



# SPRING

# 2022

Graduate Studies Newsletter





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## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

**April 25th** Spring Courtesy Thesis Format Review & Deadline to register for IdeaFest

**May 9th** Spring Thesis Submission Deadline

**May 14th** Commencement

**May 18th** Last day to submit a graduation date change form for Spring 2022

**July 5th** Courtesy Thesis Format Review for Summer Semester

**July 18th** Thesis Submission Deadline for Summer Semester

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 29th - End of the Year Celebration!**

Join your fellow graduate students and faculty from **3-5pm** in the **Founders Hall Courtyard** for pizza, music, and a short presentation from our Dean, Dr. Carmen Bustos-Works. RSVP [here](#).

**May 6th - CSU 2nd Annual Grad Slam**

Come support Cal Poly Humboldt in the 3 minute thesis competition. This event showcases and celebrates the wide array of excellent research and creative activity taking place at the graduate level across the CSU. [Register now](#) to attend the virtual event on 5/6 and support Cal Poly Humboldt!

**May 6th - IdeaFest**

Enter your research or project in the 9th Annual Cal Poly Humboldt IdeaFest on May 6. Last day to register is Monday, April 25. Visit [ideafest.humboldt.edu](http://ideafest.humboldt.edu) to register!

**May 14th - Commencement**

8:30 a.m. - College of Arts Humanities & Social Sciences

12:00 pm - College of Natural Resources & Sciences

3:30 p.m. - College of Professional Studies



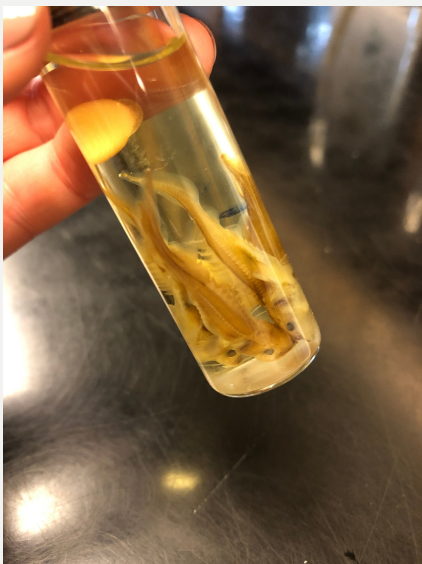
# Melody Tew

M.S. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Melody is a first-year graduate student at Cal Poly Humboldt working under Dr. Allison Bronson. According to Dr. Bronson Melody's research "is fairly high-tech work that is rarely done by faculty at Humboldt, and Melody has had to do a lot of legwork to get her project started in terms of literature searches, learning new techniques, and understanding the biology of a highly unusual fish species."

## What is your research focused on?

For my Master's thesis, I am studying the migration of neural crest cells in White Sturgeon and am investigating if their bony scales (scutes) develop from the neural crest. I love developmental biology and am pursuing a research and teaching career in this field.



## How are you involved in Cal Poly Humboldt?

This semester I am the Graduate Assistant for the Transmission and Scanning Electron Microscopy class offered here, and last semester I was the GA for Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy. I also work for the Supplemental Instruction program at the Learning Center. When I was an undergraduate here at Cal Poly Humboldt studying Zoology, I was an SI Leader for Zoology for five semesters, but this year I am part of the office team as the Student SI Assistant Coordinator helping with the program expansion for the new Cal Poly designation.

## Any Advice for your fellow graduate students?

My advice for current and prospective grad students is to always take chances and seek new opportunities. Build connections with your faculty and always go the extra mile - it really pays off!



# Julie Slater North

LECTURER &  
PPSC-SSW COORDINATOR

**How long have you been at Cal Poly Humboldt?**

I have been teaching in the Social Work department for 6 years. I got my Masters in Social Work here in 2010, then worked as a school social worker in the community for several years before returning to teach.

**Tell us about your work.**

I am a lecturer in our MSW programs (both campus and distributed learning), and I primarily teach field seminars with our students as they complete their MSW internships. I also coordinate our Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Social Work program. The PPSC-SSW program is a post-MSW credential for folks who want to do school-based social work and is available to Cal Poly Humboldt graduates as well as graduates of other MSW programs.

