Bios of Program Participants

- **Edward Aguilar** is a proud graduate of all that California public education has to offer, from preschool through high school (Yerba Buena High School). He was a transfer student from De Anza Community College and earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from UC Santa Cruz and a master’s degree in higher education administration and policy studies from CSU Sacramento. Ed is the Manager for the Office of Student Equity and Diversity at San Joaquin Delta College, where he is spearheading several initiatives to support student equity initiatives, including a Mentorship Program for Men of Color and a program for Formerly Incarcerated Students in Transition.

- **Tanu Ah You** is a tenacious and courageous community leader who advocates for systems-impacted Asian Pacific Islander LGBTQ+/Gender Non-Conforming Communities. He started the first collegiate chapter of an organization for formerly incarcerated and systems-impacted students at Long Beach City College. He is the founder of Project ALOFA, Another Loving Opportunity for All, an organization founded on the belief that second chances should be extended to those who have been involved with the justice system. Project ALOFA helps members look for ways to reintegrate into our families and our communities.

- **Annika Yvette Anderson** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at CSU San Bernardino, where she teaches classes on deviant behavior, criminology, social psychology, race and ethnic relations. Dr. Anderson is the director of Project Rebound, a campus-based reentry program that helps formerly incarcerated students apply to, enroll in, and graduate with degrees from CSUSB. She received her B.A. in Public Relations from Pennsylvania State University and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Washington State University. Her research interests are in criminology, social stratification, sexuality, social psychology, race and ethnic relations.

- **Leticia Barajas** is Vice President of Pathway Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC). As Vice President, she is charged with developing and implementing innovative practices to increase student success rates. She leads campus-wide initiatives, including LATTC’s innovative student success initiative, Pathways to Academic, Career and Transfer Success, and the College to Career Initiative, a college-wide strategy for middle skills training and job placement. Leticia holds a Master of Public Administration from CSU Dominguez Hills and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, Law and Society from University of California, Irvine.

- **Katie Bliss** is the founder and program lead of Project Change at the College of San Mateo. Project Change is the first comprehensive, institutionalized, community college-funded program in California to provide in-person college instruction inside juvenile facilities and direct access to postsecondary education for incarcerated youth. Dropping out of high school and being incarcerated in juvenile hall for the majority of her adolescence, Katie earned a master's degree in English literature, two certificates in postsecondary reading and composition, and a bachelor's degree in English composition from San Francisco State University and Notre Dame de Namur University.
- **Robert Bowman**, as Program Director for the Shasta Technical Education Program–Unified Partnership (STEP-UP), directs a program with more than 100 students and a budget exceeding $500,000. He is responsible for coordinating all aspects of STEP-UP among nine private and law enforcement agencies in two counties. He is the primary liaison between Shasta College and STEP-UP’s partners, including California Parole Department; Butte County Office of Education; Good News Rescue Mission; California Heritage YouthBuild Academy; Shasta County Probation and Sheriff’s Department; and Tehama County Probation, Sheriff’s Department, and Job Training Center.

- **Scott Budnick** is founder and President of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, which provides support for formerly incarcerated men and women and advocates for fairer criminal justice policies. Scott graduated from Emory University and is a Member of California Community Colleges Board of Governors. Formerly Executive Vice President of Todd Phillips’ Green Hat Films, Scott executive produced comedies, including The Hangover series, the highest grossing rated-R comedies in history. He is a teacher and is on the board of InsideOUT Writers, which aims to reduce juvenile recidivism through creative writing and by providing services for currently and formerly incarcerated youth.

- **Jose Castro** is a California Department of Corrections teacher working at Calipatria State Prison. He has been the College Coordinator at Calipatria State Prison for four years. Calipatria State Prison has an onsite college program in partnership with Imperial Valley College. College correspondence courses are also offered at Calipatria through Coastline, Feather River, and Lassen Community Colleges.

- **Brant Choate** has 26 years’ experience in educational administration and has worked in adult education since 2003. He was Director of Inmate Education for Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (2011–14) and State Superintendent of Correctional Education with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (2014–17), leading academic, career technical education, and college programs for all 35 state prisons. Brant was recently appointed Director of Rehabilitative Programs for California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. He has a bachelor of science degree from Brigham Young University, and a masters and doctorate from Saint Mary’s College of California.

