

24-25 Sabbatical Leave Report Abstracts

AC Panella, Communication Studies, Spring 2024 & Fall 2024

Dr. AC Panella researched and developed curriculum and curriculum trainings centered around museum and gallery spaces. This was done with the intent to incorporate museum pedagogy across disciplines. In addition to helping faculty give hands on experiences to students outside of the classroom, this project will build on and expand existing campus resources such as the SRJC Museum.

Albert Yu, Business, Fall 2022 & Spring 2024

Albert Yu updated and revised existing Business and Hospitality curriculum in core transfer courses such as BAD 10, HOSP 80 and HOSP 58 with a focus on technology, IDEAA principles, and sustainability. This enhanced curriculum prepares students to transfer to 4-year institutions, seek employment, and complete their educational at SRJC. Job Simulations and a Capstone project organizing an in-person event at the end of the semester are examples of enhancements to existing curriculum. The new curriculum created during this sabbatical supports teaching excellence focused on implementing responsive practices that support the education and success of our diverse student population.

Amy Lacasse, Disability Resources, Fall 2024

Amy LaCasse spent her fall 2024 Sabbatical conducting research on faculty-led Academic/Life coaching programs currently in place within higher education settings. Based on this research, Amy developed an Academic/Life coaching curriculum, which is comprised of a reference guide and Canvas course module, both of which include instructions for delivering the content during coaching sessions. These resources can now be used with SRJC disability resource students who are interested in planning, goal setting and gathering insights about self, which then allows students with disabilities to make intentional educational choices. In addition to directly serving students, this program/curriculum will also be shared with colleagues who may be interested in implementing this program. This project increased Amy's ability to empower students as she partners with them in developing personalized action plans for self-determined goal(s) related to a student's college experience.

Andrea Alvarado, Counseling, Spring 2024

Andrea Alvarado developed an online training program in Canvas for new full-time and associate counselors that covers the vast amount of information that counselors must know to best serve our students. Subject matter competency areas include academic programs, transfer, college policies and procedures, student resources, and many other areas related to student success and reaching academic and career goals. The program allows for ongoing training and professional development for all counselors. Content was created incorporating the research conducted via surveys given to the Counseling Department, one other student services department (DRD), and other CA community colleges. Andrea has provided the Counseling Department with a comprehensive counseling online training program.

April Oliver, English for Multilingual Students, Fall 2023 & Spring 2024

April Ellenwood Oliver completed coursework in Anaheim University's Doctoral program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). This program is designed to equip instructors to take on TESOL leadership roles, contribute to EMLS teacher education professional development offerings, engage in language teaching research, and develop language courses and teaching materials. Connected to her coursework completed during the sabbatical, she compiled a bibliography of current research and relevant scholarship that addresses language instruction in the areas of interlanguage pragmatics and artificial intelligence. As a result of her research and studies, she developed course materials for EMLS 371:

Intermediate Reading/Writing/Grammar for EMLS Students, designed to help English Language Learners, including those with limited or interrupted formal education, learn essential academic reading and writing skills.

Brian Antonson, Communication Studies, Fall 2023 & Spring 2024

Brian Antonson wrote five original short film scripts which will serve as original content for the Digital Filmmaking Program's production courses and workshops. Each script focuses on a different aspect of the storytelling/filmmaking process and will serve various classes in different ways. Part of Brian's preparation to write included: studying film form in-person at three of the world's most acclaimed international film festivals (Tromsø, Rotterdam and the Berlin International Film Festivals), and participating in Sundance's reputable writer's workshop, *Sundance Collab "Crafting Your Short Film."* Brian shot and edited one of his scripts, *Poopsy*, and is now in the process of competing with it at various film festivals around the country and the world.

Carmen Castillo, English, Spring 2024

Carmen Castillo traveled to four areas of Mexico: Merída, the capital of the Yucatan, Oaxaca, Mexico City and Puebla. She wrote three creative non-fiction essays (personal essays) about her impressions of Mexican art and culture through the lens of her own Mexican American assimilated identity. Through this process she deepened her love of her Mexican culture and identity, which is to say of herself, and has shared it with her students by compiling a reader for them to learn about the genre of the personal essay. This reader is an example of how students in our Latinx community can take pride in their unique Latinx voice and its varied richness, despite the underrepresentation of their voice in academic scholarship. It is a reader that models to all students that good scholarship is authentic, thoughtful and well-crafted, and it is a way to see into lives of all communities, and in this case especially the Latinx community. The project was presented to the English department colleagues at a department meeting to demonstrate the power of the voices of our Latinx students if they are encouraged to speak with pride and authenticity about their culture.

George Sellu, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Spring 2022 & Spring 2024

George Sellu, conducted research on several university hemp research programs in the United States. He visited and interviewed several hemp farmers in five states and used the data from his research, visits and interviews to revise an existing course, Specialty Crops (SUSAG 119) to include key concepts for an introductory course in industrial hemp cultivation. He also updated the Hemp Agriculture Program webpages with current literature and relevant documents related to industrial hemp policies, economics and cultivation practices in the United States. Finally, he developed a reader/textbook that could be used to teach SUSAG-119 and serve as a valuable resource for faculty and students associated with the Hemp Agriculture Program.

Jan Kmetko, Chemistry & Physics, Fall 2024

Jan Kmetko developed a long-term collaboration with the staff of the Summer Observational Astrophysics Retreats at the Mount Wilson Observatory, Mount Wilson, California. During his Fall sabbatical, he spent time at the Observatory to learn the relevant instrumentation and techniques and prepared the curriculum for his volunteer teaching at these retreats in summers. This experience gained him currency in the field, expertise to bring back into his teaching at SRJC, and to provide mentoring and professional opportunities to SRJC students.

Jessica Longoria, Counseling, Fall 2024

As a need for Disability Awareness curriculum is evident, Counseling faculty Jessica Longoria prepared COUN 96 Disability and Society for reinstatement. She spent her Fall 2024 sabbatical reviewing literature,

updating the COR and Canvas modules and created a presentation to be delivered to the Counseling department. The course was prepared for submission to curriculum for general education review and to articulation for transferability to the CSU and UC systems. Attention was paid to best practices and applying universal design to the course content. This work adds a new course option for students within the scope of diversity awareness as well as support DEIA within the college.

Jocelyn Arild, Disability Resources, Fall 2024

Jocelyn Arild researched and developed a new GE course to highlight the intersections of culture and disability in the Disability Resources Department. The purpose of her work was to increase representation and learning opportunities through the intersectional lens of disability and culture. Jocelyn developed a new course by creating a COR, sample syllabus and three lesson plan examples. Through her work, Jocelyn not only learned more about course design and processes but was also able to reflect and learn more about the intersections of disability and culture and how she may personally improve her work with her students. It is Jocelyn's hope that this course will contribute to creating a more inclusive campus.

Kasia Fortunati, Counseling, Spring 2024

Kasia Fortunati completed three weeks of study in Spanish immersion courses and travelled in Ecuador, Columbia, and Panama for a stay of just under 3 months. During this time, she practiced Spanish language skills and increased cultural competency within the field of counseling through Spanish immersion courses and daily-life experiences. She created a list of Spanish vocabulary and phrases and provided it to the counseling department for use as a resource working with students.

Kat Ferguson, Mathematics, Spring 2024

Kat Ferguson developed worksheets for students and instructors in first, second, and third semester calculus that bridges the gap between calculus and statistics at SRJC. The worksheets are intended to promote diverse teaching/learning experiences in our math classrooms and improve accessibility to students or instructors who have little experience with statistics. Kat's project involved: 1) Researching topics in statistics that rely on calculus to develop. 2) Working out the problems myself to bring forth the necessary calculus underpinnings 3) Create a worksheet that walks the reader through step-by-step in the development of a statistics topic using calculus.

