

Harinder Singh

Email: Harinder.Singh@humboldt.edu

Department Chair

Dates of Employment: Since 2012

Nominated by: Ramesh Adhikari

Service and Leadership: Dr. Hari Singh provided transformational leadership as the Chair of the School of Business at Humboldt Polytechnic University from 2012 to 2021. Under his dedicated leadership, the School of Business successfully achieved its IACBE accreditation. He was instrumental in shaping the future of the department by successfully hiring seven tenured faculty members, consistently providing them with excellent mentorship and professional guidance. He actively engaged with the regional business community by developing the Humboldt Business Confidence Index (2015–2018), creating a valuable forecasting framework by collaborating directly with local executives. He secured a \$96,000 U.S.D.A. federal grant (2022–2023) to supervise the development of comprehensive strategic business plans for six different organizations within Humboldt County.

Teaching and Curriculum Development: Serving as a dedicated educator at the university since 2012, Dr. Singh helped redesign and successfully launch the MBA program. He led essential curriculum redesign efforts across multiple individual courses to ensure ongoing academic rigor and industry relevance. He taught a highly diverse and demanding portfolio of undergraduate and MBA courses, including Leadership Management Principles, Strategic Management, Change Management, Data & Sustainability Analytics, and Business Ethics.

Scholarship: Dr. Singh brings a vast background of expertise, with a strong record of publications spanning Management, Managerial Decision Making, Entrepreneurship, and Economics. During his time at Humboldt, he represented the university's commitment to continuous improvement by presenting his research on the empirical effectiveness of academic rubrics at the 2014 and 2017 IACBE Annual Conferences. His broader scholarly record includes authoring the book *FRAMED! Solve an Intriguing Mystery and Master How to Make Smart Choices*, as well as publishing

extensively in peer-reviewed publications such as the International Journal of Business Innovation and Research and the Journal of Economic Education.

Marlette Grant-Jackson

Email: marlette.grant-jackson@humboldt.edu

Academic Advisor for ITEPP

Dates of Employment: October 2001 – May 2025

Nominated by: Ravin Craig

Marlette Grant-Jackson's meritorious contributions to Cal Poly Humboldt reflect more than two decades of sustained service to the Indian Tribal and Educational Personnel Program, where she served as Academic Advisor and Cultural Resource Center Coordinator and was the longest-employed staff member in the program since its origination in 1969. Throughout her career, Marlette Grant-Jackson played a significant role in the growth, stability, and continued success of ITEPP by providing comprehensive advising, mentoring, and culturally responsive support to Native American and Indigenous students. Her work consistently extended beyond traditional advising responsibilities by integrating cultural knowledge, community relationships, and individualized academic guidance that strengthened student retention, persistence, and graduation rates. Through long-term commitment, program development, and direct student support, Marlette Grant-Jackson helped expand the ITEPP program from approximately 35 students to more than 145 students per semester, contributing to the University's mission of access, equity, and service to underserved populations.

In addition to student advising, Marlette Grant-Jackson's contributions included extensive service, creative work, and scholarly activity that supported both the University and the broader Native community. She played an active role in event planning, outreach, and program visibility by creating graphic design and visual materials for conferences, workshops, student activities, and cultural events connected to ITEPP and the Cultural Resource Center. Marlette Grant-Jackson contributed to the development of the Cultural Resource Center library by reviewing, critiquing, and recommending books and educational materials for university use as well as for local K-12 schools, and by reviewing new publications for School Library Journal to help identify culturally accurate and academically appropriate resources related to Native and Indigenous studies. Her scholarly and creative work also

included submitting articles and artwork to News from Native California and organizing student contests that encouraged Native students to submit their own writing and artwork for publication, helping create opportunities for student voices to be recognized in regional publications.

Marlette Grant-Jackson wrote grants and secured funding that supported educational and cultural programming, including four years of the Children's Authors Festival, which brought Native authors to campus and to Native youth in surrounding communities. Visiting authors included Joy Harjo, Gayle Ross, Jack Norton Jr., Cynthia Leitich Smith, Judith Lowry, and Shauna Oteka McCovey, providing rare opportunities for students and community members to engage directly with nationally recognized Native writers, artists, and scholars. Marlette Grant-Jackson also created and produced the ITEPP newsletter for current students and alumni, helping maintain lasting connections between the University, Tribal communities, and program graduates while documenting the ongoing work and achievements of the program.

Over the course of her career, Marlette Grant-Jackson's work contributed to the long-term strength and continuity of ITEPP and supported the mission of Cal Poly Humboldt and the California State University system through dedication to student success, community partnership, cultural knowledge, and educational access. Her sustained leadership, institutional knowledge, and commitment to Native student education reflect meritorious contributions to teaching, scholarship, and service to the University and the CSU system.

Yoon G Kim

Email: ygk1@humboldt.edu

Professor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor

Dates of Employment: August 1992 – August 2026

Nominated by: Tyler Evans

- Taught a broad range of statistics courses, from introductory to advanced levels, including stochastic processes, multivariate statistics, mathematical statistics, and linear models.
- Contributed to the Anthropology Department by teaching courses as needed, including subjects such as Asian cultures, Asian languages, and history for over 3 years.
- Instructed selected computer programming courses, including C++, R, and Python.
- Served on many department- and college-level committees.
- Served for over ten years as Editor and Technical Director for the Korean-American University Professors Association.
- Actively contributed to the community through long-term volunteer work, including over 30 years with the Six Rivers Running Club and 10 years with a children's swim club.
- Served as a county science fair judge for more than 20 years.
- Authored many book chapters and peer-reviewed articles.
- Developed extensive lecture notes for a variety of statistics courses to support future instructors.

Julia Graham-Whitt

Email: cowcatfarm@gmail.com

Interlibrary Loan (Head), Access Services, Library

Dates of Employment: May 2000 – September 2013

Nominated by: Kumi Watanabe-Schock, Staff Emeritus, Humboldt Emeritus

Retired Faculty & Staff Association Executive Committee.

Resource Sharing, also known as Interlibrary Loan is a system in which libraries around the world share their materials, making it possible to borrow/lend materials to/from other libraries. Materials include: books, journal articles, microfilm, government documents, conference proceedings, videos, DVDs, sound recordings, theses and dissertations. As Head of the Interlibrary Loan at CPH Library, Julia was responsible for ordering all materials for CPH faculty, staff, and students. On numerous occasions, Julia was able to procure materials for faculty who couldn't obtain them while physically at the lending institution. Julia was able to borrow reels of microfilm from the Library of Congress for one history faculty, and a book only available at the German National Library in Berlin for another. One faculty was astonished that Julia was able to borrow a book when they weren't allowed to even look at it at the lending library. Julia has been mentioned in numerous forwards of published books as well and her passion to try and obtain difficult to find items to further the research of CPH faculty, staff, and students was very much appreciated!

John Filce

Email: john.filce@gmail.com

Associate Director

Dates of Employment: July 1984 – December 2020

Nominated by: Micheal Le

During his 36 years of dedicated service to Cal Poly Humboldt from 1984 through 2020, John Filce made groundbreaking contributions to institutional service and data infrastructure as a Research Analyst in Academic Affairs and Institutional Research. In the 1980s and 1990s, he developed and maintained critical data systems for managing academic resource allocations and played a central role in implementing two student information systems. By collaborating with a colleague in Student Affairs, he created a comprehensive student data reporting system that served as the foundation for the university's first-ever Institutional Research function. Additionally, Mr. Filce spearheaded data systems and predictive reporting to forecast student class demand, providing crucial support for academic planning to ensure students had access to the courses required for timely graduation.

Shawn Thompson

Email: shawnabthompson@gmail.com

Administrative Support Assistant I, World Languages & Cultures/Administrative Support Assistant II, Social Work

Dates of Employment: February 2002 – February 2007, December 2012 – September 2024

Nominated by: Kumi Watanabe-Schock

Shawn Thompson demonstrated deep institutional loyalty and a diverse operational legacy at Cal Poly Humboldt across and aggregated 21-year campus employment. She worked as an Administrative Support Assistant for the Department of World Languages & Cultures, expertly overseeing a complex operational transition for a retiring career coordinator to preserve departmental continuity. Subsequently, she became a foundational figure in the Department of Social Work, driving the infrastructure planning and successful implementation of the university's new Master of Social Work program. Shawn returned to campus as the Associate Regional Director for the Northern California SBDC network under the Sponsored Programs Foundation. In this senior role, she directed complex multi-entity financial operations, regional compliance structures, and cross-departmental advisor networks across 36 counties and oversaw \$120 million in grants. Her fiscal vigilance successfully protected millions of dollars in external grant funding and navigated rigorous state and federal audits, safeguarding CPH's standing as the primary economic development engine for the North Coast region.

Julie L. Tucker

Email: Julietucker79@gmail.com

AA/S in the CNRS Dean's Office (final Position)./Prior positions include ASC in the CNRS Dean's Office, and ASA in the Office of University Advancement.

Dates of Employment: August 1995 – December 2020

Nominated by: Dale R. Oliver

Below is a list of meritorious contributions during Julie Tucker's Service to the university through the CNRS Dean's Office.

- * HSU Staff Award received in 2012, for outstanding contributions in the CNRS Dean's office, including as staff support for the NR Graduate Program.
- * Helped to develop and facilitate the Annual INRSEP/CNRS Undergraduate Research Symposium to showcase student research.
- * Authored two successful ITS projects.
- * In partnership with Dean Smith, successfully hosted the annual Science Dean's meeting (typically a 2-day event). A wonderful event and opportunity to showcase our campus.
- * Guided the conversion of paper course evaluations to electronic;
- * Managed commencement activities in the college;
- * Moved paper personnel files to electronic in partnership with APS.
- * Mentored ASC's in the college, and provided dependable support through the pandemic.

I will highlight three that were particularly important from my point of view as CNRS Associate Dean (2010-2012) and CNRS Dean (2018 – 2021).

First, for years, Julie was the face of the Natural Science Graduate Program for applying and matriculated graduate students, going above and beyond expectations to ensure that students and their faculty advisors met university deadlines and followed the required college procedures required for graduation. This contribution exemplifies her meritorious service to the success of students and faculty.

Second, Julie was the driving force in the college, and one of the leaders on campus, to facilitate Academic Personnel Service's adoptions of electronic course

evaluations and of electronic Faculty Working Personnel Action Files. Both adoptions reduced the burdensome workloads for ASC's in academic departments. This contribution exemplifies her meritorious service to the university.

Third, as AA/S in the CNRS, Julie was an outstanding mentor and guide for CNRS staff. This was especially critical during the tumultuous years of the pandemic (2019-2020). Her steady leadership during this time exemplifies her meritorious service to the staff of the CNRS.

Gladys Burrit

Email: gburritt43@sbcglobal.net

Administrative Assistant, Staff to the President

Dates of Employment: 1985 - 2004

Nominated by: Carolyn J Mueller

Gladys Burritt worked in the President's Office as Administrative Assistant from 1985-1991, after which she served as Staff Assistant to the President until her retirement in 2004. I worked with her during my tenure as Executive Assistant to President McCrone (1992-2002).

