we were especially appreciative of him taking the time to provide inspiring words to our graduates and their families. Emma was selected from a group of student speech submissions and she did a great job. I wish the newest graduates from the College of SSIS much success and happiness with their careers and lives and am looking forward already to celebrating our Spring semester graduates in May.

As I write this, the university has just re-opened following a holiday break and many of our faculty and our students are away till spring semester classes start. It is a quiet time on campus, great for catching up on unfinished work from last semester and for reflection. I'm very excited about this new year. Perhaps the most significant event of 2017 for the College will be the hard launch of our Downtown School of Public Affairs at 304 S Street. Our Downtown School of Public Affairs Planning Task Force and its Executive Work Group and 6 subcommittees have been working hard the past few months on planning for the launch. Currently, we are working on a strategic plan for the downtown school and addressing the plethora of logistical issues that come with starting up a new facility. We are also excited to be sharing the building with various centers and programs from outside the College, with all entities in the building connected in some way with the downtown policy community. Since last semester, we have been getting very able assistance from our Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) in managing the day-to-day logistics of the project. Adam Sutkus, Interim Executive Director of CCP, has been serving as Project Manager for the downtown school and has been assisted by various members of his staff and staff in my



Örn Bodvarsson, Dean

office. The folks at CCP are proven professionals in project management, strategic planning, and collaborative dialogue, and I'm grateful to Adam and his crew for helping out with this project so that I can focus on "big picture" items such as fundraising, external messaging, and strategy. Stay tuned this year for updates about the downtown school project!

Other very exciting work is ongoing in the College. Since last summer, a task force co-led by Professors Mark Brown (Department of Government) and Manuel Barajas (Department of Sociology) has been working on academic and business plans to start up a Center on Race, Immigration, and Social Justice. The plan is for this center to be a hub for innovative instruction, applied research, and engagement for students, faculty, and the community on various critical social issues of the day. I am grateful to Mark and Manuel and their colleagues for their hard work and my hope is that this center can start operations next year. Last semester, I organized a task force on student success in the college. This task force will work on implementation of those components of our strategic plan related to the enhancement of student success, e.g. raising our 4- and 6-year graduation rates and retention rates, researching the factors driving our student success metrics, and aligning our work with campus-wide work to enhance

*cont'd on page 10*

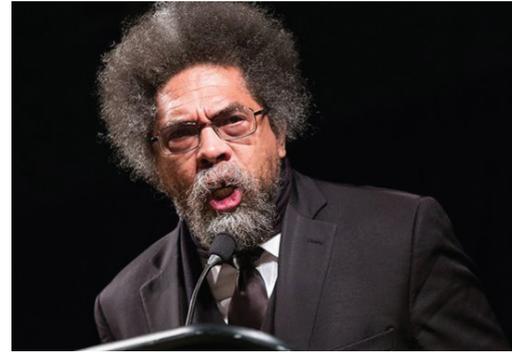


## Cornel West Event

On September 29, 2016, SSIS co-sponsored a momentous speaking event. Cornel West, a native of Sacramento, philosopher, pastor, professor and protester, spoke in the University Union Ballroom to a crowd of 3,000 people, which was more than could fit in that space. For those who couldn't fit into the Ballroom, the event was live streamed in the Hinde Auditorium and on the lawn outside in Serna Plaza.

West spoke for about an hour and a half and kept the audience engaged and responsive. He spoke about race, religion, ethics and morality in the United States today. He spoke about unity, freedom from fear in expression and about accountability.

As expected, West addressed the 2016 election. At the time, the eventual outcome was unknown, but West said he was not impressed with either candidate. He said that voters, particularly college students, have every right to feel disillusioned with the two main candidates. He went on to say, "don't allow your disillusion to lead you to being debilitated. Young folk ought to remain active politically, intellectually, morally, spiritually, before the election, during the election, after the elections, next



year, five years, ten years down the road."

After his speech, West took some questions from the audience and spent time with as many people as time allowed, talking with them or signing copies of his book "Race Matters."

