

Closing the Computer Science Education Gap in California Schools

Panelist Bios

Vice Admiral Jody Breckenridge, U.S. Coast Guard, (Ret.)

Jody Breckenridge currently serves as Chairman, Board of Directors for San Francisco Water Emergency Transportation Authority, a Bay Area ferry and disaster response agency. In addition, Ms. Breckenridge gives back to veterans, Service members and their families, and the community through service to Mission Readiness, Board Member for Oakland Military Institute, Vice Chair of the San Francisco Fleet Week Association, Vice Chair of the Governor's Military Council, Secretary for Marines Memorial Foundation, Board Member for Association for Rescue at Sea, and Member of the National Defense University Board of Visitors. She also serves on the Board for First Command Financial Services.

Prior to her community and board service, Vice Admiral Breckenridge served 34 years in the US Coast Guard retiring in 2010 from her assignment as Commander, Pacific Area and Defense Forces West with responsibility for all operations across 73 million square miles of the Pacific, Arctic, and Antarctic Oceans.

Angelov Farooq

Dr. Angelov Farooq is elected as the Vice President of the Governing Board for the Riverside Unified School District (RUSD). RUSD has an annual operating budget of about \$500 million and governs 50 schools with 43,000 students. Angelov is an entrepreneur in sustainable development as a Partner at The Omnius Group. In 2013, Angelov was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown on the California Workforce Investment Board. In 2015, California's Chief Financial Officer, Controller Betty Yee, appointed him on her 10-member Council of Economic Advisors. Angelov earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Berkeley and both a master's degree and Doctorate of Policy, Planning and Development degree from the University of Southern California. Angelov's lifelong commitment to education continued as he became the Founding Director of the University of California, Riverside Center for Economic Development & Innovation and is on faculty at the University of California, Riverside A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management. He is a Founding Board of Director for a technology incubator/accelerator in downtown Riverside called ExCITE and a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy.

Julie Flapan

Dr. Julie Flapan is executive director of the Alliance for California Computing Education for Students and Schools (ACCESS) where she advocates for K-12 computer science education in California to ensure its accessibility to all students, especially girls, students of color, and low-income students. In this role, she leads the CSforCA campaign to expand teaching and learning opportunities in computer science education in California. Dr. Flapan serves as director of the Computer Science Project at UCLA's Center X where she conducts research and helps expand Exploring Computer Science, a nationally recognized introductory computer science curriculum and teacher professional development program designed to broaden participation in computing. Most recently, Julie was appointed to a panel by Governor Jerry Brown to develop recommendations for the Computer Science Strategic Implementation plan.

Previously, Julie served as Director of Public Engagement for UCLA's Institute for Democracy, Education and Access (IDEA) where she conducted research, policy analysis, and coalition building through communications and grassroots organizing strategies to ensure all students have access to a meaningful education that prepares them for college, careers, and democratic participation.

As a lifelong educator, Julie has taught middle and high school human development for Planned Parenthood, art at the elementary level and social justice activism at the college level. Her research interests include anti-bias/anti-racist education and social justice policies that provide equal opportunities for teaching and learning in low-income communities of color.

Julie graduated with a B.A. from Pitzer College, an M.S. in Education and Social Policy from Northwestern University and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from UCLA. As an advocate for meaningful computer science education, her biggest (and admittedly hypocritical) struggle is getting her three children off their devices!

Emmanuel Onyeador

I started teaching computer science in 1996 in the computer science and technology academy I founded at Oakland Technical High School. This academy operates as a small school within a school model. Students commit to taking 3 years of computer science course as part of their high school program which will preparing them for college and career in the computing fields. As the first computer science teacher in Oakland Schools, I had to work out ways to sustain and grow the computer science program at Oakland Tech while finding ways to bring the CS conversation to the central office staff. I spend much of my teaching time developing strategies to address the issue of equity and access to computer science education particularly for the underrepresented groups in Oakland California. During this period, I built partnerships with industry groups like Oracle Corporation, Cisco Systems. I started the first Cisco Networking Academy and the first Oracle Internet Academy to Oakland after being certified as instructor. I

was an APCSP College Board National Pilot for 3 years and spent an earlier 3 years piloting Beauty and Joy of Computing for the University of California Berkeley. I am not only passionate about teaching computer science to my students but also committed to the best retention strategies until graduation. I was one of the 100 computer science teachers and professors invited to the White House on December 8, 2015.

Emmanuel earned his undergraduate degree in Physics and in Computer science, a masters degree in Education, and doctoral work in Educational Technology. I have been an adjunct Professor at California State University, East Bay, University of California, Berkeley Extension, and the University of Phoenix.

Currently a AP consultant and mentor for College Board, as well as consultant / Presenter for National Mathematics and Science Initiative.

I am currently working on as teacher on special assignment to ensure that all students particularly the underrepresented minorities are getting the right services to help them stay and succeed in CS here at Oakland Tech.

Bryan Twarek

Bryan Twarek ("BT") is the Computer Science Program Administrator for the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), where he works to expand equitable access to rigorous, relevant, and engaging computer science instruction for all public school students from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade. To this end, he oversees the policy, curriculum, professional development, and teacher support. He is also a Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) Board of Directors member and co-chaired the California Computer Science Standards Advisory Committee.

Jessica Weare

Jessica Weare oversees Microsoft's philanthropic investments in Silicon Valley, focusing on computer science education, workforce development, and civic technology. She managed the company's Bay Area employee engagement program to an 87% participation rate and helped launch the first-ever online giving day in Silicon Valley, which raised \$24 million for local nonprofits. She is an American Leadership Forum Senior Fellow. She currently serves on the board of directors of Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits as well as the board of California Humanities, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. She holds a B.A. from Yale and a Ph.D. from Stanford.