



Alumni Updates

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Alumni Updates

CLASS OF 2022

Kylie Barkle

I am currently employed as a data analyst at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (in Los Angeles). I work in public health research, and I am so excited to put my skills learned at Cal Poly towards a cause I am passionate about. One of the main projects I work with is HIV testing and treatment for adolescent girls and young women in Zambia in Southern Africa, which has inspired me to look towards a career in global health.

Rachel Castellino

I was supposed to start as a data scientist at Meta (Facebook) in December but lost my job due to the layoffs. I am currently job hunting. I am also making use of my time by going on weekend trips, backpacking, hiking, and visiting friends.

Jean Choi

After graduating in the fall of 2021, I spent some time traveling around Europe before starting work at Amazon as a program manager and moving to Seattle. Shortly after working there, I moved to a remote people data analyst position at Electronic Arts Inc. At EA, I am on the people experiences department and use various data science concepts to conduct essential analyses for the business. Outside of work, I have been traveling a lot and exploring Seattle, since I've never lived outside California!



Rocco Costanzo

Last July after graduation, I was proud to represent Cal Poly as I got first place in the 2022 World College Poker Main Event! I started working as an actuarial analyst at Canopy Health in August of 2022, and I recently sat for my fourth actuarial exam. I intend to get my ASA designation (Associate of the Society of Actuaries) in a few years. At Canopy, our databases are stored on SQL Server so STAT 470 has been one of the most applicable classes I took at Cal Poly. I've been living in Berkeley and pretending to be a Cal student. Outside of work, I go bouldering, play drums in a band, and I've tried to attend as many concerts as I can.

Josiah Gilbert

After graduating at the end of March 2022, I spent the spring quarter finishing up various research projects in the Biology Department. I also went backpacking solo for the first time in the Klamath Mountains with multiple bear sightings. In August, I moved across the country to Blacksburg, Virginia to start the graduate program in statistics at Virginia Tech. The drive was an adventure to remember; two weeks of exploring across the United States, including climbing my first 14'er in Colorado. The program at Virginia Tech is going well, the first semester was hard but good. The second semester (this semester) is the hardest, partly because QEs take place right after finals.



Definitely a step up from undergraduate work, with lots of matrix algebra and probability theory. I'm enjoying a totally different environment here in the Appalachian Mountains, including backpacking on the Appalachian Trail recently for the first time. Endless deciduous forests feel weird to this Californian, but it's fun to explore totally new surroundings. Still waiting for a significant snowfall...

Nathan Johnson

After graduating I came back home to San Diego and enjoyed my last months of freedom. In late August, I was able to go travel and visited some amazing cities in Europe. After coming back, I reached out to David Barnett (a 2021 alumnus) who helped me connect with Flock Freight (in Encinitas, California) where I now work! I am a product analyst where I use SQL to help research and inform the product team about new product features/ideas, and I also oversee the experimentation of these new features/ideas. I've learned a lot about the business world and the logistics industry, and I am enjoying putting what I learned to use!

Ben Mangelsdorf

I've moved down to San Diego to work as a data scientist for Callaway Golf (Carlsbad) in their R&D department. My main role is coming up with solutions to help automate my team's data collection and analysis. While working, I am also pursuing a master's in computer science with a concentration in machine learning online through Georgia Tech online. I miss everything in SLO but have been loving life down here!

Melissa Melton

After graduating in June 2022, I enjoyed a restful summer with family, and also had the privilege of helping present a poster from the research project I was part of during my senior year. This was at the American Society for Engineering Education's annual conference in Minneapolis at the end of June.

Since then, I have remained in SLO pursuing a master's degree in business analytics here at Cal Poly! I have greatly enjoyed the program so far, as I am strengthening my skills in R, SQL, and Python, and improving my ability to communicate the results of analysis in a business environment. The program includes a Capstone industry project. This winter, I have been working on a data modeling project with the international energy company ENGIE. It introduced me to the world of geomapping, which has been exciting! I'll be working on another industry project in spring before I graduate.

I am still looking for a full-time job, and I hope to enter the data science or data analytics field. In the meantime, I have been assisting two Cal Poly professors with an introductory data science textbook, as well as hosting Citizen Sound, a weekly alternative music radio show on local NPR-affiliate KCBX. I've loved having this additional year here in SLO!

Casey Ng

After graduation, I moved back home to San Francisco, where I now work remotely as a data analyst for Zearn, an educational tech company. I've also been in the process of applying to master's degree programs in data science, which I plan to begin in the fall.

Andrew Nguyen

After graduating in June, I was able to work on a few side projects, hang out with old friends in the Bay Area, and visit Yellowstone National Park with my family. I am currently pursuing a master's degree in applied statistics at the University of Michigan. Life has been great in Ann Arbor so far, despite the frigid weather, and coursework definitely has been rigorous and challenging. Outside of academics, I've been trying to get back into rock climbing and practicing taekwondo. Although I have been enjoying my time in A2, I am starting to feel nostalgic about undergrad life at Cal Poly, the consistently sunny weather and being so close to the beach, so I will make sure to revisit SLO whenever I can.



Danielle Sisso

After graduating last March, I searched and searched and searched for a job. I had very few interviews, and those that I did have did not result in anything. Therefore, I decided to go back to school. I am currently enrolled at Cal Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, where I am working towards my teaching credential and eventually a master's degree. My goal is to teach advanced high school math, especially statistics.

The good thing is, since graduation, I've been able to spend a lot more time with family. I was able to watch all of my brother's high school football games, spend loads of time with my grandparents, and help my mom with her photography business. I even helped the high school soccer team by building them an RShiny to track their stats!

Finally, I've kept my connection to Cal Poly by helping Professor Beth Chance and tutoring students in statistics.

Eric Tran

After graduation, I spent the summer as an intern in the analytics department of the NBA's Atlanta Hawks. Currently, I'm in the middle of my business analytics master's program at UCLA. I feel grateful to the Cal Poly Statistics Department because I've been so well prepared for my grad classes such as my machine learning and statistics for analytics courses. Outside of school, I work as an analyst for the UCLA women's basketball team and volunteer at LATech4Good. Los Angeles overall has been a ton of fun, but at the same time I miss SLO and will visit again soon!

Ryan Zhang

After graduation from Cal Poly, I moved to Texas to work as a data scientist for KPMG. I am part of its Lighthouse Center of Excellence for Data, Analytics, and AI Teams. My project involves aggregating data from different sources in order to optimize predictive models.

CLASS OF 2021

Marco Bostrom

After graduating in 2021, I traveled for three months with some of my friends before moving to San Jose. After a job search, Jabil, a global manufacturing company hired me, and I began working as a quality engineer. The work as an engineer was rewarding, and I loved the hands-on ability to work in a production setting and interact with my coworkers on a daily basis. I was primarily tasked with using statistical process control while monitoring all of our manufactured parts and also collecting data. After a year, although I liked the job, I decided to continue my education. My father is Swedish so I thought it would be an adventure it would be an adventure to pursue a master's program in Sweden.