For West, this speech was a chance to return home in the middle of a nation-wide speaking tour and he was able to spend time with his family and friends in the area. In fact, he even brought his mother, brother and two of his grade school teachers to the speech.

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## Nobel Peace Prize Forum



From L to R: David Andersen-Rodgers, Vanessa Lalonde, Johnnie Pina, Eustanik Blanco, Nicholas Millan, Ernest Uwazie, Ivan Tiet, Data Barata, Boatamo Mosupyoe, Greg Kim-Ju, Brenda Martinez

In June 2016, Sacramento State sent a delegation of eleven students and five faculty from six different departments, including Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Ethnic Studies, Government, Psychology, and Sociology to Minneapolis, Minnesota to attend the Nobel Peace Prize Forum. The Forum is an annual event that brings together "Nobel laureates, world leaders,

and accomplished peacemakers with students and community members to work on building a world in which people can live full, rich, meaningful lives" and provides an amazing opportunity for students to engage with the complex issues of peace and security across the world from those who make policy as well as those that live in war zones.

Dean Bodvarsson facilitated the relationship with the Forum and Sacramento State has been a delegate sponsor since 2015. This year the featured Nobel Laureate was Kailash Satyarthi, who received the prize in 2014 for his work to free children in India from human trafficking.

In Spring 2017, students can once again apply to be an SSIS Peace Scholar and attend the September 2017 Forum in Minneapolis which will feature the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize laureates of the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet. Moreover, in the summer of 2017, the College has selected two Peace Scholars, Micaiah Palmer (Sociology) and Sania Kandhro (Government/International Relations), to attend a prestigious summer peace institute in Oslo, Norway. Sacramento State will also host a one day conference on human trafficking on April 26, 2017. For information, please contact James Rae in the Department of Government at [rae@csus.edu](mailto:rae@csus.edu).

## Center on Race, Immigration, and Social Justice

During the past year, a task force of about twenty faculty from the College of SSIS has been working on a proposal for a new academic center on race, ethnicity, immigration, and related issues. The idea for the center was proposed a couple of years ago to Dean Bodvarsson, and it was integrated into the College's strategic plan. The Dean made a call for interested faculty to attend two preparatory meetings, and in May 2016 a task force began meeting about once per month. In December 2016 the task force organized a symposium on "Social Justice in a Trump Presidency," with faculty speakers Stan Oden, Heidi Sarabia, Michelle Stevens, and Kevin Wehr. The task force, which is currently co-chaired by Manuel Barajas and Mark Brown, recently completed a draft proposal, and if all goes well, the Center on Race, Immigration, and Social Justice (CRISJ) will begin operations in fall 2017. CRISJ will be organized around

four integrated components: academic programming and activities (including pedagogy and curriculum development), faculty research, student mentoring, and community engagement. The Center will be housed in the College of SSIS, but solicit involvement from the entire campus. It will also collaborate with existing campus centers and initiatives that address related issues. Recognizing that questions of race and immigration intersect in complex ways with class, gender, sexuality, environmental justice, and other issues, the Center's work will be explicitly interdisciplinary and intersectional. The CRISJ will celebrate cultural diversity and resilience, affirm indigenous knowledge systems, and value community participation. Its activities will be politically relevant, transformative, and meaningful to the diverse populations on our campus and surrounding communities. Stay tuned for some exciting events being planned for the spring semester!

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## Community Commencement Speaker: Darrell Steinberg

On December 13th, Darrell Steinberg was sworn in as the new Mayor of Sacramento. Just 3 days later, on December 16th, he came to speak as the community speaker at the College of SSIS Commencement.

Darrell is originally from San Francisco, graduated from UCLA with a degree in Economics and completed a law degree at UC Davis. He joined the State Assembly in 1998 and served until 2004. He was then elected to State Senate in 2008.