- **Andrew Cleek** was founding director of the Urban Institute for Behavioral Health (UIBH), a consortium focused on implementation of evidence-based practices, integrated primary and behavioral healthcare, and systems transformation in underserved communities. As Chief Program Officer for the McSilver Institute at NYU, he directs community-based technical assistance initiatives that work with State mental health, substance use, and child welfare providers on clinical and business practices designed to improve the NYS Medicaid Program; he is involved with 900 provider organizations, public sector managed care companies, and the State to implement Medicaid reform.
• Matthew Crow is the Chair of the English and Foreign Languages Department at Cerro Coso Community College, where he is also a Professor of English. He has taught English for more than 35 years and has taught at the California City Correctional Facility for two years.

• Sarah Crowley directs the Clean Slate Practice at East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC), which helps people with criminal records overcome barriers to employment, education, and civic participation through individual advocacy, impact litigation, and policy work. Since 2013, Sarah has led the group’s impact litigation work, challenging systemic barriers to employment and licensing. Before joining EBCLC, she litigated civil rights cases challenging police and prosecutorial misconduct with San Francisco and New York City law firms. Sarah was a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Lawrence M. McKenna and is a graduate of Princeton University and Columbia Law School.

• Keith Curry is the President/CEO of Compton College, which achieved initial accreditation status on June 7, 2017, and the Compton Community College District. He oversees all departments and functions of Compton College and the Compton District. He is a member of the Foundation for the Compton Community College District, Association of California Community College Administrators, California Community College Athletic Association, Statewide Association of Community Colleges, and President’s Roundtable. Dr. Curry has a bachelor’s degree from UC Santa Cruz and a doctorate from UC Irvine. He is an adjunct faculty member at CSU Fullerton in the College of Education.

• Margaret diZerega is a Project Director with the Vera Institute of Justice, managing work on access to postsecondary education within corrections, including Vera’s partnership with Renewing Communities and technical assistance to college-prison partnerships participating in the Second Chance Pell Experimental Sites Initiative. She directs a national initiative to expand access to public housing for people with conviction histories. Margaret served as director of training and technical assistance at Family Justice and program officer for LISC’s Community Safety Initiative. She has a BA from Williams College and an MPA from NYU’s Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

• Anastacia Dueñas is a first-year student at the College of San Mateo. She is a student leader in Project Change, an employee in the College of San Mateo’s multicultural learning community space The Village, and an ambassador and youth lead with the nonprofit Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY). Having herself, close family, and friends experienced the criminal justice system, Anastacia dedicates her time, energy, and studies to helping other young people. Anastacia is currently studying communications.
• **Maurice Emsellem** is the Director of the Fair Chance Program at the National Employment Law Project (NELP). NELP is a research and advocacy organization that delivers the nation’s promise of economic opportunity for low-wage and unemployed workers. He specializes in government systems of support for unemployed workers and the employment rights of people with criminal records. Mr. Emsellem was a Soros Justice Senior Fellow in 2005. He received his B.A. in 1982 from the University of Michigan and his J.D. in 1986 from Northeastern University School of Law.

• **Celia Esposito-Noy** became Superintendent/President of Solano Community College (SCC) in January 2016. She has nearly 30 years of experience in higher education and has worked primarily in California community colleges. Before joining SCC, Celia was Vice Chancellor for Educational Services at Chabot-Las Positas Community College District. She served the Los Rios Community College District in Sacramento for 15 years in a number of roles, including Vice President for Student Services and interim president at Cosumnes River College. Celia earned her BA from San Francisco State University, her MA from Stanford University, and her Ed.D. from Mills College.

• **Chelsea Esquibias** is the Program Director of the Inmate Scholars Program at Bakersfield College, the largest face-to-face college program in the nation, serving ten prisons in California's Central Valley. Chelsea earned her master’s in business with a specialization in leadership and has completed the coursework for her doctorate. She has been honored with multiple awards in her community and has been appointed to boards at both the state and local level. She is highly committed to education and is passionate about equity for all students.

• **Troy Fennel** is the Superintendent of Education for the Division of Juvenile Justice at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Troy was appointed by Governor Brown to the Superintendent position in March 2016, and he just completed his 25th year as an educator in corrections. One of his favorite quotes is, “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education,” from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Troy’s goal as Superintendent is to always work toward improving services in providing true education to the young people he serves.

