



CSU
CHICO

COLLEGE OF

**COMMUNICATION
AND EDUCATION**

VOICES

FALL 2017

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI, FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

From Chico State to ABC7 On Your Side

Michael Finney (BA, Information and Communication Studies, '78) likes to catch the "bad guys." Finney, an award-winning consumer reporter, hosts the 7 On Your Side news segment for the San Francisco Bay Area ABC television network. Finney responds to consumer complaints and advocates on their behalf. He has taken on large corporations and online scammers to retrieve millions of dollars for consumers.

Dean Angela Trethewey and faculty from the College of Communication and Education honored Finney as the 2017 Distinguished Alumnus at the Alumni Recognition Dinner in March.

"Michael is a delight. His success as an investigative reporter had students lining up to listen to his advice," said Trethewey.

Finney visited with faculty and spoke to students in class leading up to the black-tie dinner.

"I hate fake charities, people that take money from people and keep it," said Finney while speaking with students in Dick Stein's "Foundations of Electronic Media" class. "Bad guys know how to avoid being caught. They move around a lot."

Finney recalled a Nigerian dog scam. Scammers posed as American relief workers and advertised on social media platforms that they brought a dog with them from America, and the dog was dying in the Nigerian heat. For a \$250 shipping fee, the scammers claimed they would ship the dog to new owners. The 7 On Your Side team of staff went to work and answered all the online advertisements and confronted them. They got the scammers to bark to prove they had a dog. Finney's advice is to get your pet locally.



Alumnus Michael Finney Receives the Distinguished Alumni Award from Dean Angela Trethewey

As a student, Finney worked for campus radio stations KCSC and Northstate Public Radio (KCHO). He was also the house DJ for former college hangout, the Graduate. After graduating from Chico State Finney worked as a reporter for newspapers in Idaho, Bakersfield, San Diego, and San Francisco. He covered natural disasters like the Loma Prieta Earthquake and Hurricane Iniki. He has interviewed past US presidents and covered floods, fires, car wrecks, and school board meetings. Finney has a long list of awards and accolades, including an Emmy and a Golden Microphone. Finney is also the author of *Finney's Finds and Consumer Confidential*, a best-seller on Amazon.

In addition to his ABC7 On Your Side show, Finney has had a similar gig on KGO Radio in the Bay Area for more than two decades.

The Distinguished Alumni event, hosted by President Gayle E. Hutchinson, honors one exceptional alum from each of the seven colleges on campus. Faculty and deans nominate honorees based on evidence of personal excellence in chosen endeavors, both in depth and breadth of accomplishments. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the most prestigious honor Chico State alumni can receive.

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Greetings friends,

Each August, those of us fortunate enough to work in higher education welcome a new group of students to our university, our community, and into our lives. The start of the fall semester brings with it a sense of optimism, a reminder of our collective potential, and our renewed pledge to ensure that our new and returning students get the most that they can from their college education and experience.

In the spirit of new beginnings, I am delighted to invite you to explore our inaugural edition of the College of Communication and Education (CME) newsletter, *Voices*. As dean and two-time alum of our college (BA, '88; MA, '90), I am very proud of the exciting, meaningful, and transformative work we are doing with and for our students. I am eager to share some of that work with our faculty, students, alumni, and friends. In these pages, you will learn more about our dedicated, expert, and transformational people, our highly-regarded programs, and the myriad professional opportunities that we provide to our students.

I am so very proud to lead the College of Communication and Education. We are one of the most diverse colleges at Chico State, housing the Departments of Communication Arts and Sciences; Journalism and Public Relations; Media Arts, Design and Technology (formerly Communication Design); Recreation, Hospitality, and Parks Management; Kinesiology; the School of Education; and the Liberal Studies program.

While our programs and curricula are diverse, we share an interest in giving our students the best education possible to prepare them to be successful in their personal and professional lives. Specifically, we are driven by five guiding commitments that drive and unify our efforts here in the college, including:

▶ *Preparing change agents and life-long learners:* Our students are leaders and life-long learners who reflect our commitment to effective communication, civic engagement, and community.

▶ *Crafting meaningful, responsible, and responsive narratives:* Our goal is to educate critical consumers and producers of the stories that shape our individual lives and collective futures.

▶ *Educating the whole person:* Our pedagogy honors the humanity, physical well-being, and potential of all our faculty, staff, and students.

▶ *Enabling access and equity:* Our programs, practices, and curricula embrace and promote diversity.

▶ *Building community through collaboration:* Our college seeks to continually improve our communication, community-building, and collaborative processes and practices.

The stories you'll read underscore our shared goals across our college. For example, the College of Communication and Education's 2017 Distinguished Alumni, Michael Finney, an award-winning investigative journalist and consumer advocate, embodies our commitment to crafting meaningful, responsible, and responsive narratives.

We hope you enjoy learning more about what's new in the college. Of course, we would very much like to hear what's new in your world. Please feel free to share your story with me at atretthewey@csuchico.edu, and if I can be of use, do let me know.

Warmest Regards,



Angela Trethewey, PhD
Dean

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Programs



EdTalk Speaker Shannon Krelle



EdTalk Speaker Kristen Schroeder

Better Together— California Teachers Summit

California State University, Chico's College of Communication and Education hosted more than 300 teachers and educators during a free half-day of workshops and alumnae guest speakers in the Bell Memorial Union, July 28.

The morning began with breakfast and a welcome from School of Education Director Lynne Bercaw followed by the telecast of keynote Jill Biden. Biden, an educator for 30 years, strongly supports advancing community colleges, protecting children, and ending violence against women through the Biden Foundation, a not-for-profit organization she and husband former Vice President Joe Biden established early this year.

"This day is powerful because we tap the knowledge and expertise of teachers who then share with their colleagues." Said Bercaw.

Following the keynote, three Chico State alumnae led two EdTalks. The EdTalks were styled after TED Talks where people share knowledge, strategies, and lessons learned with the larger community.

The first 15-minute EdTalk, "Video Game Classroom: A Place That's Safe, Fair, and Fun," was presented by two first-grade teachers from Mari-gold Elementary School in Chico. Shannon Krelle and Kristen Schroeder (BA, Liberal Studies, '89; Credential, '90) have classrooms next door to each other and they both practice the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) to teaching. Howard Glasser, author of *Transforming the Difficult Child*, created the NHA.

"We don't pay attention to anything negative, but focus on the positive and say that out loud," said Schroeder. "The video game approach lends to a positive atmosphere in the classroom. No actual video game is used but the atmosphere is similar."

Krelle (BA, Liberal Studies, '99; Credential, '00) has become an advanced trainer of the NHA and received the Chico Unified School District's Superintendent's Award for excellence in service.

Alumna Ger Thao was the first of nine siblings to receive her bachelor's and master's degrees and a teaching credential. Her EdTalk, "The Power of Our Stories: Peb Cov Dab Neeg," focused on maintaining language and cultural history for current and future generations.

Born in Thailand, Thao (BA, Liberal Studies, '10; MA, Education, '14) teaches at Wilson Elementary School in Gridley and for the Gridley Unified School District as their English/language arts intervention specialist. She also teaches a summer program in Madison, Wisconsin for K–8 Hmong students. With English spoken more and more often in homes than the language of their culture, Thao helps children hold on to their culture through the Hmong Language Culture and Enrichment Program.

Thao said she hoped to inspire people with her story during the summit.

"I hope attendees will tell their stories to their students and they will tell their stories and so on," said Thao.

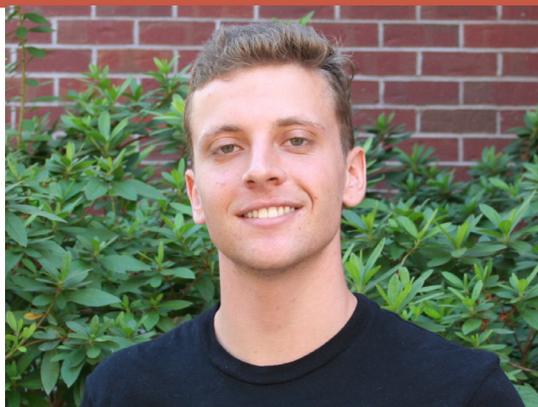
The summit included networking and breakout sessions following two Edcamps. The Edcamps encouraged attendees to ask questions of their peers and share success stories and best practices of what works best for them in the classroom.

In total, more than 10,000 credential candidates, PreK–12 teachers, and other educators on 35 California campuses participated in the summit.

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EdTalk Speaker Ger Thao



Daniel Human



Karlie Garcia

Outstanding Students Receive Merit Awards

Daniel Human is a student with a plan. Human, an exercise physiology major in the Department of Kinesiology, wants to be a physician.

During the 2016–17 academic year, Human served as a student senator representing the College of Communication and Education. He is a licensed Emergency Medical Technician and volunteers for the Shalom Free Clinic in Chico and the National Park Service.

Faculty from the Department of Kinesiology, along with former employers, nominated Human for the Lieutenant Robert Merton Rawlins Merit Award.

“Daniel is off to a strong start,” said Josh Trout, former chair of the Department of Kinesiology. “He is currently launching an innovative initiative to identify and reward faculty who go above and beyond to ensure student learning. Daniel is an articulate, confident, and motivated student who is doing an exceptional job.”

Mrs. Fern Rawlins established the Rawlins Award as an endowment in 1981 in memory of her son Robert. An army pilot, Robert was lost over Tokyo Bay while flying a B-29. Rawlins was awarded the Silver Star for his action, and he is recognized, along with other Chico State alumni who lost their lives defending our country during World War II, on the bronze plaque near the flagpole on Kendall Hall Lawn.

“Chico State has become a home to so many students like myself, and we can thank the faculty for that,” said Human. “It is amazing to see when you reach out to people here how willing they are to help you. I’ve received financial, emotional, academic, and moral support from staff here, and been met more than halfway from every individual within our college that I’ve reached out too.”

Each year faculty nominate their best and brightest students to receive this prestigious award. The College of Communication and Education, led by Dean Angela Trethewey, nominated and received two Rawlins Awards for students in the college. Human and master’s degree candidate **Karlie Garcia** both received \$5,000 for the 2017–18 academic year.

Garcia entered the Master of Education program this semester, focusing on the curriculum and instruction option. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in child development last spring.

Graduating with honors, Garcia is a transfer student who found Chico State to be a good fit. Both her parents attended the University along with aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Garcia collaborated with a peer and conducted research to develop and evaluate a classroom-based intervention designed to increase coping strategies for young college students, according to Shelley Hart, a professor and honors advisor in the child development program.

In addition to maintaining a high grade point average, Garcia is an athlete on the women’s cross country and track team. She recorded the University’s fifth fastest 5k and second fastest 10k.

“Karlie’s consistent routine has made her one of the most accomplished student-athletes to have put on the Chico State uniform,” said Coach Gary Towne. “From her first day on our team, Karlie has proven to be a supportive teammate and someone who her peers look up to.”

Dedicated to her education, Garcia knows that receiving the Rawlins Award will help her achieve her academic goals.

“It really makes getting my masters worth it. I was so honored to receive this scholarship,” said Garcia.

EACH YEAR
FACULTY NOMINATE
THEIR BEST
AND BRIGHTEST
STUDENTS TO
RECEIVE THIS
PRESTIGIOUS
AWARD.



College of Communication and Education Student Senator Daniel Human (r) presents the inaugural Inspirational Professor Award to Professor Jennifer Meadows at the college's end of year recognition ceremony.

Faculty Professional Achievement Honors

☀️ **Dr. Michelle Givertz**, associate professor of communication arts and sciences, is an exemplary scholar who has established a significant, impactful and prolific body of work. Dr. Givertz has developed a timely and topical line of research that explores the impact of developmentally inappropriate parenting practices during emergent adulthood and the consequences for the young adult. In the past three years, she has published seven coauthored articles in highly regarded communication and psychology journals, a coauthored book chapter, and an encyclopedia entry. The Los Angeles Times and Psychology Today have both featured essays on her research. The quality and impact of her scholarship are considerable. Without grant support or release time, Dr. Givertz brings her research products and processes to the classroom. She is a scholar of the highest caliber whose continual quest for contributing to and extending our knowledge of interpersonal relationships elevates our University's reputation, as well as our students' understanding of the importance and relevance of research.

Michelle Givertz receives the Faculty Achievement Honor from Vice President of Research and Sponsored Projects, Kevin Kelley.