As Staff Assistant to the President, Gladys provided outstanding administrative support essential to the smooth running of the office, including responsibility for:

- Maintaining the president's calendar and scheduling appointments and meetings with university students, faculty, and staff; members of the California State University (CSU) Chancellor's Office; members of the local community; and visiting dignitaries

- Serving as a welcoming and imperturbable first point of contact for visitors to the president's office, some of them quite challenging, e.g., student protestors and others with strongly expressed disagreements with a university decision or policy

- Events planning and oversight, ranging from receptions and scholarship and awards lunches to Commencement, speaker series dinners, and the 2001 inaugural international von Humboldt Conference. Her attention to countless small and large details ensured impeccably organized events and a memorable experience for honorees and attendees alike

- Coordinating with the CSU Chancellor's Office when required.

In all of these and more, she was exceptionally efficient, discreet, and diplomatic. For her exemplary service to then-Humboldt State University, she is well-deserving of emerita status.

Thank you for your consideration

L. Rae Robison

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Associate Professor

Dates of Employment: August 2006 – Present

Nominated by: Michael Fabian

During my twenty plus years of service here, I've mentored many students who are now working in the industry as designers, directors, performers and artisans. My dedication to the students and furthering their training and careers was supported by my being a regional and national officer in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre (KCACTF) organization since 2001 (until its dissolution in 2025 in response to the anti-DEI mandate from the current president which went against our founding principles of inclusion). In fact, I wrote an article that was published in our industry's trade magazine TD&T, a peer reviewed quarterly journal by the United States Institute for Theatre Technology in 2017. Through that involvement and mentorship with KCACTF, a dozen of my top student designers and stage managers won regional competitions and went on to compete in Washington DC. I've also remained an active professional artist working in theatre and film which has benefitted my students by providing professional contacts and training in their field. Most recently I had an acting role in *The Sky is Everywhere* filmed in Humboldt in 2021 and was costume designer for the 2020 feature film *The Deep Ones*, where I was able to employ several current and former students as on-set crew. I've worked tirelessly as a director, costume designer, scenic designer, actor, and more in over a hundred university productions. In my work as a theatre artist, I've received many local awards and Meritorious Achievement in Directing and Design from the Kennedy Center multiple times, including taking one of three invited productions to the 2019 KCACTF regional event in Eugene, Oregon. In addition to my past service to the university on the IRA Committee, Provost's Budget Committee, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Theatre Arts Retrofit Committee and numerous department committees, I also served as theatre program director for six years during some very tumultuous times. During the years I served in that capacity, we went from a full-time theatre faculty count of seven down to two, meaning that during that time I worked an

overload as the department's artistic director, publicity director, graphic designer for brochures and production posters in addition to my program director duties including course planning, hiring of lectures, securing guest designers and directors, budgeting and recruitment efforts among other necessary tasks in keeping the department and productions running smoothly. On a personal note, I had applied for full professor in 2020 which I pulled from consideration after finding that the former chair of the department had actively solicited negative letters from other faculty members against my candidacy; only one provided a negative letter that he recanted after being queried by the former CAHSS dean. At the time the dean wanted me to pursue the issue against my chair, but we went into lockdown within a week after this attack was made against me. During lockdown, that former chair retired leaving further action unnecessary, and after much personal loss during Covid, my ambition for promotion didn't seem as imperative. In hindsight I wish I had reapplied, but I'm content with the positive impact I've had on my students and the exemplary work I've done during my time here at Humboldt State University/Cal Poly Humboldt.

Richard Brown

Email: richard.brown@humboldt.edu

Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Lecturer, Campus Veterinarian

Dates of Employment: August 1996 – Present

Nominated by: Barbara Clucas

Rick Brown (PhD, DVM) has been a member of the Department of Wildlife for 30 years. He served as a part-time lecturer in the Wildlife Department at Humboldt State University (HSU) between Aug 1996 and Aug 2008. He regularly taught WLDF 210 (our intro to wildlife), 244 (animal welfare and wildlife policy), 300B (our non-majors course on wildlife conservation), 302 (environmental ethics), 422 (management and conservation of mammals), 450 (wildlife diseases), 495 (senior projects) and our graduate and undergraduate seminars. Additionally, he served in a staff position as HSU's Campus Veterinarian. Rick was hired into a tenure track line for wildlife diseases in the Department of Wildlife in 2008 developing his WLDF 450 Wildlife Diseases course. He also served as the supervisor of the Wildlife Pens animal facility since approximately 2018, which was a large service to the university. He was a graduate student advisor and also mentored undergraduate students with their honors theses. He was elevated to Associate Professor in 2012 with "excellent" reviews in all areas. Rick also served on the IACUC for many years providing his expertise as a veterinary, animal welfare, and ethical considerations for use of animals in research and instruction.

At the national level, Rick served on committees and in leadership positions with the Wildlife Disease Association, The Wildlife Society and the American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians; he is also a member of several additional professional societies. Like most faculty, Rick reviewed manuscripts for scientific journals and served on a grant reviewing committee for NIH in 2018. Locally, he have served as a board member, researcher and wildlife veterinarian for Integral Ecology Research Center (IERC) since they began in 2008 and six years (~2014-2020) as a board member the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

As a faculty member, he developed my courses to maximize student engagement, stimulate critical thinking, and promote learning. He provided scientific

information and related current and recent events related to conservation and management; when possible, he embedded those lessons in an historical and political matrix.

Rick Brown published a textbook on wildlife diseases with his predecessor, Rick Botzler, coauthored four book chapters, and contributed to over 50 scientific publications.

Following retirement, Rick has several manuscripts in the review process and will continue to help his previous graduate students and collaborators as opportunities arise. Rick has continued as a board member and researcher for IERC, and he plans to remain active in research for another decade. He has offered to continue to help faculty on issues related to the Wildlife Pens, the campus veterinary position, and the wildlife diseases faculty line.

Daniel O'Shea

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**Research Assistant, Laboratory Technician II (Department of Geology),
Lecturer (Department of Oceanography), Lecturer (Department of Geology)**

Dates of Employment: 1997 – Present

Nominated by: Christine Cass

Mr. O'Shea spent the past three decades in service to furthering the education of Humboldt marine and earth science students at Cal Poly Humboldt as well as College of the Redwoods. In addition, he collaborated on several regional studies and restoration projects.

During his time with the Department of Oceanography, Mr. O'Shea went above and beyond the expectations of a lecturer. As our sole faculty in the subdiscipline of geological oceanography during 2018–2025, he provided critical department service by participating along our tenure track faculty in strategic planning, curriculum updates, departmental program review, and annual learning outcome assessments. He was invaluable as an instructor and mentor to our students. He regularly instructed several of our field-based courses and supervised many cohorts of student field assistants on research cruises. Overall, he served as the Chief Scientist and/or Cruise Coordinator for over 500 hours aboard the R/V North Wind (2025–2026) and the R/V Coral Sea (2005–2025).

Constance Stewart

Email: connie.stewart@humboldt.edu

Office of the President, University Advancement

Dates of Employment: May 2009 – June 2026

Nominated by: Bethany Gilden

I am honored to nominate Connie Stewart, Executive Director of Initiatives, for emeritus status at Cal Poly Humboldt. During her 17 years of service to the University, from January 2009 through June 2026, Connie has made extraordinary contributions to Cal Poly Humboldt and to the rural communities it exists to serve. Her record easily satisfies the formal standard for emeritus status. More importantly, she exemplifies its spirit: sustained, meritorious service whose influence will endure long after her retirement.

Connie is one of those rare people who can see what a place might become—and then bring together the people, resources, political will, and sheer persistence needed to make it possible. She has repeatedly expanded the University's capacity to act on its values, connecting academic expertise with urgent regional needs and ensuring that Cal Poly Humboldt is not merely located on the North Coast, but is an indispensable partner in its future.

For 11 years, Connie served as Executive Director of the California Center for Rural Policy. Under her leadership, the Center broadened its mission and deepened its impact across rural California, addressing broadband access and policy, economic development and wealth creation, food systems and food security, youth leadership, and the accessibility, cost, and quality of health care. She grew the Center's staff from four to 18, creating paid, career-building opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students along the way. In Connie's hands, community-engaged scholarship was never an abstraction. It meant giving students meaningful work, equipping communities with credible research, and ensuring that the University's knowledge reached the people who could use it.

Connie's contributions to Cal Poly Humboldt's transition to a polytechnic university were equally consequential. As the University's Legislative Liaison to the CSU, she helped shepherd \$485 million in state investment—including \$25 million in

ongoing funding—through the California Legislature. Those figures are remarkable, but they tell only part of the story. This accomplishment required trust built over decades, a sophisticated understanding of public policy, an ability to translate the University's aspirations into a compelling public case, and an unwavering belief in what Humboldt could become. The scale of the state's investment in our institution, and therefore in our students and region, bears Connie's unmistakable imprint.

Since becoming Executive Director of Initiatives in 2020, Connie has continued to build ambitious partnerships that advance the University's vision while responding to the North Coast's most pressing challenges. As a principal investigator, she has secured more than \$35 million in external research funding. She also established a Legacy Fund, now valued at approximately \$450,000, to provide career-focused work experience for Cal Poly Humboldt students who graduated from high schools in our region. That fund reflects something essential about Connie: even while working at the level of systems, legislation, and major institutional investments, she never loses sight of the individual student whose future may be changed by one meaningful opportunity.

Her leadership of Redwood Coast Connect since 2009 offers another powerful example of her sustained regional impact. Through this network of government leaders and technology advocates in Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity Counties, Connie has worked to extend broadband access to rural communities too often left on the far side of the digital divide. Her efforts have encompassed major regional infrastructure, including broadband development along Highway 299 and the subsea fiber-optic cable connecting our region to Singapore. She has helped establish Cal Poly Humboldt as a convener and trusted partner in work that is essential to education, health care, public safety, and economic opportunity.

Connie's impact extends far beyond any single position or project. She has been a mayor and city councilmember, an alternate California Coastal Commissioner, a co-founder and chair of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority, and a leader or board member in organizations spanning health care, education, environmental stewardship, transportation, broadband infrastructure, and rural development. Her service has been recognized through numerous honors, including Cal Poly Humboldt's Presidential Distinguished Service Award, the Rural County Representatives of California President's Award, the CENIC Innovations in Networking Award, and recognition as Humboldt County Woman of the Year.

Even in retirement, Connie's work will continue to benefit the University and the region. She remains the convener of the North Coast Health Leadership Team, bringing together leaders of major health and human-service organizations in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. She is collaborating with Cal Poly Humboldt and the U.S. Geological Survey to explore the use of fiber-optic seismology to improve offshore earthquake alerts through the ShakeAlert system. She is also working to establish a 43-bed Behavioral Health Crisis Triage Center in Arcata—an urgently needed regional resource encompassing crisis stabilization, mental-health and dual-diagnosis residential care, and sobering services. Emeritus status would support this continuing work and appropriately preserve Connie's relationship with the institution she has served so profoundly.

It is difficult for me to write about Connie only in terms of positions, grants, and accomplishments, because her significance to Cal Poly Humboldt—and to me—is also deeply human. She has been a source of wisdom, courage, humor, and fierce commitment. She makes people believe that hard things are possible, and then she stays beside them through the work of making those things real. She is generous with relationships accumulated over a lifetime, but even more generous with her faith in people and in this place.

Few individuals have done more to connect Cal Poly Humboldt's aspirations with the hopes and needs of the North Coast. Connie has changed what this University believes it can accomplish, how our region understands the University's role, and what becomes possible when public service is practiced with imagination, tenacity, and love of place.

For her extraordinary record of leadership, partnership, scholarship, and service—and for the enduring difference she has made in the life of this University and its communities—I offer my strongest and most heartfelt recommendation that Connie Stewart be granted emeritus status.