

NOTES:

4th Annual

**SUMMER INSTITUTE
FOR COMMUNITY-
ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP**

May 20th and 21st, 2024

UC Merced





DAY 1

8:30 - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST (COB2 290)
9:00 - 9:30 AM	OPENING REMARKS (COB2 175) ROBIN DELUGAN & ANNE ZANZUCCHI
9:30 - 10:30 AM	"COMMUNITY-ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATIONS" (COB2 175) ROBIN DELUGAN AND STEVE ROUSSOS
10:30 - 10:45 AM	BREAK TIME (COB2 175)
10:45 - 12:15 PM	"BUILDING AND DEEPENING RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMMUNITIES" (COB2 175) NOMTSIA XIONG
12:15 - 1:00 PM	LUNCH (COB2 290)
1:00 - 2:00 PM	"TELLING YOUR STORY" (COB2 175) ANNE ZANZUCCHI
2:00 - 3:00 PM	"MAKING IT COUNT" (COB2 175) MODERATED BY ARTURO DURAZO, FEATURING: ANNA SONG, TATIANA VIZCAÍNO, JOSHUA SEMERJIAN, KESIA GARIBAY
3:00 - 3:15 PM	COFFEE BREAK (COB2 290)
3:15 - 4:15 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: "TOWARD A UNIVERSITY UNBOUND: STRATEGIES FOR CREATING A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT" (COB2 175) DR. MICHAEL RIOS, VICE PROVOST OF PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP, UC DAVIS
4:15 - 4:30 PM	FIRST DAY WRAP UP (COB2 175)

DAY 2

8:30 - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST (COB2 290)
9:00 - 9:45 AM	WELCOME AND REFLECTION ON DAY 1 (COB2 175) ROBIN DELUGAN & ANNE ZANZUCCHI
9:45 - 10:30 AM	"PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS FROM SUMMER 2023" (COB2 175) KATHERINE BROKAW AND SAVION ELLIS
10:30 - 10:45 AM	BREAK TIME (COB2 175)
10:45 - 12:00 PM	"IRB AND CAYUSE" (COB2 175) DANIELLE BENZIGER AND RHANDA RYLANT
12:00 - 1:00 PM	LUNCH (COB2 290)
1:00 - 2:00 PM	"LUCE PEER PANEL" CHIQUTHA AMINSALEHI, JOSHUA SEMERJIAN, SHILOH GREEN SOTO, IVAN SOTO
2:00 - 3:30 PM	TEAM TIME (COB2 175)
3:30 - 4:00 PM	REFLECTION ON DAY 2 (COB2 175)



Speaker Bios

Anna Song, PhD, is a Professor of Health Psychology at the University of California, Merced (UC Merced) and the Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel. She served as the PI for the external grant that funded the UC Merced Nicotine and Cannabis Policy Center and served as its director from 2018-2023. In 2008, she joined the faculty at UC Merced, becoming the 2nd health psychologist (5th psychological sciences hire) to join the University.

Anne Zanzucchi is a faculty member in Writing Studies with grants and publications in graduate education, advanced writing experiences, and community writing projects. A special project is the development of our campus' degree completion program with UC-wide re-entry student initiatives. Currently, she is associate dean for the School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts.

Arturo Durazo, Director at UC Merced's Nicotine & Cannabis Policy Center, leads health equity research focusing on marginalized communities. With over two decades in community-engaged health science, he develops interventions for cancer and tobacco control, enhancing health outcomes for those who bear a disproportionate burden of illness in the San Joaquin Valley.

Chiquitha Aminsalehi is a third-year doctoral student at UC Merced in the Interdisciplinary Humanities program. Her interests include sound studies, performance studies, and cultural studies. Her research focuses on how marginalized people perform through adversity in society and the implications of how gospel, soul, and blues have influenced cultural landscapes in America.

Danielle Dai'Re-Benziger began her career at UC Merced in 2009 as the administrative specialist in the Graduate Division. Since 2012, she has dedicated her time to ensuring ethical research as staff in the Office of Research Compliance and Integrity. In her current role as Executive Director, Danielle provides guidance and leadership to faculty, staff, and students in navigating complex regulations in several areas, including human subjects, animal subjects, responsible conduct of research, export controls, and research misconduct.

Ivan Soto is a PhD Candidate in Interdisciplinary Humanities at UC Merced. His dissertation uses history and sequential art to reach a broad audience. This fall, he will continue his teaching, research, service, and creative activities as Assistant Professor in Latinx History with the Department of History at Washington State University.

