Meet the 2013 Showcase Judges \*Not complete professional bios.

Your judges are all experienced researchers themselves!

**Alwash, Mohamad Ali** **(Mathematics)** has written more than 20 research articles cited by about 150 research papers and Ph.D. theses. His most recent publication is “Composition conditions for polynomial two-dimensional systems” (Differential Equations and Applications, 2013).

**Bahta, Abraha (Chemistry; Chair, Science)** Dr. Bahta’s major areas of interest are in atmospheric and environmental chemistry. His work on the kinetics of the ozone depleting reactions in the stratosphere has led to numerous peer-reviewed articles in science journals.

**Bailey-Hofmann, Holly (English; Showcase Director)** gave her first academic conference paper at age 19, on women writers in the Progressive Era. Her Master’s thesis was a Deleuze-Guattarian reading of Brett Easton Ellis’s novel *American Psycho*. She recently co-authored a textbook, with Dr. Kathy Boutry and Prof. Norris, *The West Guide to Writing* (2013).

**Barragan, Norma (Sociology)**’s Master’s thesis evaluated the effectiveness of several education programs in the Los Angeles area. She is fascinated by research about social inequality, race, ethnicity, gender, immigration, social policy and more recently behavioral economics and brain plasticity.

**Blustein, Bonnie (Mathematics)** has written two books, *Preserve Your Love for Science: Life of William A. Hammond, M.D., American Neurologist* and *Educating for Health and Prevention* as well as numerous articles, reviews, and encyclopedia entries.

**Mancia, Maria (EOPS)** wrote her Master’s thesis on student retention and engagement.  Her current research concerns the factors that contribute to student academic success. Mrs. Mancia is Assistant Director EOPS and FKCE Director.

**Ruebensaal, Jack (Political Science)** has written two textbooks: one on American Government with special emphasis on presidential personality and how this affects the institutional presidency, and a textbook that is currently being used in China titled *American Intellectual Thought.*

**Samilton, Jawell (Counseling Faculty)** wrote his Master’s thesis on The Academic Achievement Gap: Overcoming Barriers to Academic Success.  Other research topics include, Bridging the Gap of Globalization Accessibility, the Family Structure, and Peer Pressure: A Barrier to Minority Male Academic Achievement.  He serves as an Academic Counselor in the Athletic Department and General Counseling office.

**Swaminathan, Vidya (Mathematics)**’s doctoral dissertation was entitled, “A Comparison of Two Methods of Resolution: Blow Up and Prolongation.”

**Valle, Vidal (Counseling Faculty)** conducted research and wrote a paper in APA (American Psychological Association) style dealing with the effect of baggy dress on how one is perceived and treated in society, particularly in the inner city.  Research results where then explained taking biological, psychological, and sociological factors into consideration.

**Woldehaimanot, Beracki (Science)**’s doctoral dissertation was on the geochemistry and structural geology of Precambrian rocks. He has written a handbook on earthquake hazards in seismically active regions, and is currently researching seismicity and geologic structures of the San Andreas Fault in Southern California.

2013 Participating Faculty \*Not complete professional bios.

Your professors are all experienced researchers themselves!

**Alexander, Linda (Speech)**’s PhD dissertation was titled “The Relative Effectiveness of Anti-Smoking Messages Presented in Different Formats to Different Audiences.”  A recent research project was entitled, “SARS Coverage in a Chinese-Language Newspaper in the U.S.”

**Arriola, Patricia (Mathematics**)’slatest research publication is “Mussel bed boundaries as dynamic equilibria: thresholds, phase shifts, and alternative states” (Donahue, M.J., Desharnais, R.A., Robles, C.D., and Arriola, P., *The American Naturalist,* 2011). This is part of her ongoing research in the field of Theoretical Ecology.

**Bakeer, Kenyatta (Child Development)** wrote herMaster’s thesis on Constructivist thought and its relation to the findings of theorists John Dewey and Jean Piaget. She is the advisor of the Child Development Club and a District Senator for Academic Senate.

**Bell, Elizabeth (Physics)**’sresearch experience includes "Mesogranulation from Principal Component Analysis of SVST Photospheric Continuum Images" (Bell et al.) which she presented at the 2002 American Astronomical Society Meeting, as well as a poster /demonstration on ‘Boeing West Hills Directed Energy Systems Modeling and Simulation capabilities’ at the July 2006 Boeing Technical Excellence Conference.

**Blount, Janelle (English)** As an undergraduate, Prof. Blount assisted with groundbreaking research on 19th century African American children’s literature and 19th century African American women preachers. Her final graduate project was a short documentary on visual rhetoric and street art in Los Angeles titled “Something to Say: A Look at Alternative Forms of Discourse through Words and Images from the Streets of L.A.”

**Hardy, Mary (Anthropology)** is an anthropologist with twenty-five years of experience as an ethnographer and a qualitative researcher. Her Master’s thesis was entitled, “Bikini Dancers in a Dance of Heterosexual Change.” Her in-progress PhD dissertation is entitled “Chimes of Freedom Flashing: An Ethnography of Older Current and Former Heroin Users in California.”

**Kamibayashi, Lisa (Dental Hygiene)**’s Master’s thesis was entitled, “A comparison of the effects of an aerosol reduction device and pre-procedural antimicrobial rinsing during ultrasonic scaling.” A recent publication was entitled, “Treating the Medically Compromised Patient” (with Saty McDaniel and Lisa Takayama, *CDHA Journal* 2008).

**Kowaney, Ruby (Computer Science)** The topic of her Master’s thesis was Exploring Techniques in Facilitating Instruction in an Open-Entry Forum Computer Applications Classroom, and she presented her research findings in a poster session.

**Smith, Melinda (Phys Ed)** ‘s Master’s thesis concerned teen-friendly approaches for contraception education. She has also researched the dietary differences between smokers and nonsmokers.

**Quitschau, Karen (ESL)’s** Master's thesis was student perception of error correction in written assignments. She also co-wrote an ESL workbook with Daryl Kinney called "ESL Workbook to Accompany the Writer's Harbrace Handbook.

**Robertson, Matthew (Mathematics; Chair, Mathematics)** wrote a paper entitled “Probability of Failure of XXX Nerve Gas Detection System” while working in industry. As a competitor in national and international chess tournaments, he is always informally researching chess strategy!

**Williams, Rachel (English)**’s research interests include feminist criticism and theory, ethnic literature, Shakespeare, and contemporary global issues. Her English 103 class is built on a theme of world cultures and history.