

# The COSS Herald

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pub Crawl	2
Faculty and Staff news	2
Research Roundup	3
Awards and Honors	3
Student News	4
Paparazzi	5
New Faculty	7

## Special points of interest:

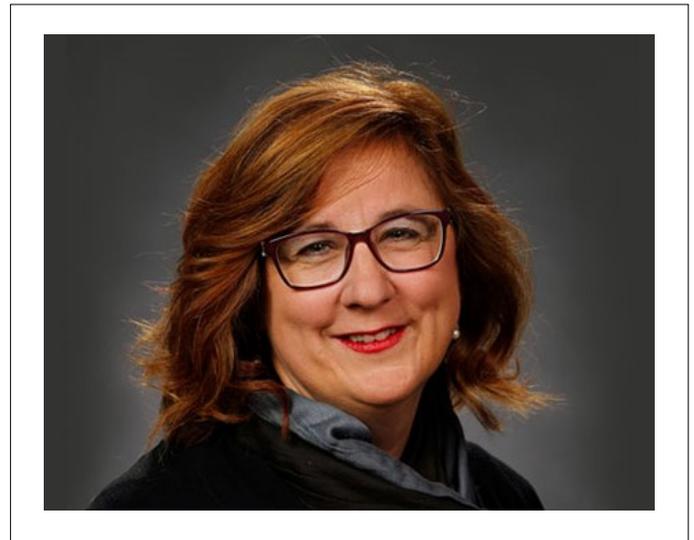
- Jeff Cummins' book examines California's budgetary issues. Page 2.
- Kathryn Forbes and Lori Clune honored by the Provost. Page 3.
- Two faculty retire from Criminology. Page 4.
- New faculty member joins Criminology. Page 7.
- Xuanning Fu becomes Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Page 8.

## A time of transition for COSS

The College of Social Sciences witnessed some major changes at the end of the spring semester. Provost Lynette Zelezny announced the awarding of an ACE Fellowship to Dean Luz Gonzalez, while Associate Dean Xuanning Fu attained a promotion to Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

In May, 2015, COSS faculty organized a committee to work with the Provost to search for an "acting" dean for the College, while outgoing Dean Luz Gonzalez appointed Bernadette Muscat as interim associate dean to replace Xuanning Fu.

The search yielded five candidates, four internal to the College and one external, and produced Michelle DenBeste as acting dean for the 2015-16 academic year.



Michelle DenBeste, acting dean of the College of Social Sciences

### DenBeste named acting dean of the College of Social Sciences

By Shirley Armbruster, Fresno State News

DenBeste joined the Fresno State faculty in 2000 and has

twice served as History Department chair: from 2004 to 2009 and since 2013. She has taught Russian history and European history courses.

DenBeste's research focuses on Russian women doctors (continued on page 8)

## New associate dean appointed



Bernadette Muscat was appointed associate dean to replace Xuanning Fu, who became Dean of Undergraduate Studies at the end of Spring 2015.

Muscat joined the Criminolo-

gy faculty in 2005, and became Chair of the Department in 2013 after the retirement of Ruth Masters.

Emma Hughes became Chair of Criminology with Muscat's move to the Dean's Office.

## Pub Crawl



Once regarded as a national model of policymaking, in recent decades, California's reputation has deteriorated to a state more commonly associated with dysfunction. At the heart of this demise has been the state's inability to manage its budget—a core function of any effective government. Through the lens of crisis budgeting, *Boom and Bust* traces the roots of the state's budget problems and offers context for understanding California's dynamic budget conditions.

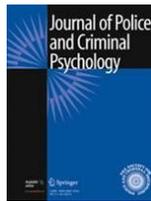
Along the way, this book addresses a number of key questions that state and local policymakers and the public have asked about how the state raises and spends its money. *Boom and Bust: The Politics of the California Budget* provides the foundation for understanding California's budget and provides fresh insight and analysis on the state's dominant issue of recent decades. Institute of Governmental Studies Press. Jeff Cummins.

