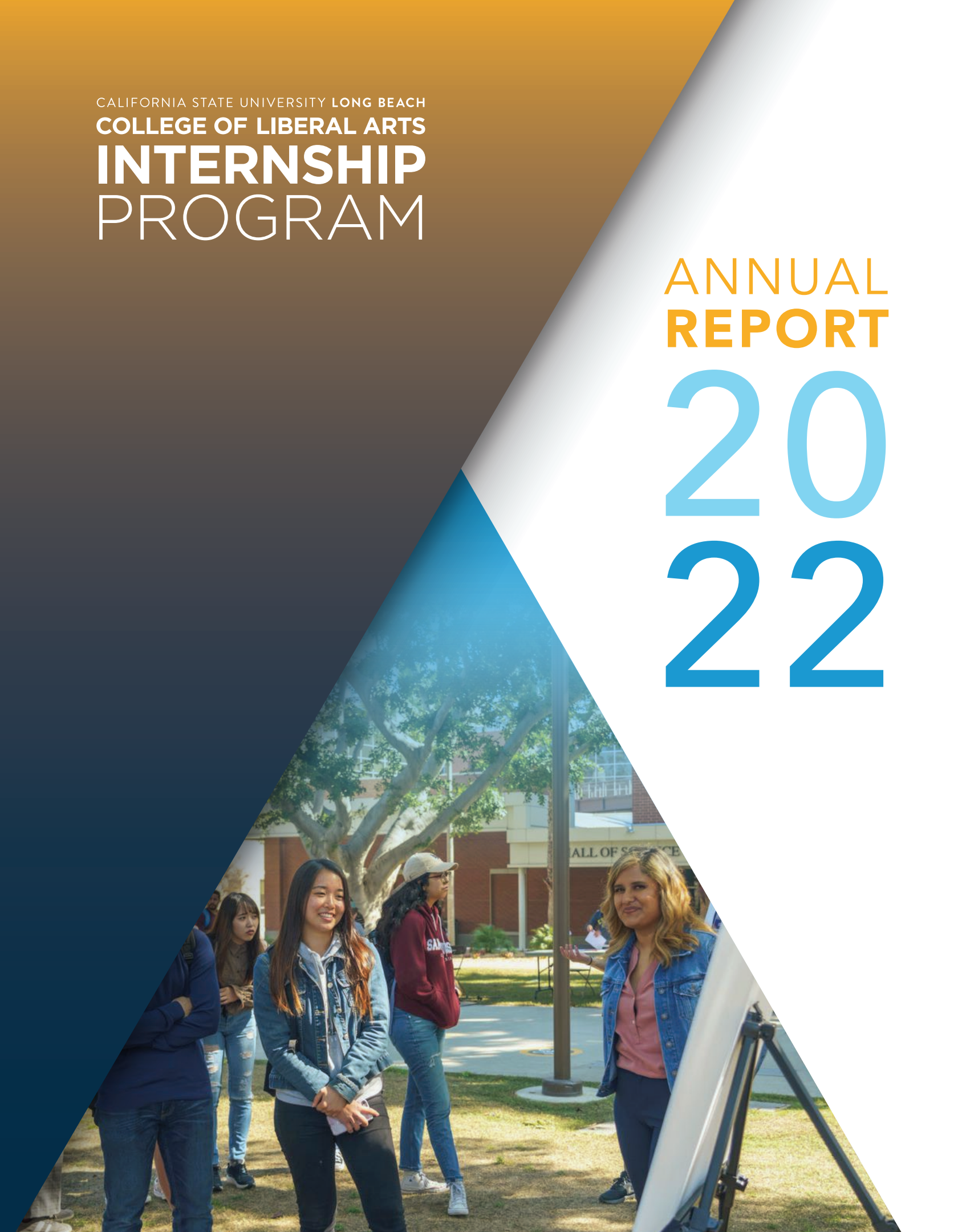


CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
**INTERNSHIP  
PROGRAM**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**20  
22**



# WELCOME

The CLA Internship Program continued to thrive during the 2021 – 2022 academic year. Over 600 students completed in-person, virtual, and hybrid academic internships with over 300 organizations. Our Internship Program and departments continued to be creative, adaptive, and flexible to keep our students' needs at the center of our work. This year, we highlight how CLA departments supported students' career development, introduce the new CLA Internship Program Faculty Liaison, and feature student success stories.