I was accepted and am currently studying industrial analytics at Uppsala University (near Stockholm). The program is a blend of industrial engineering and computer science and features several courses in statistics as well. Winters are cold and my Swedish is still improving (slowly), but I am enjoying the journey! The photo is of me hanging by a bay in the Stockholm archipelago.



Mason Ogden

I've now been on the operations analytics team at Alaska Airlines in Seattle for about a year, and it has been amazing! Still mostly writing SQL all day, but I have started to shift some work to Python and R when I can, adding some variety to my daily work. The best part of the job is the flight benefits; I've been traveling more than I ever have before. In 2022, I visited Anchorage, Juneau, Florida, San Diego, Portland, and of course San Luis Obispo. In 2023 so far, I've spent a long weekend in Palm Springs, flown to Cincinnati to visit a friend, and took a trip to Las Vegas with some other Cal Poly statistics alumni (see photo). I'm looking forward to the summer, when I can spend more time exploring Washington's while the weather's good.

Jacob Rossner

I have been working since January 2021 for Preddio Technologies, a company in the greater Boston area. We are a young IoT company that provides to companies a cloud-based service and industrial-grade sensors. I was the first full-time data professional to join Preddio, and as the sole member of our analytics team I've been involved with everything from data practices and standards, to implementing machine learning methods with a microservice, and now frequently in consulting with customers to determine the analytics that most benefit their operations. I have recreated products in languages I had never touched previously, and now I assist with code development in Python, JavaScript, Swift, C#, and C++. I credit the various technology courses part of Cal Poly's statistics curriculum, as learning R and SAS before practicing them in subsequent classes (and scrambling to understand the occasional Python simulation exercise) created a familiarity with common coding techniques and practices.

Jonathan Shan

I hope to graduate in June with a master's in applied statistics from UCLA while also working as a data scientist at Klarna. The Cal Poly Statistics Department has done a great job in preparing me for my post-bachelor endeavors, and I am grateful to the faculty and friends I met during my time in SLO. I still keep in touch with other stats alumni and I hope to hang out with them more often once I return to the Bay Area!

Natalie Smith

I am in my first year at Duke University's master's of statistical science program (go Blue Devils, and sorry Dr. Ross). I just finished an insanely difficult first semester on Bayesian models, predictive modeling, and R, and am now studying causal inference, statistical inference, and Python. I have also just started working as a co-op student for GSK pharmaceutical and biotechnology company, where I'm analyzing data for lifecycle quality and performing equivalence testing for a variety of drugs manufactured at the facility. While living in North Carolina is exciting, I still very much miss SLO, the sunshine, and the ocean. Wishing everyone the best!

Steven Taruc

I recently moved to San Diego to start a data engineering position for Callaway Golf. Going from performance reporting in my last job to now setting up data pipelines was a huge transition, as I am learning new tools and concepts every day. Since moving, I've been exploring the city, trying out brunch spots, and of course, playing golf. Wishing the best for the Statistics Department and alumni!

Julia Van Boening

Last May I switched from one defense company to another. I now work as a proposal and pricing analyst at Northrop Grumman Corp. under the Advance Weapons business unit. It has so far been a great career move, and I'm loving it! I work remotely, so I am able to travel a lot and take full advantage of the flexibility. Of course, one place I love to visit is SLO!

Madeleine West

After graduation in June 2021, I remained in SLO to work full time for a year as I was not quite ready to leave the city yet and still miss it. In fall of 2022 I moved to London where I am currently pursuing a master's in science in data analytics at London Metropolitan University. Since moving, I have spent almost all my free time exploring and travelling the UK and Europe. I have quickly fallen in love with London and am currently exploring multiple job prospects to stay for two to three more years (or maybe longer) following my graduation from London Met this upcoming fall.

CLASS OF 2020

Layla Burgan

Currently, I have left teaching to pursue a certificate in data analytics from UC Davis. I'm hoping to use these skills, as well as the ones I learned at Cal Poly, to start an exciting new career path!

Mateo Ibarguen

I have been working as a data scientist at HealthCare.com for almost two years. There's always an opportunity in my job to apply what I learned at Cal Poly's statistics classes in my job. I am working remotely from Guatemala but hope to return to the U.S. some day. My family adopted a poodle, named Mia, and she's amazing.



Regina Lisinker

I'll be wrapping up my master's this year and am looking forward to staying in Minneapolis to start my doctorate in the fall. My current research focuses on how data science students conduct code review and how we can promote better code review practices in the classroom. In addition to school updates, I had a blast exploring Copenhagen and London with my cousin over winter break (see photo).

Kyle Reavis

This past year was a big one for me as I moved out to Dublin, California with some of my coworkers to be closer to Workday's Pleasanton office. Working as a software engineer there has given me some interesting challenges, but it's been a great experience. I've been lucky enough to meet some cool new people including some awesome Cal Poly alumni. Speaking of Cal Poly, I recently returned to the campus in October to visit my brother and stopped by the Sensorio light show in Paso Robles... Definitely a spot worth checking out if you're in the area!

Sadie Rhen Brust

Professionally, I have greatly enjoyed my first year as a data analyst at BD, a medical technology company, and have most notably improved my skills in cleaning messy data sets. Personally, this was a big year as my husband (also a Cal Poly grad in biomedical engineering) and I were married! We live in San Diego, where we are very grateful for how close we are to the beach, mountains and desert. We spend most of our time hiking, climbing, or playing pickleball.

Emily Turvey

After graduating in 2020 I moved to Bloomington in Central Illinois to start work for State Farm Insurance as an actuarial analyst. After a cold Illinois winter, I decided to peruse remote work and am now employed by an insurtech startup called Openly! My boyfriend graduated from Cal Poly in 2022 with a software engineering degree and also landed a remote job working for GoDaddy. Since then, we have been living in and exploring cool places. So far, we have stayed in San Diego, Phoenix, and now Boulder, Colorado. I am chipping away at actuarial exams and hope to obtain my ACAS (Associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society) credentials in the near future.

Megan von Sosen

After graduating from Cal Poly, I moved up to San Francisco to work as a business risk consultant at RSM US LLP, an audit, tax and consulting firm. About a year and a half later, I decided I wanted to pursue a career in data science and applied to some master's programs around the country. I ended up at the Institute for Advanced Analytics at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, working on my M.S. in analytics, planning to graduate in May. Feel free to reach out to me via LinkedIn with any questions regarding the master's program, pursuing a career in data science or the process of working for a bit in between educational experiences!

Roy Zawadzki

I am in year three of my Ph.D. program in statistics at UC Irvine. I'm making good progress — I just passed my advancement to candidacy exam! Outside of that, I'm trying to take advantage of what SoCal has to offer; I try to hike every week and go to the beach....sounds familiar to my time in SLO!

CLASS OF 2019

Bryce Burdge

I graduated in 2019 and in November 2021 I started as a data scientist working mainly with demographic data at SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments) in the Estimates and Forecast Department. Before that, during the pandemic I worked at Walmart for a year and a half and had become a manager in the Online Grocery Pickup Department.

