

# DEPARTMENT OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**Welcome to the Second Edition of  
our Child Development Newsletter!**



**We Are Winning Awards!**

As we approach our 50th anniversary, the Department of Child Development is stronger than ever! 2019–2020 has been a year of recognition. Xavier Elzie received the 2019 Outstanding Student Leader award from both the department and college. Madeline Olwert won multiple awards, detailed later in this newsletter. Shelley Hart was selected to present her research related to suicide prevention at the annual College of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) Faculty Colloquium, Liza Nagel, a 1980 CHLD graduate, received the BSS 2019 Distinguished Alumna award, and University faculty awards were received by Val Singleton (Outstanding Lecturer) and Cindy Ratekin (Outstanding Advisor). We appreciate your support of our program as together we improve the lives of children and families.



## Child Development Faculty News

We are so fortunate to have welcomed our newest faculty member, Lindsey Nenadal, in fall 2019 (left). Lindsey is a Paradise local, a Chico State alumna, and a credentialed elementary teacher. Her research is focused on the effects of poverty on children. Welcome, Lindsey!

Valerie Singleton (center) was the first lecturer on campus to receive the University's newest award, the Outstanding Lecturer in Bringing the Profession to the Classroom award. Well deserved!

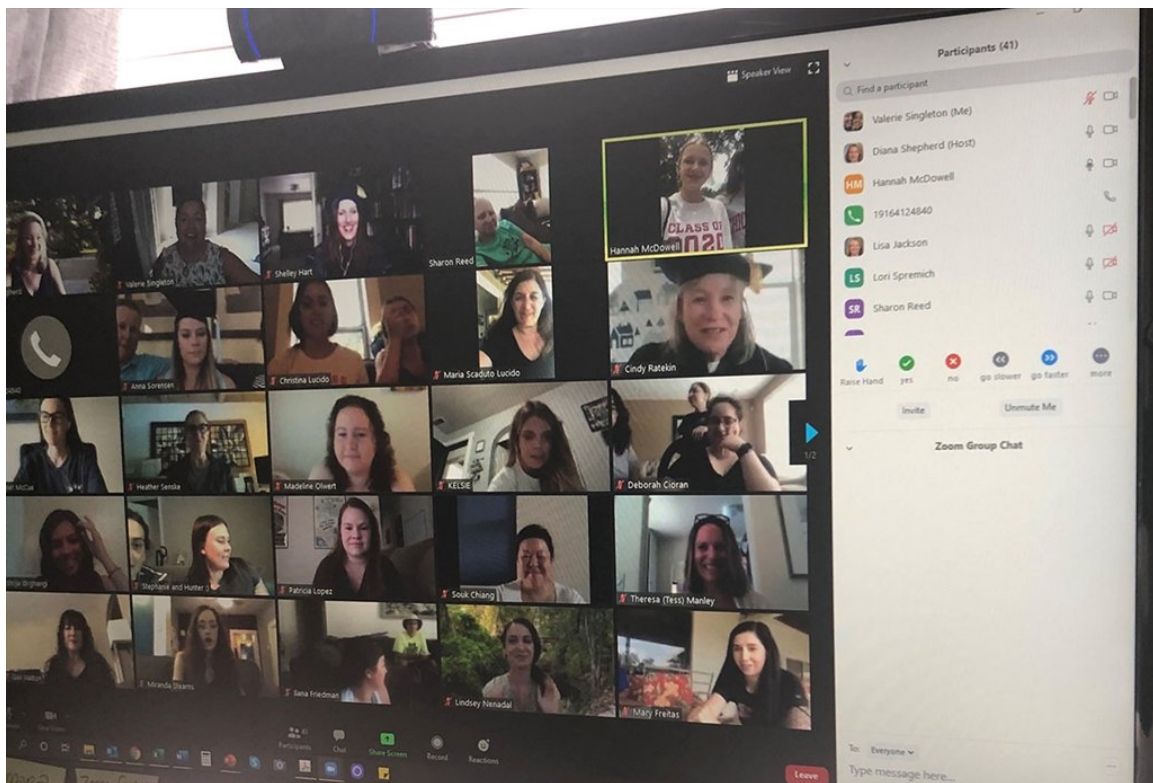
Congratulations are in order for Diana Shepherd (right). She is now serving as the chair for the Department of Child Development.

Cindy Ratekin is in her final year at Chico State, teaching CHLD 495W and serving as the major advisor for child development students.

## New Child Development Courses

We are committed to staying current! Several new child development courses are now or soon to be offered:

- CHLD 321: Risk and Resilience in Development
- CHLD 323: Exceptionalities and Atypical Development
- CHLD 360: Social-Emotional Intelligence: Development and Learning



## Graduating Class of 2020 Makes History

This year our Graduation Brunch was replaced by a virtual, real-time meeting with our seniors, their friends, and family members. All of the faculty attended our department coordinator, the director and staff of the Associated Students Child Development Lab (ASCDL), and other special guests. It was a moving celebration to recognize all of our students as well as those receiving special awards and recognition for their honors work, exceptional course projects, tenacity, academic achievement, leadership, and scholarship recipients.

### [Virtual Child Development Graduation Celebration 2020](#)



### Child Development Student Awards

Child development students have been winning awards at the college and University levels. Xavier Elzie received the 2019 Outstanding Student Leader award at the Department and College levels, for 2019 as did Madeline Olwert for 2020. Madeline also received the President's Academic Excellence Award recognizing the graduating student with the highest GPA. She was also the recipient of a Research and Creativity Award based on her work with children and families who were affected by the Camp Fire. Xavier and Madeline, you an inspiration to us!