## MICHELLE CHANG

Career Readiness & Internship Program Specialist



## CONNECT WITH US

Follow us for CLA updates and internship opportunities!



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# CLA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

The CLA Internship Program provides professional development seminars and connects CLA students to internship opportunities. This year, we hosted a variety of Zoom webinars to support students through their virtual, in-person, and hybrid internships. Student interns developed professional skills and applied their liberal arts degrees to real work challenges, all while navigating the realities of a changing work environment.

## IN THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR, WE HOSTED:

43 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINARS

356 PARTICIPANTS IN FALL 2021

443 PARTICIPANTS IN SPRING 2022

## IN THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

670 CLA STUDENTS COMPLETED AN ACADEMIC INTERNSHIP

300+ ORGANIZATIONS & AGENCIES HOSTED CLA INTERNS



# CLA INTERNSHIP AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Launched in Fall 2021, the CLA Internship Ambassador Program mentored and supervised undergraduate and graduate students to support college and department internship initiatives. With the help of the CLA Internship Program, the Human Development department, and the Journalism & Public Relations department, Internship Ambassadors gained hands-on experience in outreach, developing community relationships, event planning, and supporting student success through internships.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP AMBASSADOR

Under the mentorship of Human Development Faculty Internship Coordinator Dr. Kimberly Kelly, Zaid Ali acted as the HDEV Internship Ambassador and provided substantial support to internship students. Zaid assisted in planning and outreach of internship program events, including workshops and the Internship Fair, collectively serving more than 150 CLA students. He also helped maintain strong communication between the CLA Internship Program and 22 community partners, ensuring that over 70 HDEV students had access to updated and relevant information as they searched for open internship positions.

“Having Internship Ambassadors has ensured students successfully navigate the internship search process by providing one-on-one support and greater access to workshops/events through effective advertisement.” - Dr. Kimberly Kelly

**ZAID ALI**  
MA HISTORY  
Expected May 2023



I am proud to assist students in their internship search process and to be the go-between for students and our internship sites here in Long Beach. I love being able to connect students more closely with the City of Long Beach as it reveals how integral the city itself is to the student's academic/non-academic pursuits. It is an amazing feeling, then, to see students so enraptured with interning at the offices of the City of Long Beach because of how much the city means to them. Beyond data collection and email blasts, this position taught me interpersonal skills, including clear communication and collaboration, which I know is necessary in a teaching career. To add, this position taught me the integral skill of organization and of strategic planning which are skills applicable universally.



**TRINITY M. BEASLEY**  
BA PUBLIC RELATIONS  
May 2022

I am proud that I was able to facilitate communication with over 20 organizations and internship sites to create strong relations and opportunities for current and future students. I learned important time management and organizational skills, as well as expanded my written and oral communication skills.

## JOURNALISM & PUBLIC RELATIONS INTERNSHIP AMBASSADORS

Dr. Emma Daugherty, Journalism and Public Relations Faculty Internship Coordinator, shares the value of adding Internship Ambassadors to support their internship classes. “By developing positive and ongoing relationships with internship sites, we are able to provide students with a wealth of opportunities to assist them in being successful in the marketplace after graduation.” Internship Ambassadors played a liaison role with JPR partners and gathered updated information to share with students enrolled in internship courses. Because of the ambassadors' work, Journalism and Public Relations students had access to a broad array of internships that offered industry-specific experiences and mentorship by seasoned professionals in the field.

**CHRISTINA MERINO**  
BA JOURNALISM  
May 2022



I'm proud to have been able to connect with different publications and organizations to be able to create opportunities for our JPR students. I made connections that I hope will continue for years. Skills I strengthened in my experience are how to stay organized and being persistent with trying to reach so many different organizations. I also learned to not be afraid of reaching out to people because so many people are willing to help you better yourself in your career.