During his speech, Steinberg addressed the graduates, saying they have chosen fields of study that obligate them to fix an often broken world, quickly adding with a smile, "no pressure, no pressure." He went on to give examples of ways that the "hard sciences" like medicine and physics have solved a lot of problems in our world, but there are still so many social problems that have not been solved. He stated that in the social sciences, creativity, risk-taking, collaboration, and fearlessness are more desperately needed as we have cured polio, but have not cured racism or sexism. He tasked the graduates to use their talents and education to help the social condition and the people who need them to use their college degree in the most important

ways possible.

Steinberg said he would relay three small lessons from his own experience: First, he was told to not fall in love with your bills because you can't control what happens. In other words, you have to distance yourself a little bit emotionally from your best ideas. Second,

he said to pick something that fixes a part of the world, even if you can't fix the whole world. Pick a few things that really matter, but that nobody else is working on, and make that your focus and be a leader who charts new ground and makes a change. Lastly, once you proceed with whatever it is you choose to do, be "impatiently patient." Don't accept that we can't do this or that we're being asked to do it too fast as an excuse for inaction.

Steinberg pointed out that people are feeling kind of down due to the events of the last year and there's a tendency to disengage. He suggested that the graduates connect and engage to remedy this feeling. Engaging and connecting with others, with community, with neighborhoods, with a cause, will help one have a better life and your community will be better for it. He ended by saying he was inspired by and proud of the graduates and wished them the best.

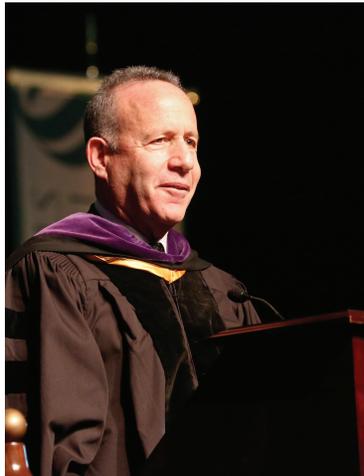


Photo by Craig Koscho

## Student Success Task Force

During the College's Fall Convocation, Dean Bodvarsson announced plans to form a College-wide task force charged with focusing on the enhancement of student success in our College. It is an extremely high priority of both Sac State and the CSU system to address areas of student success that need improvement, including graduation rates, retention rates, college readiness, and other areas. The 2015-20 strategic plan speaks boldly to the need to address student success in a very intentional way and there is of course substantial work going on at the campus level to enhance student success.

The charge of this task force will be three-fold:

- To manage the implementation of those pieces of the College's strategic plan that relate to the enhancement of the success of SSIS students;
- To spearhead research that helps us understand what is driving our student success metrics relative to the rest of the University and the System; to ascertain what strengths we can leverage and what areas need improvement; and
- To organize our student success work in a way that assures alignment with work going on at the campus level, e.g. our work complements the work going on in Student Affairs, the President's Office, and other parts of the University.

## Task Force Representation

Raghuraman Trichur	Anthropology
David Lang	Economics
Sara Kross	Environmental Studies
Elvia Ramirez	Ethnic Studies
Lynn Hanna	Family and Consumer Sciences
Cheryl Osborne	Gerontology
Nancy Lapp	Government
Kristen Anderegg	Liberal Studies
Tim Fong	Social Sciences
Oriel Strickland	Psychology
Charles Gossett	Public Policy & Administration
Sujatha Moni	Women's Studies
Todd Migliaccio	Sociology
Greg Kim-Ju	Asian Studies
Andrea Venezia	EdInsights
Cheryl Lugo	Student Services Professional
Pat Hughes	College Staff
Imran Majid	College of SSIS Graduate Student
Jarvis Alcantara	College of SSIS Undergrad Student
Jazzie Murphy	Student Affairs
Orn Bodvarsson	College of SSIS Dean
Dianne Hyson	College of SSIS Associate Dean
Jim Dragna	Executive Director of University Initiatives and Student Success

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## Expanding Your Horizons Conference Workshop

Lynn Hanna, Associate Professor in Family and Consumer Sciences, hosted a workshop for the Expanding Your Horizons conference October 8th. This is an annual event where local middle school girls (and some boys) come to campus to participate in a variety of STEM focused workshops. 20 girls came to the Fruit to Root workshop where they explored plant anatomy, identified plant parts, experienced each of the 5 tastes from plant samples, made a salad with each anatomical part of plants, and learned about emulsification by making salad dressing. FACS students delivered each of the trainings at 4 different stations in the FACS teaching kitchen.



