

Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities

Panela Ong (she/her), Director of Data and Research



Pamela Ong is the Director of Data and Research at the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU). In this role, she leads data efforts that support the organization's policy and advocacy work on behalf of California's nonprofit independent colleges and universities.

She has extensive experience in postsecondary education, with a background in institutional research, financial aid, and strategic planning. Prior to joining AICCU, she held various operational roles across the independent sector and has a strong understanding of how state and federal policies impact institutions and students. Pam holds a B.S. in Psychology from the University of California, Davis, and an M.A. in Experimental Psychology from San Jose State University. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the California Association for Institutional Research (CAIR).

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education

Erik Casida (he/him), Compliance Chief



Erik Casida serves as the Compliance Chief at the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). In this role, he leads the Compliance Unit responsible for conducting institutional inspections under California Education Code section 94932.5, as well as the Annual Report Compliance Unit, which oversees the submission and analysis of annual

institutional data. Erik has over seven years of leadership experience in state government, with a focus on regulatory compliance, operational oversight, and program performance. He has held key roles across departments including the Department of State Hospitals and the Department of Rehabilitation and was honored

with the Department of State Hospitals VIP Award in 2018 for his contributions. Erik holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Chapman University.

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Todd Hoig (he/him), Director of Management Information System

Todd Hoig is the Director of Management Information Systems at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. In his role, he oversees the collection, warehousing, and use of Management Information Systems data. Todd has served in this role for over a decade and has supported the design, implementation, maintenance, and improvement of multiple accountability metric frameworks and data-based decision-making tools as well as their underlying architecture.

California Health and Human Services, Center for Data Insights and Innovation

Agnieszka Rykaczewska, PhD (she/her), Deputy Director, Insights Lab



As Deputy Director of CDII's Insights Lab, Agnieszka oversees cross-departmental analytics and research efforts to drive person-centered insights. Agnieszka has spent most of her career empowering organizations to strategically use data to transform systems and drive impact for children, youth, and young adults. Prior to joining CDII, Agnieszka led systems change measurement efforts at First 5 LA, a county commission focused on improving conditions for young children and their families in LA County.

California Student Aid Commission

Jessica Moldoff, PhD (she/her), Deputy Director of Data, Analysis and Research



Jessica Moldoff, Ph.D., is the Deputy Director of Data, Analysis and Research at the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). As Deputy Director, Jessica is responsible for facilitating research on program effectiveness and financial aid administration, as well as overseeing reports, program projections, and ad hoc data requests. After graduating from undergrad, Jessica worked at a community college in Lexington, Kentucky, for over three years, including in its financial aid office. She received a Masters and PhD in Higher Education from the University of Kentucky, where she completed

her dissertation on the idea and implementation of competency-based education. She then moved to California and has worked at CSAC since 2017.

California State University

Nathan Evans, EdD (he/him), Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs



Dr. Nathan Evans is acting president for Sonoma State University and Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs at the California State University Office of the Chancellor. In the latter role, he co-leads the division in support for student and faculty success. In addition to his tenure at the Chancellor's Office, Dr. Evans has served in leadership positions in all three segments of public higher education in California including San Diego State University, CSU San Marcos, UC San Diego and the San Diego Community College

District. He serves as chair of the California College Guidance Initiative Advisory Board and as a member of California's Intersegmental Coordinating Council Executive

Committee. He earned a doctorate of Educational Leadership from Fresno State University.

California State University

Edward Sullivan, PhD (he/him), Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research and Analyses



Ed Sullivan is the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research and Analysis at the California State University Office of the Chancellor where he provides leadership and analytical support to inform decisions of CSU senior leadership, university presidents, Board of Trustees, faculty, students, staff, and external audiences promoting a culture of evidence-based decision-making. His higher education career spans more than 36 years including the last 26 in institutional research leadership roles. Sullivan joined the CSU Office of the

Chancellor in 2014 and was previously at CSU Fullerton for just under 12 years and the University of Southern California for just over 15 years in similar roles. His efforts have led to innovative approaches to inform student success efforts and provide timely and nimble identification of opportunities to better serve students. Sullivan earned his BS, MS, and Ph.D. at the University of Southern California.