In addition, the CLA Internship Program worked with five Internship Ambassadors in the fall and spring semester. The ambassadors supported the college's internship initiatives, developed outreach strategies to students and departments resulting in an increase in student participation, coordinated the first CLA Internship Program Virtual Internship Fair, created new events, and developed new resources to support students' internship experience.

Besides being one of the first students to be a part of the Internship Ambassador team, I was really proud of the work that we accomplished to put on CLA's inaugural virtual internship fair. It was a great opportunity to provide outreach support for CLA, utilize professional communication with employers/CSULB faculty, and to see other students successfully work toward their internship goals. From this experience, some of the skills that I learned would be the ability to gather and organize information (research), applying strong interpersonal communication, and the desire for on-going professional development within myself. I was very lucky to intern for the internship program at CLA because I was constantly encouraged to think outside of the box and gained real-life experience participating in an array of CLA activities. Since graduating Fall 2021, I have already used a multitude of skills learned as an Internship Ambassador toward my current job and in my everyday life.



**KAYLANI ECEVEDO**  
*BA COMMUNICATION STUDIES*  
 December 2021

I am incredibly proud of my accomplishments in outreach and organization. I learned as much about assisting students as I did about myself. I also feel proud of my commitment to this work which was incredibly enriching. My favorite skill I learned here is outreach. It is something that I ended up enjoying doing, including the organization of outreach, and carrying it out. In doing so, I learned great interpersonal skills with departments and building relationships within the CLA.



**DEVON DEROUEN**  
*BA HISTORY & BA CLASSICS*  
 May 2022



**MUSKAN JAWANDA**  
*BA POLITICAL SCIENCE*  
 Expected May 2023

I am proud of what our team accomplished, elevating awareness of workshops and events designed to inform students about potential internship opportunities. Additionally, I was able to create a workshop around interviewing that put into practice some of the skills I acquired in my master's program. Due to the COVID pandemic, our team was forced to be flexible and adaptable as we reformatted a program originally designed as an in-person event to one that was attended remotely by all participants. Despite these challenges, we were still able to put together an informative and meaningful experience for students and employers.

During my time as an Internship Ambassador, I was able to connect with students and share opportunities that could benefit their academic endeavors and future careers! I accumulated several skills that will help me in the future. I learned how to maintain multiple channels of communication between internship representatives and students and learned how to multitask while juggling schoolwork. This will be helpful for my future career goals as these skills are definitely transferable to many different work environments.



**MARYAM BIGANEH**  
*MA PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION (2018),  
 MA COMM STUDIES (2020), & TESOL CERTIFICATE*  
 May 2022

I am really proud that I was a part of the team that created our first ever mental health wellness workshop. Mental health is something that is so important to me as it is key to establishing a balance between work and life. I sharpened my networking skills through this position. We regularly communicated with professionals, students, professors, and advisors. This type of practice will be vital to my future career as an attorney.



**ALEECE HANSON**  
*BA POLITICAL SCIENCE & BA SPANISH*  
 May 2022

# VIRTUAL INTERNSHIP FAIR

## CONNECTING STUDENTS TO INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CLA Internship Ambassadors assisted in coordinating the first CLA Virtual Internship Fair for all CLA students in the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters. Students met with organizations one-on-one and in small groups to learn about internship opportunities, network, and find quality internship opportunities with our CLA Internship Partners.

**27** EMPLOYER PARTICIPANTS

**130** STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

### EMPLOYER FEEDBACK

Employers enjoyed interacting with students and informing them about the internship opportunities. The format allowed intimate, yet informal interactions with students who came prepared with questions to ask.

**100%** OF EMPLOYERS AGREED

- ▶ The event was well organized.
- ▶ Students were well prepared for this event.
- ▶ They would attend an event like this in the future.

**84%** OF EMPLOYERS AGREED they were able to meet with students that were a good fit for their internships

It was great to interact with students and talk about what I've been working on. I appreciated students that had questions and seemed really interested in the organization/position.