• **Gaylla Finnell** works with the Imperial County Sheriff’s Office, Educational Services. She coordinates educational programming at the Imperial County Jail, partnering with Imperial Valley College and the Imperial County Adult Education Consortium (AEBG). In 2014, Gaylla led the development of the nation’s first community college Inside/Out program at the Imperial County Jail. That program is now in its eighth semester of coursework.

• **George Flores** is a Probation Unit Supervisor with the San Joaquin County Probation Department.
Mark Gambala is an Adjunct Counselor for the Court to College program at Cerritos College, an alternative to incarceration operating in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Superior Court. Gambala was born in southeast San Diego and was a reentry transfer student from Southwestern Community College. He earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from UC Berkeley and a master’s in education from San Diego State University. Gambala worked nearly 20 years in the Bay Area in Community Corrections as an Administrator/Program Director. Inspired by what is happening at Cerritos College, he has relocated to southern California to work with felons not in custody.

Aura Garcia has dedicated her career to advancing her community through education, most recently as Executive Consultant and Grant Writer in the Office of the President at Los Angeles Mission College. Her career began at the Los Angeles Education Partnership. Subsequently, at the Youth Policy Institute, she secured funding and resources to launch the FamilySource Centers to provide services to low-income families. Garcia served as a commissioner on a city planning commission, Regional Manager in the Mayor’s Office of Public Engagement, and is a City of Los Angeles Commissioner. She has a bachelor of arts from CSU Northridge and a master’s in Executive Leadership from USC.

Miguel Garcia graduated in March 2018 from UC Riverside with a bachelor’s degree in political science and international relations. He has three associate degrees from Riverside City College. Miguel is a Youth Justice Advocate for the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, a passion begun after his experiences with the justice system as a teenager. He is the youngest commissioner ever appointed to the Riverside County Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Committee. He is the Western Region Representative for the Coalition for Juvenile Justice and was recently appointed by Governor Brown to California’s State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Brian Gault, a former Marine, is a student at Modesto Junior College (MJC) studying sociology. He is the founder of a peer support group for formerly incarcerated and systems-impacted students at MJC. Brian has spoken publicly about his experiences in local county jails and to police cadets and veteran law enforcement officers. He hopes to eliminate preconceived notions of what it means to be a criminal, and to ease tensions between the formerly incarcerated and law enforcement. After graduating from MJC, Brian will transfer to CSU Stanislaus to pursue a degree in sociology. He plans to earn a master's in counseling and to teach in California state prisons.

Connie Gipson is the Deputy Director of Facility Operations in the Division of Adult Institutions at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Before that, Gipson served as Associate Director of General Population Male Offenders and in several positions at California State Prison, Corcoran, including Warden, Acting Warden and Chief Deputy Warden. She was Associate Warden at North Kern State Prison from 2008 to 2010 and held several positions at Wasco State Prison from 1997 to 2008, including Captain, Business Manager, and Health Program Coordinator. Gipson held medical technical positions at the California Institute for Women from 1988 to 1997.
- **Noel Gomez** is a Student Program Advisor with Santa Barbara City College (SBCC). He is also the Transitions Program Director for SBCC, and an instructor with the SBCC/Santa Barbara County Jail Education Program. SBCC’s Transitions Program was the recipient of the 2012 California Community Colleges Race Diversity & Equity Award.

- **Craig Hayward** is a researcher with more than 15 years’ experience in the California Community College system. He has led or contributed to significant statewide initiatives, including the Basic Skills Cohort Progress Tracker, Student Success Scorecard, and Transfer Velocity Cohort Report. He is a member of the Multiple Measures Assessment Project research team, which has increased placement accuracy for incoming students. He is team lead for IEPI’s Data Disaggregation project, illuminating promising practices across the state and country. As Dean of Institutional Effectiveness at Bakersfield College, he is pioneering research with the college’s large population of inmate scholars.

- **Laura Hope** is Executive Vice Chancellor for Educational Services & Support for the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. She began her career at Chaffey College as a professor of English. While there, she co-founded the Puente program and an associate degree program for inmates at the California Institution for Women. Laura was named Dean of Instructional Support at Chaffey College in 2008. During her nine years as dean, she oversaw initiatives aimed at enhancing and diversifying access to learning. Laura began her postsecondary education at Chaffey College and transferred to CSU San Bernardino, where she earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

- **Cecilia Jamison** works for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) as the Assistant Regional Administrator for the Southern Region. She began her career in 1995 with the California Department of Youth Authority as a Youth Correctional Counselor, and over the course of her career she was promoted through the ranks of the Parole Agent series. Cecilia is dedicated to professionalism and the field of law enforcement. She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work.

- **Lennor Johnson** is the Dean of Student Services and Special Projects at Imperial Valley College.

- **Spencer Layman** is graduating from San Bernardino Valley College in human services and sociology. He is the author of the Formerly Incarcerated Resource Center resolution presented to the statewide student Academic Senate, and he currently works as a substance abuse counselor at SoCal Road to Recovery Treatment Center.

- **Jennifer Leahy** is an Adjunct Lecturer in the Criminology Department at CSU Fresno, as well as the Program Director for Project Rebound CSU Fresno. She has a master’s degree in criminology and will be returning to school to obtain a Ph.D. in public health. Jennifer is a fulltime caregiver for her mother and a tireless advocate for the formerly incarcerated. Jennifer spent 18 years incarcerated and has been home since 2008.
• **Jody Lewen** is executive director of the Prison University Project based at San Quentin State Prison, which provides a general education associate of arts degree and intensive college preparatory courses to approximately 350 people incarcerated there. The project provides training and technical assistance to colleges offering higher education programs in prisons in California and across the U.S. Dr. Lewen has a bachelor’s degree from Wesleyan University in modern European history; a master’s degree from the Freie Universität, Berlin in comparative literature and philosophy; and a Ph.D. in rhetoric from UC Berkeley. The Prison University Project received the 2017 National Humanities Medal.

• **Martin Leyva** is a graduate student at CSU San Marcos, pursuing a Master of Arts in Sociological Practice. He holds a BA in liberal arts/psychology from Antioch University and is a CAADE Certified Drug and Alcohol Treatment Counselor. He has a strong passion for social justice and human rights issues. In 2008, he founded the SBCC/EOPS Transitions Program, which offers therapeutic and educational opportunities to those affected by the criminal justice system who wish to reintegrate into society. The program won The John G. Rice Award for Diversity and Equity in 2012. He also authored a scholarly article, “From Corrections to College: The Value of a Convict’s Voice.”

• **Taffany Lim** is the Senior Director for the Center for Engagement, Service, and the Public Good at CSLA. She oversees the BA degree completion program at Lancaster State Prison, the only in-person BA program for incarcerated students in the state of California. The program is currently in its third year and has approximately 50 students who are pursuing a bachelor’s degree in communications.

• **Stephanie Lomibao** is a member of the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) team and serves as a program manager for the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. The portfolio of global grantees she manages includes partners that provide programs and services for the formerly incarcerated, opportunity youth, disability, and other diverse communities. Stephanie earned her dual bachelor’s degree in business marketing and public administration from CSU Fullerton, where she participated in the CSU California State Capitol Internship Program. She has a master’s degree in public policy with an emphasis in philanthropy from the University of Southern California.

• **Connie Lorenzo** is a Senior Program Manager for the Employment Training Division of Humboldt County’s Department of Health and Human Services. Connie has worked in economic and workforce development for the past 15 years with various government programs, including the Small Business Development entrepreneur assistance program, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work, and more recently with Supervised Population Workforce programs. Prior to her government experience, Connie worked in San Francisco as the Director of Educational Technologies for the California College of Arts and practiced as a self-employed textile designer.
• **Alberto Lule** knew when he was paroled in May 2016 after doing 13 years, that the first thing to do was get back in school. He took classes in prison through the Palo Verde Community College Program. Alberto enrolled at Santa Barbara City College two weeks after paroling and became part of the SBCC Transitions program for formerly incarcerated students. After three semesters of full-time enrollment, he learned he was accepted to UC Santa Barbara and UC Santa Cruz for transfer. The decisions of UC Berkeley and UCLA will be known soon. He became an ambassador for the Berkeley Underground Scholars Initiative after attending the Homeboy Industries Global Summit in 2016.

• **Annahita Mahdavi** is a professor at Long Beach City College (LBCC) in the Human Service Program, teaching addiction studies. She holds a master’s degree in clinical psychology from Pepperdine University and is a Ph.D. candidate writing her dissertation on the resiliency factors of immigration and acculturation. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1990 and obtained political refugee status. She became an American citizen in 2010. She has worked in juvenile systems and adult drug courts as a clinician, and is an advocate for human rights and social justice. In fall 2017, along with a group of passionate students, she was able to institute an official center for formerly incarcerated students at LBCC.

• **Shannon McConville** is a senior research associate at the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC). Her research interests include health care access and outcomes among vulnerable populations and the impact of vocational training programs on economic mobility. Before joining PPIC, she was a research training fellow at UC Berkeley; a senior research associate at the Department of Health Research and Policy at Stanford University; and a project manager at the Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies at UCLA. She holds a master’s in public policy from UCLA.

• **Patrice Milkovich** is Director of the Restorative Justice Program at Southwestern Community College. Working as an academic administrator for Southwestern Community College District, she was instrumental in launching face-to-face inmate education programs at RJ Donovan State Prison and in county jails. Under her direction, by fall 2016 Southwestern College had begun an Associate Degree for Transfer in Business Administration program to a cohort of 25 students under the Second Chance Pell Pilot Program. To date, 786 course completions have been logged at RJ Donovan. She has bachelor’s and master of science degrees from Slippery Rock University.

• **Nancy Miller** is the Director of Regional Adult Education Programs for Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) and has worked with SRJC and the Sonoma County Adult Education Consortium for the past four years, establishing an Adult Education Department at SRJC that houses integrated training programs for immigrants, career skill training certificates, and the Corrections-Reentry partnership program with the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office and Probation Department. Prior to SRJC, Nancy worked for fourteen years in secondary education establishing business-education partnerships to provide career training and industry certification for high school and adult students.
Ron Moss is Executive Director of The Gamble Institute (TGI) and oversees the Street Scholars Peer Mentoring Program located at Merritt College in Oakland. Additionally, Ron is a full time faculty instructor in the Community Social Services/Substance Abuse (COSER) Certificate Technical Education (CTE) Program at Merritt College. Ron has a high number of formerly incarcerated and former substance abusers in his two-year substance abuse counseling CTE program. Academically, Ron completed three associate degrees at Merritt, a bachelor of arts at UC Berkeley, and an MSW at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Social Welfare in Management and Planning.

Jeffrey Mrizek is the Dean of Effective Practices in the Workforce and Economic Development Division at the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office. The division has fiscal oversight and policy formation of more than $900M in public funds for Career Technical Education and Economic Development programs in the State’s 114 Community Colleges. Specifically, Dr. Mrizek oversees $54 million in Perkins IV Federal Funds and $13.3 million in community college nursing programs. As part of his Perkins duties, Dr. Mrizek is on the California Rehabilitation Oversight Board (C-ROB) and the Joint Special Populations Action Committee (JSPAC).

Debbie Mukamal is the Executive Director of the Stanford Criminal Justice Center at Stanford Law School. Her portfolio of work includes co-directing Renewing Communities, a statewide initiative to expand college opportunities for currently and formerly incarcerated students in California. From 2005 to 2010, she served as the founding Director of the Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Before joining John Jay College, she served as the founding director of the National H.I.R.E. Network and a staff attorney at the Legal Action Center. She has a JD from New York University School of Law and a BA from UC Berkeley.

Danny Murillo is a 2016 Soros Justice Advocacy Fellow working on the Renewing Communities Initiative, a project of The Opportunity Institute. He graduated from UC Berkeley in 2015 with a degree in ethnic studies. In 2015 Danny was a UC Berkeley John W. Gardner Fellow in Public Service at the Vera Institute of Justice and at Rutgers University. Also, while at UC Berkeley, he co-founded the Underground Scholars Initiative, an organization dedicated to supporting students who have been personally impacted by incarceration.

Kellie Nadler is Deputy Director of Renewing Communities, a statewide systems-change initiative aimed at increasing higher education opportunities for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated Californians. Kellie serves on committees for Spark, a philanthropic network aiming to improve the lives of women around the world. Prior to working for Renewing Communities, she was a lecturer at Eastern Michigan University. During her time at Eastern, she taught incarcerated women, adults struggling with literacy, marginalized youth, and college students. Kellie holds a bachelor’s degree from Miami University and a master’s degree from Eastern Michigan University.
Bikila Ochoa is Policy Director for the Anti-Recidivism Coalition. Ochoa grew up in the Bronx. He holds a Ph.D. in sociology and social policy from Harvard University. Supported by fellowships from Harvard University, the Ford Foundation, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Bikila’s research focused on the re-entry processes of formerly incarcerated juveniles in halfway houses in Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts. After his graduate studies, Bikila graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. After law school, Bikila was a fellow at a labor-side law firm, specializing in workplace racial discrimination and sexual harassment issues, and worked as a researcher.

Ruben Ortiz is the College Coordinator for Kern Valley State Prison, B Yard. He implemented the Bakersfield College Inmate Scholars Program transfer level college courses in his maximum security, main line facility. The students have achieved above average grades. Ruben attributes the success of the program to the empowerment of students and creating the Inmate Education Advisory Committee, a committee of students whose responsibility is to generate ideas and implement process improvements for the betterment of their education. Ruben has a bachelor’s in business administration from Fresno State. He joined Kern Valley State Prison after years in K-12 education.

Christian Osmeña is Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities Planning for the California Community Colleges, where he oversees distribution of state funds for the state’s 72 community college districts. He is responsible for aligning budget policy with the Vision for Success approved by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. Osmeña’s prior roles include working at the California Department of Finance and in the California Office of the Governor, first as assistant to the chief of staff and later as a deputy cabinet secretary. He has a bachelor’s degree from UC Berkeley and a master’s degree from USC. He is pursuing a doctorate in education at UC Davis.

Mariana Pereyra has a master’s in social work and has been working for the past year as a counselor for Gavilan College Noncredit Division. Her role is to assist incarcerated students with the transition from jail to Gavilan College in order to pursue their academic and professional goals. She has held positions in the fields of community mental health, medical research, juvenile justice, and medical social work. She has a background in the community she serves and is bilingual.

Monte E. Perez has been the President of Los Angeles Mission College in San Fernando Valley for seven years. Before that he was President of Moreno Valley College and Vice President of Student Services at Golden West College in Huntington Beach. While the Director of the Educational Opportunity Program at CSU Los Angeles in the 1970s, he established the Student Parole Program, commonly known as the Pinto Program, where parolees were enrolled at Cal State pursuing their BA degrees. He has a long history of service to the formerly incarcerated.
**Eduardo Pesqueira** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and the Minority Male Initiative Coordinator (MMIC) at Imperial Valley College (IVC). He took on the role of MMIC at IVC in October 2016 and has coordinated the Prison Education Program, Jail Education Program, and Inside/Out College Program. Started in the fall 2016 semester with six courses, the Prison Education Program now offers twenty-nine courses to 216+ student-inmates between Calipatria and Centinela State Prisons. Mr. Pesqueira coordinates on-campus support services for formerly incarcerated students and is Club Advisor for IVC’s FIRST (Formerly Incarcerated Resilient Students in Transition) Club.

**Romarilyn Ralston** experienced her first college course in prison, and it transformed her life. Post-release, she earned a BA from Pitzer College in gender & feminist studies, then a master’s in liberal arts from Washington University in St. Louis. She is a Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs (2014) alumna, JustLeadership USA (2017) alumna, and Women’s Policy Institute Fellow, Criminal Justice Team 2017–2018. Romarilyn is the Program Coordinator for Project Rebound at CSU Fullerton.

**Robert Rundquist**, a faculty member at Chaffey College since 2003, has coordinated Chaffey’s inmate education programs for more than 10 years—staffing faculty, counselors, and peer tutors to support face-to-face instruction in the men’s and women’s prisons in Chaffey’s district. Currently serving as Interim Dean for Kinesiology, Nutrition, Athletics/Success Centers and Libraries at Chaffey College, Mr. Rundquist oversees Chaffey’s “Turning Point” program in the nearby prisons. Mr. Rundquist has experience with all facets of developing a college program in a prison and has worked extensively with local and state-level CDCR partners.

**Camilla Russell** is a formerly incarcerated student who spent twelve and a half years in prison. She is currently completing her final year at Los Angeles Southwest College where she is studying psychology. Camilla plans to be a therapist or counselor and is passionate about breaking the traumatic cycle of hurt people hurting people. She aims to transfer to a university to complete her B.A.

**Rebecca Silbert** is a Senior Fellow at The Opportunity Institute and co-director of Renewing Communities, a statewide initiative to increase access to higher education for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated Californians. Previously, Rebecca was the Executive Director of the Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy at UC Berkeley School of Law. Prior to joining the Warren Institute, Rebecca tried cases for nine years as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Northern District of California. Rebecca graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Law School and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of UC Berkeley.
- **Peter Simon** is a Senior Consultant with the Career Ladders Project (CLP) in Oakland. During 2016–17, Peter led the team that facilitated a statewide Community of Practice among 13 sites funded by the California Workforce Development Board (AB 2060 funds). These “FowardFocus” sites were supported in developing innovative partnerships and providing workforce services to serve clients on probation and parole. Prior to working with CLP, Peter was a CTE Dean at the College of Alameda and Workforce Development Director at Laney College.