## Gerontology Community Presentations

It is all about learning and giving back to our community!

On December 2nd and 9th the Gerontology Program held its 35th Semi Annual Gerontology Community Project presentations in the Student Union. Students, agency supervisors, faculty members, family, friends, and campus dignitaries heard and clearly saw the project methodology and outcomes of students' senior community projects. Thirty-six undergraduate students provided 8,360 hours of community service while completing their two-semester Practicum in thirty local community agencies and organizations serving

elders and their families. Projects were as varied as each of the agency's need and the student's interest. One graduate student thesis entitled Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver as a Solution for the Disparity in Services Available for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury in California was also presented.

The abstracts for all of these projects may be found on the Program's website: <http://www.csus.edu/gero/community/community%20service%20learning%20projects.html>.

## Psychology Annual Research Conference



From L to R: Gustavo Garcia-Rojas, Damien Brunt, Mariana Gonzalez, Dr. Casey Knifsend, Misha Haghghat, Leigh Powell, Felicia Huddleston

Each year, the Psychology Department celebrates the research of students and faculty at their Annual Research Conference which was held on November 1st in the Redwood Room at the University Union. This year's event focused on the theme of "Making a Difference with Scientific Discoveries" and consisted of over 42 research posters and 5 psychology student organizations. This year's conference program included a wide range of topics and methodologies including studies on personality factors, ethnic identity and acculturation, coping strategies, family dynamics and conflicts, developmental disorders, mental and physical health

and service use, academic achievement and stress, social and emotional skills, behavioral interventions, and preventive factors.

This year's conference was an amazing success as more than 450 attendees were in attendance including Interim Provost Mike Lee, SSIS Dean Orn Bodvarsson, and Interim Director of Graduate Studies Marya Endriga. As Interim Chair Rebecca Cameron remarked, "As our department's signature event, it is a highlight of our year, showcasing research that may be breaking news from one of our labs as well as work that has recently been presented at regional, national, and specialized conferences." Several of the posters were previously recognized for honors at national psychology conferences including graduate student Zachary Goodman receiving the Top Poster Award for Division 12 - Clinical Psychology at the 2016 American Psychological Association Conference and Tiana Osborne receiving an Outstanding Research Travel Award at the 2016 Asian American Psychological Conference. Both are Sac State graduate students in the master's program in the Psychology Department and valued members of Dr. Greg Kim-Ju's research laboratory. Conference organizer Dr. Phillip Akutsu stated, "This is just such a great event to highlight the incredible research that our psychology students and faculty are doing in our department. It is a wonderful opportunity for Sac State students to learn more about our research and hopefully consider joining a faculty member's research lab."

## Student Commencement Speaker: Emma Tamayo

Emma Tamayo graduated in December with a bachelor's in Dietetics from the Department of Family & Consumer Sciences. She was selected by a committee to serve as the student speaker for the Commencement ceremony, held on December 16th.

Emma was born in South Sacramento and first went to college at Humboldt State, where she studied Wildlife Conservation Management. She felt that it wasn't the right program for her, so she returned to Sacramento and attended Sacramento City College to re-evaluate her educational goals. At Sac City, she took an Intro to Nutrition course and it interested her enough to research that she could study to be a dietitian and that Sac State had a great program. Now that she has graduated, she plans to obtain a graduate degree in a related field and become a Registered Dietitian. She hopes that her career will allow her to make a lasting impact on her community.

