FACULTY MENTOR/ADVISORS ON GRANT WRITING
2015-2016

As part of Berkeley's mentoring efforts, the following senior faculty and colleagues have agreed to serve as campuswide mentor/advisors on grant writing. Please feel free to contact any of these individuals for confidential consultation and support on topics such as: essential things that need to be in place before getting started, how to work with grant program officers and what to know about grant review panels, how to resubmit grants, grant support resources on campus about which to be aware, and more. Mentor/advisors will be available through the end of the 2015-16 academic year. Please note that while team members will not be available to assist with grant writing, their mentoring will include recommendations, advice, and problem-solving based on successful track records of grant writing and funding for research. For more information, please see the Equity & Inclusion website at diversity.berkeley.edu.

Brenda Eskenazi is a Professor of Epidemiology, the Chair of the Community Health and Human Development Program, and the Director of the Children's Center for Environmental Health in the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley. She is a neuropsychologist and epidemiologist whose has received multiple federal grants to study the effects of toxicants, including lead, solvents, environmental tobacco smoke, dioxin and pesticides, on human reproduction (both male and female) and child development. She is the Principal Investigator (PI) and Director of an National Institutes of Health/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Center for Excellence in Children’s Environmental Health Research and its keystone project, CHAMACOS, which investigates the exposure pathways and health effects of pesticide exposure in farmworkers and their children and develops interventions to prevent future exposure. She is currently investigating associations between pubertal development and endocrine-disrupting chemicals, including flame retardants and pesticides, in children of the CHAMACOS cohort. Dr. Eskenazi was also the PI on a grant aimed at understanding the effects of U.S.-Mexico migration on childhood obesity; she conducted research on food insecurity, obesity and maternal perception of child weight.

Contact: eskenazi@berkeley.edu

Stephen Hinshaw is Professor of Psychology, as well as Professor of Psychiatry (and Vice-Chair for Psychology) at UCSF. He has authored over 280 publications (h-index, Google Scholar = 91), plus 14 books, including The Mark of Shame: Stigma of Mental Illness and an Agenda for Change (Oxford, 2007), The Triple Bind: Saving our Teenage Girls from Today's Pressures (Random House, 2009), and (with R. Scheffler) The ADHD Explosion: Myths, Medications, Money, and Today's Push for Performance (Oxford, 2014). He has received over $18 million in federal grants, chiefly NIMH and NIDA. Hinshaw was editor of Psychological Bulletin, the most cited journal in psychology, from 2009-2014 and is a fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, the American Psychological Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He received Berkeley’s Social Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award, and his 24-lecture series for the Teaching Company, “Origins of the Human Mind,” was released in 2010. His research efforts have been recognized by California's Distinguished Scientific Contribution in Psychology Award (2009), the Distinguished Scientist Award from the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (2015), and the James McKeen Cattell Award from the Association for Psychological Science (2016), for a lifetime of outstanding contributions to applied psychological research.

Contact: hinshaw@berkeley.edu
Alex Kral is Director of the Behavioral and Urban Health Program in the San Francisco Regional Office of the non-profit research institute RTI International. He received his PhD in Epidemiology at University of California Berkeley in 2000. His main research areas are community-based research with urban poor populations, substance use, incarceration, and infectious diseases. He has been Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator of two dozen NIH grants and served on twenty NIH grant peer review committees.

Contact: akral@rti.org

Stephen Leone is the John R. Thomas Endowed Chair in Physical Chemistry and a Professor of Chemistry and Physics at the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests include ultrafast laser investigations and soft x-ray probing of molecular and solid state dynamics, attosecond physics and chemistry, state-resolved collision processes and kinetics investigations, and nanoparticle dynamics. He is author or co-author of over 500 scientific publications. He has more than 40 years of teaching experience with over 60 of his former students and postdocs holding faculty positions of their own, and several hundred former co-workers are employed in companies, national laboratories, and in fields such as law combined with science. He served as associate editor and editor of Annual Reviews of Physical Chemistry. His awards and honors include the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry, the Herbert P. Broida Prize of the American Physical Society, the Bourke Medal of the Faraday Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry, the American Chemical Society Peter Debye Award, the Polanyi Medal of the Gas Kinetics Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the Irving Langmuir Prize in Chemical Physics of the American Physical Society. He is a member of National Academy of Sciences and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His research sources of support include grants from the Department of Defense, National Security Science and Engineering Faculty Fellowship, Army Research Office, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Defense Advanced Research and Projects Agency, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy and the Keck Foundation.

Contact: srl@berkeley.edu

Juan M. Pestana is currently a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Director of the Pavement Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering. Most of his research focuses on constitutive modeling of soils and rocks and numerical modeling in geotechnical and geotechnical earthquake engineering. He is recognized as an expert in the description of the static and dynamic strength and deformation behavior of both cohesive and cohesionless soils, and has made important contributions to a number of diverse topics in the general areas of geomechanics and computational geomechanics, geotechnical earthquake engineering and coastal/offshore engineering. He has also contributed to innovative laboratory testing and physical modeling and experimentation. Dr. Pestana has received several prestigious awards, including the National Science Foundation CAREER award (1996), the ASCE Arthur Casagrande Award (1998), the Research Council of Norway Fellowship at the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (1999), the ASCE Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize (2003) and the Shamsher Prakash Research Prize for significant contributions to Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering (2004). He received Berkeley’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 2010, and has given numerous invited and keynote lectures worldwide. He has authored/coauthored over 150 research publications over a wide range of geoengeering topics. He is a member of several technical committees and organizations, including ASCE and the GeoInstitute. Dr. Pestana served as the Program Director of the Geoenvironmental Engineering and Geohazards Mitigation program of the Civil and Mechanics Systems Division at the National Science Foundation during 2004-2005. During 2007-2008, he became Associate Principal and Geotechnical Practice Leader for the Americas for the engineering design company ARUP. He has served as an advisor and consultant for several national and international companies for nearly 30 years.

Contact: jmpestana@berkeley.edu
Erica Whitney is the Berkeley Research Development Office's Senior Research Development Analyst. Erica provides a wide range of strategic initiative and proposal development services, with expertise in facilitating team building and team science, project conceptualization, proposal organization, and editing. Erica also has significant experience providing training on proposal development, NIH and NSF policies and programs, and scientific writing. She has helped secure approximately $400 million dollars for researchers she has worked with. Erica has supported research development efforts at UC Berkeley since 2010, building on her research development positions at UC Davis’s Office of Research and the UC Davis School of Medicine from 2004 to 2010. Her technical writing and editing experience extends back to 1998. She has degrees in history and political science from Wellesley College.

Contact: ewhitney@berkeley.edu