

The Senate 2023/24 awardee of the Doctoral Dissertation Advisor/Mentor award

Professor Jimmy Calanchini



Jimmy Calanchini is a Professor in Psychology. Dr. Calanchini received his PhD from UC Davis in Psychology and spent 2 years in Germany at the Albert Ludwig's University in Freigberg. In 2018 he joined UCR and since then, in this relatively short period of time he has impressed faculty and students with a deep commitment to mentorship and demonstrated a passion for encouraging and supporting diversity within his own lab and the department. Indeed, in 2021 he was awarded the Graduate Division "Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award" and continues to make a valuable impact on his mentees.

Dr. Calanchini studies the attitudes to behavior including on a regional scale, the influence of bias in memory and the processes that underlie implicit bias. He uses mathematical modeling and proposes that this can link the fields of cognitive and social psychology. His philosophy to mentoring is reflected in this research and delves into many of the processes that limit the support of diverse populations in our community. Professor Calanchini founded a new graduate subfield in Diversity and Inequality Psychology, and has conducted major outreach efforts to CSU and HBCU campuses.

Professor Calanchini was nominated for the 2023/24 Doctoral Dissertation Mentorship award by his current and former graduate students and his faculty colleagues. His outstanding mentorship of students is reflected by their success. His students have published very highly and are the recipients of many prestigious awards including the UC Pre-Professoriate Dissertation award, an SPSP diversity graduate award, a UCR Provost Fellowship, many travel awards and one is an Assistant Professor. Student nomination letters came from not just his own graduate students but also those that have been in challenging situations and received his guidance and support. They point to his "unique ability to provide direction and support while also allowing his mentees the space to learn and grow independently".

The Graduate Division 2023/2024 Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award

Dr. Raquel Rall



Raquel Rall is an Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Strategic Initiatives in the School of Education. She earned her Bachelor degrees in Human Biology and African American Studies from Stanford, she obtained her PhD from USC in Urban Education Policy and was a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow until her appointment as an Assistant Professor at UCR. She is now the first black faculty to be Chair of Education. Her research focuses on leadership, access and equity in higher education. She is the recipient of multiple awards including the 2021-22 School of Education's Faculty Mentoring Award. The UCR African Student Program, which has been recognizing outstanding faculty for 50 years, awarded Dr. Rall Faculty Member of the year in 2020.

Of importance is Dr. Rall's nomination. Well over 30 former and current undergraduate and graduate students got together and wrote outstanding letters of nomination. The letters attest to Dr. Rall's ability to put diversity at the very heart of our education at UCR. As her nominators explain her teaching style "values student voices and contributes to a better learning environment". The students speak of her ability to give them autonomy and enabling all to participate, something that is at the heart of Dr Rall's philosophy and research. She has an open-door policy and her students feel welcome, supported and fully engaged with her as faculty. Many of her mentees have continued to study higher education and all of her graduate students have received fellowships and awards and published significant articles. She serves on the Systemwide UC Black Administrator's Council and in the community as a member of the Black Community Council at Stanford University. Dr. Valeria Dominguez, a first generation Latina who is now a lecturer in the School of Education attributes her success and ability to gain her PhD to Dr. Rall. She says "She pushed me to achieve what I thought was impossible and always focused her efforts on opening doors that often shut on women of color navigating higher education. I cannot think of someone more deserving than her of the Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award.

Professor Quinn McFrederick.



Quinn McFrederick is a professor in Entomology. Quinn's research focuses on symbiotic relationships that involve insects. He is particularly fond of bees and investigates the microbiome of bees, parasites of bees, microbes that help protect bees and how all of these vary with the type of bee – including necrophillic and stingless bees.

He was nominated by his faculty, his chair and several past and current undergraduate and graduate students. All the letters describe someone strongly dedicated to making his lab feel a welcoming and inclusive place whilst training students from diverse backgrounds to love and excel in science. Even before he was a

professor Quinn mentored many undergraduate and high school students one of which won the grand prize at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Professor McFrederick joined UCR in 2014 and has mentored two postdoctoral scholars, eight graduate students and 18 undergraduates. Of those graduate students, four of them received prestigious national fellowships including from UC-Mexus, the USDA, NSF GRFP fellowships and NASA. It was these students that have organized Professor McFrederick's nomination for this award. All of them writing eloquent letters describing his "Cross-cultural mentorship" and outstanding support for students "Regardless of their background, native tongue or ethnicity". Faculty point out not only has he been dedicated to providing a harmonious, happy and inclusive environment in his own lab but has worked in the department, the college and in the community to improve processes broadening his reach and encouraging all to participate. This includes being the Chair of the department's Instructional and Student Affairs committee overseeing all aspects of graduate education in the department. In this role he instigated the removal of the GRE requirement from admissions replacing it with a holistic rubric approach and provided training opportunities for graduate students in ethical research. He has also served on the department's outreach committee which visits > 30 schools a year and organizes the Riverside Insect Fair. The student nomination letters give multiple examples of his outstanding mentorship and are summed up by one with the insightful comment that "His ability to see us as individuals, each with our own unique challenges and aspirations, sets him apart as a mentor".