Emma's speech compared attending college to climbing Mt. Everest. She pointed out that going to college is an opportunity that is not obtainable for everyone, but with hard work and help, the graduates

have achieved it. She addressed the current political and social climate and said for those that sometimes feel helpless, getting an education is a positive step towards making change in our world. We wish Emma the best with her future endeavors!



Photo by Craig Koscho

## Women in Higher Education (WIHE)

by Dr. Marya Endriga

It was my great fortune to have been a part of the inaugural class for the Women In Higher Education (WIHE) Leadership Pipeline

Initiative Program at Sacramento State (WIHE is pronounced Wee-Hee because we are so much fun!). Thanks to the sponsorship from the Dean's Office, five SSIS members were a part of this first cohort: Marya Endriga, Megan Heinicke, Pat Hughes, Nancy Lapp, and Seunghee Wie.

Founded and lovingly directed by Dr. Bernice Bass de Martinez, WIHE's mission is to provide mentoring, professional development, career planning, networking, and support for its participants and to also act as a vehicle for succession planning for the University. WIHE meetings spanned most of 2016

and we developed relationships with women colleagues across all campus divisions. Senior mentors were paired with mentee partners who also met outside of WIHE and



WIHE first cohort

I expect that many of these partnerships will continue for years to come! It is wonderful to see familiar faces across the campus and know so many talented women who I can call for help with nearly any situation. Each WIHE meeting also featured a distinguished woman

in higher education who shared her story of professional advancement as well as her expertise in topics such as leadership, community collaboration, fiscal management, communication, diversity, and navigating challenging situations and people. I hope that WIHE becomes a permanent program on our campus and I encourage my women colleagues to apply for future cohorts.

Photo by Angela Price

## Faculty/Staff/Student Highlights

**Professor James Rae** (GOVT) is the college's recipient of the 2016-2017 Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching.

**Associate Professor Michelle Stevens** (ENVS) is the college's recipient of the 2016-2017 Faculty Award for Outstanding Community Service.

**Professor Smile Dube** (ECON) is the college's recipient of the 2016-2017 Faculty Award for Outstanding Scholarly and Creative Activity.

**Associate Professor Sara Kross** (ENVS) was a speaker at the inaugural Sac Science Distilled event, a science outreach series hosted by the PowerHouse Science Center and the Capital Science Communicators. See the article on KCRA here: <http://www.kcra.com/article/science-drinks-mix-during-monthly-sacramento-events/6502433>

**Associate Professor Sara Kross** (ENVS) was interviewed about birds and the Golden 1 Center. See the CBS news story here: <http://sacramento.cbslocal.com/2016/09/07/how-will-the-golden-1-center-keep-birds-out/>

**Family & Consumer Sciences** has been ranked as #27 on one of the great value colleges. GreatValueColleges.net's mission is to help students get the most "bang for their buck" when it comes to getting a college degree. You can see the article, including the other programs that ranked here: <http://www.greatvaluecolleges.net/rankings/family-consumer-sciences/>

**Gerontology** has been ranked as #3 on one of the great value colleges. GreatValueColleges.net's mission is to help students get the most "bang for their buck" when it comes to getting a college degree. You can see the article, including the other programs that ranked here: <http://www.greatvaluecolleges.net/rankings/gerontology/>

**Diane Kobely** (staff, GOVT) retired in September after 22 years of dedicated service at Sacramento State. 18 of those years was spent in the Department of Government. Congratulations to Diane!

**Debbie James** (staff, LIBS/SSCI) retired in December after 28 years of dedicated service at Sacramento State. Debbie's time on campus included working in CCE and Learning Skills, in addition to LIBS/SSCI. She also received her BA in Humanities from Sac State. Congratulations to Debbie!

**Veronica Damian Maldonado** (student, GOVT) was selected for the Rising Star Winter 2017 program sponsored by the Chinese government to travel to China to study development of different industries and experience cultural aspects of China.

**Professor Ted Lascher** (PPA) has been named the 2016-2017 Livingston Lecture award recipient. This is one of the highest honors Sac State can bestow on a faculty member. Ted will be giving the John C. Livingston lecture on Monday, February 20th at 3pm in the University Union, Redwood Room. A reception will follow the lecture.