Lauralyn Larsen, Work Experience, Spring 2024

Lauralyn Larsen lived abroad in Mexico and Spain for six months and successfully completed a two-fold purpose during her sabbatical: 1) Strengthened SRJC's Work Experience, Wine Studies, Viticulture and Enology departments/programs by establishing international internships in the famous wine-growing regions of Spain. 2) Better served the growing number of Spanish-speaking students taking work experience courses at SRJC by completing a 7-week Spanish language immersion program, 3 weeks in Spain and 4 weeks in Mexico.

Leslie Crane, Health Sciences, Fall 2024

Dr. Leslie R. Crane conducted a literature review of current simulation journals. She spent her sabbatical semester learning more about teaching/learning methods in simulation laboratories in schools of nursing. She did this by visiting Sim Labs in 4 schools of nursing in the California Bay Area (Alameda Health Center, Dominican University, University of San Francisco, and Samuel Merritt University), Boise State University, and Seirei Christopher University in Hamamatsu, Japan observing their methods, asking questions, and networking for further contact. She learned several new strategies such as single patient scenarios across all four semesters, a simulation Escape Room, use of standardized patients, debriefing methods, and student

engagement that she will use and teach to the other simulation instructors. She also attended a Bay Area Simulation Collaborative (BASC) meeting during that period of time.

Luz Navarrette, English for Multilingual Students, Fall 2023 & Spring 2024

During her sabbatical, Luz Navarrette explored the current academic landscape of California Community College programs serving multilingual English learners. She investigated programs at community colleges through a statewide survey of department chairs, informational interviews with professionals in the field, and site visits. Furthermore, she honed her research skills while reviewing relevant academic and professional literature. Dr. Luz Navarrette synthesized and shared highlights of her findings with departmental colleagues at SRJC, a process which affirmed and informed the department's priorities moving forward.

Mas Iimura, Chemistry & Physics, Spring 2024

During his successful sabbatical leave during the Spring 2024 semester, Masanori Iimura worked on three projects. He analyzed the results from the Spring 18 and Spring 19 CUREs and developed a new research topic for CURE to implement in his future CHEM 12B class. Additionally, he designed two demo setups to showcase the impact of greenhouse gases to students and the public.

Michael Hale, English, Spring 2024

Dr. Michael Hale, PhD worked on expanding and converting his 2015 dissertation, "New Deal to New Majority: SDS's Failure to Realign the Largest Political Coalition in the 20th Century," into an academic book. In addition, he wrote a book proposal and submitted it to several publishers. He did this by attending several international conferences, attending the 2024 DNC as a reporter, reading scholarship published after 2015, building relationships with scholar/activists prominent in the study of populism, and drafting three additional chapters that focused on rightwing populism and Trump's 2016 election. His new book will hopefully be published in 2025: From the New Majority to MAGA: Consequences of SDS's Abandonment of the Working Class. He submitted his proposal to twelve different publishers.

Michelle van Aalst, English, Spring 2024

Michelle van Aalst desired to research and prepare for the course English 10, Introduction to Environmental Literature. Her objectives during her sabbatical were to research this course and create a syllabus that reflected works from an ecological perspective as well as a celebration of the natural world. Her hope is to bring the beauty and awareness of our natural world to Santa Rosa Junior College students through classic and contemporary literature on this subject. "We need the tonic of wildness...At the same time that we are earnest to explore and learn all things, we require that all things be mysterious and unexplorable, that land and sea be indefinitely wild, unsurveyed and unfathomed by us because unfathomable. We can never have enough of nature." ~ Thoreau

Sean Martin, Philosophy, Fall 2024

Sean Martin conducted independent research and critical review of the philosophical and literary works of the Spanish Basque writer, Miguel De Unamuno. He developed an annotated chronology of Unamuno's works and provided a historical record of Unamuno's literary and public career. He also provided an original written account of Unamuno's anti-systemic, existential philosophy including Unamuno's radical understanding of faith as it pertains to core issues in the history of Philosophy. He has incorporated these topics into instructional materials to be used in Philosophy 21: History of Philosophy: Modern.