

President's Message



Deborah Seiler

President

The Renaissance Society
of Sacramento

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Renaissance Website:
<https://csus.edu/rensoc>

Key Dates

Aug. 16 Orientation and Open House

Aug. 19 Member Survey

Aug. 23 Applications to teach for Spring go out. Deadline to submit is Nov. 1

Sept. 3 Renaissance classes begin

Sept. 6 Help Desk near Hinde Auditorium; 9 am – 1 pm

Sept. 6 First Friday Pizza 4 pm (after Forum)

Sept. 13 Help Desk in Union Lobby Suite; 9 am – 1 pm



Back to School

We just finished our wonderful Summer Program, with fabulous presentations about Mexican muralists, Ginger Rutland's mother's life, Ginger's new play, a tour of the historic Guild Theater, a traditional Japanese music performance, and a delicious and informative lunch at Fuji's. The Japanese music performance filled nearly every seat in Del Norte Hall and we welcomed many members of our partner organization, ACC.

While some of us were working on the Summer Program, Program Committee Chair Darryl Freeman and Senior Clerk Lorene Sarne put finishing touches on our exciting Fall lineup. This Fall semester we have 135 offerings, four more than last Fall, with returning favorites and fresh, new offerings. The beautiful Fall catalog was posted on August 5 and program enrollment opened on August 12.

Our August 16 Orientation and Open House from 10 am until 12:30 pm will be an excellent chance to talk with program leaders, committee chairs, and on and off campus partners. As always, delicious cookies await you. This year we will have two campus tours provided by Sac State.

As I write this, Capitol Public Radio is back in the news with the release of the forensic examination. We are lucky to have Christopher Bruno, the Director of Marketing return to give us an update at our very first Friday Forum on September 6 at 3 pm. And, speaking of First Fridays, join us for pizza at the Round Table in the University Union after the Forum.

Be sure to tell your friends about this varied and interesting Fall semester and encourage them to join. Remember, you can bring a guest to up to two classes or presentations to introduce them to our wonderful offerings.

Do you remember the New Member Survey results from the last issue of this newsletter? Please be sure to make new members feel welcome by reaching out. Look for folks with yellow dots on their badges and introduce yourself. Better yet, invite them to sit with you for lunch at one of the campus restaurants or coffee shops. Make a new friend!

Most of all, enjoy your semester.

Deborah



September Forums

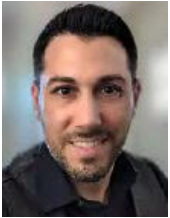
Forums are a special category of highly acclaimed and high-profile speakers addressing current topics of special interest to a wide variety of our Renaissance members. These esteemed speakers are also seasoned experts in their fields. They bring a diversity, depth, and breadth of topics to inform us about critical issues facing us and our society on an ongoing basis.

All Forums occur on Friday afternoons from 3 to 4 pm when no other Renaissance seminars, Shared Interest Groups, or presentations are offered. Speakers encourage the audience to ask probing questions about their topics.

Forum speakers for Fall 2024 will give in-person presentations in Mendocino Hall 1005. In addition, the new hybrid technology will enable these presentations to be simulcast via Zoom and viewable in real-time from home. Note: To access any of the previous Forums that are on our YouTube Channel, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/@therenaissancesociety-foru8188/featured>

September 6

Chris Bruno: CapRadio Forensic Exam and Station Update



Mr. Bruno's presentation will take a deeper dive into the CapRadio forensic examination that was commissioned by Sacramento State to determine the origins and causes of the station's operational and financial problems that came to light in the fall of last year. You will also get a chance learn more about CapRadio's progress since then and hear about some exciting listener updates.

September 27

Jan Nolta: Stem Cell and Gene Therapies—What's Real and What Isn't



Professor Nolta is the Director of the Stem Cell Program and Gene Therapy Center. The public hears about Stem Cells and Gene Therapy, but Director Nolta will address what is the real potential for these new technologies. Dr. Nolta is also the Scientific Director of the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMC) Facility.