**Center for Collaborative Policy** is currently searching for a permanent Executive Director. The previous director, Susan Sherry, retired and Adam Sutkus has been filling in as interim since that time.

**SSIS** will soon be searching for a second Associate Dean. The campus is moving towards each college having two associate deans, to split the duties in half. For our college, the idea is that there will be one Associate Dean focusing on resource and program management while the other will focus on student and personnel success.

**SSIS** has had many staffing changes over the last year. New to Psychology are Nicole Scanlan who primarily supports the graduate program. Sharon Takhar who primarily supports the front office. Julie Cahill has joined Government as its new ASC. Julie was previously in the Department of History and has many years experience on campus. Derek Bevers, the College Resource Analyst, left Sac State in December after approximately 14 years of service, for a new position off campus. There will soon be a search for a new Resource Analyst.

**Professor Rob Wassmer** (PPA) served as a panelist at the California Housing Forum held on September 29th. Professor Wassmer spoke about the lack of affordable housing in California.

## Dean's Message cont'd

student success. We are also in the midst of hiring 15 new tenure-track faculty, who we will welcome to campus next August. And, we are working on the hiring of a second Associate Dean and a permanent Executive Director of the Center for Collaborative Policy. Our college is on the move in serving our students and the community and I'm very excited to be part of the ongoing great work.

It's always a pleasure to hear from alumni, friends, and retired faculty. Do please send us your news, as we love to hear from you. I want to thank everyone who has generously supported the college in the past and am always grateful for any form of support. Thank you and may 2017 be a happy, healthy, and prosperous year for all of you!

Örn Bodvarsson



**Support SSIS by making a gift!**  
**Please contact Jaqueline Ervin,**  
**Director of Development**  
**at**  
**ervin@saclink.csus.edu**  
**OR at 916-278-2453**

## Instagram Fame

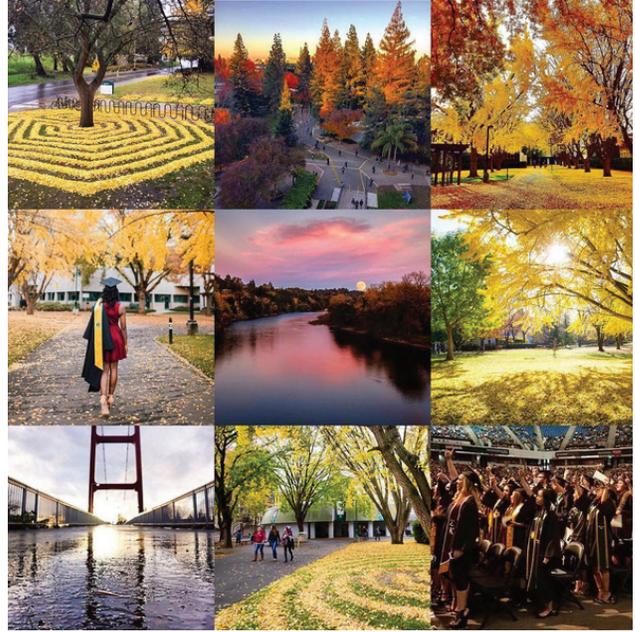


photo courtesy of @sacstate on Instagram

The College of SSIS joined Instagram this year and we were honored to not only have had Sac State's Instagram feed share a photo from our Instagram but it was later included in their #2016bestnine photos! This means that it was one of nine photos with the most likes for the whole year! SSIS's photo is the one of Commencement in the bottom right corner, courtesy of Cheryl Lugo. Go to Instagram and follow @sacstatessis to see more photos in the months to come!



**SACRAMENTO STATE**  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES & INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES



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The College of SSIS wants to hear from you! If you would like to receive more information or you wish to contribute to a story or news item, contact Heather Mummaw at 916-278-6504 or mummawh@csus.edu