



September 28, 2018

PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES COMMUNITY

Re: Fall 2018 Welcome Message

Dear Colleagues:

This year, we welcome more than 1460 new frosh and transfer students, almost 300 new graduate students, and 9 new faculty members to the division. We are excited that they joined our division, where scientific breakthroughs and a commitment to an exceptional student experience continue to thrive. I'll highlight just a few of our divisional accomplishments from 2017-18. Our faculty continue to garner top honors in their respective fields. For example, EEB professor Beth Shapiro was made a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator. Olena Morozova Vaske, our new faculty member in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology, will begin her first year as the Colligan Presidential Chair for Pediatric Genomics. Finally, this year the division will sponsor a number of outstanding events that I invite you to attend, including the Kraw lecture with Ryan Foley at our Silicon Valley campus on October 9 and the coastal student awards celebration on November 10. And watch for the investitures in 2019 of the Colligan Chair and the new Vera Rubin Presidential Chair for Diversity in Astronomy.

We will open the call and welcome your nominations for the 2019 PBSci Distinguished Alumni Awards in October, and we will once again select one undergraduate alumnus and one graduate alumnus who have had a powerful impact in any arena—academic or otherwise—since graduating.

Here's to another great year! Please accept my appreciation for all of your contributions to the division, and for your support, commitment, and service.

NEW FACULTY

Several new faculty are joining the division this year. Please make them feel at home at UC Santa Cruz. They are a great asset to the division and campus; we are excited they decided to join us.

- Natalie Batalha, Astronomy and Astrophysics
- [Alegria Eroy-Reveles](#), Chemistry and Biochemistry
- [Upasna Sharma](#), Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology
- [Euisseok Kim](#), Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology (arriving winter 2019)
- [Olena Morozova Vaske](#), Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology
- [Pedro Morales](#), Mathematics
- [Stefania Gori](#), Physics
- [Wolfgang Altmannshofer](#), Physics
- Jacqueline Kimmey, Microbiology and Environmental Toxicology (arriving summer 2019)

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Join me in congratulating the following faculty on their promotion to Associate Professor (with tenure).

- Kristy Kroeker, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- Phoebe Lam, Oceans Sciences
- Carl Lamborg, Ocean Sciences
- Longzhi Lin, Mathematics
- Jarmilla Pitterman, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- Junecue Suh, Mathematics

The following faculty were promoted to Full Professor.

- Yat Li, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Jeremy Sanford, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology
- Marty Weissman, Mathematics

FACULTY RETIREMENTS

I want to acknowledge the careers of hard work and dedication of the following faculty who retired in 2017-18.

- **Joseph Konopelski**, Chemistry and Biochemistry

DIVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION TRANSITIONS

This year saw many administrative transitions in the division. I especially want to offer my thanks to the many staff members who retired or moved on to other positions after many years of service to the division.

Departments and Programs

- Astronomy and Astrophysics: **Jenna Scarpelli** accepted a position in the Humanities Division; Abby Campbell Wong will join the department in early October.
- Coastal Science and Policy: **Anne Kapuscinski**, formerly at Dartmouth, now faculty in Environmental Studies, will serve as the new director for Coastal Science and Policy; we are currently recruiting for a graduate program administrator and adviser.
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology: After working for many years on campus, **Stephanie Zakarian** has been hired as EEB's department assistant.
- Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology: **Catherine Chang** left for graduate school; **Dianne Brumbach** joined the department as an undergraduate adviser.
- Ocean Sciences: **Rondi Robison** was hired to fill the vacancy in the department manager position; **Christina Rockafellow** will join as the new department assistant.
- SCIPP: **Mykell Discipulo** accepted a position in the Social Sciences Division. A recruitment is underway for the Assistant Director position.

Dean's Office/Business Offices

- Two new associate deans joined our office: **Doug Kellogg** as Associate Dean of Biology and **Grant Hartzog** as Associate Dean of Curriculum.
- **Matt Menor**, former administrative specialist for the dean's office, left UCSC for graduate school.
- **Catherine Hsu** joined the development team as Associate Director of Development for Coastal Initiatives.
- We will be conducting a search for a permanent Development Assistant, as **Rhonda Kinard** moved to a new role in Alumni Relations. **Scott Lupo** has been filling the position temporarily.
- We are currently conducting a search for digital communications specialist.

Academic Personnel/Payroll unit

- **Michelle Eckert** joined the unit as a Personnel/Payroll Analyst

ACE Program

- ACE program director **Nancy Cox Konopelski**, retired after over 30 years of service to the UC Santa Cruz Campus; **Susanna Honig**, former HHMI postdoctoral scholar and educator, has joined us as the new director for ACE.
- After the departure of **Denise Gomez**, **Drake Ortega** and **Teng Vang**, **Christopher (CJ) Zajic** and **Andres Aranda** join us as Learning Skills Counselors.

Facilities

- **Oriana Gliessman** left UCSC for industry.
- **Andy Garcia** was hired into new position in the Arts Division. **Richard Wood** joins us from Palace Art and Office Supply to replace Andy in the role of Senior Storekeeper in Receiving and Delivery.

Biology Teaching Labs

- **Chris Jong**, our Biology Teaching Lab manager, retired this summer after 37 years of service. **Julio Harvey**, a former graduate student in EEB has taken over Chris's role as the new manager. He comes to us from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute.

CalTeach

- Following the departure of Tammy Bye, **Dr. Melissa George** has been hired as the Coordinator of Field work in the CalTeach program.

EXTRAMURAL AWARDS AND GIFTS

In 2017-2018, extramural awards totaled ~ \$69 million, a 13% increase over the previous year. For 2017-18, the Division received 14,416,768 in gifts, including several significant gifts. We also received many smaller current use gifts in support of programs across the division for research, student support, and programs.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS ON THE HORIZON

In 2017-18, five new academic programs were approved:

- Coastal Science and Policy MS
- Environmental Science BS
- Mathematics 4+1
- Science Communication MS (to replace the certificate program)
- Science Education BS (Bio-education, Science Education concentration in the Earth Sciences BS, and Physics Education BS programs were discontinued as a result)

Currently, we are working on several academic program proposals: Materials Science and Engineering MS/PhD, EPS 4+1, EEB 4+1 (already submitted), MCDB MS (already submitted).

We are very excited to announce the launching of the Teaching and Learning Community (TLC) in support of the the STEM students at UCSC this fall. The purpose of the group is to provide a sense of community and a place to both receive and give support for those who actually teach these challenging large enrollment courses. The TLC-STEM group hopes to bring together all faculties who are teaching STEM lower division gateway courses, to talk about pedagogy and more specifically share strategies for supporting students using technology and active learning teaching tools effectively in the classroom that creates better access for our diverse student body, while making the best use of Teaching Assistants, Learning Assistants, tutors, etc.

BUDGET

We finished FY17-18 in a good financial position, however we will still be operating with a tight bottom line in FY19. Faculty recruitment costs continue to be our largest outlay of flexible funding and we expect this will continue given the campus's growth plans. We have been successful in partnering with the CP/EVC's office and other central units to support recruitments and initiatives that will have positive impacts on our division for years to come. We plan to continue working closely with campus to achieve our long-term divisional goals and maintain the financial health of the division and departments.

In closing, I wish you all a successful year and again thank you for all the work you do to support the continued success of the division.

Sincerely,



David P. Belanger
Acting Dean, Physical and Biological Sciences
Professor, Physics