**“What characteristics of the political system in California make budgeting difficult? How does the tax system lead to boom-and-bust cycles? Why does California frequently encounter fiscal crises? Why is the financial fate of local governments tied to the state budget process? What policy changes would place the state on stronger fiscal ground?”**

## Pub Crawl

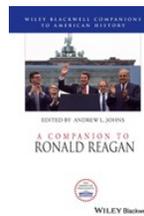
### Accepted Works

Article “Europeanized Hypocrisy: Roma Inclusion and Exclusion in Central and Eastern Europe,” *Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe*, 13, no. 3 (2014): 15-44, Melanie Ram.



Article “Are Active Shootings Temporally Contagious? An Empirical Assessment.” *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*. Jason Kissner.

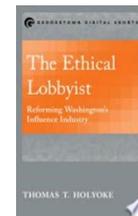
Book Chapter “From Student to Steward of Democracy: Developing Teachers as Transformative Agents of Change,” in *Neoliberalizing Educational Reform: America's Quest for Profitable Market-Colonies and the Undoing of Public Good*, K. Sturges (Editor) James Mullooly and Steve Hart.



Book Chapter “Political Ideology and Activism to 1966,” in *A Companion to Ronald*

*Reagan*, edited by Andrew L. Johns. Lori Clune.

ebook “The Ethical Lobbyist: Reforming Washington's



Influence Industry” published by Georgetown University Press. Thomas Holyoke.

Op-Ed Essay, “When Old Glory Returned to Fort Sumter,” *New York Times*, “Disunion” series, Opinionator, Exclusive Online Com (continued on page 3)

## Faculty and Staff News

### Directorship of the Graduate Net Initiative

Maritere López, (HIST), has been appointed Project Director for the University's new Graduate Net Initiative. A Title V Part B-funded project, the Initiative seeks to expand access to our post-baccalaureate academic programs and support services, ultimately to bolster the ability of all our graduate students to succeed academically and professionally. The Initiative consists of three interrelated parts. The first is the creation of the Graduate Net, our new digital postbaccalaureate hub. The Graduate Net will serve as a portal to services such as dedicated library support and direct financial assistance for research and publication, online peer writing and statistics consultants, and digital

professional development seminars. The second part, meant to support and expand online graduate programs and bolster faculty-student relationships, is the delivery of cutting-edge faculty training on digital graduate pedagogy and mentorship. The third key enhancement is a campus-wide expansion of mentorship and internship programs now housed in individual programs, strengthening links to our community and helping better prepare our students to be leaders in their chosen fields. If you have questions or would like to get involved with the Initiative, please don't hesitate to contact her!

### Latin American pedagogy and research

Bill Skuban (HIST) taught a course on U.S.-Latin Ameri-



can Relations for the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) this summer in Santiago, Chile. While in Chile he continued his research on church-state relations in nineteenth-century Chile. He then traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina to co-present a paper, with Dr. Honora Chapman from the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, at the Society of Biblical Literature's International Meeting.

The paper is entitled “Coloniality and Martyrdom (continued on page 4)

# Awards and Honors

## Provost's Awards

From Fresno State News

### Kathryn Forbes - Faculty Service



Kathryn Forbes (WS) has been at Fresno State since 2000.

She parlays her anthropological expertise of institutional

cultures into practical local applications. Her research publications range from topics like service-learning, sexual assault, West Fresno housing rights and university sexual harassment policies.

She has built a foundation of service to help transform the University's culture to be more responsive to contemporary human needs. At the core of all of her courses is an invitation to her students to take what they are learning and serve their own communities.

### Lori Clune – Promising New Faculty



Lori Clune (HIST) has been at Fresno State since 2001.

She has worked to build the University's relationships with local school districts, especially regarding credentialing. She has presented papers at a number of education con (continued on page 6)

# Pub Crawl

(continued from page 2)

mentary from the *Times*, 16 April 2015. Ethan Kytle and Blain Roberts.

Op-ed Essay, "Birth of a Freedom Anthem," Sunday Review, *New York Times*, 15 March 2015. Ethan Kytle and Blain Roberts.

Op-Ed Essay, "Myth, Reality and the Underground Railroad," *New York Times*, "Disunion" series, Opinionator, Exclusive Online Commentary from the Times, 27 February 2015. Ethan Kytle with Carl Geissert, one of our history graduate students. This essay began as a paper that Carl wrote in a graduate seminar that Kytle taught in the Spring 2014 semester.

