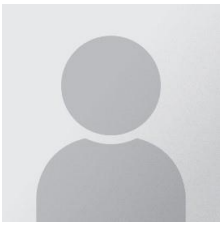
WORKSHOP ORGANIZERS, SPEAKERS, FACILITATORS

Dr. Bleu Knight has diversified STEM at New Mexico State University over the last four years through coordinating research education activities for the Student Training & Research through United Partnerships (STARTUP) component of the Minority Biomedical Research Support Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement program. Prior to that, she spent two years developing and teaching undergraduate curricula comprising professional development activities, scientific writing, and ethics training for underrepresented undergraduate students interested in neuroscience research careers (participants in the NIH BLUEPRINT_ENDURE Neuroscience Research Program) at NMSU. Her research uses transcriptomics to illuminate programs that underlie developmental and transformative biological processes.



Charlene Manzueta is the Lead Grants & Contracts Analyst, Research & Sponsored Programs at California State University, Northridge

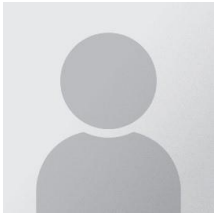
Dr. Elba Serrano, NMSU Regent's Professor, earned her Ph.D. in biological sciences from Stanford University and an undergraduate degree in physics from the University of Rochester. Her laboratory investigates brain therapeutics that target neuroglia cells, sensory disorders of hearing and balance, and neurogenetics. At the national level, Dr. Serrano is a prominent contributor to the development of policy for STEM research and workforce development. She has served as a member of the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director, Dr. Francis Collins and as co-Chair of the NIH ACD Working Group on Diversity. Dr. Serrano is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and her achievements in promoting student success have been recognized with a SACNAS Distinguished Mentor Award, an Alfred P. Sloan Distinguished Mentor Award, and a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mentoring in Science, Engineering, and Math.

Karen Garcia graduated from CSUN with her Bachelors of Arts Degree in Psychology. During her last 2 years, she was accepted into the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) program and is where she met Dr. Zavala and became interested in research. She went on to work in a lab at CSUN and was accepted to the UCSD STARS Program twice as a summer intern. She just applied for her Masters in Clinical Psychology and hopes to get her Ph.D. in clinical health psychology and work with cancer patients in the Latino community.

Dr. MariaElena Zavala has been a professor at CSUN for the last 30 years, where she has pioneered the Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) and Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) diversity programs for STEM. She earned her undergraduate degree in Botany from Pomona College and her PhD in Botany from UC Berkeley. Dr. Zavala's research focuses on the developmental regulation of plants. She served as president of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), and was elected to the ASPB Executive Committee. Her achievements in research and mentoring have been recognized with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering, the CSU Trustee Faculty award, and her societal appointments as a fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society for Plant Biology, and American Society for Cell Biology.

Dr. Monica Torres oversees the planning, development and implementation of educational programs at Dona Ana Community College. She works collaboratively with deans, division directors, department chairs and program directors to meet the needs of a diverse community of learners at the community college and the community at large. Dr. Torres has also previously served as an assistant professor, associate professor and department head at NMSU's Department of English. There, she taught classes, advised graduate students and performed research. As department head she oversaw the operation of the department including curricular, teaching and administrative functions. Torres has bachelor's and master's degrees in English from NMSU. She earned a Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico in American Studies with an emphasis in Cultural Studies.

Dr. Paul Beardsley is Associate Professor of Biological Sciences and the Center for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching at Cal Poly Pomona and recently was a Senior Educational Media Fellow for HHMI BioInteractive. At CPP, Dr. Beardsley is PI for the Polytechnic for All: STEM Success via an Inclusive institutiON (PASSION) NSF HSI project, the Research Director and Co-PI of the NSF-funded Reinvigorating Elementary Science through a Partnership with California Teachers (RESPeCT) project which is developing teacher leaders of science in K-6 grades in a large, high needs school district, and.the coordinator for the introductory courses for biology majors and first associated laboratory and is the director of the Biology Learning Assistant program. He has developed biology curricula for K-college, including projects funded by NSF, NIH, USDoE, NASA, private foundations, and HHMI. Highlights include being the lead curriculum developer for the Learning Unity and Diversity in Alabama NSF project, the Teaching Evolution through Human Examples AP Biology NSF project, the lead developer of HHMI BioInteractive's online professional learning Evolution course, an PI and lead author of NIH's Evolution and Medicine curriculum supplement. As a biologist, Beardsley works on systematics and ecological genetic questions in monkeyflowers, having published papers in Evolution, Ecological Monographs, American Journal of Botany, and Western North American Naturalist.



Sadiq Shah is AVP for Research, Innovation & Economic Development at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona**.**

Dr. Sudarshan Kurwadkar is an Associate Professor in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). He is a licensed Professional Engineer and a Board-Certified Environmental Engineer. During his last 10 years of teaching experience, he has received numerous awards, scholarships and fellowships. His commitment to student success is widely acknowledged with students winning many distinguished awards at various research symposiums and conferences. At CSUF, Dr. Kurwadkar is an ASCE Faculty Advisor, and recently elected Vice President of Student Affairs for ASCE Los Angeles Section. He has pursued and collaborated on many externally funded grants including NSF-CAREER, NSF-MRI, NSF-REU, NSF-IUSE, CA-DPR, IUSSTF, and US-STJF. He has secured more than $2.0 Million in externally funded projects. Besides teaching and research, he enjoys outdoor activities such as swimming, kayaking, biking, fishing, and long-distance traveling. He has driven cross-country from Los Angeles, CA to Kittery, ME, visiting major tourist attractions all along.

Dr. Talitha Washington is a tenured Associate Professor of Mathematics at Howard University. She joined the National Science Foundation (NSF) in August of 2017 as a Program Officer in the Division of Undergraduate Education. She is interested in the applications of differential equations to problems in biology and engineering, as well as the development of nonstandard finite difference schemes to numerically solve dynamical systems. Washington completed her undergraduate studies in mathematics at Spelman College and studied abroad at the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara, Mexico. She earned her master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics from the University of Connecticut. She was a VIGRE Research Associate in the Department of Mathematics at Duke University. She held assistant professorships at The College of New Rochelle and the University of Evansville, and most recently, an associate professorship at Howard University.

Virginia White earned her BS in biology and mathematics at Wake Forest University before earning her PhD in botany at UC Riverside. She is a Professor of Biology at Riverside City College where she has taught in the Life Sciences Department for the last 14 years and was awarded the Glenn Hunt Teaching Excellence Award in 2017. She has served as Assistant Department Chair, Academic Senator, and has coordinated 27-sections of introductory biology for the college. She is the PI on an NSF HSI grant aimed at improving outcomes for Hispanic students in STEM fields. She has written or coordinated development of proposals for ATE, HSI, and BPE programs. Currently, while the Dean position is vacant, she is providing support to the Grants Office including development of proposals for state, local, and federal entities including NSF.