

# Alumni and Faculty Updates

## 2025-2026 Newsletter



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Choose any of the following links in the Table of Contents to find career and life updates from the Cal Poly Statistics Department alumni and faculty.

- Alumni Updates ..... 2**
  - CLASS OF 2025 ..... 2**
  - CLASS OF 2024 ..... 4**
  - CLASS OF 2023 ..... 7**
  - CLASS OF 2022 ..... 8**
  - CLASS OF 2021 ..... 8**
  - CLASS OF 2020 ..... 9**
  - CLASS OF 2019 ..... 12**
  - CLASS OF 2017 ..... 13**
  - CLASS OF 2017 ..... 15**
  - CLASS OF 2016 ..... 16**
  - CLASS OF 2015 ..... 17**
  - CLASS OF 2014 ..... 18**
  - CLASS OF 2013 ..... 18**
  - CLASS OF 2012 ..... 19**
  - CLASS OF 2011 ..... 20**
  - CLASS OF 2010 ..... 21**
  - CLASS OF 2009 ..... 22**
  - CLASS OF 2008 ..... 24**
  - CLASS OF 2007 ..... 25**
  - CLASS OF 2006 ..... 26**
  - CLASS OF 2005 ..... 27**
  - CLASS OF 2002 ..... 27**
- Faculty Updates ..... 28**

# Alumni Updates

## CLASS OF 2025

### **Billy Block**

I just completed the first year of my PhD in Industrial and Operations Engineering at the University of Michigan. I was awarded the UM Rackham Merit Fellowship as well as the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship for my proposed work on personalized sequential decision models on post-transplant immunosuppression. I'm looking forward to spending my summer exploring Utah, Wyoming, and Washington, as well as visiting SLO for this year's graduation!

### **Nicholas Elich**

After graduating last June, I moved back to the Bay Area and began work as a Data Scientist at Oracle. Each work day is full of problem solving and learning, and I'm grateful for the time I spent at Cal Poly refining my critical thinking skills.

Outside of work, I try to stay on the move by running, hiking, and traveling. I have trips planned this summer for Hawaii and Colorado, and I hope to take advantage of an Oracle work abroad program to spend time in Europe.

### **Lana Huynh**

After graduating from the master's program, I moved to Chicago, IL, where I began working as a Pricing and Revenue Management Analyst at United Airlines. I've grown a lot in this role and feel confident that it's the right direction for my career. The flight benefits have been a nice bonus, allowing me to take advantage of flexible work arrangements, including remote weeks in Lima, Peru, and Hawaii.

As a California native, experiencing all four seasons, especially a true Chicago winter, has been a new and interesting change. I've really enjoyed living here and building a new community, but I do miss the beauty of the Central Coast. Having easy access to hiking trails and the beach is something I'll always appreciate.

### **Gabrielle (Gabby) Low**

I am now pursuing a 1-year masters in Computational Social Science at UC San Diego, with a certificate in Spatial Analysis! I've been able to work on a couple of cool projects, including one on ICE encounters and deportation risk and another one on homeless encampment reports. San Diego has been fun so far, but I plan on moving home to the Bay Area after I graduate and probably continue looking for jobs (gulp). I plan on making the most out of the sunny beach access and explore the cafe scene while I'm here!

### **Dale Percelay**

Strategy consultant in NYC.

### **Liam Quach**

I moved to Dallas this past August after starting a role as a Machine Learning Engineer at Goldman Sachs. I've really enjoyed the work so far, great manager and the projects have been directly relevant to my degree, which has been rewarding.

On the personal side, the move from California to Texas has been a big adjustment. Gone are the green landscapes, it's a lot more concrete out here, but the food scene has been a pleasant surprise. There's a lot of great spots to eat and a big Asian community.

Outside of work, I made the trip down to Big Bend National Park, which was an incredible experience. Got to do some hiking and kayaking while I was there. I've also been able to keep up with fellow alumni, visiting Chicago and Madison, and even ran into some in New York during a work trip.

Hope everyone in the stat department is doing well!

### **Rachel Roggenkemper**

I moved to Chicago this past October because I got a job as a Data Scientist working for the Model Governance team at Enova International (a fintech company). I've really enjoyed the work so far, it's been a great combination of applying the concepts I learned at Cal Poly and learning new things! Beyond work, I moved just in time to experience a Chicago winter (which honestly wasn't as bad as people were warning me, but definitely made me realize I took the sun for granted back in California). Other than the weather, I've really enjoyed Chicago so far, I live right by Lake Michigan, so I love taking walks along the lake or biking on the lakefront trail. I've gotten to do some traveling as well, a lot of Cal Poly grads ended up in Madison, WI so I went up there for a few days, also went to New York for a weekend, and got to go to Taiwan to visit my family! Hope everyone in the stat department is doing well!

### **Alexander Yuan**

4 years of SLO wasn't enough, so I decided to return to do the masters program! At the time of writing, I'm about a month out to my thesis defense. I'm also excited to be continuing onto the PhD program at Florida State University in the fall!

### **Zarina Yunis**

In October 2025 I moved to Boston to start working as a financial services data and tech consultant at PwC! I'm loving the wonderful city and have enjoyed meeting people who have moved here from all over!



## CLASS OF 2024

### **Emma Beretta**

Hello! I am working as a Passive Acoustic Data Analyst for NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and National Center for Environmental Information, funded through CU Boulder's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science! I spend most of my time making graphics in R and processing marine acoustic data from every national marine sanctuary in the country to display on this website: [soundscapemonitoring.us](https://soundscapemonitoring.us). The goal is that these standardized metrics and automated graphs will make it easier to analyze acoustic data within and between sanctuaries, and can hopefully inform policy changes that are needed in the area. This position is funded through June of 2027, so I plan to start applying to masters programs this summer for Fall of 2027 (the Statistical Ecology MSc at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland seems quite interesting...). I currently still live in SLO and have been working this position remotely since October, but I am moving to Boulder, Colorado this Summer and am very excited to live in the mountains. Unfortunately, I tore my ACL while skiing in Montana in December, so that recovery has also been taking up a lot of my time. Thankfully I will be back to skiing by the time I'm living in CO though, and am looking forward to hikes and bikes around town as well. I hope everyone is doing well!

### **Jadyn Ellis**

Wow, we are about hitting the 2 year mark of being out of college, time really does fly! Since this is my first update I'll do a little word vomit on the past 2 years in the life.

A few months after graduating I moved to Los Angeles (those of you who know me probably realize this didn't work out for me too long). As many of you, I struggled finding a job post grad so I worked at Starbucks during the job search in Pacific Palisades slinging coffee and taking names. Butttt then the palisades fire happened, which pushed me back into job hunting being my full time job.