September 13

Kathryn Olmstead: The Newspaper Axis: Six Press Barons Who Enabled Hitler



As World War II approached, the six most powerful media moguls in America and Britain tried to pressure their countries to ignore the fascist threat. Her presentation will demonstrate how the media titans worked in concert to influence public opinion. Professor Olmstead received a BA with honors and distinction at Stanford University, and a PhD in History at UC Davis.

September 20

Mark Brown, Chris Lodgson: Reparations to African Americans in California History



Dr. Brown is a professor of political science at Sac State. Christopher Lodgson is a contributing writer for the Elk Grove Tribune. Dr. Brown teaches courses on the politics of identity and the history of political thought.



He and Mr. Lodgson will consider the California Reparations Task Force. Originally from New York City, Mr. Lodgson has lived on both coasts for over 13 years, having organized and advocated independently with local community-based organizations. He is also an advocate for Sacramento Black-Owned Businesses.

Dining Together July

By Cheryl Nelson

Dining Together will meet at **Kau Kau**, 855 57th St Suite C, Sacramento, (<https://www.kaukau916.com/>) at 5:30 PM on September 11, 2024. Dining Together members who wish to attend should RSVP to

Susan Wheeler (swheeler_1@yahoo.com) no later than September 9th. Parking is available. Please bring cash (including small bills) – the restaurant will not accept individual credit cards for payment.

This dinner is limited to 12 people, so reply as soon as possible.



Dolores Eitel Focuses on Gerontology Scholarships

By Judy A. Lewis

A strong believer in supporting gerontology students, Renaissance member Delores Eitel has dedicated \$10,000 yearly to Sac State students who are pursuing a career in that field. "We're all getting old and we need their services," she believes. The funds are divided into four \$2,500 scholarships each year.

Dolores' life-long career as a nurse-practitioner has exposed her to a wide variety of health-related issues. "I used to say that getting old was a lot of fun, but actually being old is not so much," she muses.

She has dedicated several years to serving with the mentoring program through the Renaissance Society and strongly encourages more members to volunteer. Dolores continues to remain in contact with several of her mentees. Two of the four scholarship recipients have been selected. Two more will be selected in October.

Leanne Dawson

I have been caring for older people since my youth and I have been a professional caregiver for over 20



years. I developed a foot injury and could no longer stand for extended periods or walk long distances. I returned to school as a Gerontology major at American River College and received my AA degree in the Spring of 2020 to an economy that was shut down and my field of study had a hiring freeze. I needed more education so I enrolled at CSUS where I became connected to the Cardiovascular Wellness Program (CWP) and found my passion. For the past 23 years, I have participated and volunteered at a local church in many capacities including a plant-based cooking class promoting 8 essential lifestyle choices for optimum health similar to the four pillars of health the foundation of the CWP. I aim to combine years of experience with the education I receive at CSUS and promote preventative health strategies.

Words of Gratitude from Leanne Dawson
Dear Ms. Eitel,

Thank you so much for your generous investment in my future. I am so grateful for the support and encouragement that your organization is extending through this scholarship.

Piecing together all the finances required to earn a bachelor's degree can be very challenging and it is an honor to know that I am not in this endeavor alone. I hope to bring the knowledge and experiences I have gained from the Gerontology department and the Cardiovascular Wellness Program (CWP) at Sac State to the community promoting healthful lifestyle choices. Our rapidly increasing aging population should be encouraged to stay stronger longer to reduce the projected burden on the entire healthcare system. I want to be a part of the prevention promotion movement. I am grateful for this opportunity and feel privileged to receive your assistance in achieving my goals.

Thank you very much for opening doors and shining a light on my future,

Fapiena "Faye" Kaho

During this academic year I had tragic losses of family members. Yet, despite it all, education remains essential and graduating propels an individual to success. Furthermore, the Tau Sigma Honor Society will award me a membership based on good academic standing.. The demanding nature of my job as a caregiver and direct support worker



for older adults in Marin County has led me to lend a helping hand to Sacramento members in my spare time. There will never be a dull moment in this field. Therefore, for future reference and career goals, Care Navigator and Care Management are the target fields of aspiration.