Department of Developmental Services

Maricris Acon, Deputy Director for Children, Adolescents and Young Adult Services Division



Maricris Acon is the Deputy Director for Children, Adolescents and Young Adult Services Division at the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS). The Division provides leadership and support to California's early intervention community, regional center staff, providers, and contractors serving children and youth with intellectual/developmental delays and disabilities ages birth through 22. As the Deputy Director, Maricris oversees initiatives and investments for improving access and delivery of services in the

Early Start program, and for helping children and youth plan a life consisting of a strong sense of belonging in the community, independence and self-direction, and employment. Before leading CAYAS, Maricris was the Deputy Director for Federal Programs Division in DDS and was responsible for overseeing compliance with a wide range of federal requirements.

Prior to coming to DDS, Maricris held a variety of leadership positions for 12 years at California Department of Finance, overseeing the state budgets for Medi-Cal and various health programs. She holds a Master in Public Administration degree from California State University, East Bay.

Department of Developmental Services
Van Vu, Chief Data Officer



Van Vu is the Chief Data Officer at the Department of Developmental Services and oversees the Enterprise Data Operations Office. Van and her technical team work closely with our dedicated Program staff, the Information Security Office and Office of Legal Affairs to facilitate data sharing within the department and with state agencies and external organizations. Her office is responsible for data management and ensuring that data is ingested into our data warehouse which is made available to our decision makers for effective

analysis and reporting that will lead them to inform and improve the services provided to individuals in California with developmental disabilities.

Department of Industrial Relations
Adele Burns (she/her), Chief, California Division of Apprenticeship Standards



Adele Burnes has spent her career in workforce development and economic empowerment. She has worked at this important issue from many angles including government policy work, tech startups to develop startup ecosystems, leading strategy and operations for a non-profit, Year Up Bay Area, and as the first ever Regional Director of Apprenticeship for the Bay Area Community College Consortium. Adele joined the DAS in 2021 as Deputy Chief and in 2025 took over as Chief, and her work has focused on policy and strategy to expand apprenticeships in CA to create a

more equitable and accessible on ramp into a wide variety of careers from the building trades to healthcare, tech, education, public service and every sector of our economy. Adele has been innovating in the area of apprenticeship funding, spearheading the Equal Representation in Construction Apprenticeship Grant to improve gender

representation in the trades, along with establishing the Apprenticeship Innovation Funding, which is providing critical sustainable funding to apprenticeships across many sectors. Finally, she has also led the work to ensure that the opportunity youth of CA are offered supported pathways into apprenticeship through the CA Opportunity Youth Apprenticeship Grant.

Department of Social Services

Hillary Berwick, PhD (she/her), Section Chief, Dashboard and Data Integration Section



My name is Hilary Berwick, and I am the manager of the Dashboard and Data Integration Section at the California Department of Social Services. My team is responsible for providing CDSS data on program participation to C2C. I have a PhD in Cultural Studies and over two decades of experience in education as well as a decade of experience in administrative government data.

Employment Development Department

Juan Barrios, Chief, Labor Market Information Division



Juan is Chief of the Labor Market Information Division at the California Employment Development Department. The division collects, researches, analyzes, and publishes economic and demographic information to support labor market research, program planning, economic development, and career exploration, as well as overseeing applied research and collaborative projects with public and private research

organizations on issues of California's labor force and economic conditions. The division also includes out stationed staff that provide local expertise throughout California, offering tailored research, analysis, and training on labor market information access, as well as providing local context and responding to inquiries from television, radio, and print media.

ScholarShare Investment Board

Noah Lightman (he/him), Children's Savings Account Initiatives Manager



Noah Lightman is the Manager of Children's Savings Account (CSA) Initiatives with the ScholarShare Investment Board (SIB), the state agency that administers California's ScholarShare 529 college savings plan. In this role, he oversees the development and implementation of California's statewide CSA program, the California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS). The CalKIDS Program is the nation's largest CSA program, serving over 5 million enrolled participants. He also manages ScholarShare 529's partnerships with CSA programs across the country.

Prior to joining SIB, Noah served as a Legislative Aide in the California State Assembly, where he negotiated legislation and provided policy recommendations on numerous statewide issues.

During this time, he successfully secured the original funding for CalKIDS through the state budget. He began his career working in different campaign and policy capacities for political candidates and a labor union in California.

Noah earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego.