As an advisory board member, I hope to share my professional experiences with Geography and Planning students to help prepare them for a career in either the public or private sector. Although I obtained broad theoretical knowledge in the classroom, I gained invaluable insight into the “realities” of planning and public administration professions through internships and practitioner lectures. My goal is to not only help students with internship placement, resume preparation, interview skills and workplace conduct, but also to instill a sense of excitement about their various career possibilities.

Professional trajectory and interests: I have worked in planning and economic development since 1990 for local governments, Caltrans, a private consultancy, and the United States Peace Corps. Originally from Los Molinos, California, I started my professional career in Marin County as a City Planner and Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Larkspur where my work focused on design review, historic preservation and local government administration. My interest in international development and public administration inspired my next move to the Peace Corps as a Municipal Management Volunteer and Coordinator in Chile where I worked for the cities of Lautaro, Rancagua and Puerto Varas. Since returning to Northern California in 1998, I have worked for various local and state agencies including the City of Gridley where, as the Community Development Director, I managed the planning and building departments and coordinated economic development, housing and redevelopment agency activities. I am currently a Project Manager and Planner for Pacific Municipal Consultants in Chico, California.

Interests, hobbies, travels: Currently my life rotates around my two sons, their soccer games and our frequent family trips to Chile.