Words of Gratitude from Faye Kaho

Dear Ms. Eitel,
I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your generous support through the Dolores J. Eitel scholarship. It is with great honor and appreciation that I accept this award, knowing that it will play a

Continued on next page

2024 Classical Music Seminar Awards Ceremony

By Bob Seyfried

May 14, 2024 was a most special day for the members of the Renaissance Classical Music Seminar, the Sac State School of Music and our two remarkable young music students, each of whom received grants in the amount of \$1,000. Both students, Stella Moschovas, Violin and Oskar Castanedas, Piano were selected for this grant by their professors, Anna Presler and Kirsten Smith and both students played beautifully for the occasion.

Joining us for this very special occasion were Deborah Seiler, President of the Renaissance Society and Stephen Blumberg, Director of the School of Music

and we thank both of them for their ongoing encouragement and support.

A special thanks goes out to the wonderful members of our seminar whose generous contributions makes these grants an ongoing reality. Since the beginning of these Classical Music Seminars a total in excess of \$85,000 has been raised for students of our school of music and for this we feel most grateful.

Marjorie Wade, Leo Eylar and Bob Seyfried wish to thank everyone involved in making these seminars so very rewarding and we look forward to seeing you all in the fall



Gerontology Scholarships *continued from page 3*

significant role in helping me achieve my career goals in the field of geriatrics.

Your support allows me to focus on my studies and pursue my passion for providing care and improving the quality of life for older adults in our community. As I work toward my degree in the geriatric field, I am continually inspired by the impact that professionals in the geriatric field have on the lives of older adults. This scholarship not only alleviates the financial burden of my education but also serves as a powerful reminder that there are people who believe in my potential and are willing to invest in my future.

With the help of your scholarship, I aim to specialize in Public Health & Administration with Nutrition on the side and contribute to meaningful change in the lives of older adults. I look forward to the day when I can give back to the community and, perhaps, support others in the same way that you have supported me.

Once again, thank you for your generosity and belief in my aspirations. I will strive to honor your support through my academic and professional achievements. I hope to make a positive impact in the field of geriatrics, inspired by the kindness and encouragement that your scholarship has provided.

Thank you for being a part of my journey.
Faye Kaho.



The Increasing Presence of Mixed-Ethnic and Mixed-Race Athletes in the 2024 Olympics

By Darryl O. Freeman

The 2024 Olympics marked a significant moment in sports history, not only for the incredible athletic feats that were witnessed but also for the diverse representation of athletes from around the world. A noteworthy trend is the increasing number of mixed ethnic or mixed-race athletes competing at the highest level of their respective sports. These athletes embody the complex and multifaceted nature of modern identities, challenging traditional notions of race and ethnicity.

Fortunately, the American media did not shy away from identifying photographically the observable interracial parents or mixed-race relatives of many of the athletes participating in the variety of competitions. American Olympic moderators for the most part made no specific reference to the mixed race/ethnicity of Olympic competitors while subtly recognizing their mixed race/ethnic identity through photography of their interracial parents during competitions.



That being said, American newscasts and other commentaries supporting the competitions occasionally referenced the racial identity of a medal winning performer, as the first black American or Latino American to medal in a particular sport.

Despite the growing presence of mixed ethnic and mixed-race athletes, there is still a tendency to categorize these individuals into a single racial or ethnic group. This practice often overlooks the complexity of their identities and the rich tapestry of cultures that they embody. For example, an athlete with one Black and one Asian parent might be labeled simply as "Black" or "Asian," depending on external perceptions, rather than being recognized for their full heritage. This tendency can be attributed to several factors, including societal discomfort with ambiguity, the legacy of racial categorization, and the need for simplicity in media narratives. However, such

oversimplification can be problematic as it erases important aspects of the athletes' identities and experiences. Recognizing and celebrating the full identities of mixed ethnic and mixed-race athletes is crucial for fostering a more inclusive and accurate representation of diversity in sports. By acknowledging the complexities of their backgrounds, we not only honor their personal histories but also challenge the outdated notion that race and ethnicity are rigid, monolithic categories. Moreover, embracing mixed identities in sports can have a powerful impact beyond the playing field. It can inspire young people of mixed

heritage to embrace their own identities fully and feel represented in a world that often pressures them to choose one side of their heritage over another.

As the number of mixed ethnic and mixed-race athletes continues to grow, it is essential that media, fans, and sports organizations adapt to better reflect this diversity. This means moving beyond simplistic labels and embracing the multifaceted

nature of modern identities. By doing so, we can create a more inclusive and representative sports culture that honors the true diversity of the athletes who inspire us.

In conclusion, the 2024 Olympics serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of recognizing and celebrating the diversity of mixed ethnic and mixed-race athletes. As these athletes continue to make their mark on the world stage, it is up to all of us to ensure that their full identities are acknowledged and respected, paving the way for a more inclusive future in sports and society in general. the world.



Sacramento State Releases Forensic Examination of CapRadio

Current examination follows earlier audit that uncovered significant organizational and management deficiencies

From Sac State Website

August 5, 2024 - Sacramento State announced its release of the results of an independent forensic examination of Capital Public Radio (CapRadio). The forensic examination followed a California State University audit of CapRadio in September 2023 that uncovered significant organizational and management deficiencies.

The initial scope of the forensic examination, conducted by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (CLA), reviewed CapRadio's operations from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2023, which coincides with the timeline of the CSU audit. Additional information provided by Sacramento State led CLA to extend some of its review to a period beginning in April 2017.

The purpose was to ascertain additional facts pursuant to the University's oversight responsibility for campus auxiliary organizations, promote transparency, and ensure sound fiscal stewardship of CapRadio moving forward.

The forensic exam, including findings can be view here:

<https://www.csus.edu/president/university-communications/capital-public-radio.html>

CapRadio FAQs

Why does the report have redactions?

At the request of law enforcement and legal counsel, names and exhibits were redacted for purposes relating to an ongoing law enforcement investigation.

Why did the external review take so long to be completed - it was initially promised in early 2024.

The examination began in late October 2023. Completion of a final draft initially was estimated to be early 2024, but the forensic accounting firm needed more time to do a thorough and accurate review. The timeline was extended as the examination revealed more information. The work proceeded as quickly and thoroughly as possible.

What was the rationale behind the focus and scope of the exam?

The purpose of the exam was to address the most pressing concerns of the CSU audit within a manageable timeline, allowing for timely corrective action. Given the complexities involved, a thorough and effective examination was necessary.

What measures are being taken to recover any lost funds as identified by the exam?

We are fully cooperating with law enforcement and

will pursue all reasonable and appropriate means to ensure the recovery of funds by CapRadio.

Will there be ongoing monitoring and future audits of CapRadio to verify compliance?

Yes. Sac State has planned internal control reviews to ensure sustained corrections and continuous improvements. CapRadio also has implemented strengthened financial practices with Sac State oversight.

Was Sacramento State involved in CapRadio's fiscal mismanagement?

There is no evidence at this time that Sac State was involved in fiscal mismanagement or conflicts of interest. However, the University was responsible for financial oversight, and that is where we failed. That is where we took action. We have parted ways with individuals who did not provide the oversight that would be normally expected.

Why does Sac State continue to see value in partnering with CapRadio?

Sac State recognizes CapRadio, an official University auxiliary, as a vital community asset. Operating a public radio station is among the integral functions that an auxiliary may perform in furtherance of CSU's educational mission. This is a tradition Sac State is proud to carry on through CapRadio to provide educational benefits for the community and opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to engage.

The University's relationship with CapRadio has grown stronger, especially as it provided unprecedented support and leadership in bringing CapRadio back from severe financial and management challenges.

CapRadio offers valuable internships and hands-on learning experiences. CapRadio serves as a trusted source of news and information, enriching the local community. The collaboration between Sac State and Cap Radio fosters innovation and growth for both organizations and the greater community at large. The ongoing partnership is a testament to our shared commitment to excellence and service, making it a cornerstone of Sac State's community engagement efforts.



Volunteer Highlights

By Deborah Seiler

Mike Pidd Leads our Fundraising Drives

Mike stepped up in April of 2021 to take over as Chair of the Resource Development Committee and has diligently overseen our fundraising efforts since that time. The Resource Development Committee was formed in 2019 with Nancy Findeisen as the first chairperson.

Nancy launched the committee, defined its purpose, and led it with great skill and grace. But she had paid her dues and needed to move to San Diego to be with her family. What a relief to have Mike take over and what an outstanding job he has done.



Mike helped organize the first-ever Major Donor Event in 2022 to thank donors who gave so generously to our Scholarship Fund which enables us to award

seven \$3,000 scholarships to Sac State students each year.

In addition to his fundraising skills, Mike is a skilled and creative photographer. He created beautiful invitations to the major donor event in 2022 and again in 2023. He organized the invitations to the donor event and led the end of year effort to seek contributions during our holiday/end of year drive which is conducted by mail.

Mike also took over the role of Ambassador during the Give Sac State Day in April which is our other major fund-raising effort. He works closely with Sac State staff person, Rebekah Rabiuff, to advertise the event, set goals, track contributions, and announce results. These April 2023 and 2024 drives under Mike's leadership were so successful that Sac State contributed an extra \$500 to our scholarship fund as a reward.

Mike also devotes many hours to creating a moving video to highlight our seven scholarship recipients during our May Annual Meeting. There are few dry eyes during the video presentation and afterwards when these students are presented with their awards in front of their families, Renaissance members, and Sac State dignitaries.

His video is posted to our website. Recently, Mike and his lovely wife Michele spent part of their wedding anniversary day to help VP and MDCE Committee Chair Deanna Hanson take a large canopy to the Fair

Oaks Horticultural Center on a Saturday to erect the canopy and help greet visitors to the Renaissance table. Later that very hot afternoon, he returned to help disassemble it and return it to the Renaissance Office.

Mike always makes it seem as if his contributions are labors of love, but we all know and appreciate the hard work and commitment involved.

Thank you, Mike!

Philip Ho Brings Us Diverse Music and Challenging Hikes

Phil Ho stepped up to join our 2024 Summer Program Working Group and provided great inspiration as the group sought to devise a program to "Celebrate Sacramento's Diversity through Art, Music, Food, and Theater."

Miraculously, Phil was able to arrange a stunning performance by the Capitol Chinese Orchestra which occurred in Shasta Hall to a large audience of Renaissance members and visitors. This memorable event delighted the audience, and we hope we may be successful in repeating it in the future.

Phil also arranged a performance of traditional Japanese koto music on August 2 which was our grand finale of the summer program. Phil's acquaintance with musicians Michiyo and Jordan resulted in the largest turnout of the entire program. Nearly every seat in Del Norte Hall was filled.

Phil is also a talented hiker. He has now organized three hikes for Renaissance members who are as fit as he is to hike several miles to enjoy spectacular scenery in our area. The beneficiaries of Phil's hikes are enthusiastic about their experience and grateful for his leadership.

Thank you Phil!



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October Submissions Due: September 2

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In Memoriam

First Chair of the Renaissance Resource Development Committee, Nancy Findeisen, 80. beloved mother and wife, was a respected figure known for her unwavering commitment to community service and education.

Nancy's passion for civic engagement extended beyond her career as CEO of Sacramento's Community Services Planning Council. She was an active member of the League of Women Voters, Renaissance Society, and Land Park Weekenders Golf Club.

In lieu of flowers, please contribute to the Thyroid Cancer Survivors <https://civi.thyca.org/donate/>.



In Memoriam

Garey Young, retired from the Sacramento County Probation Department, served as Renaissance Board President from 2009 to 2011.

Garey, 81, was active in the Department of Gerontology 121 Optimal Aging course as mentor for many years.