Matthew Gredell

I have been doing quite well! The past few years have been rocked with a fair bit of uncertainty, what with... “ambiguously gestures at the world.” After graduating, I was lucky to find a temporary contract-based position at Waymo, which used to be Google's self-driving car project. I joined a team whose goal is to measure the rate of traffic conflicts or other issues a car may encounter while driving on roads, either on real-world streets or in simulated driving situations. I remotely worked in that position from May of 2020 to May of 2022, and in that time moved from the East Bay area to Sunnyvale for a year. Early in 2022 I had the opportunity to move to Santa Cruz to rent a duplex with my sister, who is currently finishing her master's degree in neuroscience at UCSC. She has been extraordinarily diligent in her work and research, and will be published as an author in at least two papers by June! At the end of my contract position with Waymo in May of 2022 I had a brief term of unemployment before returning for a full-time engineering role. I spent plenty of time enjoying Santa Cruz's forests, beaches and cliffsides.

(Though, I should mention, recent storms have been quite catastrophic in the area and it's been a scene to witness. There are several portions of the cliffside two-way road that are fully destroyed and impassable by traffic.)

Since returning to Waymo in August 2022 as an 'Engineering Operations Specialist,' I have moved into a further specified role on the same team I worked on. I am responsible for having a detailed understanding of specific traffic situations and our software tools to measure how well we drive, as well as teaching others how to do the same through spoken lectures, upkeep of instruction documents, and creating practice material. It's quite a bit to juggle compared to my prior role on the team, but I am enjoying the variety and the challenge. I have greatly enjoyed learning more about simulation and understanding the world from a data-driven perspective! Driving a car without a human requires gauging where "a lot of stuff is likely to be." It is fascinating to further understand and apply many of the concepts I learned in statistics classes. Though I have been challenged by my work, I have felt extremely well prepared by my stats courses. I have utilized skills on the job now from my design of experiments, statistical programming, Bayesian/Classical theory-based, and statistical consulting classes. I am thankful for having had such quality education on those subjects.

I've also stayed close with many friends from Statistics. I've been to several San Jose Sharks games and brunch outings with friends. Our "Stat Squad" including Izzy Kamrath, Anna Magat, and Bryce Burdge have managed to get together for a couple days at a time at least every year or so since graduating!

Joseph Hurst

I'm still working at Google as a software engineer, and I've survived the recent layoffs. I've been at Google for 3.5 years now.

Izzy Kamrath

Not too much has changed the past year, but I still love my job as a AT&T business analyst. I've also recently joined the board of advisors for the Cal Poly Business Analytics master's program, so I will be visiting campus at least a couple times a year!

Natalie Keelan

In March of 2022 I graduated from UC San Diego with a master's in computer science and a focus in AI. I've since moved to Santa Monica and am working remotely as a software engineer at AppFolio. It's nearly been a year at my current job, and I'm loving it so far!

Cristian Lazaro

Last year I was recruited to work as a data analyst for a digital advertising company; I'm responsible for designing and analyzing experiments to help businesses assess their return on digital advertising spend. On a weekly basis, I use tools like Python, SQL, and Tableau, as well as attend client meetings and give presentations. It has been really fun to improve both my technical and communication skills. Additionally, in the evenings, I'm working on setting up a coaching business, where I help working professionals transition careers into data analytics. This has been quite an adventure and eye-opening to see how many people are interested in data analytics.

Outside of work, this is my second year in Long Beach, California, and so far, it's been really fun. Most weekends, I spend time at one of the amazing beaches L.A. County and Orange County have to offer. I've also picked up my past hobby of reading back and aim to read at least 12 books a year (I'm currently going through Ayn Rand's "Atlas Shrugged," a doozy of a novel). Also, as I'm currently 25, naturally, I'm working on finding the balance between working on my goals and enjoying my youth (whatever that means).

Finally, as this is my first update, I want to say how incredibly grateful I am for every single professor who shared their knowledge with me. I learned so many valuable lessons! Thank you, everyone!

P.S. If you ever want to chat about p-values or how ChatGPT will take over the world, I'll buy you a virtual lunch, and we can have some fun conversation (I'm on LinkedIn).

Charlie Liou

I just got my M.S. in Mathematics from Cal Poly and I am currently working as a lecturer in the Mathematics Department at Cal Poly.

Kien Nguyen

I'm still working for Lowe's as a Data Scientist. Life has been good. I went back to Vietnam last year to visit my family and friends. It was a great time and I'm looking forward to more travel this year. Hope everything is going well with everyone in the department!

Rod Rahimi

After getting my master's in data science, I'm living in the East Bay, working as a solution engineer at CluePoints, a Belgium-based pharma tech company. We have a software that takes clinical trial data and runs it through our statistical engine (mixed modeling to be specific) to detect any anomalies, atypical patterns, and cases of fraud and risk. I have been fortunate to travel frequently, both for work and in my free time. I'm excited for the next state/country I'll stumble into!

Shea Reynolds

After graduating from Cal Poly, I earned my master's in statistical science from UC Santa Cruz. Since fall 2021, I have been working as a full-time lecturer at CSU Monterey Bay. I teach pre-calculus, calculus, introductory statistics for non-majors, and applied statistics for science majors. In each of my classes, I make sure my students "Learn by Doing" (including by using Rossman/Chance applets). Personally, I've been able to take advantage of the academic schedule and spent a month traveling across Europe last summer and have already planned my next trip to Japan. I hope to see some Cal Poly faculty at USCOTS (United States Conference on Teaching Statistics) this summer!

CLASS OF 2018

Ruslan Adamovics-Davtian

Over the last year, I finished my baseball analytics internship with the Cincinnati Reds. Several months ago, I accepted a role outside of sports as a business intelligence analyst for a vehicle product manufacturing company in San Antonio several months ago. I still have a passion for sports analytics, and it's something I want to eventually get back into when the time is right or when future opportunities arise in baseball, basketball, or football analytics. I have been working remotely in my new analyst role, but I'm excited to experience a new city (San Antonio).

Gianna Ciaccio

I'm nearing my first year as a people data scientist at Atlassian, an Australian software company, where my work focuses on evaluating recruitment marketing and DEI-related opportunities in the company's employee life cycle. I work remotely in Ann Arbor, Michigan, while my husband completes his computer science doctorate at the University of Michigan. We've come to love the area, spending our free time rock climbing, performing in local musical theater productions and navigating the highs and lows of home ownership.

Jenna Harrelson

Professionally, I'm going into my third year at Fox Corp. Within the last year I received a promotion and am now a manager of a business intelligence team focusing on Fox News, Fox Business, Fox Nation and Fox Weather digital analytics. (We have a great internship program too!) I also graduated with my master's in data science from Fordham University.

Personally, I'm still living in New York City with my fiancé and my pup. We headed back to SLO for our wedding in April and couldn't be more excited!

Emily Johnson

Since graduating in 2018, I have been working as a statistical programmer in the pharmaceutical industry, working in SAS primarily. I started out at Precision for Medicine, which was based in Carlsbad, California, and have now been working at Emanate Biostats (also in Carlsbad) since July 2021. I really enjoy what I am doing and love the company. We are a small company of less than 20. I live in San Diego, which is where I grew up, and love it!

Howard Liu

I'm currently still working as a data specialist at the same company as my previous update. The awesome part is it is fully remote!

In the last year I have taken the opportunity to travel a lot. I spent some time in Denver, Seattle, Hawaii, L.A., Bay Area, etc. The highlight was a two-week trip in Australia. I highly recommend visiting if you have never been before. This year I'll be heading out to Utah for a bit before going on a two-week trip to Taiwan and Japan to visit family.

Stephanie Mendoza

This past year I've been living in downtown Chicago and still loving the city life. I've been lucky enough to do some traveling, and in 2022 I visited London, Germany, Mexico, Portugal, and Italy, as well as a few trips to California to spend time with my new baby niece. In January, I celebrated my one-year work-iversary at Gopuff where I'm on the product analytics team. Working in tech this year has been a wild experience, but I'm still enjoying the fast-paced start-up culture and am learning something new every day.

Brannnden Moss

I always enjoy writing these because it gives me perspective on the last year. I have moved on to working as a senior data analyst for Ernst & Young, primarily working on cleaning and automating data using Python code. I still would like to work in for a nonprofit client to uphold my obligation to tzedaka. I continue to work toward completing my master's in computer science, now past the halfway point.

Outside of my career, I had quite the whirlwind. My plans for endurance races were thrown out from four separate illnesses that affected my lungs. On the positive side, my girlfriend and I have had plenty of time to adventure around San Diego and plan where in the city to move-in together in 2023. Life is good, and I'm looking forward to endurance races and seeing where I am when I reflect on this in 2024.



Noelle Pablo

I live in Pasadena, California, and working remotely for the University of Kansas. I was recently promoted and have been working on various projects related to student learning and assessment programs while also developing and maintaining internal R packages. I am currently in the last semester of my master's degree in data science at the University of Kansas. Attached is a recent picture from when I grabbed dinner with two of my good stats pals, Howard and Michelle.

Corey Pang

I joined a few other statistics alums in 2020 at Workday Inc. as a business intelligence analyst supporting finance and accounting organizations. I live in the Bay Area and plan a move to San Francisco sometime this summer! I still play tennis from time to time, but this winter has been all about skiing. I look forward to visiting SLO soon and also to read everyone's updates!

Hans Schumann

Since graduating, I had continued to live in SLO for about four more years, making the most of the weather. To explore more of a big city life though, I moved to San Francisco in mid-June. I still work for Unanimous AI doing data science in the collaborative intelligence space. In my free time, I use the Cal Poly stats knowledge in professional sports gambling. Some new hobbies have emerged in the city: more exploring of neighborhoods and their different food options and time for pickup soccer and basketball.

Nicole Segovia Pham

I've spent the last four years working as a biostatistician at Stanford's School of Medicine. In this role, I design clinical research studies, analyze collected data, and even teach the doctors and research staff how to run their own analyses in Excel or R. I daily apply the skills I learned at Cal Poly while at the same time learning so much about the healthcare and medicine. Life has also given me many wonderful memories over the past few years — earning my master's of public health in 2021, adopting two cats and getting married in 2022!

Michaelynn Welther

Howdy, y'all! I've been continuing with a career in project management at Ableton AG, a German music software company. I manage projects that focus around business operations in the Americas. My statistics degree has continued to help when presenting the business value/impact of projects/programs to upper management. Outside of work, I continue to care for my pet hedgehog, Athena, travel when possible and try new activities (did anyone else get into pickleball this past year?). I spent over a month in 2022 soloing through Chile, Argentina and Uruguay, and aim to stay on the work-life balance train in 2023. Cheers to current STAT students, professors and fellow alumni!



CLASS OF 2017



Christina Garcia

Big changes since our last update: Max (Statistics, '13) and I are going on two years of marriage already. We bought a house in Atlanta and adopted two kittens, Cosmo and Wanda. We also became an aunt and uncle to a niece and a nephew! Max is still killing it in digital marketing (director of marketing analytics), and I still love my job in market research (senior analyst). We especially love the flexibility of working remotely (or hybrid). Overall, we feel very grateful for the lives we get to share together here in Atlanta and look forward to what the future holds!

Elaina Gates

This past year brought a couple of big changes! I am back in the Bay Area and bought a house in Oakland. I have been renovating and restoring it — a longtime dream of mine. I still work at Workday Inc. (like a few other CP stats alumni!), but I have changed teams and now work as an HR reporting analyst. I often grab lunch with Claudia Sison at the office and annoy Corey Pang with Slack messages!

I recently attended a professional training on how to tell a story with data. It was such a fun refresher and brought back so many memories of the statistics projects we did throughout the years at Cal Poly. Looking forward to visiting SLO sometime soon and excited to read about everyone's updates!

Francis Lara

Crazy to realize that it's been almost six years since graduation! After working at Solar Turbines Inc. for four years, I started at a new job last year as a product and quality analyst at OwnBackup, working on a cybersecurity product for Salesforce Inc. — luckily remoteing in from San Diego. It's been a great change of pace switching from the energy industry into tech and in this new role getting the opportunity to apply the QA (quality assurance) side of statistics. I'm also grateful to have met one of my best friends while we were both switching into the statistics major, Reina, who is coincidentally now coworkers and neighbors with my boyfriend — small world! Hope everyone continues to stay safe and healthy.



Bradley Lubich

I am finishing up my dissertation at UC Riverside and will be defending it in the spring term. I'm not quite sure what will be next, but I intend to apply for industry statistician or data analyst/data scientist positions. I anticipate moving as well. A new life chapter is on the horizon!

Ryan Raasch

Over the past year, my wife graduated from her graduate program for occupational therapy and got licensed. We have since moved from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, back to our hometown of Long Beach, California. We're enjoying the warmer weather, the beach and being closer to family. I have been working remotely at Peraton Inc. for over a year as a data scientist in the defense mission and health solutions sector. I serve as co-product owner on a research and development team where I lead our artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) model operations and use case development, which is really fun and exciting!

Claudia Sison

I recently was promoted to senior people analytics analyst at Workday Inc. and am working on a lot of interesting projects involving diversity, employee listening, and hybrid work. In my free time, I still do a lot of rock climbing and explore all the good food the Bay Area has to offer. I miss SLO a ton and hope to visit again soon!

Caroline Yovanovich

I continue to work on my research and dissertation at UC Santa Barbara and should finish in June! I am simultaneously thrilled and terrified to be graduating soon, mostly because I put off looking for a job for almost seven years. I am on the hunt and confident that I'll end up where I'm meant to be and can finally use the skills I've built up at Cal Poly and UCSB!

CLASS OF 2016

Jacob Jaffe

I'm still live and work 100% remote in the Bay Area for CSE Insurance Group, a small insurance company. And of course, I'm still studying for actuarial exams. In my personal life, I attended two weddings of close friends from Cal Poly in Granite Bay and San Bernardino in 2022. I'm excited to be a groomsman for my brother's upcoming 2023 wedding in Moraga. Here's a picture of my family from my brother's engagement party.