I then worked as a data analytics contractor for Leo Berwick, an M&A advisory firm, working exclusively on a market analytics report for the company and contributed to them obtaining \$75 million to invest in growing the company so that was pretty cool! The founder actually went to Cal Poly as a business major, so small world. Then I FINALLY landed a full time position at Anywhere Real Estate as a data analyst in the data governance department. I spend a lot of time in Excel, Power BI, and Databricks working on data quality issue surfacing and monitoring, so I spend most of my day telling people to fix things. Those of you that follow real estate news probably know about the massive acquisition of Anywhere and Compass, forming my current company of Compass International Holdings. The transition has been rough, but we get to work on some really cool new ways of doing things. Can't complain too much!

Since my job is remote I said peace out to Los Angeles and moved back to my home state to Longmont, Colorado. I'm really enjoying being a quick 3 hour drive (I grew up in the middle of nowhere so yeah 3 hours is quick to me) from my family, instead of needing to have a plane involved. But I have definitely not become a stranger to the airport. I've taken 2 trips to the Caribbean, Belize and DR, and may be going back for the Cayman Islands in the fall! I am hoping to travel across Europe next, we will see where life goes. I hope everyone is doing well!!!

**Dominic Farradj**

After graduating in June 2024, I started graduate school at the University of San Francisco for data science that July, and finished June 2025. During the program, I completed a practicum/internship with UCSF Hospital where I worked on some really cool projects, which involved modeling patient length of stay and fine tuning LLMs to teach diagnostic reasoning. This past January, I joined Jensen Hughes on the energy and utilities team, where I've been doing a mix of risk assessment and AI/programming work. Most, if not all, of the work and clients are tied to nuclear plants and their energy companies across the US and around the world, which has made it a really cool space to learn about.

**Cassie Giovannetti**

Since graduating, I started working at Santen Inc. as a contract programmer. I was offered a full time position about a year later as Statistical Programmer II and that's my current position now. I'm hoping to travel in the next year and finally go to Japan!

**Alex Goodman**



I am currently finishing up my Master's degree in Data Science at Mercyhurst University in Erie, PA. I am aiming to graduate at the end of this year (2026) and move into a new career. It has been difficult adjusting to the new environment out here, but I am enjoying the program and learning a lot of practical skills. It's been rewarding to work with AI, machine learning, neural networks, etc. for the first time. P.S. the pic of me is from my first run outside when it was actively snowing. It was really cold. I am currently finishing up my Master's degree in Data Science at Mercyhurst University in Erie, PA. I am aiming to graduate at the end of this year (2026) and move into a new career. It has been difficult adjusting to the new environment out here, but I am enjoying the program and learning a lot of practical skills. It's been rewarding to work with AI, machine learning, neural networks, etc. for the first time. P.S. the pic of me is from my first run outside when it was actively snowing. It was really cold.

**Anna Salamatina**

I came back to Cal Poly to get my teaching credential for secondary math. I've spent this school year at Arroyo Grande HS doing my student teaching, working with algebra and intro to stats students. I am really excited to be teaching at Morro Bay High School next year! And to be moving there soon! A highlight of this last year was a roadtrip me and my boyfriend did to Vegas, Zion, and Bryce. Highly recommend a ride on the Big Apple Coaster and checking out the hoodoos :)

**Kirina Sirohi**

After almost two years of my rotational program at Wells Fargo in Charlotte, NC, I'm moving to New York City to work as a derivatives trader! It's not a role I thought I'd ever do, but the skill set I have now and continue to develop all stems from the amazing stats department at Cal Poly. I'm very sad to leave my life in North Carolina behind me, but super excited to try out a new city. In my free time, I've been doing a lot of traveling to visit friends and explore beautiful places (Grand Tetons are #1). I've also been exploring new bike paths & baking something new every weekend and will happily take baking recommendations!

## Sucheen Sundaram

It's been coming up on two years since I graduated from Cal Poly, and I've been in New York City ever since then. I am still working in Jersey City at Citibank, on a data engineering team, though I'm exploring options to see what's out there.

I'm also traveling a decent bit, specifically last summer I went to India with my family, Italy with some college friends, Dallas to visit family, and back and forth between California.

Last November, I ran the 2025 TCS New York City Marathon. It was an unforgettable experience, and I am very fortunate to have gotten the chance to train and do it. I ran that with many members of my run club, one run of which I host every week.

This past winter was really cold, the coldest in the Northeast in years. I got into a scooter accident and spent the first part of it recovering. Afterward, I got outside, running for the love of the game, and soaking in the NYC aura. I'm doing three half marathons in the span of a month, two of which I've completed at the time of writing.

Lastly, I am doing flight lessons twice a week to obtain my private pilot's certificate in Essex County, NJ. I've been passionate about flying planes since I was young; now that I'm working, I've been able to act on said passion. I'm about halfway there, hours-wise, studying for the written exams concurrently. I hope to have my license by the end of the summer.

Hope everyone has been well.



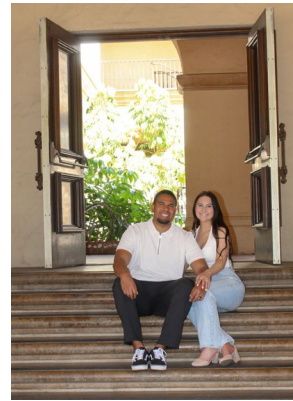
## CLASS OF 2023

### Daniel Nakamura

I have been living in Minneapolis for one year now, still at U.S. Bank. My team performs macroeconomic research and analysis to support the corporate treasury Investment Portfolio and CIO. I have adjusted to the cold and snowy winters here, though nothing beats the constant sunshine of SLO. In my free time I enjoy cooking, staying active, and exploring different parts of the city. I hope that everyone is doing well!


### Cesar Nillaga

Hi all! Once I graduated I took a position as a high school math teacher in San Diego and have been teaching for the past three years. I have been teaching Algebra 2 and Geometry for the past three years but I'm excited for next year as I will have the opportunity to teach some Statistics classes. I also have been coaching football along side teaching so that has been keeping me busy as well. I am currently engaged and will be getting married next year so the wedding planning has been taking over much of our time right now as well. I try to get up to SLO every year and breathe in that beautiful SLO air. Life has been great but I miss being the student. Hope you all have been well and I wish nothing but the success for all of you!



### Richa Puranik



Hey all! Hope everyone is doing well. My alumni update is that I am working at Farmers Insurance as a Senior Product Analyst for the Strategic Partnerships team. I predominantly focus on reporting, automation, and also get to speak to external vendors & analyze/gain insights from their data. I came about this job through a connection within the company who is also a Cal Poly Alumni:) - the connection is strong . Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or are looking to do something similar. Best place to catch me is Linked In. I also moved to SF this year and am still in touch with a number of other stats alumni.

## CLASS OF 2022

### **Kylie Barkle**

I am one year into an online Master's of Public Health program at the University of Michigan. I am pursuing my degree while also working full time as a data analyst in health services research at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles.

### **Jean Choi**

Hi everyone :) A little update on my end: I am still working as a data scientist at EA (the gaming company that makes Sims, FIFA, Madden, etc) based in Seattle! Have been working here for almost 4 years now and am becoming a manager soon! Outside of work, im currently training to become a Pilates / lagree instructor part time so that's been a fun and new experience. Hope everyone is doing well!