- **Bailey Smith** is Director of Student Equity at El Camino College Compton Center. Previously, she was director of the Learning Assistance Center at Mt. San Antonio College, serving on the Basic Skills Coordinating Committee, the Student Equity Committee, and as co-chair of the Developmental Education Study Team. Ms. Smith has a certificate in Spanish/English legal translation and interpretation from CSU Fullerton, a master’s from University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, and a bachelor’s from UC Santa Cruz. She is on the Board of Xela Aid, which promotes sustainable community development in Guatemala, and volunteers with Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition.

- **Margaret (Peggy) Stevenson** is the developer and Project Director of the Record Clearance Project in the Justice Studies Department at San Jose State University (SJSU). She has taught students to provide legal services to low-income clients since 1994, including 12 years teaching Stanford and Santa Clara law students in community-based clinics, focusing on employment issues of low-wage workers. In response to a request on behalf of the East Palo Alto community, in 2005 she began developing a program on expungement law. In 2007 she started teaching at SJSU. She was a legal services attorney for 10 years and holds a BA from Stanford University and a JD from UCLA Law School.

- **James Todd** is Vice President of Student Services at Modesto Junior College (MJC). He holds a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from UC Santa Cruz, his research focusing on the intersections of race and inequality, American capitalism, evangelical Christianity, gender, and automobility. Indebted to the community college system after being given a second chance, James returned to teach anthropology at MJC in 2006. After several years of faculty leadership at local and state levels, James joined the executive leadership team at MJC in 2015. He is an advocate for system-affected individuals, and collaborated with various community partners to build the MJC Reentry Success Network.

- **James Tompkins** is a formerly incarcerated sophomore psychology student at Bakersfield College. James is dedicated to creating pathways for success for other formerly incarcerated students. To accomplish this goal, James serves as an Ambassador for the UC Berkeley Underground Scholars Initiative and is President of the Bakersfield College Student Organization, Free On The Outside.
• **Chloe Turner** is a rehabilitation service coordinator for the San Francisco Sheriff’s Department, overseeing programming and education for inmates in the County Jail. Chloe deeply believes in the rehabilitative power of education and is proud to work for a progressive Sheriff’s Department that employs formerly incarcerated individuals like her. She works to guide others toward a positive reentry by exemplifying that change is possible. She believes in including those impacted by incarceration in decision-making and advocacy. She holds a bachelor’s degree in organizational behavior and leadership from the University of San Francisco and is a Stanford Project ReMade alumna.

• **Sabrena Turner-Odom** is a faculty member in the English Department at Los Angeles Southwest College (LASC) and a guest lecturer in the Africana Studies Department at CSU Long Beach. She is a strong supporter of collaboration and has witnessed the benefits of teamwork as the Director of LASC’s Student Success Center and as faculty co-chair of the Basic Skills and Achieving the Dream Initiatives. Dr. Turner-Odom teaches African-American literature and freshman composition and has a BA in English from USC, an MA in English literature and composition from UC Irvine, and an Ed.D. in educational leadership in community colleges from CSU Fullerton.

• **Roger Viet Chung** is a faculty member in the Ethnic Studies Department at Laney College and Coordinator of the Restoring Our Communities Initiative for formerly incarcerated students at Laney. He is also the lead instructor and curriculum developer for the ROOTS (Restoring Our Original True Selves) Program at San Quentin and Solano State Prisons. He is a core member of Asian Prisoner Support Committee (APSC).

• **Whitney Yamamura** was appointed the third president of Folsom Lake College by the Los Rios Community College District Board of Trustees in 2017, succeeding Dr. Rachel Rosenthal. The fourth generation Sacramentan has been a community college educator and administrator with the Los Rios Community College District since 1989. Having served at all four Los Rios colleges, Whitney has an understanding of each college’s culture and how it fits in the larger Los Rios family and the diverse communities they serve. He has a master’s degree in economics and a bachelor’s degree in business administration from CSU Sacramento, and is finishing his doctorate at UC Davis.