

Dr. Laurie Fathe

Dr. Fathe is a laser physicist who now focuses on science education, science policy, professional development for faculty and administrators, and institutional reform. She is the author of numerous educational and scientific publications, government and private foundation grants, and has given faculty professional development workshops at colleges and universities across the U.S.

She has served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Heritage University, Dean of Arts and Sciences at Owens Community College, Associate Provost at George Mason University, and for a decade on the Physics faculty at Occidental College. In the late 1990s, she directed the Los Angeles Collaborative for Teacher Education, a five year, National Science Foundation funded, 10-institution, \$5.5 million project focused on enhancing STEM preparation for future and current teachers. She has been the PI, co-PI and/or evaluator, as well as a proposal reviewer, on grants from the National Science Foundation, NASA, the Department of Education, and private foundations. She was the American Physical Society's 1993 Congressional Science Fellow, serving as science advisor for Congresswoman Anna Eshoo of Silicon Valley in her first term in Congress. She has served on two National Academy of Science boards and as Senior Associate for the SENCER science education project. She has also served as a 7th year accreditation site team member for the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

She has a lifelong passion for science and the environment, fostered by a mother who was a middle school science teacher and an early environmental protector. For six years, she served as a Senior Associate for SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagement and Responsibility), a decade-plus long project funded by the National Science Foundation to help faculty connect science, engineering, and mathematics courses to real world issues. She is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and a past chair of its Forum on Physics and Society, where her work centered around helping scientists communicate with non-scientists, and become involved in the legislative process. Active in environmental policy for more than two decades, she served as Chair of the Conservation Committee for 4 years, and for three terms on the board of directors of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, working with local and state legislators to draft and implement environmentally responsible and sustainable laws and regulations.

When she has the rare free hour, she enjoys gardening, hiking, bicycling, roller blading, skiing, and curling up with a good book.

Dr. Christine Maher

I am a Professor of Biology, and I currently serve as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Science, Technology, and Health (CSTH) at the University of Southern Maine (USM). I have held this administrative position since 2015. Previously, I was Associate Dean for Administration in the College of Arts and Sciences (2009-2010) during a period when the colleges were reorganized within USM. I also served as chair for the Department of Biology for a total of 7 years between 2001 and 2011. Within CSTH, I help to manage academic affairs for 13 units, including Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering; Environmental Science and Policy; Exercise, Health, and Sports Sciences; Linguistics; Mathematics and Statistics; Nursing; Physics; Psychology; Recreation and Leisure Studies; and Technology. We are the largest unit in the university, both in terms of number of faculty and number of students.

I am a behavioral ecologist, and my research focuses on mammalian social behavior. I earned my B.S. in Zoology from Miami University, where I discovered that I enjoyed research when I landed a work study job in a population geneticist's lab. From there, I headed west to earn my M.S. in Zoology from the University of Idaho, where I discovered that I enjoyed teaching as well as research. My thesis involved measuring reproductive effort in male bison. I then moved to the University of California, Davis, where I earned my Ph.D. in Animal Behavior. My dissertation research focused on intraspecific variation in social organization of pronghorn. I studied translocated pronghorn in the Carrizo Plain, working with California Fish and Game to monitor this population.

After earning my Ph.D. in 1992, I moved to an Assistant Professor position at Montana State University – Billings (formerly known as Eastern Montana College). In addition to teaching courses in nonmajors biology, zoology, and ecology, I continued to study social organization in pronghorn, comparing populations near Billings and at Wind Cave National Park. I also collaborated with a biologist from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, studying pronghorn at Fort Belknap Reservation in northern Montana.

In 1997, I moved to USM, where I launched a long term study of behavior and ecology in woodchucks. I have examined spatial organization, kinship patterns, paternity, and behavioral types in a population located in southern Maine. I teach courses in introductory biology (evolution, organismal biology, and ecology), vertebrate zoology, and animal behavior. In addition to teaching inside the classroom, I have mentored 6 graduate students, all of whom completed their M.S. degrees. I currently advise 2 graduate students and an undergraduate who is participating in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program. I have recruited over 100 undergraduate field assistants on the woodchuck project.

I have been an active member of the university community. I helped to establish the Learning Assistants program at USM. I have been a long time member and served as

chair of the IACUC. I played a primary role in establishing the M.S. Biology program. Outside the university, I served as Associate Editor for the *Journal of Mammalogy* for 6 years. I also was Secretary of the Board of Directors for a nongovernmental organization that conducts research in ecotoxicology and wildlife conservation. I have given dozens of talks about woodchucks to audiences ranging from toddlers to seniors.

On a personal note, I enjoy camping, hiking, and running. I'm not particularly fast, but I can run long.

Dr. Dale Oliver

Dale R. Oliver is a Professor of Mathematics at Humboldt State University. After teaching mathematics at the secondary level for three years, he earned his Ph.D. in mathematics (Algebraic Combinatorics) from Colorado State University in 1991. He joined the faculty at Humboldt State University (HSU) shortly thereafter and assumed the role of Mathematics Teacher Educator. Since then his career has been dominated by many of the tasks expected of mathematics teacher educators, including teaching future teachers at the undergraduate and credential levels, collaborating with K-14 educators, and working with government agencies and professional organizations on regional, state and national math education renewal.

Professor Oliver has created and taught courses for pre-service elementary, middle, and high school teachers, run numerous grant-funded professional development programs for K-12 teachers and college and university mathematics faculty, organized and presented at many regional, state and national professional meetings, and helped form state standards for undergraduate subject matter preparation of teachers of mathematics. Most recently, he has been working to implement culturally relevant pedagogy into his courses, and to improve access to, and quality of, HSU's entry-level general education coursework in quantitative reasoning.

Since the fall of 2000, Professor Oliver has served his campus through various leadership positions, including appointments as chair of the Departments of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Oceanography, and the School of Education, and a five-semester appointment as the Interim Associate Dean of the College of Natural Resources and Sciences. He has served a three-year term as University Ombudsperson, a two-year term as chair of the Integrated Curriculum Committee, and has been a committee member on many other department, college, and university committees.

Over the past 10 years, Professor Oliver has increased his participation in evaluative work. He has been an external evaluator for three Math Departments in the California State University system, has conducted quantitative evaluation for three large Federal education grants in our region, and has served on review panels for the National Science Foundation in the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Dale Oliver began his service as the Interim Dean of the College of Natural Resources and Sciences in June of 2018.