I enjoyed meeting students who were interested in our organization. It was nice to talk to them and listen to the questions they had.

### STUDENT FEEDBACK

Students were able to engage in professional development and practice networking with employers while also securing internship opportunities.

**93%** OF STUDENTS were satisfied or extremely satisfied with the event

**80%** OF STUDENTS found an internship through the event

I loved being able to meet with all the people in charge of accepting interns. I now know about their expectations and how to apply.

I liked how organized and easy it was to talk to various internship programs.

It was nice to be able to move freely between employers and be able to choose which organizations I want to look into more.

# INTERNSHIPS AS A HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICE

Internships provide high-impact learning experiences that integrate education and real-world experiences. To ensure quality experiences that make internships a high-impact practice, students enroll in a concurrent internship course where faculty integrate elements of high-impact practices, such as frequent and rich feedback for students, application of theory to practice, and opportunities for reflection. Students have a richer experience that positively impacts their educational and career journey. For example, in the Geography and Environmental Science & Policy internship course, Dr. Christine Jocoy integrates these elements to actively engage students. Below are highlights of two students' internship experiences.



**AIMEE TRAN**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & POLICY**  
*Electoral Intern: Communication Specialist, Project Superbloom*

As an intern, Aimee engaged in grassroots organizing and lobbying. She shares how the internship has allowed her to test out different interests and career options and help guide her career exploration.

"From this internship, I was able to explore the policy side of environmentalism through grassroots mobilizing and organizing for future policymakers. My experience in this field had exposed me to challenges and aspirations that would not have been discovered if I didn't take this opportunity. In addition to the internship, the coursework alongside it enhanced the learning potential of the experience. Each reflection slowly created a more proactive and growth mindset which allowed me to feel more comfortable making mistakes

This was an immersive experience. It encouraged me to pursue different environmental options, such as consulting, GIS, or education. I'm truly thankful for learning what I didn't like, just so I have more room to figure out what I do like."



**PRIYA DHUPAR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & POLICY**  
*Transportation Planning Intern, Culver City Transportation Department*

During Priya's time as an intern, she executed various transit and transportation planning-related tasks, including researching and analyzing transportation/transit services, reviewing environmental impact and development plan reports, as well as transportation policy analysis. Her work was later implemented by the City Council. Priya shares her proudest accomplishment and what she has learned from the internship and course.

"I am most proud of my work on one of our biggest projects yet: Culver City's Vehicle Electrification Plan. When I began working on this project, I knew I found my passion and I wanted to continue making a difference to our environment through urban planning, especially in the transportation sector. This internship has given me the experience needed to enter the workforce with a strong background in the field, and I am confident that my skills will carry me towards a successful career in transportation planning.

The internship course prepared me well for future opportunities. For example, I learned valuable tools through the mock interview assignment, and I feel confident in my abilities going into an interview. I am looking forward to utilizing all the skills and knowledge this course has taught me and applying it to future positions. I am excited for what is in store, and I cannot wait to begin this part of my journey!"

# WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY: HOW JPR DAY OPENS DOORS FOR STUDENTS' CAREERS

**BY: SARRAH WOLFE**

*CLA Graduate Assistant*



## MARC ALTIERI

*Brand Amp Co-founder & CSULB Alumni*

For many students across the CSULB campus, the month of April is a source of both anxiety and eagerness. With finals approaching, it represents the beginning to an end of yet another semester. But for Journalism and Public Relations students, it represents the beginning of new opportunities as the department puts on their annual JPR Day, an event that hosts a slew of noteworthy guests with industry experience and knowledge that they are eager to share with CSULB students.

The event has been a long-standing tradition for the JPR department. Its goal is to provide students with a conference-like experience where they can network and obtain practical knowledge from guest speakers who have established themselves within the industry. Although the event has been held in person in the USU for much of its history, the past two years have taken place virtually due to COVID. Just as journalism and public relations are constantly evolving, so too does JPR Day.

Not only is JPR Day an opportunity for students to hear from professionals, it is an opportunity to work with them. The event is student-run, and for the organizers, it means putting their skills into motion. Each year, organizing staff and students select a new theme to focus on, taking into account any new advancements or changes within the industry. This year's theme was "Sports and Entertainment" and focused on the merging of the two sectors. Students worked hard to reach out and coordinate with potential speakers. CSULB students, Kaitlyn Rowell and Taylor Aldape moderated the panels, asking insightful questions to well-established professionals like Crystina Poncher, a reporter, commentator, and host for ESPN; Drew Ruiz, a copywriter at Wieden + Kennedy; Alec Palmer, Social Media Manager for the LA Kings, and more. Although the speakers worked specifically in the cross sections of sports and entertainment, their advice and perspectives reached broader plains. "Let the path take you where it takes you. You just don't know which window of opportunity is going to be open," advises Marc Altieri.

As a student at CSULB, Professor Jennifer Newton attended JPR Day knowing doors that it could open and the impact it could have on her career. She came prepared with her resume and a winning mindset and landed an entry-level job at Hill & Knowlton, a global PR agency. This year, her own experience came full circle as Marc Altieri, co-founder of the Brand Amp, provided insight and advice to JPR students during the second panel. But long before the Brand Amp was established, Marc Altieri also worked at Hill & Knowlton. "When I was at Hill & Knowlton, that first job out of college," recalls Professor Newton, "I actually sat right outside of Marc Altieri's office." Her own experience demonstrates just how meaningful the event can be for students who are just beginning to build their network and establish their careers. "At the end of the day, [JPR Day] can be a game changer."

The annual event concluded with a student award ceremony which honored students for their hard work across several organizations and clubs, including Kappa Tau Alpha, Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), and Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA). Scholarship recipients and department awardees were also highlighted during the ceremony. "People in there shared dreams and passions and you could feel it. The comment section was blowing up with accolades, support, and love. I walked away from that awards

## JPR DAY PANELISTS



**KYUSUNG GONG**



**ALEC PALMER**



**MATTHEW MORENO**



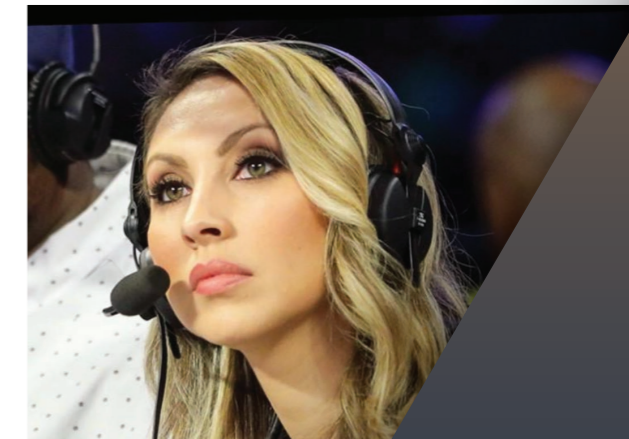
**ISIS ROBERTS**



**DREW RUIZ**

ceremony feeling so proud to be a part of the JPR Department," reflects PR student, Diana Spencer. As students and instructors alike rejoiced in their achievements, the day closed out with an abounding sense of optimism for the careers of CSULB JPR students.

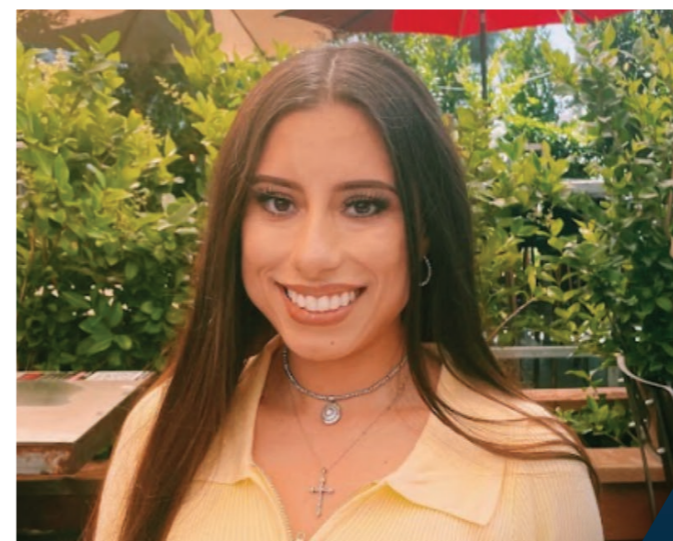
Students also have additional opportunities in the fall as the department hosts their annual Internship Week, a 3-day event that offers students professional development advice and preparation to complete an internship course. In the fall of 2021, students heard from successful CSULB alumni and industry professionals, such as Robert Meeks, Senior Video Director of the LA Times, and Mariana Vaca, Associate Manager of Public Affairs at the Walt Disney Company. The week concluded with a presentation by Professor Emma Daugherty to help students prepare for JOUR 498, an internship course that is required for all JPR students to graduate. In combination with the Spring semester's JPR Day, the department's Internship Week provides students with practical advice and guidance and helps set students up for a successful career after graduation.



## CRYSTINA PONCHER

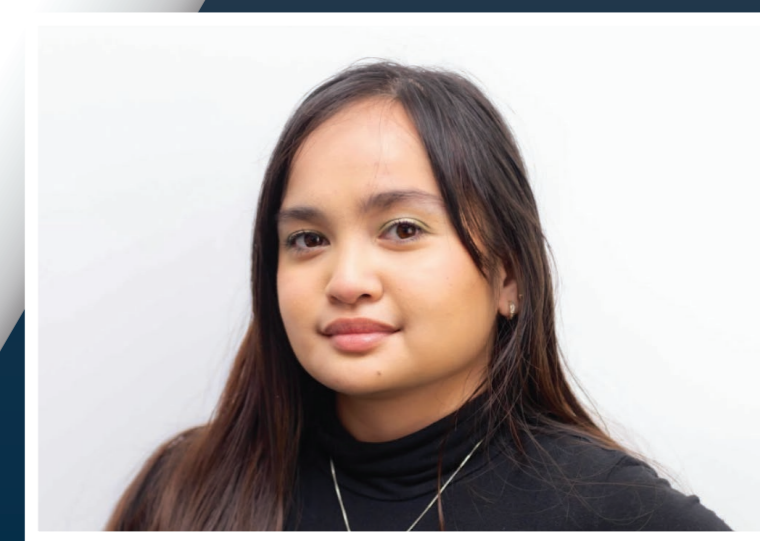
*Reporter, Commentator,  
& Host for ESPN*

*JPR students Kaitlyn Rowell and Taylor Aldape helped organize the event and hosted panels during JPR Day*



## TAYLOR ALDAPE

*JOURNALISM & PR  
CSULB JPR student*



## KAITLYN ROWELL

*JOURNALISM & PR  
CSULB JPR student*

# CLA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: DR. JOLENE McCALL



Dr. McCall with a group of peers while serving in the Peace Corps

## BY: SARRAH WOLFE

CLA Graduate Assistant

Serving as the CLA Internship Program Faculty Liaison, Dr. Jolene McCall possesses a rich educational and career background that she uses to help support the CLA Internship Program. A CSULB alum, McCall received her bachelor's degree in Human Development with a minor in Spanish. While pursuing her master's degree at CSULB, she took an educational break to join the Peace Corps, where she served in West Africa and Asia. Upon returning, she completed her master's, then went on to pursue a PhD in education at UC Irvine. Soon after, however, she found her path changing. "Within the first quarter, I realized that it wasn't education that I was actually interested in or what I was actually studying, but more so I was looking at institutions and the way institutions changed over time, and that I should really be in a sociology program," she recalls.

Dr. McCall's path to her PhD and her current position as an Associate Professor and Internship Advisor in the CSULB International Studies department was by no means linear, but she leverages her unique academic journey to inform her newest role as the CLA Internship Program Faculty Liaison. As the liaison, McCall understands the concerns of many students who may realize during their internship experiences that they might want to pursue a different career path than what they are currently pursuing. "Most paths, they are not linear. Each experience is about learning. Internships can be just one of those steppingstones along the way." Her own background provides a great example of that.