Danny Rithy

I visited Washington, Oregon, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Hawaii in 2022. I've also visited several state/national parks. It was fun! I enjoyed the Grand Canyon the most because of the breathtaking views. I hiked Half Dome last fall — as one of the most difficult hikes I've done in my life. The day after, I could barely walk and couldn't go to a concert! My advice is to carry plenty of water so you don't become dehydrated halfway through the hike! I'm studying Japanese at San Jose Language Center —

it's fun, yet challenging. I wanted to learn the language for a long time but couldn't find the time. The center offers online classes so I don't have to drive to San Jose. Speaking about Japanese, I'm hoping I'll be able to *make* ramen this year.

Conor Shannon

I think my last update was before COVID-19. I moved from Chicago to New York to pursue a new career (I keep moving farther from SLO). I formerly worked as a health and benefits actuary at Mercer financial services, but now I'm enjoying my new position as a property and casualty actuary at Verisk Analytics. I passed Exam MAS-I last spring and am studying for Online Course 1. In my spare time I enjoy hanging out with London, my 3-year-old black Labrador, and studying for other exams. I hope to visit SLO and Cal Poly in the near future.

CLASS OF 2015

Corinne Gaul

I'm a lead analyst at a challenger bank, Chime Financial, supporting the expansion of peer-to-peer payment technology. Most days I feel like an analytics cowboy, wrangling messy data in the Wild West.

On a personal note: my partner and I just bought a house in Alameda, California. We are planning our wedding in Sweden this summer, in addition to planning home renovations. My top priority is booking an ABBA tribute band.

Cary Hernandez

For the last three years, I've been in Berkeley working at Intuit Inc. supporting the Quickbooks side of the business. We work on interesting problems to ensure we have clean analytics measurement to track the effectiveness of an app's newest features and service flows to assist our small businesses and in-house experts. I am helping drive an end-to-end analytics plan for a new service offering being launched later this year. I am getting a taste of what analytics management is and hope to transition within the year. I was also able to persuade fellow 2015 classmate Phillip Richardson to join Intuit in the last year, so I've got a fellow Mustang around!

Martha Mejia-Henao

I am in my eighth year at Hyundai Motor America where I am the senior manager of sales analysis and forecasting. The automotive industry has been working through a lot of challenges since 2020, which has made forecasting vehicles sales really *interesting*. Outside of work I continue to travel, hike and scuba dive whenever I can!



Jeremy Mulcahey

Not much has changed since the last update, so I'll give some standard fun(?) facts: We still live in Atlanta; I'm managing a team of 11 data scientists at State Farm Insurance Cos.; and I spend a ton of time with Kona, our standard poodle. I'm available if anyone wants an informational interview about data science in insurance, life on The Farm or surviving school and next steps. As usual, I can't thank Cal Poly statistics enough for everything to help me find this path!

Chelsea Obrochta

I live in San Diego with my husband, Mike, and two dogs, Fiddler and Paisley. We're expecting our first child, a boy, in July. Since graduation, I earned my master's in public health and doctorate in epidemiology, which is what brought me to San Diego. My husband and I purchased a home here in 2020, and we have no plans to move! I've been working remotely as a senior manager, epidemiology at Alexion, AstraZeneca Rare Disease since May 2021. My main roles include: characterizing the incidence, prevalence, natural history and phenotype/genotype associations for rare diseases at a global level; and characterizing the patients affected by rare diseases by sex, age and race/ethnicity, and comparing the characteristics of the expected patient population to the patients enrolled in the clinical trial(s). For fun, we try and travel regularly (nationally or internationally), we frequent the dog beach, and I'm currently the captain of my tennis team.

Phillip Richardson

This year I moved to Pleasanton, California, and started a new position as a staff data scientist in the finance and strategy department at Intuit Inc. Cary Hernandez was kind enough to refer me, and now we are coworkers! The position, which is a mix of data analytics, reporting and data science projects to inform product performance and development for Quickbooks, has been a lot of fun. As always, I am very thankful for my stats degree and the opportunities it has provided.



Helen Totterdell Hilton

My professional life hasn't changed much. I do some small contract work, but mostly I'm at home with my three kiddos — and absolutely loving it. It's been a wonderful opportunity to be around them so much while they're young and growing, and it's an experience I feel so lucky to be able to be a part of! We live in the Denver area and have loved being around mountains, snow, and some really delicious food chains that don't quite reach California.

Robin Tu

I earned my doctorate in statistics from the University of Illinois in May 2022, and took a job with Northrop Grumman working on a radar-warning receiver (that gives pilots awareness of the kind/types of radar pointed at them). Despite never taking physics (to the dismay of differential equations Professor Vincent Bonini in Cal Poly's Math Department), I've adapted well to learning the principles of radar and have found that many basic statistical methodologies are widely applicable in this domain (Cramer-Rao Lower Bound is a big deal!) While trading grad life and academia for a full-time job has its drawbacks — no afternoon runs, free reign over research (work) time, having to wake up early to catch the 7 a.m. train to the suburbs, and working in a drab, windowless room — I've found the 8-5 schedule surprisingly accommodating. The same can't be said about living in Chicago, where it's taken some adjusting after four years in SLO and seven years in Champaign, Illinois. Way too much honking, rude drivers, and poor signage! On the flipside: using commuter rail means never having to drive and the 'L' — a now-official name, originally short for "elevated" — is convenient when it eventually shows up; there is a cute Mexican grocery store within walking distance; my neighborhood "Old Irving Park" has lots of charm; and the tall buildings are breathtaking.

CLASS OF 2014



Sasha Kravets

It's been a very exciting year! I got engaged in August 2022, and we're planning a summer 2023 wedding! I am in my fourth year of my biostatistics doctorate program and working towards my dissertation on clinical trial design methodology for oncology trials. Last summer I had an amazing opportunity to intern in the FDA's Office of Biostatistics and work on real world clinical trial design issues. I presented at a few conferences and was awarded the ASA Biopharmaceutical Section Student Scholarship at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Toronto, Ontario, Canada! I truly enjoy the biopharmaceutical space and am very excited to join the industry after graduation. Aside from school and wedding planning, I spend time with my dog, Monty, (see photo) and traveling.

Ariana Montes Moore

Chris and I are busy as can be! I am a senior manager with Accenture, an Irish-American IT company based in Dublin, and have been leading a large-scale transformation project for my client of four years now! Chris is a senior manager with GoDaddy Inc. and has built a pretty strong team of data scientists working on experimentation analytics. Amelia is now 2.5 and is doing great at daycare. She recently started swim lessons and is a huge fan of the water! Luca is 1 and is walking/running/climbing all over the place. We're relishing every moment with the kids!