### **Eric Tran**

In the past year, I've done a fair bit of traveling with family and friends (SLO, Switzerland, camping in Big Sur, and Taiwan!) and continued to enjoy running and playing tennis. I moved a couple of months ago to Indianapolis to start a new job in analytics for the Indiana Fever in the WNBA - it's been really cool to have the chance to experience being in a new city and state, although I certainly miss life back in California. I'm sending my best to everyone at Cal Poly Statistics!

### **Ryan Zhang**

I am still a Data Scientist at KPMG. The role has evolved in responsibilities. Generally tech roles require some level of software engineering skills. But also, there is a lot of focus on AI Engineering these days. My main project is a Document Intelligence type application for document compliance. On the Data Science side, we have to properly test and experiment and develop metrics that can assess the quality of the app. And on the software engineering side we have to develop production ready code. I have also worked on more RAG type projects, specifically with an Agentic Workflow. A cooler project I worked on is detecting fraud with a sort of legion of ML/AI methodologies, including traditional predictive models, time series modeling, and graph fraud detection models, all with a focus on explainability.

## CLASS OF 2021

### **Jack Langston**

Officially, I've now been an alum longer than I was a student. I'm currently based in New York City, working as a Solutions Engineer in marketing. The role blends technical problem-solving with client-facing work, and I've enjoyed continuing to build on the analytical and communication skills I developed at Cal Poly.

On the personal side, I recently got engaged and will be getting married this September. Looking ahead, we're planning an international move to Amsterdam in 2027, and are excited for the opportunity to live abroad, experience a new culture, and travel more extensively across Europe.

### **Jared Larsen**

I moved back to my hometown of Rochester, MN in 2023 after living in San Francisco post-graduation. Lots has happened in the past year - I got engaged, bought a house, and became a dad to our Bernese Mountain Dog, Quincy.

Last year I also transitioned from a data analytics role at R1RCM to a solutions engineering role at Turquoise, where we are leveraging recent healthcare price transparency laws to expose healthcare pricing to affected parties in a comprehensible way.

Outside of work, I volunteer as an assistant wrestling coach at my former high school, train for marathons, and travel to new places as much as possible. I'm always looking for the next opportunity to get back to SLO!

### **Anish Yakkala**

I just completed 5 years at Apple where I work as a Data Platform Engineer where I work on collecting telemetry and logs from all Apple hardware across the globe. The second product we support is sending configuration to those devices to control how logging is sent. Some big news though is that I will be leaving Apple in a few weeks to join Robinhood on their streaming team, which means moving to Washington, which will be a big move for my girlfriend and I. Will be an exciting chapter for sure!

## **CLASS OF 2020**

### **Sadie Brust**

My big update for 2026 is that after 2.5 years of working full time and going to grad school, I finally graduated with my Masters in Computer Science from Georgia Tech's OMSCS program. We weren't able to make it out to Atlanta for the ceremony, so my in-laws kindly threw me a surprise ceremony in their backyard, complete with decorations, speeches and full regalia!



## Layla Burgan

Not much has changed since my last update! I'm still living in Sacramento with my lovely cat, Cleopatra, and working as a Research Data Analyst for the California Department of Social Services (although I've been promoted from an analyst 1 to an analyst 2!) My career has brought me so many wonderful opportunities to use the skills I learned at Cal Poly! I fill my free time with camping, crafting, and performing with the local Rocky Horror Picture Show cast.

## Mateo Iburguen

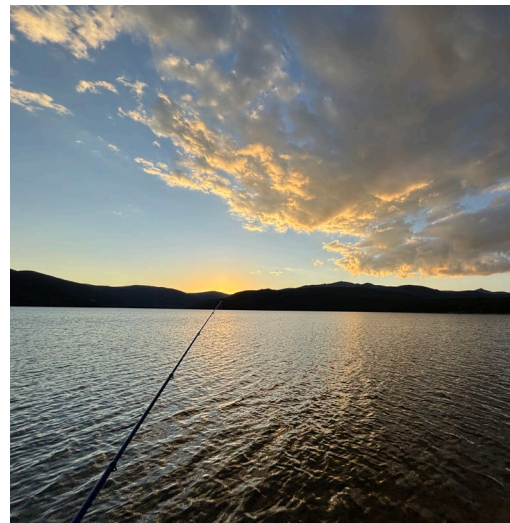
I had the opportunity to move from Guatemala to Sydney, Australia through my employer, where I now work as a tech lead alongside a team of talented data scientists. I'm incredibly grateful for the skills I gained at Cal Poly, especially through the Statistics department and the Data Science minor, which I get to apply almost every day. Thank you for everything.



## Toby Iven

I am working as a statistical programmer at the Mayo Clinic, believe it or not writing Rmds to pull and analyze clinical data (my job is basically stat 431??). I am on the Tapestry team linking specific genetic variants to clinical outcomes among the Mayo Clinic patient cohort. A surprising amount translates from stats 4xx courses but it has been great to learn so much about clinical research, and currently rapidly learning how to automate workflows with Claude code.

With the flexibility of remote work I moved to Denver to spend time in the mountains fishing and generally being cold. Starlink and zoom backgrounds have been helpful to pretend I'm not sitting in a camping chair while working. I also (very slowly) ran my first marathon this year so now I never have to run again.



## Jenna Landy

This is a big year-- I completed my PhD in the Fall (shout out to Drs. Glanz, Bodwin, and Afriyie for making a zoom appearance at my defense), started a new job in January, and am getting married in just a few months!

I'm still in the Boston area, now working at Johnson and Johnson in nonclinical / discovery statistics, doing a mix of statistical methods development and applied analysis for single cell and spatial transcriptomic data across therapeutic areas. I'm really enjoying it so far and am excited to be out of grad school and in a "grownup job"! Since I have a bit more weekend time now, I've been getting back into hobbies, including sewing and birding.

My fiancé will defend his PhD right before our wedding, and we're getting married this August in Nashville, TN, where he grew up. The included photo is both of our families from an engagement celebration my parents hosted in California last summer. Keep an eye out for wedding photos in next year's update!



## Regina Lisinker



Since the last update, I've kept busy! Over summer, I went to Helsinki for a conference and explored Tallinn, Riga, and Berlin before heading back home. I got engaged in November! Noah and I have not yet started planning the wedding, much to the disappointment of my grandparents. On the academic/work front: I will be finishing my PhD this summer and have accepted a job as an assistant teaching professor in data visualization at the University of Washington, Bothell. I'm excited to move back to the west coast, and Noah and I are open to any Seattle-area recommendations!

**Kyle Reavis**



In the past year I've been fortunate enough to travel a lot since my last update, from Greece with my family to a return visit to Japan with friends. Funnily enough, one of my travel companions on the latter trip is married to a Cal Poly statistics major from a previous year, what a small world! I'm also making plans this month to visit my brother, who is working as a teaching assistant in Spain. Aside from traveling, I've been growing my comic collection and catching up on a ton of movies. On that note I finally won my family's annual Oscar prediction competition for the first time in years!

**CLASS OF 2019**

**Matthew Gredell**

I've been well! I continue to work for Waymo as a safety specialist, reviewing real-world and simulated driving data for safety risks. It is surreal to consider I have now spent more time employed than in college...! I apply and build upon my knowledge of Statistics every day, on the job and everywhere else. In hobby news, I branched out from bass and got a guitar late last year, and have been spending time learning many of my favorite songs!



## **Danielle Simmons Meyers**

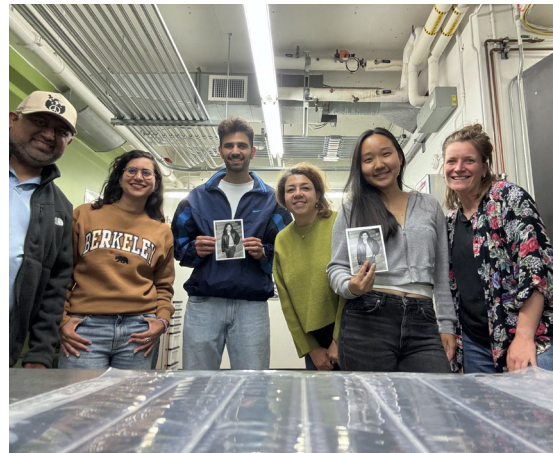
After graduating Cal Poly I continued my pursuit of the actuarial profession. I received my Associates (ACAS) in 2025 and have completed 8/10 exams required to obtain my Fellowship (FCAS). I recently switched employers and have been working for USAA since 2024. On the more personal side, I married my high school sweetheart in 2021. In 2023, we had our first son named Alister. At the beginning of 2026, we welcomed our second son named Lucas. We have stayed in California since graduation, but are currently in the middle of moving out to Colorado! Its going to be a big change but we are super excited for it. If there is anyone out in the Colorado Springs area, hit me up!

## **Rod Rahimi**

Since graduating from Cal Poly, I've moved up to San Francisco and now work in sales at Salesforce. While I'm not using much statistics day-to-day, the degree definitely changed how I think and makes me appreciate the AI boom a bit more than I probably would have otherwise.

Outside of work, I've been staying active, completing a couple of HYROX races and currently training for a few half marathons this year. I've also gotten really into film photography and spending time in the darkroom, which has been a surprisingly fun way to step away from screens and meetings.

Living in SF has been great so far (and full of unexpected Cal Poly run-ins), and I'm hoping to do more traveling over the next year. Partly for the experience, partly for the photos.



Including a photo from a recent darkroom session after developing prints. Including a photo from a recent darkroom session after developing prints.

## **CLASS OF 2017**

### **Rus Adamovics-Davtian**

I past 3 years working at Swish Analytics as a data scientist, continuing to work on our baseball team and have started diving into basketball modeling work for the sports betting company. I'm still enjoying my time at Swish and living in San Francisco. Just like last year, I will be visiting Cal Poly shortly in a couple weeks to be part of the guest speaker series in Professor Chance's Sports Analytics course so excited to see the Statistics department again. I also had a great experience at JSM 2025 to have been a speaker at my first statistics conference and catching up with Cal Poly folks.

**Francis Britschgi**



Long time listener, first time caller! For the last 3+ years, I've been working at Sigma Computing, a San Francisco based startup. It's been really exciting to be part of a growing company, and it's been really gratifying to see the initial risk, combined with a bunch of really hard work with all my colleagues, turn into something that's actually succeeding. My role has largely been in Solution Engineering, which I had never heard about in college, but is a very very popular role in tech right now. I find that all of the soft skills around data communication and presentation that I learned in my Statistics degree are helpful on a daily basis on explaining technical benefits in a value-based way to our customers. Thought I'd share that it would be a great career path for other students who like the communication and extroverted side of Statistical consulting! On a personal note, I just got back from my honeymoon to Morocco with my wife Alexandria who is also a Cal Poly alum.

**Robert Cenon**

This year will mark my 5th year as a software engineer at Apple. I've had the opportunity to work on features in the health and fitness space, including hearing health features like the hearing aid and hearing test, as well as AirPods Pro fitness tracking. My focus is primarily in data pipelines and QE tooling.

Last year was a big one personally. The highlight of the year was getting married in the late spring. We did a lot of traveling with a trip to Japan and Korea to start the year and a trip to Spain and the UK over the summer. Somewhere in between all of that, I've been keeping up with golf and pickleball whenever I can find the time.



**Jenna Harrelson**



This last year was a big one both personally and professionally.

Personally, my husband and I welcomed our first son, Luka, into the world on October 21st. The first 6 months of his life have been filled with lots of adventures and laughs :)

Professionally, I was promoted to a Director of Insights & Analytics at Fox Corporation and am currently hiring and expanding my team! I get to work on a lot of exciting AI and ML initiatives this year

### **Emily Johnson**

Since 2021, I have been working at Emanate Biosats as a statistical programmer. I recently got promoted to a manager, and have been enjoying mentoring new programmers. For a bigger life event, I just got married in April 2026! Married life is good so far, and we are planning a honeymoon to Italy in September.

### **Brannden Moss-Gold**

My wife and I bought a house in Escondido California, and the dogs have been loving relaxing under the tangerine trees. I have also recently picked up gravel riding as a hobby and been exploring my local area, hoping to train for a century gravel ride!

### **Nicole Segovia Pham**

I've been working as a biostatistician at Stanford University since graduation- can't believe it's been nearly 8 years! I recently transitioned from Orthopaedic Surgery to Emergency Medicine to focus on larger-scale Medicare and public health research projects. I've been enjoying the change of pace & increased responsibility. Otherwise, continuing to enjoy life in the Bay Area with my husband and two cats!

## **CLASS OF 2017**

### **Durante Bozzini**

Hello friends! I managed to follow through on my personal goal last year and finished 2025 as the rank #1 International Tournament Circuit player for my faction (Tau Empire). The positive reputation I built through that effort gave me the chance to start my own business working as a professional coach for Warhammer 40k players. Also, I have continued to greatly enjoy traveling the world while going to tournaments. My favorite places I visited in the last year are New York, Atlanta, and Warsaw! Plus I will be fortunate to head to Barcelona later this year.



### **Caiti Feeley**

Hello Cal Poly Stats dept & alums! I've just hit 6.5 years working as a business analyst at Google - primarily focused on being a strategic measurement partner for marketing teams. Shoutout to my statistics education still helping me out 9 years after graduation!

In my free time, I've been learning how to DJ and started playing for friends & at office events! I'm having so much fun exploring this creative side. My goal is to one day be able to moonlight as a DJ for weddings, corporate events or local parties.

Sending lots of love down south to SLO <3

### **Christina Garcia**

See update from Max Klingmann (class of 2013).

### **Bradley Lubich**

I am continuing at Edwards Lifesciences, working on long-term follow-up in clinical trials on patients receiving transcatheter and open heart surgical aortic valve replacements. It is very enjoyable to grow in understanding medicine, the technologies, and the health trajectories of the patients receiving these treatments. My wife and I now enjoy 2 little girls at home who are bundles of joy and are blessed with many other little friends at church.

### **Marcus Milazzo**

Hi everyone! I'm currently living in San Francisco, working at Pinterest for the last couple years, and worked at various other tech companies before that. I lead Sales Strategy for the North American SMB and Mid-Market sales teams, so I get to spend a lot of time working with data and translating those insights into strategic recommendations for leadership. Over recent years, AI has increasingly continued to transform our products, internal tools, and ways of working, so if there's one tip I'd give to new grads, it's to get well versed in AI for productivity. AI now writes 80% of the SQL code and Excel formulas that I use, if not more, and I still feel like I'm just scratching the surface. Outside of work I've been playing a lot of golf and traveling, and hoping to get a SLO visit on the calendar soon!

## **CLASS OF 2016**

### **Isaac Layton**

My most significant update since last year is that I'll be receiving the biggest promotion I've had thus far: the promotion to father! My wife and I are expecting a boy in July and we'll soon be navigating the new world of parenthood. Career wise, not too much has changed since last year; I work remotely as an analytics engineer for an online invitations company.

## CLASS OF 2015

### Chelsea Obrochta



We recently moved from North Park to Poway and are loving life there with our two boys, Carter and Bennet, and our two dogs, Fiddler and Paisley. Professionally, I work as an Associate Director of Pharmacoepidemiology at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, where I leverage real-world data to conduct regulatory-required epidemiology studies that support clinical development, regulatory filings, and post-marketing commitments.

### Tony Weyand

This is my first update since graduating, and it's hard to believe how much time has passed — life really does happen quick. Fast forward 11 years, and I'm now married with a 14-month-old son, living in Tustin — not too far from where I grew up.

On the professional side, I've been at Pacific Life working as an actuary. I've had the opportunity to move around a bit within the company, spending time in annuity inforce management, life product design, and now in financial planning & analysis. Each role has given me a different perspective on the business, and I've enjoyed working with colleagues all over the company.

I'm forever grateful to Cal Poly — for the people I got to meet (including my wife), the great professors who helped me get where I am today, and getting to spend my college years in one of the best places in the world. And of course, the stat lab for hosting the late nights full of stats and laughs.

For anyone currently considering or studying to become an actuary, I can't recommend the profession enough. The exams are definitely a grind, but if you've made it into/ out of SLO, you have the work ethic and ability to get through them. If I could do it, you absolutely can too.



## CLASS OF 2014

### **Ariana (Montes) Moore**



Hello from Arizona! Chris & I are celebrating 10 years married this year, crazy to think we met at Stat Prom (is that still a thing?) in 2012!! We're interestingly both working at ServiceNow (Chris copied me). I'm in the Global Operations & Planning organization and he'll be establishing experimentation in the Marketing organization. Amelia (6) and Luca (5) are SO much fun and all our free time is spent at swim meets or jiu jitsu practice for both.

### **Julia Schedler**

I am finishing up my second year as a faculty member here in our beloved department! Also, I got married last summer here in San Luis Obispo. Life is good!

## CLASS OF 2013

### **Max Klingmann**

After five years in Atlanta, GA, Christina (class of 2017) and I made our way back to California, settling in the Bay Area in 2025. But the biggest adventure of the year arrived in September with the birth of our son, Quincy! Between cross-country moves and new-parent life, it's been a busy and exciting season for our family.

Professionally, I'm coming up on 12 years at Ansira, where I focus on digital marketing and data analytics. Christina has been with SKIM for nearly seven years, working as an insights-based consultant helping brands better understand consumer decision behavior.



**Chris Moore**

See update from Ariana Montes Moore (class of 2014).

**Geo Shannon**



My biggest life update is that after working for 12 years in data analytics consulting, I broke off on my own and started my own consulting company, Dautomation AI ([dautomationai.com](http://dautomationai.com)). We provide consulting and implementation services to help companies get their data prepared and ready for all the rapidly emerging AI tools. As the age-old saying goes, “garbage in, garbage out,” and AI tools are no different. I recently celebrated the one-year anniversary of my company’s founding, which was an exciting milestone.

From a personal perspective, I’ve been living in Nashville, Tennessee, for seven years and play as much golf as my work schedule will allow. My brother moved to Nashville with his wife last year, and it has been a blessing to have family nearby. I also got to meet my sports hero, Macklin Celebrini, pictured here.

If you’re looking to get into consulting or find yourself out in Nashville, please give me a call. It’s always nice to see fellow Cal Poly Stats alumni!

**CLASS OF 2012**

**Jenna Carlson (Colavincenzo)**

Hi from Pittsburgh! I’m now an Associate Professor in Human Genetics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health and deeply enjoying my work. I also welcomed my third daughter, Evelyn Joy, this past November. Our lives are so busy and chaotic now but also incredibly full of reminders of all the good things in life



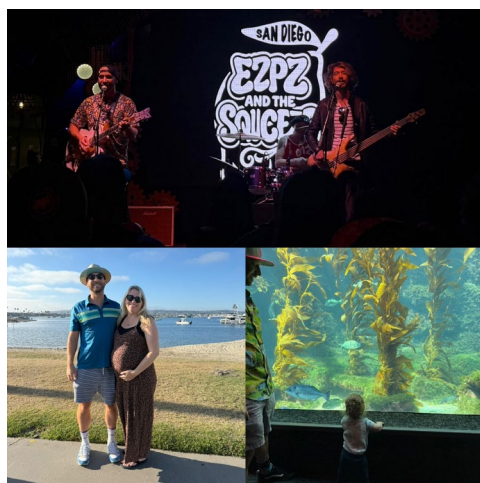
**Julia Maddalena**

Much of my energy the last year has gone into my property. In addition to my part-time job as a data scientist for EDHREC, I also held a part-time job as project manager for all the many unexpected repairs that had to take place after buying my home. Things have settled down more and I've been able to enjoy the space as the quiet and beautiful sanctuary that it is. My friends now live on the property with me and we've created a little micro-community that I could not be more grateful for. I also took six weeks over winter to travel to Oaxaca for Dia de Los Muertos, as well as Mexico City, which was an incredible experience. I continue to write music and am always very invested in my gardening projects, including establishing a "secret garden" full of perennial berry plants. My land-mate and I even started keeping bees this year, which has been quite the adventure! I look forward to continuing to build on my sense of purpose through this property, and can't wait to see what the next year has in store.



**CLASS OF 2011**

**Rory Bloch**



Living in San Diego, working as a biostatistician in the medical device industry. My wife and I welcomed our son to the world this last year. We started doing triathlons, which is a tough sport to get into with only a swimming background (the swim is the shortest part of the race). Lastly, I'm still playing music and started a good ol' SoCal pop-punk band, EZPZ. Come check us out if you're in SD sometime.

## Alex Herrington

Life is going well for in the Carolinas. I'm still at Daimler Truck North America, where I serve as a data science leader and absolutely love the work. My role has shifted from extended truck warranties to supporting aftermarket truck parts sales and marketing. Chances are, everyone reading this update saw a Freightliner, Western Star, or Thomas Built Bus the last time they were out on the road. It's incredibly rewarding to know my work has a tangible impact on society and to see the products in the wild every day. At home, my wife and I are busy raising two wonderfully energetic kids, as the photos suggest. Our son is five and our daughter is three. Once they're a bit older, I'm looking forward to bringing them to Cal Poly so they can experience the beautiful campus that I was fortunate to call home for four years.



## CLASS OF 2010

### Andrew Kaplan

I am a biostatistician at Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA, where I work on the design and analysis of various clinical trials in oncology and hematology. Much of my work involves partnering with cross-functional and regulatory teams to ensure the safety and feasibility of the trials we run --- but most importantly I am in this field to advance medicine in the best way I know how. I finished my Ph.D. in Statistics at UCLA in December 2022. My research background is in point process methods and their application to disease outbreaks, especially SARS-COV-2.

## Michelle (Shaffer) Stratton

Hello all! I am continuing teaching Algebra, Geometry, and Computers this year and loving it! We are currently doing the data and probability units in my math classes, and shared some videos from the Exploratorium Science Museum we took our sons to last weekend in San Francisco that displayed marbles falling in a normal distribution! It took me back to my statistics classes and the distribution applets! Our big family trip this year was to Japan to enjoy cherry blossoms, the bullet train, and Mt Fuji!



## CLASS OF 2009

### Tyler Benz

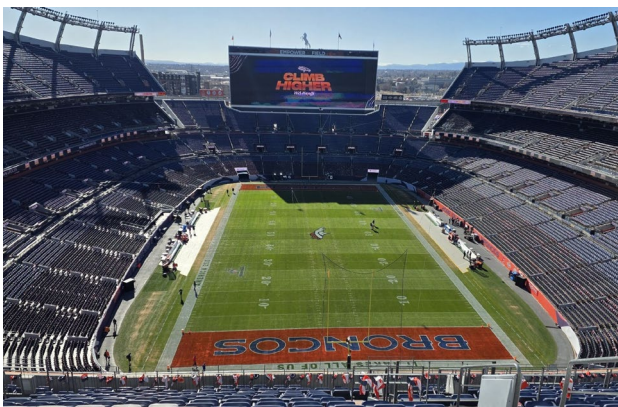
Hey Stats Department! Quick check-in since it's been a minute.

Heading into my 4th season with the Denver Broncos, which is wild to say out loud. I also recently got promoted from Senior Business Intelligence & Data Analyst to Senior Analytics Engineer - same dream job, just a new title and a slightly different flavor of analytics leaning more towards data integrations and DBA work.

On the home front, our daughter Callie Rose is turning 3 at the end of May, which means I am officially outnumbered in negotiations and consistently losing. She's the best.

We also recently bought 4.5 fenced acres out in Hartsel, Colorado. No plans to build anything on it yet - for now it's just our own private campground, and we're planning to spend a good chunk of the summer out there with the tent and the stars. Highly recommend everyone find their own patch of dirt to disappear to once in a while.

That's pretty much it from me. Things are good. Hope all is well in SLO - go Mustangs!



## Tristan Grogan

Hi everyone! Hard to believe another year has gone by. I'm still in Southern California and still working as a statistician in academic medicine with UCLA, which I've now been doing for about 15 years. The projects keep changing enough to make the work interesting, and lately I've continued supporting studies across cancer, anesthesia, cardiology, pediatrics, urology, biomarkers, and clinical prediction models. I also got to attend a biomarkers conference at Caltech this year, which was a nice reminder that living near Pasadena occasionally makes me feel smarter by proximity.

Outside of work, life is mostly family mode. Our kids are now 5 and 7 and doing well, which means life is busy, loud, and very rarely statistically independent. One highlight from last year was a family trip to Lake Arrowhead, which felt like a great little mountain adventure close to home. I'm grateful that Cal Poly helped set me up for a career where I still get to use statistics every day, and I hope everyone in the Stats department is doing well!

I remain very grateful to the Cal Poly Statistics Department for teaching me enough to build a career around data, and for patiently putting up with Oliver and me despite our best efforts to be difficult. Now that I have kids of my own, I better understand what our professors were up against, and I find myself trying to apply some of those same lessons during bedtime negotiations, usually with limited statistical significance.



## Oliver Mead



Oliver moved to Atlanta in 2024 because his wife got a job at Grady Hospital as an Occupational Therapist. She likes to point out where the TV show *The Pitt* (ER rip off) is inaccurate. He is currently looking for work while staying home with his 2.5 year old daughter Helen. She hasn't mastered statistics yet but she intuitively knows that if she begs her father for snacks enough her probability of getting them increases over time. He did not vote for President Trump in 2024 and does not support the President. He is also disappointed in a number of his fellow alumni that support the Los Angeles Dodgers. Besides that he is extremely grateful to his Statistics Professors for putting up with his shenanigans and hopes they are doing well. He is generally happy as he has it pretty good.

## Emily Tietjen

It's been a full year in our household! I continue to serve as a Director in Educational Services at Merced County Office of Education. A highlight of this year is that I got to present at a few conferences on the systems work we're doing internally in our office with my boss, Laura, and my dad (who happens to be our County Superintendent of Schools). He is terming out and retiring this year, so it was really sweet for me to get to present with him in his last year.

As far as family goes, we've been able to travel a little, including a visit to SLO over the holidays. We got a cat - which is a new experience for me - named Taylor Swift! The whole family is happy to have that little guy around. Annnndddd... I'm expecting a baby in October - which makes us a true modern Brady Bunch, three girls and three boys.

The year ahead should be full of adventure - even if it's the kind where I'm mostly just very tired.



## CLASS OF 2008

### Casey (Word) Hammer

The highlight of the year was having our 2nd baby, Wade. He's a happy baby and fun to have around. Our 4 year old loves her brother and takes great care of him. We also finished a massive remodel of the first floor of our house. I have my dream kitchen!

Professionally, I'm still working at Milliman as a Principal and Consulting Actuary in the healthcare industry out of our home in Walnut Creek.

## CLASS OF 2007

### Mary Joynt

The past two years have been a bit of a whirlwind. After a stretch of unemployment, I joined Aidas last July on a six-month contract as an Inventory Analyst. In January that led to another six-month opportunity - this time a Manager of Commission Rewards. I'm not quite sure what the next year will bring but I'm open to change and excited to see where things go next. Outside of work, I've been doing quite a bit of traveling and enjoying the chance to see more of the world. October brought an unexpected and very difficult loss with the passing of my mom, and I'm still learning what life looks like now. We are still in Vancouver, WA - recently celebrating five years since making the move - and enjoying life with our two dogs.



### Anna Little



Hello Stats Dept!

Since my last update, when I was bracing myself for re-entry into the workforce after six years at home with my kiddos, I'm happy to share that I've found a great fit. A few months ago, I started working part time as a data scientist at Terēan, where I collaborate closely with the admin team, developers, and VP of Operations on decision science and process efficiency, including improving sales workflows, invoicing, and related operations.

Our family also recently relocated to Reno, NV, so we can be closer to family and Tahoe—where I grew up—and the winter sports and community I love. Thanks to the proximity to skiing, this was the first year my daughters (now 8 and 6) both got a full season on the slopes, and they even had their first snow day, which they absolutely loved. My husband is also thoroughly enjoying the local dirt biking and mountain sports scene.

It's been a rewarding way to dive back into applied statistics and analytics while maintaining a balance with family life, and it's been amazing for my girls to be close to their cousins—and for us to share carpools and everyday life with family again.

Wishing all of you the best!  
Anna

## CLASS OF 2006

### Blake Sweeney

I am currently living in Tustin and continuing my career in the market research industry. After 17 years with the same company, we were recently acquired by ReconMR to help build out their new Insights division. I've stayed on with the same core team as a Senior Research Manager, overseeing projects for utilities, financial institutions, and healthcare providers.

Though my role is primarily project management, I still lean heavily on my statistics background to run cross-tabulations and analyze subgroup data. We're currently utilizing a mix of SPSS, WinCross, and DisplayR (R-based dashboarding) for our reporting.

On the personal side, I've been married for 13 years and have two boys, ages 10 and 8. My free time is happily filled with soccer, swim meets, piano, Taekwondo, and staying active in the school PTO. I hope all my old stats friends are doing well!



## CLASS OF 2005

### Alicia Fry (Davis)



I'm still teaching math and statistics at Sac State. It's a lively campus, and my coworkers are funny, kind people. Over the past few years, I've worked on a couple feature scripts. I love the stories, but after years of rewriting, I decided to take one of them and turn it into a novel. I submitted it to a summer writers' workshop, and I'm heading to Tahoe in July to work on it at the Community of Writers. I just found out I was accepted, and as a writer used to opening rejection emails, this was such a wonderful shock!

On the home front, my kids are 14 and 13. My daughter starts high school in the fall, and it's hard to believe I'll be teaching her to drive soon – so keep me in your prayers. I'm single again! In the words of K. Clarkson, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. I'm basically Arnold Schwarzenegger at this point – but I haven't given up on love. It will happen, just not right now. My blog is doing great – lately I've been mining *The Real Housewives* for philosophical, sociological and existential lessons, but with the seasons wrapping up, I can go back to writing about books, movies, and my kooky family.

## CLASS OF 2002

### Andrew Asplund

I always wanted to become a statistics professor. But ... I'm not particularly good at life choices. Thinking I needed "life experience," I did what anybody with a BS in Statistics would do and I <checks notes> joined the Navy. After spending eight years as a Nuclear Engineering Officer aboard a submarine, I applied to a Ph.D. program in Statistics at the University of Washington. Unfortunately, I was REJECTED because it was the year the economy took a dive and they had lots of better applicants and my grades weren't the best.

Like anybody would that had their dreams shattered, I went with Plan B. As I'd been watching far too many legal dramas, Plan B in this case ended up being law school at the University of Washington. After law school, I passed the Washington State Bar Exam and entered a market in the midst of turmoil (2011-12). Law jobs were few and far between so I ended up spending a year selling board and card games at a local hobby shop and another two years working a call center for mortgage brokers at a nationwide mortgage bank. As a wise man once said, "You will never find a more wretched hive of scum and villainy."

After that embarrassing detour, I found myself at Seattle University, a private Jesuit university in Seattle, Washington. I spent 4-5 years managing global engagement programs and processing faculty immigration paperwork (thanks, law school!). Somehow or another, I ended up in a completely unrelated job as the Director of Budget and Operations for the university's business school. An unexpected faculty shortage resulted in me being recruited to teach business statistics as an adjunct (on top of my full-time job), so I guess I got to where I wanted to be albeit the long way around.

# Faculty Updates

## Beth Chance

Well that year went by fast! Highlights included running half-marathons in our 16th and 17th states (picture from our hotel in AZ) and watching my son play with his school's orchestra at Carnegie Hall!



## Hunter Glanz

I've been faculty at Cal Poly since 2014. In Spring 2025 I was promoted to Full Professor and took a leave of absence to teach statistics and data science at CSU Monterey Bay for the 2025-2026 academic year. It was a fantastic experience! Monterey is beautiful. The school and department are small, but incredibly charming. Despite visiting plenty of other schools in my lifetime, my time at CSUMB was truly enlightening and I'm very grateful for the people there.

In July (2026) I will be joining the faculty at the Institute for Advanced Analytics at NCSU. Cal Poly will always hold a special place in my heart, but I'm excited for this next chapter in my statistics and data science education journey. If you're ever in North Carolina, hmu :)

## Ulric Lund

My yardstick for aging has been two things since coming to Cal Poly about 25 years ago. What's going on with my kid (born during my first year at Cal Poly), and where are we in the transition to semesters (the university has been considering this for about the same time). And this year, both of these yardsticks are coming to their ends - so to speak! Relax, my daughter is just fine. But as far as an aging metric, I will need a new kid yardstick. She's just finished up her schooling and is starting her first career-job in June, and she is looking forward to the next stage in her life. It is so exciting for me as a parent to see what's coming next. For our STAT alumni reading this, I'm sure your parents went through similar emotions. And for the second yardstick, semesters are finally coming to Cal Poly in the fall! I am actually excited and look forward to giving this a shot. Options are limited for me, if I don't care for the semester system, but I'm glad Cal Poly is giving it a go, and I'm looking forward to the next academic year!

## Charlotte Mann

Another year at Cal Poly has passed quickly! I was thrilled to get to return to my hometown for the United States Conference on Teaching Statistics at Iowa State University last summer. It has been great to get to know our students more this year. Another highlight included going to the Chappel Roan concert and many shows at the PAC with other faculty members.



## Karen McGaughey



This year marks my 20th at Cal Poly! I still love teaching, spending most of my time on the second course in statistics (STAT 302 and STAT 313). I've also had the privilege of being part of a team giving workshops and training to instructors of the first and second course in statistics. And I continue to be very involved with the AP Statistics Exam Reading. The last two years we've been in Tampa, FL.

Personally, this year was a big travel year. We spent a week in Montana on the Madison River camping and fly fishing. Then weekend trips to Las Vegas, the City Museum in St Louis, MO and the Grand Canyon with friends. Over the winter break we traveled to Portugal with family. If you've never been, I highly recommend it! We will definitely return soon.

I'm looking forward to the new challenges the department chair role will hold. Dr. Schaffner has done a great job. I have big shoes to fill. Looking forward to reading all of your updates and hopefully seeing many of you back in the department some day soon!

### **Emily Robinson**

In my fourth year at Cal Poly, I have continued to really enjoy both the work and the setting, while taking advantage of being in California. I visited Yosemite, skied in Tahoe, spent time in the Eastern Sierra, and explored San Francisco and areas north of the city, along with continuing to discover more of SLO. DataFest continued to grow this year with 36 teams participating, up from 10 in 2024, which has been exciting to see. I taught Design and Analysis of Experiments again, which remains a favorite class, and advised an MS student on developing an R package, youdrawitR. I have also been focused on building community here in SLO and am looking forward to traveling to Australia this summer for ICOTS.



### **Kevin Ross**

I taught probability for the first time in a few years which is always fun. I continue to enjoy working with the MS students; you do amazing work! I'm also teaching more in the MSBA program. I'm looking forward to teaching a new "Data For All" class in our first semester in fall!

My son Peter just finished his first year at University of Minnesota and my daughter Lucy will start SDSU in fall.

### **Soma Roy**



Another year gone by! Highlights include favorites such as teaching, advising students, collaborating with colleagues at Cal Poly and elsewhere, and attending and presenting at the US Conference of Teaching Statistics.

In personal news, our family got some more traveling done, with a good mix of nature trips and big-city trips. Travels included family favorites such as camping in Yosemite, hiking among Redwoods, and Legoland, as well as trips to New York City, Washington, D.C., and Chicago.

**Anelise Sabbag**

My service roles have expanded this year through participation on committees focused on Student Perception of Teaching Effectiveness and measuring Quantitative Reasoning across Cal Poly students. I am also teaching a hybrid section of STAT 217 for the first time and have enjoyed seeing how student interaction and performance differ in this learning environment. Finally, I am excited for Cal Poly's transition from quarters to semesters, and I will serve as the coordinator for STAT 1110, the Statistics Department's first coordinated course.

**Jeffrey Sklar**

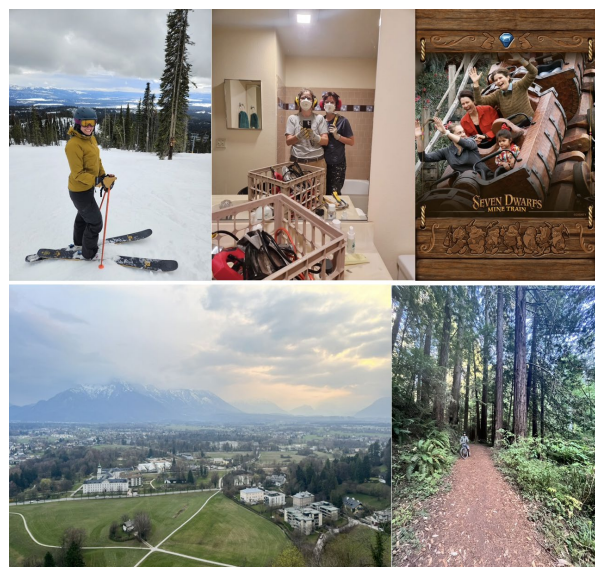


Hello again Statistics Department alumni! I'm finishing up my 21st year in the Statistics Department. It's spring quarter and I'm currently co-teaching the Statistical Consulting capstone course and I'm leading the graduate seminar course. In professional news, I'm currently analyzing data from an NIH project led by Dr. Alison Ventura in the Kinesiology and Public Health Department that is investigating the potential impacts of maternal technology use on the quality and outcome of mother-infant interactions during feeding. I've also been working on a project with a student for the U-RISE program on integrating wearable device data with survey response data to create a physical behavior score to predict mortality risk using National Health and Nutrition Examination Study (NHANES) data. In family news, Yazmin is about to finish her sophomore year in high school and she's driving now, which was scary at first and still is. Gabe is finishing up middle school and will join his sister at SLO High School in the fall. The biggest news of the 2025-2026 year is that in November 2025, Jessica and I got married in San Luis Obispo. It was a really fun celebration 😊

**Allison Theobald**

This was a big year! We remodeled our bathroom, saw lots of amazing concerts (Chappel Roan, Indigo Girls, Melissa Ethridge, Beyonce), visited Catalina Island (for a trail race), fell in love with Mill Valley (like everyone else), went to a Valkyries game, took a cousin trip to Disney World, went skiing more than once (Badger Pass is so cute), and visited Austria and Bavaria. I also went up for tenure! Fingers crossed I get that letter from the Provost soon.

This year has also been the year of doing research and writing papers with undergraduate students. It has been exciting to see everything studnets are capable of and the quality work they produce. Our research group has three papers being published in the ICOTS proceedings and two of the students are coming to Australia with us!



## Immanuel Williams



This past year has been a strong one across my teaching, research, and service. In my classes—especially STAT 331—I’ve continued refining my Extract–Transform–Visualize (ETV) framework alongside the Library-Focused Method (LFM), using Quarto materials, in-class check-ins, and more intentional AI use to push students toward deeper thinking. On the research side, I’ve been developing projects around animated visualizations (GIFs) for teaching data transformations and continuing my work on the Data Extraction Plan (DEP). Working closely with students on these projects—and seeing them present and publish—has been a highlight. I’m also exploring how AI can serve as a real thinking partner in statistics education. I’m currently serving as Chair-Elect and Program Chair for the SIGMAA on Statistics and Data Science Education, helping organize sessions and contribute to conversations around data science, AI, and teaching. I also had the chance to travel to Italy (Kelley and I in Monopoli) and am looking forward to trips to Japan, Australia, and Boston. I had an ankle surgery that has changed my running capacity! Overall, I feel like I’m building strong momentum—becoming more intentional in my teaching, research, and impact.

## EMIRITUS FACUTLY

### Jay Devore

I am thankfully still alive, though suffering from the aches and pains that are typical of my age. My wife and I spend 5-6 weeks in NYC both in the spring and the fall, as both our daughters and our 3 grandchildren live there. On our most recent trip we saw La Traviata at the Met Opera, several Broadway shows, a NY Phil concert, and ate a lot of interesting food (Thai, Vietnamese, Italian, Georgian, Japanese, and Indian, with other cuisines still in the queue). Also took a short trip to D.C., which we had not visited for decades (would not set foot in the White House). I retired from teaching back in 2017 after 5 years of a summer course at Columbia University. Especially happy that I do not have to contend with AI issues in education. And I am out of the textbook writing business.

I continue to be impressed with the growth of the Cal Poly Stats Department. I see that there are still a few faculty hired while I was department chair, but many new folks that I have not met. Congratulations on your great successes.

### Allan Rossman

I taught my last class in December of 2024. At that point I had expected to continue to teach part-time, but since then I've grown comfortable/lazy in retirement. I do want to thank my former students and colleagues for making my time at Cal Poly so enjoyable! My wife retired at the same time, and we have traveled to New Zealand and Australia since then. She has also dived into a new hobby/sport: outrigger canoe paddling/racing, and I tag along to all of her races. I am not one for water sports myself, but I am devoted to my goal of walking at least 10,000 steps every day. My longest streak of reaching that target is 140 consecutive days, but my current streak is 112 days and so I hope to set a new personal record in less than a month. My wife and I also enjoy spending more time with our cat Puti, who will turn 18 years old soon.