SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Dr. Ariel E. San Jose
Currently the Dean of the Institute of Human Service at Southern Philippines Agribusiness and Marine and Aquatic School of Technology (SPAMAST), Malita, Davao Occidental, Philippines Former Lecturer at Gulf College, Masqat, Sultanate of Oman Former Director, Institute of Languages at the University of Mindanao, Davao City Former Programs Officer at the Davao Association of Catholic Schools, Inc. Obtained Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Linguistics, MAEd in English Teaching, and Bachelor of Arts in Literature Published 41 articles in various international refereed journals Study interests: Linguistics, Education, Indigenous People, and Gender and Development

Erin Rondeau-Madrid
Erin is a PhD student and Ross Fellow in Curriculum Studies in Purdue’s College of Education. Her research focuses on critical pedagogies and social justice issues in educational contexts; specifically, how students living with mental illness are included in today’s classrooms. She also teaches first-year education courses and is a parent to two teenagers and a toddler.

Dr. Ariangela J. Kozik
Dr. Ariangela J. Kozik is a microbiologist, science communicator, and advocate for minoritized groups in STEMM. She earned a PhD in Comparative Pathobiology from Purdue University. She is a research fellow at the University of Michigan in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. Her research focus is understanding how the respiratory microbiome is involved in the presentation and pathogenesis of Asthma. Dr. Kozik’s broad interests include the human microbiome, translational bioinformatics, and biopsychosocial frameworks to address health disparities. She is passionate about transforming systems to sustain future generations of research scientists, and therefore serves as the Chair for the Postdoctoral Family Association and the President of the Medical School Postdoctoral Trainee Senate at the University of Michigan, and is also the co-founder and Vice President of the Black Microbiologists Association (also known as Black In Microbiology). Dr. Kozik founded the Purdue Graduate Parent Support network.

Jessica Felder
Jessica is a PhD Candidate within the Department of Political Science. Her focus is on Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Methodology. Her research addresses immigration and immigration policy, public opinion, and Non-Governmental Organizations that serve migrant populations. Additionally, Jessica is President of the Graduate Parent Support Network an organization committed to supporting Purdue’s graduate students with families. GPSn helps graduate students with children navigate school-related issues, identify helpful resources, and provides a platform for students to express their concerns and share their experiences. As a parent of two, Jessica is keenly aware of the difficulties of parenting while pursuing a graduate degree at Purdue University. She is dedicated to supporting graduate parents, community building, resource sharing, and advocacy. Please visit the Purdue Graduate Parent Support Network website or Facebook Page to learn more.

Hossein Ebrahiminejad
Hossein Ebrahiminejad is a fifth year PhD candidate in Engineering Education at Purdue. He is a father of a four year old. He and his wife had their son while they were both graduate students. Hossein and his wife have recently been certified as foster parents and have fostered two kids. During the years at Purdue, he has had various leadership positions as a grad student. He has been advocating for different groups including graduate student parents at his time at Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG). His efforts resulted in legislative bills that were passed through PGSG senate.

Anthony Hustedt-Mai

Anthony Hustedt-Mai is a Naval Lieutenant currently serving as Weapons Officer on USS RAMAGE. He was previously stationed at Purdue as a PhD student studying International Relations, focusing on Terrorism and Counter Extremism, and working with Purdue’s Homeland and Security Institute. His research areas focus on extremist threat identification and intervention. He has served in the United States Navy since enlisting in 2002 and is a graduate of Purdue University (BA Political Science, 2011, MA International Relations, 2018). He is currently working on his dissertation Extreme Networking: The Functional Structure and Contribution of Violent Extremist Networks. Anthony has two children Tyler (14) and Maggie (11) and recently married Dr. Alexandra Hustedt-Mai in December 2020.

Dr. Xiang Zhou

Dr. Xiang Zhou is an assistant professor of Counseling Psychology in the College of Education and a licensed psychologist in Indiana. He is interested in research related to parenting and families process, health disparity, and culturally adapted interventions.

