



# Celebrate

## ALUMNI

DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNI AWARDS  
2020 | CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,  
SACRAMENTO



# DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

2020

*Hosted by*

SACRAMENTO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
WITH THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
AND UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

The logo is a circular emblem with a large, stylized 'S' in the center. The words 'SACRAMENTO STATE' are written in a circular path around the top half of the 'S', and 'ALUMNI' is written around the bottom half. The entire logo is rendered in a light, golden-yellow color on a textured, marbled background of the same color.

# Welcome

## *Master of Ceremonies*

**COURTNEY DEMPSEY '97**

Good Day Anchor/Reporter,  
KMAX-TV Sacramento, CA

## *Introductions and Remarks*

**RON BROWN '86**

President, Board of Directors,  
Sacramento State Alumni Association

**DR. ROBERT S. NELSEN**

President,  
Sacramento State

## *Presentation of Awards*

## *Closing Remarks*

**JENNIFER BARBER**

Assistant Vice President,  
Alumni Relations and the Sacramento State Alumni Association





# *Celebrating* SACRAMENTO STATE'S OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Established in 1972, the Distinguished Alumni Awards are given jointly by the University and the Sacramento State Alumni Association to recognize alumni and friends for their professional achievements and community service.

Tonight, we recognize seven individuals who have achieved success in their chosen fields of endeavor and have brought distinction to the University and the community.

This evening's honors will include four Distinguished Service Awards, two Rising Star Awards, and an Honorary Alumnus Award.



## 2020-2021 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lora Anguay '13  
Margot Bach '72  
Jennifer Barber  
Melissa Bardo '16  
Karen Billeci '83  
Wally Borland '74  
Ron Brown '86  
Dr. Lisa Cardoza  
Ryan Chan '16  
Dr. De-Laine Cyrenne '05, MA '07  
Patrick Dorsey '16, MPPA '19  
Robert Dugan '89  
Larry Gilmore '85  
Rabbil Green '06  
Tessa Haden '15

Dr. Colette Harris-Mathews '87  
Lance Hastings '87  
Dr. Melissa Kistler '85  
Devin Lavelle, MPPA '11  
Noah Marty  
Alyson Matsuo '02, EMBA '13  
Amanda Merz '12  
Brenda Narayan '00  
Dr. Robert S. Nelsen  
Jeff Owen '88  
Mariana Sabeniano '06  
Tim Shestek '91  
Rhonda Staley-Brooks '95, EMBA '18  
Dr. Nancy Tooker



## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

# PREET DIDBAL '98

(Physical Education)

### **Founder, Redefine and Empower**

Preet has a passion for serving and empowering others. After finding the courage to be more than a survivor, Preet became the first Sikh woman to hold the office of mayor, not only in California but in the United States. She served in that position until 2018 and focused her efforts on youth and underserved communities. This became the launching point for Redefine and Empower, the consulting firm she started to help survivors of sexual assault become truly authentic leaders, defy limits, and tackle challenges through building confidence, courage, and self-esteem. In addition, Preet teaches as an adjunct professor at Sacramento State and believes education and resources are the keys to a better future.





## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

# DR. JAMILLAH MOORE '92, MA '95

(Communication Studies/Intercultural Communication and Public Policy)

**President, Cañada College,  
San Mateo County Community College District**

After earning two degrees at Sacramento State, Dr. Moore completed her doctorate of education at the University of San Francisco. She is an innovative and strategic administrator working most of her career in higher education through the California Community College system. She consistently ensures educational access to underrepresented and underserved students and has positively impacted young people's lives for over two decades. Currently serving as the president of Cañada College in Redwood City, she continues to increase access to college with a K-12 pathway partnership, helps emancipated foster youth through the Guardian Scholars program, and is a tireless advocate for student funding. She also serves as a Governor's appointee on the California Student Aid Commission.



## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

# DR. JENNI MURPHY, EDD '12

(Educational Leadership and Policy)

**Dean, College of Continuing Education, Sacramento State**

After a decade in private industry, Dr. Murphy found her way to higher education. She started out as an adjunct professor, then discovered the College of Continuing Education at Sacramento State where she currently serves as the Dean. Jenni uses creativity, data, and perseverance to serve the adult learners in our community with a passion for degree attainment for working-age adults. She strives to make education at Sacramento State and around the region accessible and affordable to all. In addition, she is very active in the community, serving on the board of directors for both the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California and Impact Foundry. Her goal is to synchronize people and resources to achieve greater outcomes in the community. After earning her doctorate of education at Sacramento State, she has remained connected to the program as a mentor, helping students and lending expertise.





## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD R. SCOTT OWENS '86

(Criminal Justice)

**Retired District Attorney, Placer County**

After earning his degree at Sacramento State, Scott continued his learning at McGeorge School of Law. He has applied his law degree toward serving the Placer County community in the County Probation and District Attorney's Office for more than 36 years. He also shares his passion through teaching at the Sierra College Police Academy. As part of the Placer Advisory Council, he helped envision a Placer County Crime Lab that will be part of the new Sacramento State Placer Center. His community service focuses on assisting victims and survivors of elder abuse and domestic violence.



## RISING STAR AWARD

# RHYS HOSKINS '15

(Business Administration)

**First Baseman/Left Fielder, Philadelphia Phillies**

Rhys is a passionate supporter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). This connection came into focus for him in high school after spending two unforgettable summers as an MDA summer camp counselor and leader. After playing baseball for the Sacramento State Hornets and earning many accolades—Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Freshman of the Year and three-time Academic All-WAC—he was drafted to the Philadelphia Phillies in 2014, making his Major League Baseball debut in August 2017. He quickly earned National League Rookie of the Month hitting 10 home runs in five consecutive games, and that was just the beginning. He now uses his platform to promote, volunteer, and raise awareness for MDA. His ongoing efforts have resulted in earning the Phillies Service Award in 2016—awarded to the player with the most volunteer hours.



## RISING STAR AWARD

# ALYSSA NAKKEN '12

(Psychology)

**Coach, San Francisco Giants**

Alyssa made history this spring as the first female coach in Major League Baseball. She started as a baseball operations intern with the San Francisco Giants working with international scouting, supporting the draft, and building an understanding of player development. She made her mark as the Giants progressed toward the 2014 World Series run where she took on organizing many of the logistics. Alyssa kept finding opportunities to make a difference, and as the Giants built the new coaching staff for the 2020 season, the opportunity to coach came to her as she brought five years of experience with the team in addition to her knowledge of and love for the game. Her journey started at Sacramento State as a student athlete on the Hornet softball team. She is a four-time National Fast Pitch Coaches Association Scholar Athlete and Commissioner's Honor Roll recipient.





## HONORARY ALUMNUS AWARD

# DAVID BACH

**CEO, The Bach Group**

David has been an avid Sacramento State supporter for years. To the outside observer, you would never know that he earned his undergraduate degree from Cal State Long Beach and not Sacramento State. You will find David and his wife Margot at Hornet football games, speaker events, music and art performances and other events, but his engagement runs much deeper. David serves on the University Enterprises, Inc. board of directors and also sits on their audit committee, plus he serves as an appointee to the first statewide CSU investment board. His campus passion programs include Guardian Scholars, the Veteran's Success Program, and scholarships in the College of Arts and Letters. In addition, he spends time volunteering at the Sacramento Police Department, attending Renaissance Society classes, and presenting courses on financial issues.

# PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD [1987–2019]

Suzanne Adan _____ 2000	Edward J. Chavez _____ 1998	Giselle Fernandez _____ 1997	Jack Higdon _____ 2006
Kimo Ah Yun _____ 2017	Saori Choulos _____ 2019	Jesus Fernandez, Jr. _____ 2000	Gail Hullibarger _____ 2003
Larry Augusta _____ 2007	Kraig Clark _____ 2017	Helena Fitch-Snyder _____ 2010	Albert Hurtado _____ 1999
Christine Ault _____ 2016	Patricia Cochran _____ 2001	John Fitzgerald _____ 1992	Richard Johns _____ 2002
Michael Ault _____ 2016	Deborah Colberg _____ 1990	Jim Fitzpatrick _____ 2003	Allen Johnson _____ 1994
Virginia Avila _____ 2003	William Collard _____ 1996	Nick Floratos _____ 1987	Craig T. Johnson _____ 2004
Margot Shinnamon Bach _____ 2018	Ward Connerly _____ 1992	Roger G. F. Fong _____ 1997	Grantland Johnson _____ 1991
Karen Bakula _____ 2009	C. Carson Conrad _____ 1990	Alejandro Garcia _____ 2009	Said A. Kaki _____ 1991
Fred Uhl Ball _____ 1991	Dr. Marideth A. Curfman-Janssen _____ 2019	Carol Garcia _____ 2017	Joseph J. Kearns _____ 1997
Maureen Bauman _____ 2014	Douglas Curley _____ 2010	Al Geiger _____ 1995	Eddie Kho _____ 2010
Charles Bell _____ 2009	Fred Dalkey _____ 2004	Marjorie Geiszler _____ 1989	Suzanne Kingsbury _____ 2002
Jack Bertolucci _____ 2006	Ron Davis _____ 2001	John Gesek _____ 2008	Ana Klein _____ 2018
Felicia Bessent _____ 1992	Fred A. Dawkins _____ 1990	Thomas M. Gilbert _____ 2011	Greg Knapp _____ 2008
Lou Blanas _____ 2000	Christine L. Dean _____ 1998	Kayla Gillan _____ 2004	Gregory Kondos _____ 1994
Tami R. Bogert _____ 2015	Robert Dean _____ 2003	C. Stanley Gilliam _____ 1989	Michael Kuhlmann _____ 2013
Frank Borgia _____ 1987	Daniel DeFoe _____ 1998	Gloria Glycer _____ 1996	Pat Fong Kushida _____ 2015
Phil Boyer _____ 1993	Edward Del Biaggio _____ 2003	Jim Gomez _____ 2015	Paul Lau _____ 2011
Janice Rogers Brown _____ 1997	Cheryl Dell _____ 2013	Greg Hagwood _____ 2012	Kelvin K. Lee _____ 1998
Michael L. Brown _____ 2005	Jeff Dern _____ 2019	Lauren Hammond _____ 2007	William Lee _____ 2002
Mary Nosler Buehler _____ 1995	Linda Dixon _____ 1992	Ken Hansen _____ 1993	June LaVerne Long _____ 1993
David Bugatto _____ 2013	Clarke J. Dominguez _____ 1998	Mary Hargrave _____ 2000	Antonia Lopez _____ 1993
Christopher Cabaldon _____ 2002	Michael Dourgarian _____ 2003	Gilbert Herdt _____ 2017	Duane Lowe _____ 1996
Jamie Candelaria _____ 1993	Cate Dyer _____ 2015	Lory Heron _____ 1999	Dave Lucchetti _____ 1994
Dale Carlsen _____ 2002	Patrick Fenwick _____ 2006	John & Margi Herzog _____ 2012	Gregg Lukenbill _____ 2001
Michael Carter _____ 2008		Chris Higdon _____ 2014	Garry Maisel _____ 2013

# PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD [1987–2019]

Kenneth Macias _____ 2004	Todd Murch _____ 2005	Randy Reynoso _____ 2006	Wayne Thiebaud _____ 1990
Mary Louise Mack _____ 2002	Tim Murphy _____ 2016	Lee Ritchey _____ 2015	Keri Thomas _____ 2014
Robert F. Mange _____ 1989	Margo Murray _____ 1988	Robert H. Rivinius _____ 1989	Robert Thomas _____ 2000
Robin Martial _____ 2004	Albert Nájera _____ 2005	Ben Roberts _____ 2003	Holly Tiche _____ 2010
Scott Maxwell _____ 2007	Sia Nemat-Nasser _____ 2008	Pauline Rocucci _____ 1995	Charles Trainor _____ 1999
James P. Mayer _____ 2014	Trong D. Nguyen _____ 1991	Deborah Ross-Swain _____ 2016	Paulette Trainor _____ 2008
Denise Mazzucca-Barrett 1996	Jan A. Nolta _____ 2009	Jean Runyon _____ 1988	Tina Treis _____ 2011
Patrick C. McClain _____ 2019	Gloria Nomura _____ 2007	Anton Saca _____ 2000	Dr. Joseph Tuscano _____ 2018
Elizabeth McClatchy _____ 1992	Kitty O'Neal _____ 2001	Pamela G. Saltenberger _____ 2004	Michael Ubaldi _____ 2001
Mike McGowan _____ 1998	Mark Otero _____ 2012	Paul J. Sax _____ 1998	Raymond P. Valdez _____ 1995
Kathleen McGrath _____ 2001	Sam Pannell _____ 1993	Walter B. Schaub _____ 2008	Roger Valine _____ 1997
John McNamara _____ 1987	Randy Paragary _____ 1999	Jan Scully _____ 1996	Robbie Waters _____ 2004
Janet McWilliams _____ 2000	Theresa Parker _____ 2006	Ray Shaddick _____ 2001	Richard P. Weaver _____ 1997
Cristina Mendonsa _____ 2010	Alice Perez _____ 2007	John Shaw _____ 2002	Tom Weborg _____ 1997
David H. Mering _____ 2004	Ann Perez _____ 2016	James Shelby _____ 1994	Malcolm S. Weintraub _____ 1990
Silvia Sun Minnick _____ 1994	Craig Perez _____ 2016	Javed Siddiqui _____ 2014	Angelo A. Williams _____ 2017
H. Kit Miyamoto _____ 2012	Robert Perry-Smith _____ 2002	Lloyd Snelson _____ 2007	Lawrence Williams _____ 2007
Joseph Mohamed, Sr. _____ 1999	Steve Pleau _____ 1997	Rhonda Staley-Brooks _____ 2013	Mary Jane Young _____ 2004
Gil Moore _____ 2002	William Popejoy _____ 1996	Michael Stevens _____ 2000	Rosemary Younts _____ 2005
Jacki Morris-Henderson _____ 2019	John M. Poswall _____ 1995	Kirk B. Sturm _____ 2005	Scott Yuill _____ 2015
Ted. D. Morse _____ 1998	Ted Puntillo _____ 2011	René Syler _____ 2006	Karen Y. Zamarripa _____ 2007
Melba O. Mosher _____ 2004	Judy Quattrin _____ 2003	Scott C. Syphax _____ 2005	Daniel Zingale _____ 2007
John F. Moulds _____ 1998	Leticia Quezada _____ 1991	Andrei Tokmakoff _____ 2017	
Bill Mueller _____ 2018	Michael Reiner _____ 2010	Fred Teichert _____ 2002	



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## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

William Campbell, III _____	2006	Judy Quattrin _____	2019	Joseph Sheley _____	2012
Larry Cook _____	2009	Joseph Serna, Jr. _____	2000	Angelo Tsakopoulos _____	2001
Gary Quattrin _____	2019	Jan Scully _____	2015	Roger Valine _____	2007

## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE HONORARY ALUMNUS AWARD

Fred Anderson _____	1993	Sonney Chong _____	2005	Gary Hart _____	2003	Norman J. Phillips _____	1990
Stan Atkinson _____	2000	Dan Cole _____	2007	Thomas Hobday _____	1998	Alex G. Spanos _____	1999
Cal Boyes _____	1997	George M. Crandell _____	2009	Fred Hummel _____	1992	Pamela Stewart _____	2008
Roy Brophy _____	2002	Louis Desmond _____	1995	Muriel Johnson _____	2001	Harry Sweet _____	1999
Patricia Clark-Ellis _____	2011	Mark Drobny _____	2008	Susan McGinty _____	2016	H. Nicholas Windeshausen	2003
Ray Clemons _____	2004	Donald Gillott _____	1994	Josef Moorehead _____	2001		
Rose Mary Clemons _____	2003	Alexander Gonzalez _____	2011	Enlow Ose _____	1995		

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## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE RISING STAR AWARD

Krista Bernasconi _____	2011	Robert Meza _____	2012	Janay Swain _____	2012
Baldwin Chiu _____	2010	Dr. Meagan O'Malley _____	2019	Tracy Young _____	2018
Ryan M. Harrison _____	2017	Philip I. Person _____	2015		
Justin Knighten _____	2016	Christina Preston _____	2013		

## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD

W. Richard Cobb _____	1989	Robert H. Metcalf _____	1995	Dennis Tootelian _____	1993
Dan Decious _____	1989	Scott J. Modell _____	2004	Marlene von Friedrichs-Fitzwater	
William Dorman _____	1992	Barbara O'Connor _____	1994	2003	
Irvin E. Faria _____	1997	Kenneth Owens _____	2000	Robert Waste _____	2001
Marilyn Hopkins _____	2006	Felicenne Ramey _____	2002	Ann Weldy _____	2005
Kim Hughes _____	2007	Joseph Serna, Jr. _____	1991	William Whitehead _____	1988
Kenneth Kerri _____	1996	Gail Tom _____	1999	Donald Zingale _____	1992

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## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE ORDER OF THE HORNET

The Order of the Hornet Award was presented from 1972-1985. In 1987, the awards became known as the Distinguished Service Awards, however the Order of the Hornet designation is periodically given to selected recipients.

Steven Arvizu _____ 1982	Alexander Gonzalez ____ 2015	Catherine MacMillian ____ 2000	Paul Robins _____ 1999
Donald Bailey _____ 1976	Robert Gustafson _____ 1977	Gordon P. Martin _____ 1980	Gordon D. Schaber ____ 1972
John W. Baker _____ 1976	Rod Hamilton _____ 1981	Robert Mattos _____ 1987	Dixie Schneider _____ 2000
Sandra Baker _____ 1982	Isabel Hernandez-Serna 1995	Hubert McCormick ____ 1973	J. Harold Severaid ____ 1979
Henry A. Bamman ____ 1980	Phillip Isenberg _____ 1980	Joe A. McGowan _____ 1978	Bev Short _____ 1998
Robert W. Bell _____ 1991	W. Lloyd Johns _____ 1983	Melinda Melendez ____ 1999	John Smith _____ 1994
William Campbell, III ____ 1988	John P. Kearns _____ 1985	John Messner _____ 1998	Ron W. Smith _____ 1993
Lloyd Connelly _____ 1985	Keith B. Kenny _____ 1979	David Morse _____ 1990	George Sumner _____ 1980
Philip Cowan _____ 1999	Gary Kimmel _____ 2001	Stanley Pretzer _____ 1978	Jack Waymire _____ 1994
George Creel _____ 1981	Frank LaPena _____ 1995	Gary Quattrin _____ 1991	Thomas Willoughby ____ 1984
Lewis Crowl _____ 1978	Winnie Leung _____ 1989	John Ranlett _____ 1990	Robert Wyman _____ 1972
Robert Curry _____ 1988	Dorothy Lombard ____ 1987	Ann Reardon _____ 1981	Steve Yamshon _____ 1997
Dennis Gardemeyer ____ 2001	Carl Ludwig _____ 1984	Harold B. Roberts ____ 1977	Efra Zollinger _____ 1978



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