Op-Ed Essay, "When Freedom Came to Charleston," *New York Times*, "Disunion" series, Opinionator, Exclusive Online Commentary from the Times, 19 February 2015. Ethan Kytle and Blain Roberts; also published by the *Civil War Monitor*, Spring 2015, pp. 20-21, 72-73.

Blog Post, "Give the Abolitionists a Break," *fifteeneightyfour: Academic Perspectives from Cambridge University Press*, 16 February 2015. Ethan Kytle.

# Research Roundup

Thomas Holyoke and Jeff Cummins are working on a paper about the influence of state interest groups on the size and growth rates of state budgets and state deficits.

DeAnna Reese is examining issues of respectability of black women in the context of media portrayals of the "mean girl."

Annabella España-Nájera is working on research looking at decision-making with regard to policy choices.

Carlos Perez is focusing on contrasting British free trade with Bolivian protectionism.

Hongwei Dong is investigating suburban rail transit and whether development follows such infrastructural changes.

Chih-Hao Wang is researching a gravity modeling approach to intergrade high speed rail.

Michelle DenBeste is researching the Russian Molekans of the Central Valley.

Jill Fields provides a global historical look at fashion, focusing on menswear.

Ethan Kytle and Blain Roberts are examining the struggle with slavery in the cradle of the Confederacy.

William Skuban is researching developments in Chile from 1890 to 1920.

Frederik Vermote continues with his research on missionaries and their finances in a global context.

Melanie Ram is examining the emerging agenda between the World Bank and Roma.

Jennifer Randles is examining what it means to be a good father in the context of masculine identity.

Sarah Whitley is investigating coping strategies for people in both rural and urban areas with low incomes who are food insecure.

Larissa Mercado-Lopez is investigating working class Latinas through "gringa rituals."

## IMPORTANT CFA DATES

8/28 Welcome Back 4:30-6:00 in *The Bucket*

10/16 Lobby Day in Sacramento

11/17 Demonstration at Long Beach



DON'T  
KEEP  
CALM

IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP

# Student News

## Outstanding Graduates

### Jennifer Leahy



Jennifer Leahy, of Oakhurst, completed an M.S. in Crimi-

nology with a 4.0 GPA. During her master's program, she worked with Dr. Yoshiko Takahashi to assess the effectiveness of a software program for the upper-division criminology classes for the Save our Adolescents from Prostitution project. The results of the study were presented at the American Society of Criminology conference by Leahy and Dr. Takahashi. In another project, "Women's Perceptions of Fear in Prison," she used secondary data and tested how age, race, previous incarceration and offense type would be related to the perceptions of fear and safety among female prison-

ers in the United States. As a research assistant, she worked on projects such as realignment in Fresno County, a programmatic review for a project examining women offenders in the Los Angeles County Jail, and various other projects. She also has assisted with projects on an international level, working with the Thailand Institute of Justice on a digital reference guide pertaining to femicide. She recently returned from the UN Crime Congress in Qatar and plans to pursue a doctorate and career in victim services.

(continued on page 7)

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## The COSS Herald

*The COSS Herald* is a semi-annual publication by the faculty of the College of Social Sciences, highlighting the activities of the faculty, staff, & students, and providing a venue for social bonding among members of nine departments spread over five buildings on campus. *The COSS Herald* is not an official university publication.

The COSS Herald Staff:

Cristina Herrera, Co-editor

Andrew Jones, Co-editor

Submissions for the next edition of *The COSS Herald* should be sent via email to either [cherre-ra@csufresno.edu](mailto:cherre-ra@csufresno.edu) or [anjones@csufresno.edu](mailto:anjones@csufresno.edu). Images should be submitted in 'jpeg' format, while text materials should be in rich text format (rtf). The editors retain the right of refusal to publish any materials they deem to be obscene, pornographic, threatening, or boring.

## Faculty and Staff News (continued)

(continued from page 2)

In the Latin Church from First-Century Rome to Twentieth-Century El Salvador."

### Keynote speaker

Melanie Ram (PLSI) gave a keynote speech on "Europeanized Hypocrisy: Roma Inclusion and Exclusion in Central and Eastern Europe," at a conference on "New Perspectives in European Studies: Europeanisation in the EU and the Neighbourhood," Queen's University Belfast, March 2015, Belfast, Northern Ireland. She was also an invited speaker at the conference on "Policy, Inclusion and Education Rights of Roma Children: Challenges and Successes in the EU and North America,"

University of Alberta, March 2015, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. (Presentation on "International Policy and Roma Education in Europe: Essential Inputs or Centralized Distractions?").

