

ISSUE #8

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER
2023

www.capsscientists.org
caps@capsscientists.org

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2023

CAPS AWARDS 15 SCHOLARSHIPS TO MEMBERS' DEPENDENTS



For many years, CAPS' Member Benefits Committee has awarded college scholarships to dependents of CAPS members. The Committee, chaired by CAPS District V Director Monty Larson, congratulates the 15 students who this year each received \$750.



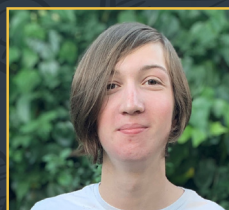
AIDAN MEANS

This is a great honor for me and I'd like to thank CAPS for helping me to further my education and future career in science.



ALYSSA MCKEEVER

Receiving this scholarship reduces education costs and permits me to spend time exploring potential animal-related careers as an intern and volunteer.



BEN POWELL

I am really looking forward to attending Sacramento State University next fall where I will be majoring in chemistry - excited to get some lab experience!



CADENCE KILLAM

I am extremely and eternally honored and grateful to receive this scholarship to help further my education in Marine Science. I hope that one day I too will be able to give back as CAPS does.



DALIA LUCKHARDT

I'm from SoCal, and will be studying Biology/Environmental Studies up on the East Coast! I hope to help conserve threatened ecosystems!



ELIAS OSORIO

Elias Osorio, son of CAPS member David Osorio is majoring in Human Development at UC Davis and will graduate college in 2027.



GABRIEL FRANCISCO MIGUELINO

Gabriel Miguelino, son of CAPS members Eric (SWRCB) and Maricel Miguelino (DHCS) majoring in Chemical Engineering at UC San Diego will graduate in 2026.



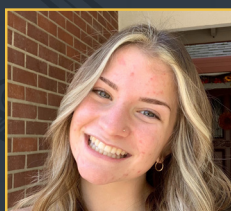
GINA VANG

I want to express my gratitude for being awarded the scholarship as it will be put towards my future career.



HEROKI COYLE

I hope to study mathematics in college and become a well-rounded human. I wish to use my life to make a positive impact on society.



KARLY SCOTT

I am honored to have been awarded this scholarship, and I cannot wait to put my STEM education to use as a young female!



KEIRA NAKAMURA

I am exploring new passions in my first year of college and I am particularly interested in pursuing a degree in biology.



MADISON ESTES

Thank you for this scholarship! This will help me achieve my dream of becoming a forensic psychologist.



MICHAEL ESTRADA

I am pursuing a bioengineering degree to attain a career researching a cure for genetic mental health problems using modern technology and medicine.



NYACK EMERY

I hope to honor my grandparents by attending Cal Poly, Humboldt to pursue Environmental Sciences.



SARAH CREECH

I will be attending UC Santa Cruz in the fall to study Biology. I will use this scholarship to help with tuition. Thank you for the scholarship.

SPOTLIGHT

CAPS MEMBERS TAKE ACTION FOR EQUITABLE WAGES!

CAPS Bargaining Team (CAPS Team) is fighting for a successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with equitable pay for State Scientists, but they're not fighting alone. Around the state, CAPS members have been learning about the issues and showing their support in a wide variety of ways:

Teach Ins/Rallies: From Chatsworth to Eureka, State Scientists on July 26 participated in a virtual teach in to learn about the bargaining process, then staged workplace rallies to loudly advocate for an MOU that values state scientists.



Regional Rallies: CAPS coordinated its first Value Scientists! Rally on August 16 in Los Angeles (pictured below), followed by a second rally in Oakland on August 23. The third and final event, a march from CalHR headquarters to the State Capitol and a rally on the West Steps was held August 30.



Worksite Tabling: Since May, Contract Action Team (CAT) members have been tabling at worksites throughout California to inform and engage CAPS members. Through July, CAT members tabled at 12 worksites, with four additional worksites scheduled in August. The events allow CAPS members to discuss current contract negotiations and learn how everyone can support the Bargaining Team.

Science Tuesdays/Solidarity Breaks: Every Tuesday, members wear their CAPS shirts and take breaks together (in real life or online) to show their support for our cause. Social media posts are encouraged!



Social Media: CAPS posts messages daily on Instagram and X/Twitter. Follow [@capsscscientists](https://www.instagram.com/capsscscientists) on both platforms for the latest. Tag CAPS with your member action posts!

CAPS Video Backgrounds/Signature Blocks: Members are downloading CAPS video backgrounds (available at <https://bit.ly/3YB08ZB>) to use for online get-togethers (including



Solidarity Breaks) and updating their email signature blocks with one of two CAPS-approved statements:

- Value Science. Value Scientists! and
- Value (Insert your area of work)? Value Scientists.

Be Advised. Some departments prohibit signature block change. Review a list of departments and their policies at <https://bit.ly/3OVefWp> to see if you can participate. Participation while working for a department whose policy does not allow it may subject you to disciplinary action. CAPS may be unable to rectify such disciplinary action for members who choose to participate regardless of the policy.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A TIME FOR CHANGE!

Margarita Gordus

A few months ago, I encouraged you to consider running for the CAPS Board of Directors. Since then, several people have stepped up to run for office. Next month we vote, and in November the 2023-25 Board will begin to serve.

I didn't run for office because, after so many years on the Board in various roles – including my current service as your President – I was ready to step aside. One of the great things about our union is that we embrace the change and renewal that comes from democracy.

CAPS leaders don't cling to power. We're volunteers. We have day jobs, just like you. We serve at the pleasure of electors. Sometimes we are not elected. Sometimes we

decide it's time to make room for others to serve. What we all understand is that CAPS is bigger than any one person. Long after we are gone, our union will remain.

Fortunately, that means as times and circumstances change, CAPS is built to change as well. It's that constant, healthy evolution that keeps us steady and strong.

I still have a little while longer before I go, but this is my last election as President, so I want to take this opportunity to urge you to vote when you receive your ballot in October. CAPS leadership should mirror the thinking and priorities of members, and the way that happens is through the ballot. The more members who take the time to vote, the better.

2023-2024 CAPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION UPDATE!

Nominating petitions are in, and the candidate lists are set for the **2023-2025 CAPS Board of Directors election**.

CAPS Bylaws state, "Any qualified candidate shall be elected by acclamation, without the need for balloting, whenever that candidate is the only qualified candidate whose name will appear on the ballot for that seat." Under that rule, four statewide officers and two District Directors have been elected by acclamation. Two statewide seats and two District Director seats are contested. One District Director position had no candidates. The Board has the authority to fill that seat at a later date.

Only rank-and-file members will receive ballots this year because the Supervisory Director seat for which managerial members vote has just one candidate. Members

will receive a link to a ballot at their private email addresses on October 2, 2023. On that same day, postcards will be mailed to members' home addresses with an individualized QR code that, when scanned, will open a ballot. CAPS' third-party vendor, ElectionBuddy, uses software that allows one ballot per person, so members may use just one method to vote. Balloting closes on October 17, 2023, at 5 p.m. (PDT), and results will be released as soon as practicable.

To change your postal address to ensure you receive a ballot postcard with a QR code to your ballot, please fill out this online form <https://capsscscientists.org/members/update/>. 2023 Election Information & Campaign Rules can be viewed at <https://capsscscientists.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Election-and-Campaign-Rules-2023.pdf>.

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

PRESIDENT	JACQUELINE TKAC
VICE PRESIDENT	RAE VANDER WERF
SECRETARY	HANNAH JOHNSON
SUPERVISORY DIRECTOR	DANIEL ELLIS
TREASURER	ITZIA RIVERA
DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR	CHRISTINA LAFAVE
DISTRICT V DIRECTOR	MONTY LARSON

CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR THE BOARD

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (TWO SEATS)	MADISON BOYNTON
	CAROLYN BUESCH
	MIA ROBERTS
DISTRICT I DIRECTOR	DEREK SCHULZ
	LAURA RADKE
DISTRICT III DIRECTOR	ESTHER TRACY
	KEVIN TIEU



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SCIENTISTS

555 Capitol Mall, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

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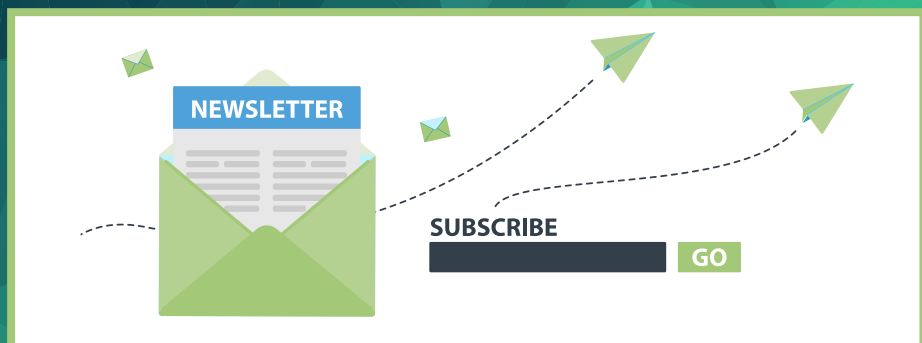
**President's Column: A Time
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**Go Green! Get CAPSule in
Your Email Inbox!**

GO GREEN!

GET CAPSULE IN YOUR EMAIL INBOX!

Have you considered "going green" by receiving CAPSule via email? You'll help conserve natural resources, contribute to CAPS' commitment to sustainability, and receive CAPSule's valuable information quickly and conveniently in your inbox. GO GREEN at: <http://capsscscientists.org/resources/capsule>.



SACRAMENTO

555 Capitol Mall, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 441-2629

LOS ANGELES

215 N. Marengo Avenue, Suite 185
Pasadena, CA 91101
(818) 246-0629

SAN FRANCISCO

100 Pine Street, Suite 750
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 861-6343

CAPS INSURANCE

(415) 958-1344