Joshua Semerjian is a recent graduate of UC Merced's Interdisciplinary Humanities program. His dissertation was an ethnographic case study of local youth writers and media content producers that included a community-engaged comic book on the history of land-use in the Central Valley. His work stands on the belief that cultural transformation begins with knowing and transforming oneself.

Katherine Brokaw specializes in community performance; Shakespearean, medieval, and early modern drama; eco-theatre; and practice-based performance research. She is co-founder, producer, and artistic director of Shakespeare in Yosemite, which produces free Shakespeare in Yosemite National Park every April with a combination of student, professional, and community actors, and of the EarthShakes Alliance, which brings together eco-minded theatres from around the world. Professor Brokaw is the author of *Shakespeare and Community Performance* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2023), and other books, articles, and edited collections related to Shakespeare and early drama.

Kesia Garibay, a Ph.D. candidate at UC Merced, focuses her research on the impact of COVID-19 on underserved communities, community health workers/promotoras, and community-based organizations. Currently, she collaborates with Dr. Nancy Burke, investigating mental health needs and resources in the Central Valley.



Speaker Bios

Michael Rios is Vice Provost of Public Scholarship at the University of California, Davis. A faculty member since 2007, Michael is a professor in the Department of Human Ecology and faculty member in the Community Development, Education, and Geography graduate programs. Michael's scholarship focuses on institutional change in higher education, community engagement, and community-driven placemaking. He has authored or co-authored over twenty journal articles and book chapters, and has co-edited several books including *Diálogos: Placemaking in Latino Communities* (2013) and *Community Development and Democratic Practice* (2017). Michael is co-founder of the University of California Community Engagement Network and is currently serving a three-year term (2024-2027) on the executive committee of the Association of Public Land-grant University's Commission on Economic and Community Engagement.

Rhanda Rylant began her human subjects research career as a student researcher in psychology labs as an undergraduate and graduate student at Fresno State. After graduating, Rhanda worked in clinical research in various roles. In her current role as an IRB analyst at UC Merced, Rhanda works with local investigators to ensure human subjects research is conducted according to federal regulation, state law, local policy, and ethical principles

Robin Maria DeLugan joined UC Merced in 2006 as a founding faculty in Anthropology. She received her training in Sociocultural Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley (BA 1995; PhD 2005). She is the author of *Reimagining National Belonging: Post-Civil War El Salvador in a Global Context* (University of Arizona Press, 2012) and *Remembering Violence: How Nations Grapple with their Difficult Pasts* (Routledge, 2020).

Savion Ellis is an Interdisciplinary Humanities graduate student working on the queer ecology of significant theatre genres. They have participated in both the "Fire, Water, Poison, Hope: California in 2023" Eco-Theatre Luce Fellowship with Dr. Katherine Brokaw and the "Gateway to Merced" community project with Dr. Patricia Vergara. They will be participating in the community-engaged Luce Fellowship project "From the Past to the Present: Exploring Linguistic Landscape and Language Diversity in Merced" with Dr. Yiran Xu and Dr. Jiajun Liang over the Summer of 2024.

Shiloh Green Soto is a PhD Candidate in the Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Group at UC Merced. Her research explores the liberatory possibilities of community archives through analysis of a San Joaquin Valley community-engaged project she directed on the Livingston Centennial. She is an incoming Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Washington State University, Vancouver.

Stergios (Steve) Roussos, PhD, MPH, has 30 years of experience as a researcher, educator, and advocate in community-driven programs to improve community health and development. Dr. Roussos serves as Director and Community Scientist for Community Initiatives for Collective Impact (Ci4Ci). He is a co-founder of the UC Merced Resource Center for Community Engaged Scholarship (ReCCES) and the UC Merced minor for Community Research and Service.

Tatiana Vizcaino is a community investigator and collaborator working with the National Institutes of Health RADxUP Evidence Academy, Duke University, UC Merced, and the new Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at United Way Merced. Drawing on her acculturation experiences as an immigrant and language learner, Tatiana blends cultural mediation, language interpretation, transcreation, and intercultural team building to facilitate community engagement in research, civic, and academic processes.

Nomtsia Xiong is the first child in his family to attend college as a 1.5 generation of Hmong refugees. He attended high school and completed a four-year degree from the California State University, Sacramento in Criminal Justice and Sociology. Since college, he has served over a dozen Committees and Boards of Directors throughout the Central Valley that advocate for Hmong youth and their families. He has worked in the non-profit sector for over 30 years and for about 23 years is with Faith in Action (aka PICO) where he helped shape California school systems by closing the achievement gaps among SEA students in collaboration with Secretary of Education, statewide education partners, and local school districts where he also served as interim trustee on the board of trustees in 2019. Currently, he serves as the Project Director for the HLUB Hmong Center in Merced where he manages several programs and staff formation.