### Faculty attend SESYNC Workshop

Andrew Jones (SOC), along with faculty from Biology, and Earth & Environmental Sciences, traveled to Annapolis, Maryland at the end of July for a workshop on teaching critical thinking using case studies. The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) sponsored the workshop for teams of social and natural sciences faculty and is dedicated to bringing together diverse groups in new, inter-

disciplinary collaborations to identify solutions to society's most challenging and complex environmental problems.

## Faculty Transitions

### Jerome Jackson



A professor in Criminology for 25 years, Jerome Jackson entered into the

Faculty Early Retirement Program at the end of the Spring 2015 semester.

Prior to relocating to California in 1990, Jackson served as professor of Administration (continued on page 6)

# Paparazzi



(Left) On May 1-2, 2015, ten Fresno State anthropology students presented papers at the Southwestern Anthropological Association conference in Long Beach. Pictured: Clarissa Torralva, Henry D. Delcore, Mercedes Gonzalez, Selena Edin, Catelynn Danell, Arturo Mares, Robin Draper, Jazzman Hester, Liset Hernandez. Not pictured: Ariana Willingham, Sure Yang.

(Below) President Joseph Castro poses with those being honored at the Spirit of Service Reception, including Sarah Whitley, Janine Nkosi, Matthew Jendian, (and to President Castro's left) Anita Rodrigues and Evelyn Gonzalez. All were recognized at the award ceremony conducted April 28, 2015.



(Right) Faculty from COSS and CSM participated in a workshop on teaching critical thinking using case studies provided by the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center in Annapolis, Maryland, July 28-31. Participants included Mara Brady and Beth Wienman from Earth & Environmental Sciences (first row, left), Madhusudan Katti from Biology (first row, third from right), and Andrew Jones from Sociology (back row, third from right).



(Above) Over 120 faculty from the 23 CSU campuses traveled to the Chancellor's Office in Long Beach on May 19, 2015, to attend the Board of Trustees' meeting for the opening of bargaining with the CFA. Among those representing CSU Fresno were Andrew Jones and Cristina Herrera, along with our CFA organizer, Terri Prall.



## Faculty and Staff News (continued)

(continued from page 4)

tion of Justice, Public Affairs, Statistics, and Public Administration at Texas Southern University, in Houston, Texas. After joining the faculty of the Criminology Department, he served President of the Black Faculty and Staff Association (BFSA) from 1994 to 2004.

### Barbara Owen

Barbara Owen retired as Professor Emeritus from Criminology at the end of the Spring 2015 semester. Owen is a nationally-known expert in the areas of girls, women and crime, women-centered policy and women's prison culture. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from UC Berkeley in 1984. She is currently researching and developing policy on women's issues in an international and human rights context.



### Sabbaticals

T. Hasan Johnson (AFRS)

Peter English (CRIM)

Mohan Dangi (GEOG)

### Tenure and Promotions

#### Tenured faculty:

Mohan Dangi (GEOG)

Lori Clune (HIST)

(continued on page 7)

## Awards and Honors (continued)

(continued from page 3)

ferences and actively is involved with changing pedagogy strategies.

### Spirit of Service Awards

#### Outstanding Faculty Award

Sarah Whitley and Janine Nkosi

Sarah Whitley joined the Sociology Department in fall of 2013. Janine Nkosi is a lecturer in Sociology and has taught at Fresno State since fall 2001, and received her BA, MA and doctoral degrees from Fresno State.

Between them, they have incorporated high-quality service-learning components in five different Sociology courses.

Whitley started the Pen Pals Service Program, where Fresno State students work with sixth-grade students at Wolter's Elementary to increase literacy and understanding of each other's educational experiences, and promote school success and higher education to the elementary students.

Together, they have been the driving force behind the Fresno State Food Recovery Network. In less than two years, this program has recovered 60,000 pounds of food that would have otherwise ended up in landfills. Through this program, these two and their student leaders have partnered with numerous agencies in the community and



At the Spirit of Service Reception, April 28, 2015, Janine Nkosi, Evelyn Gonzalez, and Sarah Whitley were honored for their work.

helped provide food to thousands.