☀️ **Charles Zartman**, Professor in the School of Education, is the recipient of the 2017 Career Achievement Award by the University Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Zartman's leadership of the Center for Bilingual/Multicultural Studies has made an indelible mark on our campus, our region, and our relationships with teachers and scholars around the globe and has brought significant (several millions!) resources to our university and college. For the past two decades, the center has provided professional preparation for teachers of language minority and culturally diverse students. Zartman's accomplishments and contributions are internationally recognized, regionally important, and materially and powerfully support our commitments to diversity and inclusion.

Off campus, Professor Zartman has served as an Executive Board Member of the California Council on Teacher Education, President of the California Association of Bilingual Teacher Educators, and recently chaired the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Work Group and Design Team that developed the next generation of standards for the bilingual teachers of California. He has served as team or cluster leader for more than one dozen accreditation site visits for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and is a past vice president of the California Association for Bilingual Education.



Professor Charles Zartman



Professional Opportunities

Microgreen Internship Sprouts Student Success

When Tristen Lake and Anthony Gordon envisioned their senior class 12-unit internship, they thought back to the advice Professor Emeritus John Hooper gave them in an intro to a parks and natural resource management class: “It’s not the activity. It’s the emotional response you receive.”

Therefore, when gardening space became available at Riparia Farm in Chico, the students proposed an uncommon internship to department chairperson Morgan Geddie. Lake and Gordon asked if they could start a microgreen business using a Riparia Farm greenhouse in exchange for labor on the farm. They hoped the internship would satisfy the requirement for the parks and natural resource management option in the parks administration major.

Instead of working for someone, the two students wanted to be their own bosses.

“We are farmers, and we know how to grow food,” Gordon said.

Lake and Gordon are not new to farming or hard work. They have worked with farm owner James Brock at the Farmelot location in Vina for several years. Riparia is its sister farm in Chico. According to its website, Farmelot grows sustainable food utilizing regenerative land practices. Its members sell produce at the Chico, Paradise and Sacramento farmers markets.

After consideration and a written proposal, Geddie gave permission to the students to start work. Most internships in the department require a supervisor, but Lane and Gordon have to provide their own progress reports directly to Geddie.

The first seeding was in early January. They seed the ground in sections and harvest every two weeks.

“We seed, harvest, seed, harvest,” Lake said. “Harvests will occur more frequently as temperatures rise in the summer.”

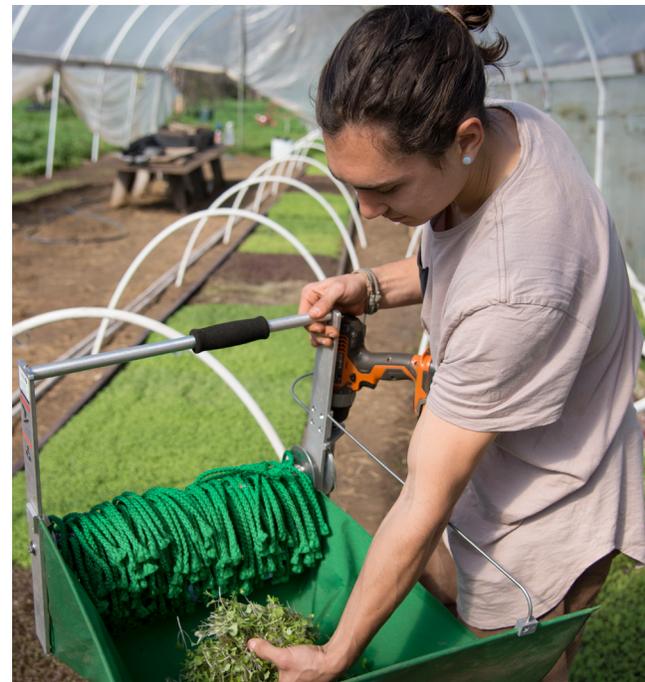
Once they harvest the microgreens, they wash them two or three times before packaging them for sale.

Lake and Gordon have been successful so far. They have crops of parsley, peas, cilantro, radish, sunflowers, dill, kale, spinach, arugula, sorrel, giant garnet and more. For now, they are starting slowly with two very long beds and eventually they will grow the garden to four beds. They have sold their products at health-food stores S&S Produce and New Earth Market, but they sell the most microgreens to restaurants Grana and Two-Twenty and at the Sacramento and Chico farmers markets.

Lake and Gordon don’t plan to dig up the business after graduation. They see the garden as part of a sustainable future.



Tristen Lake



Anthony Gordon

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