Scott Santor

I am happily employed at Square, working as their head of data analytics and data science for the Customer Success team in the operations organization. I've been there six months, leading a team of 13 managers and analysts. I work mostly on making a Square seller's interaction with customer support the most efficient and effective as possible. I switched into tech after eight years at Albertsons Cos., where I worked my way up from entry data analyst to senior analytics manager overseeing a team of eight. There I analyzed personalized digital coupon data for the grocer's Albertsons for U loyalty and rewards program. That first job blossomed out of a fall 2013 Cal Poly Career Fair conversation (plus my wonderful undergrad stats degree of course), so I am forever grateful!!

I live in Walnut Creek, East Bay Area, with my wife (who I met in the dorms in freshman year), dog and two cats (hopefully a family soon!). I enjoy playing and watching sports still (golf and tennis mostly these days), and still upset about that Niners loss ... we didn't get a fair fight.

My No. 1 advice to current stats undergrads is become an expert at SQL, as every company requires it from data analysts and data scientists, and if you do that really well, there will be a job for you. No. 2 is being strong with data visualization tools to automate showing off your SQL findings (Tableau, Power BI, Looker etc.). No. 2B is Excel (VLOOKUP, SUMIF, pivot tables) as a basic requirement as well. No. 3 is Python, which is a differentiator as a data analyst but not required, while it is needed for data science work (R/SAS less used but can still do the job). Lastly, if you define the business problem well, the problem is half solved, and telling the story the data is telling you is just as important as pulling the numbers themselves.

CLASS OF 2013

Hector Herrera

Over the last several years I've jumped between consulting and working in healthcare and financial services while remaining firmly rooted in analytics. I've traveled a fair bit for clients and learned how to "talk data" in Spanish with a client from Latin America who was expanding into the U.S. healthcare market. Currently I'm working on an engagement with a major student lender to send money back to borrowers, so keep an eye on your mail — I might be sending you an early holiday gift!

On a personal note, I got married a few years ago and had some great Cal Poly statistics majors in attendance! Since then, my husband and I adopted a dog and have taken on some major home renovation projects that we are doing ourselves. I've picked up quite a few new skills thanks to YouTube and some light reading in building codes.



Debbie Huang

It's been almost four years since I made Oregon my home. Last year, I started a new role at Nike leading teams in consumer analytics for digital commerce platforms across our website and apps, as well as product merchandising and planning. Outside of work, I've started prepping for my 2023 garden, and I'm planning to do more fly fishing this year, including a trip to Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. I started going to a new barbell gym and in only a couple months, my strength is back to pre-COVID levels. I hit a few PRs at the start of 2023, including a 200-pound clean and jerk!

Max Klingmann

See update from Christina Garcia, Class of 2017.

Chris Moore

See update from Ariana Montes Moore, Class of 2014.

Suzanne Nelson Coulter

This past year was big for me and my (growing) family. We welcomed our baby boy, William, in July and have been enjoying this new season of life as new parents. I am still a biostatistician at the College of American Pathologists, but I have switched to part-time work.



Zoya Popoff

I've been working at LinkedIn for the past three-and-a-half years, supporting operations for email marketing and our online advertising business. My role partners data science and marketing together, where I help advise on experiment design, programmatic optimization, and project manage models and algorithms determining audiences for marketing campaigns. In the past year I moved from San Francisco to Marin County — it has been an adjustment to suburban life, but I usually commute about once a week for my moment of city life. My free time is now full of running, hiking and starting the home buying process.

George Shannon

I recently passed my fourth anniversary in Nashville, Tennessee, and third as the chief data officer at Outreach Solutions as a Service LLC (OSaaS). How time flies. The growth of OSaaS has been fun to watch but given we are still small I get the opportunity to work on different kinds of projects and data. I spend some time with our largest client the California Housing Finance Agency managing the Homeowner Assistance Fund, which provides mortgage assistance relief to California residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. On that project I get to analyze our website traffic and marketing data, application and demographic data as well as tracking overall delinquencies and foreclosures in the state. The rest of my time is spent managing our software products as well as our new Citizen360 product suite website and leading our partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS). There aren't many Mustangs in the Music City, but it is always a pleasure to run into fellow alumni.

Kaitlyn Sutter Murphy

I now live in Madison, Wisconsin, spending winters hunkering down and summers on the lake with our boat. My husband and I found out in early 2021 that we passed the last of the exams for our professional credentials as Fellows of the Casualty Actuarial Society. Our son was born in mid-2022. We keep asking him when he's going to learn how to wake surf, and his response is "tha-tha-tha-tha-tha," so maybe later this year!

CLASS OF 2012

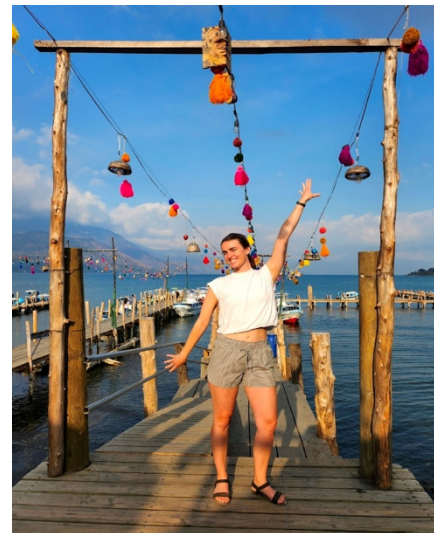


Jenna Colavincenzo Carlson

The past year has been busy balancing work and homelife chasing around our two little girls — Amelia (3) and Leah (1) — but we wouldn't have it any other way! I'm in my fifth year as an assistant professor of biostatistics and human genetics at Pitt Public Health and am now directing our Master of Science in Biostatistics program. I love getting to work with our students and continue my research in statistical genetics but miss SLO and all the wonderful people at Cal Poly!

Julia Maddalena

Last year was interesting. The soil carbon tech startup I have been working at for the last year and a half closed our Series A financing in the May of 2022, rebranded to Perennial, and quickly doubled our team size. During the growth phase, I was promoted to manage the data science team and have been so proud to lead a group of three amazing women data scientists. This year is going to be a very exciting one as we start executing a lot of what we have been building towards! Due to a shakeup in my personal life at the end of last year, I decided to spend two months as a digital nomad in Latin America. I am currently halfway through my first month in San Cristóbal de Las Casas in Chiapas, Mexico, and heading to Guatemala next. So far, I have been so grateful for this opportunity, but I am a little worried I may get addicted to this lifestyle!



Kurtis Voris

I now have two daughters with my amazing Cal Poly wife, Chelsey. Kennedy is 2 and Madison is 0 and counting. We recently bought a motorhome and rented out our house. We will spend the rest of 2023 traveling, building family bonds (while still working) on our route up and down the West Coast. We will spend three weeks in Morro Bay in April, so I am excited to revisit Cal Poly and the Stats Lab. I have been working at Amazon for six years, focusing on search and recommendation engines. A longtime interest has been in embeddings and approximate nearest neighbor search, and a recent interest is contextual bandits. The photo is of us at the San Diego Wild Animal Park, where Kennedy either saw a lion or is tooting.

CLASS OF 2011

Rory Bloch

I am currently in the medical device industry working as lead biostatistician at NuVasive Inc. I still live in San Diego with my fiancé and two cats. We got engaged last summer at Niagara Falls. (See the photo taken about an hour before I proposed.) We then hopped over the pond and explored Scotland and Ireland as a newly engaged couple. We will be married this summer. Exciting and busy times!



Megan Evans

2022 was a great year! I designated it as my “year of the cat” and truthfully 2023 is shaping up similarly. My latest hobby is rescuing and fostering cats/kittens and simultaneously trapping, neutering and returning (TNRing) my neighborhood stray kitties. It’s a strange hobby, but it started out of necessity after I moved into my Santa Ana duplex that we had been remodeling for longer than I’d like to admit. I quickly learned that I had an out-of-control stray cat population and partnered with a local cat rescue organization to help get it in check. Together we’ve TNR-ed over 20 cats and rescued and adopted out more than 10 kittens, which I’m really proud of! If all goes according to plan, we’ll see fewer kittens this year as a result of our TNR efforts. If you’re in Southern California and in the market to adopt a cat, check out Cali’s Misfits (www.calismisfits.com).

Professionally, I’m happy to report I’m still working as an actuary at Pacific Life in Orange County and get to work a hybrid schedule, so I can still enjoy some face time with my colleagues at our newly-remodeled Newport Beach office a few days a week, while working the other days from home with the cats. The last 12 years there have really flown by! I received my Fellowship of the Society of Actuaries (FSA) in 2020 and regularly wonder how I managed to study so much for so many years. I’m tired just thinking about it.

I’ve stayed connected with the Cal Poly College of Science and Mathematics via the Dean’s Leadership Council, which I’ve been a part of for a few years. It gives me a great excuse to get up to SLO and see what current students are up to. Always impressive and inspiring!

Tiffany Russell

I have enjoyed hearing about the inspiring professional and personal accomplishments of Cal Poly Statistics alumni and faculty in the newsletters. I recently started a new position at Cisco which has brought many exciting challenges and great opportunities to collaborate with global team members. In addition to learning new trends and technologies, I also enjoy putting more miles on my hiking shoes and exploring national parks. I am grateful for the wonderful memories I have of Cal Poly and the Statistics Department.

CLASS OF 2010

Mat Adams

This year I started a new job as head of media at a small agency called True Radius Marketing, based in Auburn Hills, Michigan. We support outdoor power equipment distributors, brands and storefronts with their digital marketing needs. Think Google and Facebook advertising for shops that sell riding lawn mowers, tractors, etc. It's a big change as I came up just short of 10 years at my last job, which was essentially focused on the analytics side of similar advertising campaigns. I'm really excited for the new challenge and transitioning back to a small company where everything you do is contributing directly to the company's growth. It has only been a couple weeks, but I already miss working with Maxwell Klingmann, who is now Mr. Manager.

I still run a baseball site called Prospects Live, where I get to use R and Shiny to build apps with baseball data. We have a handful of contributors to the site that have gotten jobs with MLB teams over the last year, which was really cool to see.

Our family is going on three years in Boise, Idaho, and we're still loving it. Our boys just turned 4 and 5 years old ... that was *quick*! Life is good.

Audrey Bigelow Lariz

Since my last update, we closed escrow on our first home in SLO and two weeks later we officially had our New Orleans wedding — two-and-a-half years in the making. To say it was a dream is an understatement! We had an absolute blast complete with a second line parade (look it up) and a celebration with friends and family that we will never forget. If you *can* have a parade, *always* have the parade.



2022 proved to be another interesting year career-wise. I managed the Dawn Addis campaign for the Assembly District 30 seat to a first-place finish in the primary and then moved on to work for a political tech company called Scale to Win. I managed texting programs for campaigns of all sizes, including six U.S. Senate campaigns. I spent a week in Brooklyn, New York, with some of my team leading up to Election Day. We are looking to a slower 2023 in preparation for another busy campaign cycle for 2024. Overall, 2023 is feeling like a much more “settled” year for me, and I'm very excited about it!

David Horn

It's been crazy since my last update. After working on a startup for a couple years during the pandemic, I closed the business and am now working for Brex Inc., a fintech firm, looking after their machine learning and AI efforts. I've been spending a lot of time playing with MLOps (Machine Learning Operations) pipelines and mapping statistics lingo to machine learning lingo (features and independent variables are the same thing, so why two names?!). My wife and I (and dog!) moved to Los Angeles, and we've been enjoying trading rainy Oregon weather for the perma-sunny west L.A.





Katrina Jackson Anderson

This past year I have continued my work with First American to build and launch our Procision AVM suite. I'm very proud of the work our team has put into this, and we are elated to be so successful in our first full quarter on the map! We currently return daily valuations on about 108 million homes in the U.S. and are the most accurate Automated Valuation Model for most counties. We are now in phase 2 and are refining our methods (turning some models Bayesian) plus building out more models — looking to add a rental AVM soon.

Homelife has remained relatively unchanged — besides my husband, Mark (Aerospace, '11)

switching jobs and having our kids at different schools for the first time. Mark works from home too, which has been exciting (goodbye three-hour daily commutes for him, hello office politics for me). Our biggest adjustment was figuring out where to house two desks, but he is happily working from the man cave in the garage, and I kept my office. Our oldest is in kindergarten and loving it, while our youngest is relishing being the oldest at her preschool. Minnie, the doodle, has settled in well and loves to be a lap dog even though she is 60 pounds, and I'm hoping to convince Mark that our dog needs a dog.

Michelle Shaffer Stratton

I am living in the Bay Area with my family and continue to teach algebra and geometry. My oldest son, James, started transitional kindergarten this year, which has been a huge transition from teacher to “parent of a student!” It's been fun to see some of the math activities they do. One time he came home with a bar graph he'd made in class of his sample of gummy bear colors!

Some 2022 highlights: I started playing coed softball, which I have loved! My husband, Greg, and I celebrated our 10th anniversary. We also took James and our other son, Luke, (age 3) to Morro Bay. I had only ever kayaked across the harbor to the sand dune, but this time we kayaked further into the calm bay, which was actually really cool! We even saw a skate, which like a stingray — Luke's favorite animal? — is a cartilaginous fish whose skeleton is made of cartilage instead of bone. We always love getting back to the Central Coast.

Lauren Sweeney

Since my last update a lot has stayed the same, and many things have changed. I still live in Seattle and work for Amazon (eight years in March). I am the category lead for our Amazon Go convenience stores — a fun mashup of retail, technology, and data. While I don't use statistics daily, it is embedded in a lot of the work and data we use to drive our decisions and strategies. The problem-solving skills and basic data analysis I learned at Cal Poly have proved invaluable in my career.

On a personal note, 2022 was an eventful year! In April we welcomed a baby boy into our family. Becoming a mom, and juggling work and parenthood, is challenging and joyful, depending on the hour and day. If I plotted it out, it would definitely skew toward joy. In late September, I slipped on a few stairs while holding my baby. The baby was fine, but I broke my leg — in three places. I've spent the last several months on crutches, but I am back to walking (hobbling) and have beat my son in taking his first steps. After pregnancy and a leg break, I am hoping 2023 is filled with good health and a lot more outdoor activities. My goal is to get back on the ski slopes by next December.