Dr. Nadia Brown

Nadia E. Brown (Ph.D., Rutgers University) is a University Faculty Scholar and Associate Professor of Political Science and African American Studies at Purdue University. She specializes in Black women’s politics and holds a graduate certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies. Dr. Brown’s research interests lie broadly in identity politics, legislative studies, and Black women’s studies. While trained as a political scientist, her scholarship on intersectionality seeks to push beyond disciplinary constraints to think more holistically about the politics of identity. She is the author or editor of several award winning books - including Sisters in the Statehouse: Black Women and Legislative Decision Making (Oxford University Press); Sister Style: The Politics of Appearance for Black Women Political Elites (with Danielle Lemi); Distinct Identities: Minority Women in U.S. Politics (with Sarah Allen Gershon, Routledge Press); The Politics of Protest: Readings on the Black Lives Matter Movement (with Ray Block, Jr. and Christopher Stout, Routledge Press); Approaching Democracy: American Government in Times of Challenge (with Larry Berman, Bruce Allen Murphy and Sarah Allen Gershon, Routledge Press). Professor Brown is the lead editor of Politics, Groups and Identities. Professor Brown is part of the #MeTooPolSci Collective where she spearheads efforts to stop sexual harassment in the discipline. In August 2021, Dr Brown will be a Full Professor of Government and Director of Women’s and Gender Studies at Georgetown University. Professor Brown lives outside of Indianapolis with her husband, three young daughters, her mother and their dog, Ziggy.

Pamela K. Sari

Pamela K. Sari is the Director of the Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center at Purdue University. Sari is an alumna of Purdue where she earned her Ph.D. in American Studies.

Casey Wright

Casey Wright (she/her/hers) is a Ph.D. candidate in Chemical Education at Purdue University. Her interests are in social justice in STEM education. Generally, her research explores how STEM education affords or constrains opportunities for historically minoritized groups in order to move toward more socially just institutions. She approaches this aim through studies in the general chemistry curriculum, research into historical gendered boundaries in graduate chemistry education, and inquiry to the institution of STEM higher education. In her dissertation project, she researches how the experiences of pregnant and/or parenting graduate student women in STEM disciplines are organized by policies and procedures of the STEM institution. She holds a Master’s Degree in Chemistry Education from Purdue University and a Bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry from Western Michigan University.

Amber N. Nickell

Amber is a busy mother of three. She is also a Ph.D. Candidate in the history department at Purdue University, a Claims Conference Saul Kagan Fellow in Advanced Shoah Study (2020-2021), and an H-Ukraine Editor. She has presented her work at numerous local, national, and international conferences, workshops, and symposia and received a number of awards for her writing, research, service, and teaching. Additionally, she is the recipient of several research grants and fellowships, including the 2016 Auschwitz Jewish Center Fellowship, Title VIII fellowships, and the Fulbright Fellowship (Ukraine).

Brittland DeKorver

Brittland received her B.A. in Chemistry with an emphasis in secondary education from Grand Valley State University. She worked at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for 5 years, designing and implementing science activities for the area Boys and Girls Clubs. She then earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry Education from Purdue University. During this time, just after the birth of her second son, she was diagnosed with a genetic disorder that causes deterioration of connective tissues and chronic joint pain. She and her spouse moved back to West Michigan to raise their children nearer to their extended families. She is currently an Assistant Professor at her alma mater, GVSU, and the mother of four boys ages 10, 7, 6, and 2. Throughout the pandemic, she has juggled teaching both her college students and her children via online school. Her research seeks ways to improve equity in the undergraduate chemistry curriculum. More recently, she has co-authored a study about how chemistry instructors coped with the emergency pivot to remote teaching in 2020. She is also the leader of an online learning community of 5,000 chemistry instructors. Her hobbies include sailing, gardening, and attending physical therapy.

Dean Linda Mason

Dr. Mason is the Dean of the Graduate School and Professor of Entomology. She oversees a four campus graduate system where, because of her passion for graduate education, advocates for the growth of student support both financially and programmatically. At Purdue since 1991, she mentors graduate students in the Food Pest Management program in the Department of Entomology. Dr. Mason has served as the Chair of the University Senate, the ADVANCE leadership team and the PI for the NSF AGEP grant the Professoriate Advancement Initiative. She has served on many task force committees related to childcare at the university, resulting in new childcares opening on campus. As a single mother of two Asian daughters, Dr. Mason is advocate for family friendly policy in higher education. On a lighter side, Dr. Mason has made both national radio and television appearances promoting the science of entomology. Television shows include Jay Leno - The Tonight Show, MTV’s Road Rules, Magic Johnson’s the Magic Hour and several public service commercials.

Dr. Patricia Boling

I became interested in parenting issues for academics early, as my children were born while I was in grad school (and one in early assistant professor-hood). In part because I was curious what made some countries more disposed to pass policies to support working parents, I did a 4 country study comparing work-family policies in the US, France, Germany and Italy (The Politics of Work-Family Policies, Cambridge UP, 2015). The issues are a long way from being solved.

Madelina Nuñez

Madelina Nuñez is a Ph.D. student in American Studies and serves as the President of Purdue Graduate Student Government. Her current research is on halal, or Islamically permissible, Latino food and Latino Muslim culture in the United States. She is a first generation college student and a second generation Cuban-American. Before becoming a Boilermaker, she received her M.A. in Latin American and Latino Studies from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her B.A. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.
Dr. Alice Pawley

Alice Pawley (she, her, hers) is an Associate Professor in the School of Engineering Education and an affiliate faculty member in the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Environmental and Ecological Engineering, and the Purdue Climate Change Research Center at Purdue University. She was co-PI of Purdue’s ADVANCE program from 2008-2014. She was a National Academy of Engineering CASEE Fellow in 2007, received a CAREER award in 2010 and a PECASE award in 2012 for her project researching the stories of undergraduate engineering women and men of color and white women, and received the Denice Denton Emerging Leader award from the Anita Borg Institute in 2013. She has been author or co-author on papers receiving ASEE-ERM’s best paper award, the ASEE Best Paper Award, the Benjamin Dasher award, and co-authored the paper nominated by the ASEE Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for ASEE Best PIC Paper for 2018. She received her school’s Award for Excellence in Mentoring, the Award for Leadership, and a 2019 award from the College of Engineering as an Outstanding Faculty Mentor of Engineering Graduate Students. In 2020 she won the Sterling Olmsted Award from the Liberal Education/Engineering and Society Division of ASEE. She is president of Purdue’s chapter of the American Association of University Professors (2020-22).

Dr. Lisa Nielsen is the Postdoc Office Director and a grant writer for the Purdue Graduate School, where she uses the combination of her two positions to share her strategies for writing effective grants with postdocs and graduate students. Although she was originally a materials scientist, Lisa now works with postdocs from all over the Purdue campus, including social science, agriculture, pharmacy, engineering, technology, and liberal arts. In addition to providing resources to current postdocs, Lisa also provides guidance for students who are interested in postdoc positions.

Dr. Madhumati (Madhu) Sevvana

Dr. Madhu Sevvana is a structural virology researcher in the Department of Biological Sciences. Her research focuses on decoding host-pathogen interactions during viral infections and their neutralization mechanisms, with a broader goal of therapeutics development. She studied biochemistry in India, graduated as a structural biologist at the Max Planck Research School in Germany and continued her postdoctoral education in Southern Germany before she moved to Purdue University in 2016. She is a mother of two amazing kids (6 and 11), who love baking, painting, and exploring fun science experiments as their favorite family activities. Dr. Madhu Sevvana is a volunteer at a not-for-profit organization called Sci-ROI which is a gateway to access professional opportunities across academic and private sectors in India, as well as in the United States. She also mentors STEM community at the online one-on-one mentor-mentee platform called “The Social Scientist

Kristen Bellisario received her MFA from the University of California, Irvine and her PhD from Purdue University. She combines art and science in her research into understanding sound in the environment. She is co-author of a STEAM based curriculum for middle-school students, co-produced multiple museum exhibits to help children and families explore scientific ideas. She maintains a full-time research load at Purdue where she uses computer modeling to create an alert system for disease-carrying mosquitos, study land use change and its impacts on wildlife, and help identify endangered bird species using automated methods. She is the mother of two marvelous children, who balanced the education wheel with their rigorous homework and after school activities; and is known as the taxi-mom.

Dr. Molly Scudder joined Purdue’s Department of Political Science as an assistant professor in 2016. Professor Scudder holds a PhD from the University of Virginia. She is the author of Beyond Empathy and Inclusion: The Challenge of Listening in Democratic Deliberation (Oxford University Press, 2020) which examines how to achieve democratic rule in large pluralistic societies where citizens are deeply divided. She is an associate of the Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance at the University of Canberra, Australia, where she spent her Fall 2019 semester as a visiting scholar. Scudder had her first child in November 2018 and is expecting her second this June.

Jeremy Foote is an assistant professor in the Brian Lamb School of Communication. His research is focused around studying the processes that influence which communities gain attention and membership—why people start new communities, what pathways people take as they join and participate in different communities, etc. He typically uses computational methods such as agent-based simulation and analyses of digital trace data from online community participants. Jeremy is also the father of five kids. The oldest, Rebecca, is eleven and the youngest, Ezra, is five months old. Two of his children were born while he was a PhD student and Ezra was born after he was hired at Purdue.

Giancarlo Visconti

I am an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Purdue University and a Core Faculty in the Advanced Methods Cluster (AMAP). More importantly, I am a proud father of an energetic, curious, and bilingual toddler.

Eliza Osorio Castro

I’m a graduate student in the Department of Political Science at Purdue University majoring in Comparative Politics, American Politics, and Methodology. I received my MA in Political and Social Studies from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and my B.A. in International Relations (Field: International Politics) from the Universidad Iberoamericana, Santa Fe, Mexico. My research covers three distinct but overlapping areas: political values, political participation, and public opinion. Currently, my research is focus on the study of Negative Partisanship, construction and prevalence.