I have been the Program Coordinator since its start four years ago, and the program is really growing. As people become more aware of the social-emotional needs of children, and the necessity of providing related services in schools, the demand for school-based mental health professionals is greatly expanding, and our department is excited to be preparing our graduates for these positions!



Julie Slater North received her M.S.W. in 2010. She has been lecturing at Cal Poly Humboldt since 2016. This year, we recognize her exceptional contributions to the Social Work Department

In my role as Coordinator, as well as being an instructor for one of the required program courses, I work in collaboration to build capacity throughout our community to train our student interns, as well as advocate for increasing local school-based positions.

I also am on the California Association of School Social Workers Board of Directors as the Northern California Regional Coordinator. It is truly an honor to be a part of this board which works to promote and support our profession state-wide, and to work to build connections among those of us in the Northern region.





**What is your favorite part of your job?**

By far my favorite part of my job is supporting and getting to know our students! Everyday I get to witness the incredible work our students are doing in their internships, learning to become fierce social justice advocates, anti-oppressive and inclusive practitioners, and community-based change-makers. The social work program has an emphasis on working in rural and Indigenous communities, and this is threaded throughout all of our course curriculum and field-based learning. Witnessing students evolve in their learning, and incorporation of that learning, is inspiring and humbling; I love that I also continue to learn from our students and alumni in the field.

**How do you spend your free time?**

When I am not doing my professional work (and often simultaneously!), I am a full-time parent to an almost five-year-old. My partner is an avid gardener, so they keep me busy with lots of homegrown food to process and preserve. I love riding my bike, spending time with my friends and chosen family, engaging in our local community events, and playing women's pick up soccer!

**Do you have any advice for current or prospective graduate students?**

I think a lot of students can feel that graduate school is supposed to answer all the questions about what we want to do in the world, and to give us all the skills to do that. And while it of course is an opportunity to narrow our professional focus and hone the relevant skills, it is also a place to continue to expand and explore, and to ask more questions. No one experience should be the end of our learning; the best education should nurture our continued sense of curiosity, our acceptance that mastery is an illusion, and our knowledge that the best leaders and teachers always continue to learn and grow.



# Boram Lim

## On his work, studies, and research:

I am currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Also, I've accepted the tenure track assistant professor position in the Department of Health and Kinesiology at the Texas A&M University, Kingsville, upcoming Fall 2022. I have been working as a graduate assistant/course instructor in Kinesiology. I am teaching core exercise sciences classes involving several research projects.

My research area is in human performance, strength and conditioning, and triathlon (i.e., swim, bike, and run).



Boram Lim received his Master of Science in Kinesiology at Cal Poly Humboldt in 2018.



The primary purpose of my research is to improve human performance through acute/chronic interventions, training programs, nutrition plans, and preventing overuse injuries in aspects of exercise physiology and biomechanics. Specifically, I have the experience to collect data to see any changes in physiological and biomechanical responses during running and cycling.

My doctoral dissertation investigates whether swimming with or without a wetsuit affects swimming physiology, shoulder muscle activations, and swimming kinematics. Ultimately, I would like to expand my scope of knowledge to prevent metabolic disease through exercise to contribute to academia and the community.



## How have you used your experience at Cal Poly Humboldt to advance in your work?

I have learned a lot at Cal Poly Humboldt from my academic advisor, professors, colleagues, and students. Especially, my academic advisor (Dr. Young Kwon) taught me about exercise sciences contents and showed me how to be a good educator, researcher, and role model to students.

Therefore, I am trying to be a humble educator willing to guide students to figure out what they want to do and who they want to become through my lecture, laboratory activities, and advising. Also, I am trying to be subject number one before any human performance research to minimize any possible errors that could occur in real situations and share my research experiences, mistakes, and failures with my students.

Based on that, I am always thinking about making my class easy to understand and a more practical approach to give students hands-on experiences.

Furthermore, I have learned the importance of community service while participating in some projects during my time in Cal Poly Humboldt for local firefighters, police officers, and staff members to measure body composition and fitness components.

I believe that university is not just for the limited number of students in a small classroom but also for the community. The knowledge should be spread over to help other people from what we have learned from university.

# Boram Lim



Therefore, I have been voluntarily participating in many local endurance races and students' events to better understand how I can contribute to my community outside of the classroom.

## What piece of advice would you offer to current or prospective graduate students?

The great thing is not coming all of a sudden. Consistency is the key to success in everything. Also, time management is an essential skill to have in order to balance work and personal life.

Sometimes, a graduate program is overwhelming, and everyone has to deal with their situation while doing many things simultaneously. You all realize that all the processes are the way to become a professional in your field. Thus, being comfortable in an uncomfortable situation. Life begins at the end of your comfort zone (Neale Donald Walsch).

Most importantly, ENJOY every single moment!

# PATRICIA O. MCCONKEY AWARD WINNERS

This award recognizes distinguished scholarly achievement at the master's degree level. These awards are given to outstanding graduating graduate students at Cal Poly Humboldt who have been nominated by their department for excellence in their field and research. Congratulations to the McConkey recipients for the 2021-2022 academic year!



## SOPHIA LEMMO

**Natural Resources - FWWS**

**Thesis:** Tree mortality and regeneration across competitive and geographic gradients in northern California

**Advisor:** Lucy Kerhoulas



## CRANE CONSO

**Psychology - Academic Research**

**Thesis:** Uncertainty, Populist Deprivation Rhetoric, and Extremism

**Advisor:** Amber Gaffney



## EVAN MORDEN

**Public Sociology**

**Thesis:** Organizing for Power: The Flow of Social Power in Community-Level Changes and Rural Community Organizing in Northern California

**Advisor:** Michihiro Sugata

## KRISTEN ORTH-GORDINIER

**Natural Resources - ESM**

**Thesis:** Social Science Research to Help Advance Regional Coordination and Collaboration of Sea Level Rise Planning and Adaptation on Humboldt Bay

**Advisor:** Laurie Richmond.



## ALLISON IAFRATE

**English - Applied English Studies**

**Thesis:** Our Place in Research: Understanding Social Productions of Knowledge Using Digital Spaces

**Advisor:** Janelle Adsit



# Our 2022 CSU Grad Slam Competitors

CSU Grad Slam is an annual competitive public speaking event that gives graduate students the chance to showcase the impact of their research. Grad students bring their work to the forefront for a live audience to share what they know, that their research is cutting-edge, breaking barriers, and has the potential to change the world.



**Hannah Joss**  
competitor

My study uses high-resolution remote sensing to monitor the kelp along a section of Humboldt county to determine how it has fared over the past 6 years and introduces new monitoring techniques (using drones) to kelp farmers who are bringing regenerative kelp farming to Humboldt Bay. Since bull kelp is foundational to the nearshore ecosystem, it is critical to monitor its fluctuations through the years and determine which drivers (temperature, salinity, turbidity, etc) may be driving its success. It will be interesting to determine if Trinidad's kelp population experienced loss at a similar scale to what was recorded in Sonoma and Mendocino (95% kelp lost over 2014-2016!) and how kelp cultivated in the Bay responds to these same environmental drivers.

- My research is charting a reading strategy through mapping, using critical cartography and counter-mapping to inform a new way to make meaning when reading novels. This research insists that by making our own maps as readers, we can disrupt the author's perspective and craft new interpretations that highlight our own experiences. The activity of mapping events, characters, locations and material conditions found in novels encourages self-reflection, challenges perspectives of power, and develops new ways of using existing digital platforms.



**Anne Howard**  
competitor



**Sydney Sawyer**  
alternate

My presentation covers parental considerations which need to be made when implementing homework interventions for students with ADHD. This topic is important because one of the most influential settings for learning and mastering life skills is in the home. Families need to be able to establish needed behavioral and environmental routines needed for optimal homework performance. This may be a problem for students requiring homework management interventions because homework interventions do not always account for home or parental factors.

# Tools and Resources

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Academic & Career Advising Center

(707)826-3341

The Learning Center

(707)826-5217

The Library

(707)826-3431

Counseling and Psychological Services

(707)826-3236

College of eLearning & Extended Education

(707)826-3731

Institutional Review Board

[irb@humboldt.edu](mailto:irb@humboldt.edu)

Office of Graduate Studies

(707)826-5194

Office of the Registrar

(707)826-4101