CLASS OF 2009



Mary Ellen DeHaven Rosales

Still enjoying my time with 24 Hour Fitness! I have been leading the advanced analytics team, and we have been moving away from data manipulation to more statistical heavy projects. Exciting to see our models change and help the business. I am proud of my team and our leadership for making data storytelling a priority.

In 2022 our family had the best surprise: We were having baby boy No. 2! We welcomed Dean Rosales to the world a little after Thanksgiving.

Oliver Mead

I live in Alexandria, Virginia, with my wife and dog. I am applying to master's programs in data analytics, looking forward to getting back to the world of numbers and statistics. I am hoping that I can make the entire Statistics Department proud — especially Drs. Beth Chance and Jimmy Doi.

My wife and I are expecting a baby this fall — a family of four! In addition to that exciting news, I get gas for my car across the street from the American Statistical Association in Alexandria, Virginia. I wave, but no one waves back.

Aaron Shev

I still live in Sacramento, California, and work for UC Davis as a statistician in the Department of Emergency Medicine. I study the causes, consequences and prevention of firearm violence within the long-running Violence Prevention Researcher Program, a multi-disciplinary program of research and policy development, and the newly founded California Firearm Violence Research Center also at UC Davis.

Emily Tietjen

I've made a switch within Merced County Office of Education to serving as their senior coordinator for state and federal programs. Among other responsibilities, I utilize my statistics background to work with school districts implementing improvement science methods. It's been a year of learning!

CLASS OF 2008

Sean Silva

I continue to manage the Health & Group Benefits consulting practice in the western region as a principal of Milliman. Client travel has picked up quite a bit over the last year, and I've enjoyed reconnecting in person with clients.

Our three boys are now aged 8 (Nolan), 6 (Maverick) and 4 (Rhylan). Outside of school and the associated sports activities, we spent the Thanksgiving holiday on Kauai (again, but this time on the north side of the island), and have also spent quite a bit of time in Tahoe over the 2022-'23 winter season. All three boys are proficient skiers, and Nolan is mastering the black diamond runs at Kirkwood Ski Resort.



CLASS OF 2007



Mary Joynt

New year, new job. I started at Nautilus Inc., as a sales operations analyst II in October 2022 and absolutely love it! We still love Washington state and all it has to offer. So much amazing wine, food and things to experience, while the dogs love the rivers and sand to play in. This year we were able to cruise to Alaska, attend concerts in Canada, take multiple trips to California and Colorado, and we finally made it to Tuscany, in central Italy, for our four-year delayed honeymoon! We have a trip to Turkey and Greece planned for May and Oktoberfest in Munich in September. Excited to see what 2023 holds for us!

Anna Weldon Little

My oldest, Olivia, will start kindergarten next year so I am soaking up the last year of preschool and lazy mornings with her and my youngest, Chloe, who turns 3-years-old in May and will start preschool in the fall. It's been fun because I work at Olivia's preschool at least once a week, I often sub another day and I can bring Chloe, which has been really special because the "first day of school" will already be behind her and she'll feel comfortable starting later this year when Olivia is in kinder. Right now, I'm up late cutting hearts and prepping for her big Valentine's Day party that I'm in charge of. It's a nonprofit parent participation preschool that is just the best community of people. We all pitch in and have so much fun! It's crunch time because I'm also in charge of the tech aspects of the school auction, the biggest fundraiser. Other than that, my days are filled with T-ball, gymnastics, swim, birthday parties etc. while also being a proud auntie to two new babies in our family. My husband is currently in Colorado for two months upgrading to United 777, so keep an ear out for him doing the inflight announcements if you're traveling overseas this year!



CLASS OF 2005

James Adams-Carver

Life in Cambodia is mostly back to normal. This year marks 13 years of marriage and 10 years of university service. My life is full of high-quality and interesting people.



Alicia Fry Davis

I'm very happy to be back in the classroom teaching statistics and math at Sacramento State (Go Hornets *and* Mustangs!) I love teaching, and it's wonderful to be face-to-face with students. I'm still writing also! I completed a TV writing certification from UCLA Extension and wrote a few original pilots. Two of my scripts made it to the second round at the Austin Film Festival, and I'm hoping that this year I will make it to the finals. I'm currently writing a feature film, a coming-of-age story set in 1998, and it's coming together nicely. I've always been interested in parapsychology, and I'm using the field of near-death experiences as part of the story. My kids are doing great. My

daughter starts middle school this fall, and my son will begin fifth grade. He's naturally good at math, and my daughter is the opposite. Even as an instructor, I feel at a loss with inspiring her to care, but she loves reading and drawing, so that makes me happy. We went to London and Paris last year, and it was a blast! I hope everyone has a great 2023!!

Kaycee Roeser

I began my 17th year with Kaiser Permanente in January, and we are busy as ever. I work in the Medicare analytic space, and it is quite a time of change, similar to the enactment of the Affordable Care Act in 2010.

I truly enjoy my work and am so proud to be a part of Kaiser's mission. I wouldn't have the opportunities I've been afforded without the teaching and encouragement of my Cal Poly professors. In addition to all of the math theory and statistical application, I learned SAS. I will be forever thankful to Rebecca Ottesen for all she showed us. Analyzing data is just the very last part of the process —getting the data into the model in good shape is the *hard* part! I encourage students to look in to SAS jobs if you aren't planning on

graduate school right after earning your bachelor's. You can earn a great salary without having your master's or doctorate. A great year to all!

Alex Steiner

I've been working at IBM about three years. I usually spend my days helping build small proof-of-concept projects using data science. We live in Thousand Oaks, California. Last year we had a baby girl, Skylar. Life is pretty good, can't complain.

CLASS OF 2004

Laine Elliott Thomas

I am a professor of biostatistics and bioinformatics at Duke University and deputy director of Data Science and Biostatistics at Duke Clinical Research Institute. I teach the observational studies class in our Masters of Biostatistics Program. My class is flipped, with recorded lectures and class time spent working through real problems that people send to me as a collaborator. The homework problems are based on email questions from other statisticians or comments from journal reviewers about the statistical methods in a clinical paper. The students learn how to deconstruct the problem using principles from our class. Outside of work, I have two kids; my son is 13 and daughter is 1. They are beautiful, and these days they take *all* of our free time. I sure loved Cal Poly. The great teachers there provided the foundation that sustained me through future challenges.

CLASS OF 2003

Jessica Oltmanns

I'm working for Monterey County as an epidemiologist II. Looking for the right puppy match.

Tierra Stimson

I continue to stay super busy teaching statistics and research methods at the University of Arizona and as a consultant in the auction world. Over the last year, I have reflected a lot on my teaching and continue to be grateful for the faculty in the Cal Poly Statistics Department for my great start and the continued encouragement over the last 15 years in the statistics field! I hope everyone has an amazing year.