Additionally, McCall's commitment to equitable practices reinforces CLA's mission to provide internship and career

development opportunities to students, regardless of their background. Her studies of institutions and institutional change within the environmental practices inform her approach to her role as she seeks to implement and support equity-minded practices within the program. "That has to be the foundation of everything we do at the College of Liberal Arts." Dr. McCall understands that not everyone has a fair opportunity to take on an internship, especially if that internship is unpaid. She remembers her own personal dilemma as a Human Development major in her undergraduate studies: "For my major, I was required to do an internship. And I remember really putting it off, because that meant that that was one less day that I could work." Many students continue to face this predicament, but as the CLA Internship Liaison, Dr. McCall continuously commits herself to finding new ways to make internships more accessible and plausible for students.

Knowing the sacrifices that often must be made to take on an internship, Dr. McCall hopes that students will make the most of their opportunities. She hopes that students will come to see their internships as an extension of the classroom, and that they critically reflect on their experiences long after they are completed. "The critical reflective process is more than just journaling about what you've done, but analyzing it through lenses. What is a different frame that I could apply to think about this? Then you can gain more from it." She demonstrates that internships, in addition to a way to gain valuable experience, can also be a way to acquire new perspectives and outlooks on life. As the CLA Internship Program Liaison, Dr. McCall's own commitment to critical reflection is evident in her constant striving to make internships more equitable and accessible to more students.



Dr. McCall while working for the U.S. Forest Service

# INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP WEBINARS

As an Associate Professor of International Studies at CSULB, Dr. McCall understands just how valuable international experiences can be for students. She also understands how intimidating it can be to go abroad. In her work as the CLA Internship Program Faculty Liaison, Dr. McCall helped break down the international internship process by facilitating new workshops and faculty training sessions that promoted resources to make experiences abroad possible for students.

In Spring 2022, Dr. McCall coordinated two workshops focused on international internships, one for students and one for faculty and advisors.

## INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP PANELISTS



**DR. MARY CAPUTI**

Professor  
Political Science



**DEVON DEROUEN**

BA History & Classics  
Excavation Internship,  
Greece, Summer 2021



**SHARON OLSEN**

Director  
Study Abroad



**NICOLE SENCHACK**

Senior University  
Partnerships Manager  
The Intern Group



**JEANNA TRAMMELL**

Internship Coordinator  
Career Development  
Center

The International Internship Panel provided information to students from a variety of perspectives. Students heard from other students who have completed international internships as well as faculty, staff, and community partners who offer international internship opportunities. Student participants reported that they enjoyed hearing about the panelists' experiences abroad and learning about the resources available to them to secure and support an international internship.

Dr. McCall also coordinated the faculty advising workshop on International Internships. Faculty from colleges across the university participated, including Arts, Engineering, Health & Human Services, Liberal Arts, and Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Speakers Sharon Olsen and Jeanna Trammell shared resources and information to guide faculty in discussions on barriers to access to international opportunities, ways to collaborate to increase access, and development of international internship courses.



## DR. JOLENE McCALL

CLA Internship Program Faculty Liaison

# THE VALUE OF INTERNSHIPS

At the end of each semester, students enrolled in an internship course are asked to complete a survey to evaluate their experiences and share what they have learned. 286 survey responses were collected in 2021–2022. Here are the highlights:

**OVER 90%** of students said their internship and internship class enhanced their knowledge, skills, and personal development.

## AT THEIR INTERNSHIP SITES, STUDENTS:

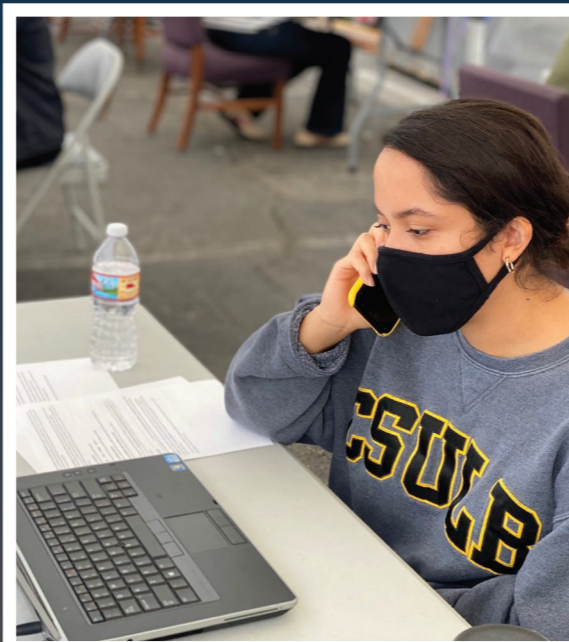
**87%** Received helpful feedback about their performance from a supervisor

**88%** Did meaningful work that was related to their career goals

**93%** Acquired career-specific knowledge and skills

**94%** Made a valuable contribution to their internship site

**95%** Were given responsibility for a project or set of tasks



# BENEFITS OF INTERNSHIPS

Internships are an important way to complement students' education and give them valuable insights into a chosen career. Through these experiences, students develop and hone professional skills that promote growth and development while also gaining industry-specific, and often technological skills related to their field. Furthermore, internships can be a jump start for students' careers as they network and build contacts within their industry. In the 2021 – 2022 academic year, thirty-six students responded that they were offered employment at their internship site after completion of their internship, while many others indicated that they were able to connect with people in their industry, helping them develop a network that may lead to future employment upon graduation.

Through an open-ended question on the internship survey, students shared how participating in internships provided them with a wealth of other benefits. Students were asked to indicate the main benefit of completing their internships. The top five cited benefits were gaining experience in one's chosen career field, followed by developing professional skills, gaining career-specific knowledge, career exploration, and networking.



I gained a lot of professional experience with my organization and received an amazing mentor with my supervisor and I feel much more prepared for future opportunities.

**ECONOMICS & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJOR**  
Interned at NPR

Completing my internship allowed me to grow as a professional as well as develop and apply my Human Development knowledge.

**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MAJOR**  
Interned at Bloom Behavioral Health

I made lifelong connections with people working in the industry I want to pursue.

**PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR**  
Interned at The Giving Spirit

I learned so much about this type of career and it helped me decide whether or not it is one that I really wanted to pursue.

**PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR**  
Interned at ARI Recovery

I learned a lot about the publishing industry and working for a magazine which has always been a dream of mine. I was able to build more technical hard skills and was given tasks that maybe I wasn't the most familiar in completing, but I enjoyed the challenges.

**ENGLISH RHETORIC & COMPOSITION MAJOR**  
Interned at H3R Magazine

## IN THE INTERNSHIP CLASS, STUDENTS:

**90%** Obtained a greater understanding of diverse points of views, ideas, and backgrounds

**91%** Developed general professional skills like time management and the ability to take initiative

**93%** Felt the instructor expressed genuine concern for their learning

**95%** Applied knowledge learned in other coursework to real-world experiences

**95%** Learned about their own strengths and weaknesses







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**HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THE CLA CAREER  
READINESS & INTERNSHIP PROGRAM?**

- ▶ Become an official CLA Internship Partner.
- ▶ Connect with us on social media to get the latest updates and information about our programs.
- ▶ Donate to the program to help support student engagement in internship opportunities and professional development events.

To donate, scan the QR code or visit:  
[HTTPS://GIVETO.CSULB.EDU/CLA01](https://giveto.csulb.edu/cla01)



# THANK YOU

We extend our gratitude to College of Liberal Arts students, faculty, staff, and community partners for your support and participation in the CLA Career Readiness and Internship Program. With your support we continue to provide internships to CLA students, allowing them the invaluable opportunity to apply the concepts they are learning in real world working environments.

To see a list of our current internship partners, scan the QR code on the left or visit [CLA.CSULB.EDU/CLA-INTERNSHIP-PARTNERS](https://cla.csulb.edu/cla-internship-partners).



FOR INFORMATION & TO GET CONNECTED, CONTACT  
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