



CSU Bakersfield

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CSUB Honors Faculty, Staff Members with Top Awards

August 23, 2018 -- California State University, Bakersfield today honored five faculty members and one staff member with special recognition during CSUB's University Day activities.

Faculty members receiving recognition are:

- Dr. Jean West, a marketing professor, received the Millie Albin Excellence in Teaching Award.
- Dr. Anna Jacobsen, a biology professor, received the Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity Award.
- Dr. Aaron Hegde, an associate professor in the Department of Economics and director of the Environmental Resources Management Program, received the Faculty Service and Leadership Award.
- Dr. Michael Burroughs, an assistant professor of philosophy and director of the Kegley Institute of Ethics, received the Outstanding New Faculty Award.
- Matt Woodman, a lecturer in the English Department, received the Outstanding Lecturer Award.

“These awards represent the university’s top teaching honors,” said Dr. Deborah Boschini, chair of CSUB’s Academic Senate. “The recipients are educators who consistently provide our students with the critical components necessary to achieve a high-quality education. Not only do they contribute to the overall mission of CSU Bakersfield, but they also contribute greatly to their individual fields – elevating the prestige of a degree obtained from our institution and the reputation of our university in the local community and beyond.”

In addition, Crystal Montoya, CSUB’s Early Intervention Programs Coordinator, was named outstanding staff member and Extended Education and Global Outreach was named outstanding department.

Additional information on the faculty award recipients follows:

Dr. Jean West

Dr. West joined CSUB in 2005 and is a full professor in marketing. Her passion for teaching has been present from the time she first taught college students in 1997 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she received her Ph.D. in advertising and marketing.

Dr. West is a nationally recognized marketing educator and researcher. She served as director of CSUB's master of business administration program from 2012 through 2014. During her term as director, she revised the program curriculum to incorporate better learning opportunities for students. In addition, she organized events to connect students with key community leaders—affording students opportunities to showcase their talents. She formed the MBA Club on campus, as well as student membership in the National Association of MBAs.

In striving to elevate the experiences of students, she took on the position of faculty coordinator of women's gender and sexuality studies for the 2016-2017 academic year. She is the only faculty member on the CSUB campus to participate in two consecutive brown bag presentations for student enrichment, sponsored by the CSUB Programming Office.

She received the National Corporate Vision's 2016 Marketing, Public Relations, and Communications Award for her contributions to student learning in those fields.

Dr. Aaron Hegde

Years before food insecurity became a system-wide priority, Dr. Hegde paid attention to anecdotal evidence that CSUB students were going hungry.

In 2013, he and a graduate student conducted a survey that revealed 40% of the respondents, including students, faculty and staff, had experienced food insecurity. As a result, the CSUB Food and Housing Security Committee was formed, monthly food distributions with a community partner began, and the CSUB Food Pantry was opened.

Dr. Hegde has championed environmental sustainability and has developed curriculum for two new programs – a bachelor's degree in agricultural business and a concentration in occupational safety within the Environmental Resource Management program. Dr. Hegde helped raise \$800,000 to endow safety concentration. He started the Ag Career Fair where average attendance has been more than 250 students. He has served on more than 40 campus committees, including the Academic Senate and as chair of the Budget and Planning Committee.

Dr. Anna Jacobsen

Dr Jacobsen's core research focuses on plant vascular structure and function. This is an integrative and interdisciplinary field requiring her to be an expert in microscopy, plant anatomy, evolution, and plant physiology. She has used a comparative community approach to test long standing questions in plant evolution and ecology, with a focus on California native plants.

Dr. Jacobsen has also studied key crop plants like grapevine and olive, examining their vascular function in the context of irrigation, productivity, and pathogens. Dr. Jacobsen has developed and maintained a highly active and successful research program. She has produced many peer-

reviewed publications, been funded by outside agencies, and provided numerous opportunities for student involvement in and exposure to scientific research.

Dr. Michael Burroughs

Dr. Burroughs is a researcher, educator, and ethics institute director. His work is defined by service to his campus and community, both locally and nationally. He serves as director of the [Kegley Institute of Ethics](#) at CSUB and as president of the national non-profit organization, the Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization. In these roles, he helps to introduce ethics and humanities-based education at CSUB, in K-12 schools, prisons, community organizations, and other locations.

Dr. Burroughs also is a widely published researcher, with more than a dozen published articles, book chapters, and a co-authored book, *Philosophy In Education: Questioning and Dialogue in Schools* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016).

Matthew Woodman

A lecturer in the English Department, Matthew Woodman has been a voice and mentor for creative writing. He edits and publishes a “Local Poets” chapbook in coordination with an annual poetry reading featuring campus poets as well as those from the Kern County community.

Additionally, he has begun an annual ongoing collaboration with the Bakersfield Museum of Art’s “Art After Dark” series whereby CSUB students write and perform ekphrastic poetry inspired by the museum’s exhibits. Finally, as the founding editor of the literary journal *Rabid Oak*, he has created a medium for CSUB students to gain editing experience. Woodman demands excellence and nurtures courage and confidence in his students; his classroom is a place of creative risk-taking.

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About CSUB

California State University, Bakersfield is a comprehensive public university committed to offering excellent undergraduate and graduate programs that advance the intellectual and personal development of its students. An emphasis on student learning is enhanced by a commitment to scholarship, diversity, service, global awareness and life-long learning. The University collaborates with partners in the community to increase the region’s overall educational attainment, enhance its quality of life, and support its economic development. The University was founded in 1965 and opened for classes in fall, 1970. Its vision is to be the leading campus in the CSU system in terms of faculty and academic excellence and diversity, quality of the student experience and community engagement. The University’s faculty is world-class, with nearly 75% holding the highest degrees in their respective fields.

The University serves more than 10,000 students between the main campus in Bakersfield and CSUB, Antelope Valley and counts approximately 50,000 alumni from its four schools: Arts and

Humanities; Business and Public Administration; Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering; and Social Sciences and Education. The University offers undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate and credential programs, and a Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (Ed.D). CSUB's Extended Education and Global Outreach serves the community by offering additional professional development, certificate, and degree programs.

For more information about CSUB, please visit www.csub.edu.