#### Newman Civic Fellows Award

Evelyn Gonzalez

As a freshman at Fresno State, she volunteered as the founding President of Fresno States' Food Recovery Network. Since that first year, she has continued her work with FRN as an advocate and the co-event coordinator. In this role, Evelyn organizes multiple events each semester to increase outreach and recruit volunteers. In the two years that Evelyn has been involved with FRN she has also established relationships between the group and various community agencies, student groups, top university officials and departments. Her outreach efforts range from participating in local news stories to repre-

senting FRN on several discussion panels (both on campus and in the community).

#### Spirit of Service Award

Food Recovery Network

The Fresno State FRN is the first chapter in the CSU system. The motto of the organization is "feed People, Not Landfills." Since its inception, FRN has recovered over 60,000 pounds of food and the national Food Recovery Network has recovered over 637,000 pounds of food. THE FRN partners with the Agricultural Business department to set up and carry out gleaning opportunities as they become available. This past November, 2014, the FRN teamed with the Richter Center and ASI to glean over 5,000 pounds of Mandarins during Serving Fresno Day.

## New faculty joins Criminology

The 2015-16 academic year welcomes a new face to the College, with Criminology adding Chadley James to its ranks.



Chadley James has an M.S. in Clinical Criminology from the University of Leicester, UK and a Ph.D. in Victimology from Tokiwa University, Japan. He will teach in the Victimology Option program and the Victim Services Certificate program. His research focuses on the continuing problem of carjacking in South Africa and the victimization of cultural rites. Another area of interest is assessing police as victims and challenging the definitions of the term victim.

Dr. James is the recipient of the 2015 World Society of Victimology (WSV) Benjamin Mendelsohn Young Victimologist Award and is the organizing Co-Director of the two-week Postgraduate Course in Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice held every year in Dubrovnik, Croatia at the Inter-University Center (IUC) Dubrovnik. He is also an assistant editor for the International Perspectives in Victimology Journal and is a member of the Membership and Advancement committee and UN Liaison committee of the WSV.

# Student News (continued)

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## Matthew Ford

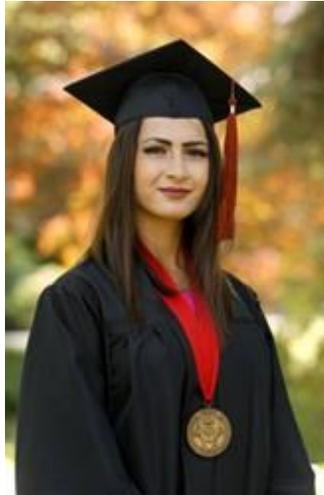


Matthew Ford, BA '10, completed his Masters in History and was the recipient of the Outstanding Thesis Award for his work, "Subverting Democracy, Producing Terror: the United States and the Uruguayan Cold War, 1963-1976." As Ford states, "In the early 1960s, Uruguay was a beacon of democracy in the Americas. Ten years later, repression and torture were everyday occurrences and by 1973, a military dictatorship had taken power. The unexpected descent into dictatorship is the subject of this thesis. By analyzing US government documents, many of which have been recently declassified, I examine the role of the US government in funding, training, and supporting the Uruguayan repressive apparatus during these trying years."

Ford worked with his committee of Maria-Aparecida Lopes (Chair), William Skuban and Lori Clune in putting together

his analysis. Ford has been accepted to the doctoral program in history at Stony Brook University.

## Megi Hakobjanyan



Megi Hakobjanyan, of Fresno, completed a B.A. in Political Science, with a 4.0 GPA. Born and raised in Armenia, she immigrated to the United States in 2007. She is a member of the Smittcamp Family Honors College and the College of Social Sciences Honors Program. With support from grants and scholarships, she attended the European Student Conference at Yale, spent a semester at the Charles University in Prague and served as an intern at the Armenian Embassy of the Czech Republic, among other activities. She is working with Dr. Bradley Hart to translate the Mitrochin Archives from Russian to English. Her volunteer work includes passing out food at the Bulldog Pantry and participating in Relay for Life and March for Babies, as well as the Greek Festival. Hakobjanyan credits her many campus involvements

with her work since 2012 at the University Student Union reservations desk, where her supervisors encouraged her to be active both on and off campus. Her internship was with the American Civil Liberties Union. This fall, she will attend Johns Hopkins University, where she will pursue a Master of Arts in International Affairs.

## Graduate school-bound

Jesse Mendiola, BA '12, has been accepted into the doctoral program in Sociology at Washington State University, Pullman. Mendiola worked with COSS faculty on ULTRAFACES, conducting his own site visits under the tutelage of Henry Delcore, and this research led to his desire to pursue graduate work in environmental sociology, with an emphasis on indigenous perspectives on ecological sustainability and the impacts of environmental degradation on indigenous peoples.

## Faculty and Staff News (continued)

(continued from page 6)

### Promoted to Full Professor:

Melissa Jordine (HIST)

Kurt Cline (PLSI)

Thomas Holyoke (PLSI)

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# A time of transition for COSS (continued)

(continued from page 1)

in the 19th century and she has published several articles on the topic. She has forthcoming publications on teaching the Mongols and the difficulties of researching Russian women.

She is currently working on two articles, "Writing a Career: Russian Women Physicians Professional Life Stories" and "Russians in the Central Valley: Molokans, Russian Baptists and German Russian, 1900-present," a book length project of original research and oral histories, with student contributions.

She was named the 2011 San Joaquin Valley Council of Social Sciences Teacher of the Year.

DenBeste was a faculty participant in the DISCOVERe tablet program during the spring semester. She has served on numerous department, university and California State University committees.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Russian and East European Studies from University of Washington, and a master's degree and Ph.D. in History from Southern Illinois University.

## Xuanning Fu now Dean of Undergraduate Studies

By Shirley Armbruster, Fresno State News

Xuanning Fu became dean of Undergraduate Studies at



Fresno State on May 1<sup>st</sup> of this year.

Fu has been Associate Dean of the College of Social Sciences at Fresno State since January 2011, and also served concurrently as interim director of Institutional Effectiveness in 2013-14. He joined the Fresno State Department of Sociology faculty in 2003 and was promoted a full professor in 2007.

He has been actively involved in University service, including leadership roles and participation in Student Success Task Force, Graduation Initiative Team, WASC re-accreditation executive committee, Student Learning Outcome Assessment Team, President's Commission on Human Relations and Equity, Integrated Marketing and Communications Council, President's Task Force on Internationalization and University Strategic Plan Advisory Committee.

Fu earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in China, and taught at Ocean University of China as an assistant professor of English before he came to the United States in 1989 to further his education. He obtained his doctorate degree in sociology in 1994

from Brigham Young University.

Fu's research interests include inter-racial marriage, meaning of work, education and social stratification, and student success in higher education. He has published four books and 30 peer-reviewed journal articles.

The dean of Undergraduate Studies works with faculty on academic planning and policy issues including curriculum development, program review, changes to the general education program and undergraduate research. The dean oversees the Scheduling Office and sits on committees dealing with student academic petitions and disqualifications.

## Luz Gonzalez named American Council on Education fellow



By Kathleen Schock, Fresno State News

Luz Gonzalez, Dean of the College of Social Sciences at Fresno State, is among 47 emerging college and university leaders in the U.S. selected for the 2015-16 class of the Ameri-

can Council on Education (ACE) Fellows Program.

The program, established in 1965, focuses on identifying and preparing the next generation of senior leadership for the nation's colleges and universities.

Each fellow will focus on an issue of concern to his or her home institution while spending the 2015-16 academic year working with a university president and other senior officers at a host institution.

Gonzalez is a Fresno State alumna with 30 years of experience in teaching, student success, community and regional engagement, development and strategic planning. She coordinates Fresno State's Latino Commencement Celebration, the largest event of its kind in the country.

A former migrant farmworker, Gonzalez is passionate about helping students from traditionally underserved and underrepresented groups earn a college degree. As director of Fresno State's Faculty Mentoring Program, she developed a freshmen orientation course that included faculty mentoring undergraduates with the goal of improving retention and graduate rates of freshmen and transfer students.

She joined the Fresno State faculty in the Department of Chicano and Latin American Studies in 1989 and was elected chair in 1992. She was named associate dean of the College of Social Sciences in 2001, interim dean